

Ham Gab

Next meeting: July 8th

July 2016



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

Special Interest Articles

The Bell pg.4
Gravity Waves pg. 5

July Birthdays

Kelvin W9BBQ
Tim AA9BV
Marie KD9CAE
Ed WA9EOL
Ray KA9ITZ
Bob N9KWG
Linas KC9PCP
Joe KA9QAT
Brian KB9RHM
ED W9STB
Charles WA9TWA
Charles W9TZE
Lee WB9USF
David WB9VNB
Harry KA9WPB

Officers

President-Don KC9EQQ
Vice President -Jim KB9CYL
Secretary-Patty KC9LYE
Treasurer- ED WA9EOL
SGT at Arm-Jim N9HSH
Trustee-Granville W9PNG

Board Members

Nora KC9MLV
Steve W9KXT
Kurt WB9FMC
Cindy N9CAS
Cathy KC9NRH

Hamgab Editors

Steve & Eric
KC9OOL & KC9OOM
Scapstone@aol.com



We weren't able to make the last meeting, but have it on good authority that Jim W9JPR gave his usual hilarious and highly entertaining Field Day presentation. Make sure to check your e-mails and the web site for any last minute Field Day information. We're looking forward to seeing you there.



Our annual July picnic will be held on Friday, July 8th. 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. Thank you Ron KB9CTX for organizing this each year. We hope to see you there!



We still have club Polo Shirts, T shirts and hats for sale. The Hamfester's logo is embroidered, not stamped. See Cindy N9CAS and place your orders

**SOMETIMES YOU CAN GET MORE
THAN GAS AT SHELL.....**

THE PRESIDENTS BEAT

DONALD POINTER KC9EQQ
JULY 2016

A few days ago I found myself inadvertently brought into a conversation while in line waiting to buy gas. The cashier was listening to this lady customer who was talking proudly about her young son who had just enlisted to join the U.S. Army. The customer, (let's just call her Mary-not her real name), was mentioning how she was going to go up to Midway Airport in the near future to watch her first Honor Flight. Through a cooperative effort between Honor Flight Inc and Southwest Airlines, Veterans from World War II, Korea and now Viet Nam are flown by Southwest, along with a military entourage escort to Washington DC to visit the Memorial relative to that Veterans place of Service. Having once worked a few years ago at Midway Airport, I was fortunate enough to watch the hundreds of people who arrived and staged at East side of Cicero avenue baggage and check in area just to cheer these Veterans on. High school bands, media, Veterans groups, local and far away citizens, and many airport travelers would gather waving flags all in a unified effort to recognize and honor these brave men and women. And yes, these flights are still being flown to this day. Several a year occur and you can learn more about these incredible events by going to Honorflight.org or to Southwest airlines website. Trust me this is an event worth going to.

Here's the coolest thing about those flights. Most of the Vets were in wheelchairs being pushed by young men and women in the service to that specific gate where their plane awaited their boarding it. As this parade of a nearly 100 Vets would make their way down to their gate, passengers would begin a rolling standing ovation all the way to Vet's gate. People would come out of airport stores and restaurants and drop what they were doing to recognize and perhaps remember, that if it was not for these Vets, travel as we know it today just might not exist had it not been for the sacrifices made by these Vets in chairs, Vets in uniforms- Vets who at that moment of recognition as they rolled through Midway shed tears of thanks and perhaps of remembrance of those who could not join them at that special moment at a little old Airport known as Midway airport. Which for a bunch of Vets was one big airport full of heart, tears and salutes for a couple of very special hours on that memorable day.

Back to Mary. The play by play I just gave you is the same one I gave Mary as I recommended to her she should bring her son to the airport to join her in honoring the sacrifices made by so many and perhaps instill a sense of pride in a young man, a young son who loves his country enough to wear its flag upon his shoulder and make a mom proud.....damn proud..... I hope she got to go there with him.....

Friday, July 8th is our annual Salute to Veterans and First Responders. If you fit one of those categories I would be much honored to see you at this very special evening. Our very own Ron Kalat KB9CTX, a veteran himself gets a big thank you from me for arranging his colleagues at the Chicago Ridge VFW to bring forth their Color Guard to bring in colors at the start of our July program. As a matter of fact, Ron and his team have been doing this now for a good few years for our club and it is really appreciated. Don't forget that same night it is our inside picnic too! Bring your favorite cold or hot food to add to our picnic which as club we will provide Pizza and other delectable goodies for that night. Please make sure you bring provisions to keep your food items either on the cold side or hot for food safety concerns of course.



August is Hamfest time and our Hamfest Chairman Kurt WB9FMC is sitting by his phone waiting to hear from you with the news that "YES- count me in!" as a Hamfest Volunteer! Contact him during normal business hours and I am sure he will be elated to have your help at our biggest event of the year and every year- HAMFEST! By the way, Kurt's program on Hamfest will be Friday August 5th and Hamfest itself will be Sunday, August 7th, 2016. Tickets are now available at all Hamfester meetings. Let's all look forward to seeing each other at Kurt's program and to show him our support. His passion for this event is unparalleled. He is working so hard to bring his best stuff to the table that is the planning board for Hamfest, but he cannot and should not do it by himself. He needs you and you and you and you! So how about it? Get on the band wagon for Hamfest now and give Kurt a call- he deserves you all!

T shirts, Polo Shirts, and Hats!!! Thanks to Hamfester Board member Cindy N9CAS, our club now has the aforementioned items complete with our club Logo available for purchase! See Cindy for more details!

Back on the beat.....

Thanks to Jim W9JPR for his great Field day program at our June 3rd program. It was full of great information and as always had plenty of laughs. Great job my friend! Al Bukowski also gave an informative mini program on the Low power UHF repeater that will be used as a local use repeater at our upcoming Field Day. He will be operating on 443.275 mhz standard split, common carrier access while at Field day. Also thanks Steve for leading our club in a moment of silence remembering those in the Military who were lost in recent flooding events here in our country.

I truly hope to see you all at our July 8th, 2016 meeting as we indeed pay respects, honor and homage to all those in uniform both in Military and First Responder Departments. I am proud to be a First Responder and triple proud to know so many in my related fields. God bless you and God Bless those in Uniform. Have a great and Safe Fourth of July everyone! Nora and I offer our best wishes to you and yours for a great summer.

Don Pointer KC9EQQ
President of Hamfester- The Best darn Ham Radio club around!

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.

Hamgab, July 2016

There are no Board Meeting Minutes for July.

General Meeting Minutes de Patti, KC9LYE

Hamfesters amateur radio club meeting June 3, 2016 start time 7:40 PM

Roll: Don KC9EQQ, Jim W9JPR, Ed W9EOL, Patti KC9LYE, Jim N9HSH
There were 39 members, and 3 visitors here tonight. Welcome everyone, welcome back Bruno K9QKB.

Moment of silence: by Steve W9KXT, a moment of silence for servicemen wounded or killed.

Health and welfare: Gregg KB9MZ, is experiencing problems with his eyesight.

President's report: by Don KC9EQQ, and May 23rd board members clean the club's trailer.

Thank you, for such a great job. There was no regular board meeting.

Programs: Tonight's program by Jim W9JPR, field day 2015. July 8 the annual veteran's picnic, held at the Crestwood Center at 7 PM.

Hamfest: by Kurt WB9FMC, hamfest in Peotone, Illinois at the Will County Fairgrounds Sunday, August 7, 2016. Vendors picnic on Saturday, August 6th at 6:30 PM, will County Fairgrounds. We are still looking for speakers for August 7.

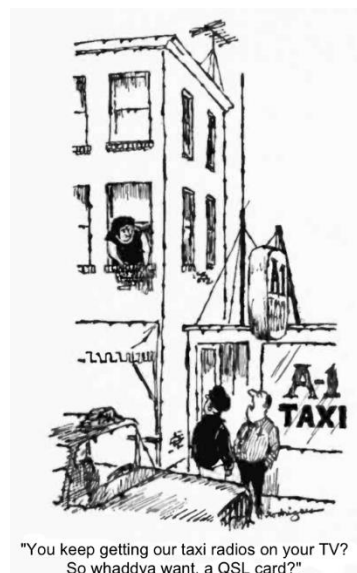
Please buy and sell hamfest tickets, contact Dave N9KPD email N9KPD@ARRL.net

Treasurer's report: by Ed WA9EOL, our club purchased doughnuts, and license plates for the club's trailer.

Field day 2016: by Jim W9JPR, held on June 25, and 26, 2016 set up at 8 AM transmission 1 PM. Field day ends on Sunday, June 26 at 1 PM. Field day location 115th St. and Oketo Worth, Illinois. This is a free event open to everyone! If you see publicity for field day in the newspapers, please bring it to field day for points. Al N9ZD, will bring a homemade repeater to field day, frequency 443.275 no PL tone, use at Field Day.

Adjournment: at 9:25 PM by Bob N9JYX, and Bob N9KWG.

Split the pot winner: Gene W9PNG, door prize winners: Bob N9KWG, Linas KC9PCP, Rich N9UNQ, Bob KB9YXH.



Hamfesters Roster News

We have a new member:

Louis Sica, AC0X

Louis is an extra class ham recently moved to Chicago from Minnesota. He is an ARRL member and works the HF bands...CW, SSB, and RTTY. He works as an EDI analyst (computers).

Make sure you look for Louis at Field Day and at the next meeting.

73,

--Brian, W9HLQ--

The Bell

After Quasimodo's death, the bishop of the Cathedral of Notre Dame sent word through the streets of Paris that a new bellringer was needed. The bishop decided that he would conduct the interviews personally and went up into the belfry to begin the screening process. After observing several applicants demonstrate their skills, he had decided to call it a day - when an armless man approached him and announced that he was there to apply for the bell ringer's job.



The bishop was incredulous. "You have no arms!"

"No matter," said the man, "observe!" He then began striking the bells with his face, producing a beautiful melody on the carillon. The bishop listened in astonishment, convinced that he had finally found a suitable replacement for Quasimodo.

Suddenly, rushing forward to strike a bell, the armless man tripped and plunged headlong out of the belfry window to his death in the street below.

The stunned bishop rushed to his side. When he reached the street, a crowd had gathered around the fallen figure, drawn by the beautiful music they had heard only moments before.

As they silently parted to let the bishop through, one of them asked, "Bishop, who was this man?"

"I don't know his name," the bishop sadly replied, "but his face rings a bell."

But wait.... there is more:

The following day, despite the sadness that weighed heavily on his heart due to the unfortunate death of the armless campanologist, the bishop continued his interviews for the bell ringer of Notre Dame.

The first man to approach him said, "Your Excellency, I am the brother of the poor armless wretch that fell to his death from this very belfry yesterday. I pray that you honor his life by allowing me to replace him in this duty."

The bishop agreed to give the man an audition, and, as the armless man's brother stooped to pick up a mallet to strike the first bell, he groaned, clutched at his chest and died on the spot. Two monks, hearing the bishop's cries of grief at this second tragedy, rushed up the stairs to his side. "What has happened?" the first asked, breathlessly. "Who is this man?"

"I don't know his name," sighed the distraught bishop, "but he's a dead ringer for his brother."

Courtesy of Brian W9HLQ

Editor's Rambles

Gravity Waves

Imagine life in London in the 1830's. If you were lucky, you had a fire place that would keep your drafty old house in a little bit warmer in the winter. In reality most of the time, you were just plain cold. There was no plumbing. I'm sure chamber pots were such a joy and anywhere you wanted to go, you either walked or rode a horse.

It was about this time that Michael Faraday was doing his experiments on electromagnetism. His work resulted in Faradays law describing how changes in a magnetic field will produce an electromotive force. I'm sure any ordinary Londoner who saw his contraptions with magnets and wires would have pretty much said "so what".

In the 1850's Heinrich Hertz used Faraday's work and the work of James Clerk Maxwell who predicted the existence electromagnetic waves to build the first radio transmitter. Again the average European still living in their drafty houses using chamber pots were probably thinking "so what".

Luckily we don't live in the 1850's. Our warm houses are controlled by wireless thermostats and the cars we drive have built in radios. I think Faraday would be mightily impressed by the size of the magnet in an MRI scanner, not to mention having a wireless router connecting an entire house to the internet. Overall, we've done pretty well building on the original work of Faraday, Hertz, and Maxwell.

Last September an Italian post doc working in Germany saw a little squiggle on his computer screen. It turns out this post doc is a member of the LIGOS team. LIGOS stand for the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory. Basically LIGOS consists of two detectors, one in Louisiana and one in Washington State. The detectors contain miles of steel tubes with the air sucked out creating one of the most perfect vacuums possible. The tubes are L shaped. Beams of laser light are reflected down the tubes and are recombined. The light recombines in synchrony most of the time:

however, if a strong enough gravitational wave happens to pass through the synchrony will be off ever so slightly. This occurs because of a subtle squeezing and lengthening in the tubes as the gravity wave passes. The catch is this change is on the order of $1/10,000$ the diameter of a proton! The gravitational wave signal seen in September was created by the merger of two black holes 29 and 36 times as massive as the sun. This is in fact the first evidence that black hole pairs actually exist.



LIGOS Detector
creative commons



Cartoon of Merging Black Holes
creative commons

O.K. now it's time for you to say "so what" and your right, none of this stuff probably matters in our lifetimes. But maybe someday one of our grandchildren will be communicating with some alien civilization in another dimension using gravity waves. Instead of the 20 meter band, it will be the 10^{-20} meter band. I think we should call it **neg 20** for short. (Remember you heard it here first.) Once we figure out gravity waves, it should be a cinch to figure out what's up with all that dark matter stuff.

Magnetism gave us MRI scans. Maybe someday someone will go to the doctor and instead of an MRI scan, they'll get a dark matter scan. Talk about early detection. Maybe we'll be able to detect cancer cells before the first cell ever divides.

Anyway, who knows what will happen. LIGOS has already detected a second signal making astronomers wonder just how many colliding black holes are out there. It will be interesting to see how we will be able to build upon the works of the LIGOS team and the other scientists pushing the boundaries of human knowledge.

Hamfesters VE Testing de Al Bukowski N9ZD VE Coordinator

Hamfesters VE Testing Report for July 2016

On June 11, 2016, Hamfester's Radio Club VE's team assembled to administered Amateur Radio exams at the Oak Forest City Hall. We had Three Candidates, two earned a Technician license. One Candidate upgraded to General. Congratulations to the Candidates. VE's who assisted me were Tim AA9BV, Ron WB9JYZ, Ron N9STU, Lou AC0X, Brian WB9UGX, James N9HSH, and Cynthia N9CAS. Thank You all for your dedicated time.

Amateur Radio Exams INFO:

Hamfester's Amateur 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 taking your exam. You may bring your Calculator if you choose, however the volunteer examiners must check it prior the exam that all memories are clear. For the Technician Exam there are 35 multiple choice questions. If you are successful passing the Technician exam, you may take the General Class Exam which also has 35 multiple choice questions. If you are successful passing the General exam, you may take the Extra Class Exam which has 50 multiple choice questions. Please make sure you are studying the latest question pool that can be found usually on the internet, through ARRL publications or Gordon West books.

Requirements:

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). For Technician candidates. If you would prefer not use your Social Security Number on your application, we suggest obtaining a Federal Registration Number (FRN) from the [FCC website](http://www.fcc.gov/fccrm) - otherwise you'll need to use your Social Security Number. All Candidates, **Please remember to bring the FRN number or your Social Security number to the exam.**

Upgrade Examinations:

If you are already licensed and are taking an upgrade examination: **Please bring your printed Current Amateur Radio License, and a copy of your current license that we can keep. Also, If you have recently taken an examination that has not been processed by the FCC, Please bring your latest CSCE and a Copy of that CSCE that we can keep.**

How to Print your Official FCC License

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.

Note: It has been reported that Google Chrome has had problems accessing & printing / USE Internet Explorer, Safari or Firefox instead.

Retaking the Exam:

If you almost passed the 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.

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 promptly at 9:15 AM. Enter through the Police door entrance and look for the Amateur Radio testing exam signs for directions. 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 the test fee remains at \$15.00 (cash only -- no credit cards or checks).

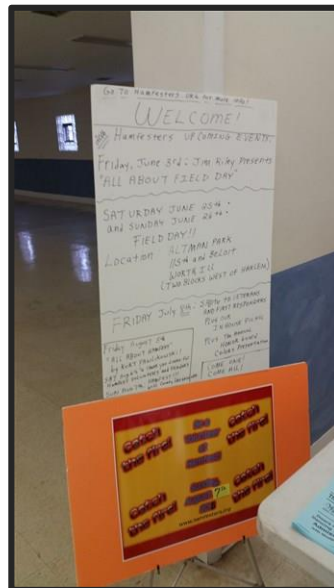
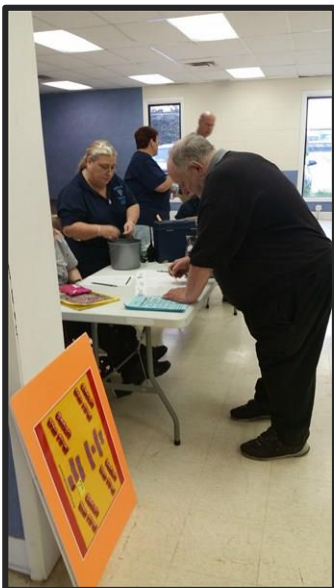
73's de AL - N9ZD



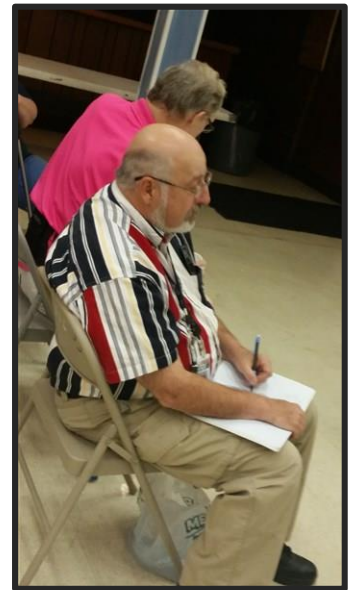
June Meeting Pictures



Hamgab, July 2016



Hamgab, July 2016





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 80th annual Hamfest coming August 7, 2016-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 25 & June 26 2016 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.