



# Hamgram

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

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

*May 2015*

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

## May Program - May 21

**WHAT:** May Club Program: *Getting Started in Ham Radio* is an overview of strategies for new hams and people interested in getting into ham radio without breaking the bank. It includes practical tips and resources which help simplify the seemingly complex. In addition, this month's program will include a talk by Mike Peterson of the Winona County Emergency Management Department. The club's relationship with this key agency is at the core of our role in providing emergency communications backup, so it will be an interesting talk. A review of current and upcoming club projects and activities is also planned. There will be a brief social period after the program.

**DATE & Time:** Thursday, May 21, 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.



## *Operating Activities Committee*

*Are you interested in working on the club's many operating activities—Field Day, special event stations, club contest stations or other activities? If you would like to help plan and coordinate these fun and interesting activities, please contact Lance, KB0YJU, the operating activities committee chair. This is a great opportunity to learn about amateur radio operations and help members of the club enjoy our hobby.*

## **TRINONA 2015 IS COMING!**

*On June 6-7, Winona will be the place to be for triathlon enthusiasts from the Midwest—and beyond. The TRINONA has garnered a reputation for being a tough, fun event—whether people come for the International Course or the shorter Sprint Course.*

*The Winona ARC is again providing communications support for the bicycle portion of the courses (24.85 miles for International; 11.0 miles for Sprint) on Sunday, the 7th. If you would be interested in being part of the crew, please contact Lance, KB0YJU, to get on the operator's list. Our support is important to the welfare of participants—particularly in the bicycle portion of the course where cell phone coverage can be spotty or where steep grades and curves can be risky.*

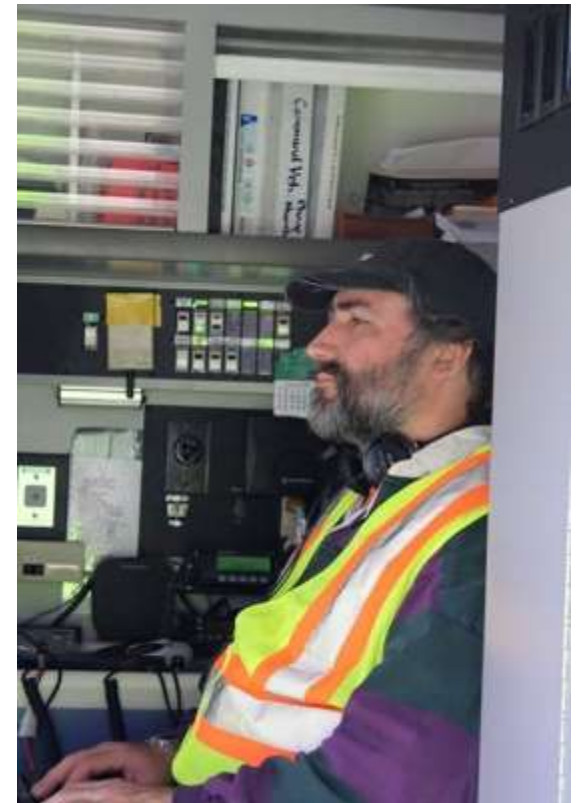
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## Winona ARC Asked to Assist With Wabasha County Cold Case Crime

WARC members have been asked to assist Winona County SOAR and Dive Rescue, who have in turn been requested by the Wabasha County Sheriff's department, to conduct a search for the body of a presumed murder victim several years ago. The prime suspect in the case, the subject's boyfriend, committed suicide after the subject had gone missing, and the case went cold.

Apparently new evidence has surfaced prompting the Wabasha County Sheriff to believe a new search is warranted.

The dates are May 30 and 31. If you are interested in participating on either or both days, please let Dan, WK0W, know. Wabasha County will need the number of search participants to plan the logistics of the multiagency search. More details will be given as Dan receives them.



Lance, KB0UJY, manning the Winona County SOAR van during the recent Dresbach search and recovery event.

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**Minutes of WARC Board Meeting held on May 4, 2015 at Watkins Hall, Winona State University.  
Present: Lance (KB0YJU), Syed (AC0VA), Paul (K0ZYV), Dan (WK0W), Les (K0BAD), Eric(WB0NIU)  
Call to order by Paul at around 7 PM.**

<b>Agenda</b>
<b>0. Minutes</b> <b>1. Treasurer Report</b> <b>2. Committee Reports</b> <b>3. Summer Picnic</b> <b>4. Other Items</b>  <b>Paul called the Meeting to order around 7 PM.</b>
<b>Minutes</b>
Minutes of last Meeting were on hand. Lance motioned to approve the April Minutes. Paul asked if any correction was necessary. Board members then took a bit time to go through the Minutes. Other than a minor correction of extra “comma”, no other suggestions for change was made. Minutes were then approved.
<b>Treasurer Reports</b>
Treasurer Report was on hand to discuss and approve. Treasurer Report was approved.
<b>Summer Picnic</b>
Lance motioned to allocate up to \$100.00 and also to authorize Picnic Committee to find a location for Summer Picnic (to be held on 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of July). Les mentioned he will not be in town for the Summer Picnic. Syed asked Paul if he gets any discount when he books the Lions Shelter by Winona Lake (Paul being a Lions member). Paul answered that being a Lion member does not give discounted price. Paul mentioned he used to get free bookings but no more. Syed will look more and also will talk to Ken and then finalize a place for Summer Picnic. All will be duly notified. Lance’s motion was approved with one opposed (Les).

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## Operating Activity Committee

Paul mentioned Matt is no longer available for Operating Activities Committee. Lance is taking over the activities. Matt is helping Lance and Lance got the checklist from Matt for Operating Activities. Syed mentioned we should try to get new Hams to participate more in the club. Paul will try to get more people join Operating Activity Committee.

## Public Service Committee

Dan's report from Public Service Committee was next and follows:

Les and Dan visited Witoka Tower site to take some measurement for the upcoming work to be done on the Tower. Winona County Emergency Management has not been able to visit county storage to determine if there is any surplus VHF Antenna there.

Several WARC members participated in the search for 10 y/o boy drowned in the Mississippi River several years ago. No new evidence was found. Benefit of that was contact with other area agencies and collaboration work. There were few issues with simplex frequency as it was a wide search area. At one point, Lance was so far out of simplex range that one LaCrosse ham was used as relay for communication.

Winona amateurs have also been asked to participate in a cold case murder search in Wabasha County on May 30 and 31. We have been asked to support Winona County SOAR and Dive Rescue who will be assisting the search in Wabasha. Dan raised the question if we are to continue doing this sort of stuff as request to participate is increasing and we are short of people. On the other hand Dan think this sort of participation makes us difference from others. Dan will try to line up people to support this search effort. Dan thinks this search will bring about challenge of communication with different counties with different 800 MHz system. This will test the interoperability of different system in different counties. Dan mentioned during the Nuclear Disaster Drill, Winona County Radios did not work with Wabasha County Radios. Roger from Wabasha will co-ordinate Wabasha area hams and work with Wabasha Search Group. Winona hams will work with Winona Search Group. Dan is looking forward to see how everything works between the counties.

There is also another drill planned with Dive and Rescue with APRS. Date has not been set for the drill.

Les investigated pulley system planned for Witoka Tower with less corrosion. Les shared his findings.

Dan got an email from Mike Peterson today about planned Witoka Tower work tentative to start as early as next Week. Mike mentioned WARC could contact the Tower company and have the work done at the same time. Mike provided Dan with Company name and contact phone number. Dan hopes to get decent pricing for our part of the job. Dan suggested we order new Antennas for

the Witoka Tower. Lance agreed. Les might make a trip this Friday to Radio City in the Cities to get all stuff if available. Dan had reservation about putting up used Antennas. Les will look for the Antennas and other needed stuff for the Witoka Tower. Dan mentioned Mike will be happy to setup portable Tower for field day. Lance already talked to Sheriff about the Trailer and Trailer will be available for Field day. Dan thinks site for Field Day could be the same place as last year. There is some construction going on nearby but the site is not affected. Dan brought the idea of Remote Receiver in Wisconsin when putting equipment on Witoka Tower. That will make it very powerful VHF station. Lance asked if it would be possible to request Mike to do a short presentation on County Radios during the upcoming General Club Meeting. Lance had difficulty operating the Radios during last drill. Lance mentioned Len also is scheduled to present "Intro to New Hams" during the club meeting. Dan will talk to Mike and see if he is available for short or long presentation.

Finally Dan mentioned his hope that we will have all equipment procured and ready before Tower Climbers come to work on Witoka Tower.

#### **Other Items**

Lance attended Organizational Meeting of Trinona today and we are supporting Trinona on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Lance did send out solicitation email a Week ago. Everybody volunteering for Trinona needs to go to Website and registrar as Volunteer. Lance will email the information to all volunteers. The Trinona operation will be same as last year with the exception of route adjustment on the bottom of Garvin Heights. There were always issues there as cyclist turning to climb and cyclists coming straight were on a collision course. Syed mentioned he is happy to see our concerns were heard. Lance mentioned roads will not be closed for Trinona. Lance expecting seven to eleven operators to participate for Trinona. Les mentioned there is really no need for ham in Dive and Rescue boat. Lance mentioned he might put someone in Crossing of Highway 43 instead. There have been issues there. Lance is also working on Field Day. Lance plans to send someone to Port Authority Meeting to get the Field Day Site approved. Lance asked Dan to bring the communication vests for Trinona.

Eric mentioned we still have two boxes and mast at Historical Society. Eric talked about shortening the Mast (10 feet section) for better manipulation. Eric mentioned we seldom put up all 10 feet section anyway.

Les updated on the work he is doing on the Repeaters. Les described all the repeaters Club has and also club is awaiting Yaesu Fusion Repeater. Les asked the question, how of many of these club will need. He suggests selling some of the equipment and elaborated a plan to sell some. Les is also willing to donate some of his equipment to club only if they are put to good use. Many of club's equipment are at Les's garage which must need to be vacated. Les suggested a garage sale and that we advertise in LaCrosse to attract hams from there. Les will make his garage available for garage sale as many of the equipment for sale are there. Since Les is leaving, there is very short window of time left to make this garage sale happen.

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Paul mentioned the equipment rack is empty and for the club is ready for taking. Dan has a vehicle that will fit the rack. Rack will be moved to Witoka tower. An email will be sent out for help to move the rack. Meeting was then adjourned and everybody went to look at the rack.

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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@hbc.com](mailto:lancetag@hbc.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@hbc.com](mailto:ewbrom@hbc.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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25567 Miner Valley Road - Winona, MN 55987 or email to: [KCORSX@arrr.net](mailto:KCORSX@arrr.net)

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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