

From the President's Gavel

by Bob Fairbairn, KE9AWCRAPresident



Presidents Message for April Hamletter

Elections, Elections, Elections. This year we need to elect a new Vice President and a new Treasurer. In addition at the last meeting I announce my need to resign from my position as president of our club. The nominating committee has been appointed. Please contact Bruce KA0DSF or Ken N9HQ or John WT9Y with your nominations.

We are all set for field day at Panfish Park and I am sure that Frank, Dale, and Peter are cranking up their engines.

Jack Feldman has taken on the job of interim treasurer. I would like to thank him publicly for helping out. It is a great load off of my shoulders.

That is all for now, please remember to renew and then join in all the fun for the year.

73 KE9A

Remember the Club Elections
at the April Meeting

WCRAStaff

Elected Officers

President	Bob Fairbairn	KE9A	630: 682-3424
Vice President	Steve Peterson	N9OA	630: 742-3581
Secretary	Robert Mitalieri	N9EF	630: 510-7816
Treasurer	Bob Fairbairn - acting		
Custodian	Roberto Beltramelli	WA9E	630: 668-5688

Volunteer Committee Chairs

Club Call Trustee	Tom Geletka	N9CBA	630: 289-2535
Christmas Party	Dale Kwarta	NJ9E	630: 858-8541
Club Awards	John Truitt	W9LQL	630: 682-0304
Club Truck			
Elmer/Know-Code	George Reichert	W9GWR	630: 871-1786
Elmer/Know-Code	Charlie Matthews	WB9SGD	630: 665-4506
Field Day	Frank Krozel	KG9H	630: 653-9090
Field Day	Dale Kwarta	NJ9E	630: 858-8541
Hamfest	Bruce Plantz	K9OZ	630: 604-0157
Chaplin	Harry Sheaffer	W9AXI	630: 483-2044

Historian

Interference

Refreshments

Refreshments Steve Peterson N9OA 630:742-3581

Membership Kim Wiese N9XE 630:545-9950

Membership Robert Mitalieri N9EF 630:510-7816

Membership Retention Robert Noles N9XS 630:372-7036

Public Relations

Public Serevice Joe LeFebvre N9WRO 630:587-8059

VHF/HF Awards Peter Barr W9UF 630:971-8581

Amateur License Staff

Training Classes Jack Feldman KA9HEL 630: 515-0377

Tech Instructor Mike Wolff AB9AX 630: 778-1070

Tech Instructor Robert Mitalieri N9EF 630: 510-9783

General Instructor Pat Byrne K9JAU 630:858-1959

Extra Instructor

Volunteer Exam. Harry Kamer K9HK 630: 953-0519

WCRA Repeater Administrative Board (RAB)

Trustee/Tech Adv Tom Geletka N9CBA 630: 289-2535

Chairman Don Motz, Jr. N9NYX 630: 665-7757

Secretary Doug Totel W9NJM 630: 469-3001

Tech Advisor Gary Henle N9VLL 630: 736-9102

Member George Henry KA3HSW 630: 830-6659

Member Larry Schroeder KA9KDC 630: 665-3228

WCRA Radio Nets

Sunday 8:00 pm 145.390/(-600) Net Control: Rotates

Sunday 8:30 pm 224.140/(-1.600) Net Control: Marty
KA9RCC

Tuesday 8:00 pm 145.390(-600) ARES Net

Tuesday 8:30 pm 444.475/(5.0) UHF Net

WCRA Repeaters

145.390/ 144.790 103.5(1A) or 107.2(1B) PL Encode/Decode

224.140/222.540 Carries Access - SKYWARN Service Liaison

444.475/449.475 114.8 Hz(2A) PL Encode/ Decode

145.310/144.710 WCRA, W9CCU-1 Full Duplex Packet Repr

HAMLETTER

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WCRA Meeting Minutes

by: Robert Mitillieri
N9EF
WCRA
Secretary



WCRA Minutes from the March 7, 2003 Meeting

The business meeting was called to order at 19:35 by the President, **Bob KE9A**, and introductions were made by the board and all attendees. A motion was made to approve the minutes with one correction; the January minutes were not approved at the February meeting. The motion was seconded, a vote was taken and the motion was approved. Bob announced that other commitments make it necessary for him to resign. He will be able to serve until elections are held. The Vice-President, **Steve,**

N9OA, reported that this evenings program will be a video on how to build a tornado-safe room. Secretary, **Robert, N9EF**, reported that the number of paid-up members stands at 40, which will increase by the end of the meeting. Bob, **KE9A**, gave the Treasurers report, and that we were not required to file a tax return for last year. Bob also reported that we have a new registered agent who is an attorney. Custodian, **Roberto, WA9E**, reported that he is awaiting estimates to repair the truck. So fare the estimates range from \$1200 to \$5000. The bill for the 440 repeater was submitted to the insurance company. Hamfest, **Mike, AB9AX**, reported that they are looking into Hawthorne Racetrack for next year. **Jack, KA9HEL**, found an article about the Racetrack which may impact its availability. Mike will look into it. Elmer, **George, KC9CG**, reported that the Know Code class will be conducted 3/20 – 5/15 7-9PM at the Wheaton Police Dept. Public Service, **Joe, N9WRO**, reported that the MS Walk is on 4/6, the Special Olympics will be held on 4/27 in Naperville, the July 4th parade will be held as usual, and the Glendale Heights parade will be held on 8/23. Joe passed around sign-up sheets for these events. If you are interested please contact Joe, **N9WRO**. RAB, **Don, N9NYX**, reported that COD is still negotiating with cell companies and that the antennas will probably wait until the negotiations are completed. Don also reported that the Skywarn group may not be using the 200 repeater any longer. No decision has been make concerning the packet repeater. Training, Jack, **KA9HEL**, reported that the fee for the Tech class has been reduced to \$30 (it is reported as \$45 in the COD Quarterly). Jack also reported that we only need six students to hold a class, we previously needed none. Field Day, **Dale, NJ9E**, reported that it will be held in Panfish Park this year. Hamletter, Don, **N9NYX**, reported that the Hamletter has been emailed. So far Don has seen six returned emails. Bob, **KE9A**, reported that our 'print person' is no longer available. Bob and Don are exploring other possibilities.. If you have a new email address please give it to Don, **N9NYX**, or Robert, **N9EF**. New Business: The Nominating committee, **Bruce, K9OZ, Ken, K9HQ, and John, WT9Y**, provided nominations for the various offices. Mike, **AB9AX**, has been nominated for President. Ken, **N9HQ**, and Steve, **N9OA**, were nominated for vice president. Jack, **KA9HEL**, was nominated for Treasurer. A motion was made to close the nominations for this meeting. The motion was seconded and carried. **Janie, AE9JG**, asked if we should consider changing the term of office from two years to one year. Bob, **KE9A**, said he is considering some alternatives. Bob, **KE9A**, made a motion that we allocate \$2,000 total to repair the brakes and seals on the truck. Mike, **AB9AX**, seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried. A motion to accept the committee reports was made by **NJ9E**, seconded by **N9NYX**, and passed. A motion was made by to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded. A vote was taken and the motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 20:45.

Place your Anchor here.



Activities on the HF Bands

by:
Peter Barr
W9UF

Japanese operator Toshiyuki "Tosy" Moriyama, JA6VZB is heading to Palau to celebrate his 20th wedding anniversary (talk about having your priorities straight). He was active from there in 1997 as KC6SZ mostly on 160 meters and will do it again this time as T88JA. He hopes to be QRV from the beach on Peleliu Island from March 19 to 22. Tosy thinks there will be less QRN as compared to with Koror, the main island. The rig is an ICOM IC-756Pro and a JRL-2000F amplifier running 1,200 watts input. Antenna will be an inverted L on the beach. He will only be QRV on 160 meters. QSL via JA6VZB, Toshiyuki Moriyama, 10-101 Karakuen, 5-53-62 Hanazono, Kumamoto-city 860-0072, JAPAN.

Hiro, JA1CQT will be back in Kabul, Afghanistan in mid April. He has twice submitted documentation for YA1BV, YA1CQ and YA1JA to the DXCC Desk. Hiro also submitted another document, which amends the effective license date up to March 31, 2003. The Ministry of Communication, Afghanistan is preparing new radio regulations, so he has applied again for amateur radio licenses according to the new regulations, which will take place in the near future. Hiro's colleague Masami, JM1CAZ is in Kabul now and he can operate the club station YA1JA. He does not like pileups.

Saad, N5FF plans to visit and operate from Syria (YK) again this month. His current and tentative plan is to head for Damascus on Friday April 11, arriving in the oldest city in the world on Sunday April 13. A simple setup of a bare foot rig and G5RV will be used. Saad expects to be QRV as YK1BA around April 15 to 27. Amateur Radio is not the main reason for this trip; however he hopes to put in at least 3-4 hours a day. He'll have access to 10-40 meters but will probably concentrate on 20 meters. Saad will be looking for the Americas and Pacific in his early mornings (Ø1ØØ-Ø4ØØz) and Europe and Africa in his late evenings (19ØØ-22ØØz). He may be on during his afternoons (11ØØ-14ØØz). Look for him around 14.195 on SSB and 14.045 on CW, split listening 5-10 KHz up. QSL via N5FF.

Look for David, F5THR (ex. 6W1AE, T99CCD, TL8CD, J28EX) to be active from the Ivory Coast as TU5CD until July 1. QSL via F8BON.

Last month's Ducie Island DXpedition will come to an end Thursday March 13th around sunrise their time. There were rumblings of a European lead DXpedition to Ducie this month, however that operation has been postponed due to personal reasons by several of the ops. The team is looking at going later this year, possibly this fall.

Bernard, F5LBG is active through April 13 from Martinique Island. He will be signing as FM/F5LBG on 6 through 80 meters CW. QSL via the bureau or direct to Dauvier Bernard, 20 chemin des Mottes, F26760 Beaumont, Les Valence, France.

Dr. Keith Kerr, GM4YXI just arrived back in West Malaysia, and will try to activate various islands. Firm plans thus far include AS-046, Pulau Tioman, with 9M2/G4ZFE. QSL 9M2/GM4YXI via N3SL, 9M2/G4ZFE via G4ZFE. They are planning on operating from club station 9M2RPN for the WPX. No QSL info at this time on that call. Keith emails logs almost daily to N3SL, so QSLs should be available immediately.

Members of the Korea AnSung DX Club plan to operate special call D70HL/2 from April 4 to 6. They will be QRV on 10-80 meters CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via the bureau.

DL4KQ has returned back to Myanmar (Burma) for a planned operation until April 17. He has operating permission and plans to use the callsign XY4KQ, 160-10 CW and SSB with a 4KW amp, except for 160, to a G5RV and a vertical. He may try to get on from an "Islands on the Air" spot also, the Mon Region Group (AS-

NEW).

Bruce, AC4G has had to postpone his plans to operate from Wake Island, KH9. The runway is being rehabbed. He now hopes to get there in August or September, though if not, it will mean another postponement. Meantime, N4BQW/KH9, Chuck, may be active from time to time from Wake. He goes to Wake to handle medical emergencies and routine medical checkups for personnel there. When AC4G gets there, he is expected to do his own QSLing, since that's what he's done for past operations.

We may see more activity from Tanzania, 5H, soon as it was just announced that a new entry-level novice license has been made available. It has reduced requirements, reduced frequencies and reduced power. The basic license is no code but allows code operation on the air as a stepping-stone to full privileges. Ralph, 5H3RK says he's proud that Tanzania may have "an unprecedented critical mass of indigenous radio amateurs."

Jose, the last operator at LU1ZA on South Orkney, had some trouble with his Morse code key so he didn't do much CW towards the end of his rotation there. at the end, though he did, and RTTY too, before that. Henry, LU4DXU now has the logs. He hopes the new operator, Anibal, will do more CW. He has a new TNC, the AEA 2232 and Henry thinks Anibal will be active on RTTY as well. Jose did his last transmitting February 28th. QSL LU1ZA via LU2CN.

Bjorn "Hugo" Ark, LA5YJ, is once again active as 9N7YJ from Nepal after a two week break to his home QTH. Hugo's length of stay in Kathmandu is unknown at this time (possibly through December). He is there on a mission for the U.N. Hugo has a better rig with him this time. He used a Kenwood TS-50 previously and is now working with a Yaesu FT897 w/CW Collinsfilter, and 100 watts. He also has trap dipoles made by Rag, LA6FJA, for several bands now. This will allow him to be active on 160 through 12 meters. He plans to be active on 160 meters during the weekends. He is not active on PSK31 or RTTY, however someone has been pirating his call on the Digital modes. Look for him on 10.103 on various times throughout the day (between 1230 and 1830z; even as late as 0300z), 7.003 kHz at 1600z and 3503 kHz between 2300-0100z. Hugo will try to get access to a linear which may be available later. No QSLs via the bureau. QSL only direct with 2 US dollars or valid IRCs to: Bjorn Hugo Ark, Rute 504- Paulsrud, NO-2840 Reinsvoll, NORWAY. PLEASE NOTE: Hugo will not answer any QSL requests until he returns home. He has answered some QSL requests (for his activity between November 2002 and February 10th) when he was home during his two week break.

Tom, VK3ZZ; Peter, VK3QI; Keith, VK3FT and Jack, VK3WWW will activate Waldegrave Island East (OC-New) (part of the South Australia State West Centre Group) from April 17-22nd. They will be using the special call sign of VI5WCP to celebrate the historical naming of the island by Mathew Flinders during his coastal exploration of March 1802. A special commemorative QSL card will be prepared to celebrate this historical event. Activity will be on all bands except 160, both Phone and CW. QSL will be direct to VK3ZZ: P.O. Box 368, Leongatha, Victoria 3953, Australia, with a self-addressed envelope plus sufficient return postage, or, via the bureau. Direct QSL cards not conforming to the above will be returned via the bureau.

The Aland Islands, OH0, will be put on the air by a number of German Ops April 19-25th. Operators Claus, DF8QJ; Marvin, DL2VB, Mike, DK6QW and Reinhard, DL6YFB will be active as OH0/home call. Activity will be on 80-10 meters including the WARC bands on CW/SSB/RTTY. QSL via their homecalls.

The "World Amateur Radio Day (WARD) 2003 Award" is devoted to commemorate the World Amateur Radio Day celebrated by the IARU on April 18th each year. The theme for the 2003 WARD is "Amateur Radio Supporting Technology Education in the Classroom". It is issued by the MK QTC – Polish Amateur's Radio Journal with PZK (Polish Amateur Radio Union) support. The WARD Award is available for at least the following number of contacts: 10 QSOs on HF bands or 5 QSOs on VHF bands. All contacts must be made on April 18th between 0000 and 2400z. A standard application form including the list of QSOs should be sent before May 31, 2003 to: Redakcja MK QTC, ul. Wielmozy 5b, 82-337 Suchacz-Zamek, Poland. The price of the WARD Award is \$5. This is a full color award, sized 210 x 297mm. Any questions can be sent to: qtc@post.pl

A group of seven Italian Hams are headed for the Marquesas Islands later this month. The group will be QRV from April 25 to May 9. Team members will include I2YSB, IK2DIA, IK2GNW, I2MOV, IK2WXV, IK1AOD, and IK1PMR. They will have three stations on HF and one on 6 meters. Plans are to have a beacon on 50.105, which will be active every hour and every half hour for 5 minutes. The call sign is still not known. QSL via I2YSB either direct or via the bureau. There are two addresses that can be used. They are: Silvano Borsa, P.O. Box 45, 27036 Mortara (PV) Italy or Silvano Borsa, Viale Capettini 1, 27036 Mortara (PV) Italy. They also have a Web page at <http://digilander.libero.it/i2ysb/marquesas/marq.htm>.

Hrane, YT1AD will be going with a team to Western Sahara this month. No call was mentioned but they will be QRV on 2 through 160 meters on CW, SSB and RTTY from April 16 to 22. They will have three radios and two amplifiers. Team members will include YT1AD, N6TQS, KD7RCD, EA5JJ and several other EA ops. QSL via YT1AD.

Richard G4ZFE is currently in West Malaysia. He recently operated from AS-074 and AS-046 on February 22/23 and March 1/2. Richard plans to operate from AS-058 later this year. The QSL route for his 9M2/G4ZFE 9M2/G4ZFE/P and 3W2ER operations is via the bureau to G4ZFE or direct to Richard Everitt, #2601, PNB Darby Park Jalan Binjai, Kuala Lumpur 50450, Malaysia. Please note that he only collects his QSLs from the UK once a year, but all bureau cards are QSLed 100%.

There is erroneous information being circulated that the KH6 bureau was handling cards for American Samoa, Wake Island, and Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (KH8, KH9 and KHØ). This information is incorrect so do not send QSLs for anything but Hawaii to the KH6 bureau.

The ARRL and the IARU are gearing up for the WRC-03 meeting in Geneva. One of the biggest topics on the table for Amateur Radio operators is the proposed realignment of the 40 meter band. Check out the ARRL Web site for complete details at: <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/03/06/100/?nc=1>.

The ARRL has posted the DXCC 2002 Annual List on their Web page. This is normally listed first in the DXCC Year book. Topping the mixed list were K6ZO, W2AGW (SK) and W2BXA with an amazing 391 countries. The top leaders from other continents were KH6CD (388) from Oceania, 4X4DK (386) from Asia, DJ2BW (384) from Europe, PY4OD (378) from South America and ZS6YQ (372) from Africa. On SSB it was W2BXA with 389, CW was OZ1LO with 358, on RTTY it was I5FLN with 343 and on Satellite the top DXer was DC8TS with 261. On the individual bands it was W8LRL (309) on 160 meters, ON4UN (352) had 80 meters, W8AH (362) on 40 meters, 4X4DK (384) on 20 meters, N4MM (333) on 17 meters, W4DR (359) on 15 meters, W1JR (330) on 12 meters, K2FL (353) on 10 meters, SV1DH (215) on 6 meters and SM7BAE (133) on 2 meters. No mention of 30 meters because it was not added as a single DXCC award until October 1, 2002. You can see the complete (90 pages) listing at: <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/listings/2002-annual-list.pdf>.

TIME	DATE	CONTEST/EVENT NAME	BAND	MODE
0000z	April 5	MARC County		
2400z	April 6	Hunters	80-10M	SSB
0000z	April 5	QCWA QSO		
2400z	April 6	Party	160-UHF	All Modes
0700z	April 12	Japan International		
1300z	April 13	DX Contest	20,15&10M	CW
1200z	April 12	ARCI QRP Spring		
2400z	April 13	QSO Party	160-10M	CW

1500z 1859z	April 12 April 12	EU Spring Sprint	80,40&20M	SSB
0000z 2359z	April 19 April 19	Holyland DX Contest	160-10M	CW, SSB
0000z 2400z	April 19 April 19	TARA Spring Wakeup PSK31 Rumble	80-6M	PSK31
1300z 1300z	April 26 April 27	Helvetia Contest	160-10M	CW, SSB
0000z 2400z	May 3 May 4	MARC County Hunters	80-10M	CW
2000z 2359z	May 3 May 4	ARI International DX Contest	160-10M	All Modes
1700z 2100z	May 10 May 10	FISTS Spring Sprint	80-10M	CW

DX Potpourri

The International Foundation QSLCollection is the world's largest collection of amateur radio and broadcast stations' QSL cards and awards. This organization, which is based in Vienna, Austria, has over three million QSLs on file from the early pioneer days to the present. The group not only collects QSLs but also has done some unique research to help preserve ham radio history. Recent research projects and interviews of note include Ed Giorgadze, P5/4L4FN, Don Miller, ex-W9WNV, and Danny Weil, VP2VB. Another project they are working on is that of Martti Laine, OH2BH, which they expect to be completed shortly. You can check out these projects at <http://www.qsl.at/>.

Nelson, 4S7NE continues to be QRV from Sri Lanka on 30 meters just before 0100z.

If you need Bahrain, look for Gus, A92ZE on or near 1.824 after 0200z.

Rakhim, EY7AD in Tajikistan has been reported Wednesday's on 18.127 around 1530z.

Said, SU1SK in Egypt likes working RTTY on 14.084. Try around 1900z.

Mike, T31MY in Kiribati has been hanging around on 24.918 around 1830z. QSL via OM2SA.

Victor, ZK1CG from the South Cook Islands often calls and listens for Generals on 3.852 but usually no one listens to him since there is so much chatter there! He prefers 0600-0800 and later 1100-1400 UTC if he can't sleep well.

Larry, K2LS, says the K2LS telnet cluster is back up and running at DXC.K2LS.COM. "Spots from zones 1-8 only and no TALK/CHAT messages",

Special thanks this month to The Daily DX, DX-NL Newsletter, ARRL, OPDX and the SK3BG Contest Service for information used.

Until next month,

73 & Good DX

Pete, W9Uf

ANCHORS...ANCHORS...ANCHORS

Complete Kenwood Ham Radio Station For Sale

Circumstances force me to sell my Kenwood ham radio station which includes the following pieces of equipment:

Kenwood TS-830s - 10-80 meters (with WARC bands), 100-watt transceiver. Late model (gold name plate below the tuning knob). Installed in the radio are two 500 Hz CW filters, one in the 8.83 MHz IF and the other in the 455 kHz IF.

Matching Kenwood accessories include:

- VFO-230 - Remote digital VFO with five memories
- SM-220 - Station monitor
- AT-230 - Antenna tuner and SWR/power meter
- SP-230 - Speaker with three audio filters
- MC-50 - Desk microphone

Also included are all owners manuals, a copy of the service manual for the TS-830s and original cartons. All equipment except the station monitor were bought new and I am the only owner. Equipment used only in my shack, never mobile or outdoors. All in very good condition except 830s, which has the "flakey" band switch syndrome" (repairable, the cost of which will be taken into consideration in the price). Equipment is now running and may be tested in my shack.

Contact:

Jon Baker 630 833-5654
KC9OO jonlbak@attbi.com

BIRTHDAYS OF APRIL

ARNIS	K9OQN	04-02-37
JOHN	WA9YZL	04-13-28
ANNE	WM9L	04-16-43
MARTY	N9NTM	04-17-72
MIKE	N9NF	04-19-50
DON	N9NYX	04-21-43



As a reminder, the FCC database no longer provides date of birth as it once did. If you do not see your name appear in the list of birthdays and would like to be included please forward this information to the editor.

For Sale

TS 140S w mic and manual and cord \$375; Astron PS-35A \$75; IC 3200A, mounting bracket, manual \$175; VX5R base charger and extra battery \$200; Icom FL-52A 500Hz CW filter \$100; Kenwood YK-88S \$45; Garmin GPS III Plus with serial cable and Roads&Recreation CD \$250; Fluke Scope 0 meter 97 kit \$400; Motorola Code Synth II \$100; Fluke PM6666 Timer Counter \$300

MFJ-418 Pocket morse code tutor and the Book! \$60

MAC G4 dual 450mhz 640mb RAM 30gb disk OS 10.2.4 MS office X \$700

HP Jornada 720 kit with docking station and extra battery. \$400

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DUES FOR 2003 ARE DUE NOW

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APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 1st of April: Club breakfast **every** Tuesday morning 7-9 AM, Glen Oaks Restaurant, Glen Ellyn
- 3rd of April: Club brunch **1st & 3rd** Thursday at 10:30 AM, Carol's Garden, Carol Stream
- 4th of April: Monthly membership meeting at Wheaton College 7:30pm in classroom #138 in the Billy Graham Center. The Billy Graham Center is located on the South side of Seminary Avenue across from Old Main. Classroom #138 can be reached by entering the front of the building, turning right and then left when reaching the hallway. Proceed south down the hallway until classroom #138. Weather Spotting program and club elections.
- 15th of April: **DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS FOR APRIL.** Remember we are doing a limited printed edition. Please be prompt.
- 24th of April: VEC testing at the Helen Plum Library in Lombard from 6:30 till 8:30pm.

WCRA General Membership Meeting - April 4th - Wheaton College - 7:30 PM

WCRA was founded in 1948 and continues to be involved in all facets of Amateur Radio supporting the healthy growth of the hobby through diversification and participation. Our members have always been our most important asset and we would like to see you join us for our next meeting. Our business meetings are followed by a break for conversation, coffee, soda pop, and fat pills. This is followed by an amateur radio related program. We would like to see you there to share the enthusiasm.

HAMLETTER

Newsletter Address:

526 South Gables Boulevard
Wheaton, Illinois 60187-4728
eMail: donlin67@ameritech.net

Club Mailing Address:

Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs
P.O. Box QSL
Wheaton, Illinois 60189

First Class Mail

