



HamGab

Next meeting: March 7th

March 2014

White Elephant Sale **HAMFESTERS**



RADIO CLUB

The White Elephant sale will be during the next meeting on March 7st.



Clear out the garage! Get some cash! Buy that gadget you've been waiting for.

There will be a memorial for the late Roger Borowski K9RB prior to the March meeting. See Don's column for details.

Note: Special meeting in April. Once again Dave N9KPD will give a basic weather spotter program in conjunction with the Romeoville National Weather Service Office. Weather spotting certificates will be Available: see Don's column for details. Last year Dave gave a great presentation. Arrive early since this is one of our most popular meetings.



Thanks Steve W9KXT for your excellent presentation at last month's meeting on *Ham Radio Then and Now*. The videos and slides gave a nice overview of the benefits of Ham radio and how useful it can be in an emergency. The story of the Ham radio pilots who lost their



lives but were able to save others was especially compelling. It shows the true character of the ham operator. It was also nice to see the joys of ham radio in making the contact to China or the Space Shuttle, although we must admit singing on top of a radio tower would not be our idea of fun. Great job Steve!

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www.hamfesters.org

Special Interest Articles

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March Birthdays

John K9DRS

Daniel W9GOB

Wayne KC9IC

Matthew N9JXR

Robert W9LNU

Roger K9RB

Robert KB9YRE

Dennis KA9ZZT

Kurt WB9FMC

Joe WB9SIK

Walter KC9SYX

Gene KC9WBI

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

**OUR MARCH MEETING?
IN A WORD-IMPORTANT!**

**THE PRESIDENTS BEAT
DONALD POINTER KC9EQQ
MARCH 2014**

As you all know by now, our March meeting will be primarily about the White Elephant Sale. But something else will be happening that night prior to the sale. Starting at 4:30pm, we will be the host site for a special 2 and half hour memorial/late luncheon which will be presented by the family of the late Roger Borowski K9RB, who was both a Past President and member of our Hamfesters club. At about 5:30pm or so, Barb Borowski, (Roger's widow), and family will have food brought in for those who attend the memorial as a way of thanking the Ham Radio community for what it gave to Roger, and what he gave to it. At 6pm, I will be serving as moderator introducing those of you who would like to come up and say a few kind words about Roger. Come 7pm, the memorial will begin to conclude, so that we may prepare for the White Elephant sale that will begin after said memorial.

Did you know that Roger received his ticket in 1961 at the tender age of 12? His original call was WN9EKA, which he maintained until he earned his General, where there upon he held that call until 1996 when changed his call to K9RB which he maintained until his passing this past fall. It is an honor that Barbara asked us to be the host club for the memorial. She told me that our club meant so much to him and she really wanted to say thanks to Hamfesters and all clubs for the joy that Amateur radio and it's wonderful community of people gave to Roger. We say to you Barbara it is US who are honored at your request. I look forward to seeing you all out there on March 7th for what will truly be a nice evening of fellowship. On behalf of our club and myself, I offer my sincerest thanks for all that Roger did for us all. And thank you Barb for honoring our club with this special service.

And of course I hope you can participate at the White Elephant sale as both seller and buyer. We always get a nice turn out made up of folks who like to attend methinks not only for the sale, but for the fellowship that we all enjoy on that special night too.

Last month, Steve Peters W9KXT gave a great program about Ham Radio in 2014, which also paid wonderful homage to the past history of Amateur radio. Nora and I were among the 45 present who once again braved the cold who enjoyed Steve's anecdotes, videos and historical commentaries about this wonderful craft we call Ham Radio. Thank you Steve for filling in for Pete K90WG who is recovering from surgery after a bad fall he had taken at the end of last summer. You did great Steve for sure! I am sure I speak for all of you in wishing Pete a speedy recovery.

Speaking of recovery, three members of our club could use your get well wishes, thoughts and prayers as they each manage some serious health issues. They would be: Bob Trular W9LNQ, Bob Maloney W9TOE and Harry Hess K9MDK. These four gentlemen have contributed so much to the Ham Radio community and I truly hope they recuperate soon and can get back into the swing of things soon.

The circumstances about Roger, Bob T, Bob M and Harry I understand certainly bring a serious undertone to my column this month. I am putting silliness aside and asking everyone to remember the great folks in this club who put this club on the man in so many inspiring ways both past and present.



I am honored to serve as the President of a club that is comprised of so many incredible and unique individuals, and believe me I am humbled to say the least, at your support of my constant efforts to serve and recognize you and you and you- The Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club member.

Back on the beat: Watch out folks- Mr. Weather is coming back to Hamfesters in April! I speak of none other than fellow Hamfesters member Dave Bukowski N9KPD, who is back by popular demand with his Basic Weather Spotters class on Friday, April 7th, with a prompt start of 7:30pm. Certificates will be available, possibly that night- details on that are being worked out as of this writing. We had 100 people attend Dave's program last year and I expect to see that number exceeded next month, so please arrive early. We will have doors opening at 6:30pm. If this winter has given us any hint, it is that Winter's Sister Spring is going to come around soon with an attitude! Begin your preparations by attending this great program and learn the importance of proper weather spotting and Ham Radio reporting of imminent severe weather conditions.

On a personal note, I would like to thank those who have offered their condolences to Nora and I on the passing of her Uncle Jim. We truly appreciate it. And speaking of Nora, I want to thank her for the great new picture she took of me, which makes it's debut with this month's column. Hope you like it- I certainly do. See you soon and 73 to you and yours!
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.

General Meeting Minutes de Patti, KC9LYE

Hamfesters W9AA Club meeting Feb. 7, 2014 began @ 7:30 PM.

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

At tonight's meeting there were 44 members, & 1 visitor. Welcome back Lee WB9USF.

At the Jan. 3rd meeting 30 members attended (see minutes).

Because of the weather there has not been a board meetings since Oct. 28, 2013.

Health & Welfare: Pete K9OWQ, had surgery on Jan. 8th to repair broken ribs. Last week he broke another rib, hope you feel better Pete.

On March 7th here at the Crestwood Civic Center, @ 4:00 PM there will be a memorial service for Roger K9RB, he was President of Hamfesters. Also, on the same night, & location @ 7:00 PM, there will be our annual white elephant sale.

President's Report: by Don KC9EQQ, check the website www.hamfesters.org often for important club updates.

Programs: Tonight's by Steve W9KXT, History of Ham Radio.

March 7, @ 7:00 PM Annual White Elephant Sale, setup @ 6:30 PM, bring stuff to sell. Invite friends, bring your own extension cords. Hamfesters club is not responsible for lost items.

April 4th Basic Weather Spotter's class taught by Dave N9KPD.

Minutes: Jan. 3, club meeting minutes approved by; Pat K9KRT, & 2nd by John KC9OOO.

There weren't any minutes taken on Jan. 3, 2014.

Treasurer's Report: by Ed WA9EOL, Thanks, Brian W9HLQ, for collecting membership dues. Hamfesters now use PayPal. Report approved by Lee WB9USF, 2nd by Steve W9KXT.

Hamfest & Publicity: by Kerry AA9SB, Hamfest the first Sunday in Aug. 2014 @ the Will County Fair Grounds in Peotone, IL. advanced ticket sales \$8.00 each double stubs. We have vendor's commitments for the north room. We'll soon send out vendor reservation forms. Dave N9KPD, our Hamfest volunteer coordinator, is also now ticket sale coordinator, Thanks Dave. Thanks, Jim KB9CYL, for doing such a great job as ticket sales coordinator for a long time.

Soon we'll have Hamfest 2014 fliers. We need volunteers at the Hamfest, please contact Dave N9KPD.

Report by Steve W9KXT. There's a rumor that Hamfesters Hamfest has been cancelled. If you hear it, correct them!

Publicity: by Kerry AA9SB, publicity was sent out for tonight's club meeting.

Report by Don KC9EQQ, Would someone please make a poster containing Hamfest information for the March 7th meeting? Jim N9HSH, will ask his wife to do it.

Field Day: by Jim KB9CYL, if anyone has photos from FD 2013 please give them to him.

Field Day June 28-29th 2014, Don K9KNZ, needs someone else to run the 40 meters CW station.

Hamgab by Steve KC9OOL, the Hamgab is always looking for news, stories, etc. email them to Steve.

Adjournment: @ 8:15 PM approved by Jim KB9CYL, 2nd by Steve W9KXT.

Door Prize Raffle Winners: Ron WB9JYZ, Steve W9KXT, & Bruce KB9USV.



CQ Field Day de Jim Riley

As I write this there is a foot of snow on our Field Day site in Worth and the temperature is in the teens, but not to worry. I can guarantee you it will be warmer and there will be a lot less snowy on June 28 and 29 when this year's event takes place.

When I visited the ARRL website's Field Day locator today, there were 53 sites logged in for this year, 54 after I added ours. You can check it out here <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator> . Just type in W9AA in the "location or call sign" box.

Don K9KNZ let me know at the February meeting that he will no longer be running the 40-meter CW station. He is more than willing to help but doesn't want to do all the set up and tear down by himself. If you'd like to run 40 CW let me know. You'll have plenty of help from an experienced and excellent CW man. Thanks, Don, for the millions of dots and dashes you've pounded out for Hamfesters over the years.

If you are new to our club or to Amateur Radio in general and want to join up with the best Field Day team anywhere, see me at the meeting. We're looking for world-class operators, of course, but we're mainly looking for you. Everybody made his or her first Field Day contact somewhere. We want yours to be with us.

Health and Welfare

Pete K9OWQ was suppose to give a presentation at last month's meeting about the SS Badger trip, but as most of you already know, Pete had surgery for some broken ribs in January. Unfortunately, Pete had a fall just before the February meeting and fractured some more ribs. We're sorry to hear about Pete's setback and hope he recovers quickly. As per Don's column, we also want to send out get well wishes to Bob Trular W9LNQ, Bob Maloney W9TOE and Harry Hess K9MDK.



Hamfesters Monthly Raffle

Due to cost issues, the raffle table at the monthly meetings has been discontinued. Not enough tickets were sold to offset the cost of the raffle. However, we will still have the door prizes. If you want to donate a door prize you can call me or let me know at the meeting. My number is still 708-429-4511 or kb9yxh@gmail.com. We would still encourage you to donate. Thank You

73' Bob Richter KB9YXH Raffle Chairman

Hamfest Update March 2014 de Kerry AA9SB Hamfest Committee chairperson

Dave Bukowski, N9KPD, our new Hamfest Ticket Sales Coordinator, has already begun work on his new duties. The new 2014 Hamfest flyers have been printed, and they'll be ready for distribution at the next general meeting on Friday, March 7. Be sure to bring our 2014 Hamfest flyers with you if you're going to one or more of the upcoming hamfests in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin or elsewhere -- and be sure to drop them off at their club table. And pass them out there, as well as at our meetings and at STARS and Tri-Town. Get the word out.



We're going to make an all-out effort to make this hamfest a huge success. And don't forget to get tickets for *yourself* -- either from Dave or from one of our ticket sellers -- and get tickets to sell and SELL them. We'll also be looking for volunteers to sign up for assignments for the various Hamfest positions: ticket sales, security, prize table, VE testing, or set-up. Let us know how you'd like to participate. Thanks much!

Wanted

PC tower wanted: cheap windows xp or 98 for me Bob kb9yxh please notify me at kb9yxh@gmail.com or 708-429-4511

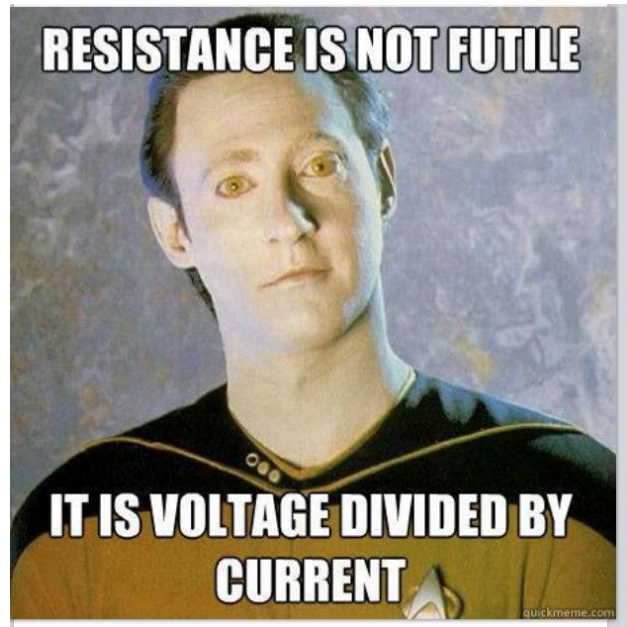


REMEMBER: WITH GREAT
POWER COMES GREAT
CURRENT SQUARED
TIMES RESISTANCE.



OHM NEVER FORGOT HIS
DYING UNCLE'S ADVICE.

From xkcd.com [HTTP://XKCD.COM/643/](http://xkcd.com/643/)



Hamfesters VE Testing de Al Bukowski N9ZD VE Coordinator

Volunteers Examiners report February 2014

Hamfester's Radio Club VE's assembled to offer Amateur Radio Exams for February 8, 2014; for the second month in a row, we had no candidates. The participating VE's team members that volunteered their time were Tim AA9BV, Ron N9STU, Gene KB9RNM, Ron 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 through the main City Hall entrance and 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 March 8, 2014.

Important message for anyone studying for the Technician Class Exam:



The [NCVEC](#) Question Pool Committee has released the new 2014-2018 Technician Class, Element 2, [question pool](#) to the public. This new Question pool will take effect on July 1, 2014, and will remain valid until June 30, 2018. The [current Technician question pool](#), released in 2010, is valid until June 30, 2014.

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).

HamGab Material Needed

We appreciate all of the monthly contributions to HamGab. We also want to give a special thank you to Brian for all of the great material he sends every month. We can honestly say there would not be a HamGab if it weren't for Brian. That said, we are always looking for more material. It can be radio related: we like to hear about any interesting contacts or even descriptions of your new rig or homemade whatever. It doesn't have to be radio related. Just send us anything you think the members would find interesting. We'd love to have jokes and cartoons as long as they are not copyrighted. This is your HamGab. Let's try to make it great.

Editor's Rambles

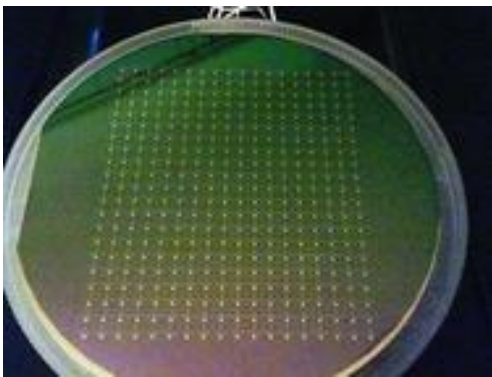
The New Diamond Age

It's nice having one of the world's premier research institutions down the road a few miles at Argonne Labs. They were having a lecture on The Nature of Nano a few weeks ago so I decided to drive on over. The first half of the lecture was devoted to the multiple areas where nanotechnology is useful and how Argon researchers have played a role. It includes applications in a myriad of areas such as solar cells, catalysts, LEDES, batteries and medical imaging. By the time she was done talking, it became apparent that a "nano" revolution truly is underway.



The second half of the lecture was given by Adam Khan founder of AKHAN technologies. He hinted that a "diamond" age may be coming soon. Here's why. One of the problems with silicon transistors is the amount of heat they generate. More powerful computing power has come about as a result of making silicon chips smaller and smaller. Hence Moore's law has held. The time is approaching where it will not be possible to make silicon chips smaller. IBM and other companies have been working on stacking silicon chips in 3D transistors. Unfortunately, this is limited by the amount of heat generated by the chips.

The people at Argonne think diamonds may be the answer. Diamond has 5 times the thermal conductivity of copper and diamond semiconductors can operate at much lower temperatures than silicon semiconductors, but it has been not been possible to make them efficiently in the past. One of the major problems has been the high temperatures needed make the diamond crystalline layers. Researchers at Argonne's Center for Nanoscale Materials have recently developed technology for the deposition of nanoscale diamond crystals into the wafers needed for semiconductors at temperatures as low as 400 degrees C. It doesn't sound like a very cool temperature to me, but according to the researchers at Argonne, it is cool enough.

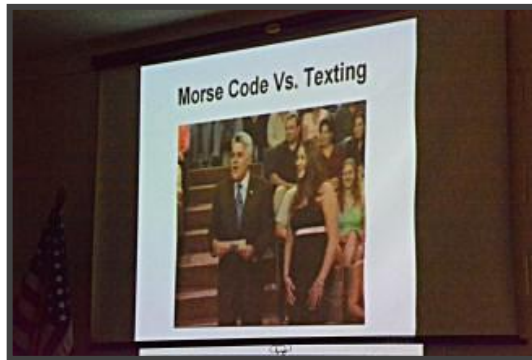


The Miraj Diamond Platform

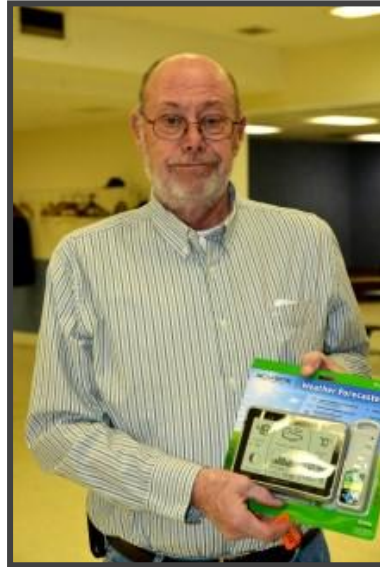
The other issue is that diamonds are usually insulators and have to go through a "doping" process to become a semiconductor and there was no way to perform the n-type doping efficiently until recently. I'm sure you all remember about the n and p portion of semiconductors from your ham licensing classes. The physics are beyond me, (actually I didn't look at the paper) but apparently the group at AKHAN technologies have solved the n-doping problem. Argonne and AKHAN technologies have joined forces and hope to start licensing the technology and start production of the diamond semiconductors in the not too distant future. Diamonds may turn out to be not only a girl's best friend, but a transistors best friend as well.

from the *Argonne Out Loud* lecture and <http://www.anl.gov/articles/brilliance-diamonds>

Hamgab, March 2014



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Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 474

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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 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 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.