

The Chicago FM Club's
Newsletter

"SQUELCH TALE"

**Volume
2006
Number 8
August**

"THE PREZ SEZ"

The last few weeks have really been a challenge for many of us. The heat and humidity have really taken their toll on all of us, but there's another challenge just 4 weeks away. That's right you guessed it, Radio Expo 2006.

The 2nd Wednesday of August will be our last Radio Expo meeting. It seems just like yesterday we began the planning. Here's where all the planning comes into play. The major things, like the contract for the fair grounds, table layout, and a number of other things are all taken care of; now it's you the members turn to do your share. We will need people through out the Hamfest for set up, take down, watching the gate, security for the buildings, and running various errands. So spare some time for the club, give us a call on the ham help line (773) 262-6773.

I hope the summer has been a fun one for all of you and I'm looking forward to seeing you all at our next general meeting.

73 de Phil N9PA



**TREASURER'S REPORT
July 2006**

Income		
Membership Dues		
Regular Dues	\$235.00	
Senior and >20 years	\$105.00	
Total Membership Dues	\$340.00	
Radio Expo		
Expo Tickets - Advanced Sale	\$312.00	
Fairgrounds Electric - Inside	\$30.00	
Table Rental	\$575.00	
Total Radio Expo	\$917.00	
Total Income	\$1,257.00	
Expense		
Liability Insurance	\$8.00	
Licenses and Permits	\$9.64	
Meetings	\$51.21	
Office Supplies	\$4.64	
Postage and Delivery		
Program Expense	\$183.78	
Field Day	\$23.00	
Program Expense - Other	\$206.78	
Total Program Expense		
Radio Expo 2006	\$215.13	
Prizes - Door	\$215.13	
Total Radio Expo 2006		
Squelch Tale July	\$93.60	
Squelch Tale - Postage	\$174.10	
Squelch Tale - Printing	\$267.70	
Total Squelch Tale		
Telephone	\$56.27	
Echo Link	\$23.09	
220 control-32	\$48.09	
2mtr & 440 Aon - 073	#23.50	
440 Control-49	\$20.10	
Ham Help Line-773	\$171.10	
Total Telephone		
Total Expense	\$1,254.15	
	\$2.85	
Net Income		
Available Capital	7/01/2006	\$10,242.20
Net Income	July 2006	\$2.85
Total Available Funds		\$10,245.05
Respectfully submitted:		
Bob Schiff KA9HHH		
Treasurer		

**FOR SECOND READING AT THE
AUGUST GENERAL MEETING**

KC9JUA	GEORGE BOBECK	N9PA	K9FFY
KB9MNN	WALTER FORRED	N9PA	K9FFY
W9YGQ	ROGERS PIERCY	N9PA	K9FFY

NEW MEMBER

The Officers and Board of Directors of the Chicago FM Club would like to welcome the following new member voted in at the July general meeting;

KB9QWZ MELISSA MENEELY

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

The following CFMC members renewed during the month of July;

KB9AFJ WA9AYQ N9FA N9HIZ K9JON WW9K
N9KOJ KF9MY K9OHT KB9SXA KB9YEK KU9Z

The following former members chose not to renew;

W9EBE (moved out of area) N9IDS

**July 2006 CFMC Foxhunt
by Mike WA9FTS**

Greg N9SA started the hunters off with a good signal to the NW. Paul and I wondered if Lake St or the Ike was the best route. We found out quickly. As we past Rt 83 on the Ike, we realized that Greg was very close to Rt 83. We were, however, committed to 290/355 intersection and back on Lake St.

We got close and made another mistake - going for a small road east of Villa Rd and north to a deadend. We then drove back to Lake St and south on Ellsworth and found Greg on a gravel road a few hundred feet were we were before off Villa Rd. But we were 3rd only 9 min behind Tom who won and a few min behind Charlie and Alexis.

Munchies were at the Elmhurst House on Grand Ave.
Results:

1. Tom N9CBA 2Charlie KB9DIM, Alexis
3. Mike WA9FTS, Paul N9LXF

Peoria Superfest 2006 September 16th and 17th



Exposition Gardens
1601 W Northmoor Road
Peoria, Illinois

GPS: 40 Deg 45.9 min N, 89 deg 37.09 min W



HOURS Friday: Set-up Day Saturday: Flea Market: 7 AM to Dusk Indoor Commercial Exhibits: 8 AM-4:30 PM Sunday: Flea Market: 7 AM to 3 PM Indoor Commercial Exhibits: 8 AM- 2 PM		PRIZES GREAT Hourly Prizes Sat & Sun starting 10 AM! Unclaimed hourly prizes redrawn Sunday, After GRAND prize drawing at 2 PM. (Grand Prize Ticket Holder need not be present.)	
TICKETS Double Stub Advance Tickets \$6.00 Under 12 First! GOOD ALL WEEKEND! Single Stub Ticket at Gate \$8.00		OUTDOOR FLEA MARKET SPACES \$5.00 (Approximately 20' x20') (Renewals Must be Paid by July 1 to Ensure Same Space)	
ORDER ON-LINE with Paypal Flea Market Spaces Advance Tickets http://www.peoriasuperfest.com		ORDER BY MAIL Advance Tickets, Flea Market Spaces and Indoor Commercial Exhibits Peoria Superfest P.O. Box 3508 Peoria, IL 61612-3508 InfoLine: 309-692-3378 E-mail: wstuvl@arrl.net	
TALK-IN 147.075+	FCC TESTING - Sunday ONLY 11:30 AM - 1 PM	ARRL QSL Card Checking Saturday Only	
FORUMS Saturday Only		FREE PARKING	

Orders for Advance Tickets and Flea Market should contain a #10 SASE and must be received by Sept. 1, 2006.

Name: _____	QTY: _____	ITEM: _____	EACH: _____	EXTENDED
Address: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
City, State, ZIP: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
			TOTAL: \$_____	

Make checks payable to Peoria Superfest, or order online at <http://www.peoriasuperfest.com>

FCC WON'T SAY PUBLICLY WHEN IT WILL ACT ON MORSE CODE ISSUE

All bets appear to be off as to when the FCC might make a final decision on deleting the Morse code requirement. Last July, an FCC Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O) in WT Docket 05-235 proposed to eliminate the Element 1 (5 WPM) Morse code requirement for all license classes. Most observers expected the Commission to release a Report and Order (R&O) to that effect by the end of this year, but even that timetable could prove optimistic, based on what the Commission will say publicly. Before tackling the Morse proceeding, the FCC wants to wrap up another important Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, the so-called "omnibus" or "phone band expansion" proceeding. Responding to an ARRL inquiry, FCC personnel would not go on the record and declined even to hazard a ballpark guess on when the FCC might act on either Amateur Radio proceeding.

"They're at different points in the process," an FCC staffer said, refraining from saying anything that might suggest a commitment. "One is farther along in the review chain than the other." The staff member indicated that the "omnibus" proceeding is "way ahead" of the Morse proceeding in the WTB pipeline.

The FCC staffers attempted to assure ARRL that the WTB has not been sitting on its hands. "It takes a while to plow through 4000 comments," one said, referring to the huge

volume of opinions filed in the Morse docket. "It's not being neglected." The staff member did allow that WTB staff had completed its comment review in the Morse proceeding but wouldn't say when it might see the light of day. "I'd hesitate to say," one staff member demurred. Neither would even say whether the WTB expected to conclude either proceeding by the end of 2006.

"They should probably start learning code," one staffer advised those waiting for the FCC to drop the Morse requirement before upgrading, noting that a Certificate of Successful Completion of Exam (CSCE) for a written exam element is only good for a year. Even after the FCC goes public with its decision on Morse code, still more time is likely to pass before any new rules go into effect, the staff member pointed out.

Earlier this year an WTB staffer, speaking without attribution, told ARRL, "We certainly hope to release WT Docket 05-235 sometime this year, but we're not making any predictions at this time. We certainly are not saving up any big announcements for Dayton Hamvention."

Bill Cross, W3TN, the FCC Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division staff member who typically addresses Amateur Radio-related proceedings during Dayton Hamvention's FCC forum, won't be attending this year's show.

LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD REACHES 100 MILLION QSO MARK

ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, has announced that the Logbook of the World (LoTW) now contains more than 100 million individual QSO records.

"With the end of the solar cycle upon us, I think this is just great," Kramer said. "It is exciting to see this level of activity in what is supposed to be a 'dead' period. It is gratifying to see so many people uploading their QSOs, and we hope it continues."

LoTW is a repository of log records submitted by users from around the world. When both participants in a QSO submit matching QSO records to LoTW, the result is a "QSL" that can be used for ARRL award credit. There have been more than 5.6 million QSO matches since LoTW began operation on September 15, 2003.

Dayton Hamvention 2006 attendance nearly even with last year's: Dayton Hamvention? 2006 General Chairman Jim Nies, WX8F, reports that the estimated attendance for the May 19-21 event was very nearly the same as last year's.

“Our best estimates for attendance at 2006 Hamvention put the number at 20,324, a slight drop from 2005, but still within the ballpark for the three latest all-volunteer Hamvention years,” Nies told ARRL. In 2005, an ARRL Convention year, 20,411 visitors attended Hamvention. The number of attendees in 2004 was calculated at 19,869. Nies said the Dayton Amateur Radio Association’s Hamvention Committee will conduct a critique meeting June 13 to identify areas of Hamvention that need improvement and to discuss possible solutions, although Nies says that process already has begun informally. “Some committee chairmen have begun planning their timelines and their recruiting for next year,” he adds.

Ebbing sunspots fail to stanch flood of QSL

cards: Despite the fact that the current sunspot cycle is nearing its low point, the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service is doing a brisk business. “We are seeing bigger numbers this year as compared to last year,” says ARRL Outgoing QSL Service Manager Sharon Taratula. “It’s amazing, considering where we are in the sunspot cycle.” By late May, the Outgoing QSL Service had received 66,150 QSL cards, she says. That compares with 54,850 cards received during the entire month of May 2005—a difference of 11,200 QSLs. “In 2006 so far, we have received 60,025 more cards than we had by this time in 2005,” Taratula said. The volume of outgoing QSL cards reflects the trend, although not all cards received—especially those destined for rarer DXCC entities—go out right away in the bi-monthly mailings to foreign bureaus. “This year so far, we have shipped 530,250 cards,” she says. “That’s 5400 more cards than we’d shipped by this time last year.” The 2005 total was 1,137,550 cards. In the current solar cycle, the number of cards shipped via the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service topped 1.9 million cards in the 2001-2002 period. The Outgoing QSL Service sorts and forwards QSLs received from US radio amateurs to Bureaus in 225 countries.

ARRL “DXCC Dialog” blog debuts:

The ARRL DXCC Desk has inaugurated the “DXCC Dialog Weblog” <<http://www.arrl.org/blog/DXCC%20Dialog>> — containing news and notes about the ARRL DXCC program. “This page will have up-to-date information about the DXCC program,” says ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG. “It does not provide for users to post responses, But authors and e-mail addresses are listed.” The blog will be updated as needed to inform and update the DXing community regarding news of interest.

UN MAKES IT OFFICIAL: MONTENEGRO NOW NUMBER 336 ON THE CURRENT DXCC LIST

A new ARRL DXCC entity came into being this week! As expected, the United Nations admitted the Republic of Montenegro as its 192nd member June 28, and that action automatically makes the tiny Balkan nation the 336th current DXCC entity.

“According to the ARRL DXCC List criteria, entities on the UN list of member-states qualify as political entities,” said ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG. “Therefore, effective June 28, 2006 (UTC), ARRL has added The Republic of Montenegro to the DXCC List. Claims for DXCC credit will be accepted immediately.”

The Daily DX this week quoted Ranko Boca, YT6A, that current Montenegrin radio amateurs may use their current Serbia-Montenegro call signs until the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) designates a call sign block for the new country.

In anticipation of Montenegro’s new nation status, International DX Festival Montenegro <<http://www.yu6scg.cg.yu/international-dx-festival.html>> has been set for July 20 until August 12. That’s when several international operators — with Boca as DXpedition leader and well-known DXer Martti Laine, OH2BH, as radio operations leader — will join forces with Montenegrin Amateur Radio operators from at least three different stations using a common call sign in an effort to meet the DX community’s need to work the newest DXCC Entity. Festival organizers have set the ambitious goal of 200,000 contacts for the event, which will use all HF bands.

The event also will include several basic courses on ham radio operating and CEPT license examinations aimed at new and less-experienced radio amateurs. Another goal is to establish an Amateur Radio Club of Montenegro

Others scheduled to take part in the DX Festival include ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, and XYL Linda, KA1ZD; 3Y0X team member Bob Grimmick, N6OX; IARU Region 1 Executive Committee member Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T; Carsten Esch, DL6LAU, and Vladan Kecman, YT3T/YU1AO.

Montenegro declared its independence on June 3 following a national referendum May 21.—The Daily DX; ARRL DXCC Desk

September 2006

What's Happening This Month at CFMC!

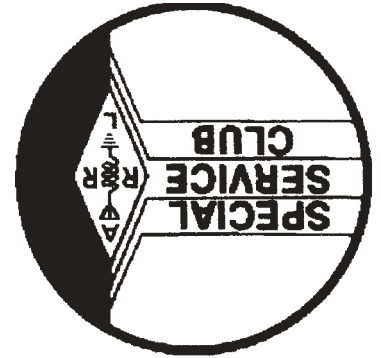
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Members Celebrating Their Birthdays This Month!

*** TBA = To Be Announce**



AFFILIATED CLUB



Address Correction Requested

CHICAGO FM CLUB
PO BOX 1532
EVANSTON IL 60204

OFFICERS

President

Phil Amato N9PA

Vice President

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Ham Help K9FFY

Programs KB9AJM

Radio Expo WA9EMY

Refreshments N9KTW

Squelch Tale K9FFY

Technical W9XB

VE Testing NK9A

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.