

The Chicago FM Club's
Newsletter

"SQUELCH TALE"

Volume
2006
Number 2
February

Valentine's Day

"THE PREZ SEZ"

I just returned from the Wheaton hamfest. They had a pretty good turnout, but like years ago when it was at the Odium. Many of the vendors I talked to were excited about our new hamfest dates and I know they're happy in Peoria about



nothing
the hams
Expo 2006
our new dates.

The point I'd like to make is you can live in the past and remember how great things use to be or you can grab some of the enthusiasm and hopefully make something of it.

I have been mentioning for years now that we need new ideas and people for Radio Expo. Many of the personal have been volunteering for so many years now I can't keep count. As many of you know the club depends on Radio Expo to buy the goodies that make CFMC the premier repeater in the Chicago land area.

With these new dates let's start out with some new ideas, and hopefully make Radio Expo 2006 not just an ordinary hamfest, but one they'll be talking about and saying it was so good I can't wait until next year.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at our next general meeting.



73 de Phil N9PA

JANUARY BOARD MEETING

The January Board meeting was held at Dino's Restaurant. Those in attendance were;

N9PA WA9EMY K9FFY KA9HHH WA9EMY
KC9ENZ N9KTW W9XB WA9KOD

The meeting was called to order at 7:15pm.

SECRETARY K9FFY

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

TREASURER KA9HHH

Bob asked that his report as printed in Squelch Tale be accepted with no corrections or additions. The Board voted to accept his report.

TECHNICAL W9XB

The Club received much equipment for the 2 Meter repeater when we moved to the Aon Building. There is some antenna and hard line available to the Club and we will look into acquiring if it does not increase our rent at the site. Rick would like to replace the 220MHZ North antenna in the future.

RADIO EXPO WA9EMY

Jimmy asked about the advertising budget and the budget for raffle prizes. Jim will check into CQ magazine on their ad rates.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:pm.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

The following CFMC members renewed during January;

KC9AVM N9DRF KC9FGG WD9GIX W9IVJ
KA9IXQ KB9JIO WD9JKW AB9JV KB9KJ
WA9KUK KD9MF W9MUF WB9PJW WB9PTA
KB9QPQ KB9RTP N9RWD N9SMN WA9TWA
WY9U KC9YG N9ZON KA9ZXN

The following former members chose not to renew;

WW9E KB9WPA

The Chicago FM Club Yahoo Group is Now Online

You're invited to join The Chicago FM Club Yahoo Group which is established to promote communication and radio knowledge among Chicago FM Club members and fellow amateur radio enthusiasts. All you need to participate is access to a computer and an email address.

The CFMC Yahoo Group is a free Internet service which allows a Group subscriber to post messages, chat, and share photos & files with all CFMC Yahoo Group subscribers.

By sending one email message to the CFMC Yahoo Group, each subscriber will receive a copy of that message within minutes. It's a great way to contact fellow CFMC members, announce upcoming events, share information, and ask technical & troubleshooting questions

Membership is open to Chicago FM Club members and fellow radio amateurs.

To learn more about or to join the CFMC Yahoo Group, please visit: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CFMC> OR send an email to KC9ENZ@gmail.com with your name and callsign. An invitation to join will be sent to your email address. Just hit the "Join" button and follow the instructions to become an instant subscriber.

We hope to see you soon on the CFMC Yahoo Group.

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 January general meeting;

KD8ANJ	ROBERT L. EISENHART
KB9OOR	LARRY JASINEK
KF9TB	ROBERT FELIX
KB9QLP	PAUL ROGERS

**FOR FIRST READING AT THE
FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING**

KC9ISB	JOHN KARAVITIS	(N9PA K9FFY)
N9TWE	TOM WILKUS	(N9PA K9FFY)

JANUARY 2006 FOXHUNT

Tom N9CBA was the fox but forgot. He showed up at the starting point and then had to go find a hiding place. Ten minutes later he was on the air to start the hunters on their way. This hunt was a good example of not being too quick. The first one to drive past the fox is not always the winner. Paul and I did just that taking 1st Ave to the south frontage road of the Ike. We traveled east right past Tom in a parking lot. Since he was horizontal, we got terrible readings when we were east of him. We traveled north, west, south and east again. Greg was a bit slower and traveled the same route. But he was very close to Tom during a transmission and went in to find him for the win. Charlie overshot by quite a bit north and had a lot of trouble with the horizontal signals. He finally came in for 2nd. We were very frustrated and traveled to about where Charlie was - north of Tom and came in again from the west and had less trouble to end the hunt. We met a Portillo's west on Roosevelt Rd for the munch. Results:

1. Greg N9SA
2. Charlie KB9DIM, Alexis
3. Mike WA9FTS, Paul N9LXF

THE STARVED ROCK RADIO CLUB'S

PRINCETON HAMFEST, COMPUTER & HOBBY SHOW

BUREAU COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS--PRINCETON, IL

TALK-IN FREQUENCY 146.955-800 PL 103.5

June 3th & 4th 2006

RADIOS / COMPUTERS / ELECTRONICS FOR EVERYONE

Three large indoor exhibit buildings-- LARGE Outdoor flea market area

GATES OPEN AT 6:00AM and BUILDINGS OPEN AT 8:00 AM BOTH DAYS

Tickets Are Good For Both Days

HOURLY PRIZE DRAWINGS	ADVANCE TICKETS \$ 5.00 (2 STUBS)	AT THE GATE \$ 7.00 (1 STUB)
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For Tables Or Tickets Contact

Matthew Weaver KB9VZH

Ph.# 815-433-2117 or email: w9mkshamfest@yahoo.com

For General Info Contact: KB9RKHU PH. # 815-539-8477 email: w9mkshamfest@yahoo.com

KB9PZA email: w9mkshamfest@yahoo.com

Website: www.QSL.net/w9mks/hamfest.htm email: w9mkshamfest@yahoo.com

I-80 TO EXIT 56, SOUTH TO ROUTE 6,

THEN WEST TO THE FAIRGROUNDS

Directions GPS N41°22.350' W089°28.568'

PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE FOR LATEST INFO & LIST OF VENDORS

Onsite Camping Available with Bureau County Fairgrounds: Price is \$ 10.00 per nite for utilities

Contact: Bureau County Fair for more info (all camping fees will be collected by the Fairboard)

Website: <http://bcfair.home.mchsi.com>

Phone: 815-875-2905 Fair Office

To Help Keep Ticket Costs Down, Please Do Not Dispose of Computer & Electronics Equipment on the Grounds!

Request for Exhibit Space in Main Buildings or Tickets:

Name/Callsign: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ E-Mail: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Web Site URL: _____

Please reserve _____ 8' tables @ \$10.00 each. Please furnish _____ tickets @ \$5.00 each (two stubs).

Total Enclosed: \$ _____ MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SRRC

MAIL TO: SRRC HAMFEST c/o SRRC, P.O. Box 198, Leonore, IL 61332

Please include a #10 size (business) SASE with your request.

Building assignment at discretion of SRRC. Do not mail table/ticket requests after May 1, 2006.

*** NOTE: Tables are \$15.00 each after May 15, 2006.

TREASURER'S REPORT

January 2006

Income		
Membership Dues		
Regular Dues		465.00
Senior and >20 years		165.00
Total Membership Dues		630.00
Total Income		630.00
Expense		
Board Meeting		120.00
Meetings		11.68
P.O. Box Rental		26.00
Postage and Delivery		
Radio Expo		234.00
Total Postage and Delivery		234.00
Printing and Reproduction		
Radio Expo		33.54
Total Printing and Reproduction		33.54
Rent		
Lake County Fairgrounds		1,000.00
Rent, Site Rental-1660 LaSalle		175.00
Total Rent		1,175.00
Squelch Tale		
Squelch Tale - Postage		81.40
Squelch Tale - Printing		173.60
Total Squelch Tale		255.00
Telephone		
220 control-32		21.55
2mtr & 440 Aon - 073		43.05
440 Control-49		21.52
Ham Help Line-773		20.51
Total Telephone		106.63
Total Expense		1,961.85
Net Ordinary Income		-1,331.85
Net Income		-1,331.85
Available Capital	01/01/2006	13,333.23
Net Income	January	-1,331.85
Total Available Funds		12,001.38

Respectfully submitted:

Bob Schiff KA9HHH Treasurer

RESTRUCTURING: ARRL PRES SAYS TO BRING BACK THE NOVICE CLASS

And speaking about restructuring one person who thinks the FCC is wrong in not considering an entry level license is ARRL president Jim Haynie, W5JBP. In fact, Haynie believes it is time to bring back the novice license, but with a few changes for the 21st century. Amateur Radio Newline's Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, spoke with President Haynie about this back to the future idea:

Jim Haynie is pretty adamant about the issue. And, he thinks the FCC is missing an opportunity.

"Back when I was first a novice, I got a good taste of what was going on HF and how we could do long-distance communications," Haynie says. "Today, we don't have that. What we have is what I would call - and this is my own personal opinion - a 2-meter ghetto."

Haynie says he's not disparaging those who operate 2-meters and use it for hobby communication or public service activities. Rather, Haynie says to only open the door ajar to allow for 2-meter operations for new licensees doesn't go far enough.

"What I would like to see is the FCC to turn around and give some voice privileges on HF so people that are new in amateur radio an ability to find out what it's like to talk to foreign countries," Haynie says.

Haynie agrees he speaks with some nostalgia. But he also feels new people coming into amateur radio aren't getting the whole picture.

"I know when I was a novice, I worked 40 meters and knew a bunch of people all over the world," Haynie recalls. "And where 40 meters would propagate to. And that gave me the taste of amateur radio as far as HF communications goes.

"I think that's something we need to have today, I really do. And, what's going on is the fact that the new people coming into amateur radio don't have that ability."

It was January 2004 when the ARRL board took a position endorsing a new, entry level class it called novice with HF voice and cw privileges. The ARRL's proposal called for limited HF voice activity for the new novices on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters. It also suggested restricting power output to 100 watts on 80, 40, and 15 meters, and 50 watts on 10 meters.

Haynie says the board's position really hasn't changed. "All of the board members are fully in agreement and we feel like that a novice class license with HF voice

privileges are something that would be very important and the question is can I convince the FCC," Haynie says. So far, the FCC has pretty much rebuffed the ARRL's plan, but Haynie vows he won't give up.

"I think what we'll have to do is spend some time in talking to the commission about where that would go and what it would do to enhance amateur radio and the new licensees coming on the air," Haynie says.

HAM AID: FAR SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN

The Foundation for Amateur Radio has announced that it plans to administer 54 scholarships for the 2006 through 2007 academic year. This, in the hope of assisting hams who are planning on attending full-time institutions of higher learning.

The awards range from \$500 to \$2500. In some cases preference is given to residents of a given geographical area or to those who are pursuing certain courses of study.

The Foundation for Amateur Radio is a Federal 501c 3 tax exempt organization devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio. For additional information and an application form, write to F-A-R Scholarships, PO Box 831, Riverdale, Maryland, 20738. The cutoff date to apply is April 30, 2006. (FAR)

FUTURES FILE: TIME IS NEAR WHEN CELLPHONES WILL REPLACE COMPUTERS

Qualcomm chairman Irwin Jacobs says the memory and processing power in today's cellphones are the equivalent of a Pentium III computer running at 550 MHz. He predicts Moore's Law will soon boost that equation to make cellphones the personal computers of tomorrow. Jacobs also thinks most major metropolitan areas of the United States will offer video on demand by the end of 2006.

DXAC NEWS

President Haynie has also reappointed Jim O'Connell, W9WU, to another one- year term as chairman of the DX Advisory Committee. O'Connell has headed up the DXAC for the past two years.

March 2006

What's Happening This Month at CFMC!

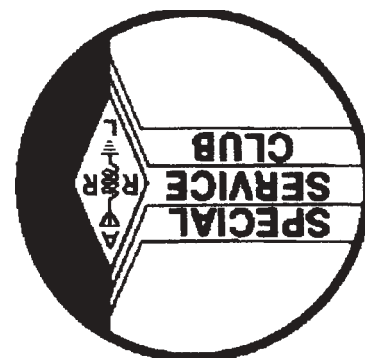
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Members Celebrating Their Birthdays This Month!

*** 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

Dennis Krawczak KC9ENZ

Mike Brost WA9FTS

Howard Goldberg N9KTW

Steve Bosnyak K9VO

Rick Duel W9XB

Trustee

Howard Goldberg N9KTW

Chairmen

Fox Hunts WA9FTS

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.