

The Hamgram

August 2020



Club's Aug, 20 program

Ham hunts for flyer Amelia Earhart



On the morning of July 2, 1937, famed aviatrix Amelia Earhart and her navigator, Fred Noonan, took off from Lae, New Guinea, on one of the last legs in their historic attempt to circumnavigate the globe. Their next destination was Howland Island in the central Pacific Ocean, some 2,500 miles away. But Earhart never arrived. Despite a search-and-rescue mission of unprecedented scale, including ships and planes from the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard scouring some 250,000 square miles of ocean, they were never found.

The search continues today, some 83 years later and one of the searchers is Tom Vinson, NYØV. At the Winona Amateur Radio Club's Aug. 20 meeting he will talk about the search and how radio figures into finally finding the wreckage of Earhart's Lockheed Electra.

Vinson, fresh out of college, was asked by his employer to help solve a riddle that will take years or never to complete. That dream job for a ham was with the

Collins Radio Company, later Rockwell Collins, and the riddle was to assist Nauticos Corp. to find the wreckage of Amelia Earhart's Lockheed Electra L10E aircraft somewhere in the South Pacific.

Vinson's talk will be 7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 20, on the video conference app, Zoom. A link will be sent on the club e-mail reflector. If you would like to be included but do not subscribe to the reflector contact Paul Schumacher, KØZYV, at pschumacher@winona.edu





October 10, 2020

Waumandee, Wisconsin



The roar, and sometimes the nasal whine, of old automobiles traveling uphill at high speeds will echo in the hills near Waumandee, Wis.,

Saturday, Oct. 10, and members of the Winona Amateur Radio Club will be there. The Hams will have thumbs on push-to-talk buttons while the racers have their pedals to the metal.

This is very similar to the hill-climb we participated in two years ago. Our communication is critical to the operation of the event. The general idea is that the cars stage at the bottom of the hill. We transmit the starter countdown at the bottom of the hill to the timer who is at the top of the hill. Hams are stationed along the course monitoring cars and reporting emergencies. There also will be one Ham in a patrol vehicle monitoring racers as they return to the start to make sure they are not speeding!

The club now has a portable repeater so all stations, from top to bottom (plus the speed patrol), are connected.

Participation is open to all hams regardless of experience level or equipment availability. Let Erik Brom, WBØNIU,

ewbrom@hbc.com

know of your interest and if you have a VHF

handheld and/or extra batteries. Each Ham is provided with a huge goody bag loaded with snacks, water, and toilet paper plus a lunch plus a dinner!



It's time

It's time to see what your antenna, tower and other outdoor gear need so they will go all winter. Check connectors, coax, guys and the cloud-burning aluminum. Then fix them! Indoor radio use is just around the corner while the snow flies.

Instead of waiting for fall to do your outdoor antenna work, get it done in comfort now.

Aug. 20 meeting
 Aloha from Les, KØBAD, of Hilo, Hawaii. He is inviting us into his sunny shack for our August 20 meeting "Formula Shack." The meeting will be on Zoom at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20. (The address will be on the club's email reflector)

Changed mounting technology

Just as radio technology has evolved, so has the technology which can adhere your contest plaques, awards, and picture frames to your walls. You don't need to use wire and picture frame hooks any longer, and no hammering is necessary -- the state of the art for wall mounting is strong yet removable two-piece fasteners. One brand is "Command" brand strips by 3M. Items are repositionable once mounted, and to completely remove the fastener, the mounting strip is stretched and pulled without damage to the wall.

WARC Executive Board (unofficial minutes)

Wednesday, August 5, 2020, via Zoom

7:02 p.m. Attendees: Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT; Bob Seaquist, W9LSE; Paul Schumacher, KØZYV; Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM; Mike Foerster, WØIH; Dan Goltz, WKØW; Tom Wilmot, WØMK; Les Hittner, KØBAD.

Minutes: Bob Seaquist, W9LSE. Approved.

Treasurer's report: Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM. Approved.

Balance on July 1	\$4,093.52
Payments:	
Reimbursement to Dan Goltz for Field Day Shelters	\$86.48
Balance reported by bank	\$4,007.04
Paid members (2020)	40

Repeater Upgrade Project

Goal \$1,100.00 Total \$1,653.97 Balance \$753.97

Additional Donations for Field Day

Fuel for generator	\$60.00
Porta-potty rental	\$119.19

Tower: Mike Foerster, WØIH.

The ICOM IC-7300 at Witoka has had some problems transmitting correctly with low audio. A reboot of the RemoteHams application cured the problem. The application seems to have problems like this every once in a while. When there are problems please report them so we can get it resolved.

Triband Beam: The club's Classic '33 tri-band beam is awaiting help from Mike Cizek, WØVTT, to see if we can disassemble some of it to make it easier to transport.

Portable Repeater: The portable repeater, 146.64 duplexers and Ringo antenna from Witoka are working. There is about 12 watts out of the repeater, 7 watts without the duplexers and 5 watts to the antenna with duplexers and 50' of RG-213 coax. Coax is cut into useful 20' and 30' pieces. Erik Brom, WBØNIU, and I have been talking about the portable repeater's use at Waumandee.

Tower Work: Alan Romeis, KB9DRZ, the tower guy, is needed to remove the two splitters that were left after the original antenna installation, and replace the lower VHF antenna with the VHF/UHF antenna that the club purchased last year. We believe he will do the work in the near future.

Tower Weed Maintenance: I will weed whack and kill weeds in the near future. The hay (weeds?) was mowed at the tower. *Watch out for the chiggers!*

Insect Control: The insect strip at the tower was replaced. Without it, the flies get pretty bad. You can sometime even see them on the IC-7300 screen when you are viewing the display over the remote camera!

AC: The AC at the tower is working well.

PC Maintenance: Mike Cizek, WØVTT, is providing a 16 GB USB drive to create a "Recovery Drive" on the system in case the Windows installation is corrupted.

Program: Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT. The August program will be "The Search for Amelia Earhart," by Tom Vinson, NYØV. Formula Shack presentation by Les Hittner, KØBAD.

Public Service: Dan Goltz, WKØW. Due to Covid-19, all of the public service events that we would normally support have been cancelled, with the exception of the Waumandee Time Trials. This event is planned for Oct. 10 in Waumandee Wis. with an alternate weather date of Oct. 11. The event requires 12-15 operators to man multiple sites along a course from the bottom of the valley to the top of the bluff, just outside Waumandee. The event organizers have made modifications to the event to provide for safe participation in the face of the viral threat. This year we will be using the club portable repeater, and testing and placement of equipment will begin Aug. 15. Volunteers should contact Erik, WBØNIU for more information and to sign up to participate.

Walt Kelly KEØXI, and myself continue to attend virtual Winona County Emergency Management meetings. Winona County Emergency Management planned drills and exercises have been postponed indefinitely.

We sponsored a SKYWARN training session via Zoom July 13. We had 20 participants including our county emergency manager and his intern. Thanks to Paul KØZYV for providing the Zoom platform.

Repeaters: Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT. No work has been done since the last report. The '835 was reportedly noisy during the Aug. 2 WEPNET.

Adjourn: 7:20 p.m.

Why is Training Important?

- People are more likely to take shelter when there are credible reports of severe weather
- Spotter reports are a key ingredient in the process when forecasters are deciding on warnings
- Spotters need to be knowledgeable in and around storms, not only to make quality reports, but also for their own safety



THE WEATHER AND STORMS GO ON EVEN IF THERE'S A PANDEMIC SO THE WINONA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB CONDUCTED A SPECIAL STORM-SPOTTING CLASS IN JULY FOR THOSE WHO HAD MISSED PRESENTATIONS BY THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE. OURS WAS ON-LINE, VIA ZOOM, AND CONDUCTED BY DAN GOLTZ, WKØW.

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

WØNE Repeaters

146.640 PL 100.0 Hz *

146.835 PL 131.8 Hz ** FM Voice C4FM Digital

444.225 PL 100.0Hz FM Voice C4FM Digital

442.150 PL 100.0 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 on Zoom video conferencing. The monthly program is open to the public.



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

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

Treasurer: Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM, Harro@hohenner.com

Secretary: Bob Seaquist, W9LSE, seaquist.robe@eagle.uwlax.edu

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

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

Dues: \$30 per calendar year per license holder. \$35 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

The Hamgram is published monthly by The Winona Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Distribution is via e-mail and the WØNE.org Web site. Distribution to individual members by USPS is available upon request. Editor: Bob Seaquist, W9LSE. Address comments and Hamgram correspondence to: Bob Seaquist, 202 Zephyr Circle, La Crosse, Wis. 54601 or seaquist.robe@eagle.uwlax.edu 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.