

## Hamfest Calendar

Mar 8 Sterling IL  
 Mar 14 Terre Haute IN  
 Apr 3-4 AES Superfest, Milwaukee, WI  
 Apr 18 Stoughton, WI  
 Apr 25 Godfrey, IL  
 Apr 26 Arthur, IL  
 May 15-17 Dayton OH  
 Jun 7 Princeton, IL



## VE Exams

14-Mar-2009 W5YI  
 1:00 PM (Walk-Ins Allowed)  
 Keith R Hanson (309)378-4416  
 American Red Cross-Conf. Rm  
 1 Westport Ct-Rt 9e Bloomington, IL

14-Mar-2009 WVARA Hamfest  
 11:00AM (Walk-Ins Allowed) ARRL/VEC  
 D Steven Shorter  
 Wabash Valley Fairgrounds  
 3901 S US Highway 41 Terre Haute, IN

11-Apr-2009 Sangamon Valley Radio Club  
 9:00AM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC  
 James Steven Upchurch (217)529-3218  
 American Red Cross 1045 Outer Park Dr  
 Springfield, IL

19-Apr-2009 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

# Twin City Amateur Radio Club

Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

March 2009

Milt Forsberg K9QZI Editor



## Meeting March 10

Our next meeting of the Twin City Amateur Radio Club is Tuesday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the UI Fire Institute. Did you ever wonder what a Fractal Antenna is? Tuesday is the time to find out all about this type of antenna. Al, K9SI, will enlighten us on the fractals and fractal antennas as our program for the meeting. We will also have a short demonstration of the D-Star repeater, which is fully operational on the Gateway now.

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.

## Dave Leininger W9DML



1940 - 2009

Please see page 2

TRANSEL TECHNOLOGIES  
NOW A DIVISION!

PO Box 7333, Champaign, IL 61826

Phone: 800-829-8321 • 217-352-1725

www.amateuraccessories.com

www.transeltech.com

e-mail: hamradiosales@gmail.com

TCARC  
 PO Box 2061  
 Champaign, IL 61825-2061

## Auction April 11

Only a month away, we are scurrying around to see that everything is in place for the auction. Mike, K9MLT, is the acting chairman for the auction and is coordinating the event now. We need a lot of help setting up and tearing down. The setup crew will start at 9 a.m. with the doors open to the public at 11 a.m. The tear down crew starts their work at the conclusion of the auction, probably around 4 p.m. Both crews are urgently needed. We also need assistance checking in items when the doors open. Please contact Mike if you can help. Please remember to dig out anything you can donate to the club for the auction. You are, of course, encouraged to bring gear you wish to sell. April 11 - the Saturday between Good Friday and Easter. Please pass the word to everyone during your QSOs. Our auction is always a lot of fun even if you are not selling or buying. Excellent food is available too!

## TCARC Officers and Board Members

<b>President</b>	Dr Mike Trautman K9MLT	356-4302
<b>Vice President</b>	Larry Mohr K9LMM	356-3794
<b>Secretary</b>	Chris Anderson W9CMA	403-1599
<b>Treasurer</b>	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
--------------------	----------

<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.w9seh.org">www.w9seh.org</a>
<b>Analog Repeater W9SEH</b>	146.760
<b>D-Star Repeater W9YR</b>	443.48125

## Dave Leininger W9DML

David Michael Leininger, W9DML, 68, of Mahomet died on Friday, Feb. 6, 2009, at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. The funeral service was Thursday, Feb. 12, Interment is in Camp Butler VA Cemetery, Springfield.

Dave was born in Bloomington, Ill., on Aug. 24, 1940, to Donald and Betty (Broadus) Leininger. He left his hometown at the age of 17 to join the Air Force and seek his fame and fortune, while attempting to find his niche in life.

During his long journey, Dave completed a 28-year career in the USAF, retiring in 1986 as a Chief Master Sergeant, followed by 11 more years providing contractor support to the U.S. Government in Germany and Washington, D.C. He spent over 20 years in Germany, and he claimed that Stuttgart was his "second home." His Air Force career also included many "part-time" jobs with which he supplemented his meager military income, allowing his family to live in a style that they were not accustomed to.

He was a bartender, auto mechanic, door-to-door pill salesman, airplane-gas jockey, CB-radio sales service and repairman, auto-parts counter salesman, aircraft-radio installer and microcomputer programmer.

Dave and his wife of almost 40 years, Edna O'Neal Leininger, raised five children, David II, Betty, Patrick, Joseph and Ann. Edna preceded Dave in death on Feb. 20, 1997.

He was a lifelong Varna United Methodist Church member, a lifetime member of Randolph Masonic Lodge 1268 in Schertz, Texas, and member of The Order of the Eastern Star.

Dave was also a member of the MOAA, Amvets, the American Legion, Royal Ark Mariners and Scottish Rite (SJ), the Twin City Amateur Radio Club of Champaign/Urbana and, finally, the Registered Agent, 2nd Vice President and Webmaster of the Vermilion County Amateur Radio Association.

## Dayton Hamvention

The Dayton Hamvention organization is progressing. Outside Vendors, or Flea Market Vendors need to order their spaces by March 15 in order to retain previous space numbers. There is an application on the Hamvention website to use to submit your order. Prices remain the same as last year. Hotels appear to be available in some locations around the area, but they could fill soon. Look for prices to be increased for this weekend and some require a minimum of 3 nights. We can expect the usual exciting weekend. Again, it is May 15, 16, and 17.

## Orlando Hamcation

February 13-15 was the Orlando Hamcation in Florida. As usual, it was an excellent hamfest with good weather, good crowd, and well-run. The temperatures were in the 80s with no rain. The crowd was good, about the same as last year, with over 300 motorhomes in the camping area. That's more motorhomes than individuals at some hamfests! Our area was well represented by over 15 of us who either are or were from the CU neighborhood. Some of those who were there are K9QZI, KR4S, KB9LCJ, K0OJR, KC9KPL, W9XH, WA9KGU all from here, and WB9BSX, K9KNW, and W9HJM who were from the CU area a few years ago. Several XYLs accompanied their husbands. Most of the Amateur Radio manufacturers were represented, along with the usual group of vendors, many from the Midwest who we see at our local hamfests. Very few new products were introduced, probably they are waiting for Dayton. Flexradio did introduce a new model and had all of their radios running. W9HJM, Jack Clark, now an Orlando resident, is the hamfest prize chairman and Bob, WA9KGU, who worked with Jack before they retired, helped with the ticket booth. Unfortunately, the space shuttle launch, scheduled for the day prior to the hamfest, was postponed to March 11. It was an excellent experience for all and we are anxiously waiting for next year!

## FCC Busts Indy Cops

Hams in Indianapolis are taking credit for getting city police in that city to stop using unofficial extra radios on which the cops reportedly used language that might make a sailor blush.

Dozens if not hundreds of Indianapolis Metro Police Officers have been busted for using Amateur Radios illegally to rag chew while on duty. According to a report aired on an Indianapolis TV station, complaints to the FCC from local hams lead to a shake down of all Metro Police vehicles. Amateur Radio operators reported hearing foul language and improper usage of Amateur Radio frequencies by Metro Police officers. This prompted the department to do a three-day inspection of cruisers, ordering everyone with an unlicensed radio to remove them..

Local hams are expected to monitor the success of this crackdown and report further violations.

While some bloggers are advising Indianapolis hams to keep a low profile for a while others point out that the officers are the ones that are likely worried. Now they know that there are thousands of ears listening to their every word on what they thought was their unofficial chat channel. Ears with tape recorders ready to send more complaints to the FCC.

## AES Superfest - A Reminder

This is just a reminder to mark your calendar for the Amateur Electronic Supply Superfest, April 3 and 4. The AES Superfest is held at AES headquarters, 5710 W Good Hope Rd, Milwaukee, WI. Hours are 2-6 Friday and 8:30 - 3:00 Saturday.

<http://www.aesham.com/superfest.shtml>

## 2 Meter AM Net

145.600 Every Night 8:00 p.m. Local  
KA9DZR Dennis Georgetown, IL Net Control  
Vertical Polarization

## D-Star Update

Our D-Star repeater, W9YR, is in full operation with the Gateway connection to the Internet. We now have a DSL line connected to the Gateway computer and everything appears to be running well. Registered users may now connect to any other systems on the D-Star Gateway, anywhere in the World. To register, users may contact N9DN, K9QZI, or AB9FJ. Registration is simple and free. One registration is all that's needed. It is good World-wide and does not expire. It is to verify users and be sure their license. Since connecting to the Gateway, we have been linking to one of the reflectors, a computer that permits many systems to connect. It is like a big party line. Individuals may link or unlink the repeater, and make calls to anyone else on the system. Anyone wishing assistance in programming their radio for Gateway use can contact K9QZI. We are arranging orientation sessions or workshops to help everyone get on line. Meetings are scheduled based on individual needs. No specific number of people is needed.

Gateway use makes the system a lot of fun! Several of us have made new friends in other countries already. By using the same reflector, we hear some people frequently. Many nets operate on the reflectors at various times. Any user is welcome to participate in the nets. As of March 6, Peoria now has a D-Star system on the air and connected to the Gateway.

We thank everyone who contributed to the system. Funds were donated by K9BF, AB9FJ, K6BIV, W9PGE, K9QZI, K9MLT, and K9LMM. Equipment and hardware were donated by K9SI and W9CMA. Volition, Inc donated the computer, which is actually a server with 4 hard drives. Thanks to Jay, KD5EOQ, for the arrangements with Volition. And, we send a big thanks to Debbie, N9DN, for her efforts in getting the system software running. She had everything ready to go when the Internet was installed. AB9FJ and K9SI have assisted in many ways installing equipment, making adjustments, and testing. With the efforts of these amateurs, we now have an excellent D-Star system. Thanks to all! Contributions are still welcome.