
THE FEEDLINE

Volume 44, Issue 2 The Voice of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club February 2020

President's musings

Starting our year off right.....A very big thank you to AB9QWA for his donation of an upgraded computer for our radio room. WA9GBC will donate a bigger monitor and we possibly need a different keyboard for it, but we are very grateful for the donations. Our 2 older computers have Windows 7, and that is no longer supported. There is a possibility that one of our old Window 7 computers could be donated to a member or organization; time will tell.

Hats off to WA9GBC for his interesting demo and video on magnets. I believe we all learned something about Lenz's law. *[...and I am reminded I need to stay away from those strong magnets!!! -.ed]*

For our February meeting, please bring ideas about a place for our April 18th dinner meeting. We still need to make a booking and get prices. I realize that the Donut Dunkers and Tater Tot net members are disappointed it's not at Hardee's; but look guys, we are taking our YL's and XYL's out that night.

Again, hats off to N9JF and WA9GBC for their fine work on the logs for the ILL. QSO party. In some cases, they had logs that were a real miss to straighten out.

W9WE reports that the licensing testing date is February 8, 2020, 1 PM at the Red Cross in Quincy. Thank you W9WE and crew for your good work on testing.

February in History... February 27, 1922 US Commerce Secretary Herbert Hoover convenes 1st National Radio Conference; and on February 23, 1927, US President Calvin Coolidge creates the Federal Radio Commission (FRC).

De K9FHX, 73

Moved and Seconded: Minutes of the January 2020 WIARC meeting:

The minutes of the December meeting were approved on motion by WA9GBC, seconded by W9WE and carried after correcting the Repeater Board Report to show that the six-month trial on the 443.900 repeater is for C4FM rather than D-STAR.

Treasurers Report: K9VXD passed out a printed accounting spreadsheet for 2019. The report was approved on motion by NG9R, seconded by KB9WFC and carried.

Repeater Board Report: NG9R reported that he had renewed the repeaters' registrations with the Illinois Repeater Board but needed to pay the \$20 registration fee. Payment of the fee was approved on motion by WA9GBC, seconded by NR9Q and

carried. NR9Q reported that C4FM on the 443.900 repeater was linked to Wires-X through his station.

Club Station Report: K9FHX reported that AB9QW has donated a desktop computer with a quad core 7th generation processor running Windows 10 Pro for use at the club station. The donation was accepted on motion by WA9GBC, seconded by KD9AQI and carried. It was noted the new beam had yet to be installed and the old one returned to NA9Q

Trustee Report: none

Hamfest Report: The 2020 hamfest is August 8 at the Community Center in Paloma. The rental is \$300. It was noted we needed to register the date with the ARRL and then prepare flyers to take to the Collinsville hamfest.

Field Day Report: the 2020 field day will be held in Hannibal with their new club station and antennas.

Old Business: Dues are due. The annual dinner meeting will be held April 18. If held at the Bailey House in Camp Point it would be buffet only and \$16 per person not counting drink or tip. Suggestions for other places included Tony's Too and catered at the Twin Oaks Club. The matter is still open for other suggestions.

K9FHX mentioned no new licensees are active in the club and that we need to get the Elmers group going again. Discussion followed and it was agreed the club needed to be proactive.

W9WE announced there were will be volunteer testing February 8 at the Red Cross.

It was also announced that the ILQP results were now posted.

Next meeting refreshments will be provided by Danny Pease.

Net control:	January 15	NR9Q	443	February 5	NG9R	94	March 4	NG9R	94
	22	N9JF	94	12	W9EMR	443			
	29	N9DT	443	19	K9FHX		94		
				26	NG9R	443			

K9FHX and W9EMR discussed new equipment in their shacks.

The meeting was closed on motion by W9WE, seconded by WM4D and carried.

WA9GBC played a video of America the Beautiful performed at the Detroit Cherry Creek Arts Festival followed by a video demonstrating Faraday's law and magnetic fields and magnetic flux. Respectfully submitted, W9EMR, Secretary

Our club's sympathy goes to AC0KV, Gloria, whose husband passed away this month.

ILQP Updates:

When Jim, AD4EB, searched his (winning) mobile log, he saw that Laci, OM2VL, was in his log an amazing 31 times! As a result, Jim wishes to sponsor an ILQP plaque for the highest-scoring DX station in the 2019 contest. This plaque will be sent to OM2VL.

A HUGE thank you to AB9DU for preparing and e-mailing the 2019 certificates! Well done, Bob!

DX Shenanigans with Larry

With the winter hitting us in the northern hemisphere we see many DX-peditions heading south. I might make as far as Arizona.

73, Larry WB2UFO

4A1, MEXICO (Special Event). The members of the The DXXE Group, throughout the 2020 year, will celebrate its 15th anniversary with the activation of the special callsign **4A15DXXE**, from January 20th, until December 31st, 2020. Activity will be on all bands and modes especially in contests, special events, via satellite and EME from different Grid Locators in Mexico. QSL via LoTW only.

ADDED NOTES: Over the coming months, look for other special events stations to celebrate this anniversary from Cuba, Spain, the Canary Islands, France and South America:

- Raúl/CO8ZZ and the DX Group of Cuba will operate as T40DXXE between January 20-31st. See "T40, CUBA (Special Event)" below.
- From Spain, Salva/EA5BB will be on the air between April 1-15th, as AO15DXXE and on the same days, from the Canary Islands (AF-004), Juan/EA8RM will sign AO15DXXE/8.
- From France, Thierry/F4GVO will operate as TM15DXXE, between April 1-15th, and will be on SSB, FT4, FT8, from 80-6 meters.

9G, GHANA. Matteo, IZ4YGS, will once again be active as 9G5GS from Sanzule, West Takoradi (Western Region), Ghana, between February 1-26th. Activity will be limited to his spare time (usually on "almost every evening", between 2100-0000z) on 160-20 meters using mostly FT8 (F/H) and SSB, with a Yaesu FT-891 and 100 watts into a vertical antenna. On FT8 (Fox-Hound Mode) the suggested frequencies are: 3567, 7056, 10131 and 14090 kHz. On FT8 (Standard Mode) on the standard frequencies; **PLEASE SEND REPORT FIRST**, not the Loc. He will also be active through the QO-100 geostationary satellite, USB mode. He will update daily to ClubLog. QSL via LoTW, IZ4YGS direct or eQSL.

9Q, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO. Paolo, IK7UXW, is now active as 9Q1C from Gombe, Kinshasa. His length of stay is unknown at this time. Activity has been on 20 meters CW. QSL via his home callsign.

HC, ECUADOR. Rick, NE8Z/HC1MD, will be minimally active as HC1MD from Quito between January 18-24th. However, he will be very active as HC1MD/2 from the Farallon Dillon Lighthouse (ARLHS ECU-017)[arlhs.com], Capay on Hill, between January 25th and February 7th. Activity will be on 40-6 meters (14270 kHz SSB for lighthouse hunters) using CW, SSB and FT8, and the equipment to be used is a TT-857D into a Spider Vertical (40/30/20/17m). QSL via K8LJG and LoTW after the trip.

HI3, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (For Topbanders!) John, W1FV, passes on the following note: "Matt, KC1XX, is spending the winter in HI3 and asked me to relay this message to all of you. He is on the air as HI3/KC1XX but is experiencing terrible line noise at his present location. He hears lots of stations calling him on the low bands, but he is having great difficulty pulling out callsigns through the noise. He apologizes to those who have been calling without success. However, Matt moves to a different location down there in early February and the noise situation should improve. At that time he should be able to hear and work more of you."

J8, ST. VINCENT. Brian, GW4DVB, will once again be active as J88PI from Palm Island (aka Prune Island, WW Loc. FK92HO, IOTA NA-025), in the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Island group, between April 6-15th. Activity will be holiday style on 40/20/17/15/10/6 meters using CW, SSB, SSTV and FT8. He will use a Yaesu FT991A into a 10m vertical antenna, a M0CVO HW-40HP off center fed dipole and possibly new antennas. QSL via GW4DVB direct only (PayPal available) to: PO Box 20:20, Llanharan, Pontyclun, Wales - UK CF72 9ZA. For more details and updates, check: <http://www.g4dvh.co.uk>

KH6, HAWAII. Operators Stanley/AH6KO, Curt/AH6RE, Lloyd/KH6LC, Robert/NH6V, Oliver/W6NV, Jim/W6SC, Frederic/KH7Y, Denny/KX7M and Gary/W7EE will be active as KH6/N6DA during the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 15-16th) as as Multi-Multi entry. QSL via WA6WPG or direct. The group reports [edited]: "Our MM will be signing KH6/N6DA this year in honor of our good friend Don Amyx, N6DA, who passed away in 2017. Don was one of the founding members of the NCCC and frequently joined the KH6LC group in our MM efforts. He was a great CW operator and always fun to be around. We hope you'll remember Don when you work KH6/N6DA in the upcoming ARRL DX CW Contest. TU, Aloha."

OX80/OZ80, GREENLAND AND DENMARK (Special Event). Many Greenlandic and Denmark radio amateur stations will be celebrating the 80th birthday of H.M. The Queen of Denmark in these two DXCC entities. Look for special event stations OX80HM and OZ80HM to be active on all bands until April 16th. QSL via OZ1ACB OQRS. A special royal award will be available. Watch for details on QRZ.com or contact (oz2i@edr.dk) for more information.

P4, ARUBA. Lee, K3DMG, is active as K3DMG/P4 from Aruba (SA-036) as of January 17th through the end of February. Activity will be on 80-10 meters with the focus on the Digital modes. QSL via LoTW only. No paper QSLs.

PJ2, CURACAO. Jeff, K8ND, is once again active as PJ2ND from the PJ2T Caribbean Contesting Consortium's (CCC) Signal Point contest station on Curacao Island (SA-099, WLOTA 0942) until February 3rd. Jim, W8WTS, will join him and sign PJ2/W8WTS between January 22-28th. The two operators will be active as PJ2T during the CQWW 160 Meter CW Contest (January 24-26th) as a Multi-Op entry. QSL PJ2/W8WTS

via his home callsign, eQSL or LoTW. QSL PJ2ND via K8ND or LoTW. QSL PJ2T via W3HMK.

PJ4, BONAIRE. Klass, PA1KE, is now active as PJ4/PA1KE as of January 18th. His length of stay, bands and modes were not provided. QSL via eQSL.

T30, WEST KIRIBATI. Nobu, JA0JHQ, who was active as C21NH, is now active as T30NH. His length of stay is unknown as this was being written. Activity was on 40/20/17/15 meters FT8. QSL via JA0NHQ. Watch for updates on:
<https://pandasan.jimdofree.com>

T40, CUBA (Special Event). Members of the DX Group of Cuba will be celebrating the 15th anniversary of a Mexican homologous organization and the founding of the DXE Group. The DX Group of Cuba will activate the special event station T40DXE between January 20-31st. Activity will be on CW, SSB and FT8 on various HF bands with the best propagation when the operators have free time as it allows. Whoever manages to contact the station on at least three bands, regardless of mode, will receive a special certificate in digital format. The DXE Group encourages radio activity during international competitions, expeditions, island activations, as well as experimentation with new technologies applied to radio communications. On the other hand, it grants the "DXE Diploma" to those who demonstrate having contacted at least three members of the group. The DXE brings together renowned Mexican operators and others from the countries in the Americas, Europe and Asia. There will be other celebrations for this anniversary as well as other special event stations from South America, Mexico, Spain, Canary Islands and France being added throughout the year. For more details and QSL route, see QRZ.com.

T8 PALAU. Yoshiaki, JR3QFB, will once again be active as T88JH from Koror Island (OC-009) between March 27-31st September 17-28th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK, JT65 and FT8/FT4. He also plans to be in the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 28-29th). QSL T88JH via JR3QFB, direct, by the Bureau (JA only), eQSL, LoTW or ClubLog.

T19, COCOS ISLAND (Update). After 2 years planning, operators Jorge/TI2JV, Dmitry/RA9USU, Mats/SM6LRR and Andrew/UA3AB will be active as T19A from Chatham Bay, Isla del Coco [Cocos Island (NA-012)], between February 2-8th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and possibly FT8, with three stations on the air. They will have two camps, eight radios and 20 antennas. QSL via UA3DX, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW. They now have a Web page at: <http://ti9a.info>

TU, CÔTE D'IVOIRE. Operators Petr/OK1BOA, Petr/OK1FCJ and David/OK6DJ will be active as TU5PCT from the Radio Club ADRASEC RCI in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), between February 24-29th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. QSL via OK6DJ, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW.

V4, ST. KITTS. John, W5JON, will once again be active as V47JA from his Calypso Bay, St. Kitts, West Indies vacation home, located 200 feet from the Caribbean Sea, between February 21st and March 5th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters (incl. 60m) using SSB and FT8. Equipment is a Yaesu FT1000MP, FT857D and an Elecraft KPA500 Amplifier. John states his antennas are a Mosley Mini32A 10/15/20m, 33' Vertical 10-40m, 35' Top Loaded

80m Vertical, 160m Vertical and 6m 5 element Yagi. ALL QSLs go to W5JON direct or via LoTW. NO Bureau QSLs.

Distracted Driving and 2-way radios: Update from Massachusetts: *[this may or may not be relevant in Illinois...apply with caution! -.ed]*

ARRL Letter summary:

Massachusetts has settled on a one-hand-on-the-wheel rule for mobiles. The Bay State's two ARRL Section Managers report they have received confirmation that the Commonwealth's distracted driving law does not apply to two-way mobile radio operation. The new law "permits use of a federally licensed two-way radio, provided that one hand remains on the steering wheel at all times," except as provided in sections 8M, 12A, and 13B of the law. -- Thanks to Western Massachusetts SM Ray Lajoie, KB1LRL, and ARRL Eastern Massachusetts SM Tom Walsh, K1TW

State QSO Party Challenge

Overview

The annual State QSO Party Challenge recognizes all radio amateurs' participation in the U.S. State and Canadian Province QSO parties. It is open to any radio amateur who participates in any of the approved State QSO Parties (SQPs). Participants must simply submit their scores to 3830Scores.com to be included in the Challenge.

Participants are recognized for reaching five levels of achievement – Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum and Diamond. Using the submissions to 3830Scores.com, each callsign's cumulative score is calculated by totaling up his/her number of reported contacts and multiplying by the number of SQPs entered year-to-date. The use of the number of SQPs entered as a multiplier is to encourage radio amateurs to enter more state/province QSO parties. The use of the number of contacts as a metric is to encourage participants to operate longer in each SQP, increase the effectiveness of their station and improve their contesting skills. To qualify for an award level, the participant must have participated in at least two State QSO Parties. Each State QSO Party entry must have at least two QSOs.

The first SQPs of most years are the Vermont, Minnesota and British Columbia QSO Parties on the first weekend of February. Therefore, the first monthly report of the State QSO Party Challenge is scheduled to be available in early March of each year. The cumulative year-to-date Challenge scores is published on the QSOParty.io forum and on the State QSO Party website (StateQSOParty.com).

The StateQSOParty.com Team: Dave Edmonds, WN4AFP, Team Leader, Stan Zawronty, K4SBZ, SQP Challenge Data Admin, Mark Musick, WB9CIF Tom Williams, N2CU Jeff Hartley, N8II

Approved Contests

7th Call Area QSO Party
Alabama QSO Party
Arizona QSO Party
Arkansas QSO Party
British Columbia QSO Party
California QSO Party
Colorado QSO Party
Delaware QSO Party
Florida QSO Party
Georgia QSO Party
Hawaii QSO Party
Idaho QSO Party
Illinois QSO Party
Indiana QSO Party
Iowa QSO Party
Kansas QSO Party
Kentucky QSO Party
Louisiana QSO Party
Maine QSO Party
Maryland/DC QSO Party
Michigan QSO Party
Minnesota QSO Party
Mississippi QSO Party
Missouri QSO Party
Montana QSO Party
Nebraska QSO Party
Nevada QSO Party
New England QSO Party
New Hampshire QSO Party
New Jersey QSO Party
New Mexico QSO Party
New York QSO Party
North Carolina QSO Party
North Dakota QSO Party
Ohio QSO Party
Oklahoma QSO Party
Ontario QSO Party
Pennsylvania QSO Party
South Carolina QSO Party
South Dakota QSO Party
Tennessee QSO Party
Texas QSO Party
Vermont QSO Party
Virginia QSO Party
Washington State Salmon Run
West Virginia QSO Party
Wisconsin QSO Party

Volunteer Examiner Info from W9WE:

VE's as follows: for February 8, 2020 Dave S w9we Dave S wa9gbc #3 still unknown

Scheduled test session dates for 2020 are:

[February 8th at 1:00 PM](#) with a registration* deadline of [February 6th](#)

[May 9th at 1:00 PM](#) with a registration* deadline of [May 7th](#)

[August 8th at 9:00 AM](#) at Swap fest 2020 with a registration* deadline of [August 6th](#)

November 7th at 1:00 PM with a registration* deadline of November 5th

A reservation for any of the above test sessions may be made by call or email to the WIARC VE Team Liaison, Dave Scranton, W9WE, at [210-325-7923](tel:210-325-7923) or w9we.lee@gmail.com

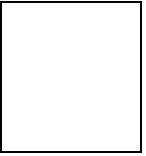
These dates and times have been listed on ARRL website.

At this time it is planned that the February, May and November test sessions will be held in Class Room 1 of the American Red Cross building at [3000 N. 23rd Street, Quincy](#). The August test session will be held in conjunction with our annual Swap fest at the Community Shelter House in Paloma, Illinois. Paloma Community Building 1825 [E.1635th St.-Paloma, IL](#). Paloma is located about 15 miles East of Quincy on US Highway 24. Please be aware that a change in location for any session is always possible due to unforeseen circumstances. Please recheck this page often for the latest information or notice of a change in time or location for a session.

Candidates must bring the following items to the session: two forms of identification, one of which must be a government issued photo ID (driver's License); the 2020 test fee of \$15.00 (exact cash or check, cash preferred); two soft lead pencils; a ball point pen; the original and a photocopy of any currently held FCC amateur radio service license; the original and a photocopy of any current (CSCE) Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination. In addition, a candidate may bring and use a non-programmable calculator (optional, permitted if candidate desires to use it). *NOTE: Although walk-in candidates will be accepted at each session on a space available basis, reservations are strongly advised. Standard policy is that if there are no pre-registered candidates by the registration date, the session will be cancelled without further notification. All examiners are volunteers and donate their time and talents to provide the testing service. It is a small courtesy to them for you to register your intention to attend a given session. To do otherwise would require the examiners to go to the testing site and wait to see if any one shows up. If no one walks in to take an exam, then their time has been wasted.

Don't forget if another test date is needed the Hannibal Club test are a month ahead of ours. Hannibal Amateur Radio Club, Inc. W0KEM FCC amateur radio license exams four times annually, immediately following the club meeting, on the second Wednesday in the months of January, April, July and October. See Newsletter link on main page of a current newsletter for W0KEM for specific information about the next FCC exams.
W9WE

Western II. Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 3132
Quincy, IL 62305-3132



February meeting: Wednesday, February 5,
2020
Adams County American Red Cross
Building, 24th and Koch's Lane, Quincy (west
½ block from intersection then north on
driveway)

W9AWE – W90AB
The Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
WIARC homepage: <http://www.w9awe.org> e-mail to w9awe@qsl.net
WIARC email reflector: wiarc@mailman.qth.net

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Voice repeater W9AWE/R on 147.630/.030 Quincy
Voice repeater W9AWE/R on 146.340/.940 Quincy
Voice repeater W9AWE/R on 448.900/443.900 Quincy
147.03 and 448.9:103.5 sub-audible tone; 146.94 123.0
D-STAR repeater W9AWE on 147.795/.195
D-STAR 446.89375/441.89375

ILLINOIS QSO PARTY

Newsletter input due by the 20th of the preceding month
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