

The Chicago FM Club's
Newsletter

"SQUELCH TALE"

**Volume
2005
Number 3
March**

Happy St. Patty's Day



"THE PREZ SEZ"

We just had our monthly board meeting last Wednesday and I'm happy to report that the Club is on good financial footing thanks to our treasurer Bob (KA9HHH). Our trustee Howard (N9KTW) along with Radio Rick (W9XB), Joe (WA9KOD) and Jerry (WA9KXZ) have been busy making sure the repeater is working properly. Mike (WA9FTS) has been doing a great job with our new web page and as Expo table chairman. Stan (NK9A) and John (N9RNQ) have had a lot of success with their VE testing and it looks like Radio Expo 2005 is running right on schedule with Jim (WA9EMY) as our new chairman.

One of the reasons things are going so well for the club is that the people mentioned in the preceding paragraph are not afraid to make a commitment. There are quite a few other people that are not mentioned here who also help the club a great deal, but the point I'm trying to get across is in order for anything to be a success you have to be involved. The Officers and Board members are always looking for new ways to improve on the Club. If you have any good ideas why not come to our next meeting and let us hear about it.

June is right around the corner and we still need a Field Day chairman. I have secured the same site as last year, so if you're interested please leave a message on the Ham Help line or at one of the general meetings.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at our next general meeting March 16th at the Edgebrook Field house..

73 de Phil N9PA



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

The following CFMC members renewed during February:
 KE9CR KA9CSO KB9DK N9DRF WD9DZV
 KC9FGG W9HDD KB9ITP K9JQ K9KRO KD9MF
 NF9N AA9ON N9OS KK9P KB9RTP W9WOC
 W9XB WB9YGP

The following former members chose not to renew;
 N9ABT KC9AIR WZ9H KG9MC

FOR SALE

ICOM IC 706 MKIIG (Remote Kit)
 MFJ 4035 Regulated Power Supply
 MFJ 969 Deluxe Versa Tuner II (160-6)
 Better RF 706 Auto Tun
 Heil ICM Microphone
 Will separate Bring any reasonable offers
 All equipment in new condition
 Non-smoking home QTH use only approx 1 year
 Marc Jens KC9FGG
 e-mail takenchan@aol.com (847) 673-2881

SILENT KEY

It is with deepest regrets that we report the passing of one of our long time members. Frank Knapp, WD9IRN, passed away Monday, February 28 after a long illness.

Our condolences go out to Franks family and friends.

FOR SECOND READING AT THE MARCH GENERAL MEETING

N9SMN	GEORGE MAAG	(N9PA K9FFY)
KC9HAE	VIDAS JAMSIKIS	(N9PA K9FFY)
W9RXI	ROBERT IZQUIERDO	(N9PA K9FFY)

FOR THIRD READING AND VOTE

W9LUO	MARILYN GARDNER	(N9PA K9FFY)
AB9DD	EMIL J BALZANO	(N9PA 9FFY)

NEW MEMBERS

The Officers and Board of Directors of the Chicago FM Club would like to welcome the following new members voted in at the February general meeting:

N9VIZ	LAWRENCE HUGHES
KC9GVC	OSWALDO BARBOSA
KB9JGY	ROLAND J HOEHN
KG9CL	CARL BROADY
W9CHI	R. SCOTT CHILDERS
KC9BSU	MICHAEL McMAHON

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Due to a lack of a quorum, no meeting was held.
 There were 20 members in attendance.

MARCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The March Board meeting was held at the home of N9RKU. Those in attendance were; WA9EMY K9FFY KA9HHH WA9KOD N9KTW KA9R K9VO WA9FTS N9RKU

The meeting was called to order at 7:50pm.

SECRETARY K9FFY

The minutes of the January Board meeting as printed in Squelch Tale were accepted with no corrections or additions.

TREASURER KA9HHH

Bob went over his report (look elsewhere for report).

ELECTION

The Board voted to elect Steve Bosnyak K9VO to the Board to fill the vacated position of KA9HHH.

RADIO EXPO 2005 WA9EMY

Jim asked for a list of last years workers and K9VO will be in charge of the Work Force.

A discussion was held about the possible move of Expo next year. The Exhibitor contracts are in the mail.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Treasurer's Report February 2005

Income	
Dues	\$240.00
Expenses	
Phone	\$19.31
Equipment	\$143.40
Isolator f/220 South	
Squelch Tale Printing	
	<hr/>
	\$162.71
Expenses vs Income	\$77.29
Available Capital	
Checking	\$14,326.99
Cash on hand	\$167.85
	<hr/>
	\$14,494.84
	\$77.29
	<hr/>
Total Available Funds	\$14,572.13
Bob Schiff KA9HHH Treasurer	

FEBRUARY FOX HUNT

The hunters had a hard time hearing the fox due to a paging transmitter recently activated near Harlem and Cermak.

The antenna was changed from a vertical to a 4 el yagi and the hunters were off and running at 8:12 PM.

Paul N9LXF and Mike WA9FTS hid in a parking lot of a trucking company parked next to a semi-trailer.

The location was just north of I-90 off Clearbrook Dr just south of Algonquin Rd and east of Arlington Hts Rd. in Arlington Hts.

Coordinates N 42.03694 - W 87.97512.

Tom N9CBA took the Ike to 294 north to Dempster and west to 83. He then went south to Golf and west to Goebert and jogged east and south on Clearbrook Dr. Tom quickly spotted us next the the trailer and scored for his 2nd win of the year. Shortly, Charlie KB9DIM showed up but overshot and came in from the west and behind us for 2nd. Greg N9SA arrive a few minutes later and drove in to end the hunt - 9 min behind Tom. We met at the old Home Run Inn, now a Boston Blackie's with Don W9RA joining us.

Results:

1. Tom N9CBA 8:54 PM
2. Charlie KB9DIM, Alexis 8:59 PM
3. Greg N9SA 9:03 PM

MARCH GENERAL MEETING

The March general meeting of the Chicago FM Club will be held on March 16, 2005. The location is the Edgebrook Field house located at 6100 N. Central Ave. Chicago. The meeting will be called to order at 8:00pm. The entrance is north of Elston Ave on the west side of Cenral Avenue.

DZV's DITS AMD BITS by Tim, WD9DZV

QSL output down in 2004: The ARRL Outgoing QSL Service shipped 1,100,535 cards to overseas QSL bureaus, reports QSL Service Manager Martin Cook, N1FOC. That's down by nearly 258,000 over the total logged during 2003, when the QSL Service had a staff of two and handled 1,358,474 cards. "Currently processing time is seven days from receipt," Cook says. He attributes the downturn to a greater backlog of cards, less-favorable propagation conditions and greater use of Logbook of the World (LoTW) to confirm contacts for awards.

ARRL TELLS FCC TO "RECONSIDER, RESCIND AND RESTUDY" BPL ORDER

The ARRL has petitioned the FCC to take its broadband over power line (BPL) Report and Order (R&O) back to the drawing board. In a Petition for Reconsideration filed February 7, the League called on the Commission to "reconsider, rescind and restudy" its October 14, 2004, adoption of new Part 15 rules spelling out how BPL providers may deploy the technology on HF and low-VHF frequencies. Asserting that the R&O fails to adequately take into account the technology's potential to interfere with Amateur Radio and other licensed services, the League called the FCC's action to permit BPL "a gross policy mistake." The R&O, the ARRL said, "represents a classic case of prejudice" by an FCC that knew better but ignored evidence already at its disposal.

"It is readily apparent that the Commission long ago made up its mind that it was going to permit BPL without substantial regulation, no matter what the effect of this flawed application of old technology is on licensed radio services," the League's petition declares. The ARRL accuses FCC Commissioner Michael Powell and his four colleagues of deliberately authorizing "a spectrum pollution source" that's proven to be incompatible with existing licensed uses of the HF spectrum.

"The Commission wanted nothing to contradict its enthusiasm about BPL," the League said, and its Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) saw to it that evidence of the "fundamental incompatibility" between BPL and incumbent HF radio services "was suppressed, ignored or discredited." The FCC has not adjudicated a single interference complaint, the ARRL added, but has swept interference complaints under the rug.

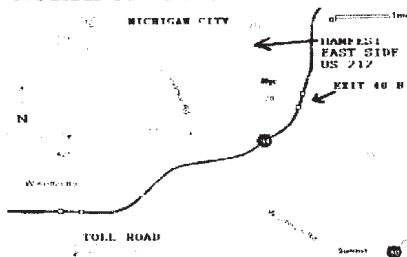
While expressing appreciation for Commissioner Michael Copps' concerns regarding BPL's potential to interfere with Amateur Radio and his call for quick complaint resolution, the League said his admonition "has not been heeded by either the Enforcement Bureau or the Office of Engineering and Technology."



MICHIGAN CITY HAMFEST MARCH 26, 2005

SPONSORED BY THE MICHIGAN CITY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - W9LY

WHERE: DIAMOND COVE,
716 HWY 212, EAST SIDE OF HWY 212
NORTH OF THE CITY AIRPORT



GENERAL ADMISSION: \$5.00 PER PERSON
GENERAL ADMISSION: 8:00AM - 12:00PM (Central Time)
VENDOR DOOR OPENS: 5:30AM (Central Time)
ADVANCE VENDOR SETUP: 6:30PM - 8:00PM FRIDAY EVENING
TABLES: 6' - (\$1.00 PER FOOT)
ELECTRIC ADDITIONAL \$5.00 (LIMITED, REQUEST IN ADVANCE)
VE-TESTING REGISTRATION AT 8:00AM TESTING AT 9:00AM - ONLY
(E-MAIL THE CLUB FOR RESERVATION)

TABLE RESERVATIONS CONTACT:
RON STAHOVIK, N9TPC
5802 N 400 W
MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360
Phone: 219-325-9089

HAMFEST CHAIRMAN: CURTYEATER, N9ZJZ
HAMFEST E-MAIL ADDRESS: hamfesta@w9ly.org
WEBPAGE: <http://w9ly.org>

TALK IN: 146.970 (131.8pl)

DIRECTIONS: FROM I-94 EXIT #0B THEN 0.5 MILES TO HWY 212 (NORTH)
DIAMOND COVE IS 1.5 MILES FROM US 20/35 ON THE EAST SIDE

ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest

In the filing, which included several technical exhibits to bolster its major points, the ARRL further argued that Powell—a self-described “cheerleader” for the technology—the ARRL further argued that Powell should have recused himself from voting on the R&O. The chairman, the ARRL says, violated the FCC’s own ex parte rules by attending a BPL provider’s demonstration October 12, after release of the October 14 agenda. Powell “tainted this proceeding” by taking part in the demonstration, and that alone is sufficient to have the Commission vacate and reconsider its action, the ARRL alleged.

The League also said the FCC’s “late and incomplete” responses to ARRL’s Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests fail to show any support for FCC’s conclusions regarding interference to licensed services from BPL. The highly redacted information release contained nothing that supports the FCC’s conclusions about BPL’s interference potential and suppressed negative recommendations from its own technical investigators, the petition says. As a result, the League said, the Commission “failed to conduct impartial, reasoned rulemaking.”

The Commission used an unlawful “balancing test” that weighed BPL’s purported benefits against its interference to licensed services, the League asserts, creating “a hierarchy of licensed radio services” based upon “how much interference each service deserves.” The Communications Act, the League’s petition points out, requires an objective determination from the outset that the likelihood of harmful interference from a proposed unlicensed service is virtually nil.

The interference mitigation rules in the R&O are both ineffective and inequitably applied, the ARRL’s petition further argues. Noting the new rules do not require BPL systems to shut down in the event of interference except as “a last resort,” the League said the practical effect is “that systems will never have to shut down,” even if the BPL operator has not been able to remedy ongoing harmful interference to the Amateur Service. The new rules, the petition charges, accord priority to unlicensed BPL, “regardless of the preclusive effect” or the duration of interference.

In its unanimous BPL decision, the Commission, the League says, has abandoned its fundamental obligation to avoid interference in telecommunication systems, instead requiring complainants to initiate contact with BPL providers and “beg for resolution.” The ARRL petition also faults the Commission’s adopted measurement standards.

The League’s Petition for Reconsideration in ET Dockets 03-104 and 04-37 is on the ARRL Web site, www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/et04-37/recon_petition/.

DX NEWS

DXCC LISTINGS NOW AVAILABLE ON THE ARRL WEB SITE

The ARRL Web site now features up-to-date listings of DXCC awards earned. The new system shows every issued DXCC award known to ARRL’s computerized DXCC system, with the exception of individual standings for 5BDXCC. ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG, says the Web site listing is even more complete than the DXCC Yearbook ever was, since the printed list did not list inactive band-accounts for the previous year.

“This will list everything and everybody,” Mills emphasized. “The new system makes available a separate listing for each DXCC award type—band or mode.” Even more important, Mills notes, is that it essentially renders obsolete the manually generated monthly and yearly reports. “Under the new system, DXCC listings will updated daily,” he emphasized.

The DXCC standings of all ARRL members will remain in dark type. Call signs of non-members who have not submitted credits for 10 years or more are in grayed-out type.

Each listing by band or mode is complete in a separate Adobe PDF file. The largest listing (DXCC Mixed) now runs to more than 50 pages, but the size of the PDF file is only about 150 kbytes because of file compression. Printing format options include US letter-sized or ISO A4 paper. The DXCC listings can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/#listings>.

FLASH - FLASH - FLASH

Squelch Tale is now available monthly to your e-mail and it’s in color. You will receive it about 2 weeks prior to regular mailing. To receive the Club newsletter this way, just send an e-mail to dick6614@aol.com and say:

I WANT SQUELCH TALE!

The January and July issues containing the Club roster will be **mailed** to everyone.

OHIO DXERS DENIED DESECHEO ISLAND (KP5) LANDING PERMIT

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has again said “no” to four Ohio radio amateurs seeking to visit

Desecheo Island (KP5), a prized DX location that’s on the top-ten “most-needed list” for DXCC. The denial came in a letter from the FWS to US Rep Mike Turner (R-OH) of Dayton, who acted on behalf of well-known DXer and contester Harry Flasher, AC8G, and three other members of the South West Ohio DX Association (SWODXA). Flasher was on Desecheo in the 1980s.

A small island about 14 miles off the northwestern corner of Puerto Rico, Desecheo Island is a national wildlife refuge and under FWS jurisdiction. The FWS told Turner that the Desecheo National Wildlife Refuge “is closed to all public entry for safety reasons due to unexploded ordinance (artillery shells) in the area.” The island once was the site of war games. The FWS has not issued Amateur Radio permits since 1993.

April 2005

What's Happening This Month at CFMC!

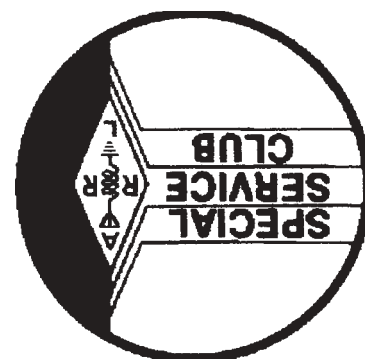
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<p>3 Daylight Savings--set ahead 1 hour</p>	<p>4 K9TRG</p>	<p>5 Satern Net at 8:00pm CFMC Net at 9:00pm on 146.76 MHZ K9ILX N9WDY</p>	<p>6 K9VCZ</p>	<p>7 K9PGN KC9BXQ</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 W9WOC WN9GUC</p>																																																																																																			
<p>10 KA9ZXA W9GYC</p>	<p>11 KA9HHH</p>	<p>12 Satern Net at 8:00pm CFMC Net at 9:00pm on 146.76 MHZ W9UWE WB9DZN</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 FOX HUNT Harlem Cermak Shopping Center 7:00pm KF9MY KG9CL W9GI W9KMP</p>																																																																																																			
<p>17 K9JQ</p>	<p>18 K9OBL N9NOQ</p>	<p>19 Satern Net at 8:00pm CFMC Net at 9:00pm on 146.76 MHZ</p>	<p>20 GENERAL MEETING Location *TBA VEC Testing Tonight</p>	<p>21 KG9KR WD9BIC</p>	<p>22 KA9R</p>	<p>23</p>																																																																																																			
<p>24</p>	<p>25 KA9ZZD</p>	<p>26 Satern Net at 8:00pm CFMC Net at 9:00pm on 146.76 MHZ KB9RAP</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 N9ABI</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 WA9NEP</p>																																																																																																			

Members Celebrating Their Birthdays This Month!

* TBA = To Be Announced



AFFILIATED CLUB



Address Correction Requested

CHICAGO FM CLUB
PO BOX 1532
EVANSTON IL 60204

OFFICERS

President

Phil Amato N9PA

Vice President

James Small WA9EMY

Secretary

Dick Hersh K9FFY

Treasurer

Bob Schiff KA9HHH

Board of Directors

Joe Genovese WA9KOD

Howard Goldberg N9KTW

Rich Roberts KA9R

Steve Bosnyak K9VO

Rick Duel W9XB

Trustee

Howard Goldberg N9KTW

Chairmen

Fox Hunts WA9FTS

Ham Help K9FFY

Radio Expo WA9EMY

Refreshments N9KTW

Squelch Tale K9FFY

Technical W9XB

VE Testing KA9HHH

CHICAGO FM CLUB

The Chicago FM Club is a not for profit Amateur Radio Club operating the WA9ORC/R repeater systems. Membership is open to all licensed Amateurs and is encouraged of those who use the repeaters. Annual dues are \$25.00 (\$15.00 65 years or older).

For information on the Chicago FM Club and its repeater systems, call the club "Ham Help" line (773) 262-6773 and leave your complete name, address and call sign. Ask for the Info Pack and it will be sent out shortly in the mail or can be sent via e-mail.

SQUELCH TALE

Squelch Tale is the monthly publication of the Chicago FM Club. It is available on an exchange basis or by subscription to anyone outside CFMC's coverage area. Ad space is available. Write for further details. Permission is given to reprint any original Squelch Tale material providing credit is given and "Tale" is not spelled "Tail". We welcome all new information of interest and technical articles. The deadline for publication is the first weekend after the first Wednesday of every month My e-mail address is dick6614@aol.com

REPEATERS

146.16/.76MHZ PL Access 107.2 (1B)

The Transmitter is located on the Aon Center in downtown Chicago with an antenna height of 1300 feet. The nine receiver sites are located in Chicago, Park Ridge, Schaumburg, Worth, Waukegan, Barrington, Downers Grove, Lake Calumet and Joliet. Short QSO's are encouraged during morning and evening rush hours. AutoPatch and EchoLink are available to members in good standing. Write for details and access codes. Breakers should be allowed immediate access.

222.50/224.10MHZ Carrier Access

On site located 3 miles north of Chicago's Loop. AutoPatch is available to members in good standing. Breakers should be allowed immediate access.

222.58/224.18MHZ Carrier Access

On site in Worth, IL. Breakers should be allowed immediate access.

448.75/443.75MHZ PL Access 114.8 (2A)

On site at the Aon Center. AutoPatch and EchoLink are available to members in good standing. Breakers should be allowed immediate access.