



Ham Gab

Next meeting: January 4th January 2013

PO Box 102
Bedford Park, IL
60499-0102
www.hamfesters.org
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January Birthdays

James W9ATT
Wanda W9CT
Michael KC9OPV
Rudolph KA9EXP
Richard KA9HMV
Douglas W9IIX
John WØJLC
Thomas WY9M
Eugene WB9NAR
Bruno K9QKB
Jordan W9QKE
Lionel K2VSP
Michael WA9ZPM
William W9MJZ
Peggy K9QLM
Ruth Maloney

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
Mike W9MCS
John WB9JTS
Cathy KC9NRH

Hamgab Editors

Steve & Eric
KC9OOL & KC9OOM
Scapstone@aol.com



The program for January will be a special DVD presentation on the first lunar landing hosted by Walter Cronkite.



A special message from President Donald Pointer of Hamfesters Radio Club

On December 7th, 2012 at our Hamfesters Christmas Party, it was a special moment when two special people received the Prestigious Hamfester of the Year award for 2012! Mr. and Mrs. Bob and Kelly Harris, (N9RAT and KB9ZRM respectively), were presented this award in recognition of all their contributions to the Hamfesters Radio Club by Bob Richter KB9YXH, another valued member of our club. Please join me in congratulating Bob and Kelly in earning this great award. Now the question is, whose room will this hang in their home??



Get Your Tickets!

WE HAVE SOME GREAT PRIZES AVAILABLE SO SUPPORT YOUR CLUB AND BUY A RAFFLE TICKET AT THE NEXT MEETING. MAKE SURE YOU GET YOUR TICKETS FOR THE HT. WE'LL HAVE THE RAFFLE AS SOON AS ENOUGH TICKETS ARE SOLD.

THE PRESIDENTS BEAT

DONALD POINTER KC9EQQ

JANUARY 2013

AN

The events of the last couple of weeks nationally certainly bear to mind how precious life is and should be. As President of this club I am sure I speak on behalf of all it's members how terribly sad we all feel regarding the shootings in Newtown, Connecticut at the Sandy Hook Elementary School. We are a club like so many other Ham Radio clubs made up of members from all walks of life and we all have one thing in common- our love for our families and that of the families of our fellow friends. We know that to be true **especially** in times of tragedy,

Amateur Radio operators will come out of the woodwork in droves when it comes time to answer the call to duty to do what we can to hold a community together in times of unspeakable loss. History shows that, no question about it.

I am going to ask you all a favor, two of them actually. One, that we all continue to keep Newtown and its citizens in our prayers and thoughts as they struggle to recover to the best of their abilities. Two, I would like to see you on December 27th, at 7pm at the Village Green Park in downtown Oak Lawn next to the Oak Lawn Library where a candlelight vigil will be held for the victims and survivors of the Sandy Hook tragedy. At one point during this event, all Christmas lights will be turned off for 27 minutes,(one minute for each victim), to honor their memories. Bring a candle, but most importantly, bring your loved ones and lets as both a community of radio operators and people with an intense sense of compassion for our fellow man come out and show our support for those who need it so much right now. Tell your other clubs you belong to do the same too please. I will hold hands with this club's and any other club's member that night as a show of solidarity and support to the commitment that we can all heal from this unspeakable tragedy. Won't you? Thank you my dear friends on behalf of Nora and I.

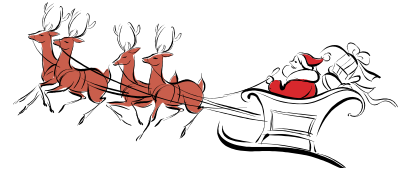


Back on the beat: We certainly hope to see you all at the January 4th, where we will present a special DVD showing of "Man on the Moon- The 40th anniversary of the Lunar Landing Missions" hosted by Walter Cronkite KB2GSD. We will play about an hour of this special presentation- it actually runs about 4 hours, and maybe later this year we will present more of this unique Documentary.

In closing, my fellow Hamfester Officers, board members, Nora and I bestow upon you a blessed Holiday season and hope that you and yours have a most joyous and gentle New Year in 2013. 73's to all of you. I am most humbly proud to be your President and I ask that you hug each other just a little more tighter, shake hands a little longer and tell each other you love them a whole lot more. We do this and we can't help but have a better 2013 than 2012. I hope you agree. See you in a couple of weeks.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

This years Christmas Party at Pappa Joe's was again a big success. A good time was had by all and it was extra special having Matt Sobczak's family attend. Congratulations to Bob N9RAT and Kelly KB9ZRM for there well deserved honor as Hamfesters of the Year. Congratulations to Bob N9RAT and Eric KC9OOM, the winners of the raffle, and to all of the ladies who finally got their 20 bucks! A special thank you needs to go out to Don KC9EQQ and Nora KC9MLV. They arranged the party, did a splendid job as MC's, found some wonder party gifts and took some excellent pictures which start on page 8. Also, thank you to Ed WA9EOL for running the raffle, Mike WA9ZPM for setting up the sound system, Jim KB9CYL for selling the tickets and all of the other Hamfesters who made the night a success. It was a party to remember.



CQ Field Day de Jim Riley KB9CYL

The December QST was in the mailbox when I got home tonight. That means the 2012 Field Day scores are in.

We entered a new category this year so we can't compare our scores with last year. Still, we did pretty well for ourselves. The 4A category has about half the entrants of 3A, our category last year. We finished 32nd out of 158. That puts us just a tad over 20 percent. And we were the top 4A team in Illinois. Nicely done, everyone.

If you have pictures from last year, please get them to me by the January meeting. I don't want to be feverishly putting together my Field Day presentation the night before the June meeting again.

Field Day 2013 will be Altman Park at 115th and Oketo in Worth. When you get your 2013 calendars, mark those dates before you do anything else.

Hamfesters Roster News

We have a call sign change: Granville (Gene) Phillips, KC9WBI has a new call "W9PNG". Congratulations Gene!

Hamfesters VE Testing: By Al Bukowski N9ZD

Hamfesters Radio club VE's administered FCC Amateur Radio exams December 8, 2012 at the Oak Forest City Hall 15440 S. Central Ave. Oak Forest, ILL 60452. We had two candidates, one who passed the Technician and the other passed the Technician and General exam. Congratulations to the candidates. The VE's who helped administering and grading the exams were, Tim AA9BV, Ron N9STU, Gene KB9RNM and myself N9ZD.



If you or a friend are planning on taking an Amateur Radio examination, please note that Hamfesters conducts FCC authorized tests for Technician, General, and Extra class licenses every month on the 2nd Saturday at Oak Forest City Hall 15440 S. Central Ave. Oak Forest, IL 60452. Oak Forest City Hall Doors open at 9:00 AM. We begin testing at 9:30 AM Sharp.



Enter through the main entrance and then go to the left to the Chamber Room or look for the Amateur Radio Testing 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 January 12, 2013.

Very important: Please remember to bring the following items with

You to any exam session: The appropriate fee (currently \$15) for the test.

We urge you to bring **exact amount of cash**. Please bring your picture ID, the original and a copy of your Amateur Radio license (if licensed), a pen, pencil, and calculator if you would like to use one (all memories must be cleared). It is very important to have your Social Security Number, or if you have been issued an FRN (Federal Registration Number), please use that in place of your SSN because without either your SSN or FRN, the FCC will not process your application. If you are upgrading, it is essential to bring your CSCE and a copy showing proof of recent passed exam if not already processed by the FCC.

If you have any questions regarding our test session or

Questions about upgrading, please contact me - via e mail at: N9ZD@ARRL.net.

Again - The test fee is still \$15.00 (cash only -- no credit cards or checks).

73's AL - N9ZD

EVERY THING OLD IS NEW AGAIN

Morse code through Twitter? Whatever next! In Copenhagen there are two neighborhoods located on opposite sides of the harbor that are geographically close but still feel disconnected. So the local university students came up with this “urban intervention” to connect the two.



They combined an old maritime technology (Signal Lamps) with modern technology (Twitter). They attached the signal lamps to a graphical user interface the size of an iPad on either side of the harbor where users can type a message (via a tweet) which is then translated into Morse code and flashed across the harbor. There is a similar interface placed on the receiving side, which serves to decode and display the messages [tweets].

Each of the two Signal Lamps has its own Twitter account so people can follow the conversations between the two harbour sides online. Users from around the world can also use Twitter to send a new Morse code-message by an @ reply to one of the Copenhagen Signal Lamps and broadcast their message into the harbour. The two accounts are **SignalLamp Nyhavn** and **SignalLamp Chavn**.

The Wire Antenna
- a limerick by Howie, W9NHM

Wire systems give good radiation,
At many an amateur station.
But one must be sure,
Their RESISTANCE is pure,
Net REACTANCE IMPEDES operation !

Hamfesters Monthly Raffle

We try to do the best we can for prizes for the monthly Hamfest meetings. We however have a limited budget we can work from. We would encourage all members to contribute an item for the monthly raffle. It might be something that would be useful to others, but is no longer of use to you. It could also simply be something you just choose to donate. We try to get as broad a variety of prizes as we can. With your donations we can have even more variety and nicer prizes for our monthly raffles. If you can help we would greatly appreciate it.

This is one other small source of income for the club. Your prize doesn't have to be electronic in nature; it can be any- thing even if it doesn't deal with ham radio. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of making a prize donation and hope to hear from you very soon.

Feel free to contact me by email at

kb9yxh@yahoo.com or call me at (708) 429-4511.

73' Bob Richter KB9YXH Raffle Chairman

Hamgab, January 2013

WHEATON COMMUNITY RADIO AMATEURS
www.w9ccu.org

PO Box QSL
WHEATON, ILLINOIS 60187

WCRA MID-WINTER HAMFEST Sunday, January 20, 2013

The 2013 WCRA Mid-Winter Hamfest will be held at the Kane County Fairgrounds Exposition Center in St. Charles, Illinois on Sunday, January 20, 2013. This is the same location as last year! Please note that this is one-week earlier than usual.

We're planning a great hamfest that will include the usual flea market and commercial vendors but also several interesting and informative breakout sessions, on-site VE Testing, hourly prizes and more! Hamfest hours are 8am to 1pm and there will be plenty of **FREE** parking.

Anticipated forums are:

- Jim O'Connell, W9WU - Amateur Radio & The Law
- Dale Kwarta, NJ9E - Go Kit Radio in a Box
- Mark Thompson, WB9QZB - D-Star Update

Flea market tables may be reserved in advance and are \$25, \$35 with electricity. Day-Of tables, if available, will be \$30, \$40 with electricity. Everyone at your table must have a hamfest admission ticket. Advance admission tickets are a bargain at \$8 each and include **four prize stubs!** Day-Of tickets will be \$10 and have only one prize stub. Children under 12-years of age are admitted free. Advance tickets can be purchased by mail. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope plus your check or money order made out to **WCRA Hamfest** to:

WCRA Hamfest
PO Box QSL
Wheaton, IL 60187-1055

Your order must reach us no later than **January 7, 2013** to ensure timely delivery.

I've included a copy of our hamfest flyer as well as two complimentary tickets to the hamfest. Use the tickets any way you'd like...auction them, raffle them or give them away. We'd appreciate it if you would let your club members know about the hamfest in your club newsletter, on your website or via e-mail. The two complimentary tickets are our way of saying thanks.

General questions about the hamfest? Call us at (630) 604-0157 or via e-mail at info@w9ccu.org. Ticket questions should be directed to me...N9DKO@arrl.net.

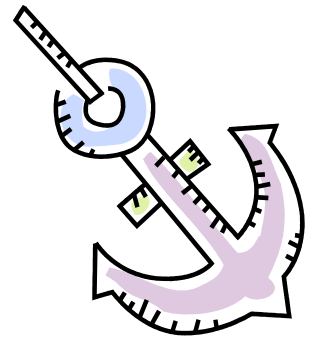
Thanks and we hope to see you at the hamfest!

'73

Richard Bauer, N9DKO
Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs

You are "Boat Anchorite" if you remember....

The humorous flashbacks here are for all of us who probably started their ham careers with the trusty Heath AT-1 transmitter and a Hallicrafters S-38C.



- ✓ When a certain W2 used to call CQ with the comment: "no lids, no kids, no space Kadets" (He didn't want to talk to any young "K" call signs, only "W's").
- ✓ We waited for Mom to go out and then boiled several hundred 4 inch wood feed line spreaders in paraffin wax in a galvanized bucket on the kitchen stove.
- ✓ When thousands of ham's in the world copied the blinking eyelids of one of the USS Pueblo captives.
- ✓ When a good Galena crystal with good hotspots could be traded for 2 pounds of number 26 magnet wire.
- ✓ When the telephone repair man would stop us kids on the street and give us a bunch of old ear pieces so he would not have to replace so many at the pay phones at the drugstore.
- ✓ When the JATO bottles could be bought for one dollar a piece (at a war surplus store) in the admonition that if you fooled with those things they could hurt you.
- ✓ The time when a certain amateur radio magazine published a picture of a Novice station with the VFO on the transmitter and no evidence of any crystals.
- ✓ When everyone was wondering where the really annoying, band ruining, "woodpecker" QRM was coming from.
- ✓ When many used a AN/ARC-5/BC-458 transmitter for a VFO.
- ✓ The ham in town with the big antenna and high power Collins gear had a handle of "Doc".

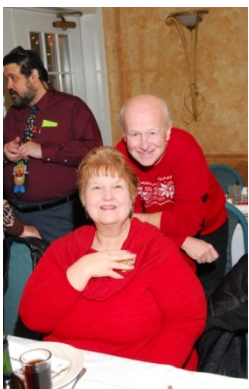
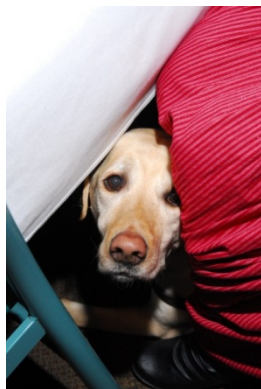
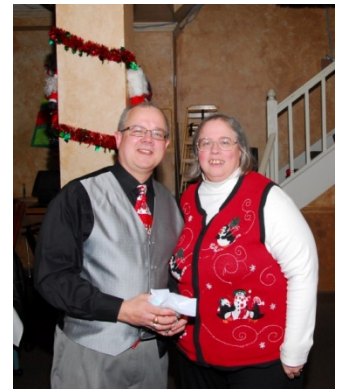
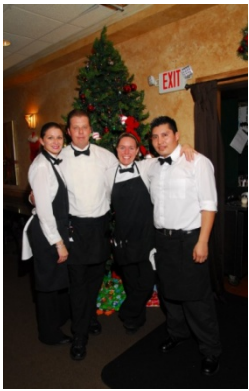
Hamfesters Dues

Reminder: Hamfesters dues (for 2013) cutoff date is December 31, 2012. Full membership is \$20.00 and associate membership is \$10.00. Mail your dues to Brian Davis, W9HLQ; 17038 Oconto Ave.; Tinley Park, IL 60477. Make the check to "Hamfesters Radio Club".

Hamgab, January 2013



Hamgab, January 2013





Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 102

Bedford Park, IL 60499-0102

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 Oremus Center, 7902 Oketo, Bridgeview, IL

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 78th annual Hamfest coming August 2012-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 23 & June 24 2012 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 146.430. Joe KA9KBU & Tom KA9ZXN are Net Control

W9AA Mailbox:145.650 24 hours a day. Bruno K9QKB is Sysop. ILOAK:Node on 145.650

WEB SITE: www.hamfesters.org Brian W9HLQ is Webmaster

Club's address:

Hamfesters Radio Club

P.O. Box 102 BEDFORD PARK, IL 60499

Patti KC9LYE Secretary

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