

# Hamgram

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Newsletter of the Winona Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
-- When All Else Fails...AMATEUR RADIO --

November 2012

# NOVEMBER PROGRAM - NOV 15

<u>WHAT:</u> Review of 2012 club activities, planning for 2013, election of board members (open by rotation), and other items on semi-annual club meeting agenda. Also final planning for the club's participation in the ARRL Sweepstakes contest on Nov. 17-18. If you have agenda items for the meeting, please contact one of the Board members (see last page).

There will be a social period after the program.

DATE: Thursday, November 15, 2012 TIME: 7:00 PM

WHERE: VFW Post 1287, 208 East Third Street--between Market and Franklin Streets.

#### Follow up to Jeff Kirkey's October Program

Hello WARC Members, As promised at the recent meeting, from my presentation here is the link for the <u>online FEMA Independent Study program</u>. Thanks again for allowing me to share and participate in your meeting.

Jeff Kirkey, Emergency Management Coordinator, Winona County

#### **UPCOMING CLUB ACTIVITIES**

- Semi-Annual Membership Meeting & Election for Open Board Positions Thursday, November 15.
- ARRL Sweeps (Phone) Club Contest Station, November 17-19.
- VE testing session Monday, November 19.

## K9P Trempealeau NWR Special Event Saturday, October 20, 2012

Ham radio is fun...as evidenced by the great day at Trempealeau on Saturday, October 20—lots of QSOs, food, and talk with our friends of the Riverland ARC.

There were also some visitors "just for the fun of it" such as Bruce N9WNX and his daughter from De Soto, WI (see pic right). With the assistance of John K2OPT, She made contacts on several of the rigs in operation that day.

Roger is a student in the club's General Class licensing course which is wrapping up next week.



And this year in Trempealeau—a special treat. We were joined by two Wisconsin Boy Scout troops for Jamboree-on the-Air. They had an opportunity to talk with hams and other scouts in the USA, Canada, and Mexico. They really seemed to enjoy talking with the Boy Scout troop in Winnipeg. The picture shows Bob KC9IWE getting the show rolling with a few of the boys from one of the troops.



#### LICENSE TESTING IN WINONA – MONDAY, NOV. 19, 2012

Know anyone who would like to obtain their amateur radio license—or upgrade? Monday, November 19 would be a good opportunity:

DATE: Monday, November 19, 2012

TIME: 7:00 PM CST.

<u>PLACE</u>: Winona State University, Watkins Hall Room 105, King and Winona Streets, Winona, MN.

<u>COST</u>: \$15.00 per person for the test session.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Monday, November 12. Advance registration and payment is required in order to ensure a place in the testing session.

One exam each for one or more license classes is included in session fee. Persons who do not pass a particular license class exam on the first attempt may make a second attempt for an additional \$15.00 if they so wish.

Please register in advance with Len Litvan, KC0RSX, by sending a \$15.00 check made out to Winona Amateur Radio Club to 25567 Miner Valley Road, Winona, MN 55987. Please phone (507) 643-7526 for more information.

#### **Room for Improvement -- JOTA 2012**

The club's first attempt to work with the Gamehaven Council of the BSA to provide a JPTA experience for local scouts in several years certainly was a learning experience. Participation at the two home stations made available for JOTA on the afternoon of Sunday, October 21, was just one scout in total. He made many QSOs and had plenty of fun, but we wish that more scouts had participated.

There were two scout adults at each of the sites also. They were impressed with amateur radio through their exposure to JOTA on Sunday. So we are expecting their enthusiasm to help with better visibility and participation next year.

Based on discussions with Scout adults, the hams manning the home JOTA stations, and Bob KC9IWE in La Crosse (who got two troops to the K9P operations in Trempealeau on the 20<sup>th</sup>), there are at least three considerations for the future:

1. We need to begin working with the council much earlier in the year in order to become a more integral part of their scheduling and communications. While our interest in

sponsoring a station for JOTA 2012 was made known to the Scout organization early in 2012, it wasn't until late in Summer that action started. And there may have been a communications breakdown which contributed to low turnout.

- 2. Sunday afternoon is not the best time to get participation by troops or individual scout families ". It seems that family activities, NFL games, and other activities on Sundays suggest that a Saturday activity would work better.
- 3. A "special location" may be more attractive to scouts than home stations. Scouting is largely an outdoor activity, and a few inputs suggest that setting up portable in an outdoor location or lodge might be more attractive for a troop activity.

So we live and learn. Thanks to Matt KF0Q and Clare K0NY for making your home stations available and also to John K2OPT and Roger KI0F for being operators/assistants. By Len KC0RSX

Minutes of the November WARC Board Meeting were not available at the time the Hamgram was published due to postponement until Tuesday, Nov 1, because of availability of Board members. November board minutes will be published next month.

#### WARC to Operate a Club Station in the 2012 ARRL Sweepstakes (Phone)

This is a good contest for operators and aspiring operators of all skill levels. New operators are particularly encouraged to participate. The objective is for stations in the USA and Canada to make as many QSOs with other USA and Canadian stations as possible--including territories and possessions. Each QSO earns two points, with a multiplier for each ARRL or Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) section contacted (83 total for 2012 including new RAC sections).

A "clean sweep" means contacting all 83 sections and is highly sought after. In 2011, W0NE contacted all but one section (Puerto Rico) and had a total score of 32,074. I think we can do better this year--shooting for 40,000??? Maybe even a clean sweep!

The club station will be using callsign W0NE again this year and will be available for the maximum 24 hours out of the 30 hours duration of the contest.

The exchange will be: sequential "QSO #"; precedence "M" (multi-op low power); "W0NE"; Check "37" (year W0NE station first licensed); "MN".

We plan to be running Harro's ICOM linked to a PC using N1MM logging software. Antennas are the club's G5RV and Hustler HF vertical. Lance's Kenwood will be used for receive only to find needed sections and monitor propagation.

**Dates/Times:** Saturday, Nov. 17, 3:00 PM Local through Sunday, Nov. 18, 3:00 PM Local.

**Location:** Home of Lance KB0YJU, 1313 Wincrest drive, Winona. (Enter address in <a href="map">map</a> <a href="here">here</a>.)

#### **ARRL Sweeps Info:**

http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes

**Other Info:** Please bring your own headsets or earphones if you wish. Also, please bring some food/snacks or soft drinks if you can. If you plan to be at the station during suppertime on Saturday, please bring some cash to pitch in for pizza.

73, WARC Operating Activities Committee

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

#### **Executive Board**

President: Paul Schumacher, KØZYV

pschumacher@winona.edu

Secretary: Syed Faruque, ACØVA

sfaruque@yahoo.com

Custodian: Erik Brom, WBØNIU

ewbrom@hbci.com

Vice President: Lance Tagliapietra, KBØYJU

lancetag@hbci.com

Treasurer: Clare Jarvis, KØNY

Jarvis@jarviscomputer.com

Members: Reid Simmons K7YX &

Harro Hohenner KG6RLM

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: Clare Jarvis, Treasurer, P.O. Box 1264, Winona, MN 55987

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Editor: Len Litvan (KC0RSX)

Please address comments and *Hamgram* correspondence to: Len Litvan

25567 Miner Valley Road - Winona, MN 55987 or email to: KC0RSX@arrl.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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