
THE FEEDLINE

Volume 46, Issue 12 The Voice of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club December 2022

From the Shack of W9DP

December.... hard to believe the year is winding down. From a ham radio perspective, things are looking up from the past couple of years, COVID restrictions are basically over, HF propagation has been improving and DX-peditions are getting back into full swing. If only the cost of everything would quit going up, I would have to look hard to find something new to complain about. I don't know why I thought differently, but I was a bit shocked at seeing the prices on used equipment shoot up over the past couple of years; but they are simply following the increase in new equipment.

I am quite happy to have some younger, active hams in the area; and several have joined the club. I hope we see a younger group taking over the leadership of the WIARC. The number of Silent Keys within our club reminds us we are all getting older; and if younger hams are not interested in getting involved in the leadership of the club, it is bound to slowly die.

After the approval of the membership last month, new Yaesu repeaters are on order; and at least two of them should go right into service. I am not sure if 146.940 will get new hardware right away as it will be moving to a different location in the not-too-distant future. That may be the best time to implement the new hardware. Once new hardware is installed, the club will be looking for another club that is looking for a good deal on replacing an analogue repeater or adding a Yaesu Fusion repeater. The club has agreed to donate our broken Yaesu DR1X to a somewhat local club with the understanding that they get it repaired and put it on the air, increasing the digital foot print in western Illinois. This should provide incentive for another club to go with a digital voice repeater as the repaired repeater will be a much cheaper than purchasing a new one.

Log checking for the 2022 ILQP is well under way, and we may see results before the end of the year. I want to extend a special thanks to N9JF and WA9GBC for all the work they have done getting the log checking and final results into a more automated process. I say more automated because there is still a lot of manual work being done, mostly by N9JF. WA9GBC has created a database that automates a lot of the log processing, and that has greatly reduced the number of hours Jim has to spend doing things manually.

Several of you knew Fred, KG9W, and I am sure there are others besides myself sorry to hear of Fred passing. I have heard from Fred's daughter, Cindy, and I asked her about memorial contributions and she suggested the American Cancer Society. We will be sending a memorial gift in Fred's name soon. Anyone who was familiar with Fred knew of his love for Amateur Radio and also remembers that booming voice. When I first met Fred, his call was N9BQV, I liked calling him Big Quiet Voice as it seemed to fit Fred well.

A nominating committee was appointed at the November meeting, consisting of N9JF, NR9Q and W9US. I want to thank them for stepping up to do this. It is a necessary and often frustrating task, so when they contact you, please carefully consider how important what they are doing is to the future of the club. If you are asked to run for an office, please consider it carefully before you make any decision. I do not intend to run for President again, so you will be seeing a different face running the meetings next year. Elections will be held at the December meeting and in addition to the slate of candidates from the nominating committee, nominations from the floor will be accepted.

I appreciate all the help I have had during the past two years I have held the President's title and I urge you to provide even more support to the new officers we will elect for 2023.

I hope to see a big attendance at the meeting on December 7th.
Danny W9DP

Nominating Committee Report de N9JF

Since Danny mentioned the Nominating Committee....here we are!! 😊

The committee of NR9Q, W9US and N9JF made several phone calls and other contacts with club members. We tried to give members a chance to agree to run for a club office without pressuring or scaring anyone (especially the newer members....). While this report is designed to notify the membership of the slate of officers we are placing into nomination, as per our responsibility, note that *nominations will be solicited and accepted from the floor during the meeting*. If you find yourself at the meeting wanting to run for an office, button-hole a confederate to nominate you!!

As Danny said, we'd like to get some of the "new blood" involved as officers, but we realize that some of you have been members for only a few months. As you become more familiar with the club and the other members, we'd like to encourage you to step up in the future and assume a leadership role. You can see that it's not particularly difficult, and we are a very forgiving group!

The following have agreed to be nominated for 2023 officer positions:

Trustee (3-year term): Danny W9DP
President: Ken WM4D
Vice-president : Dave W9WE
Secretary: Jim N9JF
Treasurer: Arnold K9VXD

For the committee, Jim N9JF

Moved and Seconded: Minutes of the November 2022 WIARC Meeting

The November 2022 meeting of the Western Illinois ARC was held on Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at the American Red Cross building on N 23rd St in Quincy. The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Vice-president W9WE in the absence of President W9DP, with the following members and guests present:

WA9GBC, W9WE, K9VXD, N9JF, KB9GIY, KB9FIN, W9US, NR9Q, KD0DKE, N9BZ, KD9VUW (SEAN), KD9VWR (BRIAN), KD9VQF (KRISTEN), KD9PPJ (JACK), WA0VHI, plus NB4C AND K9AJC VIA ZOOM

Minutes of the October meeting were approved as printed in The Feedline on a motion by KB9FIN seconded by W9US and carried,

Treasurer's Report by K9VXD: income: nterest ~\$2, expense: \$80 POBox rental. KB9FIN moved, W9US second carried.

Repeater Board: (from WB9EWM, presented by W9WE) At the last club meeting, it was determined that the .03 repeater was not operational. The next day, W9WE and WB9EWM went out to the site to check it out. The Yaesu DR-1X repeater was not putting out any power. We pulled the unit so it could be checked at home.

John programmed a UHF frequency into the unit, but it did not transmit.

Talking with W9DP, we decided to take the .195 DR-1X and use it on the .03 machine. This was done the next day, getting .03 back on the air.

At the same time, we found that the Yaesu was having their special for the DR-2X repeater which is the current one. The price is \$700.

The Repeater Board recommends that WIARC purchase 3 of the DR-2X repeaters. These would be used for the .03, .195 and .94 machines.

The DR-1X now on .03 would be used as a spare.

It is also recommended that the non-functioning repeater be donated to a club with the stipulation that they get it repaired and placed on the air. The donation would only be made to a club willing to follow this.

A copy of the Yaesu offering was passed around.

Motion by KB9FIN, seconded by W9US to purchase 3 repeaters, carried.

Cost of repair of the repeater to be donated (at \$70/hr) (not part of the motion).

Station Committee: No report

Contest Committee, including ILQP recap: ILQP summary and comments from K9AJC, W9WE and N9JF

VE Session report: Nov 5 at Bethel Church, 5 applicants so far

Old business: None;

Applications for membership: KD9PPJ, Jack from Springfield area, EE degree, from area originally, KD9VUW Sean new ham as of September. Motion to accept by KB9FIN, W9US second carried

KD9VUW  USA

Shawn D Middendorf
1413 SPRING ST
Quincy IL

KD9PPJ  USA

Jackie E Wilson, III
8936 State Street
Quincy, IL 62305
USA

NCS stations: Nov 9, N9JF 16, WB9EWM 23, W9DP 30, WB9EWM Dec 7, W9WE 14, KD9PPJ,21,NR9Q 28, W9DP Jan 4 W9WE

New business:

Nominating Committee appointed: P, VP, S, T, Trustee N9JF, NR9Q, W9US,

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm motion KB9FIN second W9US carried

Respectfully submitted, Jim Funk N9JF Secretary

VE Team Report:

02 Nov 2022 Quincy

Congrats on these advancements.

KD9VZX &. WG0ATS

Dave Scranton W9WE

(Check out WG0ATS's QRZ.com page 😊 .ed)

Field Day Results

Nice job, troops! WIARC placed FIFTH (out of 39) in the 3F Class in 2022 Field Day!

DX News cheerfully stolen from *ARRL DX News* for 23 Nov 2022

QST de W1AW DX Bulletin 47 ARLD047 From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by HA7VK, SQ9FMU, W2GD, 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.

ROTUMA, 3D2. Tony, 3D2AG plans to be active as 3D2AG/p until December 20. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters, with a focus on 15, 12, and 10 meters, using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. QSL via operator's instructions.

MADAGASCAR, 5R. Operators PA3EWP, DL2AWG, DK2AMM, PG5M, and PA5X are QRV as 5R8WP, 5R8WG, 5R8MM, 5R8CG, and 5R8PA, respectively, from Nosy Be Island, IOTA AF-057, until December 3. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8 with two stations active. QSL via DL2AWG.

PHILIPPINES, DU. Irek, SP3SUX is QRV as DV8/KH7EA until December 3. He will be active as DX8H in the CQ World Wide DX CW contest. QSL both calls via SP3SUX.

GUINEA BISSAU, J5. Carlos, CT2GQA is QRV as J5JUA until December 15 while on work assignment. Activity is in his spare time. QSL to home call.

AMERICAN SAMOA, KH8. Bob, W7Yaq and Al, K7AR are QRV as K8H from Pago Pago, IOTA OC-045, until December 1. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW and SSB. This includes being a Multi/Single entry in the CQ World Wide DX CW contest. QSL via W7Yaq.

POLAND, SP. Special event call signs 3Z95PRK, HF95PRK, SN95PRK, SO95PRK, SP95PRK, and SQ95PRK will be QRV from November 26 to December 11 to celebrate the 95th anniversary of Poland's largest regional radio broadcasting station, Polskie Radio Katowice. QSL via bureau.

INDIA, VU. Operators VU2DSI, VU2EVU, and VU2XPN will be QRV as AU2JCB, AU3JCB, and AU5JCB, respectively, from November 25 to December 13 to commemorate the birthday of Jagadish Chandra Bose. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using SSB and FM. QSL direct to home calls.

Please see November QST, page 77, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest web sites for details.

From *The ARRL Letter* for November 23, 2022:

Oh, those kids! You know, the adolescents and young adults that practice unsafe listening practices? They may be facing hearing loss in their aging future, according to a [recently published study](#). Study participants aged 12 to 34 had unsafe habits that included use of personal listening devices and attending loud entertainment venues. Listening to 160 meters during summertime conditions was not included.



ILQP Log Checking Report

We are getting better at this....

I'm extremely pleased to announce that as of November 22, one week after the "logs due deadline", the ILQP logs have been processed and scored. WA9GBC has done a tremendous amount of work producing Excel macros that do clever stuff I don't understand, and Dave has outlined the steps I needed to follow to make them work. As a result, the preliminary results were posted to the club web page on that date. (Thanks, Andy!)

I've put together a rather detailed set of instructions as to exactly how the logs are processed, prior to and within the Excel sheet. If you'd like to be involved in the process, let me know! We need to have more than two old guys with a handle on this....

A few corrections are being received (categories, club affiliations, etc.), so the final results are still a week or two away.

One change that was made this year was to eliminate the "Illinois Edible Award". Mailing those has gotten to be prohibitively expensive, and a few recipients indicated they really didn't care that much whether they got the prize or not. A new certificate will be awarded for "Extreme Excellence" instead of an edible prize. (I haven't hit AB9DU up about this yet, but I'm hoping he will be amenable to adding a certificate to his creative tasks....)

It's likely a couple of other changes will be made for 2023. Many contests have shortened the log submission deadline to 15 days. Nearly all of the logs we received came in within that time period. We likely will allow self-spotting as even ARRL SS allowed that this year! The new Unlimited (multi-operator, multi-transmitter) class will be better-publicized.

At least three counties were not on the air. Two of them were my fault. We spent too much time "up north" and had enough issues with equipment that I was "out of gas" (mentally) and simply did not get to GREE and JERS. Nor did anyone plan ahead for STAR, and I couldn't get there with everything else I'd planned. No one worked more than 78 counties (K9CT). K5CM worked 67, K9NR worked 69, KB0V worked 68, AF5CC 68, KV0I 68, OM2VL 74, W8PI 76, W9D 65, WA0JCO 77,

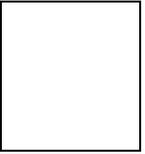
There was a decent amount of DX worked though conditions were not "great". A few stations spent significant time on 10 meters and dug out some South American contacts. Just about everybody with any DX worked OM2VL!

A couple of entrants worked from parks and landed a lot of park chasers. A few digital contacts were made. There will be a more detailed analysis presented later.

The traveling plaque for the high-scoring Illinois club has resided with Metro DX for the last few months. Many of you have never seen this plaque as WIARC has not "owned it" for some time...like...ever.... (<sniff>). Here is a shot of it:



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



December meeting: Wednesday, December
7, 2022

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

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

Editor Jim Funk N9JF

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