



# Hamgram

*Newsletter of the Winona Amateur Radio Club, Inc.*

*-- When All Else Fails...AMATEUR RADIO --*

*February 2015*

[www.w0ne.org](http://www.w0ne.org)

## February Program - Feb. 19

**WHAT:** February Club Program: The Winona Amateur Radio Club has been very busy so far this year, and the January program will review highlights of several recent activities such as support of the Winona County Historical Society's museum open house, results of the MN QSO Party contest and the current ham radio license preparation course. Future events will also be touched upon—offering the Boy Scout Radio merit badge at the March Gamehaven Merit Badge Fair, and status of improvements to club equipment and capability.

**DATE & Time:** Thursday, February 19, 2015 -- 7:00 PM

**WHO:** All amateur radio operators and other interested persons are encouraged to attend.

**WHERE:** Conference Room B, Winona County Office Building, 202 West 2nd Street, Winona, MN. Doors will be unlocked from 6:45 to 7:15 PM. If you are late, please try the 146.835 repeater to have someone let you in.



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# Great Special Event Station Supporting Winona County Historical Society—W1N

The club did a bang-up job of supporting the Historical Society's open house again this year. It was a special open house for them in a way—100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of construction of the Armory building, 80 year anniversary



of the Historical Society, and 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the new Laird Norton addition. The club made it a special event also—with the callsign W1N operating from two

locations, one at the Armory museum and one at the home of Matt KF0Q.

Results were excellent. According to Erik WB0NIU and Matt KF0Q, almost 200 QSOs were made. The count was about equally split between the two locations. The Armory operation utilized the club's IC-718 HF transceiver and G5RV antenna mounted outside.

In addition, TV station WXOW of La Crosse happened to be covering the open house and they produced a feature story of the W1N operation. Click [here](#) to see the clip they aired. Good job, all!

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## *Got Your 2015 Dues In Yet??? Now's the Time*

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*Membership dues for 2015 continue to be \$25 per individual, \$30 for family, and \$5 for students up to the age of 18 years.*

*Payment may be made by cash or check:*

- 1. Club breakfasts,*
  - 2. Club monthly program, or*
  - 3. Check by mail to Winona ARC, ATTN: Treasurer, PO Box 1264, Winona, MN 55987 or directly to Harro Hohenner at 55 Lois Lane, Winona, MN 55987.*
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## **Looks Like a Great Technician Class Licensing Course This Year**

**The Tech Class course got underway on Manday, Feb. 9 at WSU's Watkins Hall. The course, coordinated by Paul K0ZYV and Melanie KD0NTM, has a number of WSU students this year plus six participants from the general public. The number of WSU students is not firm yet due to some extenuating circumstances, but it is at least four and may grow to over ten. Sorry,...no pics yet.**

**VE-conducted license testing is planned for Monday, April 2. More to follow.**

# New MNQP Record for the Club Station in 2015!

By Matt Burt, KF0Q

Hi all,



First of all thanks for your interest and participation for the MNQP 2015. I thought everything went well and appreciate your effort. We had an all time high number of ops this year (9 I believe) which is just great!

I finished going through the log and here is what we accomplished:

44 states	52 MN counties
4 provinces	1 DX
...for a 101 multiplier.	

There were about 4 busted calls and 2 dupes which were removed from the log which left us with 295 QSOs. After the math our score this year is 59,590 pts [well above the 55,212 pts for 2014].

This is an all time high score for Winona County for a multiop station. So good news there... (pse keep in mind however that many single op stations kicked our butts..)



That's just the way it works and as I have said before the only competition that we compete in is to better our score from the previous year which has been done every year so far...

So – Congrats on our effort, especially ops KB0YJU, KC9IWE, KC0RSX, KD0YOB, KD0YSY, KF0Q, W0IH, WB0NIU, and WK0W.



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Minutes of the February meeting of the Board were not available at the time of the publication of this Hamgram. However, below are the minutes of the January meeting, which became available after publication of the Jan. Hamgram.

Minutes of WARC Board Meeting held on January 12, 2015 at Darrel Kruger Library, Winona State University.

Present: Matt(KF0Q), John (K2OPT), Lance (KB0YJU) , Syed (AC0VA), , Paul (K0ZYV), Erik (WB0NIU), Harro (KG6RLM), Dan (WK0W), Les (K0BADS), Len (KC0RSX)

Call to order by Paul at around 7 PM.

Agenda
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1.Minutes of Last Meeting</li><li>2.Treasurer Report</li><li>3.Officer Selection</li><li>4.Matt's Item</li><li>5.Club equipment location update</li><li>6.Trailer Update</li><li>7.P.O. Box use and Key</li><li>8.Club Dues Notification</li><li>9.Participation in the MN QSO Party February 7<sup>th</sup></li><li>10.Important dates for activities such as N2B and ARRL Field Day</li><li>11.5. Committee Reports</li><li>12.6. Other Items</li></ol>
Paul called the Meeting around 7 PM.
Minutes of last Meeting were sent earlier. Minutes of Last Meeting were approved.
Treasurer Reports
Treasurer Matt was present during this Meeting and Treasurer report was approved.

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## Officer Selection

The following persons either volunteered or were nominated for the officer positions.

Erik - Trustee

Paul Schumacher - President

Lance – Vice President

Syed – Secretary

Harro – Treasurer

Les put forward a motion to approve above persons for the respective positions and the motion was approved unanimous. Lance mentioned to Harro that he also has signing authority for the bank in case it is needed.

## Matt's Agenda and Special Events

Matt had the floor next to discuss his agenda.

Matt informed that he has the club HF station. Between Les and Matt, they have many of the club equipment. Matt told that Banners/some cables /club G5RV and few other stuff is at knitting mills. Club vertical and beams are at Matt' house. On the trailer issue les mentioned Matt (KDOYSY ) and Bob (KCOIWE) is working with KwikTrip about getting trailer donated to club. Matt has the information that KwikTrip is very receptive to club's need and Matt mentioned we might even request two trailer, one to store and one to use for operations. On Erik's query Matt mentioned that trailer sizes are 16'x7' (Standard Sizes). Dan asked about the insurance cost for the trailers. Dan/Harro mentioned Trailer insurance should not be that high based on what they pay for theirs.

Regarding Post Office Box Matt mentioned Claire has sold his company. Matt had a key of the Post Office Box and he provided the key to Harro. This post office box is shared with other entities. Erik asked how much would it cost for the club to own Post Office Box. Paul does not think it is terribly expensive. Erik also mentioned if we are sharing with Jim Jarvis, our mail should be safe. Len mentioned it is wise to communicate with Jim and find out the status. Lance agreed to send an email

Matt has a excel spread sheet on paid/unpaid dues of the club members. Board members agreed that list of members that did not pay dues should not be sent to all members. Members should be individually notified. Len is going to follow up on

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the list and remind members that did not pay to pay the membership dues.

Erik mentioned that this year is the 100 year Anniversary of Armory Building where the Historical Society is now located. Historical Society is having their usual Open House on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Members realized Weekend of 8<sup>th</sup> February is very busy Weekend with other events planned. Historical Society has offered us Special Event Station by the door upstairs where club did participate two years ago. Matt mentioned Erik should help with the Special Event Call Sign. Matt then continued that he also is planning a special event on February 8<sup>th</sup> and emphasized that this is not a competition but same call sign can be used for both occasions. Only club Trustee should be OK with having same Call Sign in two different places. Matt mentioned it will be same Special Event but operating in two separate places. Both can be operated at the same time and does not necessarily have to be separate bands. Matt would like to operate under W1N if that is available. Len and Matt mentioned once the call sign is approved, they are publicized in QRZ and ARRL Website. Erik will work to reserve the call sign and provide details about the upcoming Special Event.

Matt mentioned Saturday February 7 will be MNQSO party at his house. It will be same call sign for all these events. Matt mentioned he needs volunteers for his special events. Matt will have three setups – two on the air. Board then discussed rest of the activities planned for the year. Len proposed July 11 and July 12 for Shakespeare Festival Special Event (N2B) which was promptly approved.

Matt mentioned he will be very busy during Field Day and he might not be that much available this year. Also City is planning major construction near last year's field day site and that site might not be good place. Alternate place for field day should be explored and if it is in city limits, permission from Port Authority will be needed. Paul asked about the Stone Point Site and Matt answered there is noise issue there.

Regarding JOTA, we need to make commitment if club would like to participate Matt said. There is deadline.

Les then made a proposal to participate in Route 66 Type event and that involves several Radio Stations and Kiwanis club. The event has to be coordinated between Kiwanis club and Radio club. The event will connect with various communities in the country. If Radio Club is interested, Les is willing to do the legwork. Les will take the issue to Kiwanis Club as it is the 100 year Anniversary of Kiwanis Club. This could be one time thing or we can do every year. Board members then discussed logistics behind such an event and Len is willing to discuss with Les further. Board approved Les move further

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and talk to Kiwanis about an Amateur Radio Special Event.

### **Committee Reports**

Erik mentioned 100 Hz tone on the 640 Repeater will be turned on this summer. Lance mentioned 440 Repeater Operation is intermittent. Some days it works and some days do not.

Erik is also working on additional software to run Cross Band. Erik will update Board later.

Les is working on MESH and talked about MESH network little bit.

Dan was next:

Dan updated Board with the latest on Witoka Tower. Dan shared an email from Michael Peterson (Winona County) to Dan whereby Michael explained his opinion/issues on the pending Agreement. Michael is working with county Attorney to sort out the issues. Dan mentioned Tower Agreement is pending but club has good relation with Michael and Sheriff and that is in Club' favor. Also there is issue of insurance amount club need to have to work on the Tower. Dan asked Board to look into if insurance amount could be increased to 1.5 million. Lance mentioned we should look into upgrading to 2 million as WSU activities require that amount insurance. Len mentioned we are now in an ARRL package. Les will look into insurance issue and see what would cost to increase the insurance amount.

Next Dan discussed about County Inspection Report of Witoka Tower. Dan also mentioned Jim and Claire did visit the tower sits and Jim found significant issues with the Tower. County also did the Tower Inspection. Dan does not have all the details but he was informed that couple of them are emergency type repairs. Paul things lights and guy wires were major issues for sure. Dan mentioned Mike Peterson is trying to find fund to fix the tower and that is win for the club. One serious issue is insulation is falling off the wires and that is hazard.

Dan also mentioned he had few opportunities to talk to new County Sheriff and Sheriff is in full support of our club and he is willing to work with us and support us.

Dan also talked about RaDAR event this spring that is coming from Bob Seaquist. RaDAR stands for Rapid Deployment of Amateur Radio. If anyone is interested Dan will pursue and it is kind of backpacking/hiking event. Paul mentioned Club always gets positive feedback when we participate in these kinds of activities.



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Other thing Dan mentioned is that Club got very good positive PR from the APRS exercise with SOAR team. Now according to Mike, Dive and Rescue team also wants to do an exercise with Radio Club. Dan thinks it is good thing to have an exercise with Dive and Rescue. Dan things it will be in spring as it is planned in River. Dan will work on this and report later on the progress.

Dan mentioned there is upcoming opportunity to become SKYWARN trainer as National Weather Service is conducting training session. Dan also attending recertification course on February 4<sup>th</sup> in Mankato. There are other training sessions also. Dan has the details.

Club discussed committees. Len has details on the committee. Len will send the Committee Chairman list to Jim Brown and also will publish on the reflector.

Paul mentioned plans for upcoming classes for licenses. Len would like to have the information so he can publicize it. Lance also asked if we can advertise in Community Education.

Len discussed Merit Badge Fare to be held on March 21. Len is working on the details.

Paul asked about Special Event on 65 Flood. Les remembers people that were involved in 65 People. Paul remembers working during 65 Flood and shared few memories. Matt mentioned call sign for 65 Flood Special Event will be secured along with other special events coming up.

Meeting was then adjourned.

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**The Winona Amateur Radio Club, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 1264, Winona, MN 55987-7264**

**Executive Board**

President: Paul Schumacher, KØZYV      Vice President: Lance Tagliapietra, KBØYJU  
[pschumacher@winona.edu](mailto:pschumacher@winona.edu)      [lancetag@hbci.com](mailto:lancetag@hbci.com)

Secretary: Syed Faruque, ACØVA      Treasurer: Harro Hohenner KG6RLM  
[sfaruque@yahoo.com](mailto:sfaruque@yahoo.com)      [Harro@hohenner.com](mailto:Harro@hohenner.com)

Custodian: Erik Brom, WBØNIU      Members: Dan Goltz WK0W  
[ewbrom@hbci.com](mailto:ewbrom@hbci.com)      Leslie Hittner K0BAD

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Dues: \$25.00 per calendar year per license holder.  
\$30.00 per calendar year for all licensed members of the same family within the same household.  
Dues should be sent to: Harro Hohenner, Treasurer, P.O. Box 1264, Winona, MN 55987

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Board meetings are announced in advance (WEPNet).

Monthly club programs are held on the third Thursday. The submission deadline for the **Hamgram** is Wednesday of the week *prior* to that of the club programs.

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