

# MCWA NEWS



Vol. 12, No. 7

July 2012



## MCWA OFFICERS & STAFF

President ..... Jim McDonald, N7US  
*jim@n7us.net*

Vice Pres. ... Dave Cooper, KA9OZP  
*coopernet@sbcglobal.net*

Secretary ... Marc Marino, WA9YVL

Treasurer .... Barry Nelson, K9YVT  
*barrycnelson@yahoo.com*

Programs ..... Jack Hudson, W9MU

Newsletter..... Jerry Heien, N9AVY  
*n9avy@sbcglobal.net*



## VE TESTING

Testing by appointment only

7 PM 3rd Tuesday every other month

Resumes in September

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

Steve, KB9OLD  
847/477-3518

## Meeting Notice

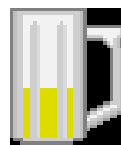
Tuesday, July 3  
7:00 - 7:30 - Socializing  
7:30 - Meeting

*Program: No Meeting!*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Join Us ?

In August, after the meeting for pizza & beverages at the Village Squire in Crystal Lake (Rt. 14 just West of Rt 31). We usually have anywhere from 6-20 people and the cost generally works out to \$10 per person with pizza.



## Treasurer's Report



Opening Bal.	\$3996.66
Interest	..34
Dues	00.00
Checks	0.00
End Bal.	\$3997.00

Barry, K9YVT

5/26/12

\*\*\*\*\*

*Permission is granted to use material from this publication provided that credit is given.*





# MCWA NEWS



## July 2012



### So-so

### DX Days

Conditions over the last month may best be described by two statements I heard operators say over the air yesterday: "Bands for Field Day were ok" and "20m starts opening up in the evening." The first quote was spoken by the captain of K9ESV FD and the other quote came from a ham a couple thousand miles away on 20m.

On Field Day weekend, 10m and 6m were generally disappointing. 15m had some good moments. The best DX has been happening on 20m. 17m has also been decent but was not allowable for Field Day points as it is a WARC band. By the way, why don't we have a WARC band contest or Field Day? I do not want to cause war, so I will leave this alone for now. How about a 60m contest? Forget it!

The disappointing propagation on the upper HF bands is due to poor sunspot numbers. While writing this article, the number of spots is 14! The flux is an anemic 98. This is unusual as we are expecting the peak of Cycle 24 in 2013. However, there are currently a couple regions on Sol trying to expand the numbers. If these regions plus a few more new ones develop, we should see better propagation in these long days of summer.

In addition to the low counts, we have had a couple of disrupting flares. And as the

thunderstorms scoot all around our drought region, they still have produced QRN on a few nights, especially on the lower bands, 160m to 40m. Some nights 80m has been running plus 20 noise levels due to the flares and the lightning flashes around us in North America.

Until these conditions change, work some nice DX on 30m, 20m, 17m and sometimes 15m. These bands minus 15m, are sometimes open all night in summer. About 80% of my DX over the last month has been logged on 20m and 17m. This log includes 7X5JF on 17m June 13 at 2300utc.

Over the remainder of summer I will be looking for some of the following announced DX operations: TT8PK (Chad), YE0M (Indonesia), and ZA1TC (Albania). Many other announced and unannounced stations will be on the air. Don't forget to work some nice DX on 20m and 17m way past sunset! Have a good DX summer! Dave KA9OZP





# MCWA NEWS

## July 2012



### From The Editor's Desk

**Happy Birthday !** Amateur Radio Newsline turns 35 Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, started out with Westlink Amateur Radio news 35 years ago and it later changed to Amateur Radio Newsline. Thanks Bill for bringing us all the news over the years !

**Governor Signs HB1390 !** For those who have been following this story, Governor Quinn has signed HB1390 in law. Summarized briefly, this law now prohibits municipalities passing ordinances restricting antennas structures. A victory for Illinois Hams !

**13 Colonies Special Event Stations** are once again on the air ! Look for these stations on SSB, CW, and PSK31 from the original 13 states. This event has been extended until July 7 this year because of power outages in NE. They are on the air every year and have a certificate available for working all 13 Colonies.

**Special Event Station CK6S** 100th Anniversary of the Calgary Stampede July 5 to 15. QSL via VE6AO. Nice award for working 10 Calgary stations which illustrates the chuck wagon races.

**Spirit of 76 Contest** sponsored by 10-10 Net International, Inc. Runs from Monday 0001 July 2 to Sunday 2359 July 8. While contest is open to all, only members may submit logs. The unusual part of this event is that contacts are allowed on all 6 modes, SSB, CW, RTTY, AM, FM and digital. So I F 10m is open during this 7 day period there will be a chance to work some different modes. See: <http://www.ten-ten.org> for more details.

**Happy 4th !** Hope everyone has a safe & happy 4th of July this year. Set of some firecrackers (don't blow your fingers off !), cook something goodies on the grill and remember what this holiday is all about.

- 30

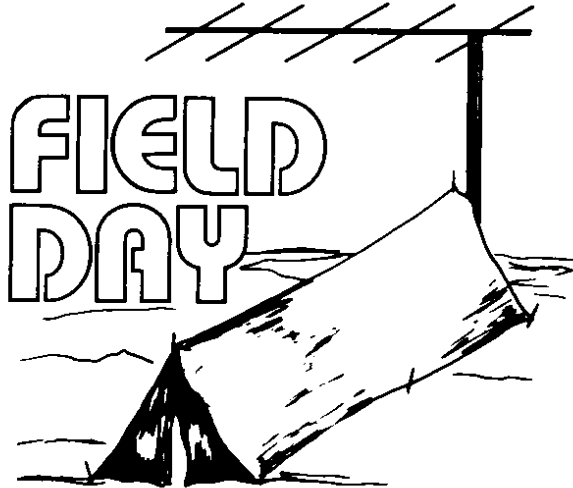


tenna farm (de WB9MCW)



# MCWA NEWS

July 2012



New from Burger King ???

Ice Cream & Bacon, Yuck !



Field Day is over for this year. From reports over the air, it appears that everyone had a great time. No major catastrophes were reported ... no downed antennas due to storms, no one over ate, etc. Now we have 2013 to look forward to with bigger & better plans !



Who's Field Day Was This ???

+++++

