
THE FEEDLINE

Volume 45, Issue 7 The Voice of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club July 2021

From the shack of the President

Today I am actually in the shack, ready for the ARES HF net. We celebrated Father's Day and got home in plenty of time relax (no nap though) and make it to the shack with plenty of time to turn things on. It has been a couple of weeks since I was in the shack but no evidence of mice or spiders, or at least none so far.

On the bands: if it were not for Sporadic E, things have been pretty bleak on HF. In spite of lackluster propagation, I still have managed to chip away at 5-band WAS and am getting down to just a few states to complete the non-WARC bands with the exception of 15 meters; and I still need quite a few there. FT8 is where the bulk of the activity is. You may think the band is dead; but go to the band's suggested FT8 frequency and there is always someone heard there. I am not a fan of FT8; but when the only activity is on FT8, that is where I wind up. Sporadic E has made for a pretty active 6 meter band, again mostly on FT8; but I am seeing more SSB and CW activity proving not everyone is on FT8. The ARRL June VHF contest was more of the same, but FT8 made it easier to find the activity. Most QSO's were made on a 50.313. Because of the effect FT8 has had on the VHF contest, there is a strong movement to make some rules changes on VHF contests, mostly to allow for multiple contacts per band/mode somewhat like the 10 meter contest.

Since this is June, Field Day is on us (probably past by the time you read this). Again this year, the ARRL is allowing clubs to operate multiple stations and add all those scores to the club aggregate score. Hopefully you got on from home or maybe did a field excursion of your own.

Prior to the July meeting, there will be a tailgate flea market. It will start at 5:00 PM and run until meeting time. The location will be the Twin Oaks parking lot, and the meeting will be inside starting at 7:00 PM. The tailgate event is open to everyone; pass the word.

See you July 7th. Danny W9DP

Moved and Seconded Minutes of the June WIARC meeting

The June WIARC meeting was called to order by President W9DP at 7 pm on June 2, 2021 at the small shelter in Upper Moorman Park.

Present: W9WEB, W9WE, NR9Q, W9GQK, KB9FIN, WB9EWM, WA9GBC, K9VXD, W9DP, N9JF, KD9RQW, WM4D, KA0SNL, KB9YN, KD9NET, KD0DKE plus NB4C and N9GB on ZOOM.

The minutes of the May meeting were approved on a motion by KB9FIN, a second by WB9EWM and a voice vote.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by K9VXD. Income for the year to date was \$1405.49, expenses \$263.40 with a net plus of \$1142.09. A donation for ILQP of \$200 was received from Clay County ARC. Report was approved on a motion by KB9FIN, second by WB9EWM and voice vote.

Repeater Board met prior to the members' meeting. WB9EWM was elected chair of the Repeater Board. Several issues were discussed, among them being the fact that we currently have more repeaters and repeater equipment than are being utilized. The board will discuss this situation further and report at a later meeting.

Club Station Report: No club access is currently being given to the station in the ARC building. K9VXD will inquire about possible access on a conference call later this month. The new beam is still housed at NR9Q's place.

Contest Committee: Field Day rules per ARRL allow for the aggregate scores of members' operations to be combined again this year. There is still some discussion regarding WIARC members getting together for an operation.

The summer "Mosquito Madness" of "Get Your Park On" will take place on the weekend of June 19-20 with numerous 1x1 calls to be worked from various parks.

Old Business:

A social event is in the works. Members who have input should contact the Executive Committee. Plans are for a flea market/tailgate event to occur prior to the July 7 meeting at 5 pm. This will probably be held in the parking lot at Twin Oaks Club if permission can be obtained. WA9GBC will check on this.

Numerous designs for a new club logo have been received, primarily from NB4C. A link to these designs will be posted by W9DP to Dropbox for member viewing. Plans are to vote on a design at the July meeting.

New Business:

N9QY is requesting assistance with communications at the QND Raider Classic race on June 26. Anyone interested should contact Mike to volunteer.

KB9YN offered the club a PA with the stipulation that it be returned should the club cease to exist. The donation was accepted on a motion by WB9EWM, seconded by KB9FIN and a voice vote.

NCS stations: July 7: W9DP, July 14: WM4D, July 21: WB9EWM July 28: NR9Q Aug 4 W9DP.

W9DP mentioned the importance of chatting with any new hams heard on the local repeaters and inviting them to the club meetings.

W9WE announced that the next VE test session will be on Saturday August 7. License applicants must now supply an e-mail address to the FCC. In addition, all

applicants must be registered with an FRN prior to testing. This can be done at the test session.

There was some discussion regarding the new requirements for RF Station Evaluation and a suggestion that this be a program at an upcoming WIARC meeting.

On a motion by WB9EWM, seconded by KB9FIN and voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, N9JF Secretary

VE Testing

The next test session will be on Saturday, August 7. The location will probably once again be Bethel Assembly of God, 839 S 12th in Quincy. Watch the club reflector and club website for more information.

....and speaking of the website....

Check out <https://w9awe.org/> KA0SNL is doing a great job!!

DX Nibbles cheerfully stolen from ARRL....

(note: For up-to-date DX news, please visit the ARRL website or other sources. I try not to clutter this page with news of operations that will cease before you read about them!! -.ed)

SB DX @ ARL \$ARLD024 ARLD024 DX news ZCZC AE24 QST de W1AW DX Bulletin 24 ARLD024

From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT June 17, 2021 To all radio amateurs

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by HA0HW, LU4AAO, The Daily DX, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

AZERBAIJAN, 4J. Special event station 4J880M is QRV from Mingechevir until July 1 to commemorate the birth of writer and philosopher Nizami Ganjavi.

KENYA, 5Z. Jacob, AK0SK is QRV as 5Z4/AK0SK from Nairobi. Activity is mostly on 40 to 10 meters. His length of stay is unknown. QSL to home call.

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...and speaking of DX...or not....

3Y0J DXpedition to Bouvet Island Canceled

The Intrepid-DX Group announced over the weekend that it has canceled its long-anticipated [3Y0J](#) DXpedition to Bouvet Island. The DXpedition team had planned to travel to Bouvet via the RV *Braveheart*, owned by Nigel Jolly, K6NRJ. Jolly has told the DXpedition that *Braveheart* is being sold and he's canceled its contract for the 3Y0J voyage.

"The global pandemic has impacted the expedition charter vessel business very hard; this includes the venerable RV *Braveheart*, which has provided outstanding safety and service to many DXpeditions," DXpedition co-leaders Paul Ewing, N6PSE, and Kenneth Opskar LA7GIA, said in announcing the news on June 13. "Today, we were informed that *Braveheart* will be sold. As a result, Nigel Jolly will no longer be associated with the ship, our contract with the ship has been canceled, and our deposit will be refunded. This is a very disappointing development to all involved."



The DXpedition said that it has stopped accepting donations and will refund 100% of the donations using the same method they were received.

A dependency of Norway, Bouvet is a sub-Antarctic island in the South Atlantic. It is the second-most-wanted DXCC entity, behind North Korea. Read [an expanded version](#).

From KOCA at HARC: (note: This may be "old news" unless I get the newsletter put to bed and posted before Field Day weekend, but may be it will help some of you....-.ed)

Subject: ARRL Field Day highlights

Dates -- June 26-27, 2021 beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and running through 2059 UTC Sunday.

Bands and Modes --- Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20,15 and 10 Meter HF bands, as well as all bands 50 MHz and above.

Submission - Entries must be postmarked or submitted via web app at <http://field-day.arrl.org/fdentry.php> by Tuesday, July 27, 2021.

Club or Group name: Hannibal ARC (WIARC members should change this to "Western III ARC") 😊

To get your score credited to the Hannibal ARC, it is important to include Hannibal ARC on line 2 of the Field Day submission form. (see above....-.ed)

Entry Categories – (See Field Day rules for Temporary rule waivers). We are not doing a Club Entry this year but are encouraging Hannibal ARC members to enter their score in

one of the following categories, and then credit your score to the Hannibal ARC by inserting Hannibal ARC on line 2 of the Entry form. (see above.. -ed)

(Class A) Club / non-club portable: Club or a non-club group of three or more persons set up specifically for Field Day. **Free VHF Station.**

Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) Station. (See ARRL Field Day rules)

(Class A - Battery) Club / non-club portable. Club or non-club group of three or more persons set up specifically for Field Day.

(Class B) One or two person portable: A Field Day station set up and operated by no more than two persons.

(Class C) Mobile.

(Class D) Home stations.

(Class E) Home stations - Emergency power.

(Class F) Emergency Operations Centers (EOC).

Exchange: Stations in ARRL / RAC sections will exchange their Field Day operating Class and ARRL / RAC section. Example: a three transmitter Class A station in Connecticut which also has a GOTA station and the extra VHF station would send "3A CT" on CW or Digital, or "3 Alpha Connecticut" on Phone.

Scoring, QSO Points, Power multipliers, and Bonus Points – See Field Day Rules.

Field Day Rules and Information: <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

FD Spot from the Florida Coast:

We had a pretty good Public Information spot for upcoming Field Day, courtesy of one of our local tv stations...

<https://www.mynews13.com/fl/orlando/news/2021/06/22/ham-radio-operators-play-role-when-storms-disrupt-communications#>

**Bob
NB4C**

Member Spotlight: WB9WAJ

I'm always in search of good material for The Feedline. I regularly encourage members to submit articles; and in particular, I would like personal items that give some background of the members' careers and experiences relating to amateur radio. Alden Shipp, WB9WAJ, has graciously contributed to this month's issue! .-ed

My Paul Tibbetts Story 6/17/2021 by WB9WAJ

Some time ago Jim Funk, N9JF, asked if anyone knew someone famous. I said I had known Paul Tibbetts. He asked me to write about it.

But first a little history....

I was born in Topeka KS 3/18/1938. My dad was a telephone lineman installing poles, lines and battery-powered hand-cranked phones in lots of counties in east-central Kansas.

Mom's parents owned an 80-acre farm 20 miles west of Topeka and 5 miles south of Maple Hill, population 150. What is now I-70 was then a sand road. In 1945, they became ill; and we moved to the farm to take care of them.

The house was two-story with eight rooms. There were carbide lights in the ceilings, a coal furnace, a wood cookstove and a cistern in the basement. On Mom's kitchen sink was a pump to get water from the cistern. Next to the well was a shed with a 30-gallon barrel on top. In the summer, we pumped it full at noon. After working in the fields, we had a warm shower. We had a hand-cranked phone on a party line. Our number was a Long and three Shorts.

Our Farmall F12 hand-cranked tractor had steel wheels and little equipment. In the medium-sized barn were the work horses, my pony and beef and dairy cows. I learned to milk by hand. Pigs were raised in a small shed. The crops were planted and harvested with both horses and tractor.

In the chicken house were Banty Chickens. The Banty roosters would chase me around the yard. Everyone had very large gardens and a few shade and fruit trees. Next to the garage with a dirt floor was the famous two-holers with last year's Sears Catalogue and corn cobs (OUCH). Could not have one today, because Sears is gone.

The cities had electricity; but not until the REAs came after the war did the rural areas receive it. I was 10 when electricity came in 1948. What a blessing!

I went to a four-room grade school. My freshman class had thirteen members. Our high school gym was so short the center circle and free-throw line overlapped in the middle. Mom drove an old army ambulance as a school bus.

Every Sunday we drove to town for church. After church, we went to the store and bought supplies including a 50-pound block of ice for the ice box....then to the garage to get gas. Car tires weren't much then. On a trip to Topeka and home we had three flats. Mom cried.

Dad, W0IYF, earned his license before we moved to the farm. I remember him building his own equipment, CW only. He ran a long wire antenna from the second floor bedroom to the garage. There were many tornados. We were never hit, thank God!

There was a B36 bomber base in Topeka, They flew over the farm to Salina where there was a practice bombing range. After a while, they would return, and I was always fascinated by them.

I built my first model airplane when I was a freshman. I cut the parts out of balsa, used floor glue, wound it up and let it go. It went 13 feet, lifted off, hit a wall and became a kit again. But I was hooked on flying.

My dad was not a farmer. In 1959, Granddad sold the farm. We moved to Columbia MO where Dad worked as an electric line man for the city.

Joyce and I graduated from the University of Missouri in 1963 with degrees in Education and a baby daughter. I had my student pilot license, learning in a Piper J-3 Cub. We moved to Quincy to teach in the public schools.

After four years, I knew teaching was not for me. Joyce encouraged me to continue flying.

I hired Darwin McClure, chief pilot for Moormans, and earned my pilot ratings. Today I hold an Airline Transport Rating.

I taught our son Bruce to fly, soloing him in a Piper J-3 Cub and Cessna 150 on his sixteenth birthday. He had his pilot's license before his driver's license. Following his career in the US Air Force, flying F-15s in the first Gulf War, Major Bruce "Bull" Shipp is currently a captain for Southwest Airlines in Chicago.

In 1968, I was hired as the fifth pilot for Moorman Manufacturing Company. At the time, we flew a Cessna 310 and Cessna 411. They always flew two pilots for safety. By 1998, we had two Beechcraft King 200s, and BEECHJET, seven pilots and two mechanics. In 1998, ADM purchased Moormans and move the three planes, six pilots and two mechanics to Decatur IL. I was sixty and retired.

The Tom Oakley group purchased a King Air 200 in 1999 and hired me to fly for two years. I stayed four.

For the 2000 Bicentennial, Tom knew Paul Tibbetts, who was born in Quincy, lived in Dayton, Ohio. Tom invited him to be the Parade Marshall. He accepted. The morning of the celebration, I flew to Dayton and returned with Paul and his lady friend. I invited Paul to sit up front with me. He declined.

During the celebration, there were many vets thanking him for what he had done.

Our son Bruce was home on leave. He was on board for the return trip. He learned Paul's nephew flew an F-15.

Two weeks later, we received a copy of Brigadier General Tibbetts' book, Enola Gay, his mother's name. The book is about how they chose the B29 Super-Fortress and crew to drop "Little Boy" on Hiroshima, Japan on August 6, 1945 at 8:15 local time. Paul recalls looking back and seeing the mushroom cloud and knowing the world had changed.

Today a copy of Enola Gay and Little Boy sits next to the F-15 and J-3 Cub. Enola Gay is signed by all the crew members. There is also a photo of Brigadier General Tibbetts standing between Tom and me.

P.S. Yesterday I asked the cleaning lady about Paul Tibbetts. She answered, "Who was he?" How sad.

Paul was born February 23, 1915 in Quincy. He died November 1, 2007 (age 92) in Columbus OH. His remains were cremated and spread over the English Channel.

For more information, go to https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Tibbets



Alden Shipp, WB9WAJ 73

Side-note from N9JF:

My Dad was a radar officer in 1945, stationed on Oahu. His group was being trained as part of two-man teams (including a radio operator) to be parachuted into Japan to direct air traffic for the invasion of Kyushu. The assumption was that 2/3 of these teams would not survive. As final preparations for this operation were being made, "Little Boy" and "Fat Man" were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, bringing about the end of World War II. Thank you, Paul Tibbets!

Congratulations!!

Good Morning!

My vanity application was approved this morning and my call sign is now: KW9Q

Hope to hear you all on the air soon! 73s! Doug

From *The ARRL Contest Update* for May 12, 2021:

Learning Contesting

While reading the chapter on Contesting in Ward's, N0AX, [*Ham Radio for Dummies, Fourth Edition*](#), I came across this tip on how to practice making a contact with a station that is calling CQ:

If you're unsure of yourself, try "singing along" without actually transmitting. Make a cue card that contains all of the information you need to say or send in a script or list. If you think you may get flustered when the other stations answers your call, listen to a few contacts, and copy the information ahead of time. Serial numbers advance one at a time, so you can have all of the information before your contact.

This paragraph really captures the dynamic between learning about how to make the first few contest contacts, and actually making the contacts. By "singing along," the new contester has the benefit of practice and memorization, but in a low-stakes situation. Some of performance pressure is removed, facilitating learning the skill.

Learning can happen as a result of positive or negative experiences. In a very memorable negative radio experience, I gained a healthy respect for RF voltages as a new ham in the late 1970s by building and using a T-network antenna tuner, but omitting insulation on the shaft of one of the capacitors. Even at 100 watts, what felt like an irritating tingling in my fingertips led to deep blistering and skin sloughing over the subsequent days, and healing took weeks.

I recommend positive experiences for learning: It's one thing to have read about how the grayline can be super effective on 80 and 160 meters, but experiencing it while listening to a competent DXpedition from a rare locale put one station after another into their log in the time zones ahead of yours -- and then finally getting your chance at the sunrise peak -- is as close to magical as can be.

That's all for this time. Remember to send contesting related stories, book reviews, tips, techniques, press releases, errata, schematics, club information, pictures, stories, blog links, and predictions to contest-update@arrl.org

73, Brian N9ADG

Upcoming Contests

RAC Canada Day Contest: July 1, 0000z-2359z. Everybody works everybody, lots of activity, with more points for working Canadians on their national holiday!

<https://www.rac.ca/rac-canada-day-contest-celebrate-canadas-birthday-on-the-air/>

IARU World HF Championship: July 10, 1200z to July 11, 1200z. Again, everybody works everybody and a LOT of activity!

<http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-world-championship>

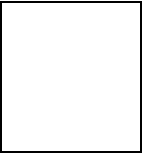
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest: July 17, 1800z to July 18, 2100z. Check out the E-skip on 6 meters!

<https://www.cgww-vhf.com/>

Missouri QSO Party: July 31, 1400z-August 1, 0400z and August 1, 1400z-2000z. Show some love for our neighbors to the west!

<http://www.w0ma.org/index.php/missouri-qso-party>

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



July meeting: Wednesday July 7, 2021
Tailgate session to begin at 5 pm, meeting at
7 pm. Twin Oaks Club 2707 Bonansinga
Drive, Quincy

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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ILLINOIS QSO PARTY

Newsletter input due by the 20th of the preceding month

Editor Jim Funk N9JF

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