

Hamgram

May 2018

Winona Amateur Radio Club
Winona, Minnesota



Parts postpone project

Band-pass build changes

Field Day discussions brought up the need for band-pass filters. Someone said, "we can build them ourselves," and then someone else said, "lets do this as a build project for the whole club!"

Oooooops! Good idea that will not happen this month.

Logistics trumped everything.

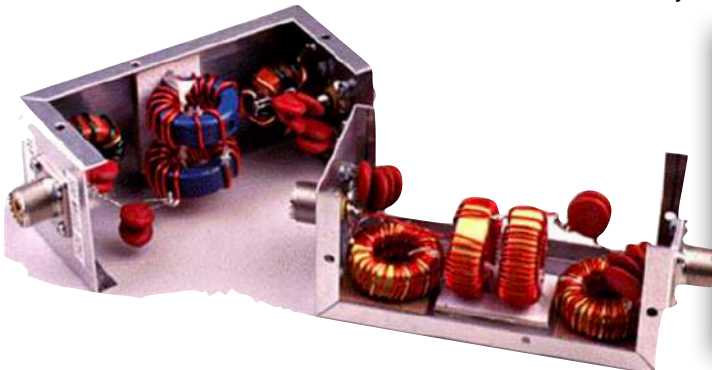
There **will be** a band-pass filter building session at the Thursday, May 17, club meeting though it will be restricted to filters needed by the club for Field Day.

Several issues created the postponement: Some parts (capacitors) were back ordered; club leaders believe there first should be a prototype to make sure it works ("which is important when we are committing to \$800 investment," noted club president Paul Schumacher, KØZYV); and some parts, like the cases, have to be machined for connectors and mounting. "Rushing is inviting Murphy to do his thing!" concluded Schumacher.

The plan for Thursday is to attempt to build the three club filters for 80, 40 and 20 and hopefully complete them by field day. These would be the prototypes, and prove the project works so a group build later-on would be successful.

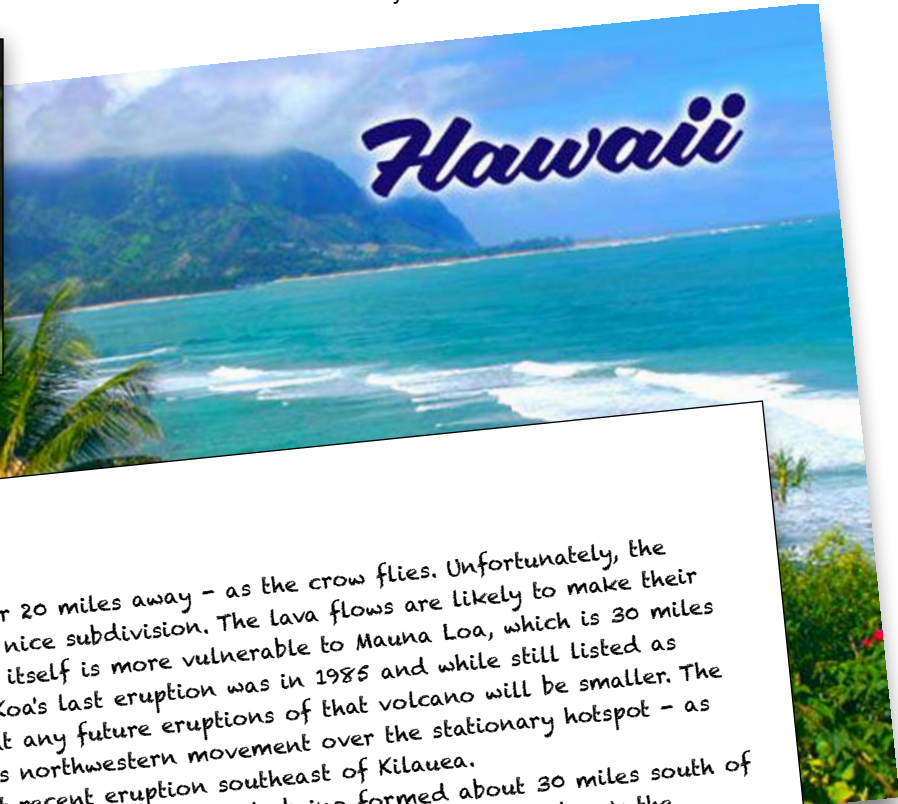
Anytime there's more than one transmitter in a close space there can be multiple-transmitter interference. Field Day is a great example as is the Minnesota QSO Party. Multiple-transmitter operation at a single site creates an unusual RF environment that results in many unexpected interference problems not normally encountered with single-station setups. For example, in addition to transmitter harmonics, there can be receiver blocking and damage, and the generation of harmonics and intermodulation at the nonlinear receiver input.

There's help: band pass filters. They are simple, inexpensive and easily made.



May club meeting

- 7 p.m. Thursday, May 17
- Winona County Office Building, 202 West Third St., Winona.
- Building session for club band pass filters



Aloha,
 Yep! We arte fine.
 The activity is a bit over 20 miles away - as the crow flies. Unfortunately, the eruptions are in a very nice subdivision. The lava flows are likely to make their way to the Pacific. Hilo itself is more vulnerable to Mauna Loa, which is 30 miles or so from us. Mauna Koa's last eruption was in 1985 and while still listed as "active," it is likely that any future eruptions of that volcano will be smaller. The island is continuing its northwestern movement over the stationary hotspot - as evidenced by this most recent eruption southeast of Kilauea.
 The next volcanic island is actually already being formed about 30 miles south of Hawai'i Island (Lo'ihi Seamount) but it still has 3,000 feet to go to break the surface. Depending on how massive it becomes, it will be another island or will merge with Hawai'i Island. But - we won't live to see that...
 We did feel the strongest quakes in Hilo, however, but nothing tipped over but the toothpaste, which was standing on end in my medicine chest.
 -Les, KØBAD

POSTCARD FROM HAWAII
 LES, KØBAD, LIVES NEAR THE KILAUÉA VOLCANO

More Lens needed

A visit to a Winona Amateur Radio Club meeting usually started with a warm welcome from Len Litvan, KCØRSX (Now AE9LL). He made it easier for newcomers to enter a room of strangers and he made even old-timers feel more comfortable.
 Len is back home in Indiana so it's up to all of us to fill his shoes. Especially important is welcoming the new face, the guy who just got his Tech ticket and an HT.

Try to get everyone involved; seek-out new folks and make them welcome. Find out about them - what made them come to your meeting - how did they find out about it - what is their interest in Amateur Radio... many possible conversations. Do this before the meeting starts!
 It means a club that will grow and be strong.

So be a Len: say "hi" to the familiar guys; say "welcome, who are you" to the new ones.
 Help the Winona Amateur Radio Club stay healthy.



Len Litvan, AE9LL (formerly KCØRSX)

WARC Executive Board April 2018

Watkins, Winona State University

Meeting called to order by Paul Schumacher, KØZYV, at 7 p.m.

Present: Paul Schumacher, KØZYV; Dan Goltz, WKØW; Erik Brom, WBØNIU; Tom Wilmot, WØMK, Bob Seaquist, W9LSE; John Kowalik, K2OPT; Marv, Rodvold, KD9GLV; Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT; Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM; Clare Jarvis, KØNY. Mike Foerster, WØIH, was present by telephone.

Treasurers report by Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM, at 7:06. Dan/Lance Approved.

Minutes were approved as corrected. Clare/Paul approved.

Repeater committee. Erik delivered orally. He will be meeting with the MN Repeater Council, April 21, 2018.

Discussion of new logo. Consensus to go with recently derived, quick-and-dirty "Sugar Loaf Lightning."

Dan brought up Wires-X use on the Witoka Repeater to regain control. The following will work on the issues: Erik, Mike F, Dan, and Marv.

Repeater committee report. Clare/Lance Approved.

Mike reported on the remote HF and associated projects.

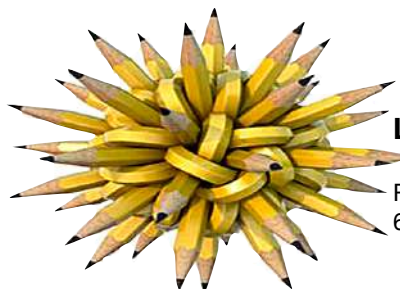
Harro was appointed as the new Webmaster.

Paul, KØZYV, is working on the new call out list to make sure that we have an alternative to over the air calling.

Public Service committee. Walt Kelly and I met with Jennifer Lavalla, the chief dispatcher at the LEC. We showed her the amateur station in the Emergency Management office and explained how we use it and the functions and services we provide.

An announcement of who the new Winona County emergency manager will be made soon. We will make every effort to work closely with the new person as we have done in the past. It is extremely important that we live up to the promises we make, especially regarding availability and capabilities. We will need to make sure all of the equipment is functional at the LEC, and have people to man it when needed. We need to update and be sure our automated call out program is functional. This activity has not been functional since we started using the new computer server.

Motion to adjourn by Erik/Lance.



VE testing opportunity

La Crosse

Sat. June 1, 9 a.m.

Register five days in advance with Roger Reader, KA9BKK, 608-783-0723 or readers@centurtytel.net.

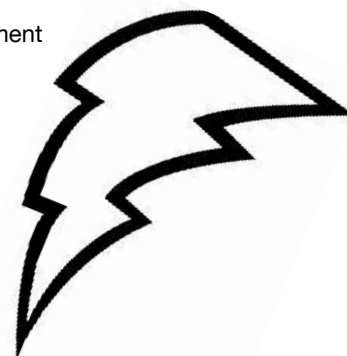
Lap!

It's that time of the year when a good Ham's thoughts turn to grounding and lighting protection. So much information is available you could spend hours going through all the information listed. Go to the Poly-Phaser site and read their tutorials on lightning protection. Go to Lyncole, Hagar and ICE (Industrial Communications Engineers) and read their tutorials on grounding. The ARRL has publications that detail what you must do for adequate lighting protection.

There is no short cut to lighting protection. Your whole station and home needs to be addressed as a complete solution.

Proper grounding and surge protection works and works very well. The key is setting up low resistance grounding and the proper installation of grounding material. Disconnecting you equipment and putting it into a Faraday Shield box will work well but you could be off the air for a long time every year.

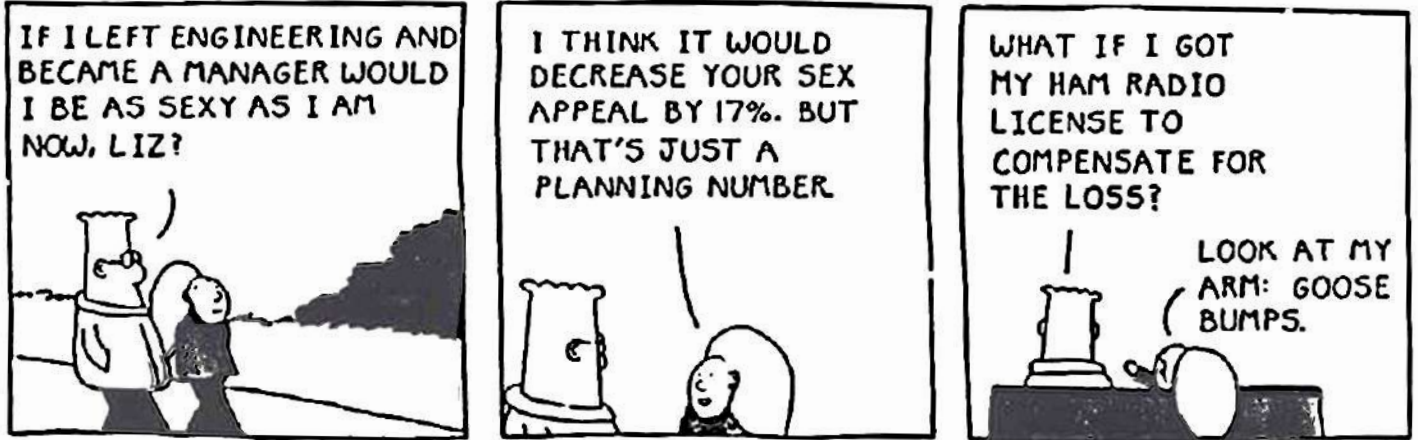
Most Hams have a story about lightning though Tom Mauszycki, KA0MLO, can tell about his home just about being blasted apart. At the W9LSE world headquarters a missing telephone line ground resulted in the loss of phones, a couple routers and a very nice Keurig coffee maker. Obviously a surge and not a direct hit, but damage just the same. Lesson learned and now a fully bonded ground system, many buried rods and surge protectors.



Room to run

Be aware that if a frequency sounds unoccupied to you, it may not be elsewhere in the world. While you're running, occasionally ask stations that are calling you how they are copying you, and if there's any interference on their end. Another indicator that your run frequency may be busy is stations giving their call signs, but not responding when you call them back. A precipitous drop in your rate could indicate interference, or changing band conditions. If you are allowed to use spots in your entry category, seeing DX spotted near your run frequency can also indicate that your rate is in peril.

DILBERT by Scott Adams



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: Clare Jarvis, KØNY, cjarvis@hbc.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



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