

# The Hamgram

December 2023



JUSTIN MCELURY, KF0BSI



PAUL SCHUMACHER, K0ZYV



HARRO HOHENNER, KG6RLM

## Officers elected for 2024 club operation

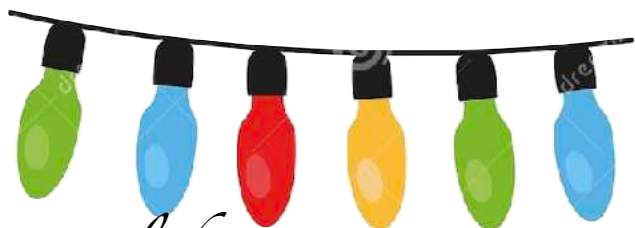
Winona Amateur Radio Club members selected Justin McElmury, KF0BSI, as the newest member of the club's executive board in elections at the annual meeting Nov. 16. He succeeds Bob Seaquist, W9LSE, who declined to run for re-election. Incumbents Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM, and Paul Schumacher, K0ZYV, were re-elected. Board members serve two year terms.

Other members of the board are Lance Tagliapietra, AD0UT, and Marv Rodvold, AC9TO. Mike Foerster, W0IH, is elected by the board to be trustee.

The board will elect club officers at its January meeting.

### Winona Amateur Radio Club meeting

**WHAT:** Monthly meeting.  
**WHERE:** Winona County Office Building, 202 West Third St., Winona or Zoom  
**Meeting ID:** 688 182 0303  
**Password:** WarcBoard  
**WHEN:** 7 p.m., Thurs. Dec. 21.  
**WHY:** Hear about SWLing



### *Holiday Party Jan 18*

Bring your good cheer and a dish to pass for the Winona Amateur Radio Club's annual holiday party Thursday, Jan. 18, at Goodview Haven. Details will be announced on the email reflector in January.



## Beam bolsters remote rig

The remote rig owned by the Winona Amateur Radio Club now has a tri-band beam, a Mosley Classic 33, set up at the Witoka site. The beam covers the 20, 15 and 10 Meter bands. The rotor is a Yaesu G-800SA connected with cable donated by Skip Green, K7YOO. The antenna was raised by a team consisting of Dan Goltz, WKØW, Justin McElmury, KFØBSI, Austin McElmury, KFØLMB, Paul Degallier, ADØUU, Tony Foerster, KEØPXI, and Mike Foerster, WØIH.

The beam is on a 20 foot pole with a thrust bearing at the top, and four ropes to keep the mast vertical. The beam height is about 25'. There is also a thrust bearing, thanks to Mike Cizek, WØVTT, at the top of the stand.

The Icom IC-7300 rig at the Witoka site is connected as a [RemoteHams.com](https://www.RemoteHams.com) server. The system is open to all WØNE club members to use and enjoy. Each operator must use the remote HF station with their own call and within confines of their class license.

There are many advantages to a remote system including lower noise than the city, “having” a radio on your internet-connected computer anywhere in the world or, just plain having an HF rig.

Detailed instructions for using the remote rig are at: <https://w0ne.org/w0ne-remote-station/>



# The joy of Ham radio

By Bob Seaquist, W9LSE



Skywarn Recognition day activities reminded me of the Ham radio I love, of simply getting on the radio and conversing with other Hams. Other events are fun like QSO parties, Field Day, and hunting rare DX, but what really warms my finals is having a good, old-fashioned rag chew.

I turned on my radio Friday, Dec. 1, preparing for Skywarn Recognition operating and, lo-and-behold, I heard a NWS station calling. I returned the call and the operator at the other end wouldn't let me go. I really enjoyed the conversation. It started, naturally, with weather, but headed in other interesting directions as conversations do but I was uncomfortable thinking of the other Hams wanting to contact this weather bureau office.

Tuning across the bands you hear a lot of contacts, brief contacts with an exchange of calls, signal quality and the name of the park. Parks On

The Air are everywhere! You hear nets with brief check-ins and you hear some DX rapidly exchanging particulars. Occasionally there are guys rag-chewing.

The principal topics in rag chews are 1) equipment being used; 2) weather; and 3) crappy propagation (no matter its real quality). The fortunate contacts are genuine exchanges of information, some even personal. A favorite of mine was talking with a German Ham about living in a river town. He lived in a town on the Rhine River.

Chatting is easier than it seems: a Ham can start out with the common things like the gear he's using and the weather. Ask about the Ham's home area, or about his radio experience. What are his other hobbies? It goes on and on and is fun.

## New Year's resolutions to consider

- Learn a new mode or band. There are always new modes and bands to learn, which can open new worlds such as digital modes, or HF.
- Work a new DXCC entity. There are 340 DXCC entities in the world, and working a new one is always a challenge. Set a goal to work 10 new DXCC entities in 2024.
- Participate in contests. Contests test your skills and station performance. Participate in at least five contests in 2024 and send your scores to [Minnesota Wireless Association](https://www.minnwa.org/).

- Volunteer your time to the club or ARRL. You could help with Field Day, one of the club's public service events or you could volunteer to give a program presentation.
- Upgrade your license. If you're a Technician or General, upgrade to a higher class license.
- Improve your operating skills. Learn to copy code faster, or learn to use different antennas.



- Build your own ham radio equipment. Building is a great way to learn about electronics and to save money. Build at least one piece of ham radio equipment in 2024. Antenna projects are fun. Get on the air! The best way to improve your ham radio skills is to get active on the airwaves. Set a goal to make at least 100 contacts in 2024. Have fun! Ham radio is a hobby that we all enjoy. Set a goal to have more fun with your hobby in 2024.

# WARC Executive Board (unofficial minutes)

Thursday, December 7, 2023, via Zoom

**Present:** Board Members: Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT; Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM; Mike Foerster, WØIH; Bob Seaquist, W9LSE; Marv Rodvold, AC9TO; Sam Resto, KFØACN. Incipient Board Member: Justin McElmury, KFØBSI; Guests: Tom Wilmot, WØMK; Russ Marsolek, NØQK.

Called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT

**Minutes** (Published in the November Hamgram): Bob Seaquist, W9LSE. *Approved.*

**Treasurer:** Harro Hohenner, KG6RLM. *Approved*

Balance Dec. 1, 2023 \$4,709.40

Income: none

expenses: none

Balance reported by bank \$4,709.40

Paid members 34

**Public Service:** Dan Goltz, WKØW.

## Year in Review

**Emergency Service: Skywarn:** Twenty-two amateurs participated in Weather Service Skywarn training in Winona. There were two formal Winona County callouts for the entire year, the fewest since 1978.

**Emergency Management assistance** with searches:

- Madeline Kingsbury search 69 days. Amateur radio operators assisted with communications using public service equipment.
- Lost hiker in Whitewater Park area, amateur radios operators on standby via Emergency Management but not activated.
- Lost disabled child with amateur radio on standby via Emergency Management, though not activated.

Amateurs invited and attended Emergency Management monthly and quarterly meetings.

**Scheduled Public Service Events:** Storm the Park Storm the Farm; Storm the Bluffs; Trinona; Ride the Ridges, 19 amateurs involved; Public Safety Day at the Winona County Fair

**Upcoming Emergency Service:**

- Integrated Public Alert Warning System workshop Jan. 17, 2024
  - AMTRAK Emergency Workshop, Feb. 27, 28
  - Winona County Mass Casualty Exercise, TBD
  - Mississippi River Cruise Boat Emergency
  - Exercise with the U.S. Coast Guard, date TBD.
  - State of Minnesota Communications Exercise, January 2024,
  - Railroad Emergency Tabletop Exercise, date TBD.
  - School Emergency Family Reunification Exercise, in Rochester, date TBD.
- If there is interest: tours of the new Winona County Law Enforcement dispatch center can be arranged.

**Trustee:** Mike Foerster, WØIH

Surplus equipment of the club's and some from Erik Brom's, WBØNIU, estate is being prepared for sale including a Cushcraft 3B2 13 element 2M beam, and a TE Systems 2M 100w amplifier that from Rooster Ridge. Help is needed to sell the items.

The club's Mosley Classic 33 tri-band beam is setup at Witoka site. (See separate article in The Hamgram) To allow the beam to rotate, a USB interface kit from *Vibroplex.com* would allow users control.

**MOTION: Purchase USB interface for \$130 (W9LSE/KFØACN) Approved**

The 146.835 Rooster Ridge repeater is working well with the new antenna and 25 watts out of the DR-2X repeater. The 65 watt amplifier and the bandpass cavity have been removed.

**Programs:** Sam Resto, KFØACN. Nothing planned for December. Perhaps SWL?

Holiday Party: Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT will see if Goodview Haven is available. (*Editor note: It is.*)

*Details via reflector in January)*

**Adjourn:** 7:50 p.m.

## Recharge the club

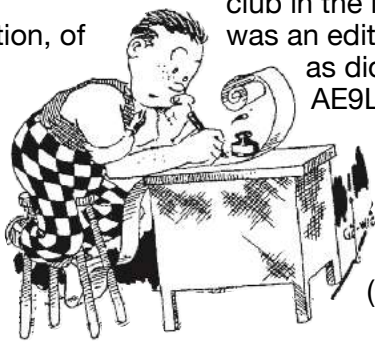
Winona Amateur Radio Club's low-cost, high value dues are \$30 per calendar year per license holder. \$35 per calendar year for all licensed members of the same family within the same household. Send dues to: Treasurer, P.O. Box 1451, Winona, MN 55987

**This is W9LSE's last issue**

# Hamgram requires new editor

Communicators know the importance of communication, of keeping everyone thoroughly informed. Effective clubs rely on good communication for their members. One way is to have a regular newsletter such as The Hamgram.

Paul Brom, WØLUX, may have started typing The Hamgram newsletter for the



club in the late 1940s; Les Hittner, KØBAD, was an editor continuing a meaty publication as did Len Litvan, KCØRSX (now AE9LL). The editor since 2016 is Bob Seaquist, W9LSE, and this is his final edition. Though he enjoys creating The Hamgram, it is time for new ideas and new blood. It is time for a new editor. (Old one will help new one)



**KNIGHT KIT SPACE SPANNERS BROUGHT MANY A BOY INTO RADIO IN THE 1950S.**



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.

\*\* Sunday Night 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 Zoom video conferencing. ( <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/6881820303?pwd=Z0JuRjZlUXJ2U1RMk1BFS3lvUEhsZz09>**

Meeting ID: 688 182 0303

**Password: WarcBoard)**

**The monthly program is open to the public.**

President: Lance Tagliapietra, ADØUT, [lancetag@hbc.com](mailto:lancetag@hbc.com)  
Vice President: Elisamuel Resto, KFØACN, [sam@samresto.dev](mailto:sam@samresto.dev)  
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, [mchlfrstr@gmail.com](mailto:mchlfrstr@gmail.com)

At Large: Marv Rodvold, AC9TO; Paul Schumacher, KØZYV

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. Editor: Bob Seaquist, W9LSE. Address 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.

