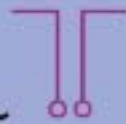


SQUELCH TALE



Chicago FM Club

Volume
2007
Number 5
May

Mothers Day - May 13



Memorial Day - May 28



PRESIDENT CORNER

Due to a fatal crash of the Presidents computer power supply, there is no "Presidents Corner" this month.

SECRETARIES REPORTS

The Secretaries reports never got to the Squelch Tale editor this month either.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Preliminary Draft - April 28, 2007

April Income

Membership Dues	\$241.00
Raffle Revenue	\$55.00
Expo Tickets Sales	\$132.00
Expo Table Rentals	\$00.00
Expo Electric Indoor Sales	\$00.00
Expo Electric Outdoor Sales	\$00.00
Total Expo Income	\$132.00
Total April Income	\$428.00

April Expenses

April Meeting Refreshments	\$23.66
Squelch Tale Printing	\$57.40
Squelch Tale Mailing	\$31.20
Picnic Permit Bunker Hill	\$110.00
Expo Travel	\$16.95
Telephone	
312-861	\$52.37
312-944	\$25.99
312-337	\$25.99
Ham Help Line-773	\$50.45
Total Telephone Expense	\$154.82
Total April Expenses	-\$394.03
Net Gain for April 2007	\$33.97
Available Cash as of 3/28/2007	\$10,383.10
Plus April Net Gain	\$33.97
Total Available Cash	\$10,417.07

as 04/28/07

Submitted by

Dennis M. Krawczak,

April 2007 CFMC Foxhunt
by Mike WA9FTS

Paul N9LXF and Mike WA9FTS hid for Don W9RA who was fishing out east. We found a dead end street on the west end of Glenview at the end of Longvalley Rd. We ran a j-pole up about 7 ft attached to a tree and running 30 w. We had a weak signal at the starting point (Harlem and Cermak). The hunters had a north reading and headed west to I-294. Tom continued to receive a signal that got stronger as he headed north. It then started to swing east. Tom got off at Willow Rd and south into the smallest town of Golf. Tom walked across a small bridge to find us for the win. Charlie lost the signal and never got close. Later he met us at Portillo's on Skokie Blvd just south of Golf Rd.

Results:

1. Tom N9CBA
DNF Charlie KB9DIM, Alexis and friend

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Tim, WD9DZV was awarded the ARRL's A-1 Operator certificate. You can not apply for this award, you must be recommended independently by two amateurs who already belong to the A-1 Operators Club. The award is for adherence to several principals of good operating; careful keying, good operating practice, correct procedure, copying ability, judgement, and courtesy.

DZV's DITS AND BITS by Tim, WD9DZV

FCC denies "Hams For Action" Petition For Rule Making: In a February 28 letter

<http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-07-898A1.pdf>, the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) denied a petition for rule making filed last July by Don Schellhardt, KI4PMG, on behalf of "Hams for Action" (HFA). The petition requested that the FCC adopt rules, under certain circumstances, to override private deed covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs) preventing radio amateurs from installing antennas and antenna support structures. HFA asked the FCC to preempt CC&Rs that fail to provide reasonable accommodation for any ham certified as an "emergency communications operator." Scot Stone, deputy chief of the WTB's Mobility Division, said the FCC "has previously addressed the question of whether to preempt

CC&Rs in deeds and bylaws” that restrict the installation of Amateur Radio antennas and support structures. Stone said the FCC’s PRB-1 decision <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/local/prb-1.html>> established a policy of limited preemption of state and local regulations governing ham radio facilities, including antennas and support structures, but expressly decided not to extend the limited preemption policy to CC&Rs in home ownership deeds and condominium bylaws because home buyers and tenants enter into such agreements voluntarily. The HFA “has not presented grounds for the Commission to revisit this policy,” Stone concluded.

Do not follow instructions in bogus e-mails:

The ARRL is alerting members — and especially users of the ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service <<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/emailfwd.html>> — about bogus e-mails that claim to be from the “arrl.net user support team.” There is no such entity, and the messages do not originate with ARRL but appear to be coming from outside the US. Recipients should not follow the instructions in the e-mail, which reads, “We have received reports that your e-mail account has been used to send a large amount of unsolicited commercial email messages during this week. We suspect that your computer had been infected by a recent virus and now contains a hidden proxy server. We recommend you to follow our instructions in order to keep your computer safe.” Following the instructions will have the opposite effect, however, infecting your computer with the MyDoom Trojan worm and making it part of a spamming network. The League urges all members to invest in and use anti-virus software.

DZV’s DITS and Bits by Tim, WD9DZV

FCC fines shop for selling non-certified CBs as ham gear: In a Forfeiture Order http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-07-881A1.pdf released March 2, the FCC has affirmed a \$7000 fine it levied on Ben Metzger of Titusville, Florida, doing business as 1 Stop Communications / 1 Stop CB Shop, for marketing non-certified Citizens Band transceivers. The FCC’s Tampa Office issued Metzger a Citation in March 2006 for marketing certain Galaxy and Connex transceivers. Metzger has asserted that the units are Amateur Radio transceivers, which do not require FCC certification, not CB transceivers, which do. The FCC says the units are intended for use on CB as well as on amateur frequencies through a simple modification, and it has determined that such dual-use transceivers are CB transceivers under its rules. Metzger told the Commission last May that he’d removed the radios mentioned in the Citation from his store. In June 2006, the FCC declined

to withdraw the citation on the basis that the transceivers were marketed as ham gear. Agents from the Tampa FCC office later revisited the shop and were able to buy a Connex CX 3300HP, which they say Metzger modified to operate on part of 10 meters as well as on CB and other frequencies (25.615 to 28.305 MHz). Metzger still maintains that the Connex CX 3300HP is a ham transceiver and that he did not violate any FCC rules, the FCC said.

KNOW YOUR PRIVILEGES! MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT REGARDING TECH HF PRIVILEGES

Some Technician licensees who gained new privileges February 23 remain unaware or uninformed as to what they may and may not do on the HF bands, says ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND. In addition to all Amateur Radio operating privileges above 50 MHz, Technicians who never passed a Morse code test now have CW privileges on certain segments of 80, 40 and 15 meters plus CW, RTTY, data and SSB privileges on certain segments of 10 meters. And that’s it. “Know your privileges <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bands.html>>,” Henderson advises all Amateur Radio licensees. He says some Technicians apparently believe their new HF phone privileges go far beyond what they really have.

“Technicians have no phone privileges on any HF band other than 10 meters, period!” Henderson emphasizes. “That’s the bottom line. If you want to operate phone on the other HF bands, you’ll have to upgrade to General or Amateur Extra class.”

A lot of Technician licensees appear to have done just that, according to statistics compiled by Joe Speroni, AH0A <<http://ah0a.org/FCC/Licenses.html>>. So far in March, the number of General class licensees is up by more than 2700 over the February figure to 134,173, after hitting a 5-year low of just under 131,000 in January. The number of Technicians dropped by 4655 in the same period to 318,838. Speroni notes, however, that his mid-month figures tend to underestimate actual totals.

Most Technician license holders face a learning curve to take advantage of their new CW privileges on HF, but they no longer have to pass a Morse code examination. Technicians also may use their new HF privileges without having to apply for them first. No other license class automatically acquired additional privileges February 23. The “omnibus” rule changes effective last December 15 did not give Technician licensees without Morse code credit any additional privileges either.

Henderson further warns new Techs not to extrapolate additional phone privileges by misconstruing the FCC Part 97 rules to mean something they don’t. “Calls I’ve been getting

lately indicate that some misinformed individuals believe Technicians may operate 'digital voice' on 80, 40 and 15, where they have only CW privileges," he says. "Not true. Digital voice is really digitized voice, and it's not permitted in non-phone band segments."

Henderson reiterates that Technicians do not have FM voice privileges on 10 meters — or on any other HF band, for that matter. The HF privileges all Technicians now have are equivalent to those that Novice licensees enjoy, Henderson notes. "This also means the 200 W maximum power limit still applies, regardless of where you operate in the HF bands," he says. Technicians may operate at up to the legal limit on VHF and UHF, however.

On 10 meters, Technician and Novice licensees have CW, RTTY and data privileges from 28.000 to 28.300 MHz, and CW and SSB privileges from 28.300 to 28.500 MHz. "We're sorry that the sunspots aren't favoring 10 meters at this point in the sunspot cycle, but they will in a few years," Henderson allowed.

In addition, Technicians and Novices have CW — and only CW — privileges on from 3.525 to 3.600 MHz on 80 meters, from 7.025 to 7.125 MHz on 40 meters and 21.025 to 21.200 MHz on 15 meters.

Henderson believes at least some of the confusion may have originated with a few brand-new or inexperienced Technician licensees who heard that the FCC deleted the Morse code requirement to obtain an Amateur Radio license, but paid little attention to the fine print. "And we all know the devil's in the details," Henderson says. "Remember, the FCC requires you to know where you may and may not operate and with what modes. Stick to the privileges your license allows or risk hearing from the FCC."

CFMC ARRL/CQ AWARDS MANAGER

Are you trying for your DXCC, Worked All States, or 5-Band Worked All States or that very difficult VHF-UHF Century Club Award (VUCC)? How about the many awards from CQ? If so CFMC can help.

Not actually in getting your contacts or getting your QSL's back but, once you have the necessary cards confirmed that's where our CFMC ARRL/CQ Awards Manager Tim, WD9DZV comes in. He can verify your application and your cards so that you do not have to send them off to someone in another city and chance losing them in the mail. Tim is usually at some of the CFMC general meetings. Tim can verify your cards there, or if you wish you can make an appointment with him to check your cards.

One point to remember, if there are any corrections on the card, like a correction from SSB to CW, then the card is no good. The ARRL rules specifically state that no corrections are allowed on a card, no matter who made the correction. We

did receive a card from a station in Arkansas and they had written 20 in the "MHZ" column and then wrote 14 over it. Even though it could be argued that he tried to put 20 meters and then changed it to 14 MHZ the card has been altered and not valid. We sent it back to the station and requested a corrected card.

The ARRL and CQ charge fees for most of the awards. Be sure that you bring a check made out to the ARRL or CQ for the correct fee amount with you. Don't forget a large enough size SASE and the required amount of postage for me to submit the award. The Awards manager now must submit the award form, not the applicant.

73's and good luck in seeking your awards. Any questions, you can reach Tim, WD9DZV via the roster, or E-Mail to: wd9dzv@arrl.net

New EchoLink publication:

A new and easy to understand introduction to Echolink has been published on the World Wide Web. Although intended for the United Kingdom's MB7IPH-L node the information is equally applicable to Echolink operation world-wide. The PDF can be downloaded from <http://www.headcorn.org/echolink/intro.pdf> (Southgate)

CQ introduces HF Operator's Survival Guide:

In response to recent changes in licensing rules and operating privileges for all hams, the editors of CQ Amateur Radio magazine have prepared an HF Operator's Survival Guide, a 16-page getting-started guide for newcomers to high-frequency (short-wave) Amateur Radio communications. Written by CQ Contesting Editor John Dorr, K1AR, Contributing Editor Gordon West, WB6NOA, and CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, the booklet is a practical, hands-on guide to success in HF ham radio. "Starting out on HF can be pretty intimidating, especially now, at the bottom of the sunspot cycle, when DX opportunities are harder to find," said Moseson, who also oversaw the guide's overall production.

"This practical guide will help the new HF operator, regardless of license class, hit the air running." Among other topics, the book discusses the characteristics of each HF ham band and explains which is best and when, basic HF operating practices, choosing your first HF transceiver, antenna basics, and various HF modes and operating activities. There's also an HF band chart. The HF Operator's Survival Guide is \$2 (plus shipping), with discounts available for bulk purchases. To order, or for more information, contact CQ Communications Inc, 800-853-9797 (toll-free) weekdays 9 AM to 5 PM Eastern Time.

June 2007

What's Happening This Month at CFMC!

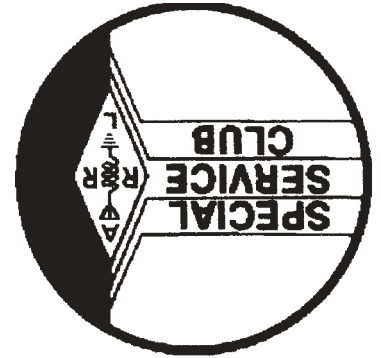
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<p>17</p> <p>KB9JDV Father's Day</p>	<p>18</p> <p>KA9ABU KA9ZZA KF9TB</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Saturn Net at 8:00pm CFMC Net at 9:00pm on 146.76 MHZ</p>	<p>20</p> <p>GENERAL MEETING Location *TBA VEC Testing Tonight</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>KB9YEK</p>	<p>23</p> <p>FIELD DAY</p>																																																																																																	
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Members Celebrating Their Birthdays This Month!

*** TBA = To Be Announce**



AFFILIATED CLUB



Address Correction Requested

CHICAGO FM CLUB
PO BOX 47648
CHICAGO, IL 60647-0648

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Program/Picnic 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 last day of every month. Contact k9mfm@arrl.net or 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 1200 feet. The eight receiver sites are located in Chicago, Park Ridge, Worth, Waukegan, Barrington, Downers Grove, Lake Calumet and Joliet. Short QSO's are encouraged during morning and evening rush hours. AutoPatch is available to members in good standing. Echolink is available to All. Write for details and access codes. Breakers should be allowed immediate access.

222.50/224.10MHZ Carrier Access

On site located of the Chicago Loop. 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. EchoLink is available to All Breakers should be allowed immediate access.