

2014 Hamfest Calendar

Jun 15 Wheaton, IL
 Jul 12 Indianapolis, IN
 Jul 13 Aurora, IL
 Jul 17-19 Hartford, CT ARRL 100th Birthday
 Jul 20 Peotone, IL KARS
 Aug 3 Peotone, IL Radio Expo
 Aug 16 Danville, IL
 Aug 16-17 Huntsville, AL
 Sep 13 Belvidere, IL
 Sep 20-21 Peoria, IL



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TCARC
PO Box 2061
Champaign, IL 61825-2061

VE Exam Schedule

Jul 20 2014 Twin City Amateur Radio Club
 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC
 Debra J. Fligor (217) 762-3232
 n9dn@n9dn.net
 UI Fire Service Inst 11 Gerty Dr Champaign IL

Aug 16 2014 Vermilion Cty ARA
 11:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC
 Josh D. Kittle (217) 442-0578
 East Central Illinois Hamfest 3723 N Vermilion St
 Danville IL

No others within 50 miles listed at the time of this printing.

No Meeting July and August

As is our current policy, we do not meet in July or August, and no newsletter is sent. We return to normal meetings in September.

Twin City Amateur Radio Club

Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

June 2014

Milt Forsberg K9QZI Editor



Meeting June 10

Tuesday, June 10, is our next TCARC meeting at the UI Fire Institute. We start at 7:00 p.m. Annual election of officers is at this meeting. Most of the meeting will be devoted to plans for Field Day. Paul, N9XDN, has the outline for our Field Day event. He will discuss the plans in detail and he welcomes input from members. If you wish to operate, be sure to let him know times you are available, along with equipment you can bring.

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

July 2014

UI Fire Institute

Local Nets

D-Rats Net on W9YR Tuesday 8 p.m.
 ◆Week of Second Tuesday - No Net TCARC Meet
 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

Operating Guidelines

After two months of requesting comments, the TCARC Board adopted the proposed repeater operating guidelines as presented at our April meeting and posted on our web page. We solicited comments from all members, but we received none. The Board voted to accept the proposal, considering its guidelines and not absolute law. Common sense and courtesy play a big role in the basis for the document. It was fashioned after the Fox River Radio League repeater guidelines. We hope everyone will continue to make the K9CU repeater a welcome and friendly place for conversation.

Elections in June

Per our bylaws, we elect officers in June. The current office holders and board members have consented to remain in place should the club vote that way. Anyone else wishing to run for election may do so at the June meeting.

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 KC8KGJ	2016	621-8036
Kevin Coogan KC8RFE	2014	937-572-2081
Jim Crisman N9AJV	2015	202-7402

VE Coordinator

Debbie Fligor N9DN 244-4446

Website www.w9seh.org
Analog Repeater K9CU 146.760
D-Star Repeater W9YR 443.48125

Dayton!

Another Dayton Hamvention is history! This year was, as always, a most enjoyable event. The weather cooperated some of the time, but outside temperatures were on the cool side, with short periods of rain on Friday and Saturday. Sunday weather was mostly clear. The crowd was a little hard to judge with the weather driving many inside at times. The final count, just announced, was 24,873. This number is up a few hundred over last year. It is good to see Hamvention continues to grow!

The outside flea market appeared to be more occupied by vendors than last year. The rain came at different times, making sales a little difficult, but as soon as the rain stopped, many shoppers came back out to roam the grounds. Lots of friends stopped by our spaces to say hello. A few members took advantage of the free tables to sell some of their items.

As many know, we have been searching for an appropriate gift for Jon Crisman, Jim's father, who created our auction software. We agreed to provide his ticket to Hamvention, and while he was there, he found the battery he needed for his HT, so we also provided that for him. We are pleased to be able to thank him with gifts he appreciated. This was his first time at Dayton.

This seemed to be the year for winners! It started with the informal D-Star gathering at Marion's Pizza in Beaver Creek. Registration was free and tickets were provided for a door prize drawing. Food was ordered and purchased by each person attending. After the meal, the gathering chairman welcomed everyone and held the drawing. As the numbers were read, Mile, K9QZI, recognized all the digits! This is highly unusual as he only won a couple of minor items at all other past hamfests. The prize was a brand new Icom ID-51 D-Star HT! Wow! This was totally unexpected. The radio was even programmed so when the call sign was entered, it was on the air and on the repeater!

But, there is still more to the story! Tuesday after Hamvention weekend, Milt was monitoring our local D-Star repeater and heard a mobile with a 7 call identify, passing through CU. The mobile was indeed returning home to Washington from Dayton after visiting his brother and attending Hamvention. The subject of the ID-51 came up, and about the same time, the brother from Dayton connected and joined the conversation. It turned out that the mobile operator was the person signing everyone in and giving out the drawing tickets. His brother was the organizer of the gathering. Milt had actually been seated at the same table used for registration. Talk about a small world! Ham Radio scores again!

But, wait! There's more yet! Jim, N9AJV, won a prize in the hourly drawings on Friday. It was a membership for one year in a Ham Radio related group. But it doesn't stop here. When Jim and his father left on Saturday, they gave their tickets to K9QZI to hold for the later drawings. In the redraw of unclaimed prizes on Sunday, Jim's number again was drawn. This prize was a 2000 watt dummy load! Milt has attended Dayton since 1969, holding tickets for anyone leaving early, but only one other ticket he held was drawn prior to this year. This was a very nice prize. Then later in the redraw, K9QZI won an OCF dipole. Wow! This was the year for TCARC!

Overall, it was a fun event and most went home with many great memories and most with new treasures. We are counting the days until 2015!

Lunch Bunch

We meet for Lunch almost daily. We have a reservation for Mondays in the meeting room at the Atlanta Bread Co. With the exception of the first Monday of each month. Because another group already booked the room, we will be in the main dining area. Other days we announce the location on 146.76, usually anywhere from shortly after Noon to 12:30.. All are welcome to attend and may come late, leave early, or both.

Field Day

We are just under 3 weeks from Field Day! Our June meeting is mostly devoted to making final plans for the weekend. Of course, we will be at the Ford-Harris Park, on Ford-Harris Road, 1/2 mile West of US 45 and about 2 1/2 miles North of I 74. This a time to practice our emergency operation skills as well as show off our hobby. We will set up starting at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday June 28. All those willing to help are greatly appreciated. The radio operation begins at 1:00 p.m. and continues to 1:00 p.m. Sunday. We hope several TCARC members will participate and bring their equipment. Paul, N9XDN, is coordinating both operators and equipment, so please contact him prior to the weekend. Saturday late afternoon, we will have a potluck dinner around 5:00 p.m. for all members, their families, and any guests wishing to attend. The club will provide the meat and bread from Hickory River, along with some soft drinks. Those attending are asked to bring a dish to share. There should be plenty of plates and utensils available. Please, no alcohol, as it is prohibited in the park.

Field Day is not a contest. It is a time when everyone has a good time operating under emergency conditions with temporary antennas and portable power. Points are earned for each contact, but the score is only a benchmark of where we stand in comparison to other clubs running the same number of transmitters. We must declare that number at the start of the operation. It is the maximum number of transmitters on the air at anytime at our location. We hope to have that number in use at all times. We can share. One can be used for a period, say 2 hours, then another can take over for another period. Sometimes in the past, we have set the number too high and not all were used. We are considering scheduling more than one station on some bands at different times so anyone may bring their rig out and operate. This will be discussed at our June meeting. It is a fun time and we want everyone to have the opportunity to participate!

FCC Releases Warning Notices

From ARRL Newsletter

The FCC Enforcement Bureau has made public several warning notices issued over the past few months to radio amateurs. A couple of the letters from Special Counsel Laura Smith involved alleged infractions on 20 meters. On April 15, the FCC wrote Larry S. King, KI8NGS, of Owosso, Michigan, regarding failure to properly follow station identification rules on March 21. Smith told King that he was monitored by staffers at the FCC High Frequency Direction Finding Center (HFDFC) "operating your Amateur Radio on 14.313 MHz for 20 minutes without identifying in a timely manner." Smith said the HFDFC used direction-finding equipment to confirm that the transmissions were coming from his location. She said the Center recorded the transmissions.

"This incident constitutes a failure to properly transmit your assigned call sign, in violation of the Commission's rules," Smith wrote. "Your operation as described is contrary to the basis and purpose of the Amateur Radio Service, as set out in Section 97.1 and is a violation of Section 97.11(a) of the Commission's rules."

On March 31, Smith sent a warning notice to Daniel G. Churovich, N9RSY, of Ripley, Tennessee, alleging that Churovich engaged in an extended communication on 14.313 MHz with a station that may not have been operating in the Amateur Service.

"On Friday, March 28, 2014, you were heard by staff at the Commission's High Frequency Direction Finding (HFDF) Center communicating repeatedly on 14.313 MHz with an individual who you identify only as 'cowboy,'" Smith wrote. "This individual failed to provide his call sign during your conversation, a fact that you were aware of as you repeatedly demanded that he provide his name, call sign, and location. Despite being aware of the rule violation on the part of this other individual, you continued communicating with him for an extended period of time."

Smith told Churovich that the incident constituted "unauthorized transmissions" in violation of Commission rules that permit radio amateur to engage in two-way communications with "other stations in the Amateur Service."

"There is no evidence that the individual with whom you were communicating with on March 28 was an Amateur Radio operator, as he failed to provide his call sign as required by Commission rules," Smith pointed out.