



K9MCE QSN

K9MCE Officers:

- President: Gary Huff, K9AUB
- Vice-President: Ron Ochu, KO0Z
- Secretary: Mark Kerhlikar, WD9HBF
- Treasurer: Jim Pitchford, N9LQF
- Trustee: Skp Riba, WS9V
- **Board of Directors:**
- Mark Osborn, WA9SXX
- Issac Pizzo, KC9NJW
- Tim Coonrod, KC9HQA
- Hugh Watson, AB9UB
- Webmaster: Issac Pizzo, KC9NJW

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Volume 2, Issue 5

May 2014

K9MCE Club Meeting on Wednesday 7 May

Mark your calendars now and plan on attending this month's meeting of the Macoupin County Amateur Radio Club at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, May 7. We meet on the second floor of the Macoupin County Sheriff Department, 215 S. East Street, Carlinville, IL 62626.

Prior to the club meeting the club has an informal dinner gathering at Reno's Pizza in the Carlinville Square starting around 5:00 pm.

This month's presentation immediately after the business meeting will feature Mark-WD9HBF, "So I've got my license now what?" This promises to be an excellent program!

The club also offers FCC license exams after the meeting. Call Bill, W9FJ for an appointment @ 217-854-8261. Be sure to bring a copy of your license, some pencils and a non-programmable calculator.



Club members at the April K9MCE meeting.

KC9ZGS Visits K9MCE Meeting Via Skype!

A few months ago, K9MCE held its monthly meeting over Skip's WS9V's repeater due to inclement weather. At the April meeting, no fooling, Stephanie Dobbs, KC9ZGS attended our meeting via Skype!

For those readers who are unaware of Skype, it is a free program that allows you to send two-way live video and audio

via the internet. Stephanie Dobbs, KC9ZGS makes it a point to participate in various club functions such as Field Day and the Route 66 special event. Last night Stephanie attended the club meeting via Jim N9LQF's computer from her St. Joseph, IL QTH!

Tnx Jim and Stephanie for coming up with the idea!



N9LQF skyping with KC9ZGS



From The Desk of The Secretary

This month there won't be a "From the Desk of the Secretary" report.

Random Thoughts from Jimmy, WX9DX

A, big, heartfelt "Thank you" to Jimmy, WX9DX for contributing technical articles to this newsletter. This month we will run one part of a two part installment from Jimmy;

ort.

Experimentation and the Art of Ham Radio!

As many know I experiment and build and maintain communications equipment. I have worked in some of the best radio shops in the USA. I did pass the Novice Ham ticket when I was pre teen, and had to build my first tube transmitter and regenerative receiver from parts. 53 years in Ham Radio have been a blast. I have been allowed to spend time with some of the best people I have ever known.

WX9DX

2013-03-09 08.26.37



At my home in Central Illinois I have quite a few antennas, and the coolest is a pair of home made 1/4 wave shunt fed phased verticals. The remote switch is home made with parts of it from different manufactures. I use a ground rod and 38 ground radials under each antenna, they share the Central Point Ground system for the farm and the 19 total ground rods around the place. The antenna switch in the front

pasture is fed with 3/4" self - healing flooded and jacketed 75 ohm hard line cable from the house 200 plus feet away. This ground system may not be the best, but it is what it is and it does very well indeed! I am one that does realize that living some places tend to make some things better for some types of antennas. But since I live here and not on the ocean, I do what I can with what I have. (Continued on page 13)

"At my home in Central Illinois I have quite a few antennas, and the coolest is a pair of home made 1/4 wave shunt fed phased verticals."



Macoupin County ARC Mission Statement:

We, the undersigned, being desirous of securing for ourselves the pleasures and benefits of the association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio, by promoting civic interest, specific application, social activities and developing individual efficiency, while improving the general interest in amateur radio, do ordain and establish this Constitution and By-Laws of the Macoupin County Amateur Radio Club Inc., a non-profit corporation. We do further agree that in pursuit of these purposes, this organization shall be non-sectarian, non-partisan and that it shall lend neither support or influence to any political party or candidate for office. The Macoupin County Amateur Radio Club, Inc., shall afford all persons, regardless of race or creed an equal opportunity to join, participate, hold office and enjoy in the benefits of this organization and the challenges of amateur radio.

X1 Flare Creates Radio Blackout on March 29th.

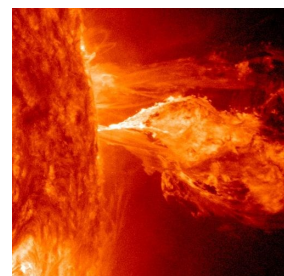
The following article appeared on Spaceweather.com's website on March 31, 2014. It does a great job of recording some the effects of a massive solar flare and how the ham bands are affected.

IMPULSIVE SOLAR FLARE SCRAMBLES RADIO SIGNALS: On Saturday, March 29th, the magnetic canopy of sunspot AR2017 erupted, producing a brief but intense X1-class solar flare. A flash of extreme UV radiation sent waves of ionization rippling through

Earth's upper atmosphere and disturbed the normal propagation of terrestrial radio transmissions. Radio engineer Stan Nelson of Roswell, NM, was monitoring WWV at 20 MHz when the signal wobbled then disappeared entirely for several minutes: "The Doppler shift of the WWV signal (the 'wobble' just before the blackout) was nearly 12 Hz, the most I have ever seen," says Nelson.

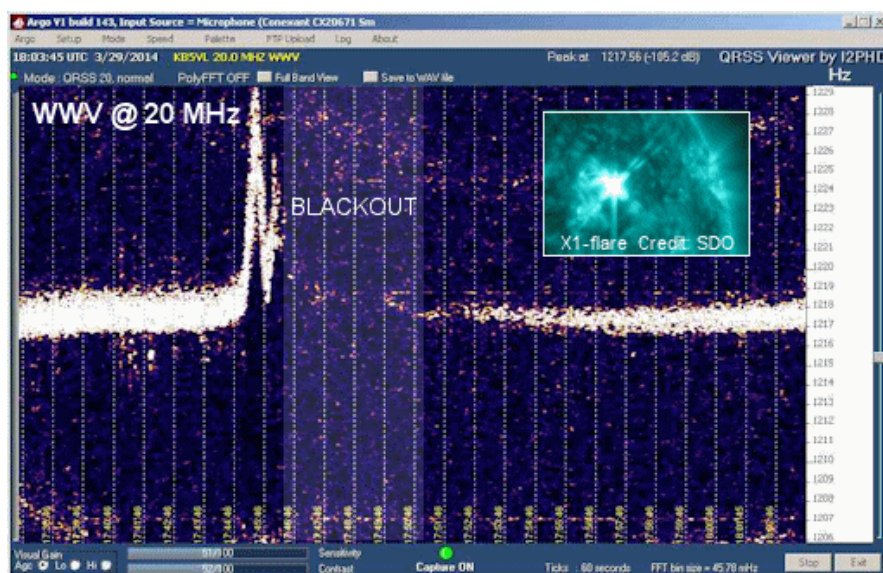
The flare not only blacked out radio signals, but also produced some radio signals

of its own. The explosion above sunspot AR2017 sent shock waves racing through the sun's atmosphere at speeds as high as 4800 km/s (11 million mph). Radio emissions stimulated by those shocks crossed the 93 million mile divide to Earth, causing shortwave radio receivers to roar with static. Here is a plot of the outburst detected by Nelson using a 20.1 MHz RadioJove receiver. Elsewhere, strong bursts were recorded at frequencies as high as 2800 MHz. It was a very broad band event.



Massive solar flare

Another X 1.3 flare occurred on April 25 resulting in radio blackouts.



The flare not only blacked out radio signals, but also produced some radio signals of its own.

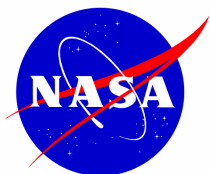
Your ARRL Central Division Contacts:

Director: Dick Isely, W9GIG; w9gig@arrrl.org 630-584-3510

Vice Director: Kermit Carlson, W9XA, w9xa@arrrl.org; 630-879-0983

Illinois Section Manager: Tom Ciciora, KA9QPN, ka9qpn@arrrl.org 815-498-4929





By Jove - Your Ticket to Radio Astronomy!

NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center is very active in welcoming amateurs to world of astronomy and radio telescopes! A few years ago, NASA created the Radio Jove Project. According to the NASA Radio Jove Project website: <http://radiojove.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

"Radio JOVE students and amateur scientists observe and analyze natural radio emissions of Jupiter, the Sun, and our galaxy.

Build and use your own Deca-

metric Radio Telescope

Follow Live Observations Online

Teachers, See Our Lesson Plans and other Educational Materials."

It is indeed possible as an amateur citizen scientist to contribute meaningful data to NASA! On the website there are links to plans to build your own radio telescope. Many hams already have the necessary equipment already in their shacks! The site also has audio

recordings of Jovian storms!

For the past few years Radio Jove has had a booth at the Dayton Hamvention, but you can order materials on line.



"To earn this award, Lou needed to make a confirmed two-way QSO with all fifty states by checking into the OMISS net."

KC9YFU Earns OMISS WAS!

At the K9MCE April club meeting Lou, KC9YFU proudly displayed his Worked All States (WAS) award from the OMISS net!

To earn this award, Lou needed to make a confirmed two-way QSO with all fifty states by checking into the OMISS net.

OMISS meets daily at 0100 UTC (8:00 PM CDT) on 7.185 MHz. KE5WDI, DANNY is

the net control operator. For more information about this net, please feel free to contact Lou, KC9YFU.



Your input is needed for the bylaw committee. Contact any club officer with your recommendations.

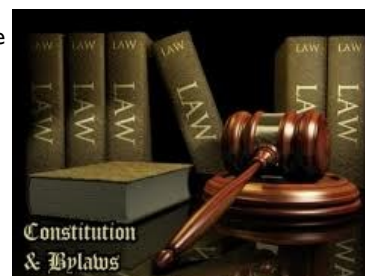
Club Bylaw Committee Formed

K9MCE president Gary Huff, K9AUB asked the Board of Directors to meet and to go over and revise the club bylaws. Tim Coonrod, KC9HQA agreed to chair the committee. Club bylaws have not been revised since 2009. The club's constitution and bylaws can be found on the club webpage under resources or at the following URL: <http://www.k9mce.org/user/2009bylaws.pdf>

K9AUB asked the Board to meet and to report back to the membership by the May 7th meeting.

Some of the updates that need to be made are the new dues structure and the addition of the new lifetime membership category.

Club members are asked to read the club constitution and bylaws and to make any recommendations to any club officer.



K9MCE to Hold Field Day at Camp Bunn



Thanks to Jim N9LQF's contacts, the Boy Scouts of America have kindly agreed to let our club use their Camp Bunn summer camp facilities near Hettick, IL!

Field Day will take place the weekend of June 28 and 29th. The purpose of Field Day is to

test radio operators emergency preparedness throughout North America in a friendly, competitive manner. Field Day also allows the club to showcase Amateur Radio to the public and to give folks a chance that may not otherwise have the opportunity to make contacts on the HF bands.

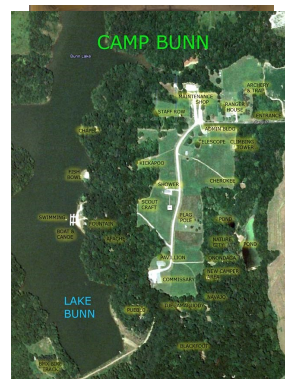
This year, K9MCE has two co-chairs; Mark Kerhilikar, WD9HBF and Tim Coonrod, KC9HQA.

Our club Field Day site is already listed with the ARRL and

you can see it and other participating clubs FD sites at the following URL, <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>

Last year, K9MCE used computer logging and it went so well that we plan to do so again. Of course there will be plenty of good BBQ during Field Day and camping is allowed.

This year we plan to again have a GOTA (Get On The Air) station. Jarod, KC9ZMD will be the GOTA chair. Perhaps this year we will make a satellite QSO!



Aerial view of Boy Scout Camp Bunn near Hettick, IL, K9MCE's Field Day site for June 28-29.

Dayton Hamvention Bound!

The month of October makes one think of Halloween, November equates to Thanksgiving and December is Christmas time. When it comes to May this month is synonymous with the Dayton Hamvention!

Ron, KO0Z and Debbie, KC9ULA plan to attend this year's Hamvention. A few other K9MCE club members have mentioned that they may be going as well. Last year, K9MCE club member, Jeff

Naville, KC9WZO drove to and back from the Hamvention in only one day.

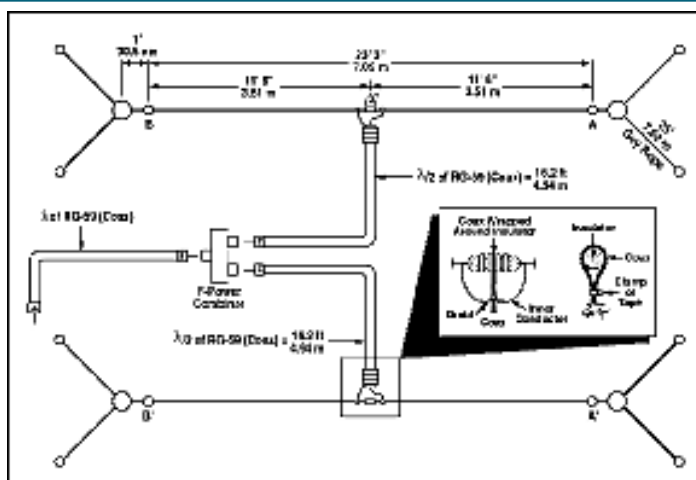
Dayton is the largest gathering of ham radio operators and it is three days of Amateur Radio excitement!

A huge flea-market along with forums for youth, ham radio school clubs, AMSAT, ARRL, DX and Contesting are just a few of the offerings at Dayton. This year's theme is "Makers...

The Future of Ham Radio" and it all happens on May 16-18.



"Dayton is the largest gathering of ham radio operators and it is three days of Amateur Radio excitement!"



NASA's Radio Jove 21 MHz radio telescope that you can build!



Ed enjoys woodworking. Ed is proudly displaying one of his homemade shadow boxes.

“To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here.”

On Frequency With Ed Kallbrier, KC9QHH

Visiting Ed Kallbrier, KC9WHJ to interview him for this article was like a reminiscing walk down my former high school hall. As a matter of fact, visiting Ed was a walk down my former high school hall; except, in this case I was a faculty member and Ed was then a student at Francis Howell High School. Ed brought out the high school yearbook and it was “painful” to see me back then with dark hair and a trim middle. Where does the time go? Although I never had the pleasure of having KC9QHH in class, and at the time I didn’t know him, he knew me as the high school teachers who was involved with ham radio. As a matter of fact, Ed wasn’t licensed in high school, but he knew it was something that he wanted to do and in 2009, Ed earned his Technician license! In fact, when Ed got his ticket, he made it a

point to



Ed, KC9HQA at his operating desk.

visit the St. Charles Hamfest to let me know that a Francis Howell School District graduate is active in ham radio!

Indeed, Ed is ham radio active! Not as much as he’d like to be, but he enjoys the hobby and the people he meets. KC9QHH doesn’t spend as much time as he’d like with ham radio because he is also very active with Lion’s International. In fact, Ed was just recently elected at the district convention to serve a one-year term, starting July 1 - June 30, as Lion’s District Governor! Ed’s district includes 46 clubs and the region roughly extends from Augusta, IL to Pontoon Beach, IL.



KC9QHH’s Carlinville, IL QTH



On Frequency With Continued...

However, when Ed isn't involved with the Lions then he's active with the Macoupin County ARC. Ed served as club president two years ago. KC9HQA values the talent found in the club. He especially has fond memories of Bill Crawford, KJ9Y inviting him into his shack and showing him some of the ins and outs of HF radio. In addition to good club members such as Bill, Ed would like to see more club sponsored field trips such as the one to the radio museum in Centralia, IL or maybe even get one together to visit the National Weather Service office in Weldon Springs, Missouri. KC9QHJ thinks that the monthly exam sessions are a big club asset, but he'd like to see the club offer license classes as well!



KC9QHJ's radio station

Ed's ham station consists of Yaesu 60R HT, a Kenwood TM 421 A UHF transceiver, a Yaesu 2900 VHF transceiver and a dual-band mag mount vertical antenna inside his shack. Although Ed has VHF/UHF capability, he prefers to listen to others with experience talk about ham radio. For example, he admires Skip's, WS9V and Jim's, N9LQF ability to recognize so many callsigns. Ed also enjoys using EchoLink and one of his fondest QSOs occurred on a Canadian repeater, while using EchoLink, while he was in QSO with a ham from Quebec. They were talking about Ed's French family heritage. Another memorable QSO is when Ed assisted Carlinville with communications and traffic during a water main break about two years ago.

Someday, Ed hopes to enlarge his station and to earn his Extra class ticket! In the meantime, Ed enjoys watching overhead passes of the ISS (International Space Station) and spending time in his wood working shop. Some of Ed's wood working tools he inherited from his father when he passed away and Ed is keeping the family woodworking tradition alive. Ed showed me some shadow boxes that he made along with some shelving.



Ed's wood working basement workshop

Ed pointed to a wood-
en, triangular shaped box containing the American flag. "The one on the left, my dad made to house the flag placed over my grandfather's coffin. The one of the right, I made, to keep my father's flag in."

Ed, KC9QHJ keeps himself very busy, but not to busy to spend quality time with his wife Rebekah. Every January, Ed tells me about their Caribbean cruises! Together their family is rounded out with their daughter Sarah and their son Dan.



KC9QHJ's radio room

"Ed along with Isaac, KC9NJW created the Macoupin County ARC facebook page."



Ed's father made the flag box on the left for his father's flag draped coffin. The one on the right was made by Ed for his father.

KC9HQA Presented Workbench Safety at April Meeting.

At the April K9MCE meeting, Tim Coonrod, KC9HQA gave an excellent presentation over workbench safety. As a professional electrician Tim told club members that he can't count how many times he's overheard hams tell one another that they purchased a radio or an amp at a hamfest and as soon as they got home, they plugged the device into a wall socket only to see smoke start to roll out of the chassis.

Tim said that nine times out of ten the filter capacitors haven't been used in quite some time and the sudden on-rush of current after so long of a waiting spell caused the now dried out capacitor dielectric to short out. Tim's solution is to invest in a Variac (Variable Auto Transformer) which will allow you to safely step the household voltage down from 120 VAC to 20 VAC and let the radio run for a couple of hours and if there are no problems increase the voltage up by another 20 VAC for another few hours and keep up that process until full voltage is reached. Variacs can be found at hamfests and brand new they are around \$80.00.

Another good idea is to purchase an Isolation Transformer. This device will prevent a radio chassis from accidentally becoming hot. This device costs only around \$10.00 Tim also said it is a good idea not to rely on your household circuit breaker to be your only fused source of electricity. Tim fashioned some fused outlets for his workbench that will blow a lot quicker than his circuit breaker!

KC9HQA finished his outstanding presentation by going over GFI circuit breakers which provide a high degree of electrical safety for the workbench.



Tim, KC9HQA presenting over ham radio workbench safety.



Tim held the club's attention.



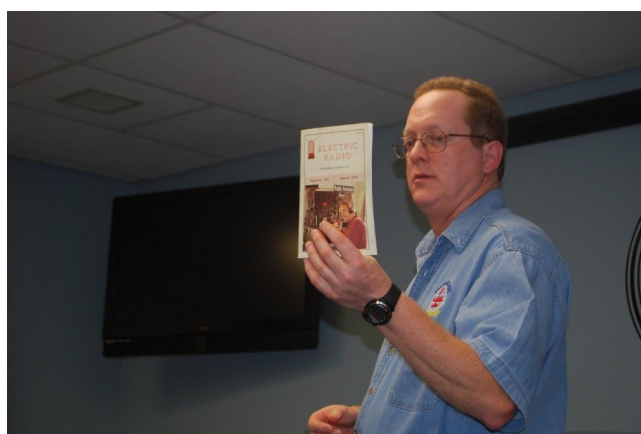
Tim, KC9HQA standing next to his Variac.



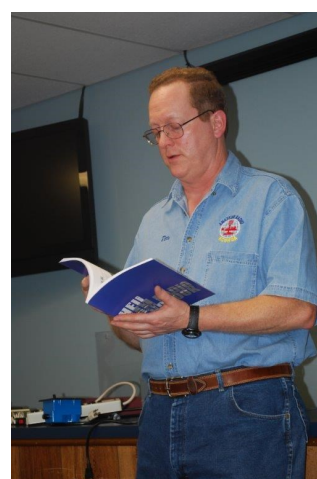
Tim explaining the importance of a GFI.



A GFI for you household breaker box.



Tim is a big fan of repairing older radios and Electric Radio Magazine is one of Tim's favorite magazines.



Tim highly recommends owning Bob Heil's Radio Handbook for its ease and simplicity.

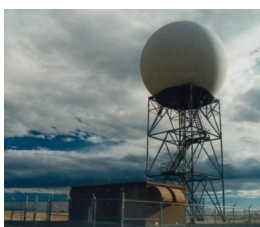


It's Severe Weather Season...Time to be Prepared!

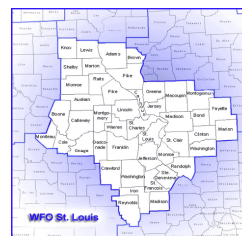
Springtime brings with it welcome, warmer temperatures, sunny skies and greenery, but it also means increasing humidity, more convective updrafts and clashing weather fronts. Here in the Midwest, it's wise to prepare for severe weather outbreaks. That means at home, each and every one of us should have a safe room to go to in the event of severe weather, a National Weather Service Weather Radio to warn us of approaching severe weather, a working flashlight and an extra set of batteries.

Most area hams have taken the National Weather Service's (NWS) Storm Spotter classes. If you haven't taken it yet, then make plans to do so for it is an extremely informational, fun, free and educational two-hour course. For our immediate area, classes are offered by NWS meteorologists and for further information go to the St. Louis NWS Skywarn page at <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/lx/?n=skywarn>. On the NWS Skywarn website, you will also find in PDF format the new Weather Spotter's Field Guide.

As ham radio operators it is our duty to volunteer our services during emergencies and weather spotting during severe weather outbreaks is just one such way for us to offer community service. Notice that the NWS trains us as weather spotters as opposed to weather chasers. The NWS encourages us to be safe and to report the weather from wherever we are located. Only properly trained weather experts should go to a severe weather event to do research or to give any advance warning. As weather spotters we can move our location to get a better view so as to provide more accurate and timely information back to the weather service, but it best to do it from a safe vantage point and to not to purposefully place ourselves in harm's way. There will be times when the NWS will ask us to give initial damage reports from the field back to the St. Louis NWS office. Last May, Mark-WD9HBF and Ron-KO0Z gave field reports back to NWS meteorologists Ron Przybylinski-KC0WWE and Jim Kramper-N0LSX last May when severe weather ripped through the Sunset Lake area of Macoupin County.



NWS WSR-88D Doppler radar



County map of the St. Louis
NWS Warning Forecast Area

Don't be afraid to report your observations back to the NWS. Here in central Illinois, Springfield, Decatur, Greenville and Centerville are linked to the WS9V repeater near Litchfield. The WS9V system is linked directly to the St. Louis NWS office during severe weather outbreaks. NWS meteorologists want and need storm spotter reports from central Illinois, in part, because the NWS WSR-88D (Doppler Radar) can only see thunderstorm cloud tops from 70 miles and out from the radar site. Since most of the tornadic vortex activity that the Doppler radar is looking for is now below it's useful "radar range," the NWS needs spotter reports from out in the field. To help the spotters with reporting observations back to the NWS, on the next page there is a useful report form to aid with severe weather reports.

*****SEVERE WEATHER REPORT*****

DATE: _____

TIME OCCURRED: _____

LOCATION: _____

COUNTY: _____

CALL SIGN: _____

NAME: _____

SEVERE WEATHER REPORTED: _____ Wall Cloud _____ Hail & Size

_____ Funnel Cloud _____ Wind & Speed

_____ Tornado _____ Flooding

FURTHER DAMAGE DESCRIPTION: Crop damage, downed tree limbs or trees, downed power lines, street flooding, water ponding at intersections, flooding creeks/rivers, roof shingles blown away, hail damage, etc.

RECEIVED FROM: _____ Personal observation _____ Police/Fire Department

_____ Scanner traffic _____ Repeater traffic

_____ Family/Friends (include their location and incident time)

What are Toroids?

The following article was authored by Ian C. Purdie VK2TIP and taken from his website with permission: <http://www.electronics-tutorials.com/basics/toroids>.

What are toroids?

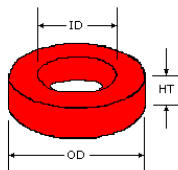
These come in two types. Powdered Iron or Ferrites. Both introduce permeability, that means an increased inductance for a given number of turns. Toroids look exactly like doughnuts and come in various diameters, thicknesses, permeabilities and types depending upon the frequency range of interest. Note the correct spelling, not torroids

Some of the advantages of toroids are:

1. High inductance for the physical space occupied.
2. No interaction or coupling with adjacent components (unlike air wound and other inductors).
3. Various permeabilities are available.
4. Exceptional Q values when wound correctly and optimum core and windings selected.
5. Wide range of diameters and thicknesses.
6. Relatively low cost
7. Often simple to mount or secure mechanically.

Some of the disadvantages of toroids are:

1. Nearly impossible to introduce variable tuning of the inductance.
2. Subject to some thermal drift.



A typically popular type is made available by Micrometals and a representative example is the T50-2. This core is lacquered red (so you know the type) and has the following main properties.

Being T50 it's outside diameter is 0.5", the ID is 0.3" and the thickness is 0.19"

The permeabilities or in this case AL factors i.e. (inductance per 100 turns²) are:

TYPE	COLOR	AL	Freq. Range
T50-26	Yel-Wh	320uH	power freq.
T50-3	Gray	175	50 Khz to 500 Khz
T50-1	Blue	100	500 Khz to 5 Mhz
T50-2	Red	57	2 Mhz to 30 Mhz
T50-6	Yellow	47	10 to 50 Mhz
T50-10	Black	32	30 to 100 Mhz

This is only a small sample to give you an idea. Your turns required to give a certain inductance based on the above AL is as follows:

$$N = 100 \cdot \sqrt{L / AL}$$

Therefore to obtain an inductance of 3.685 uH using a T50-6 toroid would require 28 turns (of course I cheated again) but check it out on your calculator as I may have left in a deliberate mistake to see if you're awake.

By the way don't get too paranoid about the exact number of turns because cores do vary in value anyway and particularly with temperature changes.



Sorry for the poor lighting. The top two toroids on the left are T68-2 types (red). Below that is the yellow T50-6 type. To the right of the yellow toroid are two RFC (radio frequency chokes) one is 1 mH and the other is 2.5 mH. Above the RFC, lying diagonally, is a 4.7 uH (nominal) variable inductor from J.VV. Miller. At the extreme left of the photo is the tip of a similar variable inductor where the tuning screw is a little more clearer.

Finally to the middle right is a wound toroid I salvaged from somewhere.

(continued from page 2) As do HAM Radio Stations all over the world! This station is on 3 to 4 hours every week running everything it can to put a signal in the air, 1000 to 1500 watts on 7.258 and 7.268Mhz. QRO power levels are used so mobiles all over the central USA can hear the net SCO. Also at 2am it gets into Italy with 20 plus reports on the phased verticals, and usually does quite well in the pileups over the north pole against other antennas. And VK land Australia at 11 pm is like a phone call on 40 meters. Flip the verticals West and there they are. Working them with 100 watts on CW is easy also. Here at WX9DX we might be using any of 7 different antennas, maybe even a 3 foot magnetic loop tuned for 17, 20 or 40 meters on a rotor for RX only, or QRP Transmit. In the winter we have had up beverage antennas for receive only out in our front pasture. It does make it easier to do a good job on a net like MidCars using more than one antenna, and the 68 Group proves it, talk to KN8I Larry about it sometime. About using more than one HF antenna at your location. Note on Antennas here: Using the Phased Verticals you quickly note that the East West patterns and the figure 8 pattern yield a massive improvement in receive and transmit. Especially on signals coming in at low angles. Again this is done with Illinois dirt, not a perfect ground plane. The high dipole here is at 110 feet and is a 160 meter 1/2 wave dipole fed with 250 feet of 450 ohm ladder line. Then parallel coaxes into the house to a ATR-30 3KW tuner by Ameritron. This antenna works from 6 to 160 meters well. I also use a 40 meter horizontal loop at about 9 feet with 3 reflecting wires on the ground under it for NVIS propagation. You will also notice if you come visit on Field Day a 40 meter inverted V at 40' apex. That antenna during field day gets a director element so that we get enhancement to the south with the dipole of about 10DB and the sides go way down. This did not get done over night and the learning does not stop at this radio station. And I did not do this without help from others. Thank you! To those of you that have been there for me, you know who you are! Jimmy, Skip, AL, Jack, Russ, Jeff, Don T. and so many others.

14'x10" 1 beams for anchors on the 150' of tower, 2 yards of concrete in each hole.

3 yards of concrete in the center hole. Note phased Diamond 500 VHF/UHF antennas on the side arms.

Then a single
repeater on

Diamond 500HNA for a
444.5Mhz.



At WX9DX

Be-
be-



Below: My 5'x 3" stainless Predator HF antenna: low: phased DIY 1/4 wave 40m. verticals. tested 5.5KW by the maker. Notice 3 hitches on the <http://www.zicom.se/sm3hxd/array.html> Phas-
lieving!



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truck.
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In the planning this spring at WX9DX: The set of phased verticals in this corn belt is amazing. Ask KA9TEN, KG4MOQ or KB9EYN how phased verticals work here in the State of Illinois. They use them every Field Day here at WX9DX. You know, I have to tell you I'm looking forward to the help this spring to get the other two verticals up. And using the new 40 meter 4 square. That will be 4 verticals 1/4 wave long, over a ground system of wires that can talk in 4 to 8 different directions with the flick of a switch, and no rotor. Again it won't be over a perfect ground plane, but it will work! And DIY Also the K9AY loop antenna will be going up for Receive only for 8 points on the compass with a switch. Check that design out. I have to be honest I have had the stuff for 3 years now but now I have the health and help to do the work.

The Egyptian Radio Club presents

EGYPTIANFEST



2014



SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2014

7:00 AM to 2:00 PM

HOLY FAMILY COMMUNITY CENTER

2600 WASHINGTON AVE

Granite City, Illinois

MAP on Reverse

TALK-IN 146.790

TALK-IN 146.760

ADMISSION \$5.00 IN ADVANCE

\$7.00 AT THE DOOR

AS USUAL MANY VENDORS,

GOOD FOOD & DRINK BY THE HF MENS CLUB,

LOTS OF FUN,

MANY PRIZES

**INDOOR TABLES
\$10.00**

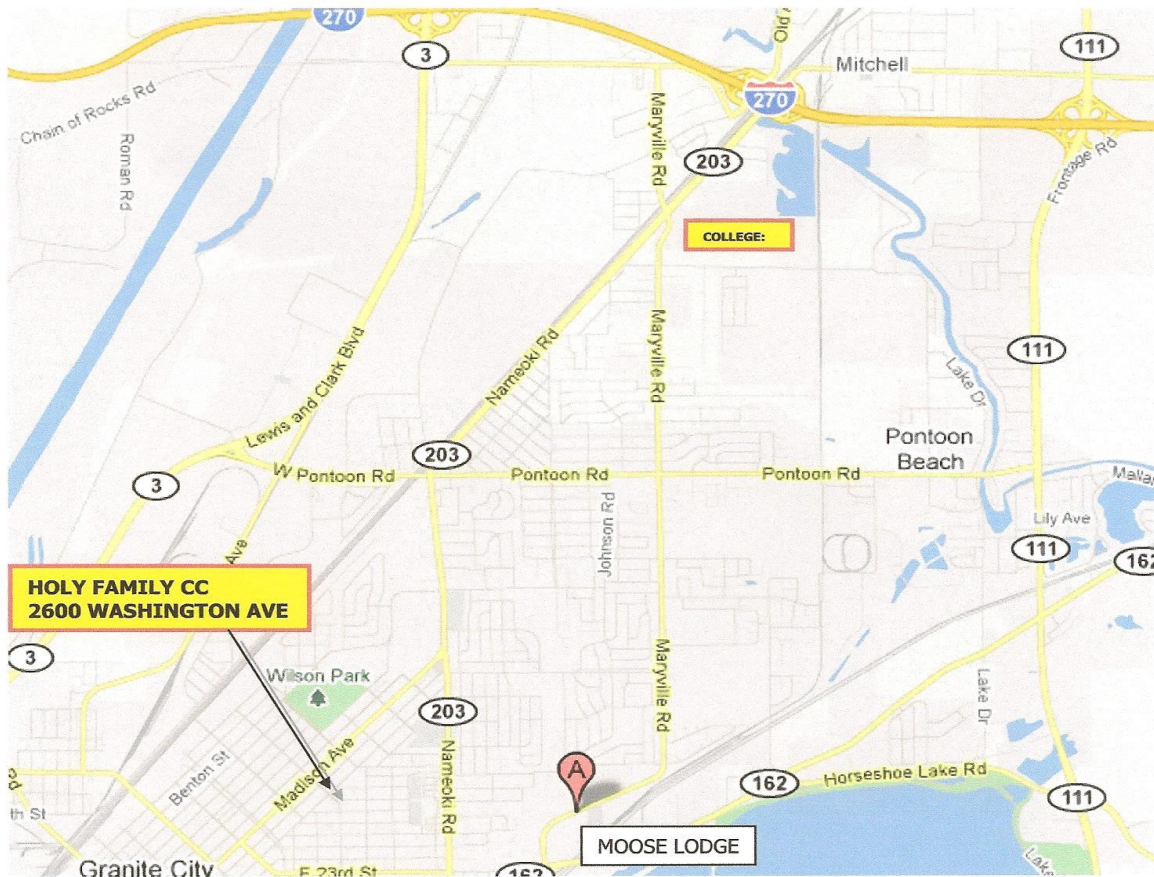
**MANY OLD FRIENDS
and NEW FRIENDS**

**TAILGATING
\$5.00**

HOLY FAMILY COMMUNITY CENTER

2600 WASHINGTON AVE

GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS



38°41' 19.75' N - 90°06' 42.33' W

**HOLY FAMILY COMMUNITY CENTER
2600 WASHINGTON AVE
GRANITE CITY, IL 62040**

- FROM 270, GO SOUTH ON 203 TO MADISON AVE TURN RIGHT, GO LEFT ON 26TH ST.
- FROM 55/70 GO NORTH ON 203, FOLLOW RT 203 TO GRANITE CITY, GO LEFT ON MADISON AVE TO LEFT ON 26TH ST TO THE CC.
- FROM RT 162 TURN ON 23RD ST, TURN RIGHT ON 203, LEFT ON MADISON AVE TO 26TH
- FROM RT 3, GO LEFT ON MADISON TO GRANITE CITY, GO RIGHT ON 26TH ST TO CC

SUNDAY JUNE 8, 2014





48th ANNUAL

2014 ARRL/CSVHFS VHF Communications Conference

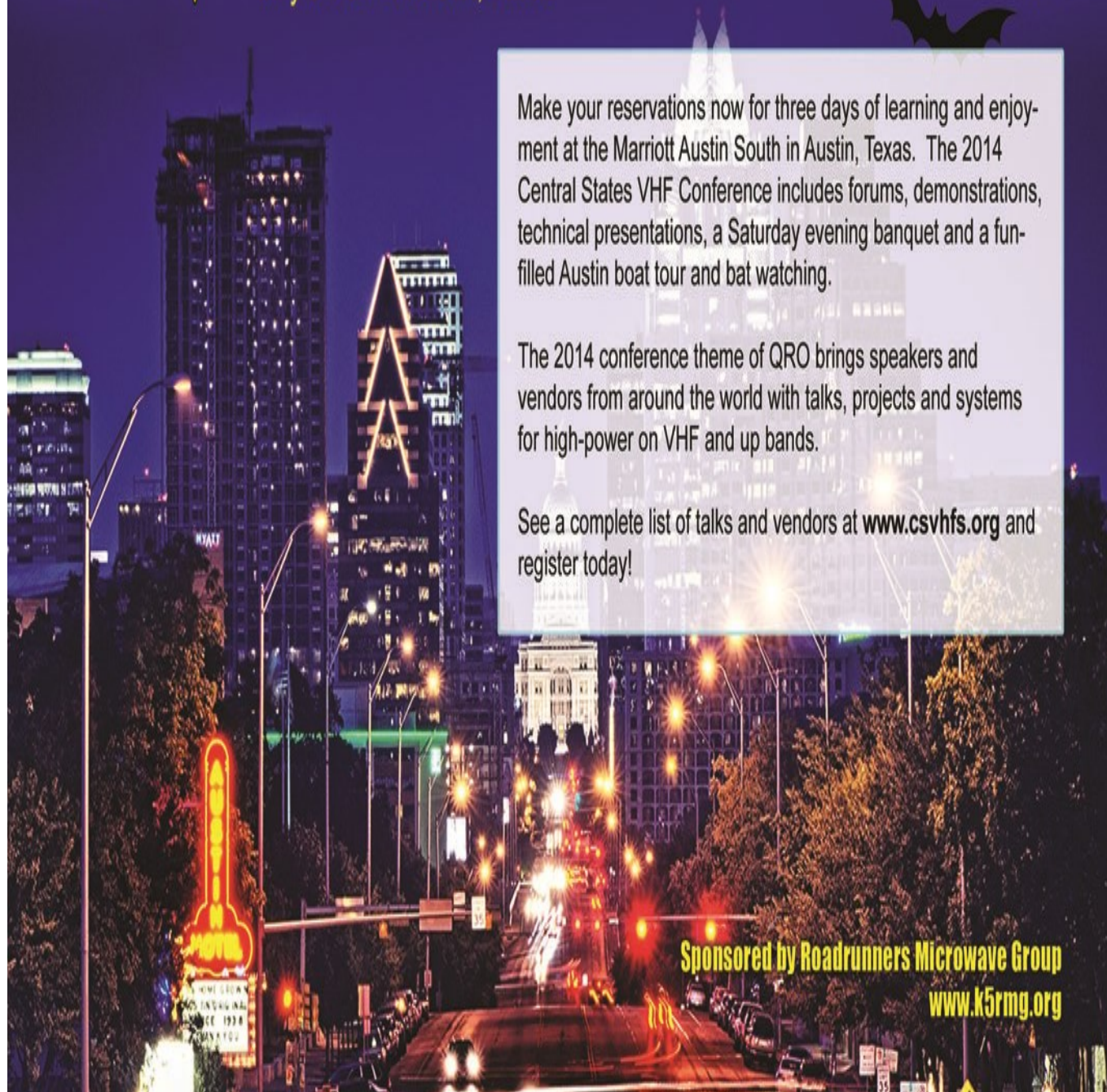
July 24-27 in Austin, Texas

Make your reservations now for three days of learning and enjoyment at the Marriott Austin South in Austin, Texas. The 2014 Central States VHF Conference includes forums, demonstrations, technical presentations, a Saturday evening banquet and a fun-filled Austin boat tour and bat watching.

The 2014 conference theme of QRO brings speakers and vendors from around the world with talks, projects and systems for high-power on VHF and up bands.

See a complete list of talks and vendors at www.csvhfs.org and register today!

Sponsored by Roadrunners Microwave Group
www.k5rmg.org



WEST CENTRAL ILLINOIS HAMFEST

SATURDAY AUGUST 2, 2014

7:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

K9MCE-W9BXR

TALK - IN 444.250 (103.5 PL) WS9V/R



- Spacious fairgrounds.
- Plenty of parking.
- Homemade breakfast and BBQ lunch on site!
- Excellent restaurants nearby in historic Carlinville!
- \$5.00 admission/tailgate
- VE Testing –walk-ins
- Vendors
- Forums
- Prize drawings throughout the day!



- Test bench available to check those radios prior to purchase!
- Only 90 minutes away from St. Louis!

Website: www.k9mce.org

Vendors!

Al's Radio Service

FORUMS!

8:00 AM ARRL Forum with IL
Section Manager Tom Ciciora
— KA9QPN

FORUMS!

9:00 AM Craig
Thompson, K9CT
operator of K9W
and FT52M DXpedi-
tions!

Macoupin County Fairgrounds

21368 Rte 4

Carlinville, IL 62626

For more information
contact Jim Pitchford,
N9LQF 217-854-3352.
Email:
james@royell.org

GPS COORDINATES: N 39.18.455, W 89.52.671

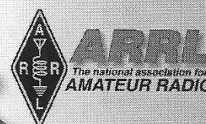
SCARC HAMFEST 2014

WHEN

August 10th, 2014
8am-12pm Vendor Hall Open
6am-12pm Flea Market

WHERE

Elks Lodge--O'Fallon, MO
1163 Tom Ginnever Ave. 63366
Lat 38.722825N, Long 00.721450W



TICKETS

\$3.00 each or
4 for \$10.00

Backup Freq: **145.33** | Talk-in Freq: **146.67(-)**

DOOR PRIZES

1st \$300*

2nd \$200*

3rd \$100*

PLUS Great HOURLY GIVEAWAYS

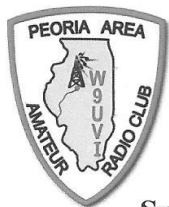
WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN*

Check our Website for updates
and other scheduled activities.

WBØHSI.org

For more info contact Renee Simon KDØOTG
636-978-8422 akaqb@charter.net

Food and Beverages Available
Free Parking | Handicap Accessible



PEORIA SUPERFEST September 20-21, 2014

Exposition Gardens 1601 W. Northmoor Rd. Peoria IL
Amateur Radio / Computer / Electronics Show Saturday & Sunday



Special Guest and Forum Speaker: Gordon West, WB6NOA - (Confirmed)
Grand Prize - ICOM IC-7100

Hours

Friday: Set-up Day: 1 PM-8 PM
Saturday: Flea Market: 6 AM - Dusk
 Indoor Commercial Exhibits: 8 AM - 4 PM
Sunday: Flea Market: 6 AM - 1 PM
 Indoor Commercial Exhibits: 8 AM - 1 PM

Tickets Good All Weekend!

Advance Tickets \$7.00 (2 stubs)

Gate Tickets \$10.00 (1 stub)

12 and Under Free!

FREE PARKING!

Order Flea Market Spaces/Advance Tickets

On-Line with PayPal® (or to pay with

MasterCard, VISA or Discover) --

go to <http://www.w9uvi.org>

ADA / Handicapped Parking

We have a limited number of spaces available

Please go to www.w9uvi.org and follow the directions on the Superfest2014 tab.

Great Hourly Prizes

Sat & Sun, starting 9 AM

Unclaimed hourly prizes redrawn Sunday, after GRAND prize drawing at 1 PM.
(Grand Prize Ticket Holder need not be present)

Outdoor Flea Market Spaces

Still \$5.00/space (Approximately 20'x20')

(Renewals due by July 1 to Ensure Same Space)

Flea Market Spaces always available at the gate.

Our Website: www.w9uvi.org

Check out confirmed commercial vendors; get directions, hotel info and latest schedule of Forums and other events!

Indoor Commercial Vendors

See website or write: Commercial Exhibits,

PAARC, P.O. Box 3508

Peoria, IL 61612-3508

Or, e-mail w9uvi@arrl.net

Info Line: 309-692-3378

Saturday - Forums (Check www.w9uvi.org for schedule)

Saturday - FCC Testing, 11:30 A.M. – 1 PM

Sunday - High Altitude Balloon Launch

Sunday - Go-Kit and Mobile HF Installation Competition

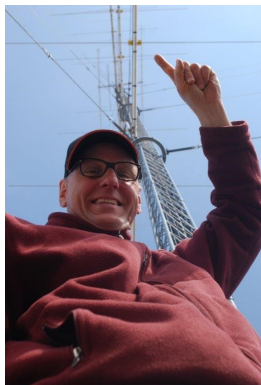
Advance tickets are also available at: Stewart Radio (905 E. Washington St, East Peoria). East Peoria Jewelry & Trade (213 East Washington St.), Radio Shack in Washington IL and Electronics Diversified (100 Walnut St., Peoria)

TALK-IN: 147.075+ PL 103.5

Orders for Advance Tickets and Flea Market should contain a #10 SASE and must be received by Sept. 1, 2014

Name _____	QTY:	Item	Each:	Total Cost
Address _____	_____	Superfest Advance Tickets (\$10.00 at the Gate)	\$7.00	\$ _____
City, State, ZIP: _____	_____	Outdoor Flea Market Space (1 Vehicle, Approx. 20'x 20')	\$5.00	\$ _____
Make checks payable to Peoria Superfest or order online at www.w9uvi.org			TOTAL \$ _____	
Mail to Peoria Superfest PO Box 3508 Peoria IL 61612-3508				

April Fooled!



WD9HBF posing by one of K9CT's towers.

In the interest of complete disclosure to all of our K9MCE QSN readers and fans, we, the editors of K9MCE QSN, used the April Edition of the newsletter for an April Fools prank. You may recognize the photo on the left as the cover photo used in the April edition. Although Mark, WD9HBF would dearly love to claim the tower as his own (as would I); the fact is, it really belongs to Craig Thompson, K9CT. On Saturday March 29, KO0Z and Mark, WD9HBF prearranged a visit to K9CT's contest station. Craig was kind enough to allow us to photograph his super contest station and to go along with our gag. In fact, Craig is so generous that he's agreed to host a DX forum at our upcoming hamfest on August 2nd! We hope you enjoyed the prank and if you liked that one, just wait until next April! We are already hard at work on that one. What is it? Sorry, you'll just have to wait!

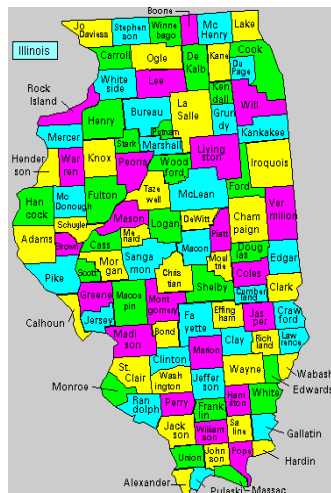


Craig, K9CT and Mark WD9HBF

K9MCE to Participate in Illinois QSO Party!

K9MCE club members voted at the April meeting to participate in the Illinois QSO Party to be held on Saturday October 19th. The idea is to make contact with as many amateur stations as possible; especially, Illinois stations. The QSO exchange for Illinois stations is callsign and county. Other stations give callsign, state, province or country.

Jim, N9LQF received permission from the landowner, allowing us to operate on the Macoupin, Jersey and Greene County lines! We plan to be QRV Field Day style. As with all club events, a fun time with plenty of homemade food is in the offing! K9MCE plans to be competitive. To give us a goal to shoot for here are some past high scores courtesy of the W9AWE website as of 2011 for the Illinois County-Line Portable category:



N9JF 507580 00
W9DY 424888 00
N9GZ 418476 04
N9FN 414480 10
KN9T+N9GZ 360632 03
W9DY 354660 02
N9FN+K9FN 352176 11
KN9T 315463 05
K9WA 308484 05
KF9TL 304083 05

K9MCE has some big shoes to fill, but we're up to the task. If you are even slightly interested in contesting this should be an event that you will want to mark on your ham radio calendar. Plans are being made now to run a multi-mode, multi-station at this remote location. Of course a BBQ is in the planning stages as well.

All club members are invited to participate regardless of experience.



K9MCE Ops Participate in Missionopoly



Wednesday, April 9th from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm, the First Assembly of God church located on IL Route 4 just immediately south of Crabby's restaurant was the location for the congregation's Missionopoly. When asked about the purpose of Missionopoly, Pastor Josh Franklin stated, "Our desire is to help people in our community find out how they can get involved with one of these creative ministries. It should be a great night." The church's gymnasium was set up to look like a monopoly board and visitors are given monopoly like money to go around the Missionopoly game board to learn more about Christian missions throughout the world.

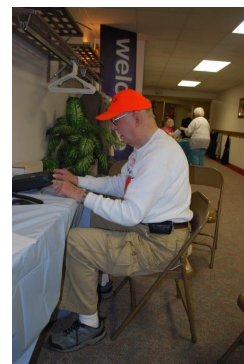
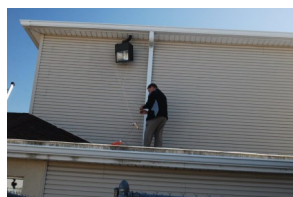
K9MCE club member, Tom Turpin, KC9WOH asked club members if a portable operation HF operation would be feasible. Club members, Jarod Stuemke, KC9ZMD, Mark Kerhlikar, WD9HBF, Bill Ogle, W9FJ and Ron Ochu, KO0Z offered their expertise and equipment for this worthwhile event.

Earlier in the day, Ron, KO0Z arrived on site to lend his Hamstick 20 meter magnetic mount antenna to be placed on top of the church's metal roof by Tom, KC9WOH. Coax was run into the church and a Kenwood TS 2000 X transceiver along with a switching power supply was used. Bill, W9FJ brought his 40 meter Buddipole antenna and his portable HF transceiver. Missionopoly was QRV with two HF stations!

There was a sked (schedule) set up with a missionary who retired from shortwave radio station HCJB in Quito, Ecuador, but Roger was unfortunately unable to get his antenna deployed in time for the event. Undaunted, K9MCE club members proceeded to make a number of HF contacts as well as some QSOs on the WS9V repeater. Tnx Lou, KC9YFU and Jeff KC9WZO for making yourselves available on the repeater to chat with the children that came by to see the station!

For more information check out this wonderful five minute video from Donna Turpin: [Missionopoly http://animoto.com/play/HZ7jt2mhWCoAFESVhTGOgA](http://animoto.com/play/HZ7jt2mhWCoAFESVhTGOgA)

Everyone who participated had a great time and what a wonderful way to highlight ham radio and K9MCE in our community.



Illinois ARRL Section Manager News

By Tom Ciciora — KA9QPN



SM--Tom Ciciora KA9QPN

ASM/SRM--Ron Morgan, KB9NW

ASM/SEC--Brad Pioveson, W9FX

ASM/ASEC--Shari Harlan, N9SH

ASM for Youth--Neil Gebhardt, KB9ZGZ

ACC--Joe Serocki, N9IFG

SGL--Charles Richey, K9DUE

STM--Roy Eades, KA9MZJ

PIC--Fritz Bock, WD9FMB

TC--John Dinella, WA9IL

OOC--Tim Childers, KB9FBI

ASEC--Curtis Williams, W5DTR

ASEC--Kelly Robertson, KC9FVK

ASEC--Pat Ryan, KC6VVT

ASEC--Pat Stowell, N9PN

ASEC/Digital Ops--Danny Pease NG9R

DEC: Region 2--OPEN, Region 3--Dale Marzano N9JH, Region 4--Neil Ormos N9NL, Region 6--Gary Shanks KA9FAJ, Region 7--OPEN,

Region 9--John Van Sandt N9YRX, Region 8--Curtis Williams W5DTR, Region 11--Bruce Talley WA9APQ

From the top...

**Just when you thought that it was safe to store the winter coat... As I write this, we're coming off of a few days of 70-plus degree weather. It's cold rain out the window right now. Yuck.

**It's not grandpa's ham radio. That's my battle cry when promoting the Service. Just to prove that, ARRL reports that a ham developed software package, Spectrum Analyzer, was used in the search for Malaysia Air Flight MH370. These are the kind of things that we mention when someone pulls out that 'old guy in the dusty basement' image.

**Speaking of that image, A local ham pointed out an article to me on a Windows computer forum, comparing Windows XP users to that mythical old guy ham in the basement. The writer suggested the analogy that neither group was ready to let go of old technology. Fifteen reply posts later, the original post was countered by every possible iteration of the Service. I'd link to it, but the original author retreated under the hail of verbal tomatoes and deleted his burst of wisdom.

**One more: Apple quietly enabled a feature in iOS 7 called Multipeer Connectivity Network. Just as quietly, an app was released to take advantage of that platform via wireless mesh networking. Immediately, the Apple world proclaimed this the next Big Thing. More than a few of us smiled and said 'isn't that cute'. Because hams have been repurposing the ubiquitous Linksys WRT54 series router (among others) to create and use Broadband-Hamnet networks for some time. It's always fun when the mainstream catches up with where we've been for a while. Not grandpa's ham radio.

Get informed...

**Following up to last month's concern over enforcement of PA 098-0506 (hands-free cell phone use): Through the efforts of John King W9KXQ, a concise summary of the two-way radio usage exception was prepared and sent to the Illinois Association Chiefs of Police. It was incorporated in their 20 March Weekly Bulletin Alert. Charlie Richey K9DUE undertook identical efforts with the Chicago Police Department and the Cook County Sheriff's Police. Let's hope that we've heard the last of this. (liberally borrowed from a FB post)

**In response to an FCC Report, the League has filed comments containing the opinion that enforcement of Rule violations needs to be timely, visible and vigorous. As most of us nod our heads and utter some variant of 'no kidding!' Gone are the old days of Prose and Riley when Amateurs (mostly) toed the line and obeyed the Rules. I imagine that one could build a remotely circumstantial parallel between relaxed license standards and Rule violations, but those aren't newbies on 14.313 or calling CQ over the DXpeditions. I submit that any new crop of lids is the harvest of ignoring newcomers and letting them figure things out on their own. We are steeped in 100 years of tradition, and if we do not pass that tradition on to the new licensees, we run the risk of having a percentage of operators with no clue as to how to act. And, I took a lot of heat back in February of '07 when I used this space to make that suggestion. It's a lot like not having family meals together and then wondering why the kids have no table manners. Mercifully, there is still a stout number of good operators out there. That's what makes the renegades more noticeable.



**I am very saddened to learn of the passing of Patti Colvin AF9H. If you had cards checked at a hamfest in the Section over the years, chances are that you met Patti and her husband Jess AI9L. No matter which hamfest I ended up at, their table was invariably next to mine, and I passed more than a few Sunday mornings with them. The Colvins had recently moved west and hadn't been at any area ham-fests recently. My sympathies to Jess and the extended family. (Via Kankakee ARS)

Around the Section...

**Had another wonderful day with elements of Lake County ARES/RACES, the county EMA director C. Kent McKenzie KM8A, and a few representatives from other NE IL ARES groups. Once again, we had an informational table in the lobby of the Ramsey Auditorium at Fermilab before the Tom Skilling Weather Seminars on 5 April. It's always fun to describe to lay people what we are about these days.

Never fails to bring the 'I didn't know that' comment.

**The W9DXCC Convention is moving its venue to the Hyatt Regency Schaumburg for the event on 19-20 September. It's going to be a scramble to get back from the Peoria Superfest on the 20th for the Convention banquet, but I've attended the banquet the last couple of years and it's worth the running around.

**I'm very happy to mention hamfests and other events here in the News. Remember that I post these around the 15th of the month, so plan your notification to me accordingly, else you fall in that black hole betwixt and between.

Ye Olde Traffic Report DE KA9MZJ...

Illinois Side Band Net - Net Manager WB9QPM

Daily on 3905 at 1800 local time

QNI 239 QTC 65 Sessions 31

Illinois Phone Net - Net Manager K9GYI

M-F on 3857 at 1645 local time

Sunday on 3940 at 0810 local time - right after the Illinois Emergency Net

QNI 261 QTC 23 Sessions 26

Illinois Emergency Net - Net Manager K9HEZ

Sunday on 3940 at 0800 local time

QNI 91 QTC 8 Sessions 5

North Central Phone Net - Net Manager K9HEZ

M-F on 3912 at 0700 local time

QNI 284 QTC 6 Sessions 21

Illinois CW Net (ILN) Net Manager WB8SIM

Daily on 3838 at 1915 local time

QNI 16 QTC 6 Sessions 4

KF9ME reporting





*Jim of Jim's
 Engraving is a
 "local" ham —
 KF4NBG from
 Pocahontas, IL.*

Jim's Engraving
 Ham shack essentials
 for the ham that has everything
www.jimsengraving.com

Quality custom engraved mirrors that are lit up from the bottom using multi-color led's
 For the wood base, I stock walnut, cherry, mahogany and oak.
 For more information, email me at
Jim@jimsengraving.com

K9MCE QSN Contact Information:

K9MCE QSN is a monthly publication of the Macoupin County Amateur Radio Club. Our club meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm on the second floor of the Macoupin County Sheriff Department in Carlinville, IL

Editors: Mark Kerhilikar, WD9HFB. mkerhilikar@gmail.com

Ron Ochu, KO0Z. ronochu.sky@gmail.com

Repeaters: 444.250 (103.5 pl); 146.865 (103.5 pl).

Website: www.k9mce.org

Webmaster: Issac Pizzo, KC9NJW

Testing: Bill Ogle, W9FJ 217-685-0711



Macoupin County
 Amateur Radio Club
 P.O. Box 253
 Carlinville, IL 62626-
 0253

K9MCE May 2014

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 K9MCE NET @ 8:30 PM, WD9HBF Net Control, 444.250 (103.5 pl) Macoupin Cnty ARES Net, W9FJ Net Con- trol @ 9:00 pm, 147.480	2	3
4 Clinton Cnty ARES Net @ 8:30 pm on 444.250 (103.5 pl) Okaw Valley ARC Net @ 9:00 pm on 444.250 (103.5 pl) N9MAF Net, 146.805 (94.8) at 9:00 pm	5 W9EVY Memo- rial Net @ 8:30 pm on 146.820	6	7 K9MCE CLUB MEET- ING, 7:00 PM. Pre-meeting dinner – Reno's Pizza at 5:00 pm.	8 K9MCE NET @ 8:30 PM, WD9HBF Net Control, 444.250 (103.5 pl) Macoupin Cnty ARES Net, W9FJ Net Con- trol @ 9:00 pm, 147.480	9	10
11 Clinton Cnty ARES Net @ 8:30 pm on 444.250 (103.5 pl) Okaw Valley ARC Net @ 9:00 pm on 444.250 (103.5 pl) N9MAF Net, 146.805 (94.8) at 9:00 pm	12 W9EVY Memorial Net @ 8:30 pm on 146.820	13	14	15 K9MCE NET @ 8:30 PM, WD9HBF Net Control, 444.250 (103.5 pl) Macoupin Cnty ARES Net, W9FJ Net Con- trol @ 9:00 pm, 147.480	16 Dayton Hamvention	17 Dayton Hamvention
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25 Clinton Cnty ARES Net @ 8:30 pm on 444.250 (103.5 pl) Okaw Valley ARC Net @ 9:00 pm on 444.250 (103.5 pl) N9MAF Net, 146.805 (94.8) at 9:00 pm CQ WW WPX Contest	26 W9EVY Memorial Net @ 8:30 pm on 146.820	27	28	29 K9MCE NET @ 8:30 PM, WD9HBF Net Control, 444.250 (103.5 pl) Macoupin Cnty ARES Net, W9FJ Net Con- trol @ 9:00 pm, 147.480	30	31



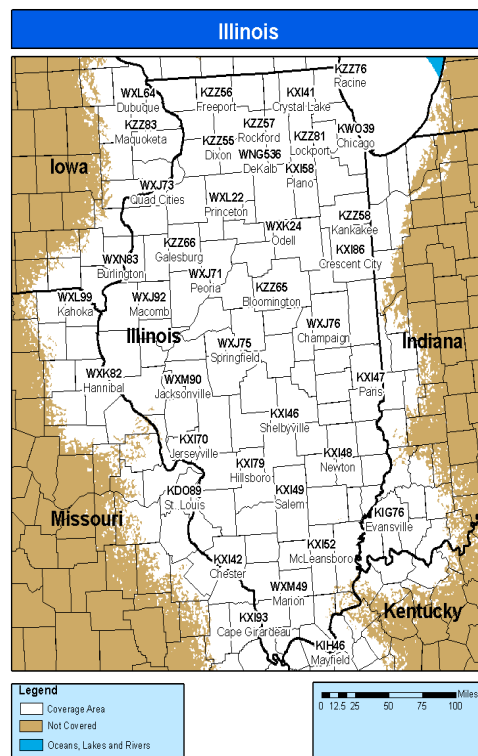
**We're on the
web!
www.k9mce.org**

IL NOAA NWS WX Radio Stations

Ward Silver, N0AX makes it a point to program his VHF/UHF FM radios with the seven frequencies nationally assigned to NWS so that when he is on the road he is within the coverage area of a NWS transmitter. These frequencies are 162.400, 162.425, 162.450, 162.475, 162.500, 162.525 and 162.550. Keep in mind that not all NWS transmitters have the same output power. For instance, KD089 out of St. Louis and WXJ75 out of Springfield, IL have 1000 watts; whereas, KXI79 in Hillsboro runs 300 watts. A good URL to see the various NWS stations and their respective output power is <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/Maps/PHP/illinois.php>

Besides being up to date with the latest NWS information these stations can also serve as good VHF propagation beacons. Listen to the various frequencies and see where and how well the station is coming in to your location.

Springtime and summer months brings enhanced VHF propagation during the morning and evening hours.



Illinois HF Traffic Nets, Times and Frequencies...

Illinois Side Band Net - Net Manager WB9QPM

Daily on 3905 at 1800 local time

Illinois Phone Net - Net Manager K9GYI

M-F on 3857 at 1645 local time

Sunday on 3940 at 0810 local time - right after the Illinois Emergency Net

Illinois Emergency Net - Net Manager K9HEZ

Sunday on 3940 at 0800 local time

North Central Phone Net - Net Manager K9HEZ

M-F on 3912 at 0700 local time

Illinois CW Net (ILN) Net Manager WB8SIM

W9NXM reporting

Daily on 3838 at 1915 local time

Nets