

The Hamgram

November 2021



Annual meeting Nov 18

Election and adventures

Get your popcorn, soft drinks and ballot pen for the November meeting of the Winona Amateur Radio Club, 7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 18, on Zoom. There will be an election for the executive board (see: "Board members sought") followed by features on building your own (cheap) J-Pole antenna, visit W1AW and more!



The monthly program is open to the public. (<https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/3120290434> Password: WarcBoard)

Board members sought

A seven member executive board conducts the business of the Winona Amateur Radio Club with three of the members elected annually. One member, the Trustee, is appointed. There is a nominating slate but nominations are solicited from the floor during the election.

A healthy organization requires members to step up and help with the nuts and bolts work. None of it is difficult and incumbents and others are happy to help new officers.

Skywarn Recognition at-home again

Soft, early December snow is a far cry from hailstones, ominous black clouds, torrential rain and howling winds, yet it is that first Saturday in December that that National Weather Service recognizes the hardy souls that venture out to let neighbors know about dangerous storms.

This year Skywarn Recognition Day is Sat. Dec. 4, a time when the weather service gets on-the-air to the amateurs that helped out during the storm season.

This year's event, like Skywarn Recognition in 2020, will be different. Normally many area Hams go to the La Crosse NWS office and operate. This year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, participation from NWS forecast offices will be minimal at best. The focus will shift to contacting as many SKYWARN trained spotters as possible during the event.

Radio amateurs who wish to participate may sign up for a SKYWARN Recognition Day number by completing the form found on the SRD 2020 website. During the event, operators are encouraged to exchange their name, QTH, SRD number, and current weather conditions with other participating stations. See the event website for the full operating guidelines.

Skywarn Recognition Day 2021 will be held from 0000 UTC to 2400 UTC Dec. 4.





DESPITE RAINY CONDITIONS AND COVID, FIELD DAY 2021 WAS A SUCCESS FOR THE WINONA CLUB AS MIKE CIZEK, WØVTT, LEFT, AND CLARE JARVIS, KØNY, RIGHT, TESTIFY.

Field Day 2021

Rain and COVID didn't halt FD success

Similar to last year, Field Day was unique because of the COVID pandemic restrictions on gathering. The Winona Amateur Radio Club aggregate score of 4,904 was posted in the December issue of ARRL's QST.

Ours and other groups around the US Canada and 13 DX entities demonstrated how they were able to adapt their pre-pandemic Field Day strategies to participate in this year's event.

Temporary rule waivers were extended to 2021, allowing home stations (Class D) to count their contacts with other Class D stations for points. Additionally, Class D and E stations were limited to 150W output this year.

There was an increase in the number of Class A (groups of three or more) in 2021 participation. Class D had the largest number of entrants comprising, with Class E, roughly 67% of total entries.

There were 5,979 entries and 26,698 reported participants.

The number of entries decreased from last year but participants increased. Compared to 2020, this year showed a decrease in the number of contacts reported. However, in comparison with 2019, this year showed a 31% increase.

Three screen tents at the Brom farm (property belonging to Erik Brom's, WBØNIU, family) were the scene for Winona Amateur Radio Club's Field Day outing June 26-27.

Get out there

This time of year a Ham's shack is a wonderful refuge from Upper Midwest weather; it also is the time for some super contests yet many Hams avoid contests like the plague.

These Hams should give contests a try, in part to compete, but also to improve their overall operating skills and best of all, to have fun!

Tuning up and down the dial during a contest sounds frightening. There's a drone of unfamiliar terms, rapid exchanges and operators that sound like they will chew you a 'new one' if you so much as utter a word.

But the world's top contesters, the ones with call-signs known everywhere, want you to give it a spin. Craig Thompson, K9CT, the owner of one of the world's biggest and best contest operations says he can't wait to talk with little old you on your wire antenna, IC 716 and your paper log.

You will not win, at least in points scored. You will find that you are heard and that you make contacts all over the place. You may even remain glued to your chair waaaaaay longer than you expected. You will notice you're much better at understanding calls, at breaking through pileups and just plain better at running your radio's features.

Then submit your log! And next year you'll find yourself submitting another, heftier log for a personal best. You may be surprised at how well you might do in a contest, even if your QSO count is low.

Afterwards

By Dennie Rybiecki, K9LGU

During debriefing do not criticize individuals only process, methods or procedures. Focus on what was done right.

Each criticism should include a recommendation. We're always trying to improve. Productive hotwash sessions can help. And for any debriefing, always bring an extra pair of briefs.

WARC Executive Board (unofficial minutes)

Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2021, via Zoom



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

Called to order: 7:02 p.m.

Minutes: Bob Seaquist, W9LSE

Treasurer's Report: Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM

Balance on 9/30/2021 \$4,418.13

Income: (Donations)

K7YOO (USB Mic) \$40.00

WB9UAE/WB9UAD (antenna) \$100.00

Expense:

Reimburse KØZYV for QTH.com \$59.40

Balance reported by bank \$4,558.13

Paid members 49

Election: Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT. The terms of Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM, Paul Schumacher, KØZYV, and Bob Seaquist, W9LSE, expire. All three said they would run for re-election. Other members are strongly encouraged to run for the board. They should indicate their interest to Lance. New faces are wanted and needed for a healthy club.

Public Service: Dan Goltz, WKØW. We did not plan any activity for the ARRL SET in October, as we had just completed two major public service events in September. There are no scheduled public service events for us for the rest of this year.

Work on the new Winona County Jail has begun. Dispatch, and the Emergency Management office will be moved. Currently, Emergency Management director Ben Klinger is preparing his office for the transition. The county owned amateur radio equipment will remain in place until it is necessary to move it. There is county owned amateur radio equipment that is not installed. This is available for our club use during public service events and emergency events, but will be stored in a different place during construction and the transition. Presently it is retrievable, but soon may be moved to a more secure area. We will be given access to it.

This will be an opportunity to inventory and arrange the equipment for rapid access.

Repeaters: Erik Brom, WBØNIU. There have been some issues with the 835 and Witoka repeaters. Will monitor.

Networking. No known progress

Witoka: Mike Foerster, WØIH. Ben Kuhn, KUØHN, donated an Off Center Fed Dipole which Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM, and I installed. I appreciate the help. We replaced some of the end ropes with some new nylon lines though we ran out of length. We put the ends of the ropes out into the field to get away from the tower.

The SWRs for this antenna aren't quite as good as the ZS6BKW antenna. The tuner works well finding a

match for the frequencies that I tried between 80 and 10M (didn't try 6M).

The tower lights are still not repaired.

Skip Greene, K7YOO, bought the USB Microphone that we were selling and the \$40 was placed in the club coffers.

Tim Jacobson, N9CD, was having problems with his radio, and I helped him troubleshoot it. It turned out to be a bad power supply. He is sending it in for warranty repair, so I loaned him the club's ICOM PS-125 from Witoka until he gets his repaired and returned.

Tim also donated a number of his books Quick, Practical Guide to DOING Ham Radio. They are all autographed copies. We can give them out to some of the newer hams, or 'wannabes'.

Award: The club has members that have given significant service and should be recognized.

MOTION: (W9LSE/KØNY) *the club president, vice-president and a board member at-large meet, accept nominations, and prepare an award to be presented at the holiday meeting. KØNY will serve as the at-large member.*

Adjourn: 7:36 p.m.



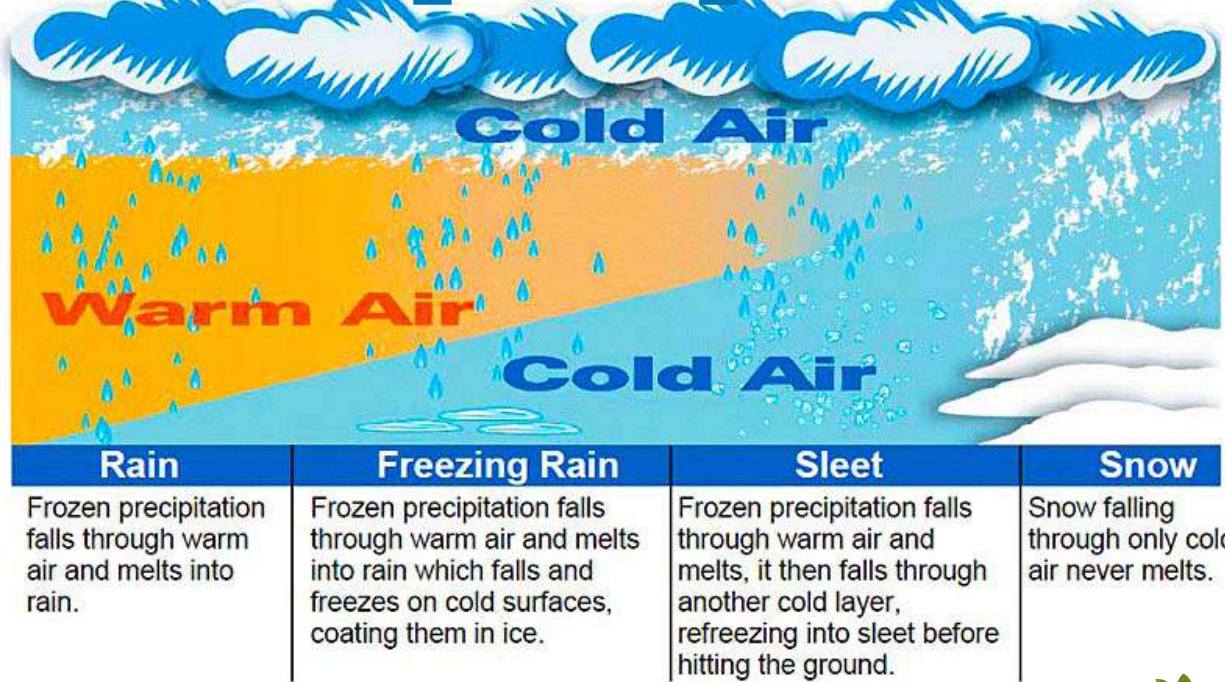
Radical development

Upton Snodsbury, UK—In a radical new development, Horace Blink, MY2EAR, has developed a new multi-band transceiver that can tune both upper and lower sidebands simultaneously.

Horace is shown in a local park demonstrating the device and the 360 degree rotatable platform on which it is built.

He said that the next step is finding a method to use it indoors as he has experienced numbness in his extremities during foul weather use.

Winter precipitation



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.

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. (<https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/3120290434>)
Password: WarcBoard)



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, W5735 Woodhollow Rd., Holmen, WI 54636 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.