

2014 Hamfest Calendar

Mar 22 TCARC Auction
 Apr 5 AES Superfest, Milwaukee
 Apr 12 Madison WI
 Apr 26 Godfrey IL
 Apr 27 Arthur IL
 May 4 Sandwich IL
 May 16-18 Dayton, OH Hamvention!



VE Exam Schedule

Mar 15 2014 W5YI VEC
 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
 (309) 378-4416
 Bloomington Public Library
 205 E Olive St Bloomington IL

Apr 27 2014 ARRL/VEC
 Twin City Amateur Radio Club
 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
 Debra J. Fligor (217) 762-3232
 n9dn@n9dn.net
 Univ of IL Fire Service Inst
 11 Gerty Dr Champaign IL

Twin City Amateur Radio Club

Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

March 2014

Milt Forsberg K9QZI Editor



Meeting March 11

Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 11 at the UI Fire Institute at 7 pm. We have an informal gathering at Culver's on S Neil around 6 for anyone wanting to eat before the meeting. This month's meeting is an important discussion of 2 upcoming activities - our annual auction and Field Day 2014. Both require a lot of planning and members to help.

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 March 22, 2014

Our annual TCARC Auction is set for March 22 at the Windsor Road Christian Church, the same location as the past few years. Final plans are now in process. We will discuss everything at our March meeting. The plan is almost as it was last year, except the Board decided we will not serve food. The effort is great and the return is low, so soft drinks are available in the machine and McDonalds is just down the street. This is always a fun event for everyone - please plan to attend. Be sure to bring any items you wish to sell and any items you wish to donate to the club to be sold. Several door prizes will be given and the grand prize is a new Baofeng VHF/UHF HT. Volunteers are always needed for many jobs.

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TCARC
 PO Box 2061
 Champaign, IL 61825-2061

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

April 27 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

Dues!

Almost everyone is current with their dues. If you are one of the few who is not, please send your check or pay at the meeting. \$20 individual \$21 family.

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

Hamfests

The February hamfests went well, as usual. Orlando did experience poor weather for most of the weekend. Rain and cold was the menu for Friday and Saturday, but on Sunday, after most attendees left, the sun came out and it was fairly nice. The Terre Haute hamfest on March 8 was about the same as last year. Located inside the Indiana State University Activities Center, it was comfortable and enjoyable. Tables were free and plentiful, and sales seemed to go well. The weather cooperated for this one.

Arthur IL is April 27. Dayton is May 16-18. This is always a don't miss event. Many from TCARC attend this largest hamfest anywhere. Online reservations are open. K9QZI will again manage Flea Market spaces for relaxation by TCARC members. The spaces are partly funded by TCARC and K9QZI. Hotels are filling, so if you plan to go, best you get a reservation soon!

Technician Questions Change July 1 2014

The Technician Question Pool changes July 1. The last TCARC VE Exam session using the current question pool is April 27. Please be sure to inform anyone studying for the exam.

501c3 Report

We still have not received anything further on our 501c3 application. The IRS appears to remain delayed in processing of applications.

Synton Net

Please remember to check into the Synton Net on Monday evenings at 7 pm on the W9YH repeater, 444.650 with 103.5 PL.

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.

New Auction Software!

We are very pleased with our new software to manage the upcoming auction. Jim Crisman's father, Jon, in Minnesota volunteered to create a program made just for us to track items, sales, and payments. Several who will use it have been testing it the past 2 weeks and it appears that we have an excellent program. It permits any number of computers to be used at the same time, including tablets and phones, to enter information, print out forms, and track sales. This will take the burden from one computer at one station and spread it out. Check out will now all be completed at the registration station, including printing of the check out forms. It is flexible and easy to use. It will run on a small inhouse network, but we have been testing it using the Internet to access the server in Minnesota. Access will be only local at the auction. The only action not available is for attendees to select their bidder number. Because the computer assigns the numbers, we must go in the order of entry into the system. If we can find a way to permit selection, we will be happy to offer this. Anyone can check out and pay anytime during the auction. Previously, early check outs disrupted the sales entry activities as only one computer ran the whole program. The previous program ran well, but had some limitations. It was well written over 20 years ago! We appreciate Jon Crisman providing the program to the club at no charge! We will have a quick demo of the software at our March meeting.

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.

TCARC Annual Auction

is

March 22, 2014

Windsor Road Christian Church

2501 W Windsor Road Champaign, Illinois

Doors open 11 a.m. Auction begins 1:00 p.m.

Bidder Numbers \$3.00

Grand Door Prize Baofeng UV-5R Dual Band HT

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