

Hamfest Calendar

Jan 5 Waukesha WI
26 Collinsville IL
27 St Charles IL
Feb 1-2 Jackson MS
8-10 Orlando FL
Mar 9 Sterling IL
28-29 Amateur Electronics Superfest

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TCARC
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Champaign, IL 61825-2061

VE Exams

12-Jan-2008 K9DUR ARRL/VEC
8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
TERRY L HACKETT (217)465-4884
BURKYBILE LAW OFFICE
15175 US HIGHWAY 150 PARIS, IL

27-Jan-2008 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

02-Feb-2008 SANGAMON VALLEY RADIO CLUB
9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC
JAMES STEVE UPCHURCH (217)529-3218
AMERICAN RED CROSS-IL CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER
1045 OUTER PARK DR SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704

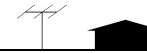
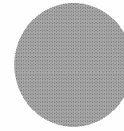
03-Feb-2008 WABASH VALLEY ARA
1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC
RAYMOND N ANDREWS (812)535-3222
GLAS-COL ANNEX NE CORNER OF 7TH & IDAHO ST.
1730 S 7TH ST (REAR OF BLDG)
TERRE HAUTE, IN 47802

Twin City Amateur Radio Club

Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

January 2008

Milt Forsberg K9QZI, Editor



Meeting January 8

Our next meeting of the Twin City Amateur Radio Club is Tuesday, January 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the UI Fire Institute. Here is a description of our January program:

Ham radio does more than "Talk the Talk"!

Ham radio operators give more than lip service to the public and each other. There are many generous hams who give their time and energy to worthwhile causes and this program will present information about an organization called Handi-Hams that has trained and helped license many new operators.

K9BV, Bill Vokac, is very active with this organization and is dedicated to bringing the excitement of ham radio to people facing physical challenges that you might think would preclude participation in our great hobby.

Bill will present a video about Handi-Hams, and give us some inspiring stories about his experiences with dedicated and determined students that have overcome far greater hardships on the way to achieving their operating licenses than most of us.

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.

Auction April 12 2008

The 2008 TCARC Auction is April 12. Please Mark your calendar now! Read more information on page 2.

Happy New Year!

Welcome to 2008. This begins a new year for TCARC as well. We appreciate the support of everyone who paid dues for 2008. If you have not yet done so, please send your \$20 for a single or \$21 for a family membership to our PO box on the return address of this newsletter. Please check your address label to see that your dues are current.

The Board meets the Thursday prior to the club meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the UI Fire Institute. All members are welcome to attend.

TCARC Officers and Board Members

President Ralph Cox W9PGE	396-5111
Vice President Dr Mike Trautman	356-4302
Secretary Chris Anderson	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

Website

www.w9seh.org

Auction Date Set

Our annual TCARC Auction is Saturday, April 12, at the Windsor Road Christian Church. This is the same location as the past few years. We will be preparing for this fun event in the next few weeks. Last year, the auction provided the largest income for the club ever. This was due mainly to donations of equipment to the club for auction. Let's try to top last year! If you have any useable electronic items that you no longer want, please consider donating them at the auction. We will auction them with the club retaining the total proceeds. More details on the auction will be available soon.

Hamfests

With the holidays approaching, local hamfests have almost disappeared. They start again with the Waukeshas, Wisconsin hamfest the first weekend of the month. There was a nice little hamfest in Carthage, Illinois on December 8. This was the 4th year for it and the crowd was down from last year, mostly due to the weather forecast. Snow and ice was expected, which kept many home. For those attending, it was an enjoyable day. Some of us visited Mark, KA9SZX. He hosted us and gave us a grand tour of the Western Illinois University broadcast facility where he is the radio Chief Engineer. The trip home was in freezing rain, but the roads remained unfrozen.

VE Exams

Our next VE Exam is Sunday, January 27, 2008 at the UI Fire Institute, starting at 1:00 p.m. All license exams are available. The cost, as set by the ARRL, remains at \$14 for the session. This includes one exam for each class. In case of a failure, retaking an exam is an additional \$14. A photo ID is necessary. For upgrades, please bring a copy of your current license, along with the original license. The original will be returned to you. For questions, please contact Debbie Fligor, N9DN.

Field Day 2007

The results of Field Day 2007 were published in the December issue of QST. TCARC placed 19 in a total of 63 stations in our category. We operated in the 5A category. This means that we had no more than 5 transmitters operating at simultaneously and that we were a club using emergency (generator) power. Our contacts totaled 1118 with 50 people participating. The total score with multipliers and bonus points was 4288. The highest score in 5A was 16,894 and the lowest was 578. Congratulations and thanks to everyone who was part of our operation.

D-Star Presentation in March

The topic for our March TCARC meeting is a presentation on D-Star communications. This is the fast-growing Amateur Radio digital mode. Kermit Carlson, W9XA, has agreed to explain this mode to the club. Kermit was a member of the Synton Radio Club at the University of Illinois during the 1970s when he attended the UI. Now residing in Batavia, Illinois, Kermit has installed 2 D-Star systems in the Chicago area. He enjoys making presentations on the subject and he has traveled to several locations to do so. We are pleased that he will be with us in March.

New Prefix for Bosnia-Herzegovina Officially Announced

From ARRL News

In response to a request from the Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina in August, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) withdrew the call sign prefix allocation T9A-T9Z for Bosnia and Herzegovina and made a new allocation, E7A-E7Z. The change was made initially on a provisional basis under authority of the ITU Secretary-General and was confirmed by the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference to be effective November 17, 2007.

According to International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, the Ministry of Communications and Transport (BiH)

held a press conference in Sarajevo on December 18 to formally announce the change. Minister Dr Bozo Ljubic explained the desirability of changing a prefix that initially was allocated during wartime and how it was now being replaced with one that has no connection to that troubled time; similar steps have been taken with regard to passports, drivers' licenses and automobile registrations, he said. Ljubic also observed that the costs associated with the change were minimal compared to the benefits.

Amateur Radio station licenses bearing E7 prefixes will be issued beginning in January 2008, and the use of other prefixes will be phased out.

Sumner and IARU Region 1 President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, of Norway, were invited to speak at the press conference. Accompanying them was IARU Region 1 Executive Committee member Nikola Percin, 9A5W, of Croatia. They expressed congratulations and support for the change, eliminating an issue that has complicated relations among the radio amateurs of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Also invited to speak was Miroslav Nikse, President of the Union of Radioamateur Associations of Bosnia and Herzegovina (URAS), a recently formed umbrella organization of amateur radio associations based in different parts of the country. He thanked those involved in promoting the change. In his remarks, Dr Ljubic pledged support from the Ministry of Communications and Transport to the umbrella organization for the development of Amateur Radio repeater and digital networks that would cover the whole of the country, enhancing emergency communications capabilities.

Peter W Dahl Co Going Out of Business

From ARRL News

The Peter W. Dahl Company in El Paso, Texas, will be closing its doors as of December 31, 2007, according to Peter Dahl, K0BIT, owner and founder of the company that has made custom transformers for more than 40 years. Dahl, 67,

has Parkinson's Disease. The company manufactured a wide variety of transformers and reactors for Amateur Radio and commercial radio and television applications. According to Dahl, many are direct replacements for original equipment components that are no longer available from the manufacturer, while others have general-purpose applications in any number of different transmitters. He said that they had more than 4000 individual transformer designs on file. QST columnist John Dilks, K2TQN ("Old Radio"), said the closing of the Dahl Company was "sad news for those of us who restore the big iron." Dahl told the ARRL, "I want to thank everyone for their business throughout the years. I have enjoyed making each Amateur Radio transformer."

Reward Offered

A Reward of 500 microfarads is offered for information leading to the arrest of this desperate criminal -- Hop-A-Long-Capacity

This unrectified criminal escaped from a western primary cell where he had been clamped in ions awaiting the gauss chamber.

He was charged with the induction of an 18 turn coil named Millihenry who was found choked and robbed of valuable joules. He is armed with a carbon rod and is a potential killer. Capacity is also charged with driving DC Motor over a Wheatstone bridge and refusing to let the band-pass.

If encountered, he may offer series of resistance. The electromotive force spent the night searching for him in a magnetic field, where he had gone to Earth. They had no success and believed he had returned ohm via a short circuit.

He was last seen riding a kilocycle with his friend Eddy Current who was playing a harmonic.

For Those Who Understand, No Explanation Is Necessary. For Those Who Do Not Understand, No Explanation Is Possible