

Hamgram

February 2017

Winona Amateur Radio Club
Winona, Minnesota



Mike Foerster, WØIH, left, operates WØNE for the MnQP; Dan Goltz, WKØW, logs.

The score may not total 2016's 101,760 points but the Winona Amateur Radio Club's entry in the Nineteenth Annual Minnesota QSO Party Feb. 4, was fun and full of activity.

The Minnesota Wireless Association cooked up another great event and Cathie Steinhoff, KC9ZEZ, cooked and baked great eats for the activity. It is Ham radio, after all.

Paul, ADØUU, and Sue Degallier, NØWYL, graciously opened their Garvin Heights home and heated garage for a comfortable operating location on what was a cherry day on-the-air. Event Chair Lance

Tagliapietra, ADØUT, has not computed and submitted the results yet, but "I would anticipate our score to be approximately 70,000 points," he said.

"We had a great crew, especially for starting before 7 a.m. to setup antennas," noted Mike Foerster, WØIH. Russ Marsolek, NØQK, loaned his Yaesu FT-991 and Skip Green, K7YOO, loaned his Kenwood TS-480. Degallier didn't have any HF antennas so participants set up two different antennas, a 20 through 6 m portable adjustable dipole, set on 20m on a 22' pole and an EFHW (End Fed Half Wave dipole) for 40m.

Unfortunately, there was not an antenna for 80 meters where the club could have picked up more multipliers for the Minnesota counties. There were many contacts throughout the morning and afternoon though, but things really tapered off around 5 p.m. Antennas were dismantled a little after 5. The 20m dipole was Foerster's new portable 20-6 dipole, built from the May 2016 QST article using two MFJ 17 ft extendable whips. This makes a full 1/2 wave dipole on any band, 20 through 6m. An added connector allows two inductors so it can work on 40M as well.

(Ed. Note) WØNE was noticeable for its presence on 40 and 20 meters, one of a handful of Minnesota stations heard amid the clamor of the Vermont QSO Party and the YL/OM Contest. Many Minnesota stations were heard out here in the dry, warm Southern Utah desert, but they were all search and pounce.

Participants included: Paul and Sue Degallier; Peter Ebertowski, KDØYOB; Foerster; Dan Goltz, WKØW; Claire Jarvis, KØNY; Steinhoff; Tagliapietra; and Tom Wilmot, WØMK.

NØJP honored for NCS work Feb. 25

There will be a special recognition For Ken Spittler, NØJP, 8 a.m. Sat. Feb. 25, at the Winona Family Restaurant. *(This is an out-of-sequence breakfast)* Winona Amateur Radio Club members are encouraged to attend and see Spittler receive a commendation for 47 years of being a Net Control for the Minnesota Section Net. Section Manager Skip Jackson, KSØJ, and Robert Meyer, WØLAW, Section Traffic Manager for Minnesota, and other dignitaries will make the presentation for NØJP's years of service on the traffic nets.

Wis QP coming

Put Sunday, March 12, on your calendar as the beginning of Daylight Saving Time and, of course, the Wisconsin QSO Party. It's a short, fun, run from 1 p.m. – 8 p.m. and another great opportunity to get on the air, hone skills and have a great time. The casual style makes for a non-threatening introduction for new comers and a time to renew on-air acquaintances for old-timers.



Gather your old dusty gear, or prepare to acquire some new, dusty gear Aug. 5, at the **Riverland Amateur Radio Club Swapfest**. It will be at the same location, the Onalaska Omni Center, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Those wanting to reserve a table may do so now by contacting Greg Miller, 608 792-7841 or k9lec@arrl.net

Club program on Droid APRS

Club members have worked with APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System created by Bob Bruninga, WB4APR) and now Dale Cohenour, KEØEKD will demonstrate APRSdroid an App for Android smartphones for the Winona Amateur Radio Club's Feb. 16 meeting. This is of interest as a backup APRS or an inexpensive method to use APRS. It can be utilized with just an Android smartphone through WIFI or phone data network and by direct (AFSK) interface to a vox capable radio or TNC. This could be for club events to enable operators to beacon their position and keep track of others on the cell phone map display.

The monthly club meeting is 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 16, at the Winona County Office Building, 202 West Third St., Winona. The monthly program is open to the public.



Ham radio can show it's modern face in a historical setting this Sunday when members of the Winona Amateur Radio club participate in the Winona County History Center open house. The event, at 160 Johnson St, Winona runs from noon–4 p.m. It is free and open to the public. Club members have successfully demonstrated amateur radio at this event in the past.

Midwinter Madness

The 35th Annual Midwinter Madness Hobby Electronics Show will be 8 a.m.-noon, Sat. March 25, at the Buffalo Civic Center in Buffalo, MN. Admission is \$8. There will be QSL card checking for ARRL awards, VE testing (Advance registration to mwmve@k0ltc.org) and door prizes including a \$300 Radio City gift certificate.

More MnQP fun

Images by Paul Degallier, AD0UU



Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT, left, and Tom Wilmot, WØMKN, prepare antennas for MnQP.



Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT, left, Clair Jarvis, KØNY, and Peter Ebertowski, KDØYOB tally points for the QSO party entry.



That's Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM, working with Mike Foerster, WØIH, on antennas at the club's Witoka site. ARRL members are invited to submit entries for the 2017 QST Antenna Design Competition. There are three categories: 160 meters; 80 through 10 meters, or 6 meters and higher bands. Complete rules are on the ARRL website.

Things to do for new operators

If you're considering putting in your first tower this spring or summer, it's not too early to begin the project. As a large station investment, first steps include determining your goals, and having a good idea of the antennas you'll be putting up. Amateur Radio towers may be regulated by building codes, homeowner associations, or CC&Rs. It's best to understand what you can and can't do before you start. Talk with other Amateurs in your radio club, use radio club resources, the ARRL website and [resources](#), and [tower-specific mailing lists](#). Always verify information to make sure it's current and applicable to your situation.

Hams needed for endurance run

Masters of the Ham radio craft are needed by the Zumbro Endurance Run Friday-Saturday, April 7-8. The event begins Friday morning for the 100-mile (yes, one-hundred miles) run; 50 milers start at midnight. The course in the Zumbro Bottoms State Forest near Wabasha, consists rugged trail gravel roads and some "significant" climbs. Ham volunteers are needed at the start and three aid stations. It is billed as a great exercise in Ham radio and Hams are needed as the difficult terrain eliminates most cell signals.

For more information contact Brendan Johnson brendan@wizardsnow.com

WØNE Repeaters

146.640 PL 100.0 Hz *

146.835 PL 131.8 Hz **

444.225 PL 100.0Hz FM Voice C4FM Digital *

442.150, 100 Hz. FM Voice C4FM Digital *

SkyWarn Net when activated.

** Sunday Night Net—8:30 p.m.

Winona Amateur Radio club meetings are 7 p.m., third Thursday of the month at the Winona County Office Building, 202 West Third St., Winona. The monthly program is open to the public.

Winona Amateur Radio Club, Inc. P.O. Box 1451, Winona, MN 55987

President: Paul Schumacher, KØZYV, pschumacher@winona.edu

Vice President: Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT, lancetag@hbc.com

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Secretary: Syed Faruque, ACØVA, sfaruque@yahoo.com

Custodian: Erik Brom, WBØNIU, ewbrom@hbc.com

At Large: Dan Goltz, WKØW; Mike Foerster, WØIH

Dues: \$25 per calendar year per license holder. \$30 per calendar year for all licensed members of the same family within the same household.

Send dues to: Treasurer, P.O. Box 1451, Winona, MN 55987

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