



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
 - Charlie Ritter, KB9OXH
 - Hugh Watson, AB9UB
 - Webmaster: Issac Pizzo, KC9NJW

Inside this issue:

- Club meeting and program Micro-waves 1
- W6P 1
- IL QSO Party and Club Visitors and Upgrades 2-3
- Section Manager News 4-5
- NWS Storm Spotter Training; Springfield Run 6
- Club minutes 8-11
- Club Calendar 19

Volume 1, Issue 9

September 2013

K9MCE Club Meeting on Wednesday 4 September

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, September 4th. 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 "Microwaving from EM59" by Ron, KO0Z and Debbie, KC9ULA, a program that will sure to be interesting.

The club also offers FCC license exams after the meeting. Please contact Bill, W9FJ @217-854-8261. Remember to bring pencils, a copy of your FCC license and a simple calculator.



K9MCE club members displaying Yaesu hats from hamfest!



Reno's the place to be B4 club meeting. K9MCE VE examiners.

K9MCE To Activate W6P At Henry's Rabbit Ranch

Circle the weekend of September 14-15 on your calendars and make plans to participate in the special event station W6P from Henry's Rabbit Ranch in Stanton, IL.



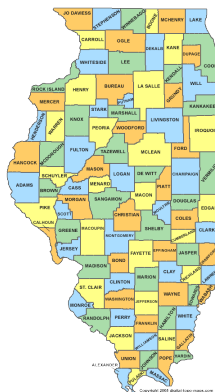
The club plans to be on site Saturday morning around 8:00 am and to be QRV by 10:00 am. Plans are to operate throughout the day and most of the evening and then do it again Sunday morning until we feel like calling it a day! Plans are to have two HF transceivers going and to work the 146.55 simplex for the special event. We also use

WS9V/R to direct folks towards the simplex operation. Mark, WD9HBF plans to once again be a chef extraordinaire Saturday evening. If you like Field Day then this will be your event!

1107
Historic
Old Rte
66, Staun-
ton, IL



Illinois QSO Party To Be Held On Sunday Oct. 20



A Quick Summary:

The Illinois QSO Party is an 8-hour event, usually held on the third Sunday in October. The event is open to all amateur radio operators. The event uses 160 meters through 2 meters. CW contacts count 2 points each, while Phone contacts count 1 point each. Stations are divided into two groups: Illinois stations and non-Illinois stations. Stations inside IL try to work IL counties, states, and countries as multipliers. Stations outside IL try to

work IL counties as multipliers. IL stations are further divided into fixed, mobile, or portable.

The QSO party begins at 17:00 Z on the 20th and will continue to 01:00 Z on the 21st. IL ops exchange RST and county. Outside of IL ops give RST, state, province for country.

There are five entry classes:

IL Fixed, IL portable, IL mobile, IL Rover, Outside IL. The difference between mobile and rover is that a rover will travel to many different counties;

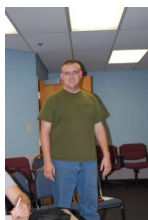
whereas, a mobile station will travel to another county and operate from there.

This promises to be a fun event and it is a good test of emergency preparedness! Let's make this a club effort and let's put K9MCE on the IL QSO Party map!!!

The information posted is for the 2012 QSO Party. For more information go to this URL: <http://www.w9awe.org/ILQP%202012%20Rules.pdf>

“Our August meeting produced one new Technician and one Extra Class ham!”

It was good to see at the August meeting Jared Stuemke from Carlinville visit our club meeting. Jared tested for license after the club meeting and he is now KC9ZMD! Congratulations to Jared.



K9MCE club member Jeff Naville, KC9WZO also tested after the meeting and he now has an Extra Class license!



Long time club member, Jim Wright, WM9R from Gillespie made it to the club meeting and it was good to see him and it's been good hearing him check into the weekly Thursday nets!



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.

Miranda Dailes, KC9ZMS On The Air!

Kudos to Miranda Dailes, daughter of Rob, NV9S and Kat, KC9WXT Dailes of Salem, IL on obtaining her Technician license!

Miranda isn't shy about getting on the radio. Recently she's been on the 444.250 machine with a great sounding signal!

It doesn't take long to hear the enthusiasm in Miranda's voice!

Her father, Rob, NV9S said that she's been practicing on FRS walkie-talkies and she sounds like a seasoned pro!



Miranda, KC9ZMS is 5 years old and She is in Kindergarten.



Rob, Kat and Miranda at a recent K9MCE club meeting.

No Cell Phone Use While Mobile in Illinois

Governor Quinn recently signed HB 1247 into law.

Beginning January First, 2014 drivers in Illinois will no longer be able to use cell phone while driving unless it's a hands-free device.

However, ham radio operators will still be able to use Amateur Radio equipment while driving.

According to state representative, Chuck Krezwick, WV9C

The language exempting Amateur Radio in Amendment One of the bill remained.

For the full text of the bill go to <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=1247&GAID=12&DocTypeID=HB&SessionID=85&GA=98>



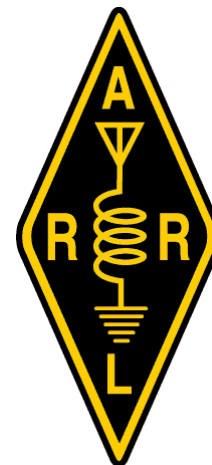
**"HB 1247
mandates on
Jan. 1, 2014
hands-free cell
phone use while
driving in
Illinois."**

Your ARRL Central Division Contacts:

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

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

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



IL ARRL Section Manager, Thomas, KA9QPN Update

Full news with links at <http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/illinois>.

From the top...

**The League has filed reply comments in an FCC NPRM which proposes to allow private telecommunication certification bodies (TCB) more authority in the equipment authorization process. For those who came in late, RF devices generally require some kind of certification or another. Part 15 covers unlicensed devices and incidental radiators, Part 90 deals with private land mobile stuff, and on. The exception is the Amateur Radio Service. Contrary to popular opinion and Philadelphia lawyers, there is no required certification for Amateur equipment except mass produced RF power amplifiers (47 CFR 97.315(a)). All of that said, the League is against granting any more authority to these TCBs, as they are over-trusted at this stage of the game, and bad things happen under the guise of certification. An example cited was the debacle of the Recon Scout, the 70's vintage surveillance technology that was plopped into the 70cm band without a lot of thought as to interference to either us or it. The spotty nature of certification was brought home to me during my Dayton trip. It's no secret to anyone who knows me that I have a soft spot for the recent influx of inexpensive Chinese radios. They become eminently col-

lectible as they are cheap and make interesting toys. They also have an appeal for those of us who wear dual hats in EMA/ESDAs and such, as it finally lets us go out the door carrying one radio due to the Part 90 authorization on most of these devices. I had bought another HT from a dealer at Dayton, different than the rest of my HTs due to some claimed water resistance. The FCC logo and cert number were on the box and the radio. At Dayton, not only did the League have a large presence with their printed matter and opportunities to meet and speak with HQ folks, but they also had another interesting activity. They had a couple of spectrum analyzers set up and competent folks to run them, with the offer to test any HT brought forward for spectral purity against the FCC standard. They offered a nice form with the numbers and a pass/fail grade. So, off I went with my new toy...and was seriously disappointed. It did not pass on one band. I know that these radios are cheap and attractive, and at least one of each flavor was able to pass the spectral purity testing to obtain acceptance. But, I bet that it would cost *that* much to make them all pass that standard, just for giggles. I would hate to see all of these TCBs lose any more semblance of supervision, lest the entire process become worthless.

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**While we're on the FCC's proceedings, they also issued a citation to an online retailer who peddles the RM Italy amplifiers. These are all over Amazon.com like a rash, in several flavors from DC to daylight. They also apparently are not certified and some operate wonderfully with CB equipment. We'll see if this stuff disappears from the website.

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**In the arrl.com article that describes the amplifier citation, a citation to another retailer was mentioned. This worthy gentleman was selling CB-capable amplifiers with claimed outputs to 8200 watts. Suuuure, buddy...

+++++

Get informed...

**Another interesting operating event coming up: National Wildlife Refuge Week, from 13 to 19 October. The premise here is to mount individual efforts to operate from wildlife refuges across the Nation. The kink here is that in order to operate from a given refuge, an operator must first obtain permission from the manager of the preferred refuge. It's a fairly detailed process that requires some front-end work. You can't just pop into this one. Details at their site.

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*“and bad things
happen under
the guise of
certification.”*

ARRL Section Manager Update continued...

**In other operating events, we have Route 66 on the Air happening through 7 -15 September. Special event stations will be active along the Mother Road. Most offer some kind of special QSL or certificate.

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**Also, we have the Illinois QSO Party coming up on 20 October. As I've said in years past, this is an excellent opportunity to get your portable station organized and find a place to operate in some of our lesser populated counties. It would be exceptional if all 102 counties were active for this event.

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Around the Section...

**I'm beta testing both the Android version of the QST reading app and the Repeater Directory app, also for Android (only). The Repeater Directory app is available from Google Play as a free beta version for a limited time. Within a month or so, the test will conclude and the app will be for sale only. No mention of pricing. The Directory translates well to the app, complete with maps with markers. As with the printed Directories and Travel Plus, the information is only as good as that provided by the frequency coordinators. But it sure is pretty as presented with a serious 'oooh, shiny!' factor. The QST app is a restricted beta, and frankly needs more work before release.

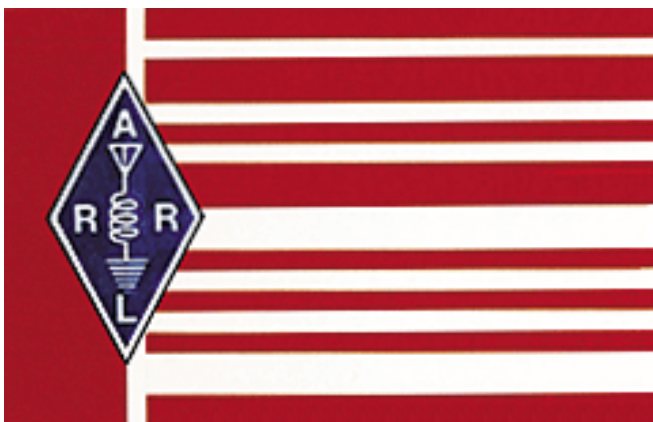
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**The 61st W9DXCC Convention and Banquet is scheduled for 20-21 September in Elk Grove Village, at the same venue as the recent Central States VHF Conference. I attended for the first time last year and was suitably impressed.

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**This would be a very good time to get your antenna work completed before the weather turns and we go into the Deep Freeze. I know that your dipole won't stay up quite as well now as if it were put up in freezing drizzle and 35MPH winds, but you'll need to make do now. Be careful while climbing or hoisting overhead and watch for power lines!

ARRL Illinois Section
Section Manager: Thomas T Ciciora, KA9QPN
ka9qpn@arrl.org



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Caption describing picture or graphic.

NWS Storm Spotter Training To Be Offered In Carlinville

National Weather Service meteorologist, Jim Kramper, N0LSX from the St. Louis office will be offering a Severe Weather Spotting class from 6:00 to 9:30 pm on Tuesday 5 November 2013.

The class will be held at the Macoupin County Farm Bureau Building on North Broad in Carlinville, IL.

This event is sponsored by the Macoupin County Emergency Management Agency and the Macoupin County Public Health Department.

Anyone with an interest in weather is invited to attend.

Last spring was a very active one for Macoupin County. Storm spotters are always needed by the NWS. There is an especial need for more reports during severe weather from Montgomery County.

This class is a great way to learn about weather and specifically what to look for and to report back to the NWS. In addition to actual weather reporting, meteorologists need to have storm damage reports

from affected areas.

Jim Kramper is an experienced teacher and his classes are always well received.

Circle 5 November on your calendars now!



***“Be a part of
the fun; help
provide
communication
for the
Springfield
run!”***

Springfield, IL Run Needs You!

Sunday, 20 October, Springfield, IL: Ham radio operators are needed to assist with the Springfield running event.

The Springfield Running Club will hold three races on Sunday October 20th. A 5K, 10K and 15K run with as many as 3,000 runners are expected to attend.

At the August club meeting, Jim, N9LQF reported that communications will be han-

dled through Als repeater on 444.600. As more details become available they will be forthcoming.

In the meantime, mark your calendar and let Jim, N9LQF know that you'll be available. Binoculars, dual band mobile rig with antenna and dual band HTs should be part of your “Go-Kit.” for this event along with extra batteries.

Snacks and water along with

appropriate clothing (sweater, umbrella etc.

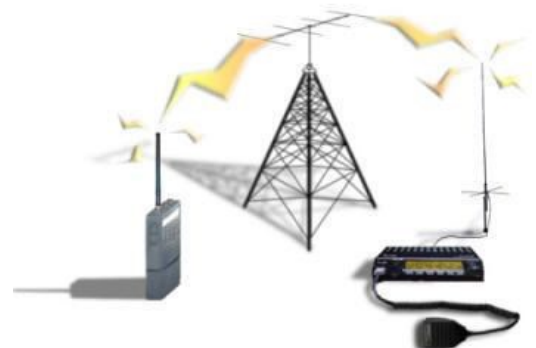


Okaw Valley ARC Has 220 Repeater!

Kudos to the Okaw Valley ARC in Greenville, IL. They now have an operational repeater on the 220 band (1 1/4 meters)! It is on 224.400 MHz, minus 1.6 MHz offset, with a CTCSS tone (pl) of 103.5 and it is linked to the Greenville 147.165 repeater which is in turn linked back to the 444.250 MHz system.

A big thank you to the trustees and repeater maintenance committee of the Okaw Valley

ARC for putting on the air and maintaining such a fine repeater system!



Antenna Analyzers Don't Tell The Whole Story!

Since late spring, club member Paul, KC9YCP has been experiencing difficulty getting a good signal into the WS9V repeater. Paul has a great signal on two meters, but for some reason 70cm seemed to be eluding him. He never put a "full-quieting" signal into the repeater, but it used to be acceptable. Paul built a 2 meter J-pole antenna and side mounted it about 20 feet off a TV tower leg. He feeds it with LMR-400 coax.

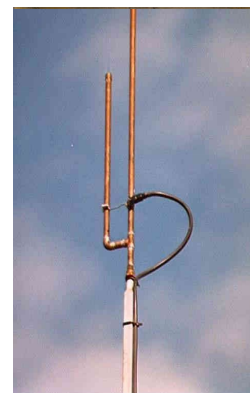
What had changed?

When an antenna analyzer was put on the antenna his SWR for 2 meters was 1:1.4 across the entire band. On 70 cm it was higher, but at 444.250 MHz the SWR was 1:1.7. Not ideal, but it is acceptable. As it turns out Paul was able to get into the repeater. Four months later, he can barely get into the machine. The analyzer showed the same SWR measurements. What it didn't show was the antenna's radiation pattern.

Let's look at figures 1 and 2 for they tell the story. To be sure

that is indeed what is happening a quick jaunt in the mobile and comparing field strength measurements east and west and north and south from KC9YCP's antenna indicated little variation on 2 meters and huge variations on 70 cm.

So why did the J-pole seem to work better in the spring and not a few months later? Great question! The answer can be found in the foliage. Leaves are a great RF absorber at UHF and higher frequencies. There is a large tree near KC9YCP's antenna!



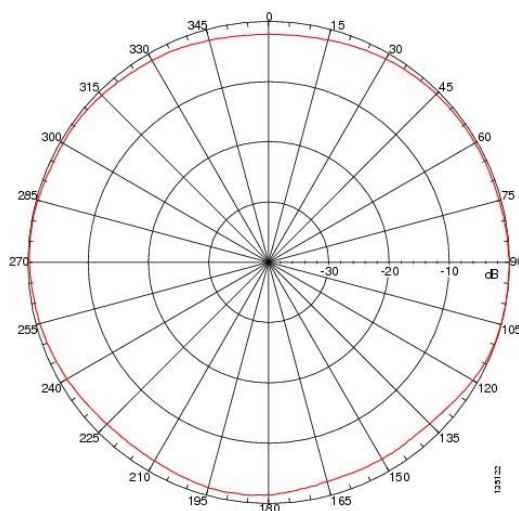
J-pole antenna for 2 meters.

Figure 1

This is an example of the radiation pattern of an omnidirectional antenna.

Notice that the signal indicated by the red line forms an almost perfect circle.

Paul, KC9YCP's J-pole exhibits this pattern on 2 meters.



**Not all
omnidirectional
antennas are
truly
omnidirectional**

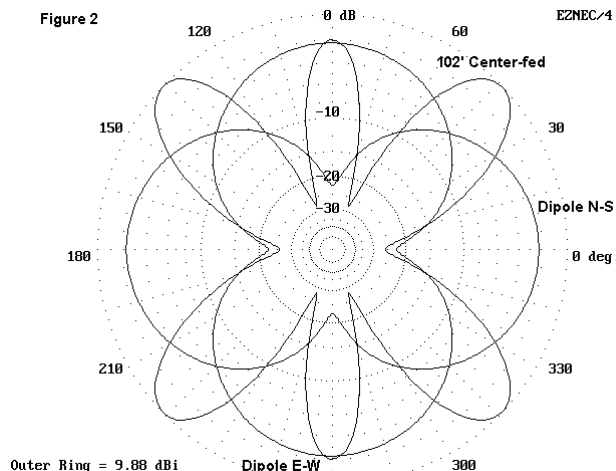
Figure 2

This is an example of how an antenna radiation pattern changes from an omnidirectional pattern to one with steep nulls and lobes when it is operated at the antenna's third harmonic.

Although this isn't the actual measured pattern of KC9YCP's J-pole being operated at its third harmonic (70 cm) it gives a good, general idea of what is happening. Relative to Paul's antenna, the WS9V/R is in one of the nulls.

The nulls don't mean that a signal isn't there; rather, it means the signal is greatly reduced as compared to the lobes.

Figure 2





Proposed Minutes from Wednesday, August 7, 2013 K9MCE Meeting

Proposed AGENDA: Wednesday, August 7, 2013

Prior to meeting, Pres. Gary H. addressed the gathering concerning two different kinds of splices to use when constructing wire antennas and showed examples. The preferred way is known as the Western Union splice and encouraged the use of solid copper clad steel wire, (16 or 18 gauge) when designing and building wire antennas.

Meeting Called to Order by: President Gary Huff K9AUB @ 7:03 PM

Pledge to the Flag: President Gary Huff

Roll Call of Officers:	President	Gary Huff – K9AUB- present
	Vice President	Ron Ochu - KO0Z- present
	Secretary	Mark Kerhlikar - WD9HBF- present
	Treasurer	Jim Pitchford -N9LQF-present

Directors:	Isaac Pizzo	KC9NJW-absent
	Hugh Watson	AB9UB- present
	Mark Osborn	WA9SXX-excused
	Charlie Ritter	KB9OXH-present

Welcome New Members/Guest: Jerod Stuemke from Greenville (wanting to test after meeting)
 Roman D (son of KC9ULA Debbie O.)
 Jim Wright WM9R

Roll Call of Members: Charlie R. KB9OXH, Jim P N9LQF, Walt R. KB9ENT, Bill O. W9FJ
 Mark K. WD9HBF, Ed K. KC9QHJ, Bill C. KJ9Y, Lou B KC9YFU
 Hugh W. AB9UB, Tim C. KC9HQA, Ron O. KO0Z,
 Debbie O. KC9ULA
 Gary H. K9AUB, Tom T. KC9WOH, Jeff N KC9WOZ.

Agenda Items:

Review of August 3rd Macoupin and Montgomery Co. Hamfest
Nominations of club officers
Volunteers for October run in Springfield

Motion to approve the Minutes:
July 3rd, 2013, MCARC Club Meeting

Motion to approve minutes made by: Ron O.
Motion seconded by: Jim P.

Motion was approved.

Secretary Report: Mark Kerhlikar WD9HBF

Mark K. reminded everyone to check into the MCARC weekly club net's on Thursday's at 8:30 PM followed by the A.R.E.S. net run by Bill O W9FJ

Treasurer Report: Jim Pitchford N9LQF

Current as of August 7th 2013 \$2267.38
There is an outstanding bill for the dumpster in the amount of \$30.00 and half of the proceeds from the hamfest \$385.00 needs to go to the Montgomery County club.

That leaves a total of \$1851.78.

Central Illinois Repeater Fund: \$1100.00

Preliminary report on hamfest: See attached addendum prepared by Jim P.

Motion to approve the Treasurer Report which includes giving 50 of hamfest earnings towards Montgomery County Club:

Motion by: Hugh W
Seconded by: Bill O.

Committee Reports:

Hamfest: Chairman, Tim Coonrod KC9HQA CO-Chairman Mark Osborn WA9SXX, Garry Wnuk AC9FF, Ron Ochu KOØZ

Tim C. reported that everything turned out real good and apologized for not getting things put together quicker he was taking care of someone in the hospital. Jim P reported that the vendors

did very well, and that approximately 152 people attended and this year was our best year within the past three years:

Hamfest 2011: Profit was \$377.65

Hamfest 2012: Profit was \$317.17

Hamfest 2013: Profit was \$385.20 profit up almost \$70.00

Approximately 50 more people would make a big difference in our revenues.

Tim C. requested a co-chair from this club who could get a hold of the vendors. He suggested one person to get a hold of the vendors. The consensus is with a small hamfest we will not get many vendors. Kenwood and Icom sent material and Yaseu sent hats and catalogs that arrived Saturday afternoon 2 hours after the hamfest, so Ron O. passed out hats at this meeting and a group picture was taken with our hats on.

Field Day: Chairman, Bill Emmons KC9OHE & CO-Chairman Tim Coonrod KC9HQA, Dave Wiles, Mark Kerhlikar WD9HBF, Ron Ochu KOØZ.

No report

K9MCE Website Committee: Chairman, Isaac Pizzo KC9NJW

No report.

VP of Emergency Communication: Chairman, Jim Pitchford N9LQF,

Springfield Marathon on Sunday morning SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20th, we need about 30 operators and will be using Al's 146.805 machine and the 444.400 Springfield machine and will be taking care of communications at water stations.

Thank you notes need to be sent to our hamfest sponsor and to our Field Day sponsor,, (Blackburn College). Lou B noted that 2 members from the Egyptian club showed up. Les from D and L has already committed to show up at next year's August 2nd, 2014 hamfest.

Emergency Communication Report on ARES in Macoupin County: Bill Ogle W9FJ

ARES HF net 3.905 MHz at 4:30PM on 1st and 3rd Sundays

ARES NET every Thursday Evening 147.480 MHz Simplex run by Bill Ogle.

Old Business:

Ron O reported that he hasn't had time to be in contact with Cubby Hole and haven't heard a thing from Gold Medal in Chicago. Lou B. reported that a Granite City, IL company has made the Egyptian club members jackets etc. for about \$24.00. He believes they are called embroideryexpression.org. Ron O would investigate.

New Business:

Mark K contacted K9CT, Craig, who owns a huge contesting station and suggested that a field trip of interested club members be organized. NWS service in St. Louis would be an option for a field trip also.

Nomnations of club officers: Gary H started by nominating Ron O for president and Ron O declined the nomination.

Jim P said there needs to be a committee put together that solicits nominations and those nominations will be presented at the September meeting so that October those new officers will take their office. President Gary H asked for volunteers and those people picked were Bill Ogle., Tom Turpin, and Bill Crawford as members of the nominating committee.

Charlie Ritter is going off as director and needs to be replaced and Tim Coonrod put his name in for director. Jim P is willing to continue as treasurer and Mark K is willing to continue as Secretary and Ron O. willing continue as Vice President. There was some discrepancy as to the other directors and their terms. Gary H said he would put his name in for president again.

So the present slate of possible candidates for the 2014 fiscal year and presented to the nominating committee:

For President: Gary Huff
For Vice President: Ron Ochu
For Director: Tim Coonrod
For Tresurer: Jim Pitchford
For Secretary: Mark Kerhlikar

Charlie Ritter was recognized and addressed the club and said that he was happy to be able to serve as director. He feels grateful for all the club has done for him. He also said he will be 94 next month! Way to go Charlie!!!

Mark K. announced that we have a new EXTRA CLASS in the room, Jeff N, congratulations Jeff!

Ron O said he and Debbie went to WIAW and while Debbie attended the summer institute offered by the ARRL, Ron operated WIAW and contacted several members of our club. He presented the QSL cards from the ARRL to Gary H (CW and SSB), Bill O (SSB), Mark K (CW and SSB) and Walt R. (SSB on 10 meters) and also the club (K9MCE) worked WIAW by way of Gary H.

Jim P. also announced that Debbie O is starting a new amateur radio club at her school in Girard and proposed that since her club is in Macoupin County we need to consider sponsoring her club. Jim P asked if Debbie has an amount in mind and Debbie said that she will bring an amount to the next meeting.

The Greenville, IL club is very active in getting young hams licensed.

Tom T. discussed a gentleman who fixes old computers and sells them cheaply and Tom said that perhaps there would be a way to get corporate sponsorship of Debbie's club. Ron O. added that the ARRL has a program through corporate sponsorship that would allow new clubs like Debbie's to get equipment.

Jim P. said that JOTA a national scouting event is coming up soon and our club could organize an event.

Tonight's Program: presented by Ron O. called "KC9ULA, Roman, and KO0Z July Ham Radio Adventures"

Motion to Adjourn: Motion made by: Lou B. 2nd By: Hugh W.

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH, 7:00 PM



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Peoria Superfest 2013
SEPTEMBER 21-22, 2013

(Peoria, IL August 1, 2013) Ham Radio, computer and electronics enthusiasts from several Midwestern states will converge on Exposition Gardens Fairgrounds in Peoria for Illinois' largest "HAMFEST" on September 21-22, 2013. For over 50 years the "Peoria SUPERFEST" sponsored by the Peoria-Area Amateur Radio Club, the Annual "SUPERFEST" has provided the perfect venue in the form of two large buildings where commercial vendors starting at 8:00AM Saturday through 2:00PM on Sunday will offer new and used amateur radios and accessories, computer equipment, peripherals, software and electronic components and a large outdoor open-air Flea Market which begins at 6 AM Saturday, September 21, and runs through 2 PM Sunday, September 22. The flea market will host private sellers with a wide assortment of almost anything electronic.

This year, the Peoria Superfest will host Riley Hollingsworth, retired FCC counsel. In 1998 Hollingsworth became Special Counsel with the new Enforcement Bureau and managed the Amateur Radio Service enforcement and the Land Mobile Service interference resolution programs in the Land Mobile and Public Safety services. Riley is a very entertaining speaker with many stories relating to the enforcement activity and amateur radio in general.

Rob Orr, Chicago Marathon Ham Radio Coordinator will speak on the impact the Boston Marathon Bombing will have on the upcoming Chicago Marathon and Brad Pioveson State RACES/ARES leader and Tom Ciccioria Illinois Section Manager will discuss the state of Amateur Radio Emergency Communications today and answer questions pertaining to a variety of related topics. These forums will start at 9:00AM Saturday in the Ameren-Cilco building.

Examinations for FCC ham licenses will be conducted on Saturday, September 21, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM in the Photography Building. Information on how to become a Ham Radio Operator and on the next Ham Radio class will also be available.

On Sunday, September 22 a high altitude balloon will be launched from Exposition Gardens at approximately 11:00AM. The balloon will contain a variety of ham radio equipment, including a high altitude GPS, Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS) for tracking the balloon, a UHF simplex repeater and a 40 meter CW beacon. High definition still and video cameras will be part of the payload.

Also on Sunday, September 22, there will be a Go-Kit competition at 9:00AM in the Youth Building for those amateur radio operators that have built portable radio stations that are used during emergency situations such as tornadoes and floods. These Go-Kits are deployed where needed to provide communications to served agencies such as the Red Cross and other groups that aid disaster recovery efforts.

Additionally, Rohn Tower of Peoria is donating a 50 foot antenna tower to be given away during a special raffle with the winner to be drawn at 1:00PM on Sunday. Proceeds from the raffle will be donated to the General Wayne A. Downing Home for Veterans located in Peoria. Winner is responsible for all transportation costs associated with the tower.

Food service is available onsite during Superfest hours of operation.

All events are open to the public. Children under 12 will be admitted free when accompanied by an adult. Advance tickets, good for the weekend, at \$7 each are available from local radio club members, and at Electronics Diversified at 100 Walnut Street, Peoria; Stewart Radio at 905 East Washington, East Peoria, Radio Shack, 1600 Washington Rd, Washington and East Peoria Jewelry and Trade at 213 East Washington, East Peoria. Advance Tickets are also available from our website at www.w9uvi.org. Tickets at the gate will be \$10.

More information is available on the Peoria Superfest at www.w9uvi.org

Notes to media:

The best opportunities for photographs and video will be on Saturday, 9 A.M. - 1 P.M.
For more information contact: Merle Joiner (309) 686-0403 or Fritz

ARRL Midwest Division Convention

November 8-9, 2013

Cowan Civic Center

Lebanon, Missouri



(Noon Friday to 4PM Saturday)

Amateur Radio & Public Service

Hosted by the Lebanon Amateur Radio Club

FACILITIES AND ENTRANCE FEE (NO CHARGE):

- **Free** Convention entry, **NO CHARGE TO ATTEND!**
- 40,000 square feet of vendor and manufacture display space
- **Free** "Polar Bear" outside tailgate space
- Tables available inside for a small fee for folks not comfortable with November weather

CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

- Well-known/famous guest speakers that include:
 - ✓ ** Bob Heil, Gordon West, Rick K5UR, K1ZZ ARRL CEO, Carole Perry, just to name a few...
- Forums that will include DXing, Technical, Youth Activities, Emergency Preparedness
- Amateur Radio Reps with the latest equipment on display including: Associated Radio, WB0W, D & L Antenna Products, RadioWavz, ICOM, ALPHA, FORCE12, Balun Designs, Mosley, Alpha Antennas, just to name a few with many others attending
- Public Service/Emergency Preparedness Vendors and Manufactures
- Over a dozen emergency Comm vehicles and mobile command centers on display

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

- Operate new ICOM equipment at W1AW/D Special Event Station
- KCDXC World Famous CW Contest with a fabulous prize!
- Classic Radio Beauty Contest
- VE Testing
- DXCC card checking that includes 160 cards!
- ARRL booth and Forum with K1ZZ
- Buy tickets for hourly and grand prize drawings

AND MUCH MORE... THE LIST IS GROWING! UPDATES TO FOLLOW. Check out our website: <http://www.arrlmidwestconvention.com/>

The Lebanon, Missouri, area has over 20 hotels and motels, plus over 75 restaurants. There are many area points of interest to visit with your family while in the area such as Bennett Spring State Park, and the Route 66 Museum.

Sponsors: Missouri DX/Contest Club, Kansas City DX/Contest Club, Rolla Regional Amateur Radio Society, Nixa ARC

(19 January 2013 -- Updates to follow)



ARRL Members & Friends – Celebrate in 2014!

ARRL The national association for
Amateur Radio®

CENTENNIAL

Advancing the Art and Science of Radio—Since 1914

Centennial Events & Programs

- **ARRL National Centennial Convention**
Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford, Connecticut
July 17-19, 2014
ARRL2014.org
- **Second Century Campaign for the ARRL Endowment**
www.arrl.org/scc
- **Yearlong On-Air Operating Event and Awards**

Plus commemorative publications, regional events, special QST features, and more!

More ARRL Centennial details coming soon

ARRL2014.org

ARRL National Centennial Convention

Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, Connecticut
July 17-19, 2014

Join the celebration as ARRL hosts this once-in-a-lifetime National Centennial Convention in Connecticut. The convention center is conveniently located in Connecticut's capital city of Hartford, ARRL's birthplace, at the crossroads of New England and halfway between New York City and Boston. While attending the convention, enjoy a tour of ARRL headquarters and W1AW, the Hiram P. Maxim Memorial Station in Newington, Connecticut. The region also boasts a wealth of hotels, restaurants and other world-class attractions.

July 17, 2014 – Thursday

- All-Day Training Tracks: public service, technology, radiosport, and more!

July 18-19, 2014 – Friday & Saturday

- Exhibit Hall featuring ARRL program representatives, Amateur Radio manufacturers, equipment sellers, and an indoor flea market
- Dozens of forums & presentations
- Friday Night Banquet

July 17-20, 2014

- Tours of ARRL headquarters and W1AW

Registration opens late summer 2013 (including hotel details)

ARRL2014.org



ANNOUNCING The 61st W9DXCC Convention



61st Annual W9DXCC Convention & Banquet
Saturday, September 21, 2013
Holiday Inn - Elk Grove Village, Illinois
Sponsored by the Northern Illinois DX Association

Joe Taylor K1JT Banquet Speaker
Master of Ceremonies: Jim O'Connell W9WU

PRESENTATIONS

T6MO Afghanistan Operations - Eric Hall K9GY
Propagation Update - Cycle 24 Predictions - Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA
Tales from the Latest IOTA Expedition - Mike McGirr K9AJ
NH8S Swains and 3D2C Conway Reef - Craig Thompson K9CT
Amsterdam Is Preparations FT5ZM - Jerry Rosalius WB9Z
Glenn Johnson W0GJ
Northern California DX Foundation Update
And much, more - See website for details

GRAND BANQUET AND PRIZES

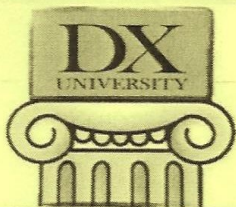
DX University 2013

the details of successful DXing from: Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA, NN1N Dave Patten
Sweeny K9EL, Paul Defilice K9NU, Mike McGirr K9AJ, and Jack Hudson W9MU
Friday, September 20th 9 AM - 5 PM

COME EARLY: Register for the course "DX University" from 10am-5 pm Friday
Friday Welcome Pizza Reception and Registration 5pm Friday
FOLLOWED BY: Late Friday Hospitality Suite Hosted by Northern Illinois DX Association
STAY LATE: Saturday Night Hospitality Suite Hosted by Greater Milwaukee DX Association

For further convention information, contact Kermit Carlson, W9XA W9XA@yahoo.com
information about taking the course "DX University," contact Jack Hudson, W9MU jack@W9MU

Details and Registration at www.w9dxcc.com
Elk Grove Village Holiday Inn - Special Room Rate Code: "W9D"



DX UNIVERSITY

Present



DXing From the Black Hole 2

We are happy to announce the DX University program for the 2013 W9DXCC will be held on Friday September 20th, 2013. This year's program offers a full day of 6 programs, plus a software lab and live chat room.

The programs are intended for both relatively new as well as more seasoned DX'ers. Six different programs will include materials to aid on the air DX'ing, QSLing, record keeping and awards.

9:00 Antennas and feed lines W9MU
Survey of typical antennas including intro to modeling software

10:00 Confirmations and DX awards NN1N
Includes QSL'ing, LOTW, and awards programs

11:00 Station software and DX information K9EL
Stay on top of latest DX info and essential station software

12:00 LUNCH (on your own)

13:00 Digital DX'ing K9NU
DXCC, Honor Roll on digital modes Yessir...

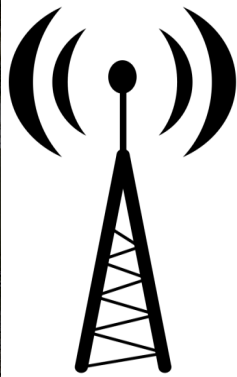
14:00 Propagation K9LA
DX'ing around the year, sunspots, seasons and bands

15:00 On being DX and good operating K9AJ
What's it like on the other end and best operating procedures

The software applications room is available from 9:00 to 16:00. All software presented during the day and presenters will be available for further questions and discussion.

Immediately following the last presentation complimentary pizza and pop will be available.

Please see the W9DXCC web site for registration details and full information on the 61st W9DXCC W9DXCC.com



Vern, WA0RCR has a very interesting news-cast on 1860 KHz.

**“WA0RCR,
Vern’s signal is a
great way to
test your 160
meter
antenna!”**

WA0RCR Radio

2109 Ebert Lane
Wentzville, MO 63385
(314) 332-3268
vern@wa0rcr.com
Web Site: www.wa0rcr.com

The Gateway 160 Meter Radio Newsletter Saturdays on Top Band 1860 KHz

1860 KHz AM Phone on WA0RCR **SCHEDULE**

Saturday, Afternoon and Evening; in North America.

Begins 10 AM Central Time (CDT in Summer)

10 AM Central. AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE; RAIN (Radio Amateur Information Network); ST. LOUIS AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE; HAMFEST ANNOUNCEMENTS; and ARRL AUDIO NEWS; and special announcements, recorded and live.

5:30 PM Central. THE HOUSTON AMSAT NET; by recorded re-broadcast.

Continue with: Amateur Radio Newslines; RAIN (Radio Amateur Information Network); St. Louis Amateur Radio Newslines; ARRL Audio News; Hamfest Announcements; and Special Announcements.

9 PM Central. THE HOUSTON AMSAT NET; (Recorded).

10 PM Central. ARRL AUDIO NEWS; and the latest AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE; RAIN; and ST. LOUIS AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE; and Special Announcements.

Emergency Weather Warnings direct from N.W.S. In St. Louis, MO. for St. Charles; Lincoln; and Warren Counties, in Missouri, anytime during the Gateway 160 Meter Radio Newsletter.

3:30 AM Central or after; Close Newsletter; Sign Off.

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

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Website: www.k9mce.org

Webmaster: Issac Pizzo, KC9NJW



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

September 2013

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

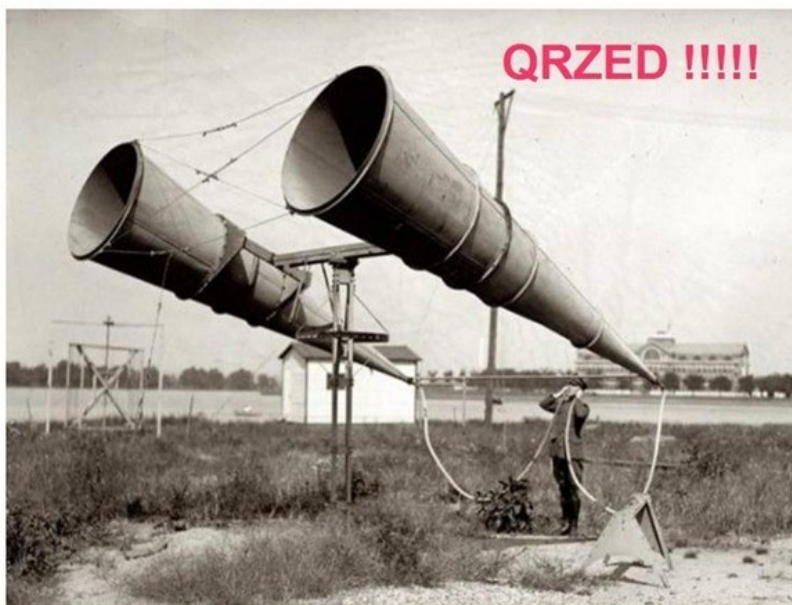
Sat

1 <i>Clinton Cnty</i> <i>ARES Net @ 8:30 pm</i> <i>444.250, (pl 103.5)</i> <i>Okaw Valley ARC Net,</i> <i>444.250, (pl 103.5) @</i> <i>9:00 pm</i>	2 <i>W9EVY Memorial Net,</i> <i>146.820 @ 8:30 pm</i>	3	4 <i>K9MCE club</i> <i>meeting at 7:00</i> <i>pm. Dinner at</i> <i>Reno's around</i> <i>5:00 pm.</i>	5 <i>K9MCE Club</i> <i>Net 444.250, (pl</i> <i>103.5)@8:30 pm.</i> <i>Macoupin Cnty ARES</i> <i>Net, W9FJ net control</i> <i>147.480 simplex @</i> <i>9:00 pm.</i>	6	7
8 <i>Clinton Cnty</i> <i>ARES Net @ 8:30 pm</i> <i>444.250, (pl 103.5)</i> <i>Okaw Valley ARC Net,</i> <i>444.250, (pl 103.5) @</i> <i>9:00 pm</i>	9	10	11	12 <i>K9MCE Club</i> <i>Net 444.250, (pl</i> <i>103.5)@8:30 pm.</i> <i>Macoupin Cnty ARES</i> <i>Net, W9FJ net control</i> <i>147.480 simplex @</i> <i>9:00 pm.</i>	13	14 <i>ARRL</i> <i>VHF Contest</i>
15 <i>Clinton Cnty</i> <i>ARES Net @ 8:30 pm</i> <i>444.250, (pl 103.5)</i> <i>Okaw Valley ARC Net,</i> <i>444.250, (pl 103.5) @</i> <i>9:00 pm</i> <i>ARRL VHF Contest</i>	16	17	18	19 <i>K9MCE Club</i> <i>Net 444.250, (pl</i> <i>103.5)@8:30 pm.</i> <i>Macoupin Cnty ARES</i> <i>Net, W9FJ net control</i> <i>147.480 simplex @</i> <i>9:00 pm.</i>	20 <i>TAPR</i>	21 <i>ARRL 10</i> <i>GHz and up contest</i> <i>Round 2</i> <i>Peoria Hamfest</i> <i>TAPR</i> <i>W9DXCC</i>
22 <i>Clinton Cnty</i> <i>ARES Net @ 8:30 pm</i> <i>444.250, (pl 103.5)</i> <i>Okaw Valley ARC Net,</i> <i>444.250, (pl 103.5) @</i> <i>9:00 pm, 10 GHz</i> <i>Contest</i> <i>Peoria Hamfest, TAPR</i>	23	24	25	26 <i>K9MCE Club</i> <i>Net 444.250, (pl</i> <i>103.5)@8:30 pm.</i> <i>Macoupin Cnty ARES</i> <i>Net, W9FJ net control</i> <i>147.480 simplex @</i> <i>9:00 pm.</i>	27	28 <i>CQ WW</i> <i>RTTY Contest,</i> <i>ARRL EME</i> <i>contest</i>
29 <i>Clinton Cnty</i> <i>ARES Net @ 8:30 pm</i> <i>444.250, (pl 103.5)</i> <i>Okaw Valley ARC Net,</i> <i>444.250, (pl 103.5) @</i> <i>9:00 pm</i> <i>CQ WW RTTY, EME</i>	30					



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

Due to several conflicts with scheduling interviews, the column "On Frequency With" will not be featured this month. Hopefully, next month will be more open.



ARRL 10 Ghz and Up Contest

Saturday August 17, 0 dark thirty in the morning. Unbelievably, KO0Z is up at 4:30 am, showered and shaved and by 5:00 am he is on his way to Ohlman Cemetery just east of Ohlman on IL Route 16. Ohlman is in between Nokomis and Pana and is in grid square EM59ji. Tnx to Jim, N9LQF for alerting me to this great microwave location.

What makes this location so great is that it is about 40 feet higher than the surrounding terrain and it is clear in all directions.

The day started off clear and a bit cool with the temps in the mid sixties and an expected high in the mid eighties. Not

bad for microwaving. I was set



up and I was letting my 10 MHz OCXO warm up. I aimed my dish towards the St. Louis 10 GHz beacon and after about a ten minute warm up there it was coming in at an S-9+!

I was able to work the gents back in St. Louis both on CW and USB with great signals. Next I tried to work Ron,

W9ZIH outside of Chicago, but with no luck. I was able to put Zack, W9SZ in the logbook at a distance of just over 90 miles!

I did a repeat performance on Sunday August 18 with the St. Louis beacon roaring in. Unfortunately I wasn't able to put N5MU from St. Louis in the logbook. However I was able to work Bob, W4SYWC

from EN52sa which is about 195 miles away and EN51xr a distance of over 170 miles in the logbook! Bob was up from Plano, TX to join in the fun of microwaving in northern Illinois.

All is all a great weekend. I am looking forward to Round II in September.