

M.C.W.A. NEWS

July 2014
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McHenry County Wireless Association

Since 1978
35 Years



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VE TESTING



Testing By Appointment Only !

7 PM on 3rd Tuesday of month
(Sept. thru May)

Cost is \$15 one time charge for session no matter how many elements are taken. Must show original license and/or CSCE if upgrading . Valid photo ID needed. SS# or FRN#

Steve, KB9OLD
847/477-3518

JULY MEETING

July 2, 2014

Crystal Lake Bank

5100 Rt. 14, Crystal Lake, IL

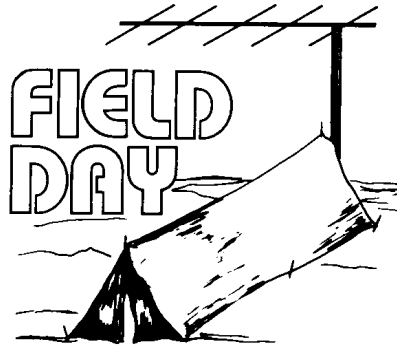
6:30 PM - Socializing

7:00 PM - Meeting

PROGRAM :

Field Day Q & A

By N7US & Others



MCWA Field Day June 28-29, 2014

If you didn't make it to our Field Day/ it was your loss !

According to FCC records and KK9DX , the following have been banned from the KK9DX repeater (145.41):

Andy (KC9ONA), Rob (W9RCM) and Ray (ex-K1MBE who surrendered his license to FCC).



SUMMER CONDITIONS

As we head towards July, a glance over the June log shows that propagation has gone down a few levels from those fantastic conditions in the winter to spring months of 2014. Of course, at this time of year the increased daylight is offset a bit by the QRN of thunderstorms in North America. Add to this some solar flares that have diminished activity on 12m and 10m, but this evening 12m, 10m and 6m are very open through some e-skip and possible ducting. I worked several stations on 6m tonight and some of you likely worked FS/K9EL on the low end of the band on CW.

15m has been fair. 17m and 20m continue to be hot into the evening hours long past sunset. Sometimes these bands are active 24 hours. I was in need of logging Albania and the Dxpedition there across mid-June did a great job in spite of the lesser conditions on the higher HF bands. I worked ZA/ON4ANN on 17m and ZA/ON4CCV on 20m with no difficulty.

Some special calls from Brazil can be worked during the World Cup Soccer event. For instance, I logged PY22XB on 12m this evening. A day ago I caught C37NL. Another interesting call worth logging is EF6, which I worked on 15m.

Across July, look for 3D2ML, 5W0ML, TK14CC, E51QBV, E51AND and 5H1NE, among others. Also, some of us have been

logging the many operations of W1AW (portable) during this ARRL Centennial Year. The ARRL has said there may be some delay on receiving QSL's from this special year-long QSO Party, but patience will be rewarded in due time. I have worked most, if not all of these portable locations to date.

While chatting with a contact on 6m tonight, we agreed that it would be great if these domestic band openings hold up for Field Day, which is six days away from the writing of this article. If you are available, check out the K9RN MCWA FD site in Harvard on June 28-29. You might also wish to stop by the K9ESV site at the government center property in Woodstock. Helpers are still needed and I will predict that bands will allow for a lot of points. I also predict that Cycle 24 will still offer some DX surprises for some months ahead even though we are on its declining slope now.

Have a great DX summer! 73
Dave KA9OZP





FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Has Anyone Ever Heard This or Similar ?

“Locally, there is this female truck driver, who is an amateur radio operator.(yeah.. duh) This in and of itself is not a bad thing.

However...

Two people will be having a QSO on a local repeater, let's say, (actually based upon a true incident) discussing SDR radios. This woman will break into the QSO and begin discussing her day of truck driving. The other hams will attempt to continue discussing SDRs. She will almost sound offended that these two guys are discussing SDRs, since she has neither the funds or knowledge of said type of radio.

This type of behavior happens on a daily basis! I have noticed a definite drop in repeater usage in my area since she has come on the scene. It doesn't matter what repeater you are on, she will find you. Beware!

Repeater etiquette? What's that?

Remember: Never enter a QSO, unless you have input directly related to the subject of said QSO.”

.This was on Eham.net and has been common behavior on some repeaters. It only reinforces that old advice to listen before jumping into a QSO that may be a technical discussion.



Upcoming Hamfests

* **Oak Creek, WI** July 12, 2014 American Legion Post 434

* **Aurora, IL** July 13, 2014 Aurora Central Catholic HS

* **Peoria, IL** Sept. 20-21, 2014 Exposition Gardens

Changes to Amateur Service Part 97 Rules Go Into Effect on July 21 06/20/2014

The FCC's recently announced revisions to the Part 97 Amateur Radio rules governing exam credit to former licensees, test administration, and emission types will go into effect on Monday, July 21. In a wide-ranging Report and Order (R&O) released June 9, the Commission announced that it would grant examination credit for written elements 3 (General) and 4 (Amateur Extra) to holders of “expired licenses that required passage of those elements.” The FCC will require former licensees falling outside the 2-year grace period to pass Element 2 (Technician) in order to be relicensed. The Commission declined to give exam credit to holders of expired Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCEs) or to extend lifetime validity to CSCEs.

The FCC also embraced the use of remote testing methods, allowing volunteer examiners and volunteer examiner coordinators “the option of administering examinations at locations remote from the VEs.” The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) in 2002 endorsed experimental use of videoconferencing technology to conduct Amateur Radio testing in remote areas of Alaska. The Commission dropped its earlier proposal to permit two VEs to administer exams; the requirement remains at three VEs. The Commission did not spell out the “mechanics” of remote testing, however, which it said would “vary from location to location and session to

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MCWA Treasurer's Report – July 2014



Below find our current bank balance. Thanks for the vote of confidence last meeting. I look forward to serving you all.

Feel free to contact me about any Treasurer related issues. 73 Dave Cox - KC9WYF 410 Lake Ave Woodstock, IL. 60098 DLCox2@gmail.com

Bank Balance Per May 30, 2014 statement:

Beginning Balance:	\$5,380.79
Checks written	.00
Deposits	.00
Interest	.45
Ending Balance:	\$5,381.24

FCC Rules Changes

session.” VEs administering examinations remotely must grade such examinations “at the earliest practical opportunity,” rather than “immediately,” as the current rule for conventional exam sessions requires.

The FCC also adopted an ARRL proposal to authorize certain Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) emissions in the Amateur Service. The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau in 2013 granted an ARRL request for a temporary blanket waiver to permit radio amateurs to transmit emissions with designators FXD, FXE, and F7E, pending resolution of the rulemaking petition. That waiver becomes permanent on July 21.

The Commission also made “certain minor, non-substantive amendments” and corrections to the Amateur Service rules.

13 Colonies ! The 13 Colonies Special Event Set for July 1-6: The 13 Colonies Special Event for 2014 will take place July 1-6, with special 1×1 call signs K2A, K2B, K2C, K2D, K2E, K2F, K2G, K2H, K2I, K2J, K2K, K2L, and K2M to be active. Participants can earn a certificate. In 2013 more than 81,000 contacts were logged in the 13 Colonies Special Event.

Radio Amateur's Sub-9 kHz VLF Signal Detected Across the Atlantic

How low can you go? A signal on 8.971 kHz has spanned the Atlantic, from North Carolina to the UK. Running on the order of 150 μW effective radiated power, very low frequency (VLF) experimenter Dex McIntyre, W4DEX, transmitted signals on June 2 and 3 that were detected by Paul Nicholson, an SWL in the UK. Earlier this year, Nicholson detected McIntyre's WH2XBA/4 Experimental Service VLF signal on 29.501 kHz. McIntyre needed no FCC license to transmit on 8.971 kHz, since the Commission has not designated any allocations below 9 kHz — dubbed “the Dreamers’ Band.”

de ARRL.org

