



# HAMLETTER



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## Hello, from Arizona!

Thought I'd drop Don a line for the Hamletter to say hello to everyone and to provide a little information on what I've been up to here in Arizona.

First off, I love it here in Arizona. The climate and scenery are great; I love the mountains and the desert. Last October, I joined the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club (YARC) in Prescott: <http://www.w7yrc.org/> so I could meet area hams and get involved in emergency communications and public service events. Almost immediately after I joined, I was made net control station for an American Diabetes Association walk-a-thon on the Yavapai Indian Reservation in Prescott. May 3rd, I participated in the Whiskey Row Marathon in Prescott. I was the shadow for the race director. This marathon is very popular and difficult due to the elevation change. The race starts on the Court House Square in Prescott at an altitude of 5,349' and the runners hit a high point of 6,884' during the race, turn around at a point at 6,028' and return to the start. That's a climb of 1,535 ft. on the outbound leg and a climb of 806' on the inbound leg. Plus, the wind was very strong that day and was a real battle for the runners. It was a fun event to work.

I also joined the Yavapai County ARES/RACES group <http://www.w7yrc.org/ares%20>



Tempe, AZ, amateur communications vehicles

and became an assistant emergency coordinator and the training coordinator. The Yavapai County Office of Emergency Management here is a little smaller than the one in DuPage County (the office is in a double-wide), but the commitment to amateur radio is just as strong. Due to the events of 9/11

and the Emergency Management Coordinator's support of amateur radio, we have recently bought several new radios for various locations. Our emergency repeater is in a nice location. It is on top of Mt. Union, at 7,982' the tallest peak in the Bradshaw Mountain Range south of Prescott. You can see some pictures of the site at <http://www.commspeed.net/wb9vgj/docs/mtunion.htm>

Unlike back in IL where severe weather is the major concern for emergencies, out here it is fire. As you know, last year was a terrible year for the West and Southwest as far as fires go. The largest fire in Arizona's history, the Rodeo-Chediski Fire, burned over 450,000 acres. The town of Prescott was threatened with serious damage last May with the Indian Fire that burned south of the town. It was a fortunate change in wind direction that was largely responsible for saving Prescott. The wind shifted just as the fire reached the inhabited portion of Prescott. A map at <http://www.cityofprescott.net/Indian%20Fire/index.cfm> will show you just how lucky Prescott was.

This year, the fire season is shorter but more dangerous due to the dead trees from the pine bark beetle infestation. In the Prescott Basin of the Prescott National Forest, between Prescott and Mt. Union, the kill rate of trees is about 50%. Between Mt. Union and the town of Crown King south of there, the kill rate is about 90 to 95%. If a fire starts in the forest, it will spread very quickly and be very difficult to control.

To better help prepare for fire emergencies, the State of Arizona had a Statewide Wildland Fire Exercise on April 30. Many agencies were involved with the exercise, including the State Office of Emergency Management, the National Forest Service, fire and police departments, county offices of emergency management, the Red Cross, etc. As far as amateur radio emergency services are concerned, the three main objectives were to: (Continued on page 5)

# From the President's Gavel

by Mike Wolff, AB9AX WCRA President



Greetings again fellow WCRA'ers:

Well, here we are, closing in on Labor Day in a big hurry. The Glendale Heights Parade 2003 is now behind us, and what a smashing success it was! I would like to express my personal gratitude to our Public Service Coordinator, Joe Lefebvre (N9WRO), and his capable crew, for orchestrating support communications at the Glendale Heights parade. Also, for all of you that participated, it wouldn't have been possible without you! Thanks to all of you who participated and helped pull off another public service coup! Our licenses are granted in the 'Amateur' radio service, but each event that the club participates in, I see that we have developed into a 'professional' grade of communicators.

Sweet summertime.... It has finally arrived as I write, with temps in the low 90s, and so much to attend to in the yard. I hope your outdoor projects are coming along, and that you will have your antenna and other outdoor station work ready for the coming seasons. I built a 40 meter delta loop, and need to get it up before the fall contesting season. I also am working on cooking up a circuit board layout for my computer / radio interface, but that's not done yet. It is hard to homebrew in the summer. Now, if I could just grow my trees a few feet taller. (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 Kwart	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 Kwart	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 Repr	

### HAMLETTER

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# WCRA Meeting Minutes

by: Robert Mitillieri  
N9EF  
WCRA  
Secretary



## WCRA Meeting Minutes for the August 1, 2003 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 19:33 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 by N9XS. The motion was seconded by N9NYX, a vote was taken, and the motion carried. Mike reported that the Grayslake Hamfest is on a different date, Roberto has flyers. Mike also reported that the Board met with the CPA that we

retained for the IRS filings. The required documents have been filed with the IRS and we will await their decision as to whether they wish to impose any penalty. The Vice-President, Steve, N9OA, reported that tonight's program will be radio computer interfacing by AB9AX. Next month's program will be on the future of VHF and UHF by KA9KDC. October's presentation will be a show-and-tell. Please contact Steve with any program suggestions. The Secretary, Robert, N9EF, reported that member rosters will be mailed to those members who did not attend the last two meetings. The current rosters have a page that members may use to report corrections and updates. The new electronic roster has an unlisted phone number and unlisted email indicator. This will enable the club to keep you phone or email on the electronic roster, but have it omitted from the printed roster. Membership, Kevin, N9NAK, applied for membership. Kevin is a past member of WCRA. A motion to accept Kevin's application was made by Don, N9NYX, it was seconded by Judy, N9TDU A vote was taken and the application was accepted. The Treasurers report, by Mike AB9AX, reported on the club's financial condition. Custodian, Roberto, WA9E, reported that the 220 machine is back on the air. The truck repairs were completed and it's been returned from the mechanic. There was no fee for the brake adjustment, just for the fuel tank sending unit. Roberto reported that mileage was about 3 miles/gallon. Hamfest, Mary, K9GAL, has flyers. Tickets will be available early next week. The first Hamfest committee meeting will be next Friday at Bruce and Mary's house. Mary is looking for more YL volunteers. Public Service, Mike, AB9AX, reported that the Glendale Heights parade is 8/23; volunteers are still needed; contact Joe, N9WRO if you are interested. RAB, Don, N9NYX, reported that the 220 machine is running from Roberto's QTH, the power is currently at 100 watts. Training, Robert, N9EF, mentioned that the Tech classes are in the Winter Quarterly. Public Relations: Jim, W9DHX, reported that there was an article about Field Day in the Glen Ellyn paper. Field Day, Dale NJ9E, reported that the paperwork has been sent to the ARRL. Roberto mentioned that Peter estimated our point total at 7600 as 9A. Dale said that certificates will be forthcoming. VE, George W9GWR, reminded everyone that the next session will begin on the fourth Thursday of the month in the Helen Plumm library in Lombard. Hamletter, Don, N9NYX, reminded members to send updated email addresses to him. Don also reminded everyone that he is always looking for new ideas for the Hamletter. Membership, Mike, AB9AX, reported that the first meeting of this new committee had not yet taken place. Roberto suggested that we need reminders of when club dues are due. We should look into doing it electronically. Mike said that he would look into services such as Paypal. We may even be able to use the same services for Hamfest payments for tables. Dale suggested that we email prospective members the Hamletter. A motion to accept the committee reports was made by Don, N9NYX, it was seconded by Robert, N9XS, a vote was taken and the committee reports were accepted. Announcements: Roberto reported that he needs anew mirror for the club truck. The current mirror has been damaged beyond repair. Old Business: Mike, AB9AX, reported that we filed the required paperwork with the IRS and Illinois Attorney General. We are requesting to be excused from late fees and penalties. Don, N9NYX, explained the difference between the State and IRS filings. New Business: Roberto asked whether or not we should publish the clubs financial details in the Hamletter. A discussion ensued. The general consensus is that we should not publish the financial details as the Hamletter gets distributed to non-members. Members have the option of asking

## September QST Reviewed- - -

### Handheld Shopping?

You can always use another handheld, just in case the two you have won't work. So it would be good to check out an article on three new offerings.

There is a new Yaesu VXA-700 "Spirit" Transceiver reviewed on Page 67. It is submersible (the name plate says so) and is notable for having AM and Aviation frequency capabilities. Reviewer K1STO devotes 2 1/2 pages to this beauty, which is priced at \$419.95

Also covered in September are two receivers: The ICOM 1C-R10 and the Yaesu VR-500. These are "all-mode" receivers, that permit jumping around from one band to another with only one unit—as opposed to lugging a lot of gear. Amazingly, they are both priced at \$299.95.

### Outstanding Ham Report

Ten different hams were honored for technical proficiency or outstanding public service this year. Page 61 of the September issue gives you a narrative on each one and why they were given the awards. Also, there are instructions on how to nominate someone for these awards for next year. Could we pick and award winner from our Club?

### The Ham World is Changing!

There is a long-winded report on the WRC-03 (World Radio Conference 2003) that tells about setting the rules for new frequencies and regulations of existing ones. What does this all mean to the average ham. Well, for one thing it calls for the realignment of the 7-MHz band, and a few other things besides. You really have to read it to see where it fits in the scheme of things. (Continued on page 5)

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### From the President's Gavel (Continued from page 2)

In any case, We have a few years to wait, but a time is coming when 40 meter SSB will have a lot fewer hetrodynes from Broadcast stations, at least below 7,200 KHz. Our friends across the Atlantic will have a primary 40 meter allocation from 7,000 KHz to 7,200 KHz, for the first time in way too long. Start thinkin' CQ DX on 40 SSB, without having to work split!

I look forward to seeing you at the membership meeting on Friday, September 5.

73, Mike -- AB9AX

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### Meeting Minutes (Continued from page 3)

for the details. Don, N9NYX, suggested that we print sheets and have them available at club meetings. Members not in attendance may request the details. A question was raised as to whether or not we really need an audit. The general consensus was that we should have an audit on a regular basis. Anchors: Judy, N9TDU, mentioned that she still has some items for sale. Please contact Judy to make an appointment if you are interested. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded, a vote was taken and the meeting was adjourned at 20:39. The business meeting was reconvened at 20:51 to vote on a membership application from Chuck, K9PLX. A motion was mad by Steve, N9OA to accept the application, it was seconded by Don, N9NYX, a vote was taken and the application was accepted. A motion was made to adjourn the reconvened meeting, it was seconded, a vote was taken and the meeting was adjourned at 20:52.

## **WD-40 Does It Again**

On Page 84, Bill Meara, N2CQR, tells the story of creating a “junk box satellite station” with the aid of a can of WD-40. He brought the hard drive of an aging Tandy 1000TL computer back to life. He calls it the “fountain of youth”.

Bill was able to establish voice and packet communications with various stations in space, and his story of his “space age gadgeteering” makes for interesting reading.

by Jim Ward, W9DHX

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## **Hello, from Arizona!** (Continued from page 1)

- Demonstrate interpretability of communications systems.
- Demonstrate communication between Coconino County EOC, Incident Command Post and State EOC.
- Demonstrate capability to direct and control operations.

The evaluation aspects were:

- Link multiple fixed and remote communications systems.
- Ability to use and communicate with telephone (cell, land, satellite), radio (HF, UHF, VHF), fax, Internet.
- Assess emergency support function's roles and perform responsibilities.

As the exercise involved the state EOC in Phoenix and the Coconino County EOC in Flagstaff and the command center in Forest Lakes, which is a small hamlet at the southern border of Coconino County on the edge of the Mogollon (MUG-eyon) Rim. It is about 135 miles from Prescott (counties here are large, with Yavapai County being larger than the state of New Jersey). We, Yavapai County ARES/RACES, were invited to the exercise at the express wish of Governor Janet Napolitano. She asked for us as she said "Yavapai County knows what it is doing."

The exercise lasted about four to five hours. It was fun to be a part of and a nice learning experience. In the one of the accompanying pictures you can see me, Lloyd, WA6ZZJ, the Yavapai County ARES/RACES Emergency Coordinator, and Chuck, KD7BWG, the Gila County EC. In another one, you can see me and WA6ZZJ at the operating positions in the van. We have purchased all new radios for the van and the operating positions will look a lot different once they are installed. In another picture you can see the Tempe, AZ, ARES communications vans.

In case of a wildfire, we have a radio station at the Forest Service Fire Control Center, among other locations. It is located at Prescott's airport, Love Field. Lucky for me, it is just five miles away, as the crow flies. In fact, our EC is there as I write this (Thur. 5/29) as there are three small fires in the area.

For those involved with the DuPage County Office of Emergency Management, you will be happy to know that the Voice Operating Procedures class we put together is alive and well here in AZ. I took the course and modified it to fit our particular situation and have given two sessions of it to our ARES/RACES volunteers. Here, we interact a lot with the Verde Valley Amateur Radio Association on the other side of Mingus Mountain in the Clarkdale/Cottonwood area and our volunteers come from both sides of the Mountain. One session was given in Cottonwood and one in Prescott.

Well, that about wraps it up. If all goes as planned, I'll be attending the WCRA September meeting as we'll be back in IL at



## Activities on the HF Bands

by:  
Peter Barr  
W9UF

The QLF DX Team will be QRV from Market Reef (EU-053) as OJØLA from September 19 to 26. The team will include LA5UKA, LA6MP, LA8AJA, LA8SDA and LA9VDA. OHØRJ/OJØRJ will also join the Norwegian team. They will use all bands on CW, SSB and RTTY. Suggested CW frequencies are: 1.827.5, 3.503, 7.003, 10.103, 14.015, 18.085, 21.025, 24.905, 28.015 and 50.095. SSB suggested frequencies will be: 1.845, 3.792, 7.052, 14.175, 18.135, 21.275, 24.935, 28.475 and 50.145. On RTTY they will hang close to 3.582, 7.032, 14.082, 21.082 and 28.082. The group will be looking especially for North America and Japan. The plan is to be QRV during the SAC CW Contest with one station. Due to possible bad weather conditions in the fall, they may have to use an expensive heli-

icopter. With this in mind the group is looking for financial support. More information can be found on their homepage at [www.qsl.net/la8aja/oj0la/](http://www.qsl.net/la8aja/oj0la/). QSL for OJØLA via LA9VDA. For direct cards please add SAE and \$2.00 or 1 IRC. QSL OJØRJ via OHØRJ, direct only.

A DXpedition to Kure Island is expected to start during the later half of October, including participation in the CQ WW SSB. Kure is an uninhabited islet of the Leeward Islands of the Hawaiian Islands. The island is located about 2,415 kilometers (1,500 miles) NW of Niihau Island (KH6). The island, which is approximately 500 acres, is located at 28 25 North and 178 25 West, and ranks # 12 world wide on The DX Magazine's Most Wanted List. In Europe KH7 ranks # 2. Kimo, KH7U and Pat Guerin, NH6UY will be the team leaders. They expect to have between 12 and 15 operators, many from the K5K DXpedition group from Kingman Reef. Four to six stations, plus 6 meters, are expected for this operation. Some of the planned antennas include: Force 12 Vertical Dipole Arrays, HF Yagis, two Titanex V-160E verticals and an M2 6 meter Yagi. Activity is expected on CW, SSB and RTTY. The callsign and QSL manager have not been announced.

Andy Chadwick, G3AB will be active from Christmas Island as VK9XAB from August 30th through September 6th. He will be mainly active on CW. This will be a low key DXpedition with 100 watts and wire antennas. QSL via G3AB.

The Singapore Amateur Radio Transmitting Society (SARTS) will be holding field day operations from St. John's Island off the southern coast of Singapore from the afternoon of Friday September 5th to midday Monday September 8th. Two stations will be active on 160-10m with the special call S61FD. They will focus on low band operations using an inverted L for transmit and a variety of loops, pennants and possibly beverages for low noise receive. They plan to be QRV on 3505 and 1826.5. The most exciting news will be they will be running a kilowatt (normal power on 160 for Singapore is 10 watts!). St John's Island is in IARU Region 3, IOTA AS19, CQ Zone 28, and ITU Zone 54. QSL cards should be sent to "Incoming QSL Manager, SARTS, Robinson Road P.O. Box 2728, Singapore 904728"

Chris, DL1MGB has announced plans to operate from Tobago from September 4 to 18. During the IARU Region I SSB Field Day and the Worked All Europe SSB Contest he will use the call 9Y4TBG. Before and after the contests he will use 9Y4/DL1MGB. A special emphasis will be made on RTTY and 12 and 17 meters. QSL cards for 9Y4TBG go via DL4MDO. QSL cards for 9Y4/DL1MGB go via DL1MGB.

In mid-August the ARRL Awards Committee announced the much anticipated decision on Timor Leste (4W), formerly known as East Timor. There will be no deletion or removal of a DXCC Entity and there will be no addition of a new DXCC Entity. The only change as far as DXCC is concerned was the name of the DXCC Entity.

Holger, DL5XAT and Matthias, DL5OB will be on from The Gambia (C5) October 21-November second including the CQWW DX SSB contest October 25-26. They will be a multi-two. QSL instructions will be via

DL5XAT. Callsigns were not announced. They will mostly use CW before and after the phone contest.

PAØCYW/DU2 will also be in the CQWW SSB, single op all band, plus activity five days before and after the contest. QSL to his home callsign.

In mid-August, Ghis, ON5NT flew from Dubai, United Arab Emirates to Baghdad, Iraq (Robert, S53R was also on that flight). He had plans to be active as YI/ON5NT for about 3 weeks, and his license has been pre-approved by DXCC. Ghis was in the Canal Hotel in downtown Baghdad when the bomb blew up at the UN Center. He suffered a slight head injury, apparently not life threatening but bad enough that he was evacuated to Amman, Jordan. He was expected to be there for a few days and then return to Belgium. Robert, YI/S53R was also working at the hotel at the time of the blast, although he escaped injury and will continue working in the country. Michael Dirksen, YI/PA5M was injured as well and was sent to a hospital in Germany. He is reported in good condition.

Also coming up from the U.A.E. will be Don Greenbaum, N1DG, who is headed there in October. He'll be traveling to Dubai and plans to be active in his spare time from the station of Saad, A61AD from October 6 to 11. Don will be QRV on RTTY, CW and SSB. This is a sure way of getting a quick QSL, as Don will be handling his own QSL chores.

Risto Lund, OH3UU will be heading to Samoa to operate in the CQ World Wide SSB DX Contest. He'll be on the island from October 21 to 28. For a rig he will use an IC-706MKII G and some wire(s). If possible he will also take a small 400 watt amplifier. Risto has requested the 5WØUU for his callsign. Before going to Samoa he and his XYL will be traveling through Australia and New Zealand. Then after the contest they will spend a few days in the Fiji Islands and California. He may or may not operate from the other sites. More details to follow.

Dennis, K7BV/1 will be operating September 9-16 2003 from the Turks and Caicos "HAM-LET" rental QTH. 6 meters will be his primary focus (including meteor scatter) with active participation in the ARRL VHF Contest September 13-14. Dennis will be operating on HF when the 6 meter band is closed. During these times he will be primarily on RTTY and CW. Check out his Web page at <http://www.qth.com/k7bv/TURKS>. QSL via KU9C.

Members of the Atacama Desert DX group will be on the air as 3G2D from Damas Island (SA-086) from October 17 to 19. They plan to be active on 6 through 160 meters on CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. Look for three stations to be operational around the clock.

A large group of Japanese hams is going to Sri Lanka (4S) for a third time. The dates are September 13-18. They plan to operate 160-10 meters including WARC, SSB, CW, RTTY, PSK31 and SSTV with a sloper for 160, dipoles for 80, 40 and 30 and yagis for 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 with five stations on the air, two 500 watt amplifiers. The operators say they will concentrate on working North and South America. For skeds contact [jq3due@jarl.com](mailto:jq3due@jarl.com). QSL each operator to his home call:

4S7AQG via 7J3AOZ  
4S7ARG via JA3ARJ  
4S7CHG via JA3CHS  
4S7DBG via JA3DBD  
4S7DUG via JQ3DUE  
4S7FAG via JH3FAR  
4S7FDG via JA5FDI  
4S7GGG via JA3ART  
4S7GXG via JH3GXF  
4S7JKG via JG3JKG  
4S7LSG via JH3LSS  
4S7OCG via JR3OCS

4S7QHG via JR3QHQ  
4S7QIG via JN4QIN  
4S7UJG via JA3UJR  
4S7YHG via JA3HXJ  
4S7YJG via JM3INF

And other operators with callsigns being awaited are: JA3AVO, JA3CF, JA3NGW, JE3LFH, JE3OGG, JH3PBL, JH3VSR, JI3DST and JA5BM. This will be the third year in a row this group has operated from Sri Lanka

Jim, W7UG and Tom, K7ZZ will be headed to the Pacific at the end of this month. They'll start off in Palau with the call T88ZX about October 1st and be there for one week. Next the two will then move to Yap in Federal State of Micronesia with the call V63ZT and again stay for one week. Operations will be on SSB and CW on 10 through 80 meters. If there is enough interest on RTTY they can do something there also. Look for them to be hanging out 24 KHz up from the bottom of the band on CW and listen "up" for the new DXers who might need it. Similarly the guys will work a split in the General portion of the band for SSB. Plans are to run barefoot (100 watts) located on the beach with a two element vertical dipole array for 10-20 meters and a single vertical for 30-80 meters. An emphasis will be made of the WARC bands as long as there's interest. QSL information is via K7ZZ, both CBA and QRZ.com.

## WHAT'S ON THE WEB

The W9DXCC Convention will take place this month on September 20th, and there may still be seating available. Visit their website at <http://www.qth.com/w9dxcc/> for information on registration as well as programs and prizes. If you are a DX'er or would like to be, this event is a must.

Broadband over Power Line (BPL) is the most crucial issue facing Amateur Radio and the one that has the most devastating potential of anything that our hobby has faced in many years. Please check out the ARRL Web story and check out the video at <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/08/08/2/?nc=1>. Whether you are an ARRL member or not, everyone needs to be made aware of this latest threat to Amateur Radio.

YI/KV4EB logs can now be found on-line at: <http://dx.qsl.net/logs/>.

The recent EG9IC IOTA DXpedition now has a Web page, which also includes a log search at: <http://www.ure.es/hf/eadx/expediciones/chafarinas/chafarinas.htm>

The upcoming BQ9P DXpedition to Pratas Island now has a Web page at <http://www3.ocn.ne.jp/~iota/newpage64.htm>.

The Chicago office of the National Weather Service now has a Amateur Radio link on their web site. Please take a moment and pull it up at: [http://www.crh.noaa.gov/lot/am\\_radio.html](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/lot/am_radio.html).

If you have web access from your cellular phone, check out the DX spots at [www.smscluster.org](http://www.smscluster.org). Somebody make a note of this for Field Day next year.

## DX POTPOURRI

The Pratas Island DXpedition is on schedule to take place from October 9 to 16 (Thursday to Thursday). I'll hopefully have all the information in next month's column.

Joe, W3HMK is now the QSL manager for Nasir, AP2NK. This is effective as of August 5th, however Joe believes he will have access to older logs.

Moshen, EP3SMH continues to be active from Iran on 21.300 around 1400z.

Prefix hunters should take note of the new prefixes coming out of the Netherlands. On HF look for PA, PB, PC, PF, PG and PI with 1, 2 or 3 letter suffixes and on VHF (for you satellite folks) the prefixes of PD, PE



and PH with 1, 2 or 3 letter suffixes. On the same note, as of August 15th, Amateur Radio operators from Germany with a CEPT-class-2 license are authorized to operate on the HF bands. Some of the prefixes include DB, DC, DD and DG.

Geoff, ZC4CW will be active from the United Kingdom's Eastern Sovereign Base on Cyprus for the next few years. This is a separate DXCC entity from Cyprus. QSL via G3AB.

Walt, K1QS is now acting a QSL manager for YI/NG5L who is currently in Iraq. A tribander and other equipment was delivered in early August for some of the operators currently serving in Iraq.

4LØG, the club station in Georgia (not the U.S. state) is regularly active on satellites.

PT7BI conducts the Brazil DX Net Saturdays and Sundays 1800-2000z on 14.222.

Hams in Papua New Guinea (P29) plan an Independence Day Contest September 13-14, 0000z Saturday until Monday at 0000z. Apparent organizer Peter Holliday, P29KPH is encouraging PNG hams to get on the air and notes it's a good time for the rest of the world to work PNG on more bands.

## CONTESTS

September is the traditional start of contesting season, and this month has something for everyone. From the Big Gun Dxr to the Little Pistol, and from YL to Satellite buff, look below for an event to burn the cobwebs off the rig and get ready for fun.

Time	Date	Contest	Band	Mode
2300z	Sept. 1	MI QRP		
2300z	Sept. 2	Labor Day Sprint	160-6 Meters	CW
0000z	Sept. 6	All Asia		
2400z	Sept. 7	DX Contest	160-10 Meters	SSB
0000z	Sept. 7	North American		
0400z	Sept. 7	Sprint	80,40,20 Meters	CW
1400z	Sept. 10	YLRL Howdy Days (Use frequencies		
0200z	Sept. 12	ending with 33 or 88)	40-10 Meters	CW & SSB
0000z	Sept. 13	Worked All Europe		
2359z	Sept. 14	DX Contest	80-10 Meters	SSB
0000z	Sept. 14	FISTS Coast-to-Coast		
2400z	Sept. 14	Contest	80-10 Meters	CW
0000z	Sept. 16	AO-40		
0000z	Nov. 17	Birthday Bash	AO-40	
1200z	Sept. 20	Collegiate		
0400z	Sept. 21	QSO Party	160-10 Meters	All Modes
1600z	Sept. 20	Washington State		

Ø7ØØz	Sept. 21	Salmon Run	160- 6 Meters	CW & SSB
Ø8ØØz	Oct. 8	Oceania		
Ø8ØØz	Oct. 8	DX Contest	160-10 Meters	SSB

Thanks to Bernie,W3UR and his Daily DX, OPDX and the ARRL for information used this month.

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## POSTMAN "READING THE MAIL"

### WEDDING BELLS

The knot was tied for John and Paulette! The jovial barber-shopper, N9GLZ, John Cuthberton and fiancée Paulette were married at the First Presbyterian Church in Elmhurst on July 29th. The Postman broke the news of their engagement two months ago in this column. Congratulations to the newlyweds!

### COLLEGE BOUND

Joanna Byrne, the daughter of Pat(K9JAU) and Ann(WM9L), was toasted with coffee cups held high at the August 12th breakfast group. She left later that week for her Freshman year at Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington-Normal. She is preparing for a career as an elementary education teacher.

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## 2004 Wheaton Hamfest

Pheasant Run MegaCenter  
4051 E. Main St.  
St. Charles, IL  
January 25, 2004

Plans are underway for the 2004 Wheaton Hamfest. As we've said before, we have a very nice new venue at the Pheasant Run MegaCenter, and we've already sold booths and tickets for the January event.

The committee held a sparsely attended meeting in August, but through e-mail and even two-way radio communications, the core of the committee has been put together. Members participation as of August include:

Bruce,K9OZ	Chairman
Mary, K9GAL	Publicity and tickets
Bill H, K9WH	Commercial vendors
Mike, AB9AX	Flea market
Jack, KA9HEL	Treasurer
Kurt, KB9RTO	Logistics
Tom, N9WBW	Move-in Move-out coordinator
Doug, W9NJM	Prizes/AV
Peter, N9HDW	AV etc
Ken, N9HQ	Security
Tom, N9CBA	Web site
Janie, AE9JG	VE coordinator
Robert, N9XS	TBA

(Continued on page 11)

that time for a wedding. If you care to see some pictures of our property, critters I've taken pictures of and other stuff, you can just click on the picture of the antelope on my home page to get to my Arizona page. My Web site is <http://www.commspeed.net/wb9vgj/index.html>



73,

John, WB9VGJ



## 2004 Wheaton Hamfest (Continued from page 10)

Your name and call here Worker coordinator

Even though we have a good list of committee members, we could use some more help, especially during the next month. Since the Peoria Hamfest, Grayslake Hamfest and DXCC convention are all during the same weekend, we could use volunteers to go to these hamfests and spread the word about ours. We have flyers and tickets available. If you're interested, contact, Bruce at [k9oz@arrl.net](mailto:k9oz@arrl.net).

We could also use more flea market sales help. Mike, AB9AX, has agreed to handle the flea market again this year, but he's wearing lots of hats being president and all. If you'd like to learn the behind the scenes of what it takes to get the flea market organized, here's your chance.

As I mentioned earlier, tickets are available. If you'd like tickets, either cash or consignment, contact Mary at [k9gal@arrl.net](mailto:k9gal@arrl.net).

The honorable hamfest committee chairman has a killer travel schedule in September, so committee will not meet again until October. Date to be determined.

# BIRTHDAYS OF SEPTEMBER



The names that appear in this Birthday Corner are current club members or those paying a very high extortion amount to the editor. 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	WB9VGJ	09-01-40
Judy	N9TDU	09-02-37
Vicky	KA9OEB	09-04-20
Carl	N9GZR	09-04-24
Jack	KA9HEL	09-05-33
Norm	K9GSA	09-13-41
Pat	K9JAU	09-15-40
Edwin	K9EWF	09-22-20
Tom	N9CBA	09-25-47



## LETTER'S TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I am interested in the 2004 Hamfest at Pheasant Run, but have conflicting ideas; I want to have a Table for the Flea Market, but also want to be a volunteer to help the activity work. How can I do both--show off some great equipment that I no longer need in my shack, and be a volunteer as well?

Puzzled

Dear Puzzled:

Fest Chairman, Bruce, K9OZ, has your answer. Pair up with another Ham, and you can reserve tables next to each other--take turns on minding the table and work alternate shifts on an assignment. Or you can work as a volunteer before or after the actual event! Bruce will work out a schedule for you--see his article in the current issue on the advance planning.

Ed.

### Amateur Radio Toy Store

117 W. Wesley St.  
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Fax: (630) 690-9335

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1. Field Day Call Used  
W9CCU GOTA Station  
Call N9HDW  
2. Club or Group name (if Class A station) Wheaton  
community Radio Amateurs (WCRA)

3. Number of Participants 66  
4. Number of Transmitters in simultaneous operation 9  
Field Day

Please write legibly. Make certain you have filled out this form completely and have enclosed any required dupe sheets, photographs and bonus claims.

Entries must be postmarked within 30 days of the end of the event and mailed to:

Field Day Entries

ARRL

225 Main St.

Newington, CT 06111 USA

5. Entry Class: Check only one.

A. Club or non-club group portable

B. 1 or 2 person non-club Group portable

List call of operators: \_\_\_\_\_

C. Mobile

D. Home station commercial power

E. Home station emergency power

F. EOC Station

6. Check all power sources used

Generator

Commercial mains

Battery

Other (list) \_\_\_\_\_

7. ARRL / RAC Section

IL

8. Total CW QSOs 877 x 2 =

Total CW QSO points

1754

9. Total Digital QSOs 0 x 2 =

Total Digital QSO points

0

10. Total Phone QSOs 1249 x 1 =

Total Phone QSO points

1249

11. Total QSO Points

3003

12. Power Multiplier (select only one)

5 Watts or less and Battery powered = 5

150 Watts or less = 2

Over 150 Watts = 1

(transfer to line 13)

13. Power Multiplier

2

14. Claimed Score

6006

(line 11 x line 13)

(excluding bonus points)

15. Bonus points claimed: Please check each block as appropriate and include required proof of points with your submission. All bonus points will be verified at ARRL HQ and added to your score.

9 100% Emergency power (100 pts x # of xmtrs)

Media Publicity

Set-up in Public Place

Information Booth

NTS message to ARRL SM/SEC

W1AW Field Day Message

Formal NTS messages handled (# \_\_\_\_\_)

Satellite QSO completed

Natural power QSOs completed

Site Visit by invited elected official

Site Visit by invited served agency official

GOTA station 100 QSOs achieved

2 Non-Trad. Demos (B=ATV, C=packet):

A.

B.

C.

Total Bonus Points Claimed: 1600

16. I/We have observed all competition rules as well as all relations for amateur radio in my/our country. My/our report is correct and true to the best of my/our knowledge. I/We agree to be bound by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee.

Date: July 21, 2003

Call: W9CCU

Signature: Peter Richey, N9HDW, WCRA FD Co-Chairman (signature/call of club president or authorized club representative)

Address: P.O. Box QSI, Wheaton, IL 60187

Address: or 1555 Orchard Road, Wheaton, IL 60187

E-Mail Address: n9hdw@yahoo.com

You must complete the Band/Mode QSO breakdown box on the second page or reverse side of this form. February 2003 – FD Form

The above form was submitted to the ARRL after this year's Field Day showing our club results. Editor

## Postman

Seen at the first September Ham Breakfast – K9QLS, John, with recollections of early Club Days, when the Hamletter was published by hand with a small printing press on which all the copies turned yellow! John remembers filling the offices of Secretary and Vice-President, and also emergency work the club members did in Glen Ellyn when a train derailment took place in 1976 –a chemical spill resulted and evacuation was required! He wants to know if anyone has an address for Ken Bourne, another Club Officer—his call was W6HK(Hollywood Kid), who moved to California?

Ken's address in California is: 1923 East Palm Ave., Orange, California 92667 Ed.

## SEPTEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 2nd of September Club breakfast **every** Tuesday morning 7-9 AM, Glen Oaks Restaurant, Glen Ellyn
- 4th of September Club brunch **1st & 3rd** Thursday at 10:30 AM, Carol's Garden, Carol Stream
- 5th of September 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 is on the first floor at the rear of the building on the west side. Program is on everything you wanted to know about UHF/VHF presented by Larry, KA9KDC.
- 15th of September DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS FOR OCTOBER. Remember we are doing a limited printed edition. **Please be prompt.**
- 20th & 21st of September RADIO EXPO 2003 - **NEW DATE** - Lake County Fair Grounds RTS 45 & 120, Grayslake, Ill. Sat: 8-4; Sun 8-3
- 25th of September VEC testing at the Helen Plum Library in Lombard from 6:30 till 8:30pm.

### WCRA General Membership Meeting - August 1st - 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: donlin@xnet.com

### Club Mailing Address:

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

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