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# THE FEEDLINE

Volume 44, Issue 4 The Voice of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club April 2020

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## Presidential Musings *(see edits at the end from N9JF)*

Sorry folks this is going to be short, I'm not feeling very well on March 11<sup>th</sup> they did some work on my heart and I'm now running on recovery speed.

Remember we have a regular meeting April 1st at 7pm at the Red Cross building. We also have our dinner meeting and the Date is confirmed with Bailey House for Saturday April 18th. Since they close at 8:00 PM I asked for the meal to be ready at 6:00 PM. Cost will be about \$16.00 per person, not including tax and gratuity. That includes the buffet and coffee or tea. The restaurant prefers to receive payment for the meal with a single check, same as we have done on years past at the Patio. Beer or wine may be purchased and paid for by the individual. I really hope to see a large turnout.

Thanks to Jim who has confirmed that David Cripe, NM0S, will be providing a program after the meeting. The restaurant would like the final head count by Thursday morning. I will collect reservations [dpeace@adams.net](mailto:dpeace@adams.net) or my cell phone 217-430-2046.

If you have not paid your dues for 2020, they need to be paid by the meeting In March or you will be dropped from the membership roster. You may mail your dues to the club PO Box or pay at the March meeting, or WIARC, PO Box 3132, Quincy, IL 62305

Much updated info to our web page thanks to mike, check it out.



De Dave, K9FHX 73

[Edits: Due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation and state and national directives, the April 1 meeting has been canceled. A decision will be made soon concerning the April 18 dinner meeting. The statement concerning dues stands. De N9JF]

## Moved and Seconded: Minutes of the March 2020 WIARC meeting:

The regular March 2020, meeting of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club was called order by Pres. K9FHX at 7 PM with 22 members and one guest present.

The minutes of the February meeting as published in *The Feedline* were approved on motion made by AA9GL, seconded by WB9EWM and carried.

K9VXD made a verbal treasurers report which was approved on motion by W9WE, seconded by and N9JF and carried.

AA9GL reported that the repeater committee had not met.

K9FHX reminded everyone that the new beam will need to be installed when the weather breaks. WA9GBC reported the club station has been working FT8 and there were only 2 states on 2 bands needed for an all band FT8 worked all states.

NG9R are asked if a new logging program was needed with the new club station computer. It was suggested all contacts be kept in one log. Discussion followed regarding programs including N1MM.

K9FHX reminded everyone to look on the club website to obtain hamfest flyers to pass out. W9WE said that he had passed some out at the storm spotter training earlier in the week. Vender Dit-Dash will not be coming to the hamfest this year. KB9YN has received the ARRL gift certificates.

K9FHX stated field day was probably going to be in Hannibal this year. W9WE moved that our club go to Hannibal and participate if invited. The motion was seconded and carried.

N9JF reported all edible prizes (Country Bob's Sauce) had been mailed to the 8 qualifiers of the Illinois QSO Party. The cost of doing that was approved on motion made by AA9GL, seconded by WA9GBC and carried.

It was decided that the annual dinner meeting be held April 18 at the Bailey House in Camp Point upon motion made by N9JF, seconded by WA9GBC and carried. NG9R will confirm with Bailey House. N9JF will arrange for a program and it was agreed to pay for the dinner of the presenter and spouse. Reservations are to be made to NG9R or [dpease@adams.net](mailto:dpease@adams.net).

There will be an April 1 meeting

KB9FIN applied for membership and was voted in on motion by N9JF, seconded by AA9GL and carried.

April 1 meeting refreshments will be provided by NG9R.

Net control stations:

March 11 N9JF  
March 18 N9UPG  
March 25 WB9EWM

April 1 N9DT  
April 8 NG9R  
April 15 W9EMR  
April 22 WB9EWM  
April 29 NG9R

May 6 N9JF

There was discussion regarding obtaining access to operate the club station and the requirement to become a Red Cross volunteer to be able to obtain a key card.

The meeting adjourned on motion by KB9FIN, seconded by N9JF and carried.

WB9GBC presented a program of a music video from the Ukraine with a youthful yodeler followed by video regarding the 3 types of magnetism.

Respectfully submitted W9EMR, Sec.

## DX Stuff from Larry

Spring is here. Work them QRP from the park.

### 73 Larry WB2UFO

**BOLIVIA, CP.** Operators R7AL, RK8A, RW9JZ and RZ3K will be QRV as CP6/home calls near Santa Cruz de la Sierra from March 24 to April 6. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and FT8 in DXpedition mode. QSL via operators' instructions.

**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA.** Special event station DM30RSV will be QRV from March 24 to October 30. QSL via bureau.

**CAPE VERDE, D4.** Max, IZ4DPV is QRV as D4F from Sao Vicente until March 31. He will be active in the Russian DX contest and the upcoming CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. QSL to home call.

**MARTINIQUE, FM.** Miguel, EA1BP will be QRV as FM/EA1BP from March 24 to 31. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW and SSB. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. QSL to home call.

**CZECH REPUBLIC, OK.** Special event stations OL700DKA, OL700CO and OL700LTV are QRV during 2020 to commemorate 700 years since the first written mention of the town of Dobruska. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via operators' instructions.

**SEYCHELLES, S7.** Nick, G7EQM is QRV as S79EQM from Praslin Island, IOTA AF-024, until March 29. Activity is on 20 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via operator's instructions.

**EGYPT, SU.** Tom, DL2RMC is QRV as SU9TH. Activity is currently on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL to home call.

**NAMIBIA, V5. Pat, KI4SVM is QRV as V5/KI4SVM until March 28. Activity is holiday style on the HF bands using CW and SSB. This may include being active from SOTA references as well.**

**VANUATU, YJ. Chris, VK2YUS will be QRV as YJ0CA from Efate, IOTA OC-035, from March 22 to April 1. Activity will be on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. QSL direct to home call.**

## **MASSACHUSETTS DISTRACTED DRIVING LAW**

**(from the ARRL New England Section Report)**

**(This may or may not be relevant in Illinois, but it is instructive -ed)**

**The best ways to avoid being ticketed for your lawful use of amateur radio while mobile is to have the appropriate documentation in the vehicle with you. The first item to print out and have with you in the car is the actual text of the Massachusetts General Law on the subject. That would be MGL Part 1, Title XIV, Chapter 90, Section 13. The second item is your valid FCC amateur radio license. More detail**

**<https://ema.arrl.org/important-information-on-new-massachusetts-distracted-driving-law/>**

### **HELP NEEDED TO INFORM LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENTS ABOUT DISTRACTED DRIVING**

**NEAR-Fest organizer Mike Crestohl, W1RC, Marblehead, has requested assistance in reaching out to all 348 Police Departments in Massachusetts. He wants to alert them to the exemption for 2-way radio operation (by keeping one hand on the steering wheel, of course) in the new distracted driving law. He is asking for volunteers to help him email police chiefs across the state. He will provide the detail messages and email addresses. He estimates 10 volunteers could accomplish this with only a few hours of work. Want to help? Contact him at [w1rc@near-fest.com](mailto:w1rc@near-fest.com).**

## **W9EXJ tribute**

**Dave Nagel, W9EXJ, became a Silent Key on Friday, March 13. Services for Dave were held on Friday, March 20. Due to the nature of the COVID-19 crisis, many were not able to attend the services. The following item was included during the visitation:**

*Dave was known by many names: Son, Husband, Father, Grandfather, Co-worker, Friend. To many, he was known only as "Dave", plus his ham radio callsign, W9EXJ. No other individual was ever assigned W9EXJ by the FCC; and this, plus the holder's first name, is often the only designation used in the amateur radio community. Dave was an amateur radio, or "ham", operator for over 72 years. He was a member of the national organization of amateur radio for over 50 years and a long-time member of the OM International Sideband Society. He was a long-time member of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club here in Quincy.*

*Every ham operator has a story relating to his first experiences on the air. I'd like to quote some of Dave's story from his profile on one of the ham radio internet sites:*

*"I received my Class B Amateur Radio license in July of 1948 as W9EXJ. A year later I received my Class A Amateur Radio license. Back in those days you usually bought a receiver and built your transmitter and power supply. I upgraded my Class A to advanced, then recently in 2007 I upgraded to Amateur Extra Class.*

*Prior to taking the exam, my father bought me a Hallicrafters S-20R receiver. He paid \$50 for that receiver, which was a lot of money in those days. I built a transmitter and power supply. My station was all set up awaiting my FCC license. In June of 1948, I went to Chicago with my friend Lee Gray and took the FCC exam. I waited 6 weeks for them to send me a letter; it would say I either passed or failed. I was at church camp when it finally arrived; but when I got home, my father was waving the letter in his hand. I dropped my bags at the front door and opened the letter. Well, I passed and received my current call sign, W9EXJ. Leaving my bags at the door, I immediately ran upstairs to my room where my station was set up. Using CW [Morse Code], I began making contacts."*

*Dave's account of that long wait between the exam and the license is familiar to a lot of us "old timers"! His thrill of making those first contacts as a 16-year-old has a feel of familiarity.*

*Over the years, Dave participated in many "nets", or on-air gatherings of like-minded hams. Some of those held a regular roll call for members. Those who had passed on are known as "Silent Keys" because their signals are no longer heard on the air by their friends. A tribute is sometimes held to honor their memories in a Silent Key service where their callsign is called three times and then the announcement is made, "Nothing heard. Silent Key." Sometimes the letters "SK" are sent in Morse Code to indicate "End of Contact".*

*W9EXJ, this is N9JF [wait 3]*

*W9EXJ [wait 5]*

*W9EXJ [wait 7]*

*Nothing heard. Silent Key. Rest in Peace.*

*SK*

Walt Killion, W5UYF, also became a Silent Key during the month of March. The Celebration of Life ceremony for Walt, planned for March 19, has been postponed to a later date to be announced.

## **Uncharted Territory, Interesting Times**

**(...as few thoughts from N9JF....)**

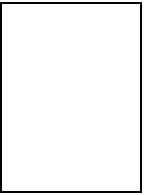
**As of this writing, (Saturday, March 21, 9:45 pm), we as a nation are in a place we've not seen before. The only thing similar, in terms of confusion and "the unknown" might be the days immediately following December 7, 1941 and September 11, 2001. Whatever we think at the moment about what is being done, or not being done, it's plain that we face a significant adversary in this virus.**

**As hams, we may or may not be called upon at some point to render our services. In the meantime, we have the ultimate "Social Distancing" strategy built into our hobby.**

**Stay home as much as you can, and get on the air. Love your families, pray for our nation and our world. Thank a first responder and a medical professional at every opportunity.**

**This is an abbreviated newsletter. I'll try to do better next month. De N9JF**

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



**April WIARC meeting has been CANCELED  
Adams County American Red Cross  
Building, 24<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:w9awe@qsl.net)  
WIARC email reflector: [wiarc@mailman.qth.net](mailto:wiarc@mailman.qth.net)**

**Sponsors of  
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 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month  
Editor Jim Funk N9JF  
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