

Ham Gab

Next meeting: June 7th

June 2013

PO Box 102
Bedford Park, IL
60499-0102

www.hamfesters.org

Special Interest Articles

Field Day Pg.5

Solar Cycle Pg. 4

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Single Atom Transistor

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June Birthdays

Zygmunt	KZ9DX
David	K9FGB
Paul	WD9GEH
Donald	K9KNZ
Harling	KC9KUX
Robert	K9MUY
Timothy	KC9POS
John	KG9QH
Robert	KB9YXH

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

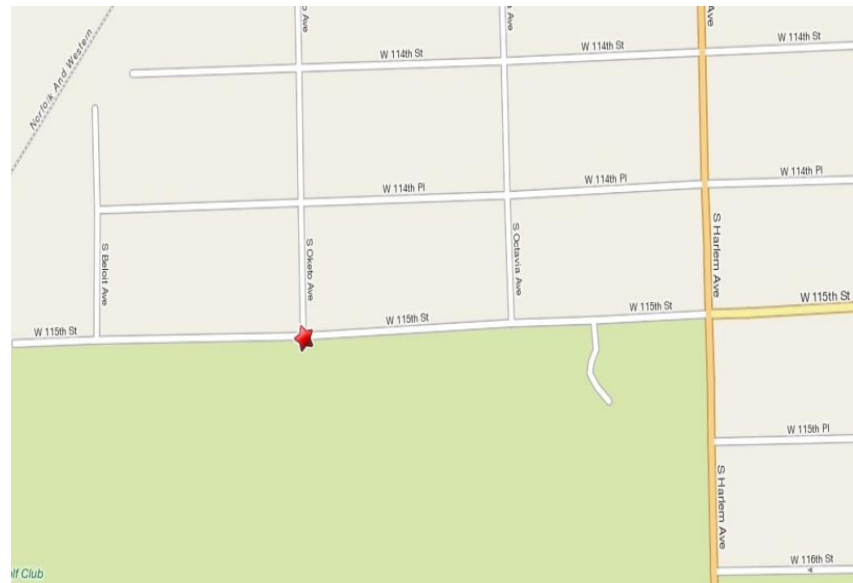
Steve & Eric
KC9OOL & KC9OOM
Scapstone@aol.com

Thanks Pete K9OWQ for the outstanding presentation on the SS Badger Trip. The trip will be on September 14&15. Go to SSbadger.com or call 1-800-badger for reservations. Make sure to ask for the ham radio rate. The event call will be W8S.



Note: The Fourth of July barbeque will be July 12th! Don't miss it.

Field Day is coming: Saturday June 22 and Sunday June 23 at 115th and Oketo, Worth, IL. Don't miss our next meeting for what will surely be an entertaining Field Day presentation by our own Jim Riley KB9CY. Jim's column on page 5 has the details. See the map below for the FD site.



Volunteers needed! We need volunteers for the Hamfest. Contact Dave N9KPD our Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator if you haven't signed up already.

We still have tickets for the \$50 Micro Center Gift Card. Tickets are \$5 apiece. It's a great way to support your club and you just might win!

THE PRESIDENTS BEAT

DONALD POINTER KC9EQQ

JUNE 2013

For those of you who follow my adventures on Facebook, you probably know that I have for the last 5 weeks or so, have been on a crusade to rid myself of that not so good man-made-invention known as FAT! Its not been easy I will tell you for sure, but some recent events during my bicycle crusade towards a thinner me have opened my eyes to some unexpected revelations. Allow me to explain.....

I love flight. Period. Get me up in a plane and I am the happiest man above the planet! Midway Airport and I have become one more so lately because of that love for flight, I have discovered while riding my bike around the four miles that is the total mileage when one walks or rides around Midway's footprint. It's all flat riding and makes it low impact, just right for maintaining my new health regimen, but it's also been fertile ground for some High impact thinking as you will discover upon reading further.

While riding around Midway some interesting thoughts have come to mind during my new pedaling adventures. Watching the planes take off and land all the time gave way to the thought that WOW! Flight is an incredible marvel into itself! I bike purposely at night and day around the airport to gain different perspectives of its operations. Take for instance the control tower of Midway. Night or day, that tower has to be one very non-stop place to work out of. Radars, computers *and* radios working non-stop combined with well trained operators work together to provide safe travel for all who enter or leave Midways airspace.

The Wright brothers were really onto something weren't they? Do you wonder if they had any idea just what an impact their invention would have and all of the offshoot industries that would become inseparable from their invention? As I looked at the control tower yesterday I began to think about Jim Riley KB9CYL and his love for Field Day. Like those in the control tower, he shares with them a desire to communicate proficiently and efficiently on that medium known as Ham radio. He knows, like so many of our members, that Ham radio of course should be fun, but at Field day, this is when we can test our capabilities in times of emergencies where you the Ham Radio operator and your hard earned skills can make a difference in the safety of our community- much like those men and women working high above the ground in control towers everywhere.

Field day is a day for all the Jim Rileys to come out and test their mettle behind the mike and to have fun too with some great people either next to you or thousands of miles away on that great invention called Amateur Ham Radio. I am glad I decided to embark on my new quest for fitness. It allows me see my waist size contract, (hopefully!), and my mind to expand as I pedal my way to health and new thoughts when I become one with the great outdoors. Thank you Midway for doing that for me. Now tell me readers, what great ideas have come to your mind when you are working out- but more importantly, have you put those new ideas to use? What's stopping you? Now go hit those trails, but just as important, stop by The Hamfesters Field day on June 22nd and 23rd this year and do two things while there- Enjoy yourself and go thank a guy named Riley who puts his heart in what he wants you to do the same- **TO ENJOYING HAM RADIO!**

Back on the beat:

I want to personally thank Pete K9OWQ for the **GREAT** presentation he gave May 3rd, which was on the upcoming S.S. Badger trip for Hamfesters. He gave a thorough explanation about the trip which will leave Manitowoc, Wisconsin and arrive at Luddington, Michigan on the weekend of September 14th and 15th, 2013. This trip will allow Hams to set up their radios and antennas and broadcast while on the Seas of the Mighty Lake Michigan, complete with overnight accommodations and fine



camaraderie amongst one another. Pete also ran a great video which was very entertaining about the Badger too.

What a unique ship and no doubt what a great trip this promises to be for all who will take advantage of it and we owe this trip to Pete and his enthusiastic desire to share this trip with you! By the way, it was nice to meet Pete's friend, Mike who is a Captain on a barge that navigates various nearby waterways. Mike gave us a nice talk on his life and adventures on the great river ways that we take for granted for all they contribute to both our local and National economies. Thank you Mike for your contribution too!

Where else but Hamfesters can you find programs of such diverse, informative and unique programs?! No where I bet! Our attendance figures are up, and the talk is that we are a club that offers so much to it's membership. Pass the word to your friends and families that they all have so much to gain by jumping on the Hamfester band wagon and most importantly, discovering the incredible people who make up this club, who love this club, who devote themselves heart and soul to this club. Sure, it's about Ham radio. But more importantly, its about people. OUR people. OUR people who are....Hamfesters!!

Speaking of Field Day, on June 7th, 2013, Jim Riley will be presenting his program about the upcoming Field Day. Guaranteed to make you laugh with his anecdotes about past Field days and great technical points of interest, it is a program you don't want to miss! Combined with a special photo/video presentation Nora and I look forward to his usual stellar program. Won't you join us for a night of fun, fellowship and great coffee too!

Mark your calendars for Friday, July 12th, one and all for our annual Fourth of July Barbeque and Salute to Veterans night. Due to the holiday, this event is indeed to be held on July 12th, as the Village of Crestwood has requested this change due to the way the holiday falls this year. We ask folks to bring Pot Luck for all to enjoy and please make sure your cold dishes are kept cold for enjoyment by all that night too. The Color and Honor Guard from the Chicago Ridge VFW/ American Legion will be there too thanks to our fellow member Ron Kalat KB9TCX, who is also a member of the same aforementioned Post Honor Guard. I do ask for help at 5:45pm that night to help set up many tables so that we may start the Honor Guard on time that night between 7pm and 7:30pm.

On behalf of Nora and I, have a great week and 73's to all of you. Now where's my bicycle mount for my two meter.....hmmmm.....

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 – Patti, KC9LYE

W9AA Hamfesters Board meeting April 22, 2013 began @ 7:25PM.

Roll: Don KC9EQQ, Jim KB9CYL, Ed WA9EOL, Patti KC9LYE, John WB9JTS, Mike W9MCS, Kurt WB9FMC, Nora KC9MLV, Cathy KC9NRH, Steve W9KXT, Kerry AA9SB, Brian W9HLQ, Gene W9PNG,.

President's Report: By Don KC9EQQ, Dave's N9KPD, weather spotting program was well received, 98 people came from near, & far. We'll ask Dave back next year.

Thanks, to all who helped make the evening a success.

The May program will be Pete K9OWQ, talking about the S.S.Badger, the only coal burning ship on Lake Michigan, & the ham radio event on Sept. 14-15, 2013.

Bill from the village of Crestwood will give Hamfesters publicity.

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday May 28th.

At club meetings there will be 2 door prizes; each worth \$25.00. One raffle prize a \$50.00 gift card from Micro Center. Twenty tickets @ \$5.00 each will be sold before the drawing.

Website: Report by Brian W0HLQ, & Gene W9PNG, the board approved the fee for hamfesters security, logo, & website hosting. Our club's roster has been upgraded and is secured.

Minutes: The March board minutes were approved by Kurt WB9FMC, 2nd by John WB9JTS.

Treasurer's Report: by Ed WA9EOL, the board approved.

Publicity & Hamfest: by Kerry AA9SB, publicity for the May club meeting has been sent.

Dave N9KPD, is working with Kerry on hamfest.

The ARRL will be given our hamfest information, to publish in QST magazine.

Field Day & Ticket sales: by Jim KB9CYL, Joe KB9KBU, won't be at field day.

For field day weekend we need; solar panels, & someone to carry our Hamfesters message. John AB9JW, will bring two generators.

Hamfest ticket sales, 19 sold.

The club's trailer is stored at Kurt's WB9FMC, church.

At Christmas time we'll give them a donation.

New Business: A moment of silence for the Boston marathon victims.

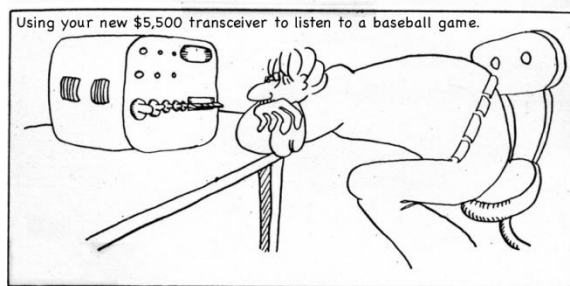
Mike W9MCS, was elected President of his groto. Congratulations!

Thanks to Nora's KC9MLV, Cousin Laura Lockwood for her help at the April 12th meeting.

Brian W9HLQ, there will be a Fall tech class.

John AB9JW, will make a special certificate for Dave N9KPO, & Pete K9OWQ.

Adjournment: @ 8:45PM by John WB9JTS, 2nd by Ed WA9EOL.



General Meeting Minutes – Patti, KC9LYE

W9AA Hamfesters Club Meeting May 3, 2013 began @ 7:40PM

Roll: Don KC9EQQ, Jim KB9CYL, Ed WA9EOL, Patti KC9LYE, Rich N9UNQ.

Tonight there were; 35 members, & 4 visitors

Steve W9KXT, & Peggy K9QLM, Peters brought their family; grandson Dan age 5 yrs. and Dan's Mom Debbie Peters.

Health & Welfare: Al N9ZD, is back tonight, welcome Al.

Program: Tonight Pete K9OWQ, The S.S. Badger, and the ham event aboard the Badger on Sept 14-15, 2013.

Tugboat captain Mike told us about working on the lakes.

Thanks, Pete & Mike great job.

Minutes: The April 12th minutes were approved by Bob N9JYX, 2nd by Ron KB9TCX.

Treasurer's Report: by Ed WA9EOL, approved by Bob N9JYX, 2nd by Ron KB9TCX.

Education & Membership: by Brian W9HLQ, there'll be a Tech class in September.

Kerry AA9SB, our publicity chairmen will be notified, details coming soon.

Hamfesters new member Jim N9HSH.

Field Day: by Jim KB9CYL, Al N9ZD, will carry our FD message.

We need solar panels for FD. Field Day pins, order @ the June club meeting. Pins are \$5.00 each, see Patti KC9LYE.

Hamfest Tickets: by Jim KB9CYL, 229 tickets out, 19 are sold.

Publicity & Hamfest: by Kerry AA9SB, publicity was sent for tonight's program. Please, sell hamfest tickets, post hamfest fliers.

Dave N9KPD, is working alongside Kerry AA9SB, with hamfest.

New Business: Don KC9EQQ, join us @ the Christmas Party.

Mike Kiley WA9ZPM, if you're having problems with flat screen TV audio. Mike WA9ZPM, knows about this stuff!

Adjournment: @ 9:57PM Bob N9JYX, 2nd by Bob N9KWG.

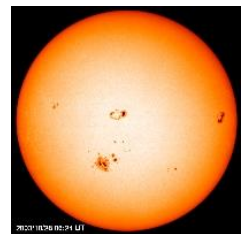
Door Prize Winners; Dolores (no call), & Bob KB9YXH

Double Peaked Solar Cycle

Solar Cycle 24 may have a double peak. Something unexpected is happening on the sun. 2013 is supposed to be the year of Solar Max, the peak of the 11-year sunspot cycle. Yet 2013 has arrived and solar activity is relatively low. Sunspot numbers are well below their values in 2011 and strong solar flares have been infrequent for many months. This quiet has led some observers to wonder if forecasters missed the mark.

Solar physicist, Dean Pesnell of the Goddard Space Flight Centre, has a different explanation. "This is solar maximum," he suggests. "But it looks different from what we expected because it is double peaked." Conventional wisdom holds that solar activity swings back and forth like a simple pendulum. At one end of the cycle, there is a quiet time with few sunspots and flares. At the other end, Solar Max brings high sunspot

numbers and solar storms. It's a regular rhythm that repeats every 11 years. Sunspot counts jumped in 2011, dipped in 2012, and Pesnell expects them to rebound again in 2013. "I am confident in saying that another peak will happen in 2013 and last into 2014," he predicts.



You can watch a 4 minute video on www.sarl.org.za
From WIA News March 2013

CQ Field Day de Jim Riley KB9CYL

As I write this on May 17, two days past the Hamgab deadline, yeah I know I'm late, my handy Field Day countdown timer tells me there are 35 days, ten hours and change until the big day. It's time to start checking our gear, making sure all is ready. I have loaded the masts, tent, and all the other equipment into the trailer in anticipation of the trip to its new home. The trailer is ready, are you?

One last time, this year's Field Day is Saturday June 22 to Sunday June 23. Operations start at 1800Z (1 p.m. local) and go for 24 hours, ending Sunday at 1800Z. We'll be at Altman Park, 116th and Oketo, a quarter mile west of Harlem and 115th St. in Worth. Setup begins at 0800 Saturday morning when all hands should be on deck. The more help we have, the quicker the job gets done.

This is important. Please note that the club will no longer pay for food brought by anyone other than our lunch, dinner, and breakfast cooks. If you feel you must show up with food, that's fine but the club will not be paying for it. Also, under no circumstances is anyone to bring donuts Sunday morning. Ed is up before dawn making an excellent breakfast for the overnight crew and he doesn't need guys stuffing themselves before he gets there. We appreciate the gesture but last year we had two dozen donuts left as we were packing up, and couldn't give them away. So feel free to bring food, but it's your treat. Was that OK, Ed?

As she did last year, Patti KC9LYE will handle sales of Field Day pins at the June meeting. They're still \$5.00 cash or check. Please make any checks payable to me. I will place the order after the meeting so we'll have them for Field



Day. Sales will close as of the end of the meeting. After that, you'll have to go direct to the ARRL.

In honor of our late friend Matt Sobczak, the GOTA station's call will be K9MS. Matt's family appreciates the honor. For those who never had the pleasure of meeting Matt, he was a longtime Field Day participant, Field Day chairman,

antenna expert, and a heck of a nice guy. He is sorely missed and this is our way of remembering him.

John Levickas AB9JW will be providing two generators. That and the club's generator should give us plenty of power.

Here's this year's lineup:

Trailer hauling: Bob N9JYX

Field Day message: Al N9ZD

Saturday lunch and dinner: Mike W9MCS

Sunday breakfast: Ed WA9EOL

Trailer station: Bob N9JYX

GOTA: Brian W9HLQ, Steve W9KXT

40 CW: Don K9KNZ

20 CW: Kurt WB9FMC

20 Digital: Al N9ZD

2-meter, 70 cm, satellite, moonbounce: Tim KC9POS

We still need solar panels, a wind turbine, a water wheel, or a bicycle hooked up to a generator for our natural power contacts. Let me know if you can help.

That's it. I'll see you at the June meeting to see last year's pictures, and at Field Day, June 22, 0800.

Hamfest Update – May 2012 Kerry AA9SB

We'd like to again thank Dave Bukowski, N9KPD, for volunteering to be our new Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator. Be sure to call him about assignments for the various Hamfest positions – ticket sales, security, prize table, VE testing, or set-up. He'll also be helping John, AB9JW, with a new vendor map for the vendor set-up.

If you're going to one of the upcoming hamfests, be sure to bring our 2013 Hamfest flyers with you and drop them off at their club table -- and pass them out.

Get the word out. We're going all out to make this hamfest a huge success. And don't forget to get your tickets, -- either from our ticket sales coordinator Jim, KB9CYL, or from the ticket sellers and sell them -- locally and at the other hamfests.

We'll have more updates at the June and July meetings.

--Kerry Nelson, AA9SB, Hamfest Committee chairperson

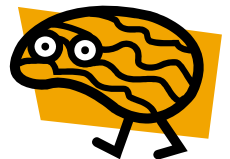
Hamfest Ticket Sales de Jim Riley KB9CYL

The Hamfest is getting closer but we still don't have a lot of advance tickets sold, 32 at this point. Since last month 80 more tickets were taken for sale. That makes 240 for the year and 208 still unsold. That may sound like a lot but even if every one of those tickets sells, it still won't cover the cost of the fairgrounds.

In addition to giving the program at the June meeting, I'll have plenty of tickets for you to take and sell. Time is running short, ladies and gentlemen, we need you to support your club. Start selling tickets!

Brain Teasers - Think Outside the Box

1. 36 I. in A. Y. (36 inches in a yard)
2. 3.6 M. is in the 80 meter band (3.6 Mhz is in the 80 meter band)
3. 360 D. in a C. (360 degrees in a circle)
4. 1000 M-A. in an A. (1000 milli-amperes in an ampere)
5. 39.37 I. equals 1 M. (39.37 inches equals 1 meter)
6. "WAS" means W. A. S. ("WAS" means Worked All States)
7. 186,000 M.P.S. is the S. of L. (186,000 miles per second is the speed of light)
8. 10 V. equals 1 A. flowing thru 1 O. (10 volts equals 1 ampere flowing thru 1 ohm)
9. 10^6 equals 1 M. (10^6 equals 1 million)
10. 3.14159 equals P. (3.14159 equals Pi)
11. 60 S. in a M. (60 seconds in a minute)
12. 90 D. in a R.A. (90 degrees in a right angle)
13. 360 D. in a S. W. C. (360 degrees in a sine wave cycle)
14. P. equals I. x I. x R. (power equals $I^2 \times R$)
15. 24 H. in a D. (24 hours is a day)
16. A transistor has a B., E., and C. (A transistor has a base, emitter, and collector)
17. In 1961 hams launched O. 1. (In 1961 hams launched Oscar 1)
18. "CW" is short for C.W. ("CW" is short for continuous wave)
19. Another name for a B. is a Y. (Another name for a beam is a yagi)



Hamfesters VE Testing: By Al Bukowski N9ZD



Hamfesters Radio club VE's administered FCC Amateur Radio exams April 13, 2013 at the Oak Forest City Hall 15440 S. Central Ave. Oak Forest, ILL 60452. We had four candidates in which one earned a General ticket and three earned a Technician ticket. The VE's who helped me at this exam session were; Tim AA9BV, Ron WB9JYZ, Bob N9JYX, Tom KA9ZXN and myself N9ZD. Thank You to all VE's for taking the time with the exam sessions.

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 9:15 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 June 8, 2013.

Very important: Please remember to bring the following items with you to any exam session: The appropriate fee (currently \$15) for the test. 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 email at: N9ZD@ARRL.net. Again - The test fee is still \$15.00 (cash only -- no credit cards or checks).

73's AL – N9ZD



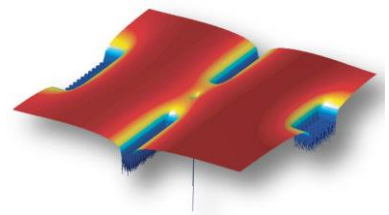
Editors Ramble: A Single Atom Transistor

Few atom transistors have been developed, but last year researchers went one step farther and created a single atom transistor. It could herald a future of quantum computers and computing power unimaginable today.

The transistor was created by a group of international researchers from Australia, Purdue University and Korea. It is made by carving a hole with a scanning electron microscope in a hydrogen coated silicon wafer. It is a technique commonly used in lithography. A phosphorus atom is placed in the lattice. The phosphorus atom becomes an electron sink and when a current is applied it behaves as a transistor. Electrical current can be switched and amplified.

The transistors are still years away from any practical applications. Quantum "mixing effects" of the atoms at such a small level need to be overcome and the transistor still only works at cryogenic temperatures, but consider that no one really knew what the practical applications of the first transistors would be in 1947.

Sources: Discover Magazine and <http://spectrum.ieee.org/semiconductors/nanotechnology/a-singleatom-transistor>



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

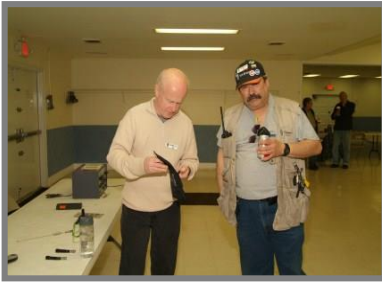
kb9yxh@yahoo.com or call me at (708) 429-4511.

73' Bob Richter KB9YXH Raffle Chairman

May 2013 Meeting Pictures



Hamgab, June 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 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. AI N9ZD VE Team Chairman

Special Activities

Hamfesters Big Peotone Hamfest: Our 79th annual Hamfest coming August 4, 2013-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 22 & June 23 2013 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.