



Hamgram

Newsletter of the Winona Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

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

October 2015

www.w0ne.org

WARC Sep. Program- Oct. 15

WHAT: This month's program had not been confirmed at the time the Hamgram was issued. Please check in to the Sunday night net or watch for a message on the W0NE reflector to learn the topic.

DATE & Time: Thursday, October 15, 2015 – 7:00 PM

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

WHERE: Conference Room B, Winona County Office Building, 202 West 2nd Street, Winona, MN. Doors will be unlocked from 6:45 to 7:15 PM. If you are late, please try the 146.835 repeater to have someone let you in.

UPCOMING CLUB ACTIVITIES

Trempealeau NWR Special Event-K9P Saturday, Oct. 17, is the day for the Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge station, K9P, operated in conjunction with the Riverland Amateur radio Club. Set up will begin about 8:15 CDT and operating hours are advertized as 9:00 to 4:00. Winona is providing a complete station with vertical antenna again. Bring some food and join in a fun, relaxing day!

ARRL Sweepstakes-SSB November 21-22 is ARRL Sweeps week end (SSB). If you are interested in participating in a club effort for this contest, please contact Lance, WB0YJU, at lancetag@hbc.com or let him know during a Sunday night net.

Technician Class Licensing Course—Status Update

At the time the October Hamgram was issued, there were at least two people registered and three more interested in the licensing course. Of the “interested” parties, one sounds very interested currently and the other two are interested but it seems that the October-November time frame will not work very well.

The Executive Board is determining how to deal with the opportunities.

And the Rest of the Story Is....????

Contributed by Carol Schumacher

You run into amateur radio connections in the most unexpected places.... For instance, take the story forwarded by Carol Schumacher below.

“While on a recent bird trip to Sulawesi, Indonesia, a friend noticed an amateur radio call sign on a wall. It turned out to be a license plate of Sulawesi or Indonesia.

“Unfortunately it was impossible to track down the ham. The person in charge /owner of this homestay ‘Sandy,’ was out of town. What had been noticeable among the family portraits, however, were several Indonesian Navy officer photos. My guess is that is the connection with ham radio.

“It was an outstanding bird trip: we saw 288 species on the islands of Sulawesi and Halmahera. Of the 288, 189 were new to me. Spectacular birds from hornbills, parrots, parakeets, hanging parrots, 9 owl species and other night birds, doves and stunning fruit-doves. It



was a trip of early mornings and late nights often with only 6 hours of sleep. And one not to be forgotten.”

It turns out that the call sign, YD8MAQ, is not currently assigned per QRZ.com. So,....what is the rest of the story???

Find refuge at the Refuge Oct. 17

By Bob Seaquist, W9LSE

It may be cold, it may be unusually warm, it may rain or it probably will be sunny for the Winona Amateur Radio Club's Sixth Annual National Wildlife Refuge Week special event station K9P. No matter what the weather conditions, we know—from each year's experience—it will be fun!



Operations will run from 9:00 a.m. - 4 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 17, at the Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge, W28488 Refuge Rd, Trempealeau. Set-up begins at 8:15. Plans include at least two stations, one from the W0NE and one from our friends in the Riverland Amateur Radio Club

Most importantly, there will be food! Bring a dish to pass as well as a comfortable lawn chair. Electricity is available for crock pots.

The Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge is one of more than 500 throughout the United States managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service. The 6,200 acre refuge lies within the Mississippi River flyway. Its rolling prairies, rich wetlands

and bottomland forests support a variety of wildlife species. Established in 1936 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the refuge is a breeding ground for migratory birds and other wild life. It is an isolated backwater, cut off from the Mississippi and Trempealeau Rivers by dikes, providing needed resting and feeding areas for waterfowl and other birds.

The joint special event station was stimulated by an article in CQ Magazine. National Wildlife Refuge Week, celebrated the second week of October since 1996 and sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), focuses on lands and waters where wildlife and habitats are under federal protection.



*Lance KB0YJU and Roger KA9BKK
in the RARC COMM Trailer*

Minutes of the September WARC Board Meeting are below.

**Minutes of September 2015 WARC Board Meeting held at Watkins Hall, Winona State University.
Present: Lance (KB0YJU), Syed (AC0VA), Harro (KG6RLM), Ken (N0JP), John (K2OPT), Paul (K0ZYV)
Les (K0BAD) attended the meeting from Hawaii via Skype.**

Agenda:

**Minutes
Treasurer Report
Committee Reports
Other**

Paul called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

Minutes

Minutes of last Meeting were approved. Board members took a bit time to read through the last Board Meeting Minutes. Syed mentioned he had cut and paste issue while sending the Minutes to email. Part of the Minutes were copied more than once. Ken also brought a correction to the Minutes as regards to the reference to repeater. Syed acknowledged the mistake and will be corrected. (440 repeater instead of 640 repeater).

Treasurer Reports

Treasurer report was approved. Harro had questions on two checks he wrote to Chris (Farmer near 835 Repeater/APRS). Lance clarified some confusion with the checks. Lance did receive acknowledgement of the checks sent. Ken had also few questions on Chris and Ron. Erik has put contact information on APRS site Refrigerator in case anyone wants to contact the club.

Harro mentioned he has not received any bill on the work of Matt on Witoka tower. Paul stated he will get the bill in due time. Harro also mentioned a new member Bill Davis has joined the club and paid the club dues. Harro mentioned Bill has Antenna up in his cabin in Wisconsin.

Committee Reports

Paul mentioned there were not much of new in Committee Reports.

On behalf of Erik of Repeater Committee, Lance provided the report. Erik is almost done with paper work to move 440 Repeater to Witoka Tower. Lance asked Les if he has done the Analysis of 440 Repeater at Witoka site with Gain, Height and Antenna Output. Les replied he plans to do the analysis shortly. Lance replied to a question that club is not part of Echolink. Les mentioned although few people use Echo Link in Winona but they do not serve as gateway to the system. Les mentioned he has access to Winlink in Hawaii and with a Winlink gateway he can connect outside. Discussion continued about Echolink and local user. Lance mentioned we have the power of Skype right now. Les in attending the meeting live on Skype. Paul mentioned Les does come very clear on Skype.

Paul and Dan are planning to see the CEO of HBC about access to internet on Witoka site. They plan to ask for donation of internet. They are working on getting an appointment. Education Committee is planning a Technician Class in Fall and General Class later. Paul and Melanie are organizing the class. Paul will invite college students and the class will be held at the same place in Watkins as last time and Plan is to start in October.

Lance stated we are in lull as activities goes and that is usual this time of year. Ken stated he is following 440 Repeater since it is working again and he does not see that much activities. Les inquired how the 440 Repeater working in Witoka tower and lance replied 440 Repeater is not in Witoka Tower yet. Paul mentioned Matt is planning to do more electrical work before moving the Repeater.

Ken mentioned we need to run a Repeater etiquette through Hamgram or otherwise about identifying the caller instead going "Co-Chunk". Ken mentioned this has been happening in all three Repeaters. Syed asked an explanation of "Co-Chunk" and Ken replied people bring up the repeater but does not say anything. Once in a while Ken does hear something or part of the word but it was not clear. Les mentioned it might be him as he has been trying get into 640 Repeater. Ken mentioned there is also massive VHF skip going on. Paul asked if we have a article on Repeater Etiquette. Les is going to look into files if there are any existing written etiquettes.

Harro brought up issue of Matt Cummings memorial service and how Club will participate.

Also, Paul has not ordered the lightning arrester yet but he plans to. Harro also asked how we get new club member Bill Davis included in Hamgram delivery and other club announcements. Paul answered Len can take care of that stuff. Paul mentioned he should be added to reflector also.

Harro mentioned we got a thank you letter from "Habitat for Humanity" which is included in this Minutes. Lance explained this thank you note because they used our Repeater during the Fund Raising operation.

Meeting was then adjourned.

**The Winona Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 1264, Winona, MN 55987-7264**

Executive Board

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

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 1264, Winona, MN 55987

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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.



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