
THE FEEDLINE

Volume 45, Issue 5 The Voice of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club May 2021

(OK, boys and girls....this is a short issue. I need material for The Feedline!! If you want to read interesting stuff, send something! -ed)

From the President's Easy Chair

Even though I am not in the shack tonight, I still have been playing with the radio remotely, sitting in a recliner in our living room. I am getting spoiled to be able to use my radio from my laptop. It is considerably more comfortable in the living room than the basement, not to mention closer to other important accessories around the house. I want to thank those that covered for me last month; we had a family event that could not be ignored. Thanks to W9WE for heading up the meeting and to N9JF for covering for me as net control.

While things are looking up, we are still far from getting back to being able to meet at the Red Cross or use the club station. The May meeting will again be at Twin Oaks Club, 7:00 PM on Wednesday May 5th. Thank you WA9GBC for arranging it again.

It may just be that I found a radio I have been wanting for a few years and have been spending more time playing radio, but it appears to me the bands are slightly better than this time last year. While HF is not great every day, it is showing spurts of increased activity; and I am hearing more DX, all signs of an upswing in activity or at least signs of better propagation where I can now hear more activity. I experienced my first 6 meter Sporadic E event the other day. It was pretty widespread and lasted for a couple of hours. Seventeen and 15 meters do have activity, even if most of it is FT8.

Even though it snowed this morning and the forecast is for freezing temps the next couple of mornings, warmer weather is here; and I hope we can start having meetings outside soon. Along with that, we can plan our flea market tail gate event and possibly a picnic for a social activity. Field Day will be much like last year. Everyone is encouraged to get on from home and turn your score in as a club aggregate. More about that at the meeting.

If I don't catch you on the air, I hope to see you May 5th.

Danny W9DP

Moved and Seconded: Minutes of the April 2021 WIARC Meeting

The April 2021 meeting of the WIARC was held on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at Twin Oaks Club on Bonansinga Drive in Quincy. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Vice-President W9WE in the absence of the President.

Members present were N9JF, W9WE, KD0DKE, W9GQK, WA9GBC, WB9EWM, K9VXD and (by Zoom call) NA9Q, NB4C, K9AJC and WB9WAJ.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved as printed in *The Feedline*.

The Treasurer's Report was delivered by K9VXD and approved on a motion by WB9EWM, a second by W9GQK and carried. Income for January and February consisted of membership dues and bank interest. Expenses were for dues to the Illinois Repeater Association. Details of the report are available to current members upon request.

The Executive Committee has not met.

The Repeater Board has not met. A meeting is pending to elect a new chair and to address current questions.

Contest Committee: The "Illinois Edible Awards" have been mailed to 15 of the 17 winners, with the other two pending due to being overseas shipping. A bill for \$182.70 for the purchase and shipping of the 2020 prizes was presented for payment. Though a general approval for ILQP prize expenses was included in the last budget, approval for this specific bill was given on a motion by K9VXD, seconded by WB9EWM and carried. The future of the "Illinois Edible Awards" will be discussed by the ILQP committee and the subject brought to a meeting of the membership prior to the publishing of the rules for the 2021 event.

W9WE appointed the following to the ILQP Committee: WB9EWM, WA9GBC, N9JF and W9WE.

Club Station report: Access is still not granted by Red Cross to their building. Antennas need work, and the new tribander is awaiting erection.

WA9GBC mentioned that a key card that was in the possession of former president David Gill (SK) and should be deactivated at the ARC office.

Mention was made that we need to have a second signature on the bank card. N9JF and K9VXD will follow up on this. *Note: W9DP's signature is on the card. -.ed*

Applications for membership: KA9WTK was approved for membership on a motion by WB9EWM, seconded by W9GQK and carried.

NA9Q asked about the status of the club website.

NA9Q mentioned that club member KG9W is currently a resident in the Barry Community Care Center and would probably welcome visitors.

NCS assignments: May 5: N9JF May 12: N9DT, May 19: WB9EWM May 26: N9JF June 2: W9DP

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. on a motion by WB9EWM, seconded by WA9GBC and carried.

Respectfully submitted, N9JF Secretary

Scheduled test session dates for 2021 are:

May 8th at 1:00 PM with a registration* deadline of May 7th

August 7th at 9:00 AM with a registration* deadline of August 6th

Nov 6th 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/leave message. Email to the WIARC VE Team Liaison, Dave Scranton, W9WE, at [210-325-7923](tel:210-325-7923) or w9we.lee@gmail.com

At this time it is planned that the test sessions will be held at Bethel Assembly of God Church. 12th & Jefferson, Quincy IL.

Quincy, Illinois
39°55'16.7"N 91°23'45.4"W
<https://goo.gl/maps/Q374RRzVADFAF1Wu6>

Dave Scranton
W9WE

How not to pass a Morse Test: (courtesy of WB9EWM)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NJGrIUXCZzc>

Parks and such.....

With the coming of “decent weather” (we can hope), it’s time to get out and activate some parks, refuges and monuments. See <https://wwff.co/> and <https://pota.us/#/> for details of each program. Be sure to read the FAQ sections before activating and sending in a log. The park lists are basically identical up to a point but diverge widely after about park 4448. There are nearly 6000 parks in the USA in the WWFF system and over 8000 in the POTA system.

Top “activators” in the USA are closing in on 100,000 QSOs (N4CD), and top “hunters” have worked over 2600 different entities (KG8P). You can find park activators just about any day of the week and from before sunup to well after dark, and that’s just the USA operators! WWFF in particular has been going gangbusters in Europe for many years. If you activate a park, particularly on CW, early in the day on twenty meters, you’re just about guaranteed to attract a European pileup.

Upcoming Contests:

If you get a “hankerin’” to operate on a particular weekend, here are some opportunities:

May 1 and 2: Indiana QSO Party, 7th Call Area QSO Party, Delaware QSO and New England QSO Party. Take your pick, or take all of them! I think you can log all of them in

one file with N1MM+ and send the same log to everybody. They'll sort out what they need. Don't ask me how this works, and don't ask me to do the same for ILQP! 😞

If FT8 and FT4 are your thing, try the VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest or the RSGB FT4 Contest Series on May 5. Note that the logs for the RSGB contest *are due 24 hours after the contest ends!!*

May 8: The Arkansas QSO Party, and lo and behold, another VHF-UHF FT8 thingie....

May 15: Something international? Try His Majesty King of Spain Contest (CW).

May 21: The Hamvention QSO Party. This one should be fun. You were going to do *something* "radio-ish" that weekend, right?

May 29 and 30: CQ WPX CW contest. LOTS of CW activity, everybody-works-everybody!

From the latest *ARRL DX Bulletin*:

SB DX @ ARL \$ARLD015 ARLD015 DX news

ZCZC AE15 QST de W1AW DX Bulletin 15 ARLD015 From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT April 15, 2021 To all radio amateurs

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by 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 to commemorate the 880th anniversary of the birth of 12th century Persian Sunni Muslim poet Nizami Ganjavi. QSL direct to 4J3DJ.

ENGLAND, G. Special event station GB0DOE is QRV until May to honor the memory of the recently deceased Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. QSL via GB0DOE. (Catch this one quickly....says "until May"....)

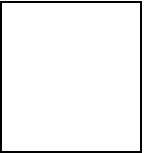
JAPAN, JA. Special event station 8N1MORSE is QRV until February 28, 2022 to celebrate the 230th anniversary of the birth of Samuel F. B. Morse and the 120th anniversary of Guglielmo Marconi's first successful transatlantic radio communication by Morse Code. QSL via bureau.

ANTARCTICA. Mark, W5MED is QRV as KC4USV from McMurdo Station on Ross Island, IOTA AN-011, until October. He is active on 20 meters using SSB and FT8 at various times of the day. QSL direct to K7MT.

FALKLAND ISLANDS, VP8. Clint, VP8DKP is usually QRV on 40 meters using FT8 during his evenings. QSL direct.

Listen for activity on 12, 10 and 6 meters now that the sporadic-E season is upon us! Check beacon stations and the FT8 frequencies to see if the band is open. Call CQ! If everybody is listening, nobody works anybody..... de N9JF

Western Il. Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 3132
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May meeting: Wednesday, May 5, 2021
7 pm
Twin Oaks Club, 2707 Bonansinga Drive,
Quincy
Also available on ZOOM. Contact
n9jf@arrl.net for log-in credentials

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

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 20th of the preceding month
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