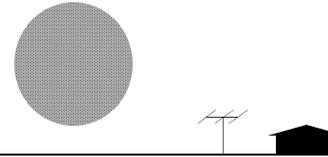


Twin City Amateur Radio Club

Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

April 2007

Milt Forsberg K9QZI, Editor



Hamfest Calendar

Apr 14 TCARC Auction
Apr 15 Peru IN
Apr 21 Madison WI
Apr 22 Galva IL
Apr 29 Arthur IL Firehouse [new location](#)
Apr 29 Sandwich IL
May 18-20 Dayton OH
Jun 2-3 Princeton IL
Jun 8-9 Hamcom Plano TX

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TCARC
PO Box 2061
Champaign, IL 61825-2061

VE Exams

07-Apr-2007 SANGAMON VALLEY RADIO CLUB
9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC
JAMES STEVE UPCHURCH (217) 529-3218
AMERICAN RED CROSS 1045 OUTER PARK DR
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704

15-Apr-2007 TWIN CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC
DEBRA J FLIGOR (217)244-4446
UNIV OF IL FIRE SERVICE INST
11 GERTY DR CHAMPAIGN, IL 61820

28-Apr-2007 TIPPECANOE ARA (TARA)

1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC
TIMOTHY B GARDNER (765)447-2615
RED CROSS CHAPTER HOUSE
111 S 7TH ST LAFAYETTE, IN 47901

08-May-2007 WABASH VALLEY ARC

7:00 PM (No walk-ins) ARRL/VEC
DAVID L PIFER (812)466-1005
WORLD GOSPEL CHURCH
700 GARDENDALE RD TERRE HAUTE, IN 47803

Meeting April 10

Our next meeting of the Twin City Amateur Radio Club is Tuesday, April 10, at the UI Fire Institute at 7:00 p.m.

Our April meeting features Jim Coleman, KA6A. He will give a presentation on lasers and fiber optics. This will be an informative and fascinating evening. Jim is a past President of TCARC and a Life Member of the club. You may remember a previous presentation by Jim on Amelia Earhart. Plan now to join us at the April meeting next week.

To get to the Fire Institute, go south on First Street from the Assembly Hall to the UI Credit Union - that is Gerty. Go West on Gerty to the end of the street. You will be in the Fire Institute parking lot. We are in one of the classrooms inside.

The Board meets the Thursday prior to the club meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the UI Fire Institute. Please note that this is a change from our past board meeting locations. All members are welcome to attend.

Last Plea for Dues

We thank everyone who renewed their membership by paying the \$20 for 2007 dues. However, there are several who have not yet renewed. These people are still receiving the newsletter, but we will soon mail only to those who are current. Please check your address label and if you see 2006, you are not current. If not, please send your check.

VE Exam April 15

Our next VE Exam session is Sunday, April 15 at 1:00 p.m. at the UI Fire Institute. This is our last exam using the current General Class Question Pool. The new questions are effective July 1. If you plan to test or upgrade, please bring a picture ID, your original license and a copy we can keep, and any CSCE that applies to the upgrade. With CSCE credit, you do not take the exam if the CSCE is less than 365 days old. All elements are available for testing. The exam fee is \$14, as set by the ARRL, and it applies to everyone taking exams and/or making a paper upgrade without testing. If you have questions, please contact Debbie, N9DN.

TCARC Officers and Board Members

President Bob Minton WA9KGU 352-4859
Vice President Ralph Cox W9PGE 396-5111
Secretary Wayne Hamilton AB9FJ 384-4310
Treasurer Milt Forsberg K9QZI 352-5075

Board Members

Al Wolfe K9SI 688-2790
Drew White K9CW 643-7327
Ben Fisher K9BF 351-7655

VE Coordinator

Debbie Fligor N9DN 244-4446

Website

www.qsl.net/w9seh

Auction is a Week Away!

Plans are moving along for our auction on Saturday, April 14. Several have offered items to donate to the club. This will help our fund raising a lot. We are still looking for donations. If you have items to sell, get them ready, check them out, and clean them up. Make them bring top dollar for you. If you have accessories and/or manuals, be sure to include them as well. The original box for the item helps the sale as well. If you wish to make a small card describing the item, attach it so the buyers can read it prior to the auction when everyone is browsing. Please remember that we take 10% of the selling price as a commission to the club. Bidder numbers are \$2 each. Payment by check is fine for club members, and with proper identification by non-members. The doors open at 11, so bring your stuff early for everyone to see. Food will be available at the church for Lunch. All items, sold or unsold, must be removed by the owner at the conclusion of the auction. Included in this newsletter is a flyer for the auction. If you can post it somewhere, that will help our advertising. You may make copies if you wish.

AES Superfest

Amateur Electronics, the large Amateur Radio store in Milwaukee, held the Superfest on Friday and Saturday, March 30-31. The event was in the store, mostly in the warehouse in the rear of the store. The crowd attending was larger than ever this year, which may be a good indication that there is growing interest in our hobby. Both days were crowded. On Friday, the displays by manufacturers were open and staffed by representatives from the manufacturers. Most of the big names were there, including Icom, Yaesu, and Alinco. Kenwood was absent from the show. Many others were there such as MFJ, ARRL, W5YI, Antennex (now Laird), and many more. Several clubs had tables with exhibits, and a local emergency communications vehicle was on display.

Our area was well represented at Superfest by K9QZI, KC9DUU, KC9JVY, K0OJR, N9DN, KD5EOQ, N0PRN, and KB9KAI.

On Saturday, the exhibits were again open, and there were many more activities. A foxhunt ran for an hour in the morning. That was one of the more interesting features of the Superfest. Behind the building, there is a grassy area with lots of brush and weeds. 10 small transmitters were hidden for the hunters to locate. 4 frequencies were used. On one frequency, 4 transmitters were synchronized so each would transmit 15 seconds, each on a different portion of the minute. This was duplicated with another set of 4 on a different frequency. There were 2 more transmitters on their own frequency. One hour was permitted to locate the transmitters. One of the hunters found all 10. Others found varying numbers. Mark, KC9DUU and Adam KC9JVY, were in on the hunt and each found several transmitters.

All during the day on Saturday, outstanding speakers presented seminars on many amateur radio topics. They included digital communications, software control of radios, a talk by Joel Harrison, W5ZN, the new ARRL President, an informative and entertaining talk and demonstration by Bob Heil of Heil Sound, a presentation on D-Star digital radios, and the highlight of the weekend was Gordon West with his most entertaining presentation on Amateur Radio in general. Many nice door prizes were drawn and given, but none to anyone from our club. Overall, it was a most enjoyable weekend.

Field Day

Field Day is June 23 and 24. We have decided to change the location this year to the Ford-Harris Park on Ford-Harris Road. It is a small township park one-half mile west of US 45 and one mile south of Leverett Road. If you can participate, please let us know at the next meeting. We need operators and equipment. You are welcome to just observe if you wish.

Annual Auction April 14, 2007

**Windsor Road Christian Church
2501 W Windsor Road
Champaign, Illinois
Between Mattis and Duncan on the South
Side of Windsor**

**Doors open at 11:00 A.M.
Auction Starts at 1:00 P.M.
Food Service Available**

Everyone is invited to bring electronic items to sell. Radio Equipment, Computers, Software, most other electronic related items are welcome - no television sets or stereos please!

**Bidder numbers to participate are \$2.00
Many Door Prizes to Bidder Number Holders**

This is our annual fundraiser. The club retains 10% of the selling price of items sold to anyone but the original seller. No guarantee of serviceability is expressed or implied. All sales are final.

NSF Checks will be assessed a \$35 charge.

Donations of equipment where the proceeds are kept by the club are always appreciated.

Talk In on 146.76 and 444.1 Repeaters (162.2 tone)

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