



Ham Gab

Next meeting: Nov. 9th November 2012

PO Box 102
Bedford Park, IL
60499-0102
www.hamfesters.org

November Birthdays

Robert WA9BXI
John AB9JW
Robert W9KXW
Patti KC9LYE
James KC9OEU
Herb KC9OOK
William KC9QXO
Ronald KB9TCX
Bob K9WLS
Patricia WB9DUV
Bill KC9HRB

Officers

President-Don KC9EQQ
Vice President -Jim KB9CYL
Secretary-Patty KC9LYE
Treasurer- ED WA9EOL
SGT at Arm-Rich N9UNQ
Trustee-Bruno K9QKB

Board Members

Nora KC9MLV
Jim KA2DRQ
Kurt WB9FMC
Mike W9MCS
John WB9JTS
Kerry AA9SB
James KA2DRQ

Hamqab Editors

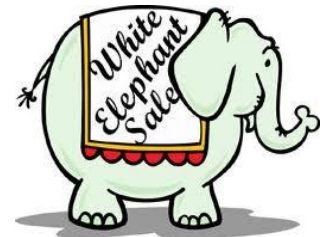
Steve & Eric
KC9OOL & KC9OOM
Scapstone@aol.com

November 9th will be a special version of the White Elephant Sale. Get your Christmas shopping done early!



The November meeting for Hamfesters will be held on November 9th, not the second due to our facility being set up for the National Elections. Our meeting of November 9th will be special in that we will have elections of our own that night and we will have a Fall version of our winter White Elephant Sale!! Hamfesters bring those items you want to sell and be ready to buy items too! Come one and come all. Doors open at 6:30pm and will take place at the Crestwood Community Center. See you there!

73
Don



Hope everyone enjoyed our Big Band evening with Steve Cooper at the October meeting. Thanks to Don and Nora for making the arrangements.

Get Your Tickets!

TICKETS FOR THE CHRISTMAS PARTY DECEMBER 7TH 7 PM AT PAPA JOE'S IN ORLAND PARK ARE ON SALE. 18\$ SINGLE STUB, 20\$ DOUBLE STUB. CONTACT JIM KB9CYL FOR TICKETS. LAST DAY FOR TICKET PURCHASE IS DEC. 1ST. THERE WILL NOT BE A RAFFLE IN NOVEMBER DUE TO THE WHITE ELEPHANT SALE AND NO RAFFLE IN DECEMBER DUE TO THE CHRISTMAS PARTY.

THE PRESIDENTS BEAT

DONALD POINTER KC9EQQ

NOVEMBE 2012

On behalf of the Officers of this fine club, I wish to say thank you for your overwhelming endorsement in voting unanimously the current Officer's return for another year of serving you the Hamfester Club members. At this writing, still yet to be determined at the upcoming November meeting are the positions of board members. This will be determined at a special election indeed in November. My best wishes to all who are seeking to obtain or retain those said seats on the board. You are all loyal and dedicated candidates and will do this club well by your presence on the governing board you seek a spot on.

Speaking of the board, effective November our board meetings will now be held where we conduct our regular meetings, at the Crestwood Community Center. I sought this change so that the board can function more efficiently, without the tighter time constraints of use recently imposed on us at our previous location. Same times and date will be in place for these meetings. I thank my fellow board members for your support in this change.

Our October meeting featuring well known Orchestra leader Steve Cooper was just outstanding as he presented a video presentation on Big Bands, along with great stories he shared with us about the musical greats of yesteryear and how that music is still enjoyed to this day. Not to mention, Steve played a little live horn for us all to enjoy also! Thank you Steve for a great evening!

The White Elephant sale is coming back early just in time for Christmas! Find that unique item for yourself or someone else, or make some Christmas dough by selling those items you are no longer in need of. And I hope the weather will be better than when your President scheduled it back in March thinking March would be a better month than February to have it in! (Anyone know how to get egg off your face easily?)



Have you purchased your ticket for you and the XYL for the Hamfester's Christmas Party to be held Friday, December 7th, at Papa Joes in Orland Park? Tickets available at the November meeting and will go off sale December 1st. Please see Jim KB9CYL for the tickets.

Lastly for certain.....Hard to believe Thanksgiving is coming up fast! Nora and I want to express how thankful we are to have you, the Hamfester Club member as our friends. We are thankful for the Joy, fellowship and support you have given us over the years. The purpose of this club is clear- to bring knowledge and awareness to all about Ham Radio all done in a way that ultimately develops new friendships, strengthens and cements old ones and fosters a sense of community when we all work together in times of need and in times of fun through that which is Amateur Radio! You the member of this club should be proud of what you bring to this wonderful club and its great members, the hobby itself and the premise that decency and fellowship are not a dying art, but are alive and well because of you, you and you! May you all have a truly blessed Thanksgiving with the ones you love.

One last word...A special salute to all you veterans for your unselfish sacrifices you have made allowing us all to enjoy Thanksgiving in the way we do! God Bless you all!

Board meeting minutes – Patti, KC9LYE

Hamfesters Board Meeting Sept. 24, 2012 began at 7:30PM
Roll: Don KC9EQQ, Jim KB8CYL, Ed WA9EOL, Patti KC9LYE,
Nora KC9MLV, Kerry AA9SB, James KA2DRQ.

Important: The November club meeting is Friday the 9th
Health & Welfare: Ben KC9CXT is out of the hospital. Bob's
N9RAT brother died.

President's Report: by Don KC9EQQ, Starting Oct. 29th the
monthly board meetings will be held at the Crestwood
Community Center at 7:30PM.

Programs: Sept. program "Ham's Who Fly" was very well
received.

Oct. 5th will feature Steve Cooper of the Steve
Cooper Orchestra, and club nominations.

The Good Humor Man will be at our meeting in
May 2013.

Nov. 9th Club Elections, & White Elephant Sale.

Christmas Party Friday Dec. 7th @ Papa Joe's in
Orland Park. Tickets \$18.00 or \$20.00

Raffle prizes two \$100.00 cash drawings.

Board Meeting: The Aug. minutes approved by Ed
WA9EOL, 2nd by James KA2DRQ.

Treasurer's Report: By Ed WA9EOL, approved by James
KA2DRQ, 2nd by Jim KB9CYL.

Secretary Report: By Patti KC9LYE,
I won't be at the Oct. 5th
meeting, I will run for re-election
for club's secretary. I attended
the Radio Expo on Sept. 15th, I
gave Kerry AA9SB, the info from
three vendors.

Hamfest & Publicity: By Kerry
AA9SB, is updating the
volunteer's list for hamfest 2013.

Publicity has been sent for the General license classes that
will begin on Sept. 27th.

And, the Oct. 5th club meeting.

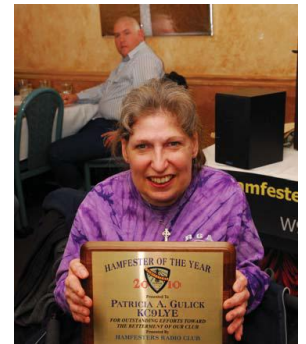
Field Day: By Jim KB9CYL, FD 2013 the GOTO call will be
Matt's K9MS.

VE Testing: By James KA2DRQ, the board gave its approval
for the creation of a pamphlet containing
info about Hamfesters club. Also, it will contain info about
STARS, & the 220 club. This pamphlet
will be available at VE test sessions.

At the Sept. test session a retired employee KC9SJO, from
WGN passed Tech & General license.

New Business: James KA2DRQ, Repeater is: 144.275 PL
114.8

Adjournment: at 8:28PM James KA2DRQ, 2nd by Ed
WA9EOL.



Hamfesters Roster News

We have a member who has been away for a while.

Lets welcome him back.

Brian Glim, KB9RHM

20748 S. Birchwood Ln.

Frankfort, IL 60423

815/931-3442 bjglim@roadwavesinc.com

Dave Brasel has moved to the Veteran's Home in
Manteno. His new info is:

Dave Brasel NF9N

Illinois Veteran's Home

1 Veterans Drive 1-W

Manteno, IL 60950

708-717-2296

General meeting minutes – Patti, KC9LYE

Hamfesters Radio Club

Friday 5 October 2012

CALL TO ORDER

President Don Pointer KC9EQQ called the meeting to order at 1943 hours.

All said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Notes taken by Vice President Jim Riley KB9CYL in the absence of the secretary.

UPGRADES: None

HEALTH & WELFARE

Dave Schmidt K9FGB passed away earlier this week. A moment of silence was held. Steve Peters W9KXT reported that Dave's wife was thankful for the outpouring of support from the ham community.

VISITORS

Theresa Flynn, Crestwood Village Trustee; Dan Peters, grandson of Steve Peters W9KXT; Jack K9UBA

Don introduced Steve Cooper who immediately went into his program on big band music.

The business meeting resumed at 2155, after the break.

NOMINATIONS

Nominees for 2013 are:

President: Don Pointer KC9EQQ

Vice President: Jim Riley KB9CYL

Secretary: Patty Gulick KC9LYE

Treasurer: Ed Broniarczyk WA9EOL

Sergeant-at-Arms: Rich Lamm N9UNQ

Trustee: Bruno Marusz K9QKB

Board of Directors: Kurt Pawlikowski W9FMC, James Byrnes KA2DRQ, Cathy Fleischmann KC9NRH, Nora Pointer KC9MLV, Kerry Nelson AA9SB, Steve Peters W9KXT, pending their acceptance John Sansone WB9JTS and Mike Serapin W9MCS.

BOARD MINUTES

A motion was made by Bob Koran N9JYX to approve the minutes of the September general meeting. It was seconded by James KA2DRQ and passed unanimously.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

In the absence of Secretary Patti Gulick KC9LYE there was no secretary's report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ed WA9EOL gave the treasurer's report.

Ed also acknowledged Nora Pointer KC9MLV for her fine job in bringing refreshments each month.

Motion to approve by James Byrnes KA2DRG, seconded by Rich Lamm N9UNQ. Passed unanimously.

MEMBERSHIP

In the absence of the membership chairman, Steve Peters W9KXT reported that five members had renewed. He also reported that there were 10 students in the General Class.

PROGRAMS

KC9EQQ listed the upcoming programs:

December: the Christmas party at Papa Joe's. KB9CYL has tickets for sale.

November: election night and white elephant sale. Due to the national election, the meeting is moved to the second Friday, November 9

RAFFLE

Bob Richter KB9YXH reported that there will be no raffle in November. Instead those who worked the Hamfest will take their pick of leftover prizes.

PUBLICITY

Publicity has been sent out to the regular media outlets.

HAMFEST

Kerry Nelson AA9SB reported that he is seeking new vendors for the fest.

Don commended Mike Kiley WA9ZPM on the usual great sound he provided for the meetings and his liaison work with the village of Crestwood.

FIELD DAY

KB9CYL reported that three of the scouts who came to last year's FD were so interested in what we did that they became hams, one is a general.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Don commended James Byrnes KC9SOG on his help with the audio and video tonight.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 2220 hours.

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS: KC9EQQ, K9KNZ, WB9FMC

RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS: Delores Gassmere, KB9CYL twice, N9KWG, K9OWQ, KA9KBU, N9JYX, KB9KRT, AA9SB

For Sale, will be at the White Elephant Sale in November.

Kenwood TS 450,
Mic-Manual. Leather Case
Excellent Condion.
Antenna Tuner 300W
MFJ 949 E, Manual
Excellent Condition \$250
Contact Bob W9NLQ
1701 W. 101st St.
Chicago, IL 60643
1-773-238-0544

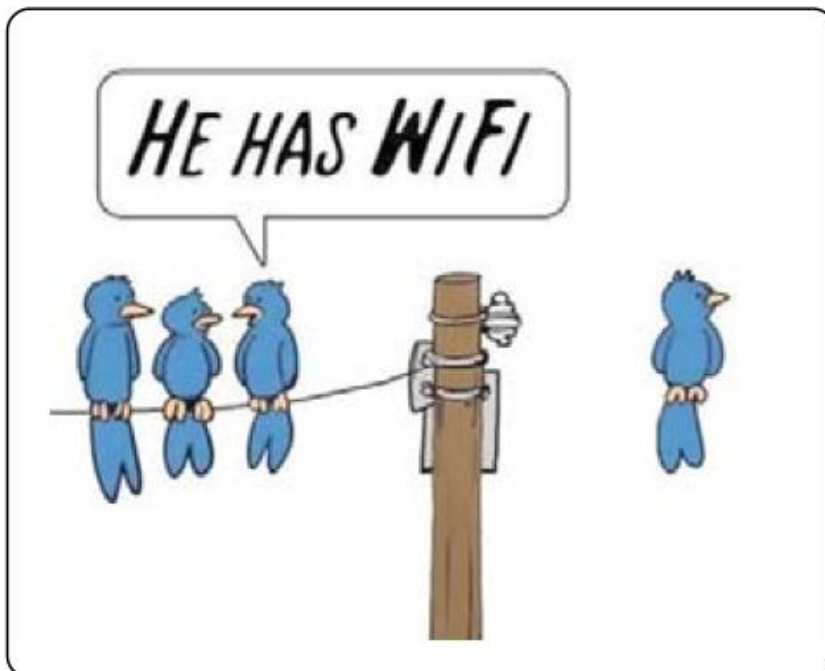


Education and Web Reports

For **Education** we have the General class up and running at the Tinley Park EOC! We have 10 enthusiastic students signed up for the class. The first class started well with no hitches. In addition to myself, we have Neal, WA9FTU helping in the teaching. Also, we have Gregg, AB9MZ, assisting in some administrative chores. As a point of interest, we have 3 or 4 students from the Kankakee and Bradley area. So thanks to the KARS radio club for publicity and providing us some students. This class will be run at no cost to the club.

For the **WEB report** I want to call attention to the collection of photos of recent meetings. We are going to try to put more photos on the web and less in HamGab to help the editor out some. It also will provide a single point to find photos of our meetings and activities. Major events like Field Day and Hamfest will have their separate link on the left side of the page. Be sure to visit the **Picture Gallery** on our web site! <http://www.hamfesters.org/main/picture-gallery/>

73,
--Brian, W9HLQ--



Hamfesters Dues Information

To Hamfesters Members:

From the Membership Chairman:

Each year I get questions and concerns about dues for Hamfesters Radio Club. So here is a review of some points regarding the dues.

Here are some salient points regarding dues:



- ✓ Your club dues help support the operation of the club. Many in the club work hard to keep the club running, provide refreshments, and coordinate the many events we have all year. If you attend the meetings you should be more than happy to pay the dues. (only \$20 for full membership or \$10.00 for spouse/sibling/other family member). These low dues are because your dedicated fellow Hamfesters put on a successful Hamfest which helps to fund club activities.
- ✓ Dues deadline for the following year (2013) are payable by December 31, 2012
- ✓ I start dues collection in September (also the October and November meetings) so you have plenty of time to catch me if you wish to pay in person. I allocate my time in the fall for dues collection. Please pay during this time window.
- ✓ I give you a receipt for your dues if you pay in person
- ✓ If you can't make a meeting please mail your dues to Brian Davis, W9HLQ. Make the check payable to "Hamfesters Radio Club". Include a SASE if you want a receipt.
- ✓ I will create a Club Roster and post it on the web, at least twice a year (January and July). If the information there is incorrect, please contact Brian Davis with your correction. The roster is in the common PDF format, so you can print as many copies of the roster as you need. Don't forget that your local library has computers and printers for you to use. The roster contains names and phone numbers, please keep it secure.
- ✓ New members get a letter via email welcoming them to the club and suggesting activities they might wish to become active in, such as field day, hamfest support, programs, or refreshments.

See you at the "Dues Table" in October!

73, Brian, W9HLQ, Membership chairman

THE LAST CHIP OFF THE BLOCK

John Curtis, born in 1930, became the typical boyhood ham. He and several high school friends got licenses at the same time, then built and operated amateur radio equipment although he did not attain the Extra Class license until much later in life.

John built a prototype keyer circuit and learned about digital radio. The circuit worked well and he started to produce keyers, and so the Curtis Electronic Devices EK-38 was born.

The EK-38 was a great keyer, but it only had dit memory, and lacked weight control. Many hams were interested in weight control because various transmitters had different keying characteristics. In 1969 he introduced EK-39. It included dah memory

as well as weight control. Curtis' electronic keyer business soon had a loyal following. Quite a few hams followed Curtis' every move and would order any new keyer he created. More success followed. The EK-402 had a 20-character programmable memory. Up to this point, Curtis could have been just another keyer designer but what happened next was truly revolutionary. He designed the whole keyer circuit on a single chip. He started with not one design, but two. The 8043 and the 8044 were announced at the same time. The 8043 was designed as a completely custom integrated circuit in CMOS.

At the same time, International Microcircuits was looking for a chip in which to test their

gate array technology. The first chip down the line was the 8044, produced for Curtis.

The 8043 worked first try. It was limited to dit memory, and sold for \$7.95 in quantities of 50 or more in 1973. The 8044 also worked right off the bat. It offered dah memory in addition and sold for \$24.95 in 1975. The 8044M was introduced in 1980. M stood for meter so that a meter could be hooked up to a pin of the 8044M to indicate sending speed.

In 1981 Curtis found that many people liked the mode B keying characteristics of Ten-Tec, Heath, Nye, and Accu-keyers. Mode B simply added an extra dit or dah when the operator stopped sending — depending on which was sent last. If a dit was sent last, an extra dah would be sent. If a dah were sent last, a dit followed. John's keyers did not do that, so he added the feature in the 8044B.

Finally in June 1982 Curtis Electro Devices produced its last keyer with either the 8044 or the 8044B chip, respectively. It sold for \$39.95 and was quite popular. But there was to be a final Curtis chip - the one that probably was best known - the 8044ABM.

This final keyer chip was introduced in the spring of 1986. It incorporated selectable A or B modes and the speed meter. This truly was a top of the line chip, and became an industry standard. However, microcontrollers debuted in the '80s and Curtis chips were no longer in demand. Curtis stopped selling them. MFJ purchased the 8044 line and now offers several Curtis chip keyers in its product line. Curtis ceased operations April 1, 2000. From the Westlakes ARC, Teralba, NSW, Australia.



Anti-Tank Suicide Dogs were a “weapon” that was deployed by the Russian forces against the Germans during WWII. The dogs were kept hungry and food was placed under military vehicles to train and encourage them to go under German tanks for food. The photo above shows one of the dogs with a small antenna or trip-lever advancing on a tank.

Each dog had a 10-12kg mine attached to them while a 20 centimeter wooden trip-lever would act as the detonator. When the dog would dive under a vehicle looking for food, the idea was that the wooden lever would catch on something under the vehicle and detonate the mine attached to the dog. As technology

progressed, the charge was detonated by a trailing wire attached to the dog's harness and was triggered by remote control.

This weapon was considered to be pretty ineffective with many of the dogs being scared off by German gun fire. Also the dogs were trained on vehicles that were stationary but the vehicles they encountered were moving which caused many dogs to run back to their handlers with disastrous results. However after the war, Russia claimed that they were able to disable 300 German tanks using the suicide dogs.

From the Westlakes ARC, Teralba, NSW, Australia.

Hamfesters VE Testing: By Al Bukowski N9ZD

Hamfesters Radio club VE's were prepared to administer FCC Amateur Radio exams on Oct. 13, 2012. However no candidates came to this session. The VE's who were present are: Tom KA9ZXN, Tim AA9BV and myself N9ZD. Many thanks to all the VE's who have given the dedicated time at the Exam sessions.

If you or a friend are planning on taking an Amateur Radio examination, please remember that Hamfesters VE's conducts FCC authorized VEC tests for Technician, General, and Extra class licenses every month on the 2nd Saturday at Oak Forest City Hall 15440 S. Central Ave. Oak Forest, IL 60452. City Hall Doors open at 9:00 AM. We begin testing at about 9:15 AM. Amateur Radio Exam signs are posted at the main entrance to direct you to the City Hall Chamber Room. We do ask that you park your car in the main parking lot between the Fire Department and the Police Department and not directly in front of the Main doors to City Hall. Walk-ins are welcomed: however an email to abukowski@sbcglobal.net informing me your intentions would be appreciated.

Our next test session will be held on Saturday November 10, 2012.

Very important: Please remember to bring the following items with you to any exam session: The appropriate fees (currently \$15) for the test. We urge you to bring exact amount of cash, a picture ID (ex: driver's license), the original and a copy of your signed valid Amateur Radio license if already licensed. A calculator if you would like to use one.

It is very important to have your Social Security Number, or a issued FRN (Federal Registration Number). You may use the FRN in place of your SSN because without either your SSN or FRN, the FCC will not process your application. If you are upgrading from a recent exam, it is essential to bring your valid CSCE and a copy showing proof of recent passed exam(s) if not already processed by the FCC. The test fee is still \$15.00 (cash only -- no credit cards, Money Orders or checks).

73's AL – N9ZD

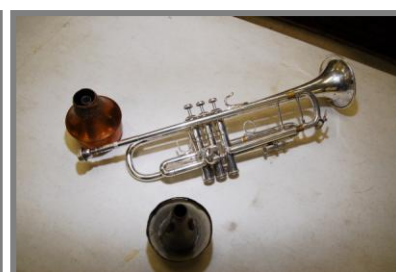
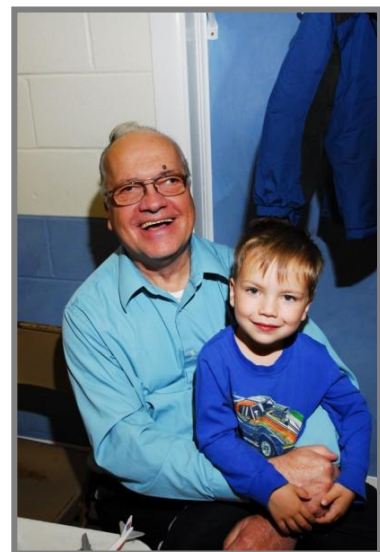
Hamfesters Monthly Raffle

We try to do the best we can for prizes for the monthly Hamfest meetings. We however have a limited budget we can work from. We would encourage all members to contribute an item for the monthly raffle. It might be something that would be useful to others, but is no longer of use to you. It could also simply be something you just choose to donate. We try to get as broad a variety of prizes as we can. With your donations we can have even more variety and nicer prizes for our monthly raffles. If you can help we would greatly appreciate it.

This is one other small source of income for the club. Your prize doesn't have to be electronic in nature; it can be any- thing even if it doesn't deal with ham radio. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of making a prize donation and hope to hear from you very soon.

Feel free to contact me by email at kb9yxh@yahoo.com or call me at (708) 429-4511.

73' Bob Richter KB9YXH Raffle Chairman





Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 102

Bedford Park, IL 60499-0102

www.Hamfesters.org

Hamfesters Radio Club



Meetings and VE Testing

Club meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at the Crestwood Civic Center, 14025 Kostner Ave. in Crestwood, IL.

Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. September meetings may vary if our meeting date conflicts with the Crestwood Flower show.

Board Meetings: 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday of each month at the Oremus Center, 7902 Oketo, Bridgeview, IL

VE TESTING: Every 2nd Saturday of the Month at the Oak Forest City Hall, 15440 S. Central Ave. Testing begins at 9:00 AM but we ask that you arrive 10 minutes early. Exam fee is now \$15.00. Al N9ZD VE Team Chairman

Special Activities

Hamfesters Big Peotone Hamfest: Our 78th annual Hamfest coming August 2012-Will County Fairgrounds, Peotone, IL. Kerry AA9SB Hamfest Chairman.

Field Day: Join the W9AA crew for one of the best Field Days ever on June 23 & June 24 2012 at 115th and Oketo Avenue, Worth, IL.

Jim KB9CYL Field Day Chairman

WAHM: Worked all Hamfester Members-work 10 Current members for a beautiful award certificate. Matt KC9JXC Awards

Nets/Contact Info

10 METER NET: Every Sunday Evening at 8:00 PM on 28.410. Bob W9TOE is Net Control

2 METER NET: Every Monday Evening at 9:00 PM on 146.430. Joe KA9KBU & Tom KA9ZXN are Net Control

W9AA Mailbox:145.650 24 hours a day. Bruno K9QKB is Sysop. ILOAK:Node on 145.650

WEB SITE: www.hamfesters.org Brian W9HLQ is Webmaster

Club's address:

Hamfesters Radio Club

P.O. Box 102 BEDFORD PARK, IL 60499

Patti KC9LYE Secretary

Deadline for Submitting to the Hamgab is the fifteenth of the month.