



HAMLETTER

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WCRA WILL HOLD ITS SUMMER PICNIC IN LIEU OF THE AUGUST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT THE EAST SHELTER OF HERRICK LAKE FOREST PRESERVE FROM 6 TO 9 PM. PLEASE BRING A DESSERT TO PASS AND BUG GOO FOR THE STATE BIRD OF ILLINOIS. THE ENTRANCE TO HERRICK ON BUTTERFIELD IS JUST WEST OF ARROWHEAD GOLF CLUB AND JUST EAST OF WIESBROOK ROAD.



**WCRA
Meeting
Minutes**

by: Todd Carr
KC9HKN
WCRA
Secretary



The July Meeting Minutes will appear in the September Hamletter.

DuPage County Amateur Radio Simulated Emergency Test (SET)

Three of DuPage County Amateur Radio Clubs, DuPage Amateur Radio Club, Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs and York Radio Club will participate in the SET.

The date and time of the SET is Saturday, September 22, 2007 at 9:00 AM.

The format of the SET is three segments:

- 1) Each club starts their VHF/UHF repeater net at 9:00 AM asking check-ins for their call sign, name, QTH, and if they have emergency power. At the conclusion of the repeater net, check-ins will be requested to switch to VHF simplex no PL.
- 2) Simplex check-in 146.52 no PL, the Net Control Operator will do a roll call of all check-ins of the respective three VHF/UHF repeater nets. Net Control will ask each check-in for their call sign and QTH. At the conclusion of the roll call, check-ins will be asked to switch to HF.
- 3) HF check-in will be 3.905 +/- QRM using the same procedure as the Simplex check-in.

QST Reviewed for Aug. – Antenna Issue!

By Jim Ward, W9DHX

YES, THE 21ST EDITION OF THE “ANTENNA BOOK” IS OFF THE PRESS

Not only is there a printed book, but a software bundle that goes with it. So for the \$44.95 you can have an impressive library book on your shelf, as well as some great programs for your computer. See page 58 and 59.

ANTENNAS, ANTENNAS, ANTENNAS – COUNT ‘EM—6

No less than six beautiful articles cover various antenna construction projects from simple to complex. The simplest antenna idea uses a metal paint roller tray as a base. See page 66 in the “Hints and Kinks” column.

“UP FRONT IN QST” WITH PHOTO FEATURES

It was bound to happen...check the photo of John Bill holding his “Certificate of Completion” following his VE Exam at Dayton. He’s a new **TECHNICIAN AT AGE 7**.

He missed only one question on the 35 question test. Congratulations.

Then there is Phil McBride with his 25 pound briefcase station that outputs a **QRP** Signal on all bands, using **SOLAR POWER** to make his **VA3QR** signal heard.

Finally, if you are an aviation enthusiast, watch the skies for this ham’s RC plane with an 82” wingspan with **KA8YYZ** painted on the wing. Jesse Wall is proud of his kit-built 1/4 scale plane with a 26cc engine and a 16 inch prop.

HIGH ALTITUDE RESEARCH AT 95,082 FEET

Two pages (48-49) detail the fascinating story of a balloon exploration of near space. The author, David Joe Williams, **AJ5W**, gathered ozone data via a sophisticated balloon carrying a payload of complex scientific instruments, an Alinco **DJC-1** 2-meter transceiver, plus digital cameras. The results are recorded in text and photos, including “way up there” views of Tulsa. Good job, Dave!

ADVICE FOR HAM ROAD WARRIERS – THE MOBILEERS

QST Technical Editor Joel Hollas, **W1ZR**, passes out three pages (80-82) of pictures and words to help you refine your mobile set up. His suggestions provide a host of options for equipping your vehicle. He does his mobile work on all bands, and sends a CW signal with a Vibroplex Vibrakeyer strapped to his coffee cup. In the summer months he switches his gear to a sailboat and works “**MM**”.

ANTIQUÉ WIRELESS ASSN.—100 YEARS OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

Spark gaps and Crystal sets using a “cat’s whisker” are just a part of the AWA Museum that is described in the “Old Radio” section on pages 87-88.

REMINDER OF THE SEPTEMBER W9DXCC CONVENTION SEPT. 15TH

You DXCC members need to mark your calendar for that date—this year’s event is at the O’Hare Holiday Inn and has a great lineup of events. Page 83 carries the details and the website: www.w9dxcc.com.



OUR MEMBERS THAT CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST



ROBERT
KEITH
JIM
ORRIN

KB9OAQ
KA9HPL
W9DHX
WA9VAA

If you do not see your birthday listed here in your birth month, please contact the editor with your information.

AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 2nd: Club Brunch **1st & 3rd** Thursdays 10:30 AM at Peppercorns. Peppercorns is located at the corner of President and Geneva Road in the shopping center on the North side of Geneva. All are welcome.
- 7th: Club breakfast **every** Tuesday morning 7-9 AM, Glen Oaks Restaurant, Glen Ellyn.
- 3rd: In lieu of the Monthly membership meeting at First Presbyterian Church in Wheaton, 615 W. Jefferson Ave. at 7:30pm, WCRA will have its summer picnic at the Herrick Lake East Shelter from 6 to 9 PM. Please bring a dessert to pass. All other food, drink, and paper goods will be provided.
- 20th: DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS for September.
- 23rd: VEC testing at the Helen Plum Library in Lombard from 6:30 till 8:30pm. Go to the club VE Testing website at vetesting.harrykamer.com for the latest details.

Remember the Club net on 2M is held every Sunday evening at 8 PM local. Followed by the 220 net when the 2M is complete.

Next WCRA General Membership Meeting September 7th, 2007, First Presbyterian Church
615 W. Jefferson Ave., Wheaton, Illinois 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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First Class Mail

