
THE FEEDLINE

Volume 47, Issue 2 The Voice of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club February 2023

(This is a "kitchen sink issue". Lots of stuff! If you are reading this in hard-copy at the Quincy Public Library, more content is shown on-line. Go to <https://w9awe.org/newsletter/> and look for the current newsletter. -.ed)

Presidential Pronouncements (until he gives me another title for it... -.ed)

Well, winter is indeed fully upon the area at this point and on those cold rainy, snowy, days with the wind blowing, amateur radio is a great way to relax. Depending on when you read this the Bouvet Island Dxpedition is either about to begin or is underway. Bouvet is without a doubt one of the most difficult places to activate in the world as far as physically arriving safely and getting set up. As of this writing the crew are on their transport vessel and headed east of Port Stanley in the Falkland Islands. You can track their progress here: www.3y0j.no and at www.dx-world.net/3y0j-bouvet-2023/ These are good links for the latest news and include a "tracker" so you can actually track the progress of the ship. Success is by no means guaranteed as shore landing is treacherous and they have to scale a vertical surface to set up for hoisting equipment to the operating position.

In other operating news, four of our members, Chris NR9Q, Ed W9US, Andrew KM9DX and myself WM4D all had successful POTA activations at Siloam Springs State Park on Saturday January 14th. I should have taken a picture of Chris and Ed's antenna mounted in the back of Chris' truck. Speaking of POTA, Jim N9JF listed the POTA activity of our members in the January newsletter but there was an omission. Jim did not include his own accomplishments. Jim has been very active in both the Parks On The Air and World Wide Flora and Fauna programs for years. In regards to the POTA program Jim has 364 successful activations from 212 unique parks with over 19,080 contacts. No doubt these statistics have increased in the last week or so. Good work Jim. Wow!

On a personal note I would like to apologize for whistling at the end of our January meeting to get everyone's attention in order assign net control stations. While that did work, there was probably a less dramatic [rude] way to accomplish the same thing. While nobody said anything I was troubled by it.

Please consider volunteering to take net control for the Adams County ARES Training Net on Wednesday evenings at 6:45 PM local time. The preamble is located on the club's webpage. If you're nervous about trying net control, I get it. I'm not just nervous, I'm scared, and still struggling to associate everyone's name with their call sign and be able to tell who is calling by picking up on partial calls. This is why we train, to get better. If you've never checked into the net please give it a shot. The net usually lasts less than 10 minutes so it will not take much time out of your day. I hope to hear from you on the training net and see you at the next club meeting.

That's it for this month. Good DX and CW forever.
Ken, WM4D

Moved and Seconded: Minutes of the January 2023 WIARC Meeting

The January 2023 meeting of the Western Illinois ARC was held on January 4, 2023 at the American Red Cross office in Quincy. The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by President WM4D with the following members and guests present: WM4D, K9VXD, W9WE, WA9GBC, W9DP, KA9VIM, KM9DX, N9JF, AA9GL, NR9Q, KD9VUW, W6JFL, W9US, KB9GIY, KB9FIN, W9GQK, KD9PPJ, KD0DKE, WB9EWM, Terry Kemp, KE0OAA, AB9DU, WA0VHI

Minutes of the December 2022 meeting were approved as printed in The Feedline on a motion by KB9FIN seconded by WB9EWM and carried.

Treasurer's Report by K9VXD:

Income since last meeting: Interest \$2.08 Dues \$145.00

Expenses since last meeting: 3 repeaters \$2100

Balances Dec 31, 2022: Checking 2371.53 Savings 4704.37

CD balances reported to the membership and available upon request to members, not printed in minutes.

Pending: Fred Chanen memorial; Donations to Toys for Tots, Honor Flight, Salvation Army and American Red Cross; Several member dues received since Dec meeting.

Treasurer's report approved on a motion by KB9FIN seconded by WB9EWM and carried

Repeater Board report: by WB9EWM : new repeaters are in and installed; 147.03 at 20 watts to the amplifier; 147.195 is running at 50 watts; 443.900 is running at 45 watts; about 32-33 watts to the antenna; checking and documentation to follow. Committee discussed consolidating some of the cabinets to keep as small a footprint as possible

Station Committee report: ARC needs to provide key cards so the committee is able to get into the station! Ongoing discussion.

Contest Committee report: NR9Q reported on WinterHeat (promoting activity on VHF/UHF simplex) (hamactive.com); Kids Day is this Saturday;

ILQP certificates have been created and e-mailed by AB9DU, with interesting complications due to a PrintShop update...or something..... But at least he got the certificates almost finished. Thanks, Bob!!

VEC report: next week after HARC meeting is testing; our next one in Quincy is Feb 4, 1 pm at Bethel Church

SK: Olin Shuler W9PQD passed away recently; long-time member of the club

W9WE: Adams County EMA is wanting to phase out 2 meter usage. Looking for volunteers for various projects.

Old Business: none;

Repeater info needs to be updated on the website and in the newsletter. N9JF will get info from the Repeater Board and update the newsletter and forward to Andy.

New Business: W6JFL (Joe from HARC) current chair of hamfest committee at HARC; Hannibal hamfest has been postponed until April 2024. Joe passed out some flyers; not planning meal prep; W9DP will help liaison from WIARC along with NR9Q and WM4D.

Auditing committee commissioned: Executive Committee

Applications for membership: Terry Kemp. No license yet. Motion by WB9EWM to accept Terry as a member, KB9FIN second; carried

NCS: Jan 11 W9DP, Jan 18 WM4D, Jan 25 NR9Q, Feb 1 WB9EWM, Feb 8 KD9PPJ, Feb 15, WB9EWM, Feb 22 WM4D, Mar 1 W9DP

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm on a motion by KB9FIN seconded by WB9EWM carried.

Respectfully submitted, N9JF Secretary

DX News shamelessly purloined from ARRL DX News for January 19, 2023

**QST de W1AW DX Bulletin 3 ARLD003 From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT January 19, 2023 To all radio amateurs**

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by JI3DST, LU7AA, The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

THE GAMBIA, C5. Andre, ON7YK is QRV as C5YK from Bijilo until February 24. Activity is on 20 to 10 meters using all modes. QSL direct to home call.

WALLIS AND FUTUNA ISLANDS, FW. Jean-Gabriel, F4CIX, is QRV as FW1JG and expects to be here until January 2024. He is active on 40 to 6 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

JAPAN, JA. Take, JI3DST will be QRV as JI3DST/6, JS6RRR, JJ5RBH/6, and JR8YLY/6 from Miyako Island, IOTA AS-079, from January 24 to March 7. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, FM, and FT8. When using FT8, the numeric suffix will be replaced with the letter /P. This includes being active as JS6RRR in the upcoming CQ World Wide 160 Meter CW contest. QSL to home call.

GUAM, KH2. Henry, N7JVJ is QRV as N7JVJ from Hagatna until April 28. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using SSB and FT8 with QRP power. QSL via operator's instructions.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA, P2. David, VK4FABN is QRV as P29DT from Tabubil in the Star Mounts in the North Fly District of the Western Province. Activity is holiday style on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via LoTW.

POLAND, SP. Special event station HF7SIEMA is QRV until February 5 recognizing a nationwide Polish charity event. QSL via operators' instructions.

TURKEY, TA. Special event stations TC100TC, TC100TA, TC100TR, and TC100YEAR are QRV during all of 2023 to celebrate the centenary of the Turkish Republic. QSL via bureau.

GABON, TR. Roland, F8EN is QRV as TR8CR from Libreville until March 15, 2023. Activity is on 30 to 10 meters using CW. QSL via F6AJA.

Please see January 2023 QST, page 74, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest web sites for details.

Solar activity! Woo hoo!!!

The sun is crackling with 'solar flares'. Here's what that means.

The sudden flare-up of activity may also be a sign that experts grossly underestimated how busy Solar Cycle 25 — the current iteration of the sun's magnetic rhythm — will be.

www.washingtonpost.com

The Amateur's Code *(always a good reminder...-ed)*

The radio amateur is:

CONSIDERATE...never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...offers loyalty, encouragement, and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which amateur radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY...slow and patient operating when requested; offers friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kind assistance, cooperation, and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school, or community.

PATRIOTIC...station and skills are always ready for service to country and community.

--The original Radio Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928.

This was written over 90 years ago and should be applicable to every operator today. If we're operating on the air or working to mentor a new operator, are we living up to this ideal and passing it along to others?

Storm Spotter Classes

Hello all,

Here is the link for the 2023 series of storm spotter classes sponsored by NWS St.Louis. <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/c8094354f42d4f459a486bcb70185196>. Please pass this along to anyone who may be interested,

Dave Scranton W9WE

New member, new licensee. Congratulations, Terry!

KD9WHU

Terry T Kemp

2303 Jersey St
Quincy, IL 62301
USA

VE Team Report:

Upcoming testing in Quincy IL:

EXAM SESSION

02/04/2023

Sponsor: Western Illinois Amt Radio
Location: Bethel Assembly of God Church
Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

• EXAM SESSION

05/06/2023

Sponsor: Western Illinois Amt Radio
Location: Bethel Assembly of God Church
Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

• EXAM SESSION

08/05/2023

Sponsor: Western Illinois Amt Radio
Location: Bethel Assembly of God Church
Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

• EXAM SESSION

11/04/2023

Sponsor: Western Illinois Amt Radio
Location: Bethel Assembly of God Church
Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

210-325-7923 w9we.lee@gmail.com Text or email me for information .
Dave Scranton W9WE

From ARRL Bulletin #26:

SB QST ARL ARLB026

ARLB026 Rep. Bill Johnson Introduces Bill to Eliminate Private Land Use Restrictions on Amateur Radio

Congressman Bill Johnson (OH-6) introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives (H.R.9670) on Thursday, December 22, 2022, to eliminate private land use restrictions that prohibit, restrict, or impair the ability of an Amateur Radio Operator from operating and installing amateur station antennas on property subject to the control of the Amateur Radio Operator.

The exponential growth of communities subject to private land use restrictions that prohibit both the operation of Amateur Radio and the installation of amateur station antennas has significantly restricted the growth of the Amateur Radio Service. These restrictions are pervasive in private common interest residential communities such as single-family subdivisions, condominiums, cooperatives, gated communities, master-planned communities, planned unit developments, and communities governed by community associations. The restrictions have particularly impacted the ability of Amateur Radio to fulfill its statutorily mandated duty of serving as a voluntary noncommercial emergency communications service.

Congress in 1996 directed the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to promulgate regulations (Public Law 104-104, title II, section 207, 110 Stat. 114; 47 U.S.C. 303 note) that have preempted all private land use restrictions applicable to exterior communications facilities that impair the ability of citizens to receive television broadcast signals, direct broadcast satellite services, or multichannel multipoint distribution services, or to transmit and receive wireless internet services. ARRL attempts to obtain similar relief for Amateur Radio were rejected by the FCC with a statement such relief would have to come from Congress.

ARRL Legislative Advocacy Committee Chairman John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, noted that Congress, in 1994 by Joint Resolution, S.J.Res.90/H.J.Res.199, declared that regulations at all levels of government should facilitate and encourage the effective operation of Amateur Radio from residences as a public benefit. He continued by stating that "H.R.9670, the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act, is intended to fulfill that mandate and preserve the ability of Amateur Radio Operators to continue to serve as a key component of American critical communications infrastructure."

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and Mr. Stratton both extended on behalf of the ARRL, its Members, and the Amateur Radio community their thanks and appreciation for the leadership of Rep. Johnson in his tireless efforts to support and protect the rights of all Amateur Radio Operators.

The full text of the bill in PDF format is available online at, <https://www.arrl.org/files/file/HR9670/HR9670-Amateur-Radio-Emergency-Preparedness-Act.pdf>

From *The ARRL Letter* for January 5, 2023:

ARRL Volunteers On the Air Event is Underway

ARRL's yearlong operating event, [Volunteers On the Air](#), or VOTA, began January 1, 2023. The event is organized as part of ARRL's 2023 theme, "Year of the Volunteers," which recognizes the contributions of ARRL member volunteers, and offers opportunities to become more active and involved in amateur radio and ARRL.

VOTA encourages participants to make contacts with ARRL members and volunteers, earning points for each contact. Point values have been assigned (see the Points Table at vota.arrl.org). All scoring is automatically calculated through ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW, www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world). If you are already an LoTW user, continue to upload your QSOs there to participate. If you're a new LoTW user, visit [Getting Started with LoTW](#).

As part of the event, there will be week-long activations by W1AW portable stations operating in all US states and territories. W1AW/# portable operations are worth 5 points for each contact, and they can be contacted on all bands and modes. There's also an opportunity to earn the W1AW Worked All States Award. There will be two week-long W1AW operations from each of the 50 states.

Later in the event, an on-line scoreboard, the VOTA Leaderboard, will be activated, allowing each participant to see how their score measures up with other participants throughout the year.

Only two-way contacts qualify for points (cross-band, cross-mode, and repeater contacts are not valid), using any mode (CW, phone, or digital) - including EME and satellite operations - on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2, and 1.25 meters, as well as 70 centimeters, VHF/UHF/SHF, and microwave bands available to US amateurs above 2 meters (2190-, 630-, 60-, 30-, 17-, and 12-meter band contacts are not counted for credit in this event).

Join the fun! Visit the official VOTA website for further details: vota.arrl.org.

A handy tip from NB4C for those of us in cold climates. (That would be all of us....)

Can My Coax Freeze? ABR Industries

Although it seems like a simple question “Can my coax freeze?”, the answer is not as easy. Different cables have different ratings. For example, outdoor rated coax has a temperature rating of -20C (-4F) to +80C (+176F), while PTFE (Teflon™) has a temperature range of -90C (-130) to +260C (+500F). Yet in practical applications, the situation can be very different.

Most of the freeze issues are due to one primary culprit — water. It’s everywhere and affects everything and unfortunately coax is not excluded from this. Water on coax can easily come from the ways you would expect like rain, snow, and humidity. It can also come in less common ways such as poor drainage when fed through PVC pipe, through ponding on the ground or rooftop collection. Whether traditional or non-traditional, all can have effects on coax when formed into ice.

Ice can squeeze a jacket and possibly migrate the braid. It can also squeeze a smaller, softer cable and change the impedance. Luckily, both examples are extreme cases. The most common challenge comes from the coax sagging under the additional weight of the ice. Depending on the installation, coax is generally strung and loosely guided. For some it’s because installation is the most practical and easiest to set up (i.e., a simple Dipole application). For others it can be due to the temporary nature of the set-up and the need to be stealthy. So, what’s the solution?

Prevention is key, since this is mostly a case-by-case situation for your installation needs. Try to keep coax in an elevated or pitched position to run off water. When installing in PVC, make sure there are weep holes to run off excess moisture. And good common practice is to routinely examine the feedline.

If the coax does freeze or is frozen with water, let it thaw naturally then wipe down the cable with a dry microfiber cloth (we recommend a size of 12-inch x 6 inch or larger). **IMPORTANT** — do not apply a heat gun or dryer to the feedline because the thermal shock can cause other issues. Once the cable is dry then check the VSWR with a dummy load. If everything checks at 1.5:1 VSWR or less then nothing else is needed. If the VSWR value is higher than 1.5:1, the cable is developing a mismatch and will need to be replaced.

From *The ARRL Contest Update* for January 4, 2023

Word to the Wise

QLF

Idiomatic, non-official [Q-signal](#) indicating that the sending may be erratic or error-prone, as if one were sending CW using their left foot instead of their hand. The interrogative "QLF?" would be sent by one station to another, asking, "Are you sending with your left foot?". This implies that their sending style is difficult to understand.

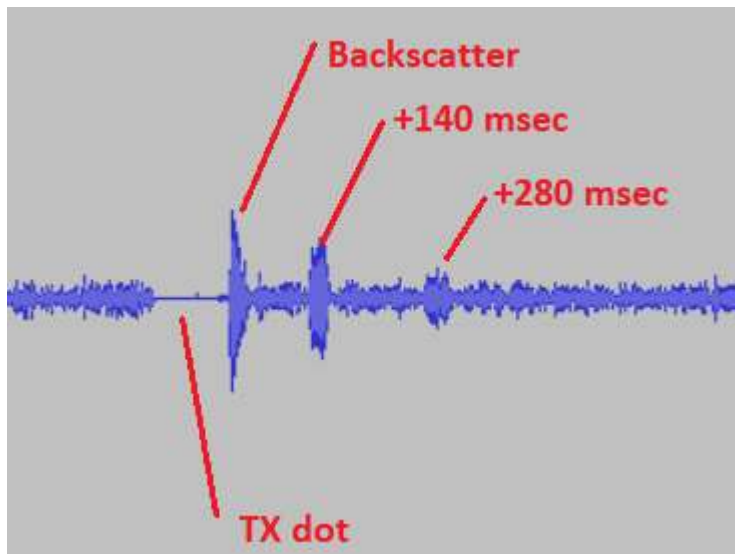
From *The ARRL Letter* for January 5, 2023

(I include this because I met K3ZO back in the early 90's in Maryland when I was there for a conference. Fred was a good friend of K4VX's, and he is in my logs scores of times. I'd encourage you to click on the link to the NCJ article for some fun stuff. -N9JF)

Amateur radio contesting great Fred Laun (Alfred A. Laun, III), K3ZO, of Temple Hills, Maryland, passed away on January 3, 2023. He was a member of the ARRL Maxim Society and Life Member, and a member of the [Potomac Valley Radio Club](#). Laun was also a Director for The Yasme Foundation, an organization that supports awards and grants that recognize and advance the achievements made by radio amateurs. "Fred's service to Yasme and other amateur organizations, spanning decades, was unsurpassed, as were his contributions to amateur radio, for which he cared deeply," said Yasme Foundation President Ward Silver, N0AX, in a press release. "Well-known and respected around the globe, we know Fred's many friends world-wide will honor his memory, both on and off the air." Read a 2015 [interview](#) (PDF) with Laun, conducted by John Dorr, K1AR, for the *National Contest Journal (NCJ)*.

From Twitter as EA5Y

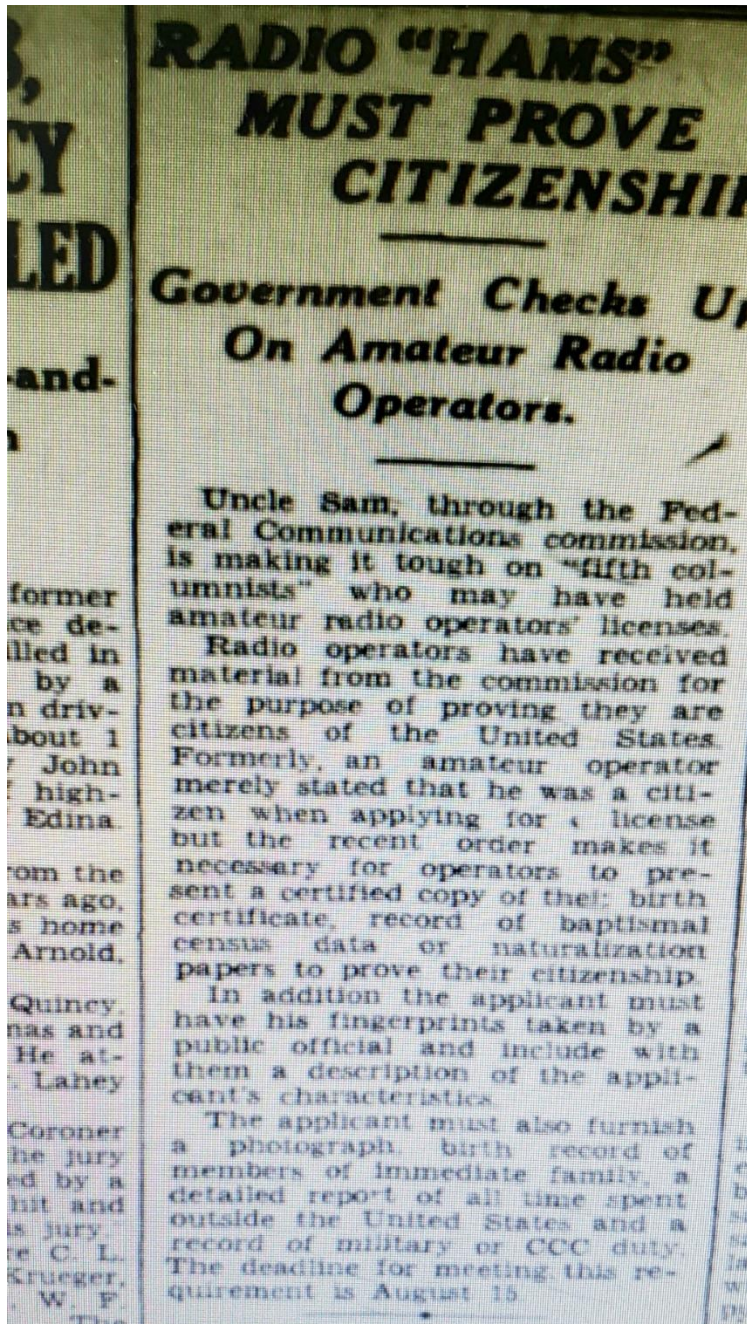
Right now great propagation on 15m Receiving my own echoes after 2 turns around the globe: Sending a ping at 21414 kHz and receiving it +140 msec and 280 msec later



3:15 AM · Dec 31, 2022

Some of you may recall my similar story from many years ago, also on 15 meters, when I could hear my CW signal "coming around the globe". - N9JF

A sobering “blast from the past” courtesy of Joe, KC9FSQ: (from the *Quincy Herald-Whig* sometime in June, 1940:



From The ARRL Letter

The Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) have announced a realignment of their Field Organization resulting in the addition of a new section and name changes to several

others effective January 1, 2023. This will result in the changes to ARRL contests that use ARRL/RAC sections as multipliers, including Field Day, ARRL November Sweepstakes, and 160-Meter contests.

The RAC Field Organization will be reorganized into the following sections effective January 1, 2023:

- Newfoundland and Labrador (NL)
- Nova Scotia (NS)
- Prince Edward Island (PE)
- New Brunswick (NB) – the Maritime Section (MAR) will be abolished.
- Quebec (QC)
- Ontario East (ONE)
- Golden Horseshoe (GH) – currently called Greater Toronto Area (GTA).
- Ontario South (ONS)
- Ontario North (ONN)
- Manitoba (MB)
- Saskatchewan (SK)
- Alberta (AB)
- British Columbia (BC)
- Territories (TER) – Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut will be combined into one section.
-
- POTA update for those interested: The 2022 POTA report on YouTube:
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W8GBtMB_0To

- *WB9EWM received most valuable player at ACEMA. His many hours of radio programming & technology. Also Anita Crowley for many years of volunteering. Presentation by John Simon.*



• *Following are installments of new repeaters. 3 Yaesu DR-2X were installed to replace the 1-X models. WB9EWM, KB9FIN, NR9Q, KD9VUW & W9WE were on deck as support team. I mostly took pictures. 73 Dave W9WE*











- Also we still have D-Star equipment to be sold as soon as possible.



Georgia State Parks On the Air

The [Georgia State Parks On the Air](#) will be held April 1 - 2, 2023.

ARRL member Claude Ray, AC4SH, said this is the first time that all of Georgia's 50 state parks have been involved.

"The objective is to encourage ham radio operators to visit Georgia State Parks and experience the fun of Parks on the Air activations," said Ray. "This is a fun contest only, and the rules are minimal, the scoring is simple, and the main award is simply the fun of getting on the air."

The entire process is largely based on the honor system, although logs of top activators will be cross-checked. The contest period begins at 0800 EDT, April 1, 2023, through 2000 EDT, April 2, 2023, and operating hours are subject to park rules and times.

Participants with the top three scores in each of the five categories will receive a certificate indicating the award:

- Georgia Activator - Individual
- Georgia Activator - Club
- In-Georgia Hunter (individual or club)
- Out of State Hunter (individual of club)
- Georgia ARES® Club

Every station participating in the event and submitting a log will, upon request, receive a Certificate of Participation indicating the number of parks contacted.

Ray added, "There are 47 parks that already have at least one ham planning to activate on the April 1 - 2, 2023, weekend."

See the complete rules at gaparks.org/rules.

If you want to try something "new and different", this is from WB9SBD:

This Rules page will be very different from what you most likely would be accustomed to.

Mainly because this contest is very different from what you may be accustomed to.

Below on the left will be the "RULE" and on the right an explanation of why the rule is as it is.

<u>RULE</u>	<u>REASON</u>
<p><u>Date/Time:</u> There will be two separate events of this contest.</p> <p>First will be a shortened "Sprint" version so people can get used to this very complex format. The format may seem very complex, but once you understand it, it really is not. In addition the loggers will do all the work for you anyway.</p> <p>And then later in the year will be the full MAIDENHEAD MAYHEM Contest.</p> <p><u>SPRINT:</u> Start: 00:00 UTC March 18, 2023 END: 23:59 UTC March 19, 2023 Maximum Operating Time = 4 Hours. Minimum "OFF" Time = 1 Hour Logs Due Date On Or Before April 1 at 00:00 UTC In the Subject line of the E-Mail only put YourCall-Log E-Mail Logs and any supporting Documentation to: logs@w9et.com</p> <p><u>Full MAIDENHEAD MAYHEM:</u> Start: 00:00 UTC July 22, 2023 END: 23:59 UTC July 30, 2023 Maximum Operating Time = 24 Hours. Minimum "OFF" Time = 1 Hour Logs Due Date On Or Before August 15 at 00:00 UTC In the Subject line of the E-Mail only put YourCall-Log E-Mail Logs and any supporting</p>	<p>You may be thinking What?</p> <p>The "Sprint", Out of a 54 hour long contest window to operate in, yet you can only use up to 4 hours of actual on the air operating time.</p> <p>And In the Main MAIDENHEAD MAYHEM Contest. You have a 222 hour long contest window, but you can only use up to a max of 24 hours of on the air operating time. Some of you may be old enough to remember the old classic Novice Roundup. This is very similar to that.</p> <p>Reason we have this wide open time frame, is several reasons. But mainly three.</p> <p><u>1- A Strategy Component.</u> You can not just "Get On" and do a marathon and make as many contacts as possible. You need to think, When is my "BEST" time to get on? Like I need multipliers in Europe. What time and what band will give me the best chance to have propagation into Europe. To grab these needed multipliers?</p> <p><u>2- This is the main reason.</u> Simply "TIME" The number one reason we hear for someone NOT to do any particular contest is "TIME" Some as simple as "I work on weekends." To "I can't commit to take a whole weekend just to do something on the radio. I have other things I must do on the</p>

Documentation to:
logs@w9et.com

weekends." Many just can not dedicate a whole weekend to just being on the radio.

3- Physical Limitations.

Most contests are the kind that now days yeah a LOT of us are getting older, and we just can not physically do many of the contests now. The days of doing a 48 hour long CQWW something, or even a 24 hour long Sweepstakes, It is just not physically possible. This is a reason that so many of these newer sprint contest that have come around lately are so popular! Anyone can sit down and do one of the hour long sprints. And most are able to put in the "B.I.C." time needed to do like many of the State QSO parties where they are only six hours long or so.

MAIDENHEAD MAYHEM, is giving you 222 Hours of time to use up your 24 hours of operating time. You can operate in as many short runs as you need.
And take off times as needed also.

OBJECTIVE: For amateurs around the world to contact as many other amateurs in as many Maidenhead Grid Fields as possible.

No explanation necessary.

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10

No explanation necessary.

Suggested Frequencies:

BAND	CW	SSB	RTTY
160	1805 & UP	1850 & UP	1835 & UP

These are only suggested frequencies to start on.
Adjust as needed up or down

80	3570 & DOWN	3805 & UP	3590 & DOWN	depending on Band conditions and QRM.
40	7045 & UP	7180 & UP	7080 & UP	
20	14055 & DOWN	14240 & UP	14080 & UP	
15	21060 & DOWN	21280 & UP	21080 & UP	
10	28060 & DOWN	28380 & UP	28080 & UP	
Other digital modes, use the best frequency for each mode.				
<u>Modes:</u> CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK31, PSK63, FT4, FT8				No explanation necessary.
<u>Power Levels:</u> Only 2 levels QRP- 5 Watts or less, and Full Power- 100 watts max				No explanation necessary.
<u>Entry Class:</u> Veteran and Rookie				A Veteran is anyone that has been contesting for over two years. A Rookie is anyone that has been contesting less than two years.
<u>Contest Exchange:</u> First two digits of your Maidenhead Grid Square				Such as "EN" "FM" "IO".
<u>Mode Points:</u> QSO points given Per Mode Type Per Contact. CW= 3 Points, SSB= 2 Points, ALL Digital Modes= 1 Point RTTY, PSK31, PSK63, FT4, FT8, are all digital modes.				Many may question the reasoning behind the point value for each mode. Our reasoning for each is more or less based on how either difficult, or how much personal dedication was needed to be able to use the particular mode. <u>Digital:</u> The reason we give this mode only 1 point is, well honestly, and we are not picking on these modes now, but from own personal experiences, as well as like at Field Day, where we can

take someone from the street that has never been in front of a radio, and with like 5 minutes of instruction, they are making Digital contacts at a rate of 75% of a seasoned skilled veteran Operator.

SSB: 2 Points, Simply because it is a little harder than the digital modes to make a contact. For beginners the Mic shy is a tough thing to get over, and many of you that have helped again new people to get on the air, the ability to tune in a SSB signal is a skill that takes time and dedication to learn, to be able to do it quickly in a contesting environment. How many of you have sat and watched a new person tuning in a SSB signal? It is almost painful! :-) And even after taking literally minutes to tune in one signal, most of the time it i still not tuned in as it should be. It IS a skill that takes practice to learn.

CW: There is a simple reason for the most points 3. To be able to do CW at any level of a competitive rate, It easily took months if not actually years to get to be able to do CW at a good rate in a contest. A LOT of dedication for sure!

QSO Dupes: You can work each station on each band AND each mode.
Three Modes, CW, Phone, Digital.
So if you do all six bands, and all three modes,

Dupes: No explanation necessary.

you could work each station up to 18 times.

Multipliers:

Each multiplier is the first two digits of the maidenhead grid square.

Such as "EN" "FM" "IO".

Multipliers:

Just like the QSO's, you can earn each grid square on each band AND each mode.

So again each multiplier can be earned up to 18 times.

This means there are a total possible of 5832 Multipliers!!!

Difficulty Factor: This is one of the new things in this contest that has never been in any other contest before. This "DF" rewards you with more points for making contacts that are more difficult to make.

Difficulty Factor:This is something you have never seen before.

At first glance it may be hard to understand, but once you understand it, it is really simple. This part of the contest rewards you with a HIGHER QSO point value for making contacts that are typically because of the nature of average propagation a contact would typically be harder to make. Here is how it works.

First this example is for the bands 160/80/40 Meters.

Example you are in Grid "EN"

You make a Contact with another station also in Grid "EN"

To apply the "Difficulty Factor", you take the QSO point value of the contact,

1, 2 or 3 points, and Multiply that QSO point(s) by the "Difficulty Factor"

Being in the Same grid the factor is X1. So the final point value for this contact is still the same as the QSO point value.

Next example you are still in "EN" and you make a contact with any grid that "Touches" "EN" IE: "DO, EO, FO, FN, FM, EM, DM, DN" These

grids have a "Difficulty Factor" of X2. Because they are typically harder to make a contact into those areas than it is into grid "EN" So take the QSO point value of the contact 1, 2, or 3, and apply the X2 "Difficulty Factor" And the final point value of this QSO is double the QSO point Value.

Next example you are still in "EN" and you make a contact with any grid that is beyond grids "EN, DO, EO, FO, FN, FM, EM, DM, DN" outside this more or less circle. These grids have a "Difficulty Factor" of X3. Because they are typically harder to make a contact into those areas than it is into all the closer in grids. So take the QSO point value of the contact, again 1, 2, or 3 QSO Points, and apply the X3 "Difficulty Factor" And the final point value of this QSO is triple the QSO point Value.

Now the Upper three bands 20/15/10 things are slightly different. It works the same way as above. But the "Difficulty Factor" multiplication values are different.

Say your Grid is still "EN", A contact that is, "EN" to "EN" on these bands is the hardest to make. So the Factor is X3

"EN" to "DO, EO, FO, FN, FM, EM, DM, DN" Those grids that touch "EN" Is the easiest to make so factor of X1.

"EN" to any grid beyond these

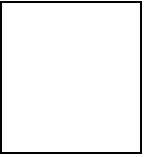
	<p>above has the factor of X2.</p> <p>Of course all these grids are different if you are in any grid other than "EN"</p> <p>The Key is your "HOME GRID", Grids Touching your Home Grid, all other grids.</p>
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<p><u>Spotting:</u> Spotting is allowed to be used. And Encouraged! Spot stations that you contact when doing Search & Pounce, will earn you again 500 Bonus points! Most loggers can be set up to automatically spot these S&P Stations for you. Even self spotting is legal to be used. (But will not count towards bonus points)</p> <p>We have even added a small web page to spot yourself. Spots placed here will NOT go out to the spotting network. You must visit this site to see any spots made there. http://qsopartyhub.com/maidenhead-mayhem-spots.php</p>	<p><u>Spotting:</u> Since digital and CW signals all get automatically spotted by the beacon network, we feel it only fair to let SSB signals get spotted by self spotting. We also HIGHLY encourage people that are in Search and pounce mode, to have their logger activated that it automatically spots any contacts made.</p>
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<p><u>Bonus Points:</u> Contact any of these "Bonus Stations" listed here and earn 500 points for each time you contact them. "Dupe" rules apply.</p>	<p><u>Bonus Stations:</u> W9ET, KF9VV, WB9SBD</p>
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<p><u>Online Scoreboard:</u> Having your Logger send your live status during the contest to the online scoreboard server, you will earn 500 Bonus Points.</p>	<p><u>Verification:</u> To earn these bonus points you must prove you had the scoreboard running by sending a screen grab showing your station listed in the display.</p>
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Western Il. Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 3132
Quincy, IL 62305-3132



February meeting: Wednesday, February 1,
2023. 7 pm.
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

Analog repeater W9AWE/R on 147.630/030 Tone Rx and Tx 103.5

Analog repeater W9AWE/R on 146.340/940 Tone Rx and Tx 123.0

Analog and Fusion repeater W9AWE/R on 448.900/443.900 Tone Rx and Tx 103.5

Analog and Fusion repeater W9AWE on 147.795/147.195 Tone Rx and Tx 103.5

All repeaters are located on the north side of Quincy IL

ILLINOIS QSO PARTY

Newsletter input due by the 20th of the preceding month

Editor Jim Funk N9JF

n9jf@arrl.net