

**Hamfest Calendar
2016**

- Jun 19 Wheaton, IL Six Meter Club
- Jul 8-9 Indianapolis, IN
- Jul 10 Aurora, IL Fox River Radio Club
- Jul 17 Peotone, IL Kankakee Radio Club
- Aug 7 Peotone, IL Hamfesters Radio Club
- Aug 20-21 Huntsville, AL



VE Exam Schedule

July 17 2016 Twin City Amateur Radio Club
1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC
Debra J. Fligor (217) 762-3232 n9dn@n9dn.net
Univ of IL Fire Service Inst 11 Gerty Dr Champaign

Aug 11 & Sep 08 2016 Terre haute Radio Club
7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC
Virginia L. Monastyrski (812) 243-9052
5475 S State Road 63 Terre Haute IN

Twin City Amateur Radio Club

Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

June 2016

Milt Forsberg K9QZI Editor



Meeting June 14

Elections and Field Day are the topics for our June meeting, at 7:00 pm at the UI Fire Institute. Annual Officer Elections are held each June. This is also the time we fine tune our plans for Field Day. Details on both topics are contained in this newsletter. It is important that our members attend for the vote and to hear about or volunteer for Field Day. Also, we have an informal gathering at Culver's on S Neil around 5:30.

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. No meetings are planned for July and August.

Our Next VE Session

July 17, 2016

UI Fire Institute

Please contact Debbie Fligor, N9DN, for information.

Local Nets

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

No Meetings in July and August

Our meeting schedule skips July and August as many members are away on vacation or attending other activities during the Summer months. We will return to regular meetings in September. Traditionally, we have held a picnic in September. You will be notified by email of the date and time. We wish everyone a great Summer!

Officer Elections at the June Meeting

June is the month for TCARC elections. All 4 offices are elected and one Board Member is elected. The Board members serve for 3 years, which means that only one board position is elected each year. All Officers are willing to remain for another year, if elected. Also, Board Member Kevin Coogan, KC8RFE, is willing to serve another term. Nominations from the floor at the meeting will be accepted should anyone wish to run for a position. The current Officers are listed below. This is your club, so please attend the meeting to vote on the club management for the coming year!

TCARC Officers and Board Members

President	Wayne Hamilton AB9FJ	384-4310
Vice President	Rick Hurd KC9NRI	419-2359
Secretary	Chris Anderson W9CMA	403-1599
Treasurer	Milt Forsberg K9QZI	352-5075

Board Members

Kevin Coogan	KC8RFE	2016	937-985-2081
Al Wolfe	K9SI	2017	722-8803
Tom Lea	K5LEA	2018	586-5377

VE Coordinator

Debbie Fligor	N9DN	244-4446
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Website	www.k9cu.club
Analog Repeater K9CU	146.760
D-Star Repeater W9YR	443.48125

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Champaign, IL 61825-2061



Hamfests

Hamfests are in full swing! Dayton started off the warm weather hamfest season and we can now find one almost every weekend. [The Starved Rock Radio Club](#) held their annual hamfest on June 5 in Princeton, IL. This used to be a large outdoor event, filling the fairgrounds. However, this year, it was small. Past years had 3 indoor rooms full and lots of outside vendors. This time, only one room was fully occupied, and there were a hand full of outside vendors. We hope the attendance will improve in future years.

Other hamfests of interest coming up are 2 in Peotone, IL, [Indianapolis, IN](#), and [Huntsville, AL](#). The Peotone hamfests are by the [Kankakee Amateur Radio Club](#) and the [Hamfesters Radio Club](#). July 17 and August 7 are the respective dates. It is an easy drive to Peotone from CU. Indianapolis is July 8-9, two days at the Marion County Fairgrounds. It is a different location than a few years back. Huntsville, AL, is a large one, worth the trip. It is August 20-21. All in air conditioned indoors with underground parking, it is an outstanding event. Many commercial vendors and manufacturers as well as [GigaParts](#) make up the premium area, with 200+ vendors selling used equipment surrounding. Yes, the hamfest is all in one huge room! Several excellent forums are scheduled, and the [Newline Outstanding Young Ham of the Year](#) is presented during Saturday. [The Embassy Suites](#), attached to the convention center, offers discounts on rooms. Just mention the hamfest for the discount. In addition, [the US Space and Rocket Center](#) is a don't miss while in Huntsville. It is located adjacent to Space Camp. From CU, it is 500 miles, all interstate. If you have questions, Milt, K9QZI, can answer and is planning to attend. [Danville, IL](#) plans a hamfest in August, but the date is yet to be determined. Looking forward, [Peoria](#) is September 17-18. Please remember that hamfests are more than just a shopping trip. They are a time to meet friends you make on the air and you can learn a lot from others and from seminars. Make your hamfest trip a social activity!

Field Day

June 25-26 is the 2016 Field Day. As in past years, we will operate from the [Ford-Harris Park](#), North of Urbana. This is an annual event sponsored by the [ARRL](#) to promote operating at a temporary location with all equipment brought to and set up at the site. Power is generated by portable generators. Radio clubs nationwide participate in [Field Day](#) each year. The plan is to make as many contacts as possible with other clubs. Points are earned for each contact, but it is not a contest. The points are only a measure of comparison to other clubs. No awards are given.

This is a time to come out and operate a radio! Anyone may operate on any band as we will have control operators on duty, meeting the FCC rules, meaning that no license is required to talk on the radio. We encourage everyone to join us anytime to operate or just to watch.

We will have a potluck dinner late Saturday afternoon, around 5 p.m. Families are welcome. The plan is for everyone to bring a side dish or dessert to share. The club will provide the meat, BBQ from [Hickory River](#), and some soft drinks. Please bring your own table service and plates. If you can bring chairs, it will be helpful as space at the park tables is limited. Portable tables are also welcome. Please plan to arrive prior to 5 on Saturday so we can eat at 5. Everyone is welcome any time and all the time, of course, but dinner is at 5.

Equipment and operators are needed. If you wish to provide a transceiver, generator, or antenna, we will appreciate it. Our June meeting is dedicated to finalizing details for the event. Set up is Saturday morning of the event. Operation is continuous from 1 p.m. Saturday to 1 p.m. Sunday. As always, we need help setting up and tearing down. Please let us know at the meeting if you plan to operate and/or provide equipment. If you have questions or want to volunteer, please contact Al, K9SI, or Wayne, AB9FJ.

Directions to Field Day

[The Ford-Harris Park](#) is North of Urbana. Take US45 North from I74 2 1/2 miles to the Ford-Harris Road. West on Ford-Harris 1/2 mile to the park on the North side of the road.

Video Quick Tour of Hamvention

click below

[Hamvention 2016 Montage](#)

Echolink Back Up

Echolink was down for 2 weeks as a foil trace on the repeater controller failed. It only affected audio from Echolink to the control computer. Ben, K9BF, had to remove the controller to repair it. He made modifications to an old controller and installed it temporarily so we could operate the repeater, but Echolink could not be included. He repaired the controller and reinstalled it a week ago so we now Echolink is back! We greatly appreciate his efforts to get everything up and running properly! Last week, Tom, K5LEA, talked with us from Scotland using Echolink!

VE Exams

Please remember the Extra Class Question Pool changes July 1 2016. **Our next session is July 17, and will use the new questions.** The new pool has more current questions covering digital, Internet, etc.

Oshkosh!

Not Ham Radio, but the annual Experimental Aircraft Association annual convention, [AirVenture](#) is spectacular! It runs for a week, starting July 25. It is a huge show of aircraft with a daily air show by the top aerobatic pilots in the world. During the week, there are 12,000 aircraft parked with many on display. Attendance is around 500,000 for the event. The campground holds around 40,000, and they are all orderly, clean, and friendly. A 300 mile six hour drive is well worth the trip. Milt K9QZI, can answer questions if you are interested in attending.

Click on words in blue for more information!

Dayton Hamvention

It's over! Again this year, [Hamvention](#) seemed like a flash! Attendees agreed that they wished it was longer as there was so much to see and participate in. Thursday evening found several pre-Hamvention activities, including the informal gathering of D-Star users at a pizza restaurant. Friday, the first day, went well with a good crowd of attendees visiting the almost 2,500 outside Flea Market spaces and a few hundred inside exhibits. The weather cooperated mostly, with rain overnight and a little on Saturday morning. That didn't stop the crowd. After a couple of hours, everything was dry and the outside again had lots of lookers and buyers. Sunday was dry and was the usual reduced activity as many left Saturday night. It appeared that the outdoor vendors had more staying over to Sunday than in the past. The outdoor spaces shared by K9QZI and the club had lots of use. Tables were busy all 3 days!

Forums were excellent, as always. Door prizes were given at all of the forums. At the Friday night D-Star forum, Milt, K9QZI, won an ID-51A+ Icom D-Star HT. This is the newer model of the HT he won 2 years ago! The new [Kenwood D-Star HT](#) was introduced, but not yet available and no price given. The DV4 Mobile was demonstrated, but not yet available. It will operate on all 4 digital modes, DV, P25, DMR, and Fusion as well as analog. The price will be around \$1,000. Yaesu announced a new Fusion repeater to soon be released.

As in the past, K9QZI held tickets for those leaving prior to the Sunday drawing. And, as in most years, no winners were among those tickets. We hoped to hear news about the location for Hamvention next year, but the only official statement made during the final ticket drawing was an invitation to come back next year and bring someone who has never attended Hamvention. Several rumors are floating around but none are confirmed. We do know that Dayton, Trotwood, and Montgomery County are working with the Hamvention staff to keep it in the Dayton area, and hopefully at the Hara Arena. The income to the local economy is highly respected by everyone in the Dayton area.