

HamGab

Next meeting: July 11th

July 2014

PO Box 474
Crestwood, IL
60445-0474
www.hamfesters.org

Special Interest Articles

Hamfest Update pg. 5
W9LNQ remembered pg. 5
The Chip pg. 7

July Birthdays

Ed WA9EOL
Joe KA9QAT
Bob N9KWG
Linus KC9PCP
Charles WA9TWA
Charles W9TZE
Lee WB9USF
David WB9VNB
Vincent KC9PCO
Craig KC9QXE
Tim AA9BV
Ray KA9ITZ
Kelvin W9BBQ

Officers

President-Don KC9EQQ
Vice President -Jim KB9CYL
Secretary-Patty KC9LYE
Treasurer- ED WA9EOL
SGT at Arm-Rich N9UNQ
Trustee-Bruno K9QKB

Board Members

Nora KC9MLV
Steve W9KXT
Kurt WB9FMC
Kerry AA9SB
Cathy KC9NRH

Hamgab Editors

Steve & Eric
KC9OOL & KC9OOM
Scapstone@aol.com

Jim KB9CYL gave his usual entertaining Hamfest presentation at the last meeting. It looks like all of our ducks are lined up in a row, so let's go out there and have a great Field Day. See last month's HamGab for details.



July Barbecue

This year's Hamfester's annual July Barbecue will be held July 11th and will feature Pizza and Sliders. Please bring a dish to pass as well, if you are able. Come one, come all, for fellowship and camaraderie! Please avoid anything with nuts as we have some members with allergies. Once again Ron KB9TCX and members of the Chicago Ridge VFW post will present the colors.



Help Early, Help Often! – The Club will need volunteers to help out at our annual Hamfest coming on August 3rd. Mark your calendars now!

**TIME TO HONOR
THE ONES WHO GAVE IT ALL....
SO WE COULD ENJOY IT ALL**

THE PRESIDENT'S BEAT

DONALD POINTER KC9EQQ
JULY 2014

It is no secret, how Nora and I feel about our Veterans. Whenever the chance presents itself, we give due recognition to our American Veterans at our meetings. Some call them heroes. But most veterans, if not all of them do not regard themselves as such. They, these unsung protectors of our freedoms met the challenge of protecting our many freedoms with grace, dignity and love. Love for our flag, our right to worship as we see fit, and love for all future generations who thanks to these incredible men and women will have a future free of enemies intrusions upon our shores no matter the cost these people in uniform must pay.

Some of these veterans will be joining us on July 11th, 2014 to present colors at our annual Hamfesters Salute to Veterans and First Responders inside picnic at our regular meeting location. First Responders such as those who are Police Officers, Firefighters, Paramedics, EMT's, and Emergency Management Agency Officers put it all on the line to keep us all safe night and day and naturally share many commonalities with those in Uniform serving in our Armed Forces. These two front line defenses are what give us the peace of mind that we may vote freely, worship without fear of oppression, travel where we wish across our great land and receive the education we each individually aspire to acquire enabling us to enjoy all that this USA has to offer. Thank you to all of you who serve and we hope we can do you proud at our July 11th meeting. Special thanks to Ron Kalat KB9TCX and his fellow veterans from the Chicago Ridge VFW Post in advance for coming to our meeting and presenting the colors as they have done for some years now at this event.

Your special dish is welcome to the picnic, provided you can keep it cold or hot until it's ready to be served. Please for those with allergies, kindly omit any nut products. Back by popular demand will be a selection of pizzas from Beggars Pizza and White Castles too. Bring your family too and give them the chance to get to know some grand folks- you the Hamfester member!

Jim Riley, KB9CYL did a bang up job presenting his program on Field Day at our June meeting. The photos were hilarious at times and so were the jokes he and others in the room let loose at these fun memories on screen of last years Field day. Now naturally, you know the next thing I am going to say is: COME TO FIELD DAY WEEKEND ON JUNE 28TH AND 29TH! Beware, that the only stick in the mud will be those by the canal next to us! So be prepared to have fun and let your hair down.....Oops I forgot... I already let my hair down...somewhere!! We will see you at Field day. God bless you all and our Veterans and First Responders!



Back on the beat....

***It's coming.....It's great.....and you need to be there!** Its Hamfest 2014 at the Peotone Fairgrounds on Sunday, August 3rd! We need your help and the vendors want your business. Come see why our Hamfest is the best. Don't forget about our special Hamfest Volunteers and Vendors recognition Chow night on Saturday, August 2nd at 7pm! Last year's was a great success and the feedback was so positive from member and vendor alike that there was no question as to whether or not to do it again this year! Remember, this reception is open to signed up Hamfest Volunteers from our club and Vendors. How do you sign up? Contact Kerry Nelson, that's how!*

***From the let the cat out of the bag department:** We have late minute news about a special visitor coming to our July 11th meeting. And that visitor is none other than the Good Humor Man and his special truck and Ice Cream! Come and meet this incredible person in the guise of Mr. Dick Royce and saddle up to his truck and buy a yummy cold treat! Has he got some stories to tell!*

See you soon and 73 to you and yours from Nora and I!

Don Pointer KC9EQQ

Questions, comments etc., for Don? Please email him at: dpointer65@aol.com or call him between the hours of 10am to 8pm at: 773-426-1936.

Board Meeting Minutes de Patti, KC9LYE

W9AA - Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club board meeting - Tuesday, May 27, 2014 - Meeting began at 7:30 PM.

Roll: Don KC9EQQ, Jim KB9CYL, Ed W9EOL, Patti KC9LYE, Nora KC9MLV, Cathy KC9NRH, Steve W9KXT, Kurt WB9FMC, Bob N9KWG (club member),

President's report: - *Don KC9EQQ* - Thanks to Jim, KB9CYL, for presiding over the April board meeting. The September 13 and 14th 2014 SS Badger cruise is not officially sponsored by Hamfesters club. However, all hams and their families are welcome to take part - contact SSBadger.com. Pete, K9OWQ, gave a good program in May about the 2013 Badger trip.



Treasurer's report: - *Ed WA9EOL* - At the May club meeting, our 1st split the pot raffle was well received.

Programs:

June 6 - *Jim KB9CYL* - Field Day 2013.

July 11 - Our annual picnic, featuring potluck, sliders, and pizza. The Chicago Ridge color guard will attend.

August 1 - *Kerry AA9SB* - Hamfest (August 3, 2014)

September 5 - *Brian W9HLQ & Steve W9KXT* - Raspberry Pi - No it is not pastry, it's a computer.

November 7 - *Steve Cooper* - 1960's Television; Club elections

Secretary's report: - *Patti KC9LYE* - at the June 6 meeting. I will take orders and payment for field day pins, they are \$5 each. Field day pins will be available at field day June 28 and 29th.

Field day: - *Jim KB9CYL* - The club generator not working is a potential Field Day worry, since we do not have Joe, KA9KBU, to troubleshoot. Fortunately, Brian, W9HLQ, and Jim, N9HSH, have generators we can use.

New business: - *Nora KC9MLV* - Regarding Hamfesters club jackets and hats, Jim, KB9CYL, will look into possible vendors.

Hamfest: - *Kerry AA9SB* - 27 vendors have expressed an interest in attending our hamfest on August 3, 2014 the North room, and the bar area at the Fairgrounds in Peotone, Illinois is filling up. One prospective vendor is Eagle One antennas.

Adjournment: 9:04 PM

Oops! Kelly KB9ZRM has a June birthday, which was not listed in the June HamGab. We're sorry for the omission and we hope Kelly had a great birthday.

The Editors.



General Meeting Minutes de Patti, KC9LYE

W9AA - Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club meeting - June 6, 2014 - Meeting began at 7:40 PM

Roll: Don KC9EQQ, Jim KB9CYL, Ed WA9EOL, Patti KC9LYE

A moment of silence was held in honor of D-Day, June 6, 1944.

There were 38 members and 1 visitor at tonight's meeting.

Health and welfare: - *Steve W9KXT* – Don, KC9QBM, has had a heart attack. He might be released from the hospital this weekend.

President's report: - *Don KC9EQQ* - our next meeting will be July 11 – a short meeting, followed by our annual picnic. Please arrive at 6 PM to help set up. The menu will be: potluck, sliders and pizza. Please, no food containing peanuts. The color guard from Chicago Ridge will preside - our own Ron, KA9TCX, is also a member of the color guard. In 2015 the annual Sertoma 5K run could use the help of ham radio operators.

Thanks to Jim, KB9CYL, for presiding at the May meeting.

Minutes: The May minutes were approved by Bob, N9JYX, and Ron, KA9TCX.

Treasurer's report: - *Ed WA9EOL* - Thanks to all for taking part in the split the pot raffle.

Publicity: - *Kerry AA9SB* - Publicity has been sent out for tonight's program.

Hamfest: - *Kerry AA9SB* - August 3, 2014 - Vendors are signing up; the North room and bar area are filling up. There will be a welcoming picnic for the vendors on the evening of August 2 at the Will County Peotone Fairgrounds. Please sign up with Jim, KB9CYL, to sell tickets at the gate on August 3. Please take tickets and hamfest fliers to other clubs' hamfests.

Program: Field Day 2013 de Jim Riley, KB9CYL

Field day: - *Jim KB9CYL* - June 28-29th 2014 - Set up starts on Saturday at 8:00 AM, and Field Day concludes Sunday at 1:00 PM. Location is at Altman Park in Worth, Illinois, if you have questions, please contact Jim KB9CYL.

Secretary's report: - *Patti KC9LYE* - Tonight orders and money were taken for Field Day pins (\$5 each). The pins will be available at field day.

New business: - *Ed WB9STB* - the Chicago Marathon is looking for ham radio operators to volunteer in October.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM by Bob, N9JYX.

Door prize winners; Don, KC9EQQ, Bob, N9KWG, Nora, KC9MLV, and Kurt, WB9FMC. The Split the Pot winner was Dave, N9KPD.

Hamfest Update July 2014 de Kerry AA9SB Hamfest Committee

More good news for HRC Hamfest 2014! The Table Reservation Forms are flying out with more and more vendors responding. John Rohde of RF Adapter Guy has responded with a *check* for \$90 for 6 tables in the north room; Steve Zahos, KR4S, of Amateur Accessories, who has come through for us last year and in the past, emailed us from GREECE on his iPhone that he wants *8 tables* in the north room (\$120). We've also received emails from Ron Ross of Electronic Rainbow (4 tables--\$60) and Les Sullins of D&L Antenna Supply. And we still have another 5 ½ weeks to go!



If you go to any of the upcoming hamfests in Illinois or our neighboring states, be sure you drop our flyers at their club tables. And pass them out there, as well as at STARS and Tri-Town. But this year, we're going to be setting up a schedule of hamfests and assigning at least one or two volunteers who will attend the various hamfests including KARS (A couple of our board members and I are going to that). If you're going to a hamfest this spring, sign up at the next meetings or email me, and list the hamfest(s) that you're attending and we'll help you out. Let's get the word out: the momentum is rolling for this year's hamfest; now let's keep it rolling!

Buy some tickets for yourself -- either from Dave, N9KPD, or from one of our ticket sellers -- and get some to sell, locally and at the hamfests. Our goal is to make this 2014 hamfest a huge success. Thanks!

A Fifty-Year Friendship – W9LNQ Remembered

My friendship with Bob began on one or another of the 75-meter SSB phone traffic nets: the Illinois Post Office Net (later, the Illinois Phone Net) and the North Central Phone Net round about 1964 or 1965 (I was 14-15, and only a ham since 1963; I had passed my general in 1964 and started with the nets as WA9JJE.) We handled a lot of traffic, which, as the Vietnam War progressed, became a heavier and heavier volume of safe arrival messages to home from the Marine Corp Recruit Depot, San Diego, and later Paris Island. I received a Public Service Award from ARRL for handling emergency traffic during a tornado in Topeka, Kansas. I didn't think I deserved it since I was so young and new to ham radio and Bob and others were older and much more deserving of it.

Bob invited me to the Hamfesters Hamfest (which of course was at Sante Fe Park at the time); and that's where I met his wonderful XYL, Dorothy (Dot), N9ALC, and so the story begins. I never made it to a meeting (I was a member of Tri-Town at the time) but continued to attend HRC hamfests under the shade of the trees of the parking lot at Sante Fe Park. I even bought a Hunter 2000B amplifier from Bob in the Seventies. During that time, in the 'Seventies and 'Eighties, I continued with the Illinois Phone, including a decade as net control station (NCS).

I took a break in the Seventies (two years in college) and the Eighties for personal life and marriage – I have a wonderful son in his late twenties – may God bless him. There was a renewal of activity with writing in the Nineties, and I tried to get RATS (Radio Amateur Technical Society) going by attempting to get FD stations two

Hamgab, July 2014

years going a row going at GSU. I reactivated ham activities with a couple of our VE sessions in 1996 and joined Hamfesters Radio Club at that time. In addition to my activities with the good folks here at HRC, I've been writing -- marketing two book manuscripts, getting a third ready for marketing, and working on the completion and marketing of a fourth, plus other writing. I've been blessed.

And I've been especially blessed by the friendship of two wonderful ham friends, Bob and Dot Truhlar. And so have we all been blessed.

Kerry AA9SB

Hamfesters VE Testing de Al Bukowski N9ZD VE Coordinator

Hamfester's Radio Club VE's assembled to offer Amateur Radio Exams for June 14, 2014 and we had six candidates. One upgraded to Extra class. Three candidates earned their Technician ticket. Congratulations to the candidates. The participating VE's team members were Ron WB9JYZ, Tim AA9BV, KB9RNM Gene, and myself N9ZD. Thanks to all the VE's for your dedicated time.



Hamfester's Radio Club conducts FCC authorized tests for Technician, General, and Extra class licenses every 2nd Saturday each month at Oak Forest City Hall 15440 S. Central Ave. Oak Forest, IL 60452. Doors open at 9:00 AM. We begin testing about 9:15 AM. Enter City Hall entrance and look for the Amateur

Radio exam signs. We do ask that you park your car in the main parking lot between the Fire Department and the Police Department and not directly in front of the Main doors to City Hall.

Our next test session will be held on Saturday July 12, 2014.

Please note: We will be using the new [NCVEC](#) Question Pool 2014-2018 Technician Class, Element 2 Exams starting July 1, 2014. *(Please review the new question pool)*



Special instruction note: It is very important to bring the following items to any exam session: The appropriate test fee (currently \$15), A picture ID (driver's license or Student ID Card etc), a calculator if you would like to use one. And it's very important to have your Social Security Number, or if you are licensed, please use the FRN (Federal Registration Number) listed on your license. If you are upgrading, Please bring you're Amateur Radio license and a copy and any issued CSCE and a copy showing proof of recent passed exam(s) if not already processed by the FCC. If you have any questions regarding our test session or about upgrading, please contact N9ZD via e-mail at: N9ZD@arrl.net.

Walk-ins are welcome and again the test fee is \$15.00 (cash only -- no credit cards or checks).

73's

AL – N9ZD

No...no!

OPun the door (and let me get away)

Jimmy an excellent high school student and electronics whiz decided to build his dad a new Hi-Fi Software Defined Radio (SDR) for his ham radio station. Jimmy was a new ham, and was good with electronics but had little experience in the work shop in dad's basement. Since he wanted to surprise his dad Jimmy visited his neighbor ham friend, Elmer. Elmer liked the idea and agreed to help Jimmy design and build the SDR and the audio amplifier for the good sound. They agreed on the schematic diagram, Jimmy supplied some parts from his basement, ordered a SDR kit, while Elmer had the remaining parts in his junk box. One thing they did not have was a cabinet for the speakers.

Over Elmer's objection, Jimmy decided to make the SDR and speaker cabinet out of wood. Jimmy felt the warm glow of an oil-rubbed wood cabinet would look very nice in his dad's ham shack. Jimmy and Elmer worked several weeks on the high-tech radio and finally they tested it out. Success! It put out a nice signal using Elmer's rig and antenna. Jimmy hurried to finish the cabinet. It was looking very nice indeed. He was especially proud of the woofer. He mounted the switches and controls on the front panel and ran the power cord out the rear of the newly finished box. He then mounted the speakers in the cabinet for the Hi-Fi sound. Jimmy then glued the rear cover on his cabinet and waited for the glue to dry.

On Saturday morning Jimmy presented his new SDR, audio amplifier and speaker to his dad, who was quite impressed. Certainly it would look very nice in his ham shack. His dad was quite pleased at the workmanship and the thought that Jimmy would do this for him. Dad put the rig on the air immediately. It worked quite well and was easy to tune up. The next weekend was the big DX contest and Dad decided to put the new system to good use and score some points.

About an hour into the contest the radio suddenly quit working. Dad finished the contest with his other rig. The next day Jimmy took the ailing rig to Elmer's house for help in fixing the amplifier. They were sure it was something simple like a blown fuse.

Elmer exclaimed, "I don't see any screws on the back of the cabinet".

"Oh no!" cried Jimmy. "I glued everything together. How stupid of me!"

"Then your dad will be upset", said Elmer.

"What do you mean?", asked Jimmy.

"Well, it seems you made him a woofer he can't re-fuse"

Brian, W9HLQ



Stay tuned for more Groaners in upcoming issues.

Notice

The Metro DX Club is looking for a good photo of **Phil Brankin, K9PB** for our web site. He was the first president of the Metro DX Club. We have page devoted to deceased members.

Please look thru your old pictures, don't forget to look in those stored in a shoe box in the closet! Any help with a picture or pictures would be appreciated.

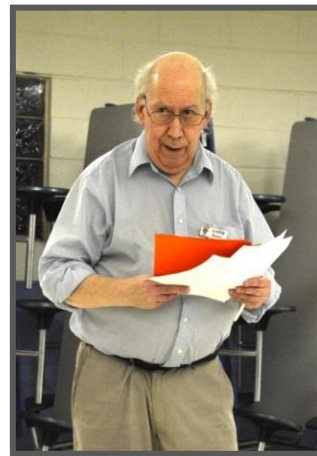
73's,

Bob Adamitis, K9MDO (contact info in Members Only section of our web site)

<http://MetroDXClub.com>

June 2014 Meeting Pictures







Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 474

Crestwood, IL 60445-0474

www.Hamfesters.org

Hamfesters Radio Club



Meetings and VE Testing

Club meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at the Crestwood Civic Center, 14025 Kostner Ave. in Crestwood, IL.

Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. September meetings may vary if our meeting date conflicts with the Crestwood Flower show.

Board Meetings: 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday of each month at the Crestwood Civic Center

VE TESTING: Every 2nd Saturday of the Month at the Oak Forest City Hall, 15440 S. Central Ave. Testing begins at 9:00 AM but we ask that you arrive 10 minutes early. Exam fee is now \$15.00. Al N9ZD VE Team Chairman

Special Activities

Hamfesters Big Peotone Hamfest: Our 79th annual Hamfest coming August 3, 2014-Will County Fairgrounds, Peotone, IL. Kerry AA9SB Hamfest Chairman.

Field Day: Join the W9AA crew for one of the best Field Days ever on June 28 & June 29 2014 at 115th and Oketo Avenue, Worth, IL.

Jim KB9CYL Field Day Chairman

WAHM: Worked all Hamfester Members-work 10 Current members for a beautiful award certificate. Matt KC9JXC Awards

Nets/Contact Info

10 METER NET: Every Sunday Evening at 8:00 PM on 28.410. Bob W9TOE is Net Control

2 METER NET: Every Monday Evening at 9:00 PM on 146.640. Tom KA9ZXN is Net Control

W9AA Mailbox:145.650 24 hours a day.

Bruno K9QKB is Sysop. ILOAK:Node on 145.650

WEB SITE: www.hamfesters.org Webmaster Granville, W9PNG & Brian, W9HLQ

Club's address:

Hamfesters Radio Club

P.O. Box 474 Crestwood, IL 60445

Patti KC9LYE Secretary

Deadline for Submitting to the Hamgab is the fifteenth of the month.