

Hamfest Calendar

Nov 8 Litchfield, IL ATV Dinner
Nov 14-15 Fort Wayne, IN
Nov 28 Evansville, IN
Dec 12 Carthage, IL



VE Exams

12-Nov-2009 Illiana Radio Club
7:00PM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC
James P Osburn (812)238-0584
Ryves Youth Center At Etling Hall
1356 Locust St Terre Haute, IN

14-Nov-2009 W5YI
1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) W5YI VEC
Keith R Hanson (309)378-4416
American Red Cross-Conf. Rm
1 Westport Ct-Rt. 9e Bloomington, IL

14-Nov-2009 K9DUR ARRL/VEC
8:30AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Terry L Hackett (217)465-4884
Burkybile Law Office
15175 Us Highway 150 Paris, IL

14-Nov-2009 Piatt County ARC
1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC
Michael S Mullins (217)278-5819
Emergency Ops Center - Piatt County
301 S Charter St Monticello, IL

Twin City Amateur Radio Club

Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

November 2009

Milt Forsberg K9QZI Editor



Next Meeting is November 10

The next TCARC meeting is Tuesday, November 10 at the UI Fire Institute, starting at 7:00 p.m. For the program, we ask everyone to bring something to show or demonstrate. We prefer something you constructed yourself, but if you don't have anything you built, please bring one of your favorite electronic items. Plan to give a quick description of what it does and demonstrate, if possible.

To get to the Fire Institute, go south on First Street from the Assembly Hall to the UI Credit Union - that is Gerty. Go West on Gerty to the end of the street. You will be in the Fire Institute parking lot. We are in one of the classrooms inside.

ARRL Election Ballots Due

ARRL members should have received the ballot for the election of Assistant Division Director. Kermit Carlson, W9XA, is running and he will appreciate your support. Kermit visited our October meeting and spoke of the plans he has for the job. If elected, he will serve under Dick Isley, W9GIG, Central Division Director. The two work well together and the combination will provide the best of service to our division. Ballots are due in the ARRL by November 20. If you have not voted, please vote and send your ballot right away.

ARRL Membership Renewal

Please remember to renew your ARRL membership through TCARC as we receive a commission. New member applications are most welcome. Send the form along with a check payable to TCARC to our PO Box.

Dues Are Back in the News

Yes, it is that time of year again for membership renewal. The dues remain the same as in past years, \$20 for single memberships and \$21 for family memberships including all members living in the same household. Please make a check payable to TCARC and drop it in the mail to our PO Box as listed on the return address on this newsletter. Please note on the check if you are a member of the ARRL. Our membership year is January 1 to December 30.

Local Nets

D-Rats Net on W9YR	Tuesday 8 p.m.
ARES 444.100	Tuesday 9 p.m.
TCARC D-Star 443.48125	Wednesday 9 p.m.
Champaign Co 146.760	Thursday 9 p.m.
Illini Net 14.320	11:30 a.m. Daily Except Thursday

TCARC Officers and Board Members

President	Larry Mohr K9LMM	356-3794
Vice President	Jeremy Lamb KC9KGJ	621-8036
Secretary	Chris Anderson W9CMA	403-1599
Treasurer	Milt Forsberg K9QZI	352-5075

Board Members

Al Wolfe K9SI	688-2790
Wayne Hamilton AB9FJ	384-4310
Dr Mike Trautman K9MLT	356-4302

VE Coordinator

Debbie Fligor N9DN	244-4446
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Website	www.w9seh.org
Analog Repeater W9SEH	146.760
D-Star Repeater W9YR	443.48125

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PO Box 2061
Champaign, IL 61825-2061

Fox Hunt October 11

The Eastside Outdoor Radio Club in Terre Haute held their annual Fox Hunt (hidden transmitter hunt) on October 11. 3 groups from TCARC hunted along with 2 other groups from the local area. Lincoln Trail State Park was the location, near Marshall, Illinois. The morning hunt was to locate 10 little foxes, all transmitting about the same time. The afternoon hunt was for 5 larger, higher power foxes. Participants included KC9DUU, K9BF, AB9FJ, KC9MJE and son, KC9KGJ, KA9SZX, and K9JLR - Jesse Risley from the Macomb area. K9QZI was along as an observer. At the end of the day, KA9SZX and K9JLR received the Fox trophy as the winning team. They located every fox in both hunts, and were the only team to do so. Congratulations! Below is a photo of the presentation to Mark and Jesse by WD9EYB, Jim Osborn, the event creator.



Meeting Programs

Do you have any ideas you would like to see for a meeting program? Or are you willing to make a presentation for a meeting program? If so, please contact Jeremy, KC9KGJ, or Larry, K9LMM. We are always looking for ideas and we want to provide programs that our members wish to see.

September Picnic

Our September picnic was a big success. 30 to 40 attended the event at the Ford-Harris Park, our Field Day location. Everyone brought a dish to share with meat provided by the club and by Rob, N9RIX. Rob brought his deep fryer and cooked a turkey as part of the meat provided. The turkey was excellent and disappeared very quickly. A fox hunt around the park entertained those interested in hunting. Some of the club members provided instructions and guidance for the newer hunters. Thanks to everyone attending and helping make the afternoon enjoyable. Below is a photo of Rob checking the turkey's temperature with assistance from our President, K9LMM, Larry.



Christmas Party

We understand that there may be a Christmas party brewing for sometime in December. Stay tuned to the newsletter and our nets to learn the details as they are developed.

Join Us On Local Nets

Please join us on any of the local nets. The DRats Net is Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m. on the W9YR repeater, followed by the ARES Net on the K9SI repeater at 9:00 p.m., the Central Illinois D-Star net is Wednesdays on the W9YR repeater at 9:00 p.m., the Champaign County 2 Meter Net is Thursdays on the W9SEH repeater at 9:00 p.m. Also, Earl, W9CGZ operates the Illini Net on 14.320 MHz daily except Thursdays.

Hamfests

As usual this time of year, hamfest activity is slowing. The Bedford, Indiana, hamfest was about the same as always, a nice little hamfest. Decatur held their tailgate on October 17 at the Decatur airport. Around 15 vendors were there along with many other attendees. The weather was excellent.

Coming up soon is the Fort Wayne Hamfest on November 14 and 15. This is always an excellent event - all inside with comfortable surroundings. Saturday is the best day to attend, as is with most 2-day hamfests.

FCC Issues First Waiver for Government-Sponsored Disaster Drill

From the ARRL Newsletter

On Tuesday October 27, the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) granted the first waiver that allows amateurs who participate in a government-sponsored emergency preparedness and disaster drill to communicate on behalf of their employers during the drill. The waiver request was made on behalf of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. That state will be conducting a full-scale exercise on Wednesday, October 28, 2009 from 8 AM-5 PM (EDT) to test their emergency response to the possible release of chemical agents at Blue Grass Army Depot, located near Richmond, Kentucky.

"The waiver request was what could almost be termed a 'textbook example' of the process," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "The waiver request met all of the criteria outlined in the Commission's recent Public Notice DA 09-2259: A government-sponsored drill, the specifics of when and where the event would happen, the identification of the amateur licensees that would be providing communications on behalf of their employers, the identification of the employers and a brief description of the drill. With all of the requirements in order, the WTB was able to turn the waiver around promptly, allowing the amateurs involved to participate in the exercise."

KA9SZX Open House

Mark, KA9SZX, had an open house at his place in Macomb on October 17-18. There was an open invitation to all Amateurs to attend. Food was managed by those attending bringing side dishes. Rob, N9RIX, once again shared his expertise by cooking a turkey in his deep fryer. Just like our picnic, the turkey disappeared quickly. Some spent the night at Mark's place and stayed around part of Sunday, while others attended for a short time and returned home. Everyone enjoyed the open house.

Repeater News

Our local repeaters are running well, with no problems. The Echolink node is being moved to the repeater site. It was located at a remote location, which required an extra ID frequently interrupting conversations. No separate ID is needed with the new location. A few other sounds unique to Echolink will be removed as well. We expect much better quality as a result of the change. K9BF built the interface to connect it to the repeater. Internet issues still need to be addressed. As soon as the Internet is connected, Echolink will be back up on our 146.76 repeater.

The Moultrie Amateur Radio Klub is working on the 2 meter module for their W9BIL D-Star repeater. Currently, W9BIL is on 440.64375MHz, with Internet service.

Our W9YR D-Star repeater is linked with W9BIL for the Wednesday night net, now known as the Central Illinois D-Star Net. D-Star users please join us Wednesday evenings at 9:00 p.m. for the net.

VE Exams October 18

Thanks to the VEs who worked the exam session on October 18. 3 tested resulting in 3 new licensees. The results were posted on the FCC website the following Thursday. Our next exam is January 24.