

HamGab

Next meeting: August 4th

August 2017

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

Special Interest Articles

CQ Field Day – Pg. 4
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August Birthdays

Sue W9ARH
Carl WB9AVW
Barb KA9BAG
Charles WV9C
Wayne AC9EF
Ed K9EGS
Richard KD9EOD
Orlando KC9IVG
Nora KC9MLV
Jack W9NJB
Lenny KB9OUQ
Donald KX9Q
Bob N9RAT
Bill W9ZJ

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

Steve & Eric
KC9OOL & KC9OOM
Scapstone@aol.com



A good time was had by all at our annual July Picnic. Many thanks to Ron KB9TCX and the Chicago Ridge VFW Color Guard, who presented the flag.

Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club 83rd Annual Hamfest Sunday August 6th, 2017 at the Will County Fairgrounds

Gates open at 6 AM, commercial exhibit buildings open at 8 AM

Fun for the whole family! There will be vendors, VE testing and the flea market. We will have three speakers this year. We need your help to make this Hamfest successful for the club. Contact Don KC9EQQ and let him know how you'll help, and be sure to attend Don's presentation at the next meeting. We also need your wallets. Support the vendors and buy that special something you've always been looking for. See Don's column below and the Hamfesters Website for more information. See you there!

Field Day Success!

Hamfesters operators scored over 4000 points during Field Day last month! Read all about it in Jim W9JPR's article on page 4.

THE PRESIDENT'S BEAT

NORA POINTER KC9MLV

AUGUST 2017

Hello everyone. Hope everyone is enjoying their summer so far.

Health and Welfare: Our best wishes go out to all Hamfesters who may not be feeling well. Prayers and well wishes go out to member Daniel Busta, W9JOB, who had a recent stroke. Also, our best wishes go out to Kurt W9FMC's wife, Helen, who will undergo knee surgery on July 31st.

JULY Program: Don and I were unable to attend. Thanks to everyone who stepped up to help out and who came in with a dish. Special thanks to Jim Riley, for handling the meeting and Brian and Sharon Davis for the decorations and food set up and clean up. Thanks to Paul Batchelor for bringing the coffee, pop and water.

AUGUST HAMFEST: Keep the first weekend of August free and volunteer, volunteer. We need you. The Friday meeting, we will discuss the weekend and make sure we have everything in place. All ticket sellers, need to bring your money in to Dave that evening.

Saturday, we will need help setting up tables at the fairgrounds in Peotone. Saturday evening, we will have the Vendor dinner. And Sunday will be the Hamfest.

We will have a lot of great door prizes and raffle prizes. For a list, see the website.

Don has obtained a speaker for the Hamfest. His name is Keenan Campbell, KB9ZDK, and he is the current Director of Bureau County Emergency Management Agency and the IESMA Region 2 Vice President. Mr. Campbell is the 2017 State of Illinois Emergency Manager of the Year. His program will speak to the importance of volunteers and Amateur Radio during preplanned events, incidents, and day to day operations.

The second speaker will be Mark Thompson, W9QZB, giving a talk on C4FM Fusion Yaesu.

SEPTEMBER Program: Will be on Emergency Preparedness given by Gregg AB9MZ

Education: We now have five people confirmed who are interested in the General Class. Pass the word along if you know someone who might be interested in obtaining their General license. Classes will start in September and we are still scouting out a location for them to be held.



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,

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

Board Meeting Minutes de Jim, W9JPR

Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club Board Meeting | June 26, 2017 | 7:50 PM

This report given by Jim W9JPR; Patti KC9LYE, is not here.

Health and welfare: Bill Vehe W9ZJ

Minutes: The minutes were approved by Don KC9EQQ, and Steve W9KXT.

Secretary's report: None

Membership: None

Programs:

- July 7 - Fourth of July picnic,
- August - Hamfest Meeting de KC9EQQ

Publicity – Jim W9JPR: Two reporters from newspapers: Reporter and Reginal.

Hamfest – Don KC9EQQ: Don is working on speakers and prizes. Online ticket sales are open.

Field day – Jim W9JPR: Participation was up from last year, pending final numbers.

Education – Brian W9HLQ: General class license class locations, times, and dates TBA.

Adjournment: Motion by W9JPR and WA9EOL at 8:41 PM

General Meeting Minutes de Patti, KC9LYE

Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club Meeting | July 7, 2017 | 7 PM

Roll: Jim W9JPR, Ed WA9EOL, Patti KC9LYE

Vice President's report – Jim W9JPR: The field day operations log is here. If you didn't sign in, here's your last chance.

Our club's Secretary Patti KC9LYE, voted in favor with Vice President Jim W9JPR, to suspend our regular club meeting.

Our own Ron Kalat KB9TCX, is a member of the VFW Chicago Ridge post color guard. They presented the colors for us tonight. As always, it was really beautiful.

Tonight is our annual Fourth of July picnic; it honors all who serve to defend and protect.

Adjournment: 7:11 PM

Picnic begins!

CQ Field Day de Jim, W9JPR

The Field Day That Really Blew

Field Day 2017 dawned sunny and bright, the high was in the 70s with low humidity and no chance of rain. Perfect weather and Field Day are an unknown commodity in the Amateur Radio world and there always has to be something. This year it was wind and lots of it. Putting up the GOTA tent was a challenge and keeping it on the ground was a bigger test through the day. We finally used long ropes thrown over the top to better secure the entire thing to the stakes. Night time brought a respite from the wind, but it came right back shortly after dawn on Sunday.



Kurt Pawlikowski WB9FMC was first on the field setting up his 20-meter station. He pounded brass all day and night winding up with 377 contacts and walked away with the top CW honors for yet another year. Kurt was also the subject of a photographer from the Reporter Newspaper who took at least 50 shots of Kurt doing his thing after midnight. Not one wound up in the paper.

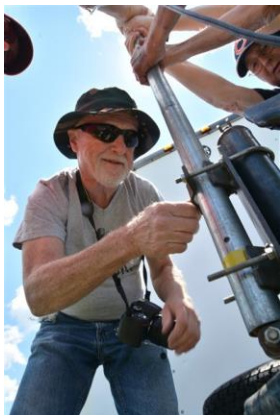
Next to arrive were Steve Peters W9KXT and Brian Davis W9HLQ and their GOTA team who got to work assembling their tent in the aforementioned gale. This was while Granville Phillips W9PNG was dropping off a generator for Kurt and our new 10-K generator in a central location before parking the trailer by the pavilion.

Al Bukowski N9ZD handed in 100 bonus points for the Field Day message before setting up the digital station with his son, Dave N9ZKD.

Linas Matonis KC9PCP got to work on the VHF/UHF station and set up continued apace as antennas were erected, connections were made to generators, and equipment was turned on and tested.

There was a problem with the ICOM 706 in the trailer. It turned on and there was audio but no display. Good thing I brought the club's standby Yaesu 747 which performed flawlessly. Also, we decided that the club's Flex 5000 was too cumbersome for the trailer. We'll use it for the GOTA station next year.

When we tried to set up the Y antenna, we were missing some parts that Steve Peters swore were in the trailer. They weren't and Rich Schneider KA9HNV, God bless him, drove all over Worth and Palos Hills in search the right size U-bolt. It turned out the parts were at the GOTA station all along. They were just a little too big but Rich saved the day with a cordless drill after we finally tracked him down.



Lunch of burgers, hot dogs, and brats was provided by Cindy Shlaustas N9CAS and prepared with help from Rich Bacorn KB9NTX and a well-fed Field Day crew prepared to take to the airwaves.

Conditions weren't spectacular but not as bad as last year. Contacts were steady but had to be worked for. The GOTA station N9JYX saw its share of visitors, several of whom took the plunge and made contacts for us. Some baseball players who were practicing at the north end of our field stopped by to

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see what was going on and were recruited to help us get bonus points for youth participation in addition to helping us garner 1000 bonus points for educational activity.

Dinner was Beggar's pizza and it didn't disappoint.

Shortly after sunset, while it was still light, a crew raised Brian's 80-meter dipole along with Old Glory in a complete reversal of flag protocol. A retired military officer who shall remain nameless gave us dispensation. Without a breeze, the flag hung limp all night but slid down the halyard as soon as the wind picked up in the morning.

Eric Hennenfent KC9OOM commandeered the trailer and churned out 117 80-meter contacts overnight until I relieved him at 0430. Once again, he's our top phone operator with his combined trailer and GOTA contacts.

Ed Broniarczyk brought his usual yummy breakfast and a tired but hungry overnight crew ate their fill.

Operations continued through the morning as Brian's 80-meter dipole did a good job on 40, 20, and even 15. Ray Pasche NW9S reported that it did even better than the Y antenna that we normally use for 15.

As other stations began breaking down, Kurt continued right up to 1800Z. Rollo Everett (no call yet), working his first Field Day, was racking up the contacts in the trailer until we started dismantling the station around him.

We worked all 50 states, 80 of 83 sections, and five DX countries on five continents. Our score with power multiplier is 2982. Add in the bonus points and the total comes to 4272.

Take away the wind, and it was a perfect Field Day. We made some contacts, got some new people involved, showed non-hams what we do, got a nice write-up in a local paper, and had a great time doing it. Thanks to all who took joined us. The lessons learned and ideas tossed around should serve us well in 2018. Looking forward to seeing you then.



W9AA Total Contacts by Band and Mode:

Band	CW	Phone	Dig	Total	%
80	0	98	16	114	14
40	44	1	45	90	11
20	333	100	48	481	60
15	0	63	8	71	9
6	0	33	0	33	4
2	0	15	0	15	2
1.25	0	1	0	1	0
70	0	2	0	2	0
6cm	0	1	0	1	0
Total	377	314	117	808	100

N9JYX Total Contacts by Band and Mode:

Band	CW	Phone	Dig	Total	%
40	0	126	0	126	100
Total	0	126	0	126	100

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Cast of Characters

From my memory and the sign-in sheets*

HHIC: Jim Riley W9JPR
Trailer Hauling: Gene Phillips W9PNG
Lunch: Cindy Shlaustas N9CAS and Rich Bacorn KB9NTX
Dinner: Pizza
Breakfast: Ed Broniarczyk WA9EOL
Setup and/or teardown: Ray Paschke NW9S, 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 hell for stuff we didn't need: Rich Schneider KA9HMV
Field Day message: Al Bukowski, N9ZD
Sign-in sheets and Field Day pins: Patti Gulick KC9LYE
20-meter CW station: Kurt Pawlikowski WB9FMC,
20-meter Digital station: Al Bukowski N9ZD, Dave Bukowski N9KPD
Trailer station: Eric Hennenfent KC9OOM, Rollo Everett, Mike McGuire KD9GTP
Field Repairs: Ron Schmalz N9QOB
GOTA station: Brian Davis W9HLQ, Steve Peters W9KXT, Bob Richter KB9YXH, Nora Pointer KC9MLV, Ed Egan WB9STB, Gregg Rosenberg AB9MZ, Marty Linke WD9ABG, Greg Verthein KD9HOK
Free VHF/UHF station: Linas Matonis KC9PCP
Solar Panels: Linas Matonis KC9PCP
Photographer: Don Pointer KC9EQQ, Brian Davis W9HLQ, Jim Riley W9JPR



*If you didn't make it on the list it's because I don't remember you being there or you didn't sign the participant log. You had your chances.

Education Update de Brian, W9HLQ

If there is enough interest, at **7 pm on Wednesday September 13**, Hamfesters will begin conducting a **General level training class**. The training will be a combination of home study and class review. The home study includes watching several videos and studying the ARRL License manual. Class time will be used to reinforce your study home study and answer questions. The cost will be that of the ARRL manual (\$30.00). You may purchase your manual via Amazon or ARRL online Store. If you register with us early enough, we can order the manual for you.

Contact Brian Davis, W9HLQ, to register:

w9hlq@hamfesters.org

(708) 532-5833

Please contact me as soon as possible so I know whether we have enough interest to run a class.

Watch our web site for the training location. (Hopefully in the Crestwood area)

<https://www.hamfesters.org/main/licensing-class/>

Hamfesters VE Testing de AL, N9ZD

Hamfester's Radio Club VE's team assembled on the morning of July 8, 2017 at Oak Forest City Hall to administer Amateur Radio exams. We had two candidates who earned their Tech license and two candidates upgraded to General. To the VE's who assist me at the exam sessions. Thank You!

Information to Read before attending any Amateur Radio VE Test Session

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 on the internet, through ARRL publications or Gordon West books. If you fail any exam, it will be up to the discretion of the examiners to retake a different version of that element for an additional \$15.00 dollar fee.

Requirements:

A fee of \$15 dollars is charged for the examination. Payment is Cash ONLY -- no credit cards or checks. Also, please bring a government-issued photo ID; (one ID could be a driver's license). For Technician candidates. If you would prefer not use your Social Security Number on your FCC 605 application, we suggest obtaining a Federal Registration Number (FRN) from the FCC website. Licensed amateurs upgrading will always use the FRN number printed on their current amateur license in place of the SSN

Upgrade Examinations:

Important: If you are already licensed and are taking an upgrade examination: Please bring your printed *and signed Current Amateur Radio License*, and a copy of your current license that we can send with your paperwork. 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 the CSCE* that we can send with your paperwork.

Are You a New Licensee or an Upgrade?

Candidates who had a passing grade, Congratulations. It may take the FCC 5 to 10 business days (average 6 days) before your new or upgraded Amateur License is posted. Please check often the FCC Website for your license info. <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

How to Print your Official FCC License:

Download and Print License: The licensee can access the FCC ULS License Manager System <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>. Read the instructions to 'Download the Electronic Authorization' to print your official license. On the 'Download Authorizations' page the license holder will add your call sign to the 'Authorizations to Download' and then click download. A PDF of the license can be saved on your computer and/or printed immediately on any paper stock you desire.

Upcoming Hamfester's VE Radio Exams:

The next exam session will be held on August 12, 2017 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. Enter through the marked Police door entrance and look for the ARRL Amateur Radio testing exam signs for directions.

Please Note: It is unknown at this time if we will have enough VE's to support the Hamfester's Hamfest VE exam session. If you are an Extra Class VE and want to volunteer time at the Hamfest, please contact me at N9ZD@arrl.net. Thank You in advance.

If you have any other questions regarding our test sessions or wish to pre-register, please contact N9ZD via e-mail at: N9ZD@arrl.net. Last minute Walk-ins are always welcome.

73's de AL – N9ZD

Hamfest Update

Hamfest prizes have been announced!

Grand Prizes

- Bird Watt meter with certificate for slug.
- \$200 Cash
- \$100 Gift Certificate for DX Engineering
- \$100 Gift Certificate for DX Engineering
- Baofeng Dual Band HT
- Baofeng Dual Band HT

Hourly Prizes

- \$50 ARRL Certificates

Winner need not be present to win Grand prizes. You must be present to win all other prizes!

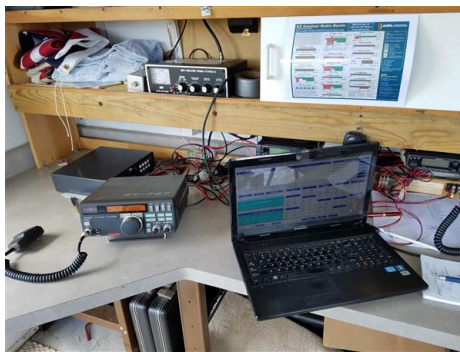
Field Day Pictures

We had a few too many field day pictures to fit in the Hamgab this year! Please enjoy some of our favorites below, and be sure to check out the Hamfester's website for the rest.

<https://www.hamfesters.org/main/picture-gallery/>



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Hamfesters 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 any- thing 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



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 81st annual Hamfest coming August 6th, 2017-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 24 & June 25 2017 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.