

The Hamgram

September 2022



Ride The Ridges

Supporting the bikers

SAGS, APRS, Bloedow's, Trek and rests add up to another fun-filled day of biking and—of course—amateur radio supporting riders participating in the Winona Rotary Club's Ride The Ridges bicycle tour Saturday, Sept. 17. Winona Amateur Radio Club members will be in SAG vehicles, using APRS to track key ride components, eating Bloedow's donuts, watching over Trek (and other makes of bicycles) and manning rest areas. The ride's several hundred miles ranges over RF-adverse terrain so several types of communication modes will be used.

September 15 meeting may be in-person

The Winona Amateur Radio Club's Thursday, Sept. 15, meeting may be in-person! Watch the club reflector for last minute information. IF the meeting is in-person, it will be 7 p.m. at the Winona County Office Building, 202 West Third St., Winona. The monthly program is open to the public.



Waumandee Time Trials fun

An old MG Midget heads downhill on the 2021 road course of the Waumandee Time Trials. Communication for the Saturday, Sept. 24, event is provided by the Winona Amateur Radio Club. It is a time trial for vintage cars, trucks, and motorcycles. "Vintage" is 30 years old or older, so this year 1992 and older vehicles are allowed.

One at a time, vehicles attempt to go as



fast as they safely can 1.1 miles up County Road EE near Cochrane. This is a different course than prior years and fewer radio operators are needed to monitor the action. The area's sharp, difficult, Driftless terrain requires amateur radio for clear, consistent communication.



Ham laws

- * if it's free take it even if you're not even sure what it is
- * the most important part of a Ham's gear is antennas
- * the more aluminum in the air the better
- * Always blame propagation for your signal quality
- * It is "73," not seventy-threes. ("73" means "best regards" so saying 73s would be Best Regardses)
- * The best radio ever is the one you possess.
- * Anyone can assemble junk
- * Phonetics work best when they are conventional
- * Phonetics are not needed or useful on FM repeaters
- * You get what you pay for



Put on the shirt

A review of online Ham Radio reports and videos reveals the apparel of some operators in leaves a bit to be desired, shall we say, delicately.

Some groups just-plain turn away operators showing up in messy, dirty clothing; also those with draped with multiple lanyards, pagers, HTs and more.

When you are representing the club consider wearing a professional-appearing polo shirt with the club logo and pressed khaki pants.

- Wear clean, tidy clothing
- A polo (Club shirts are available for purchase)
- Khakis or good pants or shorts

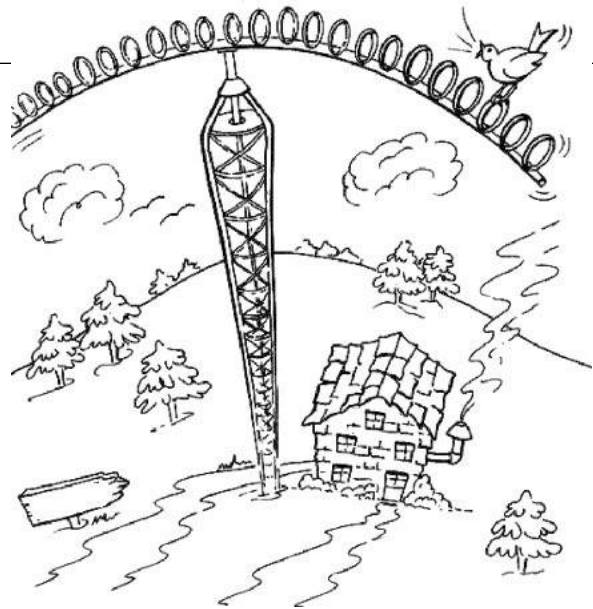
Rooster Ridge firmware updated

The Rooster Ridge repeater control codes were not always working as they should due to a bug in the Yaesu DR-2X repeater requiring a firmware update. A shuffle of repeaters—Witoka machine to Rooster Ridge then Rooster Ridge to Witoka after each was reprogrammed—and now both repeaters are updated and working.

KAGE Tower UHF control codes have been re-programmed so the machine is similar to the other DR-2X repeaters.

Now all three of the DR-2X repeaters have the control codes programmed and any of the control operators (Dan Goltz, WK0W, Russ Marsolek, N0QK, or Mike Foerster, W0IH) can turn off any of the repeaters if it's necessary. The control function requires that the control radios be "registered" on the repeater. Any of the control operators can control any of the club's four repeaters.

The drive up to the KAGE site has had gravel added to the lane. There is a slightly longer length of chain to the lock set so the gate closed much easier than it used to.



To no one's surprise, the hay at Witoka is still not mowed. The weeds in our little patch need to be cut down again.

Rooster Ridge's site is more neatly groomed though grass on the path through the corn field is still pretty long, but only one mud puddle to go through.



Writers wanted

Share your amateur radio knowledge and experiences in *The Hamgram*. Whether you've already written something or just have an idea, contact Bob at seaquist.robe@eagle.uwlax.edu

Extreme Weather Preparedness

Emergency Meeting Places



-  Identify safe meeting places for wherever you normally are: at home, work, or school
-  Map out exits, and share the address and directions
-  Have an out-of-town location in case of evacuation

weather.gov 

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 Niaht 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: Mike Foerster, WØIH, mchllfrstr@gmail.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.