

The Hamgram

March 2021



Dakota Division Director headlines March 18 meeting

One of the top 15 leaders of the ARRL—our leader of the ARRL—is the program host for the Winona Amateur Radio Club’s March 18 meeting, Bill Lippert, ACØW, Dakota Division Director of the league. He should be a familiar face to many as he’s attended many of Winona’s Zoom meetings.

The league is in transition with a new Chief Executive Officer, the third in five years, a changing world of communications and an aging membership. Lippert will provide an update on the league and its direction for amateurs.

In addition, Lippert is an active contest participant with many top-five contest finishes as well as numerous certificates and plaques. Currently he is the NAQP SSB Manager and the Minnesota Wireless Association President. Bill retired after 38 years working for Hormel Foods Corporation, managing the electrical engineering team for Hormel. Bill is licensed in several states as a Professional Electrical Engineer.

Among his employment projects were a couple projects protecting spam; he was responsible for was design and construction of two data centers, one designed to survive an EF2 tornado and the other data center designed to survive hit by EF4 tornado (200 mph winds) and remain fully functional.



ARRL DIVISION DIRECTOR BILL LIPPERT, ACØW IS MARCH 18 PROGRAM.

Lippert’s presentation will be 7 p.m., Thursday, March 18, on Zoom. From the Zoom app enter the meeting id number 3120290434 and the password WarcBoard when asked or go to [Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting now](#) and sign in. NOTE the password: WarcBoard

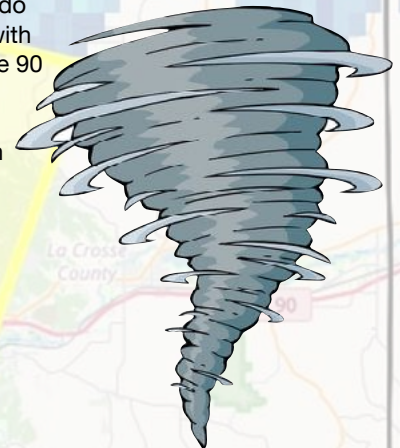
Storm spotter training

On the day this was written the National Weather Service predicted possible tornado activity. Be sure your storm knowledge is accurate. Refresh your storm knowledge with virtual storm spotter training offered by the NWS. Go on-line to register for one of the 90 minute sessions.

Schedule link: https://www.weather.gov/arx/skywarn_schedule

Storm spotters are encouraged to receive training at least every other year, though well-done presentations make annual training interesting.

- ★ March 16 - 6:30 p.m. CDT
- ★ March 22 - 10 a.m. CDT
- ★ April 1 - 1 p.m. CDT
- ★ April 7 - 6:30 p.m. CDT
- ★ April 15 - 10 a.m. CDT
- ★ April 20 - 6:30 p.m. CDT





NEXT

Field Day will be on the agenda and so will good, effective HF operating, as well as others, in future Winona Amateur Radio Club monthly programs. Presently the club meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month on Zoom.

The club's planning committee, meeting March 10, discussed various ideas for the club's future and settled on tentative programs through July. Possibilities include snippets about radio and electronic basics, managing a large scale public event and specifics on how to operate an Icom 7300 for Field Day.

The planning committee will meet next 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 14 on Zoom. All club members are welcome.

ARRL Field Day is closing in on us so planning for it is crucial if we are to have fun Sat-Sun, June 26-27. Here's what we know so far:

Location: Same as last year, "Granny's Farm," 18317 County Road 23, Minnesota City, MN 55959

Radios: Three Icom IC 7300s set up identically and able to operate SSB, CW and our elected digital mode.

Antennas: The club's 10-15-20 beam and dipoles including a 40M and an 80M. Maybe more. The sheriff's tower trailer too!

Peripherals: Two Winkeyers for CW; computers able to handle N1MM logging and the FT4 digital mode.

Accommodations: Three screen tents; maybe the sheriff's trailer in case of bad weather.

Food: To be determined though Mugby Junction quiche is a possibility as is a potluck picnic Saturday evening.

Operators: All club members

Cast a net

Every Sunday night at 8:30 p.m. on our '835 repeater someone acting as the Net Control Station (NCS) transmits "The purpose of this net is to practice net procedures and learn the principles of emergency communication and emergency preparedness." There are check-ins, sometimes a bit of club business and even some conversations but how well are members doing at net communication?

Here are some tips to be effective:

When you call first say "this is..." and unkey. Listen.

If no other station interrupts then give your call.

Speak clearly and give your call. Do not give it phonetically unless the net control requests it.

This is a "directed net" which means the NCS directs traffic. Nobody should interrupt without being recognized.

Listen. Listen. Listen.

If the NCS fails to come on at the appointed time then you should be prepared to run the net. Yes. You! The script is on the WONE Web site.

"Breakfast" on Zoom

Get back into the Saturday club breakfasts without the fear of Covid. The Winona Amateur Radio Club will meet 9 a.m. Saturdays on Zoom, <https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/3120290434> Pass: WarcBoard

Grounding and bonding

According to Ward Silver, NØAX, the "best time to do grounding and bonding work is before any equipment is installed." Starting with a clean slate, it's easier to define your protective zones and ensure all of your gear is within them.



Report precipitation

CoCoRaHS is an acronym for the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network. CoCoRaHS is a unique, non-profit, community-based network of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation (rain, hail and snow). By using low-cost measurement tools, stressing training and education, and utilizing an interactive Web-site, its aim is to provide the highest quality data for natural resource, education and research applications.

WARC Executive Board (unofficial minutes)

Wednesday, March 3, 2021, via Zoom



7:03 p.m.

Present: Paul Schumacher, KØZYV; Bob Seaquist, W9LSE; Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT; Clare Jarvis, KØNY; Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM; Tom Wilmot, WØMK; Marv Rodvold, AC9TO; Erik Brom, WBØNIU; Mike Foerster, WØIH.

Minutes: Bob Seaquist, W9LSE.

Treasurer's Report: Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM.

Balance on 1/31/2021 \$4,859.73

Deposits:

Dues \$35.00

Payments:

Donation to Central Lutheran Church from

Dr. William Davis Memorial \$100.00

Balance reported by bank \$4,859.73

Paid members (2021) 41

Donations

- Kenneth Spittler Memorial \$205.00
- William Davis Memorial Disbursed Feb 20 – \$100.00

Planning: Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT. Rescheduled for March 10.

The next club meeting, 7 p.m. March 18, will be Bill Lippert, ACØW. Bob will publicize on the reflector

Public Service: Dan Goltz, WKØW. We have not been notified about plans for Trinona or Ride the Ridges for this year. (WBØNIU *heard* the event would be held). The county has not given an update about a climber for the Witoka tower. Ben Klinger indicated he would request equipment he has access to for Field Day.

The National Weather Service in La Crosse will conduct Skywarn training on line this year. The schedule is:

March 11, 16, 22 April 1, 7, 15, 20

Full schedule/Registration links: [https://](https://www.weather.gov/arx/skywarn_schedule)

www.weather.gov/arx/skywarn_schedule

For your information, the statewide tornado drills will be:

- Minnesota and Wisconsin- April 15 (1:45 p.m., 6:45 p.m.)

Repeater: Erik Brom, WBØNIU. Everything seems to be working; UHF machines pretty quiet. Plan on checking batteries at the 835 and Ben Kuhn, KUØHN, will place a UPS at that site.

Witoka: Mike Foerster, WØIH. Planning to update firmware on the IC 7300.

Field Day: Paul Schumacher, KØZYV.

ARRL Field Day will be Sat-Sun, June 26-27

The location will be the same as last year, "Granny's Farm," 18317 County Road 23, Minnesota City, MN 55959

Radios will be the Icom IC 7300s borrowed from KØZYV, AC9TO and WKØW. The Witoka 7300 will be back up.

Marv and Paul will set up one of the radios right away so it will operate SSB, CW and our elected digital mode. Settings will be saved so they may be transferred to the other radios so all will operate identically. Clare is concerned, for instance, that he would be able to use his paddle.

We plan to operate 3A with each of the radios assigned to specific bands and antennas.

Antennas will include the club's 10-15-20 beam and a couple dipoles. WØIH and KG6RLM will build bandpass filters provided by KØZYV. KG6RLM also has a G5RV if it is needed. WØIH will built an 80M dipole and AC9TO will build 80M & 40M dipoles.

There is concern the club's computers cannot handle the N1MM logging software and the FT4 digital mode and still stay on time; ADØUT said he has a line on computers that will be able to run N1MM, FT4 digital mode and have an accurate time source. Ben KUØHN apparently has a good time source for the digital mode.

Power will be from the massive 30KW diesel generator provided by Jim Jarvis, KBØTHN.

One more tent is needed so AC9TO will shop for a deal, presumably Farm & Barn. Meanwhile, WKØW will be asked to request the Sheriff's trailer as a weather backup.

MOTION: Clare/Lance. *Approved. Budget up to \$280 for Field Day. That should accommodate purchase of another tent plus have a port-a-potty. (& food and beer)*

Possibly there will be a pot-luck picnic Saturday evening.

Adjourn 8 p.m.

Why Channel 37 Doesn't Exist

The Federal Communications Commission opened up the television system to use UHF in 1952 but there was a problem located in Danville, IL that was important enough to scientists that they didn't want to share it with anyone else. And that thing was a 400-foot-wide radio telescope, operating along the 610 MHz frequency. It was something of a monster of astronomy at the time, operating 12 to 16 hours per day, and researchers at the University of Illinois aimed to keep it that way.

Research that led to the the radio telescope was an accident—but a fundamental one that taught us more about the universe than we might have learned with a mere optical telescope. In 1931, a radio engineer and Bell Laboratories employee was trying to uncover the source of static that was interfering with radio waves ... and found its source at the center in the Milky Way galaxy.

To study the source, scientists needed to build a really big

parabolic cylinder for the area around the 610 MHz band.

The problem was the high popularity of TV made the bandwidth where the telescope operated, 608-614 MHz, a hot commodity. It was where channel 37 was supposed to go. Broadcasters wanted that channel!

Fortunately the telescope scientists had support of the global community.

Ultimately, channel 37 went completely unused in much of North America—with a handful of exceptions. Today, channel 37 technically can appear as an over-the-air digital channel, but it is a so-called "virtual channel."

The tale of channel 37 reflects one thing: Without resistance, a commercial use case will usurp a noncommercial use case for a given resource.

Think about this in other terms like the internet. Recently there was a conflict involving who owned the .org top-level domain, with commercial interests attempting to hone in on something intended to

support nonprofits. The reason it didn't happen, just like the Channel 37 saga, was because people in the world of nonprofits and technology came together to lobby against it.

Ultimately, in the case of channel 37, scientists were able to save a small sliver of what was mostly going to be otherwise used commercially.

Writers wanted

Share your radio experiences for the Hamgram.

Contact Bob, seaquist.robe@eagle.uwlax.edu



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.

** Sundav Niht 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; Clare Jarvis, KØNY

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.

