

Hamfest Calendar

Sep 15 Belvidere IL Radio Expo
 Sep 22-23 Peoria IL Superfest
 Sep 28-29 Sevierville, TN Ten Tec Open House
 Oct 5-6 MFJ 40th Anniversary Starkville MS
 Oct 6 Bedford IN
 Oct 27 Kirkwood MO Halloween Hamfest
 Nov 17-18 Fort Wayne IN
 Nov 24 Evansville IN



VE Exam Schedule

Oct 13 2012 Piatt County ARC
 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC
 Michael S. Mullins (217) 377-1523
 Piatt County Emergency Operating Centers
 1111 North State Street Monticello IL

Oct 13 2012 Wabash Valley ARA
 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed) ARRL/VEC
 D Steven. Shorter (812) 243-4060
 Glas-Col Annex 1730 S 7th St Terre Haute IN

Oct 21 2012 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

September 2012
 Milt Forsberg K9QZI Editor



September 2012 Meeting Sunday September 16

Our September Meeting is, as in past years, a picnic at the Ford-Harris Park. Sunday, September 16 around 4:30 we will enjoy our family Fall event. Hamburgers and bratwurst will be provided by the club, along with condiments, buns, and paper ware. Ice Tea and lemonade also will be provided. We request those attending please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. You can bring your own drinks if you wish. Please, no alcohol, as this is a family event and alcohol is prohibited in the park. Please invite any friends who might be interested in our hobby.

We will hold a fox hunt within the park prior to the meal. Bring your hunting gear and plan to hunt on foot. For those wondering, a fox hunt is a hidden transmitter hunt. We won't shoot any animals! Those not familiar with fox hunting are invited to follow some of the experienced hunters. Instructions will be provided.

2012-2013 Officers

At our June meeting, we elected club officers for the year. All remained in the same position with the addition of Brad Luhrsen as a Board Member.

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.

Program Committee Formed

Jim, N9AJV, Vice President, formed a Program Committee to provide new and exciting programs for our upcoming meetings. Several topics are available including contesting and logging, Ham Nation live, micro circuits, all about relays, digital modes, mobile installation, and Echolink/IRLP. Other subjects are welcome as well as anyone wishing to present a topic. Please contact Jim if you have ideas and/or wish to volunteer.

TCARC Officers and Board Members

President	Wayne Hamilton AB9FJ	384-4310
Vice President	Jim Crisman N9AJV	202-7402
Secretary	Chris Anderson W9CMA	403-1599
Treasurer	Milt Forsberg K9QZI	352-5075

Board Members

Brad Luhrsen K9BSL 2013	649-9742
Kevin Coogan KC8RFE 2014	937-572-2081
Paul Toth N9XDN 2015	840-3522

VE Coordinator

Debbie Fligor N9DN	244-4446
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Website	www .w9seh.org
Analog Repeater K9CU	146.760
D-Star Repeater W9YR	443.48125

Local Nets

D-Rats Net on W9YR	Tuesday 8 p.m.
◆Week of Second Tuesday - Meets Wednesday	
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

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October Meeting

Our October meeting is planned to be a little different than some of the others. We arranged for an attorney to speak about "A Basket of Legal Issues". It is centered around 501.c.3 tax exempt status for organizations. He will field questions as well. More in the October newsletter.

Special Programs for New Hams

September 19, 2012

We will offer special sessions for our more recently licensed Amateur Radio Operators. Because many have questions about basic topics, these sessions will be set to answer and explain any subjects chosen by our new operators. No question is too basic or too dumb. A few of our members will assist in these sessions and provide answers, explanations, and hands-on training, as needed. To kick off these meetings, we will hold the first one at 7 pm on Wednesday, September 19, at the Service Master offices, 2506 N Mattis Ave, in Champaign. This is the office of Jim, N9AJV. We welcome input with suggestions, questions, and requests. Future meetings will be scheduled to cover various subjects requested. At this first meeting, we will hold a short basic discussion and demonstration covering radios and accessories. Again, this is for anyone looking for basic information. Seasoned members need not attend.

CQ WW Sweepstakes Oct 27-28 2012

Once again, Ben, K9BF, plans to open his station to any licensed Amateur Radio Operator during the CQ Worldwide Sweepstakes contest. This is one of the largest contests, with many foreign stations participating. This is an opportunity to operate in a contest mode with expert supervision for those unaccustomed to contesting. Point score will not be important to this station - it is providing access to learning to work contests. The time period includes Saturday and Sunday. More details in the October newsletter.

Trailer to TCARC

As most everyone knows, several TCARC members together purchased and remodeled the R/V trailer that we have used for the past couple of years. Those involved feel it is time to donate this trailer to the Twin City Amateur Radio Club. There is no payment or reimbursement expected by the purchasing group. The club will have the responsibility of maintaining the trailer, licensing, and insurance. The interior is in good shape with everything in working order. The room in the front of the trailer was remodeled into a radio operating room, with power outlets, antenna connections, shelves, and a bench. We will want to establish a committee to make decisions on the operation and maintenance in the future. A short portion of our October meeting will be devoted to a discussion and a decision on the acceptance by the club.

A Couple of Interesting Events

If you enjoy travel, two Ham Radio functions are on the horizon. September 28-29 is the annual hamfest and open house at the Ten Tec factory in Sevierville, Tennessee. It is an opportunity to tour the Ten Tec factory with a hamfest in the back parking lot. Special prices will be offered on some equipment at the factory. Most of the activity is on Saturday.

October 5-6 is the 40th anniversary celebration of MFJ in Starkville, Mississippi. Factory tours are given both days. Many door prizes will be given, free tailgating is in the park, and on Saturday, a free lunch consisting of Mississippi fried chicken is provided in the park. A few forums are in the plans, including Chip Margelli, K7JA, a famous DXer. This event looks like an outstanding weekend.

New Repeater

Turn your antenna East and listen on 145.310 for the K9ADL repeater. Anthony is testing his new repeater near Oakwood. The tone is 162.2.

Hearing Double?

Another QZI appeared on our local repeaters and on the Illini Net. Brian, formerly KC9TOK, changed his callsign to the 5 district as he is in Waco, TX now. He applied for and received K5QZI. We now have the Texas QZI and the Illinois QZI. The Illinois QZI feels honored that Brian chose this call!

Hamfests

The hamfest season is winding down with the close of warm weather. As always, there were many great hamfests over the Summer. Your editor skipped a few, but reports are that the nearby events went well. That includes Princeton, Peotone, Indianapolis, and Danville. With the dry weather, all were held without rain interrupting. Attendance is still smaller than in the past, but the enthusiasm is still there. Two larger hamfests went very well, including Huntsville and Shelby. The Huntsville hamfest vendor space appeared to be filled as in past years. The crowd was good, maybe a little down from last year. Several excellent forums were presented including D-Star by Robin Cutshaw, AA4RC, the developer of the DV Dongle. Kay Craigie, N3KN, ARRL President, gave a very nice talk about her attendance at WRC, the World Radio Conference in Geneva. Bob Heil, Heil Sound, also presented a talk on, what else, microphones and sound. He was entertaining as always. In Dallas, NC, near Charlotte, the Shelby Hamfest was on Labor Day weekend. The weather was warm, with a little rain late Saturday and on Sunday, but the crowd was good. There were a few empty spaces in the outside vendor areas. The best news is that the air conditioning in the main building worked all weekend - which was not the case last year. Don't forget, we have 2 coming the next couple of weeks. Peoria is Sep 22-23 and Radio Expo at Belvidere is Sep 15 (one day only). And October 6 is Bedford, Indiana.

VE Exams

Congratulations to the 6 taking their exam in July. All passed. Our next exam is Sunday, October 21 at the UI Fire Institute. Contact N9DN for info.

Lunch Bunch

We meet for Lunch almost daily. We have a reservation for Mondays at the Atlanta Bread Co. Other days are determined on 146.76

D-Star News

Icom announced 2 new radios serving D-Star. The ID-51, a new HT, will soon be released as a dual band 2m/70cm D-Star radio. It is patterned after the ID-31, a UHF only HT. The IC-7100 also is due soon. This is an upgrade to the IC-7000. Several changes from the 7000 appear, including a touch screen and D-Star capability. The price estimate is said to be around \$1,800. No price comments on the HT yet. And now that the new dual band HT is coming, Robin announced at Huntsville that a UHF DVAP should be available in October.

Field Day was June 23-24 2012

Another successful Field Day is behind us! We operated at our usual location, the Ford-Harris Park. 5 stations operated during the event and everyone had a great time. Our potluck dinner went well, with good attendance. Here are the numbers:

50	Participants
5	Transmitters
505	CW QSOs
680	Phone QSOs
3280	Points with multipliers. Bonus points will be added at ARRL.

Our log submission is listed on the ARRL website. No scores are posted. The results should be available in November. Thanks to everyone participating and a special thanks to Wayne, AB9FJ for heading up the operation.

Newsletter by Email

You can receive your TCARC newsletter by email if you wish. You will receive it sooner and you may print it from you computer, giving you a paper copy. Please let Milt K9QZI know if you wish to change to email. You can add a note with your dues payment requesting email also.