

Hamfest Calendar

May 14-16 Dayton, OH
 Jun 6 Princeton, IL
 Jun 20 Wheaton, IL 6M Club
 Jul 10 Indianapolis, IN
 Jul 11 Aurora, IL FRRL
 Jul 18 Peotone, IL KARS
 Aug 8 Peotone, IL Hamfesters RC
 Aug 21 Huntsville, AL



VE Exams

05/20/2010 | Terre Haute IN
 Sponsor: Illiana Radio Club
 Contact: James P. Osburn (812) 238-0584
 Location: Ryves Youth Center at Etling Hall
 Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

06/06/2010 | Terre Haute IN
 Sponsor: Wabash Valley ARC
 Contact: D Steven. Shorter (812) 232-4788
 Location: Glas-Col Annex-Rear of Building
 Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

06/10/2010 | Terre Haute IN
 Sponsor: Illiana Radio Club
 Contact: James P. Osburn (812) 238-0584
 Location: Ryves Youth Center at Etling Hall
 Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

New Technician Question Pool Effective July 1

07/18/2010 Champaign IL
 Sponsor: Twin City Amateur Radio Club
 Contact: Debra J. Fligor (217) 244-4446
 Location: Univ of IL Fire Service Inst
 Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Twin City Amateur Radio Club

Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

May 2010

Milt Forsberg K9QZI Editor



Next Meeting is May 11

The next TCARC meeting is Tuesday, May 11, at the UI Fire Institute, starting at 7:00 p.m. Our program this month is a presentation by Ralph Bellas, K9ZO, from Bloomington, Illinois. He will describe some of his many DXpeditions, both easy and hard, complete with graphics and video. This will be a fascinating meeting. Also, we will vote on the proposed TCARC Constitution, as announced on our website. If you have not seen it, please visit the website.

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.

Section Manager Election

Another election is in progress for ARRL members. This one is for the Section Manager of the Illinois Section. Two are running, the incumbent and a new contender. From information received about the candidates, it appears that the incumbent, Thomas T. Ciciora, KA9QPN, has provided excellent service and your TCARC Newsletter Editor feels that he deserves reelection. Some information appeared on the Internet questioning the qualifications and reputation of the other candidate. The information has not been verified, but it appears to be valid. Please vote by completing the ballot you received in the mail and send it to the ARRL immediately as ballots are due in a few days!

Resident Curmudgeon

Our Resident Curmudgeon is still with us, writing a few articles for the newsletter. The third article in his series this month is "Some History Of Former TCARC Members"

Auction Results

Our auction on April 17 went well. The numbers were down some from last year, but not by a large amount. As always, we had a fun time and lots of equipment changed ownership. We thank Howard Eskridge, K9GYI, for a generous donation of several Alinco radios. This more than doubled our income. Thanks to everyone who helped. Neil, K9PEX, thanks all who purchased food - that was his first time out and was a trial run for him. Our net income is \$609.80 after all expenses were paid.

Local Nets

D-Rats Net on W9YR	Tuesday 8 p.m.
ARES 444.100	Tuesday 9 p.m.
TCARC 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

TCARC Officers and Board Members

President	Larry Mohr K9LMM	356-3794
Vice President	Jeremy Lamb KC9KGJ	621-8036
Secretary	Chris Anderson W9CMA	403-1599
Treasurer	Milt Forsberg K9QZI	352-5075

Board Members

Al Wolfe K9SI	688-2790
Wayne Hamilton AB9FJ	384-4310
Dr Mike Trautman K9MLT	356-4302

VE Coordinator

Debbie Fligor N9DN	244-4446
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Website	www.w9seh.org
Analog Repeater W9SEH	146.760
D-Star Repeater W9YR	443.48125

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TCARC
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 Champaign, IL 61825-2061

New Constitution

Our TCARC Board of Directors and officers have completed a revision of the TCARC Club Constitution. It was last revised in 1982. Although most changes are minor, we feel that it is now up to date with current times. The proposed revision is posted on the W9SEH website and has been there for about a month. At our May meeting, we will vote on acceptance of this constitution, as is required for changes to the document. If you have not viewed it, please visit the website.

Illinois Repeater Association

On April 25, the Illinois Repeater Association held the annual meeting in Bloomington. This is the organization that coordinates repeater frequencies located in the state of Illinois. Al, K9SI, has served on the Board of Directors for the past several years. One of the board member's term of service was up this year and he did not wish to remain on the board. Milt, K9QZI, was nominated and elected to replace the retiring member. The term is 2 years. Milt hopes to assist the association in providing better service to the Illinois repeater community.

Field Day

The 2010 ARRL Field Day is June 26 and 27. We will again operate from the Ford-Harris Park, North of Urbana. This is the same location as the past few years. We will set up on Saturday morning and begin operating at 1 pm Central Daylight Time, continuing to 1 pm Sunday. We take everything down after 1 on Sunday. Saturday evening we plan to have a potluck supper in the park, where all family members are welcome. Details will be provided in June, but it will be as it was last year. Members and friends are invited to any or all of the weekend. Unlicensed guests may operate under the supervision of the licensed operator controlling each station. Wayne, AB9FJ, and Ralph, W9PGE, are again chairing the event this year. Please contact them if you wish to operate and/or provide equipment.

TCARC Officer Elections

June is the month for elections. We elect all officers of the club and one of three board members. The current officers and board are working on a slate of nominations to be presented at the June meeting. Anyone interested in serving in any capacity should contact the President, Larry, K9LMM, or any other officer or board member.

Hamfests

A few hamfests are now history, with many more to come in the next several months. Amateur Electronics Supply in Milwaukee held their Superfest in early April. While not a hamfest, it was a very informative event. Several forums were presented and many manufacturers set up booths to display their products. Attendance was excellent. The Moultrie Amateur Radio Klub, (MARK) hamfest in Arthur, near the end of April was well attended. Rain was present the whole day, but the large inside space of the Arthur Fire Department provided a comfortable setting with plenty of room for everyone.

The Dayton Hamvention is almost here! May 14-16, this Friday to Sunday, will see around 17,000 attendees at the Hara Arena. Much of the Flea Market is occupied, but space is still available and is reported to be even for anyone wishing to sell and having no reservations. Hotel space is filling, but some rooms are available. As always, locations away from Dayton can be booked. Several TCARC members will camp at the KOA for the weekend. If you have the ARRL Travel Plus repeater directory CD and you wish to update it, bring the small coupon on the bottom of the inside back cover of the user manual. This coupon will permit you to purchase the new edition at half price, or \$20, at the ARRL booth. As you travel the flea market, you are welcome to stop by spaces 1513-1516 where K9QZI will be. Shade and extra chairs are available so you can take a break.

The Princeton, IL hamfest is June 6 this year.

Some History Of Former TCARC

Members

By Al Wolfe K9SI

Recently someone mentioned how it would be a good idea to record some of the Twin City Amateur Radio Club's history. That coupled with the club's decision to use W9YR's callsign on a local repeater prompted me to do some research. I had heard a rumor that Jay Gooch, W9YR(V), was the inventor of the "Hairpin" antenna matching scheme sometime back in the 1930's.

Well, Jay was licensed in the late thirties but was a teenager at the time. In 1962, he, O. E. Gardner, W9RWZ, and G. L. Roberts, all the U of I Coordinated Science Lab, authored an article in the April issue of QST, describing the "Hairpin Match" as a viable and simple method to match the often very low impedance of Yagi antennas to 50 ohms, the most common impedance of the coaxial cable almost universally used to feed such antennas. This was a seminal article and is still referenced as the definitive authority on the subject. The ARRL Antenna Manual still references it. However, Jay, never to my knowledge, claimed originality or ever made any money from this idea. Many folks did make a lot of money as the "Hairpin Match" or an adaptation, the "Beta Match", has been used in countless commercial antennas and amateur antennas for half a century. Thanks, Jay!

But wait! There's more! A quick search of the ARRL's index of past articles came up with six hits for W9YRV or Gooch. His first was in 1959 about the then brand new 6DQ5 vacuum tube and its application for linear amplification. This tube was designed to be used in the horizontal output stage of larger TV sets of the day. The 6DQ5 and its successors, the 6LQ6, 6JF5, etc, were used in many amateur transmitters and transceivers from the early 1960's until the 1980's when solid state devices became practical. The only real rival was the venerable 6146 used by Collins and Heath.

In March 1962 QST, Jay had a short piece about the 7360 twin-plate tube, another TV receiver tube that became a common tube used for SSB (Single Side Band) generation and reception.

In October 1963 QST, Jay and Estil Carter, WA9DNF, had a construction article about building a six meter SSB exciter or transmitter using some novel circuitry and advanced (at the time) techniques. Estil also worked with Jay at the Coordinated Science Lab at the U of I. He was also the ESDA director in Sidney in the 1970's and 80's.

In December 1963 QST, Jay had a short report about some of the successors of the 6DQ5 vacuum tube.

In December 1973 QST, "Strays" is a picture of Jay and his wife Bede celebrating their 23rd wedding anniversary at Field Day. It seems that their anniversary often fell on Field Day. In 1973 TCARC presented Bede with a cake for her putting up with it.

Jay had several articles published that I haven't had time to fully research. More to come.

New Controller for 146.76

The new controller is not yet ready to go, but should be any day, as soon as Ben, K9BF, finishes configuring it and installs it. Look for some new features provided by the controller - it should make the W9SEH repeater more fun to use.

D-Star Net

The D-Star Net on Wednesdays at 9 pm is going well. We now have all 10 D-Star repeaters in Illinois linked for the net with 20 to 25 stations checking into the net. If you have a D-Star radio, please join us for the net..