

# The Hamgram

August 2022



**MIKE FOERSTER, WØIH, LEFT, AND TERRY PETERSON, WØEUU, SHOW ZOOM MEETING PARTICIPANTS THE PLAQUE COMMEMORATING THE WINONA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB'S 75TH YEAR OF AFFILIATION WITH THE ARRL.**

World War II ended and the airwaves reopened to amateur radio. Winona Hams Walter Haeussinger, Ross Brown, Arnold Martinson, Robert Kauphusman and Martin Peterson, along with Daniel Schmidt, Richard George, Robert Stanek, Robert Hill, Arthur Kantor, Brother Raymond, Francis Kramer and Carl Jacobson organized in October of 1946 then affiliated with the ARRL in January of 1947. At the time the club organized four members were “on the air,” Haeussinger, Peterson, Kramer and Brother Raymond. “It is expected that several others will get their licenses soon,” Haeussinger said.

The little club did many interesting things and even innovated having women, not only as members, but as club officers. The secretary of the Winona Amateur Radio Club in 1986, Lucille (“Lucy”) Lackore, was named Minnesota Ham of the Year for her traffic work. Lackore’s equipment included a two-way Kenwood 930 transceiver. She could make

contact all over the globe although the farthest she reached is Germany.

Annually members of the Winona club have conducted Field Day in June. Operating as a 1A station, the Winona Amateur Radio Club was third in the nation during 1962’s Field Day. The club tallied 706 different stations including one in the Panama Canal Zone.

Individual members did fine things too. Winona Senior High School graduate James Jefferson earned a \$10,000 scholarship from the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. “I’ve been interested in electronics and computers for as long as I can remember,” he said. Hams Dick Lindner and George Boller even traveled to Easter Island to conduct a DXpedition. Club members stayed on the cutting edge of technology. Club member Leslie Hittner, 175 McConnon Dr., had the only teletype installation in the city. It was designated an official bulletin station by the national amateur teletype network.

# 75



Marv Rodvold, AC9TO, image

## Waumandee fast trial for new ops

**A 2016 GINETTA G57 LMP3 RACE CAR WOULD NOT ORDINARILY BE ALLOWED AT THE WAUMANDEE TIME TRIALS BECAUSE IT IS TOO NEW BUT IT WAS AND IT WOWED THE CROWD INCLUDING COMMUNICATION VOLUNTEERS FROM THE WINONA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.**

The roar of a 2016 Ginetta G57 LMP3 race car punctuated changes in this year's Waumandee Time Trials, an event where communications are provided by the Winona Amateur Radio Club. Not as many Hams were needed, the course was on a temporary hill due to road construction, and, best of all, the radio club's youngest members took key roles in the operation.

Race director Tom Hazen, KEØSQB, praised Winona operators for their professional and excellent performance: "Ben Kuhn, Marv Rodvold, and the other members of WARC stationed at every corner all day long. They arrived super early to set up the repeater. Great people to work with. They have excellent communication skills!" noted Hazen.

The family initially intended attend as observers threw themselves into the fray including 14 year old Iliana Rickert, KEØZFU, who had to "black flag" some drivers for serious violations. She, dad Kevin and brother Luke wanted to simply watch the event to get the hang of it but a staffing emergency had coordinator Marv Rodvold, AC9TO, pushing them to go hands-on. And they did!

Waumandee Time Trials moved to a new location that required staffing only seven positions with six volunteers. With one volunteer calling in sick Luke Rickert, 17, KEØMDW, covered one of the race corners while Iliana and dad Kevin covered the end zone activity. Iliana communicated with the race director and let each driver know if they completed the course successfully or received a penalty for hitting a hay bale or cone. Also, she had to notify a couple drivers they were "black flagged"/done racing) for a serious driving error.

The fastest time up the hill this year was the 1:07.09 set by Jason Ross, expertly piloting his 2016 Ginetta G57 LMP3 race car. This modern car was a great crowd pleaser.

Participants included: Ben Kuhn, KUØHN; Kelly Sauke, KE1LYS; Justin McElmury, KFØBSI; John Kowalik, K2OPT; Marv Rodvold, AC9TO and Kevin, KEØMDX, Luke, KEØMDW, and Iliana, KEØZFU, Rickert.

# Ride The Ridges operation lauded again



KARL BERNATZ, KFØJMJ ,  
AND RICK KOLTER,  
KD9GVS, CONFER AT THE  
WITOKA REST STOP.

Once again Winona Amateur Radio Club communication support for Ride The Ridges, Sept 18, went very well and earned well-deserved commendation from Ride Director Mike Bernatz. "A tremendous thank-you to all RTR Volunteers!" said Bernatz. He added, "you made this year's ride the best ever – without a doubt."

Ridership exceeded 400, weather was perfect, roads smooth and donuts ample. Ride The Ridges is a bicycle tour held as a fundraiser for the Winona Rotary Club.

The worst crisis was a perceived lack of energy bars at some rest stops.

There were approximately 90 volunteers including radio operators. From an organizational perspective, every aspect went extremely well - on or ahead of schedule.

Participants included: Karl Bernatz, KFØJMJ; Syed Faruque, ACØVA; Dan Goltz, WKØW; Shawn Hicks, KD9KGQ; Clare Jarvis, KØNY; Rick Kolter, KD9GVS; Keith Laken, KEØIJI; Russ Marsolek, NØQK; Justin McElmury, KFØBSI; Sam Restel, KFØACN; Iliana Rickert, KDØZFU; John Roche, KBØELR; Lee Schultz, AEØML; Bob Seaquist, W9LSE; Kelly Sauke, KE1LYS; Pat Shelton, KEØRHI; Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT; Ken Weigel, W9GM.



SYED FARUQUE, ACØVA, RAN A CASUAL REST STOP COMMUNICATIONS CENTER.



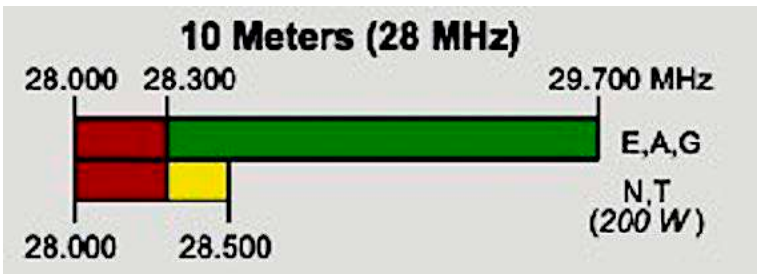
RIDE THE RIDGES COORDINATOR MIKE BERNATZ

## 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 now solicited for presentation at the annual meeting.

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.

The terms of Lance Tagliepietra, ADØUT; Dan Goltz, WKØW; and Clare Jarvis, KØNY have expired. The appointed club trustee is Mike Foerster, WØIH.



## 10M wide open!

By Scott Wright, KØMD

10 meters has been open to Europe daily in the mornings for the last few weeks. It is open in the evenings world wide - to Asia many nights, to South America and now to Europe.

I called a station in Great Britain last Saturday. When I signed, I moved up 5 KHz to take a call from another station. 90 minutes later, I had worked 70 stations, all but two were outside the USA (Europe, Middle East, Africa).

It is an easy band to get on the air. A simple dipole at 1/2 wavelength (16.5 ft off the ground) will open the world to you.

I had such a dipole years ago strung off the top of a gutter spout on the back of my home with the other end tied to a tree. The length of the dipole is short ( $468/28.350 = 16.5$  feet so each side is 8.25 feet). You can build one with a center conductor made of wood, plastic, PVC, plexiglass, etc. and fed with 50 ohm coaxial cable. A balun would be better to use but not mandatory.

If you can put the center higher up, do so. You gain one extra lobe of energy if you put it at one wavelength (33 ft). If you can toss a rope up higher into a tree and raise the center up 2 wavelengths, you now have a powerful antenna to work globally.

The next few years will see a lot of 10 meter activity. The weekend of December 9-11 is the ARRL 10 m contest where the band will be full of signals from 28300-29700.

## NØNUO SK



A familiar, warm, voice on the '64 repeater has died. Delores M. Spittler, NØNUO, 90, of Winona, died Sept. 12, 2022.

Delores married the love of her life, Kenneth Spittler, NØJP, on his 23rd birthday in 1954. He preceded her in death in 2020.

Delores was employed by W.T. Grant, JC Penney, Knitcraft, and St. Teresa's College.

If NØJP would be on the repeater you'd often hear Delores in the background correcting or adding to his conversation. She was a long supportive part of the Winona Amateur Radio Club.

## Club meeting Oct 20

The Winona Amateur Radio Club will meet at 7 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 20, in person at the Winona County Office Building, 202 West Third St., Winona or on Zoom. (<https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/3120290434> Password: WarcBoard) The meeting is open to the public.

# WARC Executive Board (unofficial minutes)

Thursday, Oct. 6, 2022, via Zoom

Board Members: Mike Foerster, WØIH; Dan Goltz, WKØW; Clare Jarvis, KØNY; Paul Schumacher, KØZYV; Bob Seaquist, W9LSE; Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT; Guests: John Kowalik, K2OPT; Keith Laken, KEØIJ; Russ Marsolek, NØQK; Al Rothering, KFØGTF; Lee Schultz, AEØML; Tom Wilmot, WØMK;

Called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT.

**Minutes** (sent via the reflector): Bob Seaquist, W9LSE. *Approved.*

**Treasurer's Report:** Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM. *Approved.*

Balance on 8/31/2022	\$5,005.36
Expenses:	
M. Foerster – Antenna connectors	\$11.80
P. Schumacher – QTH Web Hosting	

\$119.40

Subtotal and WARC balance	\$4,874.16
Balance as reported by bank	\$5,032.47

**Public Service:** Dan Goltz, WKØW. Two major public service events were recently completed. Ride the Ridges on Sept. 17, and the Waumandee Time Trials on Sept. 24. Participation was excellent, 23 hams participated in RTR, and 10 for Waumandee. Amateur involvement received rave reviews from each of the sponsoring organizations. These events sharpen our skills as well as letting us use technology like APRS, remote repeaters, cross-banding, portable setup etc.

Dan Goltz, WKØW, and Walt Kelly, KEØXI, participated in a county Emergency Management meeting. The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Duty Officer was the keynote speaker. He discussed his role in support of emergency operations as a source of making resources available to emergency response officials. ARES/RACES was specifically mentioned as one of those resources. We are fortunate that our county emergency officials are aware of our capabilities, have utilized us in the past, and are willing to contact us when the need arises.

We met with Emergency Management Director Ben Klinger to discuss equipping a newly ordered communications trailer with amateur equipment. Delivery is expected around February 2023.

Dan Goltz, WKØW, and Nancy Goltz, NØNAN, presented a program about amateur radio public service involvement to the Rivertown Lions Club. The Rivertown Lions in turn donated \$50 to WARC.

A recent failure of the 835 Fusion repeater demonstrated how rapidly we can respond to communication failures. The Rooster Ridge repeater

locked into transmit mode about 1:30 in the morning, and Mike WØIH was able to switch out repeaters and have things back on line by 10:30 AM the same morning resulting in only a minor disruption of service.

**Trustee:** Mike Foerster, WØIH. Repeater:

The Rooster Ridge Repeater locked in the transmit mode at about 2 a.m. prior to the Waumandee weekend where we would be using the 146.835 while shutting down the 146.64 repeater! The DR-2X appears to have this as a fairly common problem. Solution is to cycle power to the repeater. For the short term, the Rooster Ridge repeater was swapped with the one from Witoka. It's a concern that the Rooster Ridge repeater is harder to get. A more permanent solution consists of building a watchdog timer in the form of an Arduino, an SWR sensor and a set of relays (NC contacts) to cycle AC & DC power to the repeater, if it should transmit for a long period of time.

A set of adapter connectors were ordered for the KAGE tower so that if the "classic" 146.64 repeater should fail, the 444.250 repeater could be reconfigured to the 146.64 frequency and connect the duplexers up to the DR-2X repeater. Connectors were \$11.80.

Tyler Scott, KFØCQX, will do our tower work, replacing the two antennas at Witoka, in the spring for \$450. This includes the required liability insurance.

**HF Remote:** The PC driving the ICOM IC-7300 HF Remote was shut down by Microsoft. This happens if it is not updated about once a week. The EFHW for 160m at Witoka is not yet connected.

**Emergency Preparedness:** Clare Jarvis, KØNY.

The suggestion is to stage an emergency preparedness event for club members where many modes of communication are counted from repeaters to HF.

**Fox Hunt:** Clare Jarvis, KØNY. would like to stage another fox hunt; he would meet with persons who have not done it before and tutor them before the event. To prime members he will bring his fox hunt gear to the club's Oct. 20 meeting.

**Next Meeting:** KØNY will bring fox hunt gear; WKØW and AC9TO will summarize their recent public service events. Meeting will again be hybrid, at the Winona County Office as well as on Zoom. Call for nominations to the board.

**Adjourn:** 7:41 p.m.

August 2022

## WARC Executive Board (official minutes)

Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2022, via Zoom

Board Members: Paul Schumacher, KØZYV; Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT; Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM; Bob Seaquist, W9LSE; Dan Goltz, WKØW; Clare Jarvis, KØNY. Guests: Tom Wilmot, WØMK; Sam Resto, KFØACN; Keith Laken, KEØIJ; Bill Lippert, ACØW. Called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT

**Minutes** (Published in the July 2022 Hamgram and sent via the reflector): Bob Seaquist, W9LSE.

*Approved.*

**Treasurer's Report:** Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM.

*Approved.*

Balance on 6/30/2022 \$5,005.36

Balance reported by bank \$5,005.36

June expenditure to Dan Goltz, WKØW, should be for first aid kit renewal and not Field Day.

**In-person meetings:** Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT. A consensus is to have the August meeting on Zoom and perhaps return to in-person meetings in September. Lance will investigate if there is an internet connection in the county room so that meetings may be hybrid of in-person and Zoom.

**Public Service:** Committee prepares for the Ride The Ridges and the Waumandee Time Trials. Clare Jarvis, KØNY and Sam Resto, KFØACN, will prepare APRS map overlays. Bob Seaquist, W9LSE, will request

permission from Riverland Amateur Radio Club in La Crosse for use of their 146.97 repeater for Ride The Ridges.

Ben Klinger of Winona County Emergency Management asked for input on equipping the new county command trailer which is expected February 2023. Equipment will be installed professionally. Jodi Brom would sell some of Erik's, WBØNIU (SK) equipment, including a painter pole and vhf/uhf antennas. **MOTION: Clare/Dan. Buy gear up to price of a new painter's pole.**

Bud Baechler, WBØHFC, should receive a receipt for \$1,500 for gear donation. Harro will send.

**Witoka:** Mike Foerster, WØIH. Ends of the Off Center Fed Dipole were moved out in the field in preparation for mowing hay. PC at Witoka needs to be replaced. Checking in remotely to run the updates keeps it running.

**Repeaters:** Minor changes are needed at the KAGE tower site so change control codes match the other repeaters.

**Next meeting:** (7 p.m., Thurs., Aug. 18, on Zoom) A presentation to prepare for Ride The Ridges; also, a brief Field Day video.

**Adjourn:** 7:57 p.m.

## WARC Executive Board (unofficial minutes)

Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2022 Winona County Office Building

Board Members: Paul Schumacher, KØZYV; Mike Foerster, WØIH; Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT; Bob Seaquist, W9LSE; Dan Goltz, WKØW; Clare Jarvis, KØNY. Guests: Sam Resto, KFØACN; Keith Laken, KEØIJ; Bill Lippert, ACØW; John Kowalik, K2OPT; Terry Peterson, WØEJU; Marv Rodvold, AC9TO.

Called to order at 8:21 p.m. by Paul Schumacher, KØZYV.

**Treasurer's Report:** Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM.

*Approved.*

Balance on 7/31/2022 \$5,005.36

Balance reported by bank \$5,005.36

**Minutes** (Published in the August 2022 Hamgram and sent via the reflector): Bob Seaquist, W9LSE.

*Approved.*

**Trustee:** Mike Foerster, WØIH. Control codes for the Rooster Ridge repeater work sporadically due to a bug in the Yaesu DR-2X repeater. The firmware was updated involving rotation of repeaters during the work.

KAGE Tower UHF control codes have been re-programmed so they are similar to the other DR-2X repeaters. All three DR-2X repeaters have control codes programmed and control operators Dan Goltz, WKØW, Russ Marsolek, NØQK, and Mike Foerster,

WØIH, can control any of the club's four repeaters (including the 146.64).

Hay at **Witoka** has still not been mowed.

The Minnesota Repeater Council acknowledged our three Minnesota repeaters keeping them in the ARRL Repeater Directory.

I have had sparse communication from the Wisconsin Repeater group for the 146.835 repeater.

A DR-2X repeater configuration was updated as a document on [WØNE.org](http://WØNE.org) which specifies configurations for all three of the DR-2X repeaters.

The Witoka HF ICOM IC-7300 is running well. The EFHW antenna will be reinstalled to give 160m coverage.

Mike Cizek, WØVTT, will help evaluate the antennas at Witoka. Testing indicates a need to update the antennas. which may be expensive. Scott Tyler, KFØCQX, was asked for a quote for antenna work. He does not have insurance so the club would have to cover that. Apparently the county's request for bids is still not complete.

The FCC license for the WØNE repeaters is due 3/18/2023.

**Adjourn:** 8:24 p.m.



A 160 METER DIPOLE IS PREPARED FOR THE CLUB'S WITOKA HF REMOTE STATION BY SYED FARUQUE, AC0VA, LEFT, AND MIKE FOERSTER, W0IH. THEY CONVERTED THE 250' OF ENDFED ANTENNA WIRE INTO A 160 METER CENTER FED DIPOLE, INVERTED VEE FORMATION.

## Free General course offered

A free, weekly, live, Amateur Radio General Class Licensing course on Zoom will begin on Thursday, Oct 27, and will run through Thursday, Jan. 5. There will be nine sessions, with two breaks for holidays. The three-hour sessions will start at 5:30 p.m. Central Time. Sessions will be recorded. These are the classes that we have been holding for years sponsored by the National Electronics Museum (Baltimore, MD). Those wishing to sign up should email Rol, K3RA, at [roland.anders@comcast.net](mailto:roland.anders@comcast.net)

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 at the Winona County Office Building, 202 West Third St., Winona or 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](mailto:pschumacher@winona.edu)

Vice President: Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT, [lancetag@hbci.com](mailto:lancetag@hbci.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: Mike Foerster, WØIH, [mchllfrstr@gmail.com](mailto: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](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.

