

Hamgram

July 2017

Winona Amateur Radio Club
Winona, Minnesota



Fighting propagation and antenna issues, Luke Rickert, KEØMDW, puts contacts in the Field Day log.

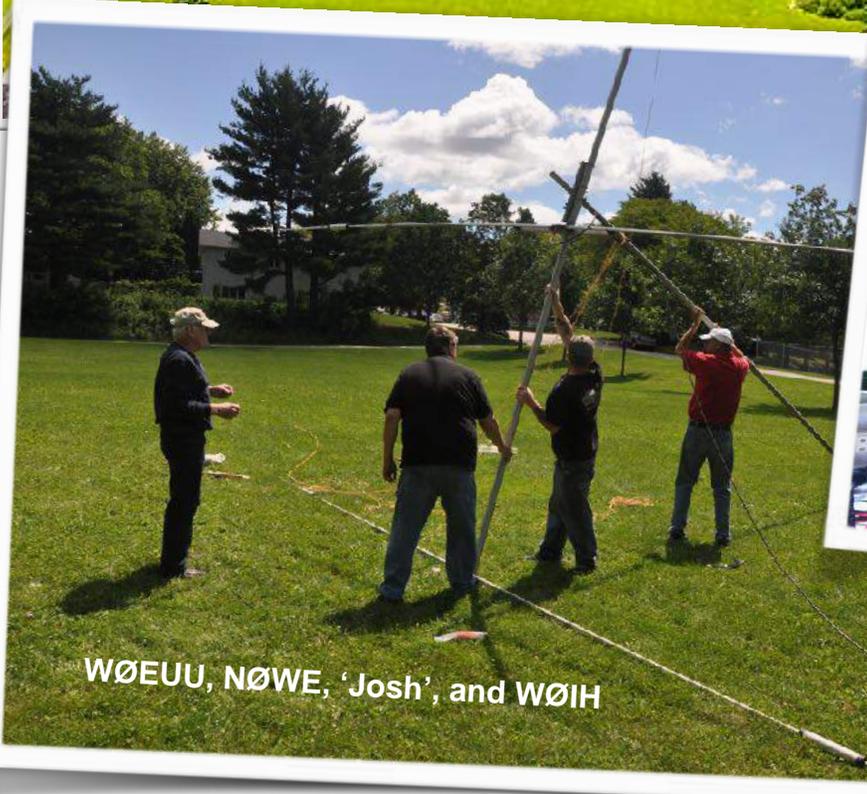
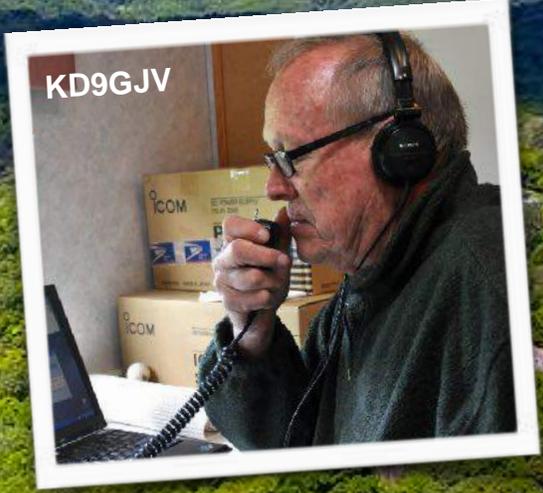
Pretty and quiet Wincrest Park, located high above Winona, provided this year's headquarters for Ham Radio fun June 24-25 during ARRL Field Day.

Winona Amateur Radio Club's impressive operation, again in the Winona Sheriff's communication trailer, included a beam, a couple wire dipoles, the club's Icom 718, Paul Schumacher's, KØZYV, IC-7300, and the efforts of many, many club members. A VHF-UHF station provided by Clare Jarvis, KØNY, offered free extra points.

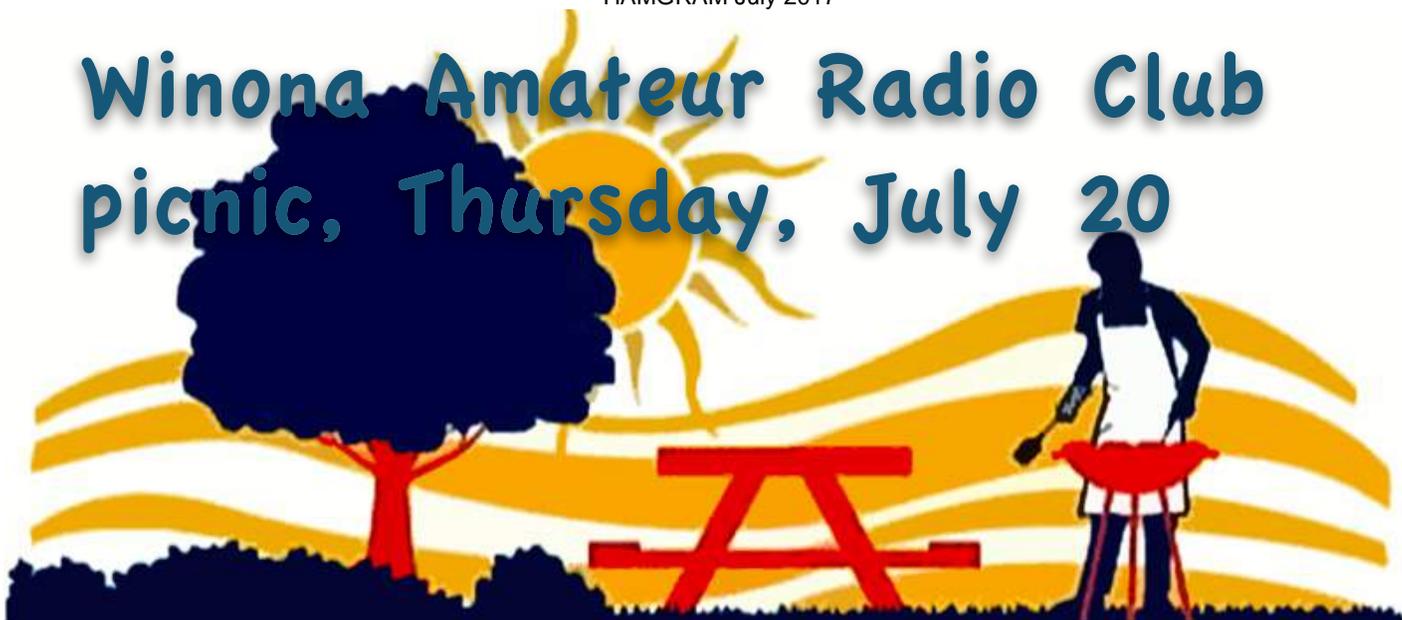
The official count of contacts, not available when the Hamgram went to "press," is probably not record-setting. Propagation was even worse than last year, for sure, but many other stations were heard so there was potential. Operators vigorously fought the reluctant beam, and a nasty thunderstorm interrupted too.

If the ARRL would count smiles and good feelings, the WØNE station would lead the rest.

Whiskey Zero November Echo



Winona Amateur Radio Club picnic, Thursday, July 20



Bring your family, a dish to pass, your own meat, and eating utensils to the WARC Annual Family Picnic 5:30 p.m., Thursday, July 20. It will be at Lake Winona in the Lions Shelter (Gepner Pavilion), 525 Lake Park Drive (near foot of Hamilton St.). This is the club's July meeting.

According to picnic chair Syed Faruque, ACØVA, we meet and socialize at 5:30 with dinner 6–8 p.m. The club will provide drinks. If there are any changes to the location they will be communicated through the 146.640 repeater. All amateur radio operators and other interested persons are encouraged to attend.

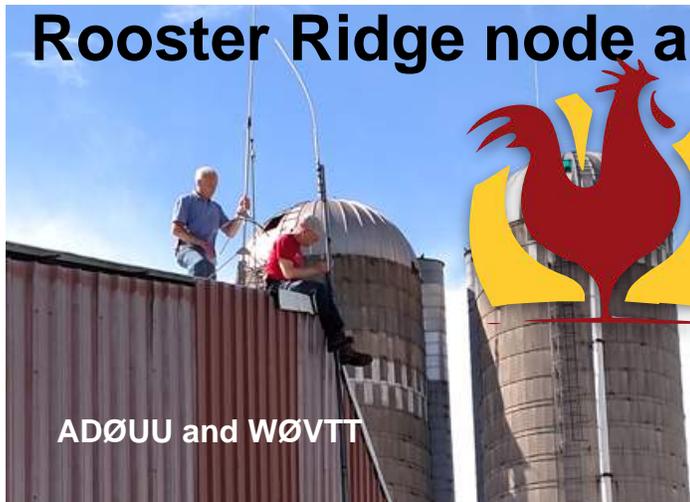
Oct. build?

There could be a construction project for the club's October program: construction of a radio interface board based on a Raspberry Pi. The device, designed by Erik Brom, WBØNIU, uses a Raspberry Pi as an audio in-and-out so your radio can do such things as FLDIGI.

Members will be polled for their interest in doing the construction prior to the October meeting. The cost will be approximately \$60.



Rooster Ridge node antenna restored



ADØUU and WØVTT

Maintaining the club's repeaters and nodes compares with the never-ending work of farming. In fact, the APRS node on Rooster Ridge is on a farm. The most recent chore was replacing the broken antenna, one that probably had been there in excess of 20 years.

The first step, June 10, was to put up a temporary antenna so the node would be on the air for Trinona. This was a home brew 2m J-pole Erik Brom, WBØNIU, built some time ago. Mike Foerster, WØIH, and Paul Degallier, ADØUU, did the work on the roof.

A more permanent solution came June 17 when the crew erected a permanent, used, HyGain V2S donated by Mike Cizek, WØVTT. He and Degallier were the roof crew. Initial indications are that this is working well.

AMATEUR RADIO STATION LOG.

Logging software use

Most active Hams are past logging contacts by hand and have switched to very useful software packages that record much more than the time, call, frequency, signal report and comments. Electronic logs retrieve personal information of the other station, rotate antennas, automate responses and more! For the fun of it, Club Log detected the various logging software products submitted in June by inspecting the ADIF file headers at the start of the upload.

Software Used By Users With 200+ DXCCs

Product Name	% of Users
LOGGER32	38%
HAMRADIODELUXE	21%
DXKEEPER	20%
N3FJP'S AMATEUR CONTACT LOG	11%
UR5EQF_LOG	10%

Software Used By Honor Roll Users

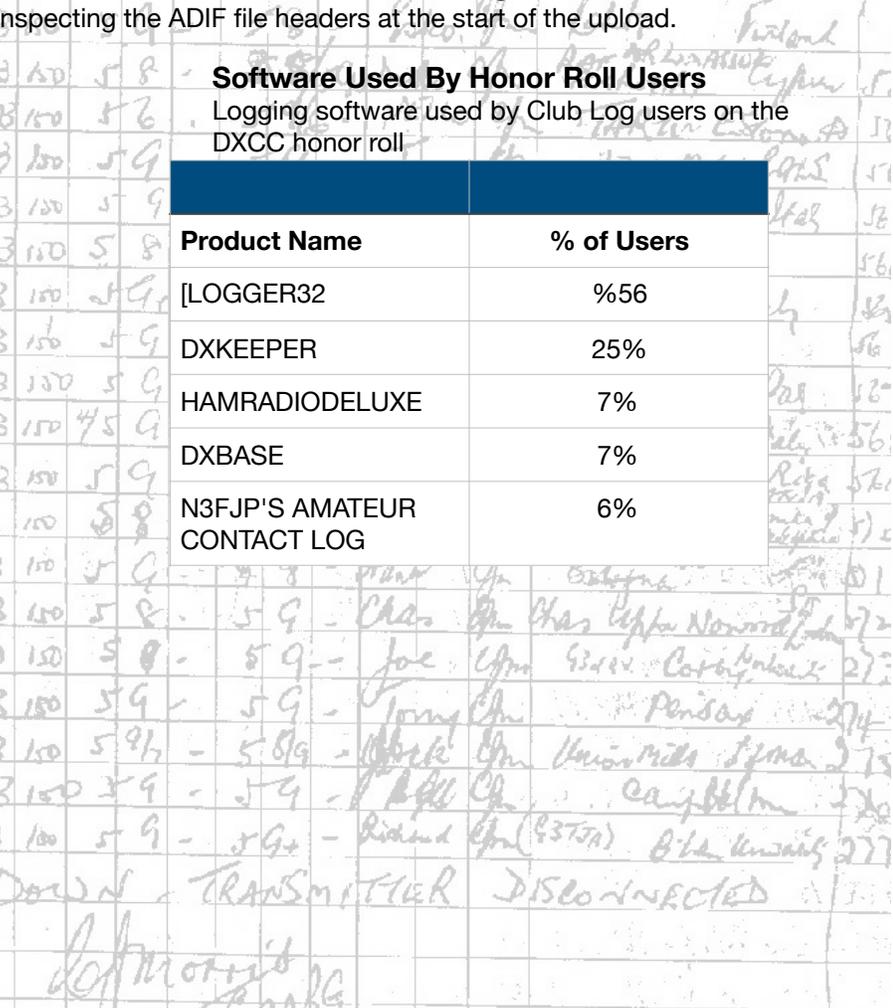
Logging software used by Club Log users on the DXCC honor roll

Product Name	% of Users
LOGGER32	56%
DXKEEPER	25%
HAMRADIODELUXE	7%
DXBASE	7%
N3FJP'S AMATEUR CONTACT LOG	6%

Software Used By New Hams

Logging software used by Hams who have less than three years activity in their log.

Product Name	% of Users
HAMRADIODELUXE	32%
LOGGER32	30%
DXKEEPER	18%
CLUBLOG	10%
UR5EQF_LOG	10%



WARC tops in MnQP

WØNE earned 73,584 total points in the 2017 Minnesota QSO Party putting the club in first place for multi-ops. This is more than twice the points, 32,400, earned by the next highest multi-op, WC0AAA. Operators in this effort were: Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT; Peter Ebertowski, KDØYOB; Dan Goltz, WKØW; Paul Degallier, ADØUU; Mike Foerster, WØIH; Claire Jarvis, KØNY; and Dale Cohenour, KEØEKD.

253 MNQP entrants supplied logs this year. This is down about 30 or so from record years. Every one of the state's 87 counties had contacts!

WARC Board Meeting Tuesday, May 9, 2017

Watkins Hall, Winona State University.

Present: Board Members: Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM, Syed Faruque, ACØVA, Paul Schumacher, KØZYV, Dan Goltz, WKØW, Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT, Mike Foerster, WØ0IH. Visitors: Tom Wilmot, WØMK, Bob Seaquist, W9LSE, Paul Degallier, ADØUU.

Called to order by Paul around 7 p.m.

Minutes approved. Correction: Bob Seaquist, W9LSE, is a non-board member; minutes corrected to reflect that.

Treasurer report approved. Harro fixed the discrepancy from previous report. Harro received more donations for transceiver for Witoka. Club insurance is due and Harro is battling website to pay the bill.

Storage shed at Witoka. Dan talking to county on putting a shed outside the fence. Discussion continued on where to put the shed. Dan mentioned if spend money on shed, there will be no way recollect if we ever have to vacate the place. Also nobody will want the shed in their backyard. Dan mentioned based on what we have in treasury we will need to raise fund for Shed. Mike asked, what are really the items that need to be stored in the shed? Mike would like to see a list. Paul / Lance mentioned there is quite few stuff in their garages. Dan mentioned all electrical components could be place inside shed and other hardware stuff can stay outside. Mike stated we can get large plastic tubes and put all the poles inside. Paul (ADØUU) asked if we can build on top of the current shed. Paul (KØZYV) said that might not be possible given the nature of structure. Mike would like to remove blue

desk from shack and build shelves there. Board agreed best place for shed is outside the fence subject to permission from county. Lance stated we should be in the hunt for cheaper shed.

WSU antenna location. Paul has been trying to put antennas on Watkins building. He is working with the university to get it done.

Events we support: Trinona is June 11.

Field Day Lance will setup N1MM logging software. He is working on a location for field day. The aim is for Garvin Heights with the Port Authority site as an option. Wilson Township Hall would be difficult as we will need access for 28 hours; distance from city a hindrance. RF interference issues at Wilson. Witoka site was suggested but it is far away and not in public view. Dan reported on the Rotary Club Ride the Ridges bicycle tour. Starting and finish point of the race this year will be Winona Middle School. Dan already had a meeting with school principal on places of setup and other preliminaries. Organizers want Amateur Radio to be focus of their process and would like a big screen TV on premise to display APRS positions. Dan is also working with one of the instructor of GIS of St. Mary's university to overlay the maps and other items. Goal is to setup APRS and amateur TV. Plan is also use LaCrosse Repeater (subject to permission) and Witoka repeaters.

Also we will be working with SOAR team, Houston County Rescue, State Patrol, City Police. Route is same as last year with minor changes. Dan stated this would be high profile job for us and we should all work together to make it successful.

Meeting was then adjourned.

RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SWAP FEST

Located in the Onalaska Omni Center

255 Riders Club Rd. Onalaska, WI 54650

Talk in: 146.970 PL 131.8

AUGUST 5

8 a.m.-1 p.m.



WARC Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 13, 2017

Watkins Hall, Winona State University.

Present board members: Syed Faruque, ACØVA, Paul Schumacher, KØZYV, Dan Goltz, WKØØW, Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT, Mike Foerster, WØØIH. Non Board Member: Tom Wilmot, WØMK, Bob Seaquist, W9LSE.

Called to order by Paul at around 7 PM.

Minutes approved amending May minutes regarding proposed setup of Mesh Network from KAGE to Witoka site.

Actually it will be reverse like Witoka to KAGE site.

Public Service Committee

Lance, did a great job organizing the Trinona support. These events not only provide support for the sponsoring organization but the provide a great opportunity to network with other organizations and individuals. Example Winona Police Dept. Discussion with Michael Peterson of Winona County Emergency Management:

1. He will be employed by Minnesota Homeland Security, and will over see all SE Minnesota Emergency Management.
2. He states WARC is the best group of volunteers he has ever worked with. We are always there, and we "know our stuff", be it equipment, radio discipline, SKYWARN reporting.
3. He will be briefing his successor and he will include his relationship with WARC in his discussions. We may be invited to meet his successor at that time if the situation is appropriate.
4. We may use any of the county owned amateur equipment for our support needs without requesting special permission.
5. We may use county 800MHz radios for special occasions but we need to notify sheriff or supporting agency that we are using them, and log them out.
6. We may erect a storage shed at the Witoka tower if we wish.
7. This year we will not have access to the SE Minnesota EM tower trailer. Mike is currently the only person in the SE Minnesota district trained to use it and he will no longer be part of the SE Minnesota district.
8. Using the Sheriff's trailer should not be a problem.
9. He obtained a HP Toughbook computer power cord for us and recommends we store it in the "Big Yellow Box" along with the computer and any other items that could potentially be borrowed.

LEC amateur equipment is fully functional as of this report, including the county desk top computer with APRS FI.

Paul, ADØUU, has been working to determine our needs for digipeaters and other coverage needs for the Ride the Ridges event in September. Erik, WBØNIU, has identified a potential problem with an APRS IGATE station near Austin that may delay APRS displays during Ride the Ridges.

Erik has downloaded the Ride the Ridges maps and overlaid them on the [APRS.FI](#) map site. Planning for that event continues. Erik also installed a receive only APRS station at Witoka using the antenna at 320 feet.

Bob, W9LSE, has obtained permission from the Riverland club to use its 146.97 repeater for the Ride the Ridges event.

Fusion Repeaters and WIRES-X:

We are looking into ways to link the repeaters to give us wide area coverage up and down the river and through out most of Winona County, as well as world wide coverage via WIRES-X.

- Dan, WKØW

APRS Erik explained the potential conflicts of APRS igrate transmission in our area. Basically it involves KPC3 working in kiss mode and delay in transmission. Erik and Lance noticed the anomaly during Trinona operation. Erik tracked the station that causing the problem and working on ideas to directly or indirectly to address the issue. Goal is to get as much APRS data as possible to internet. Erik looking into setting igrate other places to get work around mainly in all rest stops if they have internet. Erik also has figured out how to overlay the maps on APRS IS software. That will come handy for upcoming Ride the Ridges Bike race.

Erik says there were issues with Witoka site and Mike said he will make a visit. Dan said there was lightning storm night before.

Antennas at WSU. Paul and his team propose placing HF, UHF and VHF antennas for emergencies on Watkins Hall. Erik updated on Rooster Ridge APRS site. Erik updated on his communication with the farmer that owns the barn where all the equipment is placed. Erik and a team went on a trip there last Weekend and setup a temporary antenna. Erik raised the question if we would like to continue to use Rooster Ridge as we now have a new Witoka site and also the 835 site. If we want we can move APRS to 835 site, consolidate some equipment etc per Erik. Board discussed equipment available for the site. Erik suggested we should visit site to investigate. Lance would like to keep APRS where it is for ease of access. Erik would like to put a different antenna at Rooster Ridge site if we are to continue there. It was decided to make a trip Saturday and set up an antenna.

Remote HF site. Working fine. Mike has to focus the camera remotely.

Field Day. Lance has been sending emails about forming various teams to perform different tasks for Field Day. We will be at Wincrest Park in Garvin Heights thanks to Bob per Lance. Lance will put a flier in the adjoining houses informing of upcoming activity for Field Day at the Park. Plan is to run stations similar to previous years: two concurrent HF stations, Lance would like one them to be PSK31 optional station, CW station. Radios available for field day are 718 and 7300. Few power supplies are available. Lance sent email for help with filters. Dan will follow up on sheriff's trailer. Dan said someone should be at site when the trailer arrives to indicate where it should be placed. Board would like the trailer to be there on Friday. Lance would like to setup an antenna team to work on antennas. Lance said Google Maps shows the area for people looking for directions. Site is next to new water tower which should protect us from lightning per Lance. Lance will talk more about Field Day during club meeting Thursday. He will also focus on N1MM logging software. Lance will have three laptops ready for training on Thursday. Mike would like a written procedure on how to use the radios. There will be dedicated 2m station for communication at Field Day site per Lance. Lance mentioned there are three modes of contact voice, CW and digital. There will be options to work on all these modes during field day. Lance also thinking some sort of Technology Demonstration. Bob brought up idea of satellite

See "June Board," page 7 to continue

June Board, continued from page 6

communication. Lance will put all his ideas in reflector and will need as many volunteers as possible to make all these to happen. ARRL site has our field day locator in Website. Lance will do social media promotion (Facebook etc). Next discussed were power supply and interference issues from previous years.

Treasurer Report approved.

Paul will talk about storage shed during upcoming Club Meeting. Talk continued on storage shed.

Meeting was then adjourned.




Weather-Ready Nation
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

SKYWARN® spotters provide lifesaving information for all types of environmental hazards. However, the main responsibility of a spotter is to report severe local storms. More than 10,000 severe thunderstorms, 5,000 floods and 1,000 tornadoes occur in the U.S. during an average year. Since the program started in the 1960s, SKYWARN® information, coupled with Doppler radar technology, improved satellite data and other resources, has enabled NWS to issue more timely and accurate warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms and flash floods. SKYWARN® storm spotters form the Nation's first line of defense against severe weather. The efforts of these volunteers give communities the precious gift of time - seconds and minutes that can help save lives. Refer to <http://www.weather.gov/arl/wrn> for more information.

WØNE Repeaters
146.640 PL 100.0 Hz *
146.835 PL 131.8 Hz **
444.225 PL 100.0Hz FM Voice C4FM Digital *
442.150, 100 Hz. FM Voice C4FM Digital *
SkyWarn Net when activated.
**** Sunday Night Net—8:30 p.m.**

Winona Amateur Radio club meetings are 7 p.m., third Thursday of the month at the Winona County Office Building, 202 West Third St., Winona. The monthly program is open to the public.

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

President: Paul Schumacher, KØZYV, pschumacher@winona.edu

Vice President: Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT, lancetag@hbc.com

Treasurer: Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM, Harro@hohenner.com

Secretary: Syed Faruque, ACØVA, sfaruque@yahoo.com

Custodian: Erik Brom, WBØNIU, ewbrom@hbc.com

At Large: Dan Goltz, WKØW; Mike Foerster, WØIH

Dues: \$25 per calendar year per license holder. \$30 per calendar year for all licensed members of the same family within the same household.

Send dues to: Treasurer, P.O. Box 1451, Winona, MN 55987

Hamgram is published monthly by The Winona Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Distribution is via e-mail and the WØNE.org Web site. Distribution to individual members by USPS is available upon request. Editor: Bob Seaquist, W9LSE. Address comments and Hamgram correspondence to: Bob Seaquist, 202 Zephyr Circle, La Crosse, Wis. 54601 or seaquist.robe@eagle.uwlax.edu 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

