

# The Hamgram

July 2021



## FIELD DAY 2021



## Rain and great food

By Marv Rodvold, AC9TO with assistance by Mike Cizek, WØVTT

Three screen tents at Granny Brom's farm (property belonging to Erik Brom's, WBØNIU, family) were the scene for Winona Amateur Radio Club's Field Day outing June 26-27. We had a great turnout of folks to prepare though planning began in early May; required equipment acquisition was complete in early May (thank you everyone who donated/loaned your personal gear for Field Day use); and finally, Friday, June, 25, arrived much too soon. "Was everything ready...what did we forget?" and a small army of volunteers showed up to erect the antennas and tents, run the coax and power, and a plethora of small tasks that were required for a fun and successful Field Day less than 24 hours away! Bonus Friday activity: the club's recently acquired Porta-Potty arrived and prepared for use. (We are pretty sure we are the only ARRL club with our very own portable "facility!")

This year's field day tested our club's flexibility and recovery from unexpected issues. Unfortunately the huge generator generously provided by Jim Jarvis,

KBØTHN, decided to fail five minutes after start time. Scrambling for extension cords, we were back on the air within 15 minutes or so. We had to finish the Field Day activity using commercial power from the Brom farm well-house! All-in-all things went well. We did not have to dial 911 or transport anyone to the Doctor! THE FOOD WAS GREAT!! -Thank you, Keith Laken, KEØIJI.

We had a good turn out of folks and "better halves" that came to visit and share our Saturday evening pot luck with us. Also, several new Hams were able to operate HF and all were anxious to delve into HF and digital after Field Day. Justin McElmury, KFØBSI, made his first HF contacts and his first FT8 contacts and next-door



ARRL DAKOTA DIVISION  
DIRECTOR BILL LIPPERT,  
ACØW VISITED.

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## CLUB PICNIC THURSDAY, JULY 15

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**FIELD DAY, continued from page 1**

**KELLY SAUKE, KE1LYS, OPERATED 20M PHONE.**

neighbor Ralph Wehlage, WØKOD, dusted off his skills. We received a special visit from ARRL Dakota Division Director Bill Lippert, ACØW.

The numbers from Field day:

QSO's- 678; Multiplier 2X; Points 1190; Score: 2380; Bonus points 600; TOTAL 2980

Interesting analysis: 429 QSO's from 6 a.m. -1 p.m. second day; 249 QSO's from 1 p.m. Saturday to 5:59 a.m. Sunday. Startup issues, antenna and interference, and rain probably "dampened" the motivation and energy levels.

I hope everyone that attended enjoyed themselves and kept reasonably dry. Most facets of the event

went very well. I think the 10 folks that operated and other visitors who came to eat, watch, and learn all had a good time. As Hams we are always looking at ways to do things better and this year's Field Day left us with some thinking points of things to improve. For example, screen tents have screens on four sides...rain comes through screens! Tents use flies to keep dry inside. We will certainly work on a way to stay dry in our screen tents.

Those willing to brave the weather and participate in one way or another included: Erik Brom, WBØNIU; Mike Cizek, WØVTT; Mike Foerster, WØIH; Dan Goltz, WKØW; Nancy Goltz, NØNAN; Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM; Marianne Hohenner, KDØROD; Clare

Jarvis, KØNY; Jim Jarvis, KBØTHN; John Kowalik, K2OPT; Ben Kuhn, KUØHN; Keith Laken, KEØJI; Bill Lippert, ACØW; Justin McElmury, KFØBSI; Sam Resto, KFØACN; Marv Rodvold, AC9TO; Lee Schultz, AEØML; Kelly Sauke, KE1LYS; Bob Seaquist, W9LSE; Cathie Steinhoff, KC9ZEZ; Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT; and Ralph Wehlage, WØKOD.

Again, thank you all who attended, volunteered, and helped with setup and takedown. And Keith, can you take charge of the food again next year!?

## Packet again available

Packet radio boasts an impressive and long pedigree. It was developed in the early 1980s when home computers were just beginning to become popular. After some 40 years it has turned into a valuable emergency communications tool.

The Winona Amateur Radio Club is off to a good start with a packet station at our Witoka tower. Erik Brom, WBØNIU configured direwolf for connected mode packet on 145.030, and connected recently with Ken Weigel, W9GM, in La Crosse for a great keyboard to keyboard QSO. Weigel donated an Alinco radio to the club for packet use.

The digipeater at Witoka on 145.030 is WØNE-1, or alias WITOKA.

The node will be on the antenna at 300 feet, and APRS will return to its normal 50 foot level on 144.390. Long term we plan to add another channel on 145.670. 145.030 is primarily a Wisconsin network, and 145.670 is primarily a Minnesota network. The set-up will allow communication throughout Minnesota, Wisconsin and Upper Michigan.



## Picnic July 15

The July meeting of the Winona Amateur Radio Club will be a potluck picnic 6 p.m. Thursday, July 15, at Goodview Haven, 3655 W 6th St, Winona.

Bring a guest, a dish to pass, utensils, and an entree for yourself. A gas grill will be available.



## WARC Executive Board (unofficial minutes)

Wednesday, July 7, 2021, via Zoom

Attendees: Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT; Dan Goltz, WKØW; Russ Marsolek, NØQK; Paul Schumacher, KØZYV; Erik Brom, WBØNIU; Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM; Mike Foerster, WØIH; Bob Seaquist, W9LSE.

7:01 p.m. Called to order by Paul Schumacher, KØZYV

**Minutes:** Bob Seaquist, W9LSE

**Treasurer's Report:** Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM  
Balance on 5/31/2021 \$4,606.25  
Deposits:

Dues	\$30.00
Balance reported by bank	\$4,636.25
(Cash from Field Day)	\$59.00, plus IOU's
Paid members	49

**(Motion)** Dan/Lance. *That the catering cost for Field Day be totally covered by the club. (Unanimous)*

**Trustee:** Erik Brom, WBØNIU. WØIH will work on the portable repeater to assure it is working well. It is needed in September for Waumandee, maybe Ride the Ridges.

WBØNIU is planning for the Waumandee Hill Climb and Ride The Ridges. He will lead the Waumandee car event and be involved in Ride The Ridges planning with WKØW. WKØW has the Rotary Club's information; together they will check communications on new route.

There are eight 26Ah batteries ready for the 146.835 site. Keith Laken, KEØIJI, and Wayne Oliver, KØWLO, said they would help.

WBØNIU is reorganizing and setting up a duplexer for packet at Witoka. Having packet, a great emergency communications mode, is another reason for the club to use the Witoka tower.

**Storage:** Dan Goltz, WKØW. Russ Marsolek, NØQK has offered his 24' X 40' garage attic to store club items. WKØW will confer with NØQK about how much will be transferred there. NØQK wants gear in boxes or totes and have a manifest. He will provide

two keys to the club for access. Treasurer will keep a copy of the inventory.

**July Meeting:** Paul Schumacher, KØZYV. ADØUT, reserved July for the picnic. It will be a potluck at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 15, at Goodview Haven, 3655 W 6th St, Winona. ADØUT reported the August meeting will resume at the Winona County Office Building, 202 West Third St., Winona.

**Public Service:** Dan Goltz, WKØW. The county EOC is now open again, and Skywarn and other emergency operations will be conducted from there. Operations have been from there within the past couple weeks and equipment seems to be fully functional.

WBØNIU has been working with both Minnesota and Wisconsin groups to interface a packet system with them. The equipment is located at the Witoka tower. Preliminary testing has been very successful. This link will allow us to send text messages across Minnesota, Wisconsin and up to Upper Michigan, and give us access to the Winlink system for emergency traffic handling.

Russ Marsolek, NØQK, Walt Kelly, KEØXI, and WKØW will attend a SE Emergency Management Joint Powers Board communications exercise July 7. It included a weather emergency exercise with a tornado taking-out Lewiston.

There has been discussion regarding storage of club equipment and availability and rapid retrieval in case of emergency need. Equipment such as antennas, coax, extra radios, power supplies, the portable repeater etc., needs to be stored in a secure, weather protected, and accessible place.

**Linking Project:** Dan Goltz, WKØW. Les, KØBAD, will be in town for three months in the fall and has volunteered his riverside location as a link and internet source.

**Adjourn:** 7:48 p.m.



WXOW TV19 REPORTED ON THE WINONA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB'S FIELD DAY USING VIDEO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, OF ONE OF THE IC7300 RADIOS.



The Riverland Amateur Radio Club Swapfest is 8 a.m.–1 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 7 at the Onalaska American Legion, 731 Sand Lake Rd. Onalaska.



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 Nisht Net—8:30 p.m.

**We're back!!**

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.

President: Paul Schumacher, KØZYV, [pschumacher@winona.edu](mailto:pschumacher@winona.edu)

Vice President: Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT, [lancetag@hbc.com](mailto:lancetag@hbc.com)

Treasurer: Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM, [Harro@hohenner.com](mailto:Harro@hohenner.com)

Secretary: Bob Seaquist, W9LSE, [seaquist.robe@eagle.uwlax.edu](mailto:seaquist.robe@eagle.uwlax.edu)

Custodian: Erik Brom, WBØNIU, [ewbrom@hbc.com](mailto: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, W5735 Woodhollow Rd., Holmen, WI 54636 or [seaquist.robe@eagle.uwlax.edu](mailto: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.

