
THE FEEDLINE

Volume 47, Issue 4 The Voice of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club April 2023

Comments from the President

Personally, it's been a difficult past few weeks. As some of you know, I have a number of hams in my family. Three of my six brothers-in-law are hams. My wife, son-in-law, grandson, and several nieces and nephews are also hams. The family lost the youngest of my wife's brothers, Bobby N4UPX, on February 20th. He was 54. He will be greatly missed. N4UPX was the callsign of my late father-in-law. Bobby took the call after his dad's passing, and Bobby's son, Dalton N4ADS, will after a brief period, apply for his dad's call sign. The FCC does give priority assignment for a callsign of a deceased family member.

Bobby's son, N4ADS, and two of his brothers K4RWS, K4WL and I went out in early March and activated three Virginia parks in honor of Bobby. Bobby was seriously into POTA. These activations were on two different days and resulted in the first ever POTA activations for both K4WL and K4RWS.

On a lighter note, it's antenna season. Short term plans at my place, as previously mentioned, are for a 5 element LFA 6 meter beam on a small tower attached to the garage. Long range plans over the summer and into the fall [okay or maybe next year] call for adding a 3rd element to my WARC beam and raising it another 10 ft to at least peek over the roof of the house. Additionally I "hope" to install an elevated 40 meter vertical, an 80 meter loop, and a 160 meter inverted L. That's a lot of wire. Thankfully, except for the extra element on the WARC beam, I have most of the stuff for all this "somewhere" in the garage and two sheds. Finding all this will be challenging and like my own personal Easter egg hunt.

POTA activity certainly seems to be alive, active, and well in the club. Ed, W9US has mounted an all-out assault on Siloam Springs with 6 activations in the last month totaling 928 qsos making between 123 and 313 contacts per activation. I worked Ed at Siloam Springs from Virginia recently and he had an excellent signal. Chris NR9Q has been lighting up Cedar Glen Natural Area with 547 contacts in his last 3 visits and Sid Simpson [Bob Bangert Park] here in Quincy with 799 contacts in his last six activations. Chris is now the park QSO leader at Sid Simpson with 1090 QSO's qualifying him for the POTA "Kilo" award for that location.

The gates at Bob Bangert [Sid Simpson for POTA] have been closed but you are inside the park boundary parking off the road just outside the gate. The park should be open once again as of April 1st. Another local area on the POTA list is Fall Creek Overlook Natural Area. Fall Creek should also be open April 1st. While Fall Creek is an excellent location for propagation, the area, for reasons I can't explain, kind of gives me the creeps. It is remote and nobody seems to be around. Others have expressed this same feeling. Nevertheless.... an excellent location for radio. Get out there!

Most of you have probably been to eham.net. Just in case some of our new hams and members have not been to this website it is packed with valuable resources. One of

the useful sections is the reviews. At eham.net click on "Community" then click on "Reviews". There are user reviews here for most any radio, antenna, amplifier, software, publication, and repair service related to ham radio.

That's it for this month. Hopefully we will soon be announcing a club outing at a local park for a time of fun, fellowship and some radio operating.

73, Ken WM4D

Moved and Seconded: Minutes of the March 2023 WIARC meeting:

The March 2023 meeting of the Western Illinois ARC was held on March 1, 2023 at the American Red Cross office in Quincy. The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Vice President W9WE with the following members and guests present: W9WE, NR9Q, W9DP, KA9VIM, W9US, WA9AGC, K9AJC, KD9VUW, WB9EWM, KE0MHJ, KE0ZVT, KB9GIY, WA0VHI, K9VXD, WB2UFO, KB9FIN, W9MDB, KA0SNL, KE5TTU, KD0DKE, KD9PPJ, AB9DU. (Zoom – None present)

Minutes of the February 2023 meeting were approved as printed in *The Feedline* on a motion by WB9EWM seconded by KB9FIN and carried.

Treasurer's Report by K9VXD: Reported income of \$754.09 and \$309.00 in expenditures. Total for 50 members have paid their dues so far this year. Treasurer's report approved on a motion by KB9FIN seconded by WB9EWM motion carried.

Repeater Board report: Long SQL tail reported on 443.900 repeater and seems to still exist. WB9EWM stated he did make it out reset this repeater.

Station Committee report: WA9GBC has received his Red Cross access card. The others are working on theirs. Amanda made it in during our radio display and just checked in to see how we were doing. Stated she was still working on the rest of the access issues. Invited us to their monthly meeting on the first Thursday of each month. This meeting starts at 5:30pm. Snacks at 5pm. Was wanting to see more of an amateur radio showing.

Contest Committee report: No report. Some talk of various POTA activations during the past month.

VEC report: Next testing session will be on 06May23 here in Quincy. Hannibal will hold their next testing session on 12April23. Rex, KE0MHJ stated Macon, MO will hold a testing session on 12Mar23. Phil, KB9GIY received his VE examiner badge.

Old Business: (nothing reported)

New Business:

Radio display before regular business meeting. A total of 19 radios, several HT's, and numerous other accessories were on display. This activity seemed to be very well received and enjoyed by many. Thanks so much to the individuals that took the time to carry in all this radio gear. If you have any further ideas for activities or events for the

club, please bring these ideas forward. There are some in the works currently and hope to have more information out soon.

Danny, W9DP brought up the idea of a club membership chairman. This would be for helping with print membership cards, keeping track of current members, reaching out to members past due on membership dues. No motion was made. Was tabled until next meeting when Ken was back to a regular business meeting.

Donation of two 10Mhz reference oscillators was made by Mike, W9MDB. One device is GPS disciplined and the other is oscillator based. A motion was made by NR9Q to accept both as donation to the club. Was seconded by KD9VUW. Motion carried.

Andy, KA0SNL has paper copies of the application for membership and VE testing registration. Some edits may be made to these as needed, but Andy is working to get these up on the club website in digital form. Individuals interested in the club in the future will be able to register for VE testing or apply for membership to the club. KA0SNL and NR9Q have spoken some getting club website setup for payment of membership dues. Hope to have something like this in place before dues are time next year.

Application for Membership: Jeff, KF0LLN had an application for membership in. Motion to accept Jeff's membership was made by W9DP and seconded by WA9GBC.

NCS: Mar 15 W9WE, Mar 22 NR9Q, Mar 29 WB9EWM, Apr 5 W9DP, Apr 12 KD9PPJ, Apr 19 NR9Q, Apr 26 W9WE, May 03 W9DP

Motion to adjourn meeting by KB9FIN, seconded by WB9EWM, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm local.

(Minutes provided by NR9Q in absence of Secretary....thanks, Chris!)

VE Report: FCC LICENSE □ INFORMATION:

We're going to assist Hannibal Club with testing on the 12th of April. That session starts after the meeting which is at 7:00 p.m.

Testing information for Hannibal Club at new location.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!!

Hannibal updates:.....

Hannibal Club is now meeting at the Marion County Ambulance District Administrative Offices at 142 Jaycee Drive. To get to the facility, go South on McMasters Ave (RT61) to the intersection of Clinic Rd (immediate right past Wendy's). Turn Right onto Clinic Rd and the second right (after the frontage road) is Communication Drive. Turn right onto Communication Drive and continue straight on Communication which then turns into Jaycee Dr. The Admin center is on the right at the top of the hill. We will meet in the Training Room.

SCHEDULED FCC VE TEST DATES FOR YEAR OF 2023 DATES FOR 2023:

April 12, 2023
July 12, 2023
October 11, 2023

Pre-registration is suggested at least 72 hours prior to the exams by contacting Larry Lauer (573) 406-0383 or by e-mail at Larry@alauer.com Check with Larry Lauer a few days before the exams to reconfirm the date, time and place of the exams. Please let me know also if you are testing::
W9WE

Rules Changes Announced for 2023 ARRL Field Day



A new 500 W peak envelope power (PEP) transmitter output category has been introduced for Class A, B, and C stations only. Changes to the Get on the Air (GOTA) station scoring have also been made this year. Contacts made from the GOTA station are worth 5 points, regardless of mode, with no limit to the number of contacts that can be made. Stations can earn a GOTA Coach bonus of 100 points for having a coach supervise at least 10 of the contacts made and logged at the GOTA station.

In addition, changes have been made to the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) section list. The Maritime (MAR) Section has been eliminated, making New Brunswick (NB) and Nova Scotia (NS) individual sections. The Greater Toronto Area section has been renamed Golden Horseshoe (GS) and Northern Territories has been renamed Territories (TER). Participants should make sure their logging software has been updated to reflect these changes. For a complete list of ARRL/RAC Sections, see <https://contests.arrl.org/contestmultipliers.php?a=wve>.

ARRL Field Day will be held on June 24 - 25, 2023. For more information and complete rules, visit <https://www.arrl.org/field-day>.

DX News gleefully and shamelessly purloined from *ARRL DX News*:

DX Bulletin 11 ARLD011 From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT March 16, 2023
To all radio amateurs

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by AA3B, KK9A, The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

RWANDA, 9X. A large group of operators will be QRV as 9X5RU near Kigali from March 22 to April 7. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8 with several stations. This includes being active in Satellite QO-100. QSL via LoTW.

SABLE ISLAND, CY0. A group of operators will be QRV as CY0S from March 20 to 30. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters, including 60 meters and 2 meter EME, using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8 with three stations active. QSL via WA4DAN.

CAPE VERDE, D4. Luca, HB9OBD is QRV as D44KIT from Sal Island, IOTA AF-086, until April 5. Activity is holiday style on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via EB7DX.

EGYPT, SU. Ahmed, 9K2QA is QRV as SU9GA from Cairo. He is active on 80 to 10 meters. QSL via 9K2QA.

CANADA, VE. Pierre, VE3KTB is QRV as VY0ERC from Eureka station on Ellesmere Island, IOTA NA-008, until April 13. Activity is in his spare time on 20 to 12 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8, and possibly on some of the FM Satellites. QSL via M0OXO.

Please see March QST, page 71, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest web sites for details NNNN /EX

Parks on the Air Update for WIARC

There has been a lot of park activity within the membership in the last month. Most of it was NOT mine, though I did manage to get my “Worked All States” from POTA (using DC as the “wild card” ...no AK yet.) I added a couple of activated states (TX and AR) to my list. Now up to 33....

Here are the updated totals as of March 20!

W9DP	1 activation of 1 park (Danny, we need to get out more. 😊)	737 parks worked
NU7J	88 activations of 63 parks, (Not much change....too busy spoiling his new grandson!)	1939 parks worked
W9US	11 activations of 5 parks (Racking up the SSB contacts at Siloam Springs!)	355 parks worked
NR9Q	18 activations of 7 parks (Fast becoming “Mr Sid Simpson” with over a thousand SSB Qs)	516 parks worked
AA9GL		89 parks worked
KB9FIN	19 activations of 18 parks	1016 parks worked
KM9DX	49 activations of 25 parks (Still the #1 activator at Siloam Springs...yes, I know, it’s not a contest...)	206 parks worked
WM4D	52 activations of 28 parks	135 parks worked
N9JF	377 activations of 218 parks	882 parks worked
K9AJC	33 activations of 20 parks	1761 parks worked

(“Mr. Wakonda”)

KW9Q	19 activations of 12 parks	455 parks worked
KO0KER		5 parks worked
WG0ATS	5 activations of 2 parks	139 parks worked
W9MDB		180 parks worked
NI9M		19 parks worked
KB0V		69 parks worked
KA0SNL		4 parks worked
KD9TTB	4 activations of 3 parks	73 parks worked

(new activator...congratulations!

I may be missing some of the newer members. Please let me know!!
I'm looking forward to the opening of Fall Creek Overlook. April 1? April 15???

I also need to call your attention to the “other program”: World Wide Flora and Fauna, (WWFF) which is more of an international program but with over 6000 references in the USA, many of which are within easy driving distance. Some of these are the same parks as the POTA program, though some of those have different numbers. You will be very popular with those program participants if you also send your logs for uploading to that program! All you have to do is send the same .adi file you're already using for POTA and send them to the WWFF uploaders. I can furnish the e-mail addresses of those individuals, or you may send the logs to me (n9jf@arrl.net).

Activating and hunting parks has been a tremendous “kick in the pants” to hams worldwide. Some have gotten licensed in order to participate, others have upgraded and still others have learned (gasp) CW (gasp) in order to join the fun on that mode. What has park activity done for you? If you've gotten this far in this month's *The Feedline*, please send me an e-mail with your response!! De N9JF

From the *ARRL Club News* for March 21:

New ARRL Club Development Program

Amateur radio clubs across the country are led by many dedicated volunteers who often give more than their share to make the club successful. They are often asked to take on rolls that may or may not line up with their personal experience. ARRL is hoping to bridge that gap with its new Club Development Program. This program consists of a series of free webinars aimed at covering the various roles that exist in clubs. Subject-matter experts from across the country are volunteering their experience to help provide training. In today's ever-changing environment, just having someone review what each role entails can be a big help.

The first online seminar will take place on Thursday, March 30, at 7 PM Eastern time. All webinars will be recorded and made available in the [ARRL Learning Center](#). The first online seminar will concentrate on the role of Club Secretary. Future seminars will look

at the roles of Treasurers, Newsletter Editors, Public Information Officers, Webmasters, and others. The link to register for the webinar is below. Feel free to spread the word to others that may wish to attend.

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_AzCmCTdORruOmPu5gm2W_g

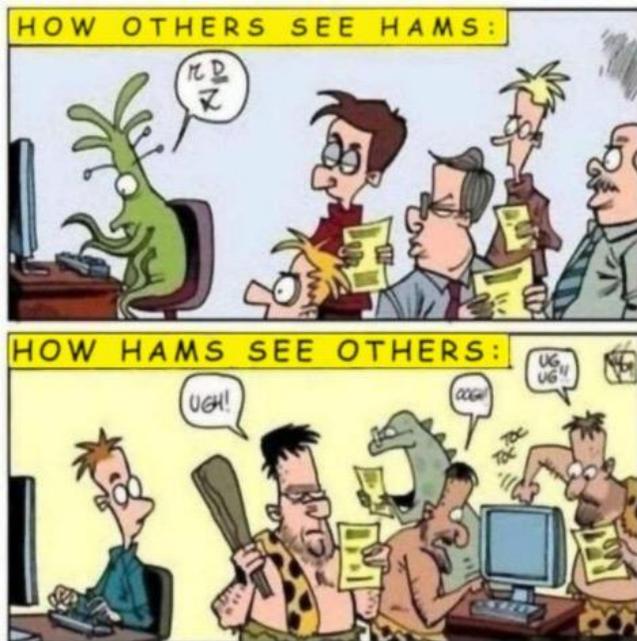
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

I've registered for the Secretary session. Will report how it goes.... N9JF

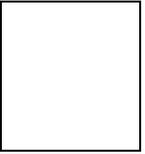
VOTA Update

The yearlong operating event recognizing volunteers continues to attract attention both online and on the bands. With favorable conditions and near-record turnouts for operating events, many hams are getting the chance to contact more and more ARRL volunteers. We encourage you to take a look at the [website](#) for the latest schedule and list of volunteer points. More information is being added as we go. W1AW/ stations are being activated each month, and this is your chance to contact as many as possible.

If you go to the website, you can check your "score". So far, W9DP has 2282 points, NR9Q 2409, WM4D 634, K9AJC 1246, KM9DX 1819, AA9GL 438, KB9FIN 1139, KW9Q 1130, N9JF 940.



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



April meeting: Wednesday, April 5.
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

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