



**Volume
2009
Number 4
April**

Presidents Corner

April is here; time to check antennas, longwires and beams. Next, yardwork and house repairs.

CFMC held it's March meeting at Brandy's Restaurant at Archer and Cicero, Chicago. Forty Hams came, some as far as Mundelein and Schaumburg. We had a very good dinner and a productive meeting focusing on many issues which will be in the Secretary's report, see CFMC Board Minutes. Many Hams stayed after the meeting and talked.

The Board and officers are hard at work planning the up and coming events. For these events to succeed we need every member's help by joining committees. Each committee will have a specific duty which will help run any and every event smoothly and efficiently without overburdening any other members.

Due to weather, last year the club lost money. This year at EXPO, we hope to recoup some of that and make a PROFIT. One way is by you, the members, participating in this event. We need to have more participation with members selling tickets and volunteering. The EXPO is the big money maker for the club. Parts and equipment cost more today and your participation is crucial in making the CFMC a success. We also need volunteers for the Technical Committee, the Annual Picnic, Christmas Party and any other special events that will be planned. Instead of complaining about the way the Board does things, get on a committee or the Board. When you become a member of the CFMC this is what you agreed to: Article III, Sec. 3, "All full members shall be expected to actively participate in the affairs of the organization."

Thanks and I look forward to working with all of you this year.

Ken Havlick KA9TRG



PRINT VERSION OF SQUELCH TALE

If you received the print version of the newsletter and you have an e-mail on file with the Club, there is something wrong with your e-mail address. When I get a notice that the newsletter cannot be delivered via e-mail for whatever reason, I send out Squelch Tale by regular mail.

CFMC Foxhunt - Feb 21st - by Mike WA9FTS

Charlie KB9DIM and Alexis N9VRA were the fox on the 2nd CFMC hunt of the year. There were 4 hunt teams ready to find the fox. Charlie's signal was weak which indicated he was either far away or close running low power. Paul N9LXF and I got a reading to the SE and we chose to go south on I355. Tony AA9CC and Tom N9CBA chose to take I290 SE. I thought Don W9RA was going that way also but he got gas at the local Mobil station and then south on I355. Most of the hunters did not hear Charlie until they got close within a few miles. Paul and I got off at Roosevelt and headed east and, in retrospect, circled the fox two times taking Harlem Av to Cermak and up River Rd to Roosevelt and around again. We finally found Industrial Rd between two cemeteries and parked next to a cell tower. We noticed footprints in the snow which we found out later to be made by Tony who win. Tom finished right after. Don walked in to the building west of the cell tower for 3rd. We ended the hunt. Charlie picked out the Oliver Garden - over an hour wait - then Chili's - 45 min; we settled on Portillo's. Results: 1. Tony AA9CC 2. Tom N9CBA 3. Don W9RA 4. Mike WA9FTS, Paul N9LXF

CFMC 2M Foxhunt - March 21st, 2009 Tony AA9CC

We hid on a hill. It wasn't our primary spot, but on the way to the bike shop we passed it and it seemed good enough, a park with a view. The spot we sought was posted and gated and the contiguous spot seemed to difficult for the hunters to access. We lugged the equipment up the path and set up the ground antenna on top of eight four foot fiberglass sections. Quite unwieldy as we leaned it against the upper branches of a tree. Initial test shown the led still lit and heard an 8 call repeater ID on 146.760. All hunters has a direction on low power, 5 watts and the hunt was off on time. The signal was fairly strong but did not come up in strength as N9CBA drove south on 355. He exited too early on Roosevelt but manage to beat N9LXF and WA9FTS to the finish, but by only minutes. They took 355 to

88 west but drove past the park. W9RA had equipment problems, no front to back on the beam and gave up at 9:30. Charlie was at home hosting Alexi's 13th birthday party. Munches were at the base of the hill at Salerno's Italian restaurant.

1 N9CBA 2 WA9FTS and N9LXF 3 W9RA DNF

Photos of the hunt are on the web page link "Foxhunts".

Here is the Treasurer's report:

WAMU Balance \$2959.55

Receipts \$1347.89

Disbursements \$3741.43

Nat City Balance \$1000.00

Detailed info available at the regular club meetings.

Mike WA9FTS

April Meeting

Mr. Phil Schwartz will give a program on Disaster Training and what is needed to join the Esda crew.

He is looking for special events and disaster operators.

If you know anyone who is able to give a program for our CFMC monthly meetings, please contact me at:

tom-kb9ajm@sbcglobal.net

Thank you, Tom Stobble Program Chairman

**CFMC Meeting Minutes 03/18/09
Brandy's Restaurant**

Taken by Tina KC9CMO

Attendance:

WA9FTS, KB9AJM, KA9TRG, N9CBE, K9VO, KC9LRZ, KE9SJ, W9XB, AB9OP, NK9A, WB9QZB, KC9CMO, KB9SAR, WA9KOD, N9LXF, WA9AYQ, K9MF, W9CHI, WA9KXZ, WB9ZNL, N9ALX, N9KTW, W9GFH, WD9GEH, K9WLS, K9BBQ, W9PXZ, KB9JVQ, KA9GUC, N9PA, KQ4G, WB9WIP, KA9TRQ, KB9QLP, K9NJM, W9GAM, KB9RGI, WB9SIK, W9MUF, KB9ELP and KB9RTP

Meeting called to order at 8:06pm

Minutes for the previous meetings were approved Jon KB9JVQ motioned and George W9GFH 2nd.

Readings, WB9GEH Paul Espinosa, KC9PDM Christopher Vail and W9ZCL Bill Shillington were all voted in as members. Congratulations!

Treasurers report:

Mike WA9FTS announced the balance of \$3142.40.

Continued on Page 3

Old Business:

Ken KA9TRG said he has asked Phil N9PA to continue negotiations with the AON building. Rick W9XB said the DSTAR system is now on site but not operational yet and Ken added that Pat has been busy but should be able to coordinate with Rick to get it done within the next week or so. Mark WB9QZB added that if you had to you could use DSTAR without the gateway but it is preferred to use DSTAR with it. He also brought up

The DSTAR user applications and Jerry WA9KZ volunteered to handle those for the club. Ken KA9TRG asked about the 10 meter site and Steve K9VO stated we can use one of the 2 meter sites but the best option is to link them between LGMG and LaSalle. Both Rick W9XB and Howard N9KWT agreed but Stan NK9A motioned to table it to the board meeting and Howard 2nd. Ken KA9TRG said the club received the AES table for the 3rd & 4th of April and we have volunteers so thanks you, the picnic is going as scheduled and Bob KB9SAR will assist Tom KB9AJM and Radio Expo is still moving forward however we are still awaiting the vendors. FYI: We are still looking for volunteers for EXPO. George W9GFH said he will help with Expo and Marc AB9OP stated he will be doing VE Testing at Expo as well. Ken KA9TRG asked Mike WA9FTS how it was going with the ID Tags and he said has some estimates and will finalize it by the next meeting then it was motioned by Howard to table the discussion till the next board meeting and Lynne N9CBE 2nd. Ken KA9TRG requested that anyone wanting to volunteer for the ESDA/RACIES program you can e-mail him at ka9trgport@sbcglobal.com. Paul KB9QLP asked what days the classes be held and was told it will vary. Tom KB9AJM stated he has handed the 220 South machine to Steve K9VO to handle and Steve said he is awaiting the part and the 2 meter antennae will be put up soon.

Rick W9XB closed the meeting at 8:57pm and George W9GFH 2nd.

KB9AJM won \$27 from the 50/50 raffle.

JUST SO YOU KNOW, there were 19 south side and 22 north side attendees.

OVER POWER CONSUMER TRANSMITTER LEADS TO FCC CITATION

Back on September 29, 2008, the Spectrum Enforcement Division of the Commission's Enforcement Bureau initiated an investigation into whether TAW Global, LLC, of Portage, Michigan had been marketing an unauthorized and non-compliant radio frequency device in the United States, called the Whole House FM Transmitter. In its response to a Letter of Inquiry the company responded that it began importing the Whole House FM Transmitter in May 2004. Also that it had imported a total of 18,371 units, and that it had distributed and

sold in the United States a total of 11,689 units through its website.

TAW Global also stated that the Whole House FM Transmitter is manufactured by Richfield Electronics Limited based in China, and that it is certified. According to TAW, it exercised due diligence by receiving verbal assurances and documentation from Richfield verifying that the FM Transmitter does indeed meet FCC requirements and has a proper ID. TAW did however acknowledge that the Whole House FM Transmitter was not properly labeled with the FCC ID, as required by Section 2.925 of the Rules.

But the FCC looks at things differently. In its February 26th official citation to TAW Global the FCC says that the consumer transmitter does not meet its specifications. It says that tests conducted by its Office of Engineering and Technology shows that samples tested exceed the power levels authorized under its rules.

The FCC ends by telling TAW Global that if after it receives the letter of Citation it again violates the rules regarding such devices that it will be subject to a fine of up to \$16,000 for each offense and each day the offense is permitted to continue.

TAW Global, LLC was given 30 days from the date the Citation was issued to respond.

FCC SAYS NO TO QUESTION POOL SIZE INCREASE

The FCC has denied a petition to increase the size of the question pools used to create amateur radio exams. Back in April of 2008, Michael Mancuso, KI4NGN, of Raleigh, North Carolina, had filed a petition with the FCC, seeking to increase the size of the question pools from 10 times the number of questions on an exam to 50 times more questions.

Now, almost a year later the FCC has told Mancuso that it is denying his request. The regulatory agency says that in its view, Mancuso did not present grounds for the Commission to amend its rules. It also noted that the purpose of the examinations is not to demonstrate an applicant's comprehension of certain material, but rather to determine whether he or she can properly operate an amateur station.

In his rules change request Mancuso had claimed that the current question pool is too easy to memorize and that there has been a significant increase in the number of Amateur Radio operators receiving

their licenses over at least the last decade or more who do not appear to possess the knowledge indicated by the class of license that they have received. But the FCC said it does not see it that way. In fact, the regulatory agency says that this claim on Mancuso's part is not supported by any data or facts.

**MISSING SUNSPOTS MAY HAVE BEEN
EMBEZZELED**

And finally this week, word that the mystery of the missing sunspots and lack of propagation may have been traced, incredibly, to some of the same roots as the current global economic crisis. Roaming Investigative Reporter Pierre Pullinmyleg has roamed into his shortwave communications news transmission center with the details he has uncovered:

It now appears zat convicted swindler Bernard Madoff not only made off with zee 65 billion dollars of investors' money, but with zee cycle 24 sunspots as well. A little-known corner of zee financial marketplace - actually more of a back alley - is zee sunspot futures market, where traders buy and sell based on predicted sunspot values for a given date.

ALL ARE WELCOME.

The 220 mhz guys brunch meets every Saturday morning 8:00 am at Brandy's Restaurant.

Amateurs and any one interested in becoming an amateur radio operator, please join us.

It is at Cicero/Archer at 52nd street.

It is close to Midway Airport.

Brandy's Restaurant 5200 S. Cicero Ave.

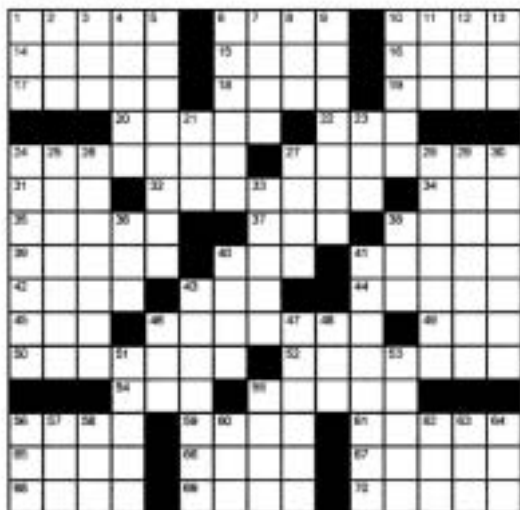
Chicago, IL 60638 773-767-0400

Any questions, contact Kelvin at w9bbq@sbcglobal.net

hope to see you there! The 220 mhz guys

Kelvin-W9BBQ Julius-W9GHZ Steve-KB9DSQ

Radiogrammer Chris Codella, W2PA



Across

1. Rock band Los
6. Polite XYL title
10. Cooper maker
14. Amplifier connector label. say
15. Light beige
16. Coax elbows
17. Loop type
18. Apple competitor
19. Phony DX
20. Sign in a radio station
22. Packet ckt.
24. NTS rock band?
27. Clues
31. Bamboozle
32. SV letter
34. B4, of yore
35. CW shorthand item
37. Single- or multi-, in propagation
38. Gator's cousin
39. Knight's need
40. NTS unit
41. Type of feed
42. Globe ____transmitter
43. ARRL volunteer official
44. Prefix with -single
45. Good report, using 35 -acrosses
46. W7 city
49. 76, 77 and 78 maker
50. Expressionless
52. Illicit rendezvous station?
54. Area net for 55-across
55. Region net for 12- down
56. Staff
59. Brain wave
61. Soldering tools
65. OOTC members
66. Jamaica
67. Bigger than picos
68. Bosses on 40-acrosses
69. Small dwellings
70. Isle of Man prefix

Down

1. Needer of too many fills
2. New year's nr
3. Traffic handling award
4. Words before band, on an FCC citation?
5. W6YX
6. Noble I-land family name
7. Tennis whiz
8. Characters before seventy three
9. Entry class
10. Early radio parts maker
11. 9RN place
12. A 30-down, in W2-land
13. An end to perfection?
21. Ready follower?
23. Transistor type
24. Long haul 52-across
25. Common preamble item
26. Where a radiogram enters the ether
27. Fox or turkey follower
28. Guy wire hardware items
29. ____back
30. ARRL unit
33. Word count
36. Batt. term. label
38. 7 MHz timer
40. Pre-LED amber light
41. Spreading, as with cream cheese
43. EA talk
46. Health resort
47. Forever
48. Humor newspaper namep late middle
51. Places to find antenna restrictions
53. Filter maker
55. RTTY conveyance
56. Area net for] I-down
57. RX ckt.
58. Old video game inits.
60. Was CR8, once
62. Band breaker
63. Dahdit, in F-land
64. Dir. from W2 to LV

May 2009

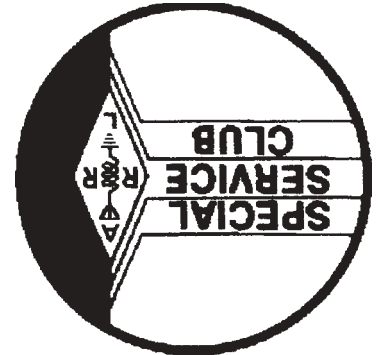
What's Happening This Month at CFMC!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																		
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10 K9YSE Mother's Day	11 K9QPM N9LSQ	12 Satern Net at 8:00pm CFMC Net at 9:00pm on 146.76 MHZ	13 N9MDJ	14 N9MKH	15	16 FOX HUNT Harlem Cermak Shopping Center 7:00pm Armed Forces Day																																																																																		
17 N9HZL	18	19 Satern Net at 8:00pm CFMC Net at 9:00pm on 146.76 MHZ N9EHL W9GI	20 GENERAL MEETING Location *TBA VEC Testing Tonight	21 KB9QVS	22	23 KB9TER N9CSN																																																																																		
24	25 Memorial Day (Observed)	26 Satern Net at 8:00pm CFMC Net at 9:00pm on 146.76 MHZ	27 KC9MWC	28 N9VSB	29 KC9KSH KC9KSH	30 N9DRF N9NXJ																																																																																		
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Members Celebrating Their Birthdays This Month!

*** TBA = To Be Announce**

AFFILIATED CLUB



CHICAGO FM CLUB
 C/O MIKE BROST
 5127 N MONTEREY DR
 NORRIDGE IL 60706-3245
 Address Correction Requested

OFFICERS

President

Ken Havlick KA9TRG

Vice President

Howard Goldberg N9KTW

Secretary

Tina Odrowski KC9CMO

Treasurer

Mike Brost WA9FTS

Board of Directors

Tom Stobble KB9AJM

Lynne Bosnyak N9CBE

Joe Genovese WA9KOD

Steve Bosnyak K9VO

Rick Duel W9XB

Trustee

Howard Goldberg N9KTW

Chairmen

Field Day N9TGR

Fox Hunts WA9FTS

Ham Help K9FFY

Program/Picnic KB9AJM

Radio Expo W9DMW

Refreshments N9CBE

Squelch Tale K9FFY

Technical W9XB

VE Testing AB9OP

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 dick6614@sbcglobal.net

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.