



HamGab

Next meeting: July 10th

July 2015

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

Special Interest Articles

Obtaining a paper copy
of your FCC License - 6
Shedd Aerial Robotics
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July Birthdays

Ed WA9EOL
Joe KA9QAT
Bob N9KWG
Linas 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-Jim N9HSH
Trustee-Bruno K9QKB

Board Members

Nora KC9MLV
Steve W9KXT
Kurt WB9FMC
Kerry AA9SB
Cathy KC9NRH

Hamgab Editors

Steve & Eric
KC9OOL & KC9OOM
Scapstone@aol.com

The Hamfest is coming up on August 2nd!
The July picnic will be your last
opportunity to buy tickets, so don't
forget! Volunteers to help with setting up
(Aug. 1st), manning the gates, or running
the raffle are greatly appreciated!



July Picnic



Our annual July picnic will be held on Friday,
July 10th. Please note that's the second Friday
of the month, not the first! The picnic will
once again feature Hamfesters' favorite
Beggar's Pizza, but please also bring a dish to
pass if you are able (please clearly label
anything with nuts). The Chicago Ridge VFW
will once again be presenting the colors. We
hope to see you there!



DON'T FORGET YOUR HAMFEST TICKETS AND
SPLIT THE POT TICKETS AT THE NEXT MEETING!

**"SHE'S A GRAND OLD FLAG"
AND A GRAND OLD COUNTRY TOO!**

THE PRESIDENTS BEAT

DONALD POINTER KC9EQQ

JULY 2015

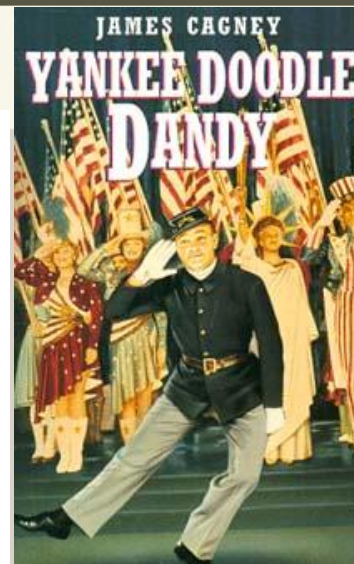
Outside of our club's Christmas Party, probably my most favorite meeting of the year is the one we have this very month of July. Besides all the fellowship we as members share at this meeting, along with our indoor picnic we have that night, I just so take pride in our country when I see the Chicago Ridge VFW Honor Guard come in to the room in formation to Post Colors. It is a Grand way to start this meeting. (This by the way will be on July 10th this year).

As that Guard of Five or six Military Veterans walk into the room, I myself look around the room and look at those members of Hamfesters who I know at one time in their life, served our country in the branch of service that they wore a uniform for. I also know that many of them, many of you for that matter currently have family members of one, two, three or more degrees of separation that stand guard in our military. The looks on your faces say it clear- you are damn proud of that service. You are proud of Old Glory flying high over a country that with all its faults is still the best place to live on earth... A place where you are free to reach for a microphone in the middle of night and talk to others across the land on that wonderful old rig of yours in your shack. A place where you know others have made the supreme sacrifice to ensure those freedoms stay in place for our families present today and those families of ours still yet to be generations from now. And it still gets me excited with pride and makes me pop a button or two of my jacket with pride, when I see so many of you, my fellow Hamfester Member, arrive at such a meeting as the one this month and know that you the veteran, you the fellow member, had everything to do with keeping my freedom, your freedom going. And to that end I thank you. I think we all thank you.....

BACK ON THE BEAT: So here's a toast raised to you, Jim Riley KB9CYL for the great program you presented in June on Field Day. Info, laughs and a good time were had by all, presented by the Guru of Field day. Remember as Jim says- it's not just about how many contacts you make, it's the good times you have with your fellow members at Field day that make it all worthwhile. I would not miss that fellowship for anything. Thanks again Jim and to all those who come out and support Field Day in so many capacities. A fun night with a fun bunch- you cannot beat it!

Worth repeating: A special reminder to all of you. Our Independence Day picnic and Salute to all those who have worn the uniforms of our Military and First Responders will be held on Friday, July 10th, **not** the Third. Bring your best dishes of goodies for all to enjoy, and we as a club will provide plenty of Beggars Pizza for all you pie lovers out there! Please feel free to bring your own special dish to share that night too. Just remember, if it is meant to be served cold, please provide ice underneath it in case it's a hot evening and for food safety.

I need only one thing more from you folks out there- Who can arrive at 5:30pm to help Nora and I set up on the Tenth? Give me a shout and let me know if you can come out and help. As part of our salute to those in Uniform, Ron Kalat will once again be helping us with that Salute by Having the Honor Guard of the Chicago Ridge VFW post present Colors that night. When you sit down to enjoy your meal that night won't you please invite one of those Honor Guard members to join you at your table and give them that Good Old fashioned Hamfesters Welcome! Thanks Ron also for your help too with bringing the VFW in by the way. You're the best Ron!



Worth repeating again! Brian W9HLQ and Gene W9PNG want you to know you can now go to our website, (www.Hamfesters.org) and pay with your credit card for things such as dues, Hamfest Tickets and even our Christmas Party tickets. Yes, it is secure and handled through PayPal. Contact Brian or Gene for more info. And yes, we still will take good old Cash at the meetings too for all the aforementioned purchase items!

Nora and I wish to extend our best wishes to all of you as you celebrate the Fourth of July weekend that is around the corner. God Bless the USA and God Bless Hamfesters. Let's not forget our men and women in uniform. They are why we can celebrate this and so many holidays freely. 73 everyone!

Don Pointer KC9EQQ

President of the best darn Ham Radio club there is-

HAMFESTERS!!

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

Board Meeting Minutes de Patti, KC9LYE

The Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club board meeting was held on May 26, 2015 at 7:30 PM

Roll: Don KC9EQQ, Jim KB9CYL, Patti KC9LYE, Nora KC9MLV, Kurt WB9FMC, Jim N9HSH, Steve W9KXT, Cathy KC9NRH, Kerry AA9SB

Visitors: Bob N9KWG and Gene W9PNG

A moment of silence was observed in honor of Memorial Day.

President's report: by Don KC9EQQ - Thanks for taking care of business at the May club meeting during my absence.

Ed WA9EOL is attending his grandson's graduation tonight.

The board voted to have no guest entertainment at our Christmas party this year.

Health and Welfare: Today Jim's (KB9CYL) cousin Danny passed away from ALS. Gene W9PNG told us that Brian W9HLQ is recovering from a detached retina.

Minutes: The minutes were approved for April by Jim N9HSH.

New members: by Gene W9PNG - We have a new member: Dave W0COP.

Programs: June field day 2014 by Jim KB9CYL

July 10 picnic, setup will be at 6PM with a start time of 7PM. The color guard will once again present the flag.

Field day: by Jim KB9CYL, field day is June 27, and 28 2015 at the Worth, Illinois site. Set up time 8 AM on Saturday. Jim N9HSH will bring the club trailer to the site. The trailer will be cleaned out at field day.

Hamfest 2015: Kurt WB9FMC is contacting vendors, needs volunteers!

He will contact Mark KB9WLX, to ask if he can do a demo on drones at the hamfest on August 2nd. Mark did a very good presentation at our meeting in February.

Publicity: by Kerry AA9SB - publicity was sent to the newspapers regarding the June meeting.

Adjournment: Jim N9HSH, and Steve W9KXT, at 8:30 PM



Hamfesters Roster News

We have a new Member! A warm welcome to Dave, W0COP.

General Meeting Minutes de Patti, KC9LYE

The Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club meeting was held on June 12, 2015 at 7:35 PM

Roll: Don KC9EQQ, Jim KB9CYL, Ed WA9EOL, Patti KC9LYE, Jim N9HSH.
Tonight there were twenty-four members, and five visitors. Welcome all!

Health and Welfare: Welcome back to Bob N9JYX.

Bill Pasternak WA6ITF, the host of Newslines is a silent key tonight.

Brian W9HLQ and Steve W9KXT have Radio equipment that belonged to Mr. Chandler KC9K (SK); please come over to the table during the break and take a look.

Upgrades: Mel K9ZAV earned his extra class license! Well done Mel.

New member: Chuck WB9C, welcome.

Programs: Tonight's program was by Jim KB9CYL, *Field Day 2014*.

July 10th will be our annual picnic; beginning at 7 PM. Setup begins at 6 PM if you are interested in helping out. We will serve Beggar's pizza, and potluck. There will be a color guard from the Chicago Ridge VFW. **The July 10th meeting will be your last chance to purchase hamfest tickets!**

Hamfest 2015: The Hamfest will be held on August 2nd. Please buy and sell tickets.

We need volunteers! - Especially on August 1st to help with setup and the vendors' picnic.

We will have two guest speakers at the hamfest; Val ND9L, and, our own Dave N9KPD. Dave will be presenting a basic weather spotter course. VE testing will also be offered.

Minutes: The minutes for the May meeting were approved by Bob N9JYX, and Jim N9HSH.

Secretary's report: by Patti KC9LYE - I am collecting money, and taking orders for field day pins. These pins are six dollars each, and they will be available at field day.

Thanks to Brian W9HLQ, and Don KC9EQQ, for the ICOM "HAM ON BOARD" bumper sticker.

Treasurer's report: by Ed WA9EOL - The club's bills are paid.

Field day: by Jim KB9CYL - June 27, and 28, 2015 at the Worth site. For location details, please see Hamfesters.org. Setup begins at 0800 on the 27th.

Publicity: by Kerry AA9SB - Publicity was sent to the newspapers regarding Field Day 2015.

If you see the notice in the newspaper please give it to Jim KB9CYL, as we receive field day points.

New business: Jim KB9CYL, and Judy Riley celebrated their forty-fifth wedding anniversary. Congratulations!

Old business: Thanks to Brian W9HLQ, and Steve W9KXT, for getting our field day tent repaired.

Adjournment: 9:30 PM

Door prize winners: Gene W9PNG, Charles and Ann Sullivan.

Split the pot winner: Brian W9HLQ

Hamfesters VE Testing de Al Bukowski N9ZD - VE Coordinator

On June 13, 2015, Hamfester's Radio Club VE's team assembled to administered Amateur Radio exams at the Oak Forest City Hall. We had one Candidate who earned a Technician ticket and two Technicians who earned the General class Ticket. Congratulations to the candidates. The VE's who assisted me were Ron N9STU, Tim AA9BV and Ron WB9JYZ. Thank You to all the VE's for your dedicated time.

Amateur Radio Exams INFO:

Hamfester's Radio Club VE's offer License Testing for those who want to get their first ham license, or those who want to upgrade to a higher class license. Examination sessions are available on the second Saturday of each month. We will assist you with completion of all necessary paperwork prior to taking your exam.

Requirements - What to Bring to an Exam Session:

A fee of \$15 dollars is charged for the examination. Payment is Cash ONLY. Please bring a government-issued ID; (one ID could be a driver's license). If you would prefer to not use your Social Security Number on your application, we suggest obtaining a Federal Registration Number (FRN) from the FCC website - otherwise you'll need to use your Social Security Number.

Upgrade Examinations:

If you are already licensed and are taking an upgrade examination: Please bring your printed *original* license, and a copy of your current license that we can keep. Also, if you have recently taken an examination that has not been

If you have any questions regarding our test session or about upgrading, please contact N9ZD via e-mail at: N9ZD@arri.net.

Our next test session will be held on Saturday July 11, 2015. (0900 hrs)

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

Below is important information to all Radio Amateurs...

processed by the FCC,
Please bring your *latest CSCE* and a *Copy of that CSCE* that we can keep.



Retaking the Exam:

If you almost passed an exam on your first try, and would like to try again, you may retake a different version of the exam for an additional \$15 fee.

Morse Code Not Required!

Morse code is no longer required for any level of amateur radio license. All Morse code testing requirements for the Amateur Radio Service in the USA were eliminated on February 23, 2007.

Location and Time of Hamfesters VE administered Radio Exams:

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 Police door entrance and look for the Amateur Radio testing exam signs for directions.

FCC Goes Paperless: In order to streamline procedures and save money, the FCC stopped routinely printing and mailing licenses in February 2015.

Please read the next page on how to obtain your official FCC Amateur Radio License from the FCC.

How to Obtain an Official FCC License Copy

There are a number of ways a license holder can obtain an official copy of their license. The official license will display the FCC logo and the watermark "Official Copy" will be printed across each page of an official authorization from FCC.

- 1. Download and Print License:** The licensee can log into the FCC ULS License Manager System <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/> with their FRN and password to 'Download the Electronic Authorization' of the official license. On the 'Download Authorizations' page the license holder will add their call sign to the 'Authorizations to Download' and then click download. The PDF of the license can be saved to a computer and printed later or the file can be opened and printed immediately.
- 2. Login and Set Paper Preferences:** The licensee can log into the FCC ULS License Manager System <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/> with their FRN and password and set their own paper authorization preferences for future mailings. This option determines whether a user will receive paper authorizations (printed license and FRN information) from the FCC. The license holder would select either YES or NO and then click SAVE. By selecting YES, you will continue to receive paper authorizations printed and mailed by the FCC. By selecting NO, you will not receive authorizations printed and mailed from the FCC. This preference will affect all granted authorizations on this FRN.
- 3. Receive License via email:** When modifying, renewing or requesting a duplicate copy of the license, a licensee who already has an FCC Registration Number (FRN) and provides a valid e-mail address under "Applicant Information" while logged in to the ULS system will receive an official ULS-generated electronic authorization via e-mail.

The action of adding a valid e-mail address into the FCC system can also be performed by a VEC filing new, upgraded, modified or renewed licenses on behalf of applicants.

- 4. Contact FCC:** Licensees may contact FCC Support via the web, by telephone (1-888 225-5322) or by mail to request paper licenses. Please note that FCC recently stopped using distinctive paper stock to produce hard copy licenses and has been printing these on "standard, white recycled paper." The Bureau noted that the distinctive paper stock it had used was six times more expensive than the plain recycled paper it now uses.

Additional Information

An unofficial "reference copy" can always be printed from the FCC's ULS License database <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>.

New licensees may choose to register their SSN (social security number) with the FCC and receive a FRN before the exam date to make retrieving a copy of their new license after the session much easier.

VE Teams may accept photocopies or printouts of licenses from the follow sources: the official license or reference license printed from the FCC website, and license data printed out from the ARRL website or QRZ website. This information can be found on the ARRL web page [what to bring to an exam session](http://tinyurl.com/oa78t4x) (<http://tinyurl.com/oa78t4x>)

73's de AL – N9ZD

Hamgab, July 2015

Editor's Ramble:

What are the Boy Scouts up to these days?

I'm sure we all enjoyed the program at the February meeting. Mark (KB9WLX – pictured at right) gave a wonderful presentation on quadcopters, or as many people call them, drones. As this exciting new technology grows, the Boy Scouts have kept up. Aviation Explorers, a subsidiary of the Boy Scouts, runs several clubs dedicated to building and flying drones. One group, Aviation Explorers Post 579, operates out of the Illinois Math and Science Academy in Aurora. But of course, it's not just the boy scouts that are taking notice of this new technology. This May,



Shedd Aquarium held the Shedd Aerial Robotics Challenge at the Lincoln Park pond, a competition where all the Exploring posts in the area could show off their skills as pilots and engineers.

The competition is divided into three parts. Two of them are surveying missions – in one, participants are asked to use a drone and a camera to identify different species of aquatic birds around the pond, and in the other participants use the drone and camera to create a map of the ecosystems around the pond. These two challenges are relatively simple, but that doesn't mean they are easy. Chicago is, after all, the windy city, and maintaining stable flight while trying to take pictures of birds requires a steady hand and a good bit of practice. The environmental survey flight can use a GPS to follow a predefined course, but since much of the drone software is still in its infancy, getting the drone to use the GPS to navigate requires a lot of fiddling. Post 579 ended up flying this mission by hand after a glitchy GPS flew one of their quadcopters straight into a tree.

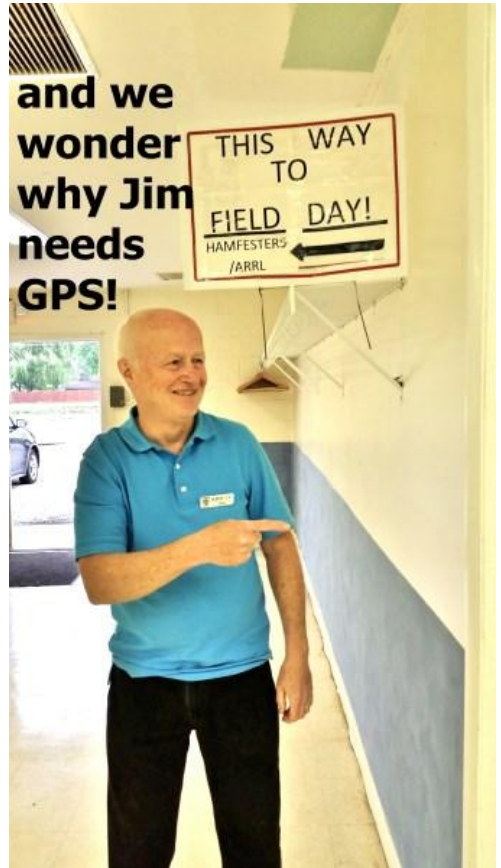


Post 579 inspects their custom quadcopter after a minor mishap involving a tree.

The third part of the competition asks participants to fly the drone out to the middle of the pond, collect a 250 mL (about 1 cup) water sample, and return it to the shore safely. Drones and water don't typically get along very well, but as Post 579 found, attempting to tether a water collection device to a drone makes even the best pilots prone to "OIO" – operator induced oscillation – where when the pilot attempts to correct for the 2-4 foot tether swaying below the drone, it throws the whole thing out of control. Most teams ended up solving this by modifying their quadcopters – or in Post 579's case, designing and building a new one – to make them capable of safely landing on the water and taking off again, meaning that they didn't need a long tether to hold a sampling device.

Drones are a fascinating intersection of aviation, computers, and of course, radio. With so many youngsters taking an interest in them, perhaps we'll see some new young hams in the coming years, who got their start using radio controlled drones.

You can see photos and videos here: <https://storify.com/SheddLearning/shedd-aerial-robotics>







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. AI N9ZD VE Team Chairman

Special Activities

Hamfesters Big Peotone Hamfest: Our 79th annual Hamfest coming August 2, 2015-Will County Fairgrounds, Peotone, IL. Kurt WB9FMC Hamfest Chairman.

Field Day: Join the W9AA crew for one of the best Field Days ever on June 27 & June 28 2015 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. Jim N9HSH 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.