



# Hamgram

*Newsletter of the Winona Amateur Radio Club, Inc.*

*-- When All Else Fails...AMATEUR RADIO --*

*March 2016*

[www.w0ne.org](http://www.w0ne.org)

---

## **WARC March Program- Mar. 17**

**WHAT:** The March program promises to be an interesting and exciting time--a facility tour of APRS World, LLC, a Winona area manufacturer of renewable energy instrumentation, control, and micro generation equipment operated by club member Jim, Jarvis, KB0THN. The tour will encompass the company's engineering and manufacturing facility including design labs, electronics and mechanical production, and prototype machining and fabrication shop. There will be live demonstrations of a robotic pick and place surface mount assembly system and a CNC machining center. The company designs and manufactures a wide variety of electrical and electronic products ranging from weather stations, to cameras, to wind turbines, and to others which will be available to view and discuss.

As usual, there will be a brief social time during the evening.

**DATE & Time:** Thursday, March 17, 2016 – 7:00PM

**WHO:** All amateur radio operators and other interested persons are encouraged to attend.

**WHERE:** APRS World facility located at 920 68th Avenue, Minnesota City, MN. See the link [here](#) for an accurate map showing the location.

# UPCOMING CLUB ACTIVITIES

**Gamehaven Merit Badge Fair** Saturday, March 19. The club is providing the Radio merit badge at Gamehaven Merit Badge Fair 2016. Radio will be sited at the Gamehaven Scout Reservation south of Rochester and consists of classroom work the morning and QSOs in the afternoon using call sign K2BSA/0. If you have an opportunity, look for the scouts Saturday afternoon on 40 or 20 meters or on the Rochester ARC repeaters at 146.820 and 146.625. See QRZ.com for HF frequencies—or check your favorite cluster.

**VE License Testing** License testing Monday, March 21, 7:00 PM, Watkins Hall, Room 105. All classes of license testing will be offered. Volunteer Examiners will be needed, so look for the VE request in the next few days.

**April Program** Skywarn training will be the focus of the April program. The training session will be presented by NWS La Crosse personnel this year. Time is 6:30 on Thursday, April 21. Location has not been firmed up as of the release of the Hamgram.

## Wisconsin QSO Party—March 13-14

While not exactly a WARC club activity, many local hams often have fun participating in the WIQP. It's coming up this week end, 1800Z March 13 to 0100Z March 14. It is billed as "Seven hours of contest fun," and has proven to be just that in the past. The weather looks like it might get wet and rainy hereabouts on Saturday afternoon, so hunker down at your rig and have some fun. For more info see the West Allis Radio Amateur Club [website](#).

---

## The La Crosses August Swapfest is ON!

Start heaping up your “trash” (another person’s treasure) for the Lacrosse August Swapfest. See the announcement below and mark your calendars:

*The Riverland Amateur Radio Club will again hold its annual Swapfest this August 13 at the Onalaska Omni Center, 255 Riders Club Road, Onalaska, WI.*

*More info will follow.*

## HF ACTIVITY AT THE WITOKA TOWER

While Old Man Winter has slowed down some outside ham radio work in the past two months, progress continues to be made at the Witoka tower site.

Mike W0IH—with assistance from others--has continued to develop the remote HF IC-718 system at the site for eventual use by members of the club. A few hams have been doing some testing of the system and have found that it generally works well—and in fact, has some good characteristics due to the high, flat location of the tower and ZS6BKW multiband antenna.

But some inherent control command aspects of the IC-718 have proven to require careful attention to manually operating the rig, especially when changing modes and bands. In its current configuration, considerable operator training or instructions might be required in order to prevent damage to the rig. There has been some discussion regarding getting a different transceiver with a more robust set of remote control commands in order to prevent damage to the rig resulting from possible manual miscues.



Screen shots displaying the remote rig control panel on the left monitor and the VE7CC DX cluster on the right monitor.

While the remotely controlled HF rig may not be ready for “prime time” yet, with due diligence

remote HF operations for club members should be coming in the not too distant future.

Minutes of the February WARC Board Meeting were not available at the time the Hamgram went to press. They will be published in an upcoming Hamgram and posted on the WONE website when available.



**The Winona Amateur Radio Club, Inc.**  
**P.O Box 1451, Winona, MN 55987**

**Executive Board**

President: Paul Schumacher, KØZYV <a href="mailto:pschumacher@winona.edu">pschumacher@winona.edu</a>	Vice President: Lance Tagliapietra, KBØYJU <a href="mailto:lancetag@hbc.com">lancetag@hbc.com</a>
Secretary: Syed Faruque, ACØVA <a href="mailto:sfaruque@yahoo.com">sfaruque@yahoo.com</a>	Treasurer: Harro Hohenner KG6RLM <a href="mailto:Harro@hohenner.com">Harro@hohenner.com</a>
Custodian: Erik Brom, WBØNIU <a href="mailto:ewbrom@hbc.com">ewbrom@hbc.com</a>	Members: Dan Goltz WK0W Leslie Hittner K0BAD

Dues: \$25.00 per calendar year per license holder.  
\$30.00 per calendar year for all licensed members of the same family within the same household.  
Dues should be sent to: Harro Hohenner, Treasurer, P.O. Box 1451, Winona, MN 55987

***Hamgram is published monthly by The Winona Amateur Radio Club, Inc.***

Distribution is electronically by email and via the WONE.org website.

Distribution to individual members by USPS is available upon request.

Editor: Len Litvan (KC0RSX)

Please address comments and **Hamgram** correspondence to: Len Litvan  
25567 Miner Valley Road - Winona, MN 55987 or email to: [KC0RSX@arrl.net](mailto:KC0RSX@arrl.net)

Board meetings are announced in advance (WEPNet).

Monthly club programs are held on the third Thursday. The submission deadline for the **Hamgram** is Wednesday of the week *prior* to that of the club programs.

***When All Else Fails...AMATEUR RADIO***

Winona ARC Repeaters:



146.640 (100.0 Hz) \*

146.835 (131.8 Hz) \*\*

444.225 (100.0 Hz) FM Voice  
& C4FM Digital

\* SKYWARN Net When  
Activated.

\*\* Sunday Night Net—8:30 PM  
Local Time.