



HAMLETTER



Published Monthly

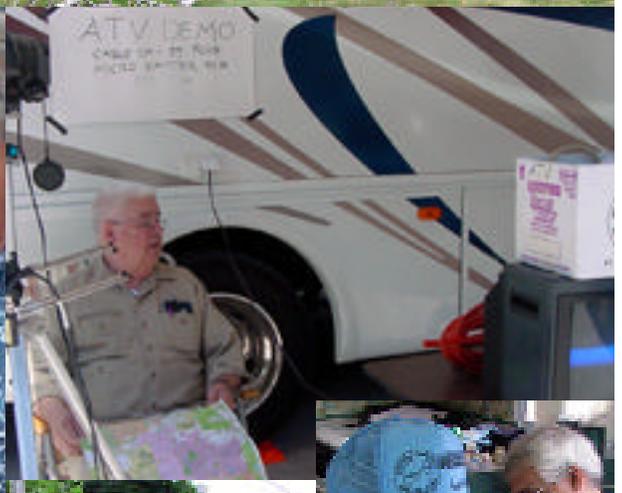
Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs

Issue 481

Founded 1948

July 2003

Field Day 2003



From the President's Gavel

by Mike Wolff, AB9AX WCRAPresident



Happy Summer time!

I am late getting this off to Don (Forgive Me Don!), as I didn't heed the reminder in my calendar to take care of this. The good news is that I am writing this after Field Day, and I can honestly say that this year's field day was the best one that I have been to yet! I captained the 40 meter SSB station, and had a couple of different folks (Jim - WB9RRO, Kevin - N9OBO and his brother-in-law Scott who is studying for his license, Sharon - KB9ZUK, Jeannie - KC9DDL, Bruce - K9OZ, Mary - K9GAL -- I think that's everyone) come through and share the joy of 40 meters throughout the day, and I was pleased to be able to share it! If you weren't able to make it out, or get on the air, I have to tell you that you missed a great time. In any case, I would like to thank the Field Day Committee (Frank - KG9H, Dale - NJ9E, and Peter N9HDW) for putting together another first class field day! If you didn't make it out, you weren't only missing the joy of Ham radio, but you also missed some great food as well. Thank You Sharon (KB9ZUK), Kent (KE1NT), Jeannie (KC9DDL), and all the rest of you who contributed (Ruth - KA9RZG, and Bob - W9TIE come to mind) to our wonderful feasts! Thanks to all of you that came out and supported us, even if it (Continued on page 4)

WCRA Staff

Elected Officers

President	Mike Wolff	AB9AX	630: 778-1070
Vice President	Steve Peterson	N9OA	630: 742-3581
Secretary	Robert Mitilieri	N9EF	630: 510-7816
Treasurer	Jack Feldman	KA9HEL	630: 515-0377
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 Cheney	N9MWF	708: 848-2885
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
Field Day	Peter Richey	N9HDW	630: 260-9447
Hamfest	Bruce Plantz	K9OZ	630: 604-0157
Chaplin	Harry Sheaffer	W9AXI	630: 483-2044

Historian			
Interference			
Refreshments	Steve Peterson	N9OA	630:742-3581
Membership			
Membership	Robert Mitilieri	N9EF	630:510-7816
Membership Retention	Robert Noles	N9XS	630:372-7036
Public Relations			
Public Service	Joe LeFebvre	N9WRO	630:587-8059
VHF/HF Awards	John Cheney	N9MWF	708: 848-2885

Amateur License Staff

Training Classes	Jack Feldman	KA9HEL	630: 515-0377
Tech Instructor	Mike Wolff	AB9AX	630: 778-1070
Tech Instructor	Robert Mitilieri	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 Reprtr

HAMLETTER

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WCRA Meeting Minutes

by: Robert Mitillieri
N9EF
WCRA
Secretary



WCRA Meeting Minutes for the June 6th Meeting Important!!

Due to the July 4th holiday, next month's meeting will be on July 11th.

The meeting was called to order at 19:30 by the President, **Mike AB9AX** and introductions were made by the board and all in attendance. There was a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting with two minor corrections. The motion was seconded, a vote was taken, and the motion carried. The Vice-President, **Steve,**

N9OA, reported that tonight's program will be on Field Day. Next month's program will be on the New products presented at Dayton. The presentation will be given by **Roberto, WA9E**. August's program will be on PC/Rig remote interfacing. The Secretary, **Robert, N9EF**, asked that all members please send updated email addresses to him at n9ef@arrl.net. Robert also reported that he will be including an unlisted email indicator in the electronic roster. This will enable members email addresses to be used for notifications but kept out of printed rosters. The Treasurer, **Jack, KA9HEL**, reported on the club's financial condition. Jack also reported that he will be ordering the badges for members who have ordered them. Please let Jack know if you would like to order a badge. Custodian, Roberto, WA9E, reported that, due to work on the water tower at the Lombard FD, the truck has been relocated to the Thompson storage yard at Rt 53 and North Ave. **Peter, N9HDW**, will check the computers on the truck and replace them with newer computers that have been donated to the club. Roberto is waiting for the insurance check for the 440 repeater, and he will be submitting a bill to the insurance company for the 220 repeater damage. Parts for the 220 repeater were ordered. The secondary fuel tank on the truck still has some problems, and the fuel gauge is not functioning properly. A question was asked why the WCRA truck has a unit designator from DuPage county (unit 2254). The DuPage county OEM can request use of the truck but not commandeer it. If the truck is used for DuPage OEM business then it's unit number will be used. Hamfest, Mike, AB9AX, mentioned that flyers were distributed at Dayton. Mike reported that all is on, or ahead of schedule. Elmer, **George, W9GWR**, reported that the Know-Code class is finished and that the remaining student passed the test. Public Service, **Kurt, KB9RTO**, reported that several events were coming up and urged members to volunteer for some (or all) of these events, sign up sheets were passed around. **Jim, W9DHX**, reported that this years National Trail Days is a dedication instead of a public service event. Jim had copies of directions to the event for those interested. RAB, **Don, N9NYX**, reported that there has been no further update on the 2 meter repeater antenna installation at COD. The 440 machine is working FB. The status of the packet repeater is unchanged. Training, Jack, KA9HEL, reported that we are setting up for the winter (not fall) session. Jack asked that we offer free membership to those who take the course. Robert, N9EF, reported that this was voted on two years ago and passed. Several certificates have already been issued to those taking the Tech class offering a year free membership in WCRA. VE, George W9GWR, reported that the next session will be 6/26 at 6:30, walk-ins are welcome. There is a \$12 fee and two forms of ID are necessary. Hamletter, Don, N9NYX, asked who has not received his email notice that the Hamletter was ready. Don emphasized the importance of reporting changed email addresses. Kurt, KB9RTO, mentioned a correction to the Hamletter, John Cheney (not Peter Barr) is the awards chairperson. Jim, W9DHX, asked that the minutes be more concise. A motion was made to accept the committee reports, the motion was seconded, a vote was taken and the motion carried. Announcements: Roberto reported that he needed a couple of weeks is the truck was needed at an event. New Business: **Bob, W9TIE**, had an article from a local newspaper about Panfish Park. The article reported that developers wanted the park to build private homes. Bob mentioned that there will be a meeting held by the Park District in the Glen Ellyn civic center on 6/11. There was a request from the Wheaton PD for use of the truck as a command post after the fireworks. (Continued on page 4)

WCRA Meeting Minutes continued from page 3

Roberto will get more info on this request. WCRAreceived a donation from **Judy, N9TDU**. We will send a thank you letter to Judy. Mike, AB9AX, reported that the club received a letter from the IRS regarding our failure to file a form 990 for the past three years. We have contracted with a CPA for a maximum of 1.5 hours to inquire about this situation at the IRS and to provide us with information about what action we need to take, and whether or not we have current tax exempt status. Mike also asked the CPA to determine what steps we would need to take to be classified as a charitable organization. Roberto, WA9E, asked where the seal and the corporate minute book is located. Don, N9NYX, reported that he passed it to the next Treasurer. Mike, AB9AX, will find out what the cost will be to replace the seal and minute book. Mike also reported that the By-Laws need to be updated. The attorney will update the By-Laws and they will be voted on by the membership. Mike will be notified by the Attorney and voting will take place at a scheduled meeting probably in August or September. Mike also reported that an audit will need to be some since one hasn't been completed in several years. Anchors: Jim, W9DHX, reported that Bob Briscoe has a 75ft Rohn motorized crank up tower for sale. Dale, NJ9E, reported that Judy, N9TDU, may have additional items for sale.

From the President's Gavel continued from page 2:

was just to come by and see what was going on, or to get on the air and give the captains some time to get up and eat. I know that some where there in spirit that couldn't be in the flesh. Field Day is more than a civil defense activity or a contest, it is a great social event to come out and get to know your fellow hams as well. If you couldn't make it this year, I do hope you will next year. Thanks again to all of you that participated this year!

Now that this year's Field Day has come and gone, it is a good time to reflect and think about what could be done differently or better next year, while it is still fresh in our minds. I think next year will be the time to try a delta loop on 40 SSB.... Let's hear your ideas for next year!

Independence day is right around the corner, and I can say that I am excited about it. The club participates in the Wheaton parade, and we have been asked by the Wheaton Police Department for additional use of the club truck and staffing of a few hams for the fireworks after the parade. I am glad to have the opportunity to have the club truck out there, and get the publicity and exposure that comes along with it.

Lastly, we have made some progress on the issues discussed at the last meeting regarding the inquiry we received from the IRS. We are in process to get previous years' forms filed, to bring us into regulatory compliance. More on that topic will be discussed at the regular membership meeting that will begin promptly at 7:30 PM, Friday July 11th, 2003, which will be held at classroom 138, inside the Billy Graham Center at Wheaton College. I hope to see you all there!

73, Mike -- AB9AX

I have the following items I would like to sell:

Kenwood TH-205AT with case
Kenwood SMC Speaker Microphone
Kenwood Battery Charger
Kenwood PG2V DC Cable
Kenwood BT-5AA Battery Case
Antenna Connector

I would let all this go for \$250.00 or best offer.

I also have: Hustler Resonators RM 10
RM 15
RM 20 (2 EACH)
RM 40-S
Hustler MO-4

Magnetic Mount
Hustler QD-2 Magnetic Mount
Asking \$75.00 or best offer.

I have the Instruction Manuals on everything.

I can be reached at 630-665-0797 or 575 Illini Drive, Carol Stream.

Good luck on field day. Sorry I will be out of town.

Scott Kenton

Anchors...Anchors...Anchors



Activities on the HF Bands

by:
Peter Barr
W9UF

It was announced in mid-June that "a petition was filed with the Chief Executive Officer of ARRL" seeking to remove "UNTAET (United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor) from the DXCC entities list and for the addition of Timor-Leste as an entity." The announcement said that "The DXCC2000 rule under which 4W was added reads: "b. The entity has been assigned a call sign prefix bloc by the ITU. A provisional prefix bloc assignment may be made by the Secretary General of ITU. Should such provisional assignments not be ratified later by the full ITU, the Entity will be removed from the DXCC List"

Stu, WA2MOE states "the assignment was not ratified and UNTAET returned [the prefix] to ITU which has reissued the block 4WA-4WZ to Timor-Leste." It maybe that the ITU may not ratify the provisional assignment for several years, which seems to be the case currently with E4, Palestine.

If the original East Timor (UNTAET) DXCC Entity is found to not meet DXCC Criteria it would not be deleted, but rather removed from the DXCC List. This is per the DXCC 2000 rules. There will be no more deleted Entities. Besides the removal, all DXCC participants would have to work this supposed new one in order to get credit. In other words you will have to work this same piece of real estate over again. Some DXAC representatives are seeking input from members about the feelings of removing or not removing 4W from the DXCC list and adding a new 4W entity. If you would like to contact our local DXAC representative, you may write or email Jim O'Connell, W9WU, 512 West Elm Ave, La Grange, IL 60525 or jim@w9wu.com. It might be advisable to mention that you are in the Central Division.

Earlier this year the United Nations office in New York sent a letter to many of the 4W licensees stating that effective May 20, 2002 their licenses were invalid. Any QSOs with 4W stations after May 20, 2002 and before Mid May 2003 will not count for DXCC. The only apparent operation effected seems to be that of Thor, 4W6MM who did not know that his license had been revoked until January of this year. Once he was informed he immediately became QRT until the licensing authority in Timor-Leste starting issuing callsigns last month. Thor has recently become active again as 4W3DX on 20 meter CW. Also active now is Peter, 4W3CW.

Thirty-five years ago, the callsign JD1YAB was used by the JARL, Japan Amateur Radio League, to commemorate the Ogasawara Islands' reversion to Japanese control. Now, the callsign is back on the air to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the reversion. During American occupation, the islands were known as "Bonin and Volcano". There are actually 27 islands in the group. They're in the Western Pacific, 965 kilometers south of Tokyo. First discovered by the Japanese around 1600 and colonized in 1830 by a group of Europeans and Hawaiians, the islands were formally annexed by Japan in 1876. They were occupied by the U.S. from 1945 to 1968, under what was called the "U.S. Trusteeship." The islands now have 2,400 residents. Toshi JA1ELY and Aki, JD1AMA say some of the villagers are being trained for their ham licenses.

The current JD1YAB operation will be an all band operation on SSB, CW, RTTY, SSTV, AO-10 and UO-14 satellites, 200-watt output, but dependent on individual operator license class. QSLs will be sent out for all QSOs automatically via the bureau. Or, you may QSL direct to JA1MRM with an SAE, self-addressed envelope, and one IRC or sufficient return postage.

Chuck Brady, N4BQW has been on Wake Island (KH9) for these last few weeks, and should be there through mid-July; standing in for the island's doctor who will be on vacation. He will be joining Jake, N6XIV, who has been working and operating on Wake Island recently.

Chuck was planning on putting up a Force 12 C3SS and he also has two 6M yagis, with one being a loaned long yagi from M2. He has a modified military vertical that can cover 160/80/40 and 30M. He also



See everyone next year



planned an inverted L wire antenna with elevated radials to 80/75/40 meters. Chuck may (at his option) transmit in the special or regional 40-meter phone allocation below 7.100 and listen elsewhere for U.S. calls.

Assuming he had access to 240VAC, he has an Alpha 99 amplifier and an Icom 706mkIIg as a backup radio or for use on 6m. He will not be using a beacon on 6M. Chuck is trying to emphasize the low bands as that is in higher demand. He is operating predominantly SSB, but often accommodates a few CW contacts (mostly on his established SSB frequency). He is aware that some may only have antennas tuned for the CW portion of the bands. He may try to QSY there as needed, although this entails lowering his antennas to convert them.

QSL's for Chuck's Wake operations should be sent to his Wake QSL Manager, Dianna Killeen, KB6NAN. A self addressed envelope with sufficient U.S. postage is requested (Donations are always appreciated). Direct QSL's are always preferred. Do NOT send QSL's for Jake's operations to KB6NAN. Follow Jake's instructions for his QSL routing. There is no web page or posted logs for this operation.

The July 28-36 Lesotho expedition by the Lone Star DX

Association and Texas DX Society has now added satellite operations on AO-40 uplink on 435.550-435.800 CW/LSB and downlink on 2401.225-2401.475 CW/USB. Frosty, K5LBU speaking for the expedition ops, says, "Take it easy on us because none of us are satellite operators, but we are willing to try our best at giving everyone - a 7P8 QSO." The 7P8 expedition group has also obtained the Swaziland calls for the operators who will continue on to that country. They are 3DAØSV for Dave Anderson, K4SV and 3DAØWC for Neil King, VA7DX.

Earlier in the year I wrote about a YL operation planned for October 12-25 from Cocos Keeling and October 26-November 9 from Christmas Island by VK3DYL, VK4SJ and VE7YL. Here is a bit of an update. The commercial airplane schedule out of Perth has changed causing the ladies' to change their plans. VK9XYL from Christmas Island is now scheduled for October 13-17 and VK9CYL from Cocos Keeling is set for October 27-November 10. So, the two stops are being swapped, the second one shifts a day, and the first one is shortened from two weeks to five days or so. QSL both via VK3DYL.

Dan, JA1PBV arrived in Kabul, Afghanistan the week of June 16th and when not busy with his work assignment he will be active as YA1BV, especially on > the digital modes. Hiro, YA1CQ (JA1CQT) is also currently QRV as well as Sada, JR3EDE who operates from the club station YA1JA. Dan expected a move to Kandahar, 300 miles of Kabul southwest by the end of the month and will be active as YA1BV/P.

Dan says he is heading back to the South Pacific in August. First stop will be back to Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands where he will operate as H44V from August 5 to 9. From there he will head over to Santa Cruz Island, Temotu Province. There he will be on the air as H4ØV from August 11 to 16. He will also be joined by Kazuo, P29KM (H44H). Dan also expects to operate as P29SI from Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. Exact dates were not mentioned but it will probably be before and after the H44/H4Ø operations. Dan will be back in Japan August 23 and 24. On September 1st he plans to be back in Afghanistan and stay until March 2004. QSL via JA1PBV.

Chicagoland locals Mike, K9AJ/VY0 and Jim, K9PPY/VY0 will be 500 miles north of the Arctic Circle to activate Somerset Island (NA-NEW) July 13-20, possibly with two stations. Since there will be no nighttime hours at that latitude in summer, they will be on 20M and above. Mike's wife Susan, K9XYL/VY0, might also be on. K9AJ/VY0 will go on to Southampton Island (NA-007) July 22-24. Cornwallis Island (NA-009) and Baffin Island (NA-047) are also possible between July 11-26. Look for them on the standard IOTA frequencies:

CW 28.040 24.920 21.040 18.098 14.040 10.114 7.030 3.530

SSB 28.560 28.460 24.950 21.260 18.128 14.260 7.055 3.765

QSL to home calls.

Everything is ready say organizers of the "African Double Jump" DXpedition team. The team of Joe, AA4NN, Aldo, IK2ANI and Fabrizio, IN3ZNR plan to operate from both Botswana and Lesotho through mid July. The operation in Botswana will take place starting July 2nd until the 6th. The operation in Lesotho will take place between July 7th and 11th. The plan is to run both CW and SSB, with two stations on the air. In spite

of the summer season the CW guys will make a great effort on 80 and 160 meters. The SSB operators will be monitoring 50.110 MHz for any 6 meter openings. They will also pay attention to the US General Class band plans on 10, 15 and 20 meters. The whole African Double Jump team is well experienced in DXpeditions and world-wide contesting. The members have operated in the past from several DX countries such as Cambodia, Laos, Pratas Island, Burma and the Caribbean area. In Lesotho they will use 7P8NR (IN3ZNR), 7P8NN (AA4NN) and 7P8NI (IK2ANI). While in Botswana look for A25FV (IN3ZNR), A25NN (AA4NN) and A25NI (IK2ANI). For further information check out their dedicated web page at <http://www.AfricanJump.org>. QSL cards go via their home callsigns.

Members of the Western Wireless Contest Club are planning a contest DXpedition to East Kiribati during the CQ World Wide CW DX Contest in late November. The team plans to be QRV from T32 from November 23 to December 7. They will be QRV on 10-160 meters, including a multi-two operation in the CQ WW CW Contest. Operators will include NØKV, KØMP, N2WW, WØZA, NOØT and NØZM. Most of the gang do not have their callsigns yet. However T32MP(KØMP) and T32KV(NØKV) are known. QSL cards will go via their home calls.

To celebrate the 35th Anniversary of ORARI (Organisasi Amatir Radio Indonesia) 1968-2003, special prefix callsign YB35AR will be on the air from Jakarta, Indonesia from July 6 to 13. Activity will be by multiple YB0 operators on all HF bands including the WARC bands and AO40 Satellite. They will be QRV on CW, SSB, RTTY, SSTV and PSK31. QSL via the YB QSL bureau or to P.O. Box 8000, Jakarta 11000, Indonesia.

WHAT'S ON THE WEB

According to Spaceweather.com, new active sunspot group 375 has really come to life over the past seven days and now has grown to a size of 10 Earth diameters. Region 380 is also quite active. You can check this out at <http://www.spaceweather.com>.

Here's an interesting GIF regarding solar cycle 23 on the web: www.sec.noaa.gov/SolarCycle/sunspot.gif.

Information and pictures of the BV9L AS-155 operation are now available at <http://www3.ocn.ne.jp/~iota/newpage60.htm>.

DX POTPOURRI

Henry, LU4DXU has formed what he calls an Antarctic Net. It's on 14.300 at 1900z Saturdays. Henry is in regular contact with LU1ZV, LU1ZG and LU1ZD, all operating from bases in Antarctica and has been a liaison for some QSL cards.

Look for Martial, F5SIE, to be active as FH/F5SIE from Mayotte Island, off the east coast of Africa from July 1st to 15th. This will be a CW only operation and activity is expected on 15, 17 and 40 meters. He will be using a TS-> 50 and wires. QSL via the REF QSL bureau.

Tom Christian, VP6TC on Pitcairn Island has been reported lately on 15 meters (favoring 21.348) around 0000z. QSL via K6RPF.

Larry, VQ9LA on Diego Garcia can usually be found on 30 meters daily between 0130 and 0200z.

Teemu, SMØWKA is heading to Iraq where he'll join the team of the UN's World Food Program. He expects to be there around the beginning of July stay for 2 months. Teemu hopes to be signing either YI/SMØWKA or YI/SMØW. He'll have a Web page very soon at <http://www.sm0wka.com/>.

John, G4IRN has received his S79 callsign from the Seychelles authorities. He received the call S79IRN, which is what he requested. Look for activity from the Seychelles from September 13 to 16 and again from September 23 to 27. He will be on the air as FH/G4IRN from Mayotte from September 16 to 23. John will be on CW on 10-40 meters with 100 watts. QSL via G4IRN.

Rashid,S21AR in Bangladesh continues to get on the air, usually 15 meters phone around 1400z. S21DM and S21YY also frequent 15 meters around the same time.

VK9CT and VK9D will be the Cocos-Keeling callsigns for four German operators October 11-23. They will be on all bands, concentrating on the lower and WARC bands, including AO-40, with three stations. The same operators will also be on Christmas Island, VK9X, as VK9XW, VK9XM, VK9XT and VK9XA, October 4-11. QSL via DL2RMC.

Claude, TJ/F6BJY in Camaroon can be found most days 18.145 around 0000z. QSL via Claude Galas, P.O. Box 3472, Douala, CAMEROON.

Paul, K9OT, and his wife Peg (call unknown) will be active from St. Pierre and Miquelon (FP) from July 27 to August 5. This will be there second trip to the French Islands. This year they are going to try and take a DX70TH with 100 watts for 6 meters. They will have a beacon set up, probably on 50.120. Paul thinks there is a six meter beam at the hotel that the couple is staying at. If not they will setup a dipole.

Wayne, N5WD/V31WD and his XYL Pamela,KB5UAE/V31UA are planning to be active in Placencia (Grid EK56) Belize from July 15-21, 2003. Wayne will be concentrating on 6 meters during the CQ WW VHF Contest during the weekend, but will be on 6-80 meters at other times during the week and can do PSK31/SSB/CW. QSLs via N5WD, Callbook address.

CONTESTS

Time	Date	Contest	Band	Mode
0000z	July 1	RAC		
2359z	July 1	Canada Day	160 - 2 meters	CW/Phone
2300 z	July 4	Michigan QRP Club		
0300 z	July 5	Sprint	160 - 6 meters	CW
1100z	July 5	German DX		
1059z	July 6	RTTY Contest	80 - 10 meters	RTTY
1200z	July 12	IARU HF		
1200z	July 13	World Championship	160 - 10 meters	CW/Phone
1800z	July 19	CQ Worldwide		
2100z	July 20	VHF Contest	6 & 2 meters	All modes
1800z	July 19	North American RTTY		
0600z	July 20	QSO Party	160 - 10 meters	RTTY
1200z	July 26	RSGB Island On The Air (IOTA)		
1200z	July 27	Contest	80 - 10meters	CW/Phone

That's it for this month. Special thanks to The Daily DX, OPDX Report & the ARRL for information used. Read the "POSTMAN" –your news about WCRA and Friends

Read the "POSTMAN"

Your news about WCRA and Friends

Popular Barbershop Songster John Cuthbertson, N9GLZ, is announcing his engagement to Pauline Pemberton. Congratulations John & Paulette—we're wishing both of you the best!

Not many of us are lucky enough to have a business where you can bring your pet to work. Insurance Agent Mike, KV9Z, is one of those businessmen who has a dog with him at his work—in this case a new puppy, a collie called "Heidi".

Have you had trouble getting your ham license plates? Winnie, KC9BJJ, received another ham's plates by mistake—has returned them—but still hasn't received hers.

The twice-a-month Ham Brunch at Carol's Garden (515 North Schmale Road, Carol Stream) hit a record 22 attendees on June 19th. The schedule calls for a get together on the first and third Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. C'mon in and share some mid-morning food and conversation.

New Wheels Dept.- Bob Briscoe, KG9U, has added a Jeep Liberty for towing behind his Safari "Cheetah" Motor Coach. Bob felt very patriotic to be towing an "American" Car instead of the previous rice-burner. Then someone reminded him that Jeep is corporately a part of the Daimler-Chrysler family. That's okay, Bob, Jeep and WWII go together like Mom and Apple Pie.

Anchor Dept: KG9U also has his 75-foot crank-up tower and rotor for sale.

More New Wheels Dept: Carl Schow has another Taurus in the garage, a new Station Wagon.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Dear Editor:

What is the courteous way to enter a two-way repeater QSO? I feel it would be impolite to step on someone by my transmission, but recently felt that I might add something to the topic being discussed.

(signed) Mr. Manners

Dear Mr. Manners:

The phrase "add something to the topic" is the key. It is courteous of the two parties to consider other on the line and "let the signal drop" between their individual transmissions. At that point you should announce your call. The person next to talk should be courteous and "recognize" your call, then tell you to "go ahead". Then you should enter the rotation, make your contribution to the topic and pass it on to the other participant(that makes the "who's got it" question unnecessary). Good luck—it's just a matter of being polite.

Editor

JULY QST 2003 IN REVIEW – 5 ARTICLES YOU MAY WANT TO READ

By Jim, W9DHX

This month's cover article on Page 28 tells about the orange grove based Satellite Dish which K6LG fondly calls "BUD". It is his "Big Ugly Dish" and his fascinating story of construction and design is worth the read. He's posed in his blue coveralls on the same ladder as he uses to pick oranges in the back yard of his Riverside, CA, QTH.

Moving to Page 41, you can hear from a camper who went to last year's summer "Radio Camp for Kids" in Olympia, Washington. Yes, he is now licensed and enjoying the hobby as KD7MNN. The ham that ran the five-day camp is Lee, KI7SS, and the 19 kids who attended sat in a spacious auditorium –

BIRTHDAYS OF JULY



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.

JOHN	N9MWF	07-05-52
CAROL	N6YL	07-10-40
BILL	K9WH	07-11-36
DAVID	W9AOK	07-22-37
DALE	NJ9E	07-25-50
RICHARD	KB9IDU	07-30-37

the big living room of Lee's home.

Lee is an Extra who loves to teach kids and adults about Ham Radio. How he teaches is a little out of the ordinary and makes for good reading.

Did you know the "undercover cops" in our ham radio world? "Observing the Official Observers" is the subject of an article starting on page 47. WCRA hams think of "OO" as the tail end of KC9OO's call (Jon), but "OO" is also the name for our Official Observers who try and keep the self-policing of the frequencies moving along. Read about these unsung heroes who strive to uphold high standards on the air.

Page 50 is a brand new "Band Chart"—everything from 160 meters to 23 centimeters. Rip it out or get it copies for your ham shack wall.

Finally, something every ham should have at the ready: a "Call Out Bag" On page 73-74 a story gives a list of bag contents. Ten suggestions are included for a variety of field assignments. The author seems to be partial to pork and beans in a can for his "chow bag." It is interesting to see what items he thinks are "essential."

Have fun reading another busy issue of "The Journal of Amateur Radio."



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Monday — Saturday



JULY CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 1st of July: Club breakfast **every** Tuesday morning 7-9 AM, Glen Oaks Restaurant, Glen Ellyn
- 3rd of July: Club brunch **1st & 3rd** Thursday at 10:30 AM, Carol's Garden, Carol Stream
- 11th of July: Monthly membership meeting at Wheaton College 7:30pm in classroom #250 in the Billy Graham Center. The Billy Graham Center is located on the South side of Seminary Avenue across from Old Main. Classroom #250 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 stairway up to classroom #250. Program is on new products from this year's Dayton Hamvention by WA9E..
- 15th of July: **DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS FOR JUNE.** Remember we are doing a limited printed edition. **Please be prompt.**
- 24th of July: VEC testing at the Helen Plum Library in Lombard from 6:30 till 8:30pm.

WCRA General Membership Meeting - July 11th - 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

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