



AprilaaA

HamGab

Meeting in Crestwood, IL April, 2018



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

Special Interest Articles

JOTA pg. 4

April Birthdays

Thomas Dombrowski
K9BVQ
Rita Wright KC9CDL
David Laveck W0COP
Mike Freitag W9CYG
Norm Pestlin N9IRO
Patrick Shalloo KB9KRT
Eric Hennenfent KC9OOM
Bruce Murdoch KB9USV
George Young N9VOK

Officers

President - Nora KC9MLV
Vice President - Jim KB9CYL
Secretary - Patty KC9LYE
Treasurer - ED WA9EOL
SGT at Arm - Dave W0COP

Trustee - Granville W9PNG

Board Members

Don KC9EQQ
Steve W9KXT
Kurt WB9FMC
Cindy N9CAS
Cathy KC9NRH
Brian W9HLQ

Hamgab Editors

Bob Richter
K9RDR
Kb9vxh@gmail.com

Next hamfesters
Meeting April 6,
2018



April Weather Spotter Training. April 6. 2018.
Lead by Dave Bukowski N9KPD. Official Weather
Spotter certificates will be presented after the
presentation. It is at 700PM at Crestwood Civic
Center 14025 S. Kostner Ave. Crestwood IL.
Come one come all. This is your chance to get your
Long awaited spotters certificate. The presentation
is well worth it. Dave N9KPD does an excellent job.

Thanks to all who participated in the White Elephant Sale



Presidents Beat

Nora Pointer, KC9MLV
April 2018



Thank you to all who came out for the White Elephant Sale. It was well attended.

Flyers and tickets are now available for Hamfest 2018. Be sure to buy your tickets early. Going to another Hamfest, be sure to sell some tickets and pass out flyers when you can. We need this promoted and it is up to our membership to do this.

Health and Welfare: Best wishes go out to all Hamfesters who may not be feeling well. Condolences to the family of our late member Matt Sobczak, K9MS, on the recent loss of their mom, Matt's wife, Arlene. We extend our clubs sympathy. We remember fondly their contributions to our club, the many Christmas parties they planned and put together and all the field days they participated in.

AWARDS: Certificates of Appreciation were handed out at last month's March meeting to Mike, WA9ZPM; and Brian, W9HLQ. Congratulations and thank you again for all you do for our Club.

APRIL Program: This is it! Our biggest program of the year for the last five or six years is here as fellow member Dave Bukowski once again presents his outstanding Severe weather spotters Program. **This meeting will have an early start time at 7:00 p.m.** Closer to the event date, you will be able to pre-register for the class, which you are strongly encouraged to do. Please anticipate the program concluding between 9:30pm and 10pm., so please plan on your attendance accordingly. Last year close to 100 people showed up, so pass the word and arrive early for good seating at this free event. To all my fellow Hams/ weather spotters you know how important this program is so invite your family and friends to go with you to this event. After all, the more eyes to the skies when severe weather hits, the better it is for everyone.

MAY Program: To be announced in Hamgab and at Hamfesters.org very soon. Stay tuned!

JUNE Program: That time of year again for Field Day! And a most excellent presentation to be given by our own Field Day Chairman, Jim, W9JPR. This is always a fun evening of pictures, stories and remembrances.

As always, we ask you to keep an eye on the website for the most current happenings in our club. Remember to Like us on our Hamfesters Page on Facebook. On behalf of myself and the Officers and Board members of Hamfesters, thank you for all you do for Hamfesters.

73 and a blessed Easter and Passover to you and yours from Don and I.

Nora Pointer KC9MLV

President of Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club of Crestwood

P.S: If you need to reach me, please email me at: npointer92@gmail.com

Hamfesters - 85 Years young and still going strong

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

Board Meeting Minutes – de Patti, KC9LYE

Hamfesters amateur radio club W9AA board meeting February 26, 2018 7:30 PM.

Roll: Jim W9JPR, Nora KC9MLV, Patti KC9LYE, Steve W9KXT, Don KC9EQQ, Brian W9HLQ, Kurt WB9FMC, Cindy N9CAS,

Mel NE9A, and visitor, Rich KB9NTX

Health and Welfare: Connie AC9CK, is recovering from surgery.

Minutes: The January minutes were approved by Don KC9EQQ, and Cindy N9CAS.

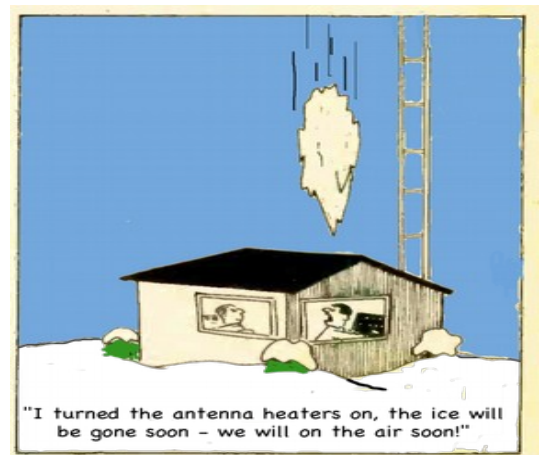
Programs: March the white elephant sale (there will be split the pot only, no door prize raffle.)
April weather spotter begins at 7 PM.

The GOTO ten **Field day 2018:** sign up roster will be coming soon. The board has approved the purchase of a push pole. t callsign will be Bob's N9JYX, silent key.

New business: Mel NE9A, will create a program about amateur radio for the Boy Scouts.

Old business: Coasters for the makers fair on August 19, 2018.

Adjournments: 7:52 PM Kurt WB9FMC, and Don KC9EQQ



General Meeting Minutes – de Platti, KC9LYE

Hamfesters amateur radio club W9AA club meeting March 2, 2018 7:30 PM.

Roll: Nora KC9MLV, Jim W9JPR, Patti KC9LYE, Ed WA9EOL

There were 38 members, and 9 visitors. Welcome everyone!

Upgrades: Greg KD9HOK, has upgraded his amateur radio license to Extra class. Congratulations, Greg!

Minutes: The February minutes were approved by Ed WA9EOL, and Jim W9JPR.

Treasurer's report: by Ed WA9EOL, the club has paid for; door prizes, and the village of Worth for the field day site.

And, the club has received dues.

Ed WA9EOL, has given Nora KC9MLV, copies of all the club's important papers.

Programs: tonight, the white elephant sale.

April weather spotters start at 7 PM. Sign up for this program at Hamfesters.org.

Hamfest 2018 Bob K9RDR, editor of the Hamgab, reminds us that we need a hamfest chairman. Hamfest is on August 5, there will be no vendors night on August 4.

Jim W9JPR, has hamfest tickets, and fliers.

Awards: tonight, Hamfester special awards were given to; Mike WA9ZPM, and Brian W9HLQ
Congratulations, thanks for all you do

Split the Pot Wael N9KSF Winner Mich

Adjournment: 8:15 PM Cindy N9CAS, and Don KC9EQQ

Thank you to the Board

At the March meeting I was presented with a very nice certificate of appreciation. This was for the presentation on Noise Reduction techniques when operating on the HF amateur bands. I was surprised and pleased with the recognition. In the fuss of the presentation, I failed to acknowledge someone who put me on to the nice video on the subject which inspired the program: **Granville Phillips, W9PNG**. I was amiss by not mentioning his name at the meeting. So thank you Granville! --Brian, W9HLQ



Antenna thoughts for April

Many hams spend delightful hours trying to load up many things. Barbed wire fence? Sure. I had a fun afternoon when the neighbors turned off their electric fence at the farm. Loaded it up; darn right, and made some contacts. Fun? Yep. Spare time to burn? Guess so. Neighbor was out on his Harley, other neighbor was off shooting in the local gravel pit, I was loading up an electric fence. Suppose I could have been watching TV, or drinking, or playing Xbox. I'm wasting time tomorrow playing with a set of aluminum crutches from the dump. Think I can make them into a decent 2 meter beam for SOTA. It's my hobby, my time.

I have loaded up a screen door and made contacts along with an old box springs. I know a guy who worked New York from Ohio on a coat hanger attached to his antenna tuner and his ham shack was in the basement.

Having just put my crutches away in the garage after a fall and broken ankle.... curious... do you use both as a dipole?

Do you load at the armpit end or the normally ground end?

What frequencies should I use...?

Practically 360 days to experiment till next April 1.

Getting kind of old and may need the crutches again soon, so I don't want to modify them as not to be recoverable.

I have spent some fun evenings talking with 5 watts on 160 Meters loaded into the top wire of a four wire barb wire fence. It had Wooden Posts. The only issue I ran into was the unknown location of the first metal pole was at 5 Miles or 10 miles. [Perhaps it was so far away it did not ground out the signal.] But I matched it up with a manual tuner, I had a ball working around the US. We did have a cow or two that caused the SWR to change once in a while. But otherwise had a great time

Reply to above: You guys are actually spending some brain cells talking about loading up a barb-wire fence?

Like I have always said "ham radio is for people that have copious spare time"

Years ago my next door neighbor was a CBer. He had a shaky mast made of old pipe screwed together. He guyed one side of the mast to a tree in the corner of his yard very close to my lot line. One night I ran a coax out back and tied it to the guy line to act as a long wire antenna. It worked pretty well. Neighbor did not realize what I had done..but did complain about serious interference on his set....so I quietly removed the lash up.

The *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* reported that a Russian scientist, Professor Figu Posakoff,

had discovered a method of "harnessing the latent energy of the atmosphere," the energy displayed in thunderstorms and other atmospheric catastrophes. Harnessing this energy by using a special antenna mounted on a tower would allow the Soviets to hurl objects "of any weight almost unlimited distances."

I put up a new off center fed dipole antenna. My neighbor says it is ugly...."the feed line is supposed to attach in the middle of the dipole....that is why it is called a dipole - two equal sides!"

A ham in town invented the "Rectenna". It was an antenna with a built in rectifier. All you needed was a galena, coil and capacitor to build a crystal set. It did not sell well as it was too expensive.

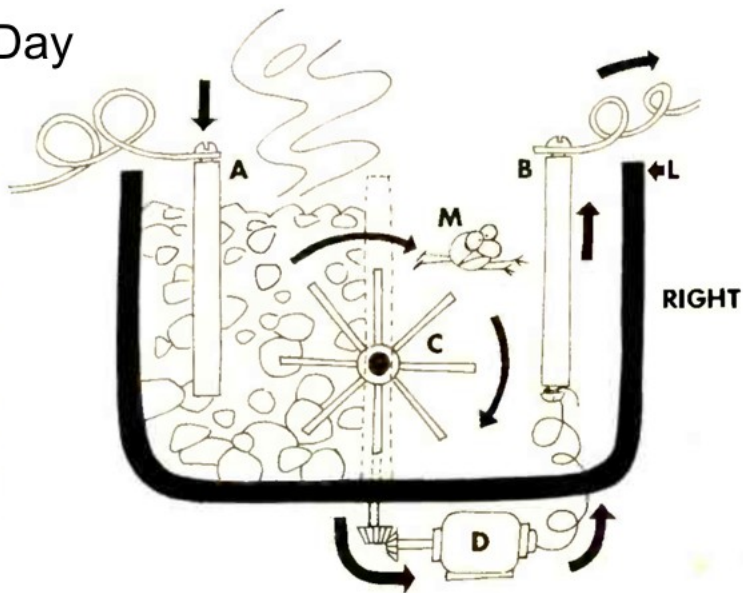
April fool Generator

New generator for Field Day

HOW THE BIOCELL OPERATES

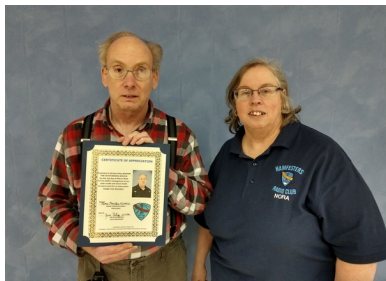
- 1 Fill left side of container with either sewage or garbage.
- 2 Feed hydrogen to electrode "A."
- 3 Hydrogen molecule "M" is unable to stand smell and rushes to oxygen electrode "B."
- 4 Movement of molecule "M" causes ion exchange paddle wheel "C" to revolve.
- 5 Paddle wheel is gear connected to electric generator "D" and the output wired to oxygen electrode "B."

Note: For best results, fill to level "L."



Thanks to Don Pointer KC9EQQ for Pictures for HAMGAB

CONGRATULATIONS TO WINNERS



MIKE WA9ZPM



BRIAN W9HLQ



Mike and Brian



REMEMBER FIELD DAY JUNE 23-24 2018

CQ Field Day 2018

De Jim Riley W9JPR CQ Field Day 2018

De Jim Riley W9JPR

Last month's article started with two pieces of good news. This month's is a mixed bag. Al N9ZD will be unable to run the digital station this year due to a family commitment. That's the bad news. The good news is that Ray NW9S is willing to set up a 40-meter station if he can get some help. If you'd like to try running a Field Day digital station let me know. I'm sure Al will offer any help he can. See Ray if you'd like to help him with 40 meters.

Following this article is a Field Day duty roster based on last year's participants and new information from this year. Please let me know via email or phone call whether or not you can repeat your role from last year. My info is in the roster. If I don't hear from you, I'll have to call you out at a meeting. Nobody wants that.

You'll notice empty spots for a backup trailer hauler for N9NNL and a backup to N9ZD for getting the Field Day message. It's not that these gentlemen aren't competent but, if you've been on this planet for any length of time, you know excrement occurs. Let me know if you can be standing by in case they are unable to fulfil their duties.

If you have any pictures from last year, please get them to me ASAP. It's time to start putting together this year's presentation for the June meeting.

Field Day is June 23 and 24 at Altman Park in Worth. Setup begins at 0800 Saturday. Operations start at 1300 and run to 1300 Sunday. We will need help for teardown starting at noon more or less, depending on weather and band conditions. Altman Park is by the boat launch ramp and is about a quarter mile west of Harlem on 115th St.

Field Day Cast of Characters

HHIC: Jim Riley W9JPR

Trailer Hauling: Mike Vannier N9NNL Backup: **OPEN**

Lunch: Cindy Shlaustas N9CAS and Rich Bacorn KB9NTX

Dinner: Pizza

Breakfast: Ed Broniarczyk WA9EOL

Setup and/or teardown: Don Sommerfeld K9KNZ, Ed Egan WB9STB, Brent Berry K9KZR, John Swanson KB9FQB, Mike Kiley WA9ZPM. Bob Fleischmann N9KWG, Ron Kalat KB9TCX, Steve Hennenfent KC9OOL, Cathy Fleischmann KC9NRH

Running all over for stuff we didn't need: Rich Schneider KA9HMY

Field Day message: Al Bukowski, N9ZD Backup: **OPEN**

Sign-in sheets and Field Day pins: Patti Gulick KC9LYE

20-meter CW station: Kurt Pawlikowski WB9FMC

20-meter Digital station: **OPEN**

40-meter CW and/or phone: Ray Paschke NW9S

Trailer station: Eric Hennenfent KC9OOM, Rollo Everett KD9JMO, Mike McGuire K9ACM

GOTA station: Brian Davis W9HLQ, Steve Peters W9KXT, Bob Richter K9RDR, Nora Pointer KC9MLV, Ed

Chapter 2----Need for better Sound reproduction

I think there are two reasons why sound is so bad today. First, almost all of our popular music is quite discordant, unclear, and with little melody. The main instrument is often the electric guitar, whose electrical output signal is compressed and even deliberately clipped. Even vocals are rough and often hard to understand. Secondly, to make a loudspeaker with faithful low frequency reproduction, it will have to be fairly large. Even at 80Hz, a sound wave in air is about 14 feet long, and much air must be moved to produce it openly into a room. While ways have been found to extract better bass from smaller speakers than could be done 50 years ago, this can only go so far. A two, three, or even four inch diameter "woofer" in an enclosure no larger than a facial tissue dispenser box will not do this, no matter what DSP or other enhancements are performed on it. In my experience, a good full range speaker system would be at least the size of a typical office wastepaper basket. A family relative [of mine] has two Sonos Play:1 speakers and she told me once I heard them I would no longer need my large floor-standing speakers. Upon hearing them, I noticed an unnatural one-note bass, although they sounded amazing for their size. They are probably good for portable or limited space settings, but it will be a sad loss if these devices displace full size component audio systems to non-use or even disposal as waste. Sonos does sell a "subwoofer" to add more bass to its Play:1 for a cost of \$700. Since the basic Play:1 costs \$200 (now reduced to \$150), I think this is way out of proportion to the actual cost of making them.

Hamfesters VE Testing de Al, N9ZD

Hamfesters VE Testing Report for HamGab APRIL 2018
Al Bukowski N9ZD - VE coordinator

Hamfester's Amateur Radio Club VE's offer Amateur Radio License Testing those who want to get their first ham license, or Amateur Hams 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 all necessary paperwork prior taking your exam. Please make sure you are studying the latest question pool that can be found on the internet, through ARRL publications or Gordon West books. The Exam fee is \$15.00 (*CASH ONLY - Please NO Checks or Credit Cards.*) Also please bring a photo ID with you to the exam.



for

The next exam session will be held on April 14, 2018 at the Oak Forest City Hall 15440 S. Central Ave. Oak Forest, IL 60452. Please arrive by 9:00 AM. We begin testing promptly at 9:15 AM. Please enter through the marked Police door entrance of City Hall and look for the ARRL Amateur Radio testing signs for directions
It would help the VE Team to pre-register and/or if you have any other questions regarding our test sessions, please contact Al, N9ZD via e-mail at: N9ZD@arrl.net.

73's de AL – N9ZD

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.

Your prize doesn't have to be electronic in nature; it can be anything 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)234-0280.
73' Bob Richter K9RDR Raffle Chairman

HAPPY EASTER TO ALL FROM THE EDITOR

Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 474

Crestwood, IL 60445-0474



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 81st annual Hamfest coming August 5th, 2018-Will County Fairgrounds, Peotone, IL.

Field Day: Join the W9AA crew for one of the best Field Days ever on June 23rd & 24 2018 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. Tom KA9ZXN is Net Control

2 METER NET: Every Monday Evening at 9:00 PM on 146.640. Tom KA9ZXN is Net Control

WEB SITE: www.hamfesters.org Webmaster
Granville, W9PNG & Brian, W9HLQ

Club's address:

Hamfesters Radio Club
P.O. Box 474 Crestwood, IL
60445

Attn: Patti KC9LYE Secretary

