

2013 Hamfest Calendar

2014 Hamfest Calendar

Jan 4 Waukesha WI
 Jan 19 St Charles IL
 Jan 25 Collinsville IL
 Feb 7-9 Orlando FL



VE Exam Schedule

Dec 14 2013 Wabash Valley ARC
 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC
 D Steven. Shorter (812) 232-4788
 Glas-Col Annex-Rear of Building
 1715 S 8th St Terre Haute IN

January 2014
Exact Date to be Announced
 Twin City Amateur Radio Club
 Champaign IL

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TCARC
 PO Box 2061
 Champaign, IL 61825-2061

Twin City Amateur Radio Club

Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

December 2013
 Milt Forsberg K9QZI Editor



Meeting December 10

Our next meeting is 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 10 at the UI Fire Institute. The program is a presentation on the MFJ 269 Antenna Analyzer. This is a handy tool for tuning and adjusting all kinds of antennas. Jim, N9AJV, will use a Powerpoint show created by his father to demonstrate the analyzer. Join us as an informal group has Dinner at Culver's on South Neil around 6 p.m. prior to the meeting.

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.

TCARC Board Meeting

The TCARC Board meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Culver's on South Neil Street. This arrangement allows Board Members who are also ARES members to go directly to the ARES meeting at 7, and lets them spend one evening for 2 meetings instead of taking 2 evenings. All club members are welcome to attend the Board Meetings.

Our Next VE Session

January 2014
 UI Fire Institute

Local Nets

D-Rats Net on W9YR Tuesday 8 p.m.
 ◆Week of Second Tuesday - Meets Wednesday
 ARES 444.100 Tuesday 9 p.m.
 Illinois D-Star 443.48125 Wednesday 9 p.m.
 Champaign Co 146.760 Thursday 9 p.m.
 Illini Net 14.320 11:30 a.m. Daily
 ◆Except Thursday

Dues!

Thanks to the many who paid their 2014 dues already! Check your email or address label to be sure you received credit. If you have not paid, please do so by January 1, 2014. \$20 individual \$21 family.

Last Month's Meeting

We had to make an emergency change in plans for our November meeting. Les, W9XC, planned to present a demonstration of the Flex 6500 software defined radio, but at the last minute he was fighting the flu and was unable to be with us. A few quick calls to some of our members found that Ben K9BF and Bill W9JPN, were happy to bring their antique radios for a demonstration. This was arranged about 4 hours prior to the meeting. The presentations were most interesting and created lots of questions for the owners. It worked out well. We apologize for the change. Les is now in the hospital with back problems, so he will bring the radio at a later date.

TCARC Officers and Board Members

President	Wayne Hamilton AB9FJ	384-4310
Vice President	Paul Toth N9XDN	840-3522
Secretary	Chris Anderson W9CMA	403-1599
Treasurer	Milt Forsberg K9QZI	352-5075

Board Members

Jeremy Lamb 2016	621-8036
Kevin Coogan KC8RFE 2014	937-572-2081
Jim Crisman N9AJV	202-7402

VE Coordinator

Debbie Fligor N9DN	244-4446
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Website	www.w9seh.org
Analog Repeater K9CU	146.760
D-Star Repeater W9YR	443.48125

Jim Osburn WD9EYB

It is with great regret we report the recent untimely passing of James "Jim" Patrick Osburn, WD9EYB, at the age of 61. He was spending Thanksgiving at his sister's house near Inman, SC. Jim got to his sister's house on Tuesday evening before Thanksgiving Day, had a good meal, and went to bed. Sadly, Jim passed away sometime during his sleep.

Jim was well known all over the Wabash Valley. Jim was a former technical specialist coordinator Jim had currently been very active as a volunteer at the Ryves Youth Center in Terre Haute. He enjoyed tutoring the youth with his knowledge in a variety of subjects including ham radio.

He was a four-time recipient of the Brentlinger Award of the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association. He was a strong advocate of amateur radio in the Wabash Valley. With a master's degree in Electrical Engineering from Rose Hulman and many years of ham radio experience he was the source of great knowledge to his fellow hams. We will all greatly miss Jim.

Several TCARC members knew Jim or worked with him in hidden transmitter hunts. He held several hunts in Lincoln Trail State Park near Marshall, IL. This was a highlight for TCARC members to travel to the hunt and participate. Jim attended one of our hunts in the Champaign-Uabana area.

A memorial service will be announced probably in the beginning of January 2014. Memorials may be made to the Ryves Youth Center, 1356 Locust St., Terre Haute, IN 47807.

Get Your Newsletter by Email

Many club members receive this newsletter by email each month. If you are not one who does and would like to have it sent, please let Milt K9QZI know and you will be on the list. Email copies are sent at the same time the paper copies go to the post office. Thus, email recipients get the news a day or two earlier than those receiving US Mail.

Hamfests

December hamfests are few, but January will see the regular first of the year events such as Waukesha WI, St Charles IL, and Collinsville IL. Waukesha, Wisconsin starts the year off on Saturday, January 4, 2014. The location is The Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, 1000 Northview Road, Waukesha, WI 53186. All indoors, it is in a very nice building. Collinsville, IL, is also on a Saturday, January 25, 2014, It is held at The Gateway Center, 1 Gateway Drive, Collinsville, IL 62234. The location is near the intersection of I70 and I255.

November found 2 hamfests in our area. The first was in Fort Wayne, Indiana. A Saturday-Sunday hamfest, it is always a very nice event, all indoors with plenty of parking. The Saturday crowd was good, with Sunday being the usual light attendance. Vendor numbers were down a little more this year over last year. There was a fair amount of space at both ends of the both ends of the huge room. Several interesting forums appeared on Saturday. The weather cooperated well for the hamfest. However, this was the weekend of the Sunday tornadoes near Champaign. Travel from the hamfest to home was without incident from the storms. Timing was the key, traveling between the weather. The drive from Indianapolis was all clear sky and sunny. The second November hamfest was in Evansville, Indiana on November 30. At the 4-H grounds, the inside location was welcome, although the weather was fairly mild. The crowd and vendor numbers were about the same as previous years. TCARC was well represented by KR4S, K9BF, K5LEA, W9CMA, and K9QZI.

VE Exams

Our next VE Exam Session is in January. The date is not yet confirmed, so we will publish it in the newsletter next month. Below is a list of exam pool expiration dates:

Technician	July 1 2014
General	July 1 2015
Extra	July 1 2016

Plans Announced to Update The Communications Act of 1934

ARRL Bulletin 33 ARLB033
December 5, 2013

To all radio amateurs:

The US House Communications and Technology Subcommittee has announced plans for a multi-year effort to examine and update the Communications Act of 1934, the overarching law under which the FCC functions. The subcommittee, part of the US House Energy and Commerce Committee, is chaired by Oregon Republican Greg Walden, W7EQI. Walden and Energy and Commerce Committee Chair Fred Upton of Michigan made the announcement December 3.

"Today we are launching a multi-year effort to examine our nation's communications laws and update them for the Internet era," Upton said in a news release. "The United States has been the global leader in innovation and growth of the Internet, but unfortunately, our communications laws have failed to keep pace."

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, noted that the most recent significant update of the Communications Act was in 1996. "Under the leadership of Greg Walden, the subcommittee and its staff are well equipped to take up the challenge," Sumner said. "The ARRL will be monitoring the work closely as it goes forward next year and beyond."

The plan was made public via Google Hangout, where the committee leaders were joined by former FCC Commissioner Robert McDowell, who said he was "delighted" to learn of the update plans. Upton explained that the process, to start in 2014, will involve a series of white papers and hearings focusing on what might be done "to improve the laws surrounding the communications marketplace as well as a robust conversation utilizing all platforms of digital media." He suggested a bill would be ready by 2015.

Walden said, "A lot has happened since the last update" and that the Communications Act is "now painfully out of date." He pointed out that the Act, drafted during the Great Depression, was last updated "when 56 kilobits per second via dial-up modem was state of the art."

Upton said, "We must ensure that our laws make sense for today but are also ready for the innovations of tomorrow."

Walden said he wants to open the discussion to input from everyone. Interested parties may follow the plan's progress via Twitter. "It's important for people to have an opportunity to weigh in," he said. "This is really a public process to get better public policy."

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ARRL Granted Use of W1ØØAW For League's Centennial

Special Bulletin 13 ARLX013
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT December 5, 2013
To all radio amateurs

ARRL Granted Use of W1ØØAW for League's Centennial

The FCC has authorized the Maxim Memorial Station W1AW to also use the call sign W1ØØAW during 2014, the ARRL's centennial year. Contacts made from the Maxim Memorial Station in Newington, from regional Centennial conventions, and during the IARU HF Championship will use W1ØØAW, with portable designators as appropriate. The "W1AW WAS" operations throughout 2014 from each of the 50 states will use W1AW, not W1ØØAW.

Bulletins and code practice transmissions during 2014 also will still use W1AW. Contacts with W1ØØAW will be worth 100 points in the ARRL Centennial QSO Party. To help kick off the ARRL Centennial, special W1ØØAW activity will begin at 0500 UTC on January 1, 2014 (midnight in Newington), and will include participation in ARRL's Straight Key Night; one CW station will use Hiram Percy Maxim's straight key. Activity will continue throughout New Year's Day.

NNNN
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Baofeng owners - Curt, KC9UNL is willing to program your radio! curtstamp@aol.com