

Hamfest Calendar

Dec 13 Carthage IL
Jan 3 Waukesha WI
Jan 24 Collinsville IL
Jan 25 St Charles IL
Feb 13-15 Orlando FL



VE Exams

06-Dec-2008 Sangamon Valley Radio Club
9:00 Am (Walk-Ins Allowed) ARRL/VEC
James Steven Upchurch (217)529-3218
American Red Cross-II Capital Area Chapter
1045 Outer Park Dr Springfield, IL

07-Dec-2008 Wabash Valley ARA
1:00 PM (Walk-Ins Allowed) ARRL/VEC
Raymond N Andrews(812)535-3222
1715 South 8th St Terre Haute, IN

11-Dec-2008 Iroquois County ARC
5:00 PM (Walk-Ins Allowed) ARRL/VEC
Carl F Schroeder (815)473-4263
Glen Raymond School
101 W Mulberry St Watseka, IL

10-Jan-2009 K9DUR
8:30am (Walk-Ins Allowed) ARRL/VEC
Terry L Hackett (217)465-4884
Burkybile Law Office
15175 Us Highway 150 Paris, IL

Twin City Amateur Radio Club

Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

December 2008

Milt Forsberg K9QZI Editor



Meeting December 9

Our next meeting of the Twin City Amateur Radio Club is Tuesday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the UI Fire Institute. Al, K9SI, will present the program for this meeting. He will present information and demonstrate a Time Domain Reflectometer, and also the making of a circulator which combines 2 radio systems to use the same antenna. This is a feature of the K9SI repeater and the W9YR D-Star repeater. If you don't know what a Time Domain Reflectometer is, come to the meeting and find out.

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.

Holiday Party

We are once again fortunate to be invited to the home of Ben and Sherry Fisher, K9BF and N9DOG, for a Holiday Party. It will be Saturday, December 13, starting at 6:00 p.m. All Amateur Radio Operators and their families are invited to attend. Those attending should bring a dish to share. Sandwiches, soft drinks, and table service will be provided. Please do not bring any gifts this time. It will be an evening of good food, fun, and fellowship for all. Be sure to mark your calendar for December 13 and plan to attend for an enjoyable evening. This is for all Amateurs, not restricted to club members. We thank Ben and Sherry in advance for providing this opportunity.

The location is 1408 W William St in Champaign. Take John Street from Mattis East 4 blocks to Westlawn, South on Westlawn one block to William. Go East on William to the second curve. It's the house on the Northeast corner of the curve.

Dues Are Now Due

Our fiscal year ends December 31, so it is time to send your 2009 dues to the club. The amount remains at \$20 and all licensed family members can be added for \$1, making a total of \$21. We need your support to continue the club activities that so many of our members enjoy. You can drop your payment off at the December club meeting, or you can send it to the return address on this newsletter. Your dues status is on your address label. The date on the first line is the expiration date of your current dues. All members renew as of January 1 each year, regardless of when a member joins the club. Please report any errors to K9QZI.

Newsletter by Email

If you want to receive this newsletter by email, please send a note to newsletter@w9seh.org so we may add your email address to the list.

TCARC Officers and Board Members

President	Dr Mike Trautman K9MLT	356-4302
Vice President	Larry Mohr K9LMM	356-3794
Secretary	Chris Anderson W9CMA	403-1599
Treasurer	Milt Forsberg K9QZI	352-5075

Board Members

Al Wolfe K9SI	688-2790
Wayne Hamilton AB9FJ	384-4310
Jeremy Lamb KC9KGJ	621-8036

VE Coordinator

Debbie Fligor N9DN	244-4446
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Website	www.w9seh.org
Analog Repeater W9SEH	146.760
D-Star Repeater W9YR	443.48125

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Howard Knoebel W9MBD

Howard W. Knoebel, age 85, of rural Toledo passed away at 3:55 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2008.

He is survived by his wife, Christine; his son, John of Hawthorn Woods; his sister, Shirley (Ferguson) of Brentwood, Mo.; his stepson, Thomas Hayes of Surprise, Ariz.; and his stepdaughter, Pamela (Hayes) Kaupins of Ottumwa, Iowa.

Howard Knoebel was born on Dec. 13, 1922, in Highland to Florence Julia (Stocker) and Wilbert George Knoebel. He married L. Christine Amyx on Aug. 11, 1957, at University Place Christian Church in Urbana. He received his amateur radio license, **W9MBD** in 1940. He worked as a machinist for Briner Electric Company in St. Louis, attended the University of Illinois in Urbana and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He attended the Radio Material School, Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. and served on the staff at the Navy Radio Material School at Navy Pier in Chicago.

At the end of the war, he volunteered to participate in "Operation Crossroads," the atomic bomb tests against a fleet of naval vessels at Bikini Atoll. Under the GI Bill, Howard completed his electrical engineering studies at the University of Illinois where he remained as a researcher and professor for the rest of his career.

At the University, he developed equipment that led to the discovery of the nuclear magnetic resonance spin echo which ultimately contributed to "Magnetic Resonance Imaging" (MRI). He worked on the development of Doppler radar systems, electrically levitated gyroscopes, rocket probes of electron density in the upper atmosphere and optical computer memory technology.

His hobbies included furniture making, working in his machine shop, computers, amateur radio and raising his dogs.

Professor Knoebel taught courses in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering and General Engineering. Working with students in a senior level engineering internship course, he participated in a wide range of applied electromechanical projects including engineering aids for the physically handicapped, numerous technologies for industrial manufacturing and the explanation of early fuel injection failure in modern automobile engines. During summers, he remodeled apartment houses, doing carpentry, electrical and plumbing work.

Upon retirement from the University of Illinois in 1979, Professor Knoebel devoted time to his 103-acre tree farm near Toledo, where he constructed a round barn, two-story house, out-buildings, sawmill, lumber kiln, ham radio shack and a 120-foot antenna tower.

Professor Knoebel held offices in the Illini Figure Skating Club, Hammond Chord Organ Club, Champaign-Urbana Motorcycle Club, Lakeland Beekeepers Association, Moultrie Amateur Radio Klub, National Trail Amateur Radio Club and served as a deacon in the Toledo Christian Church.

Field Day 2008 Results

Our Field Day participation put us 12th in a group of 82 stations in our 5A class. We made 1581 contacts, scoring 4816 points, with 40 participants. The top score in the 5A class was 15,980 points from 4951 contacts. Our effort was worth it and we had fun at the event. Let's look forward to next year and expand our plans for an even better Field Day 2009. Thanks to everyone who helped this year.

Peoria D-Star Running

The Peoria D-Star repeater, W9PIA, is now in operation on 145.105 MHz. Those attending the Peoria Superfest could see the repeater set up temporarily in the Opera House. The Internet Gateway is not complete yet, but should be soon. With a good antenna, we can talk to it from CU.

TCARC Fox Hunt November 16

By Al Wolfe, K9SI

The fox hunt began Sunday, Nov 16, at 2:00 PM as scheduled. Al, K9SI, and Larry, K9LMM, were the foxes. Three teams showed up for the hunt. Unfortunately, no one at the starting point could hear the fox even though the fox was running 50 watts into a ten element beam aimed at the starting point. (Note to fox: Need to check this out before hand!) The fox then gave a large hint: try Lake of the Woods. This was enough, apparently, to get the hunters headed in the right direction. The hunters were generally able to pick up a signal on Rt. 150 on the way to Lake of the Woods.

At 2:35 the team of K9BF and KC9DUU were seen speeding by the fox headed North of County Road 6 E. At 2:37 they turned in to the parking lot at the new Sangamon River Forest Preserve where the main fox was located. They then commenced looking for the three other foxes hidden in the park.

At 2:47 the team of KC9SZX and Brock, KB9JBA, showed up and began looking for the other foxes

Dragging up the rear was the third team of Jeremy, KC9KGJ, Cassie, KC9KZG, and David Jones, WD9AGO, from St Joseph arrived at 3:33.

The BF and DUU team reported finding the last fox at 3:20 and were declared the winners. The last team reported their last fox found at 4:22.

After some discussion the group decided to retire to O'Charley's to commiserate. We were joined there by a couple of more hams.

VE Exams

Our next VE Exam is tentatively Sunday, January 25. It is not confirmed yet, but this will most likely be the date. The exam fee for 2009 is \$15.00 for the session. It is an increase of \$1.00 from 2008, and it is set by the ARRL/VEC. Watch for an announcement confirming the date in the January newsletter.

Hamfest Report

November found a few hamfests in our area. November 14 and 15 was the Fort Wayne Hamfest. It was run in the usual excellent manner by the Ft Wayne club. The numbers were down from last year both in attendees and vendors. Many premium spaces were empty and several tables in the used equipment area were removed. The crowd was moderate on Saturday and almost nonexistent on Sunday. Sales were reported both good and bad by various vendors. The Evansville, Indiana hamfest was Saturday, November 28. Due to a scheduling error, the hamfest had to move to a barn in the same 4-H grounds. The space was heated with new propane tall heaters and was comfortable. Anyone going to the rest room got their exercise. It was a short hike to the facilities. Sales were down a little from past years, but it was an enjoyable day for all. Saturday, December 13 is the Carthage, Illinois hamfest. This is a fairly small hamfest just West of Macomb, Illinois. January 3 is Waukesha, Wisconsin. And, the big Orlando Hamcation in Florida is February 13-15. It has grown every year and it makes a most enjoyable trip for the middle of February.

Holiday Magic Chemistry Demonstration Shows

The School of Chemical Sciences, Department of Chemistry, American Chemical Society Student Affiliates, and R.E.A.C.T. Outreach Program are sponsoring Holiday Magic Chemistry Demonstration Shows on Wednesday, December 10 at 7:00pm and Sunday, December 14 at 2:00pm. Both shows will be held in G. L. Clark Hall (100 Noyes Lab), and are free and open to the public. Bring the whole family!

Merry Christmas

Happy Holidays

Happy New Year