



HAMGAB

Published Since 1936

July 2010

Happy Independence Day

ESTABLISHED IN 1933
HAMFESTERS

Celebrating 75 years of Service to Chicagoland's Amateurs

Come Visit on the World Wide Web at: www.hamfesters.org

Hamfesters Meetings are held on the 1st Friday of every month at the Crestwood Civic Center, 14025 Kostner in Crestwood, IL. at 7:30 PM. Next meeting will be on the second Friday July 2nd, 2010.

VE TESTING every 2nd Saturday of the Month at the Oak Forest City Hall, 15440 S. Central Ave. Oak Forest, IL 60452. Testing begins at 9:00 AM. Exam fee is \$15.00. Next test: Saturday July 10th, 2010.

July's Program

Our second annual family BBQ. Come join us for a night of fellowship. Bring the whole family. The club will provide hot dogs and hamburgers, as well as paper and plastic goods, relishes, soft drinks and coffee,

Please make sure you sign-up, list the number of people including yourself that will be attending. If you intend to bring a side dish or dessert, please identify what you plan on bringing.

Don Pointer KC9EQQ will present a slide show on the Reagan Ranch that he and his wife Nora visited recently..

August's Program

Kerry AA9SB will finalize plans and schedules for the Hamfest. Time permitting we will have some short videos takes from Dayton.

Hamfest

Our Hamfest this year is on Sunday August 8th. Remember ticket sales for the Hamfest are critical for its success. We need to sell a few hundred more tickets for our hamfest just to break even. If you have not already done so, please contact Jim Riley to get some tickets to sell. We only have a month until the Hamfest. It's success rests on your shoulders.

Hamgab Article Deadline

Please make sure all Hamgab articles for the August issue are submitted no later than Friday July 16th. Please submit all articles to gregg@ricis.com. For some reason I am not reliably and consistently getting 100% of my mail from my ab9mz@arrl.net address. I have to look into this further with the league.

VE Testing Venue Change

Effective immediately Al N9ZD has taken over the role of VEC from Tim AA9BV. In addition, Hamfesters VE testing has been moved from Oak Forest High School to the Oak Forest City Hall, which is located at 15440 S Central Avenue in Oak Forest. Parking will be in the main lot. Please do not park in front of the Police Department / City Hall.

73' Gregg AB9MZ

New Member

By Brian W9HLQ

Dale Marzano N9JH
661 Elizabeth Ct.
Romeoville, IL 60446
630-969-9959
n9jh@arrl.net

73' Brian W9HLQ



W9AA



HAMFESTERS Heard Around the World

OFFICERS

President	Bob N9JYX(708) 496-1375
Vice Pres.	Don KC9EQQ(773) 426-1936
Secretary	Pat KC9LYE(708) 424-2468
Treasurer	Ed WA9EOL(708) 687-3352
Sergeant At Arms	Rich N9UNQ(773) 445-1985
Trustee	Bruno K9QKB(708) 430-2024

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John WB9JTS	(708) 430-0286
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Larry KG9L	(773) 768-0960
Mike W9MCS	(708) 423-9049

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Refreshments	Don KC9EQQ(773) 426-1936
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SMART	Al N9ZD(708) 535-2981
VE Testing	Al N9ZD(708) 535-2981
Webmaster	Brian W9HLQ(708) 532-5833

Behind the Gavel

By Bob Koran N9JYX — President



Hello Again Everyone, Well June is half over, and it is the wettest I've seen in a long time. Kind of makes it a little bit rough to do those outdoor things we have to do. Fortunately I don't have too many outdoor projects planned. I just keep hoping that the weather will co-operate with us for FIELD DAY.

Every year I get down on my knees and pray to the sun and rain gods to be kind to us. But if the current weather is any prelude it's gonna be hot, sticky, and wet. After all it's Field Day. Enough about that.

I also have been told that Tim AA9BV our V.E. chairman will be stepping down. His mother is very ill and he will need to be taking care of her, which will leave little time to do the things that are necessary to be V.E. chairman. We all hope his mom recovers from her illness soon.

So I would at this time like to say a big THANK YOU to Tim for all the hard work he put into being our V.E. leader all of these past years.

Our new V.E. team leader will be Al N9ZD.

Well that's about all I have for now.

See you all out at Field Day.

73'fer now.

Bob N9JYX

Hamfesters Board Meeting

May 24th, 2010

By Patti KC9LYE - Secretary



Officers: Bob N9JYX, Don KC9EQQ, Ed WA9EOL, Patti KC9LYE, Kerry AA9SB, Joe KA9KBU, John WB9JTS, & Al N9ZD.

President's report: Bob N9JYX, "I was a VE at the recent Stars club test session. The Stars club repeater is up and running".

April's board meeting minutes approved by John WB9JTS, 2nd by Ed WA9EOL.

Treasurer's report: by Ed WA9EOL, approved by Al N9ZD, 2nd by John WB9JTS.

Program report: by Don KC9EQQ, June 4th club meeting's program will be; Field Day by Jim KB9CYL. Reminder: Field Day is June 26-27th 2010 at MVCC. The July 2nd club meeting will be our "2nd Annual Salute to America", BBQ, Don KC9EQQ, & Nora KC9MLV, will present a tour of the Ronald Reagan Ranch.

Publicity & Hamfest report: by Kerry AA9SB, publicity of the June 4th meeting has been emailed to the local media. The ARRL received a Hamfesters hamfest application from WH9BV. The ARRL contacted Kerry AA9SB, informing him that they've approved the Hamfesters application submitted by Jack Myrtle WH9BV. Kerry informed the ARRL there's no such person Jack Myrtle, and no such call sign as WH9BV. Kerry, Thanks for being alert and catching ARRL's error. Well done!

Adjournment: by John WB9JTS, 2nd by Don KC9EQQ at 8:20 PM.

Hamfesters Club Meeting

June 4th, 2010

Officers: Bob N9JYX, Don KC9EQQ, Ed WA9EOL, Patti KC9LYE, Rich N9UNQ

Attendance; 41 members, and 6 visitors: Mark WB9GNC, Robyn N5CJW, Richard KD7TMK, & Dalton Madson all from Great Falls, Montana. And, Kristen KC9RWZ, & Alex KC9RWY, from New Lenox, ILL. Welcome!

Health & Welfare: Matt K9MS, is back with us tonight!!! And, George N9VOK, will join us at Field Day!!!

Programs: Tonight's topic; Field Day 2009 presented by Jim KB9CYL. Jim is the author of the article in the June 2010 issue of QST magazine called "On 15 Years as Field Day Chairman" (page 96). Thanks, Jim and Congratulations on the article. Field Day is June 26-27, 2010 at the MVCC campus. Setup begins at 8:00 AM on June 26, contesting starts at 1:00PM, and ends 1:00 PM on the 27th. All are welcome! Please bring your own chairs.

July 2nd at 7:30 PM, here at the Crestwood Community Center, "Our 2nd Annual Salute to America." There will be a BBQ, as well as Nora KC9MLV, and Don KC9EQQ, will present "A Tour of the Ronald Reagan Ranch." Come celebrate with us, bring family & friends.

The program in August will be our hamfest. This year's date is Aug. 8, 2010 at the Will County Fair Grounds at Peotone, ILL. Please! buy & sell tickets for this important event. There are also hamfest fliers, post them where you are permitted. See Jim KB9CYL, & Kerry AA9SB.

May club minutes approved by Gregg AB9MZ, 2nd by Leon W9GUC.

Treasurer's Report: by Ed WA9EOL, approved by Gregg AB9MZ, 2nd by Ben KC9CXT.

Publicity & Hamfest: report by Kerry AA9SB, publicity has been emailed to the local media concerning tonight's meeting. Hamfest vendors are buying space, for our Aug. 8th hamfest. Also, the ARRL approved a Hamfesters hamfest application from Jack Myrtle WH9BV. The ARRL notified Kerry AA9SB, that WH9BV's request had been approved. Kerry informed the ARRL, there is no such person, or call sign. Good work, Kerry!

Education: The Technician classes will begin on the third Thursday in Sept. 2010.

New Business: Gregg AB9MZ, & Michael KC9OPV, attended the Dayton, Ohio Hamvention. The ARRL has a program for children in grades 2nd-9th, it's called "The Youth Lounge." It's purpose is to introduce children to amateur radio. Hamfesters has a committee researching this program.

Chuck N9DKJ, is part of a program that protects our forest preserves. One important element is the beaver. Amateur radio protecting the earth!

Adjournment: Gregg AB9MZ, 2nd by Ben KC9CXT, 8:45PM.

The Chicago Blackhawks are in the Stanley Cup finals vs the Philly Flyers. GO Hawks!

(Continued on page 4)



VE TESTING

By Al Bukowski N9ZD
VE Team Coordinator

No VE Session in June

If you're planning on taking an Amateur Radio examination, please remember that Hamfesters offers VE Test session every month on the 2nd Saturday at the Oak Forest City Hall, 15440

S. Central Ave. Oak Forest, Il 60452. Parking will be in the main lot. Please do not park in front of the Police Department / City Hall. We begin testing at 9:00 AM but ask for candidates to get there about 10 -- 15 minutes early. Come in through the main entrance and then go to your right. We are usually located in one of the first classrooms that you'll come to. Our next test session will be held on Saturday July 10th, 2010.

Please remember to bring the following items with you to the session: 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. And it's very important to also have your Social Security number, or if you are licensed and have been issued an FRN (Federal Registration Number), please use that in place of your SSN because with out either your SSN or FRN, the FCC will not process your application.

If you have any questions regarding our test session or about upgrading, please contact me at: (708) 535-2981 or via e mail at: abukowski@sbcglobal.net. The test fee is \$15.00 (cash only -- no credit cards or checks).

73 and good luck! Al N9ZD



(Club minutes continued from page 3)

Door Prize Winners: (The first ticket was drawn by one of our visitors from Montana: Dalton Madson. Thanks, Dalton!) Steve W9KXT (2x), Leon W9GUC, John KC9OOO.

Raffle Prize Winners: Mark WB9GNC (from Montana), Tom KC9JZF, Kerry AA9SB, Ashley AB9RS.

73' Patti KC9LYE



VEC Final Report

de Tim Pechtold AA9BV

It's been a real honor heading up the Hamfesters VE Test sessions for the past 14 or 15 years. (I'm sorry I can't be more specific on the date because I no longer have the records here.)

Over that time period I've had the pleasure of working with some fine people that served on our VE Team as examiners. I want to thank each one of them for their hard work and dedication and for their time they put into making our test sessions one of the best. Unfortunately there are a few VE's I am unable to thank, those that had become Silent Keys while serving on our team: Bob W9CA, Bob WD9FEN, Walt N9WG, Ron K9RCN, and Phil K9PB. Each one though left their mark on our test sessions along with an emptiness that could never be filled. Luckily there have been new examiners which became members of our VE Team. Folks like Gene KB9RNM and Jim KB9MUZ who are at practically every session each month and have been valuable additions. And there's no way I can forget the VE's that have served on our Team for many years and I'm sure you'll recognize their names and calls. People like the Truhlers; Bob W9LNQ and Dot N9ALC, Wanda W9CT, Dave NF9N, Bruno K9QKB, John W9BNR, John W9HN, George N9VOK.

And I've saved my thanks to Al Bukowski N9ZD for last. Al will be taking over heading up our VE team from me. I know I'm leaving it in good, capable hands with Al because he has made almost every session since I've had it, and had headed it up before he asked me if I would take it over from him back when his work schedule had changed back in the mid 90's. Al had everything organized very well and in good order. He's also been a person I could always count on to help out.

I may have forgotten to mention a person or two that's served as a VE on our team and if I have I'm sorry, but please, don't let anyone think that I didn't appreciate their help or the fine job they had done. We administered and processed many, many examinations over those years and one thing I really took pride in was knowing that when the ARRL and FCC received our package of paperwork we sent to them, it was always found to be in good order with no mistakes. And that includes going back to the days when there were more Amateur Radio examinations (a total of 8 Amateur Radio exams: 3 code and 5 theory tests) and also to the height of all the Amateur Radio licensing restructure that was taking place during 2000 when we were getting over 50 (yes fifty!) candidates at one session!

I hope if you came into one of our test sessions to take an exam you found a friendly atmosphere, felt comfortable, and we made you feel welcomed. I plan on continuing to help out at our test sessions as an examiner when my schedule permits. Good luck to Al and to the rest of our VE Team members!

73, Tim Pechtold AA9BV

CQ Field Day

By Jim Riley KB9CYL

Our Field Day spot is in the field on the east side of campus at 110th and 86th Avenue. Setup begins at 0800 Saturday June 26. Operations begin at 1300 local time (1800Z) and continue for 24 hours rain or shine, heat or cold. Usually we have some of each. That's a subtle hint to bring clothing for any kind of weather.

Hamfest Update

By Kerry AB9SB

In Mid-May, we experienced a "near miss," when a phantom person -- a "Jack Moertl" -- "WH9BV" -- filed a bogus hamfest application with the ARRL. Filled with inaccuracies, misinformation, and disinformation, it was nonetheless accepted as genuine by the League and filed with Dick Isely, our Central Division director. I quickly noticed this when I logged onto my email inbox and immediately notified Isely and Gail Ianonne, as well as our own N9JYX and KB9CYL. I posted a new application on their website, which was accepted by Ianonne and Isely. Gail told me that even they could not find anyone with

the above name or callsign on their Seibel database. In short, "all's well that ends well."

So far, as of this writing, in mid-June, we've received five checks from vendors for our 2010 hamfest. Again, the first vendor registered was Hinsey Electronics. That begins the north hall. DC Ace Electronics was next, reserving several tables in the south hall -- plus reservations from the Adapter Guys, Amateur Accessories (S. Zahos), and AMSAT. Four or five more are expected by the end of the month. Other vendors are expected in the coming weeks.

Our hamfest is registered, and will be listed in the August QST. Now it's your turn to do your part. Be sure to pick up some of our 75th anniversary flyers; and, if you're going to an upcoming hamfest, drop them off at their club table and pass them out. And, most importantly of all, get your tickets either from our hamfest ticket coordinator, Jim, KB9CYL, or from the various ticket sellers -- and sell them! Help get a lively ticket selling competition going again, this year.

--Kerry Nelson, Hamfest chairperson,

kw_nelson@earthlink.net

Hamfesters Birthdays for July 2010

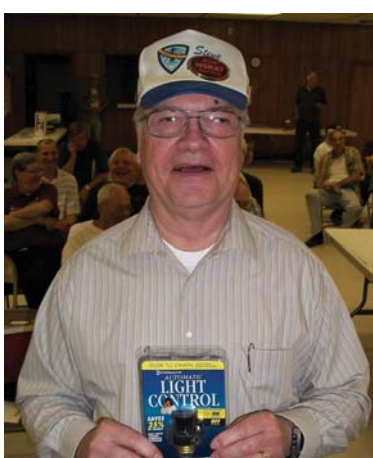
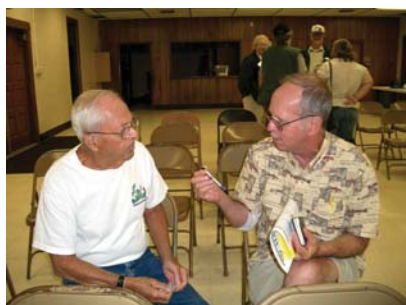
By Dot N9ALC

The following Hamfesters members will celebrate their birthdays July 2010. Make sure you take the time wish them a happy birthday on the air or at the next meeting or event.

Ray KA9IPZ, Charles WA9TWA, Charles WB9TZE, Lee WD9USS, David WB9VNB, Karen WB9YBL, Tim AA9BV, Bill WA9BKQ, Ed WA9EOL, Harry KA9WPB73' Dot N9ALC'

Swap N' Shop

If you want any advertisement in the news letter for Swap N' Shop please send them to me each month. I have no way to know if an item has sold or not, so I will only run an advertisement once. If you want it to appear in more than one Ham Gab issue, please resend it each month you wish it to appear.



Photographs by
Gregg AB9MZ

Meeting Pictures and Prize Winners



The Final Word

73' Gregg AB9MZ

Under Pressure

I apologize for the lateness of this issue. I have lost two employees and am facing significant pressure at work.

As cheery as I may have seemed Friday night at the 2nd annual BBQ, I have been suffering the side effects of medication changes since Wednesday and have been seriously ill since Saturday night. July 14th and 15th I was in the hospital with a systemic bacterial infection and am still not doing particularly well.

Changes in Technician Question Pool

July 1st, the new Technician License Class question pool has gone into effect. All Technician License Class study materials dated prior to July 1st, 2010 should be discarded. The current question pool can be found on the ARRL web site at <http://www.arrl.org/question-pools>.

Upcoming Classes

Our next Technician class will start on Thursday September 16th, 2010. Registration will open for the class on Sunday, August 1st, 2010. A press release will be made available on that date as well.

I wish to ask everyone to print off or E-mail copies of the press release neighbors, friends, and relatives, as well as make a strong effort to distribute them to your local library, schools, super market bulletin boards, local businesses, or any place else you can help promote our classes and bring more hams into our great hobby.

We are trying to decide if we will run a General or an Extra class in the Winter. The decision will be driven by interest level.

Hamfesters Monthly Raffle

By Bob Richter KB9YXH

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 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) 429-4511.

73' Bob Richter KB9YXH Raffle Chairman

Program / Event Calendar

By Don KC9EQQ & Gregg AB9MZ

August 6th: * Hamfest preparation and a short technology presentation.

September 3rd: * Presentation on antenna zoning and regulations. We will try to get someone from our section management or other appropriate legal resource.

October 1st: * Getting the most out of contests. I would like to ask our members that are heavy contesters to put together a program for the newcomers to the hobby to get them started in contesting.

November 5th: * Digital mode update. What is new in digital modes. Demonstration of the more popular digital modes.

December 3rd: Annual Hamfesters Holiday Party

What topics would you like to see programs presented on. What topics might you be willing to present to the club. Every one of us makes this club as great as it is individually and collectively. This isn't his club or her club it is your club. Let Don or I know at a meeting, by phone, or email.

73' Don KC9EQQ & Gregg AB9MZ

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. Bob N9JYX President

Board Meetings: 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday of each month at the Oremus Center, 7902 Oketo, Bridgeview, IL

VE TESTING: Every 2nd Saturday of the Month at the Oak Forest City Hall, 15440 S. Central Ave. Oak Forest, IL 60452. Testing begins at 9:00 AM. Exam fee is \$15.00. 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 74th annual Hamfest coming August 2010 – 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 26th & 27th 2010 at Moraine Valley College, 111th & 86th Ave. 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 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
Brian W9HLQ is Webmaster

Club's address:
Hamfesters Radio Club
P.O. BOX 102 BEDFORD PARK, IL 60499 Pat
KC9LYE Secretary

Deadline for submitting material to HAM GAB is the fifteenth of the month.



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