



**Volume
2008
Number 8
August**

Presidents Corner

July 16th meeting
and cook-out with

picnic leftovers from 6:30 to 7:45pm. Our chef was Chuck, KB9RGI. He did an excellent job. THANK YOU Chuck. Enjoyable time was had by everyone. over 40 members were in attendance. Meeting at 8:00pm. 6meters is ready to be installed, Echolink will be ready shortly. The tech committy is working on it. Three new members signed up Bob, KB9SAR, Tina, KC9CMO and Mike Goldberg, KC9KQF. Congratulations welcome to CFMC. RADIO EXPO committee is working very hard to make the hamfest a success. We need

extra VOLUNTEERS to relieve other workers for one hour. See Steve K9VO. For CFMC to be and stay successful the club needs your help on committees. Tickets and flyers will be available at Aug.20th meeting. VIC PRES. Ken KA9TRG 73s



Radio Expo - September 13 & 14

***CFMC July Regular Meeting – July 16th, 2008
Edgebrook field House
Minutes taken by Darren W9IE***

Ken KA9TRG, acting as President, called the meeting to order at 8:05PM. Ken announced to the club that Jim WA9EMY has stepped down as President.

First and second readings were postponed due to confusion with Squelch Tale.

Rick W9XB. The 2m repeater antenna at the AON building has not been fixed due to no board meetings. He estimated the cost to be about \$3200 to repair/replace the antenna and coax line. The 440 repeater is working good. The Board agreed to vote for expenditures for repairs at the upcoming board meeting.

Steve K9VO says Radio Expo planning is on track. The license for food preparation have been obtained.

Andy N9TGR will install Echolink at his QTH within 2 wks once his tower and antenna is installed.

It was brought up that Jim WA9EMY has been unresponsive to calls and that he be officially voted out of office. The By-Laws will be reviewed and a decision will be made as to what needs to be with the office of President

An announcement was made to see who wants to take on the position of Secretary. Bryan KC9MSG said he was interested in the Secretary position.

Ken KA9TRG mentioned a "Conflict of Interest" document that he felt the club should address regarding the Officers and Board Members.

Steve K9VO mentioned a Federal tax ID number and said we should pursue getting one. Ken KA9TRG said he would check this out with the accountants.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for July 23rd at the Edgebrook Field House.

Mike WA9FTS gave the Treasurer's Report which will be in the newsletter.

The meeting was closed.

***CFMC July Board Meeting – July 23rd, 2008
QTH of WA9FTS
Minutes taken by Joe WA9KOD***

Present at the Board Meeting – WA9FTS, W9XB, KA9TRG, WA9KOD, N9KWT, KB9AJM, K9VO, N9CBE, N9ALX, W9DMW

Ken KA9TRG called the meeting to order at 8:10PM.

The "Conflict of Interest" policy was discussed and it was mentioned to be important when members sell items to the club.

Rick W9XB. 6M Repeater. The equipment is ready to go up with logistics remaining to be addressed. 10M Repeater. A

controller is needed and the existing equipment (antenna and coax) need to be checked out.

Echolink was discussed. N9TRG will house the equipment.

Radio Expo Update. Flyers printing source obtained.

Concessions – hotdogs, Italian & Polish sausage and hamburgers will be sold by the club. Poster boards for signs indicating the location of the Food Court, Washrooms will be made. Arrangements for a clown with balloons for the kids entertainment is being made. Advertising banners were

discussed for additional income. KB9RGI will place flyers in the Carpentersville area per Tom KB9AJM. Prepaid tickets for the workers was discussed. A need to look over the wiring for a sound system was discussed by Howard N9KWT.

Rick W9XB. Help was mentioned for Rick at the various sites and what jobs these extra people can do to help out. Downers Grove needs to be rechecked. The noise on the 2M repeater was discussed and how the location of the interference can be located. A computer at the AON site was discussed to control the various receive sites. Quotes for the new 2M antenna was discussed and quotes submitted by N9KWT was approved. The cost for the new 2M antenna and installation will be less than \$2000. Howard N9KWT will contact N9OZB for TX coordination.

Echolink. KC9KQF may be able to do the networking at AON. He will be contacted.

Sergeant at Arms. Steve K9VO appointed with Don W9DMW as backup.

A "New Members" package was discussed to be handed out to new members as they are added to the club.

Mike WA9FTS told those present the balance in each of the accounts.

The meeting ended at 10:00PM.

Treasurer's Report – As of 7/25/08

WAMU Checking

Income	\$ 4,163.41
Expenses	\$11,429.59
Balance	\$3, 719.52

TCCF Checking

Income	\$6,699.75
Expenses	\$13,915.82
Balance	\$151.57

Chase Checking

Income	\$25.00
Expense	\$0.00
Balance	\$25.00

Membership Dues

To make it easier and safer for the club to process membership dues, send them directly to:

Mike Brost WA9FTS, 5127 N. Monterey Dr, Norridge IL 60706
Mike WA9FTS

MISSING ITEMS

You may have noticed that some of the regular monthly items are missing. Without the Secretaries input, I have no way of retrieving the needed information. The Club database is also suffering. New members who joined during June are not in the data. If you know of any new members who are not getting this issue, please let us know either at the "Ham-Help" line (773) 262-6773 or e-mail (dick6614@sbcglobal.net).

AUGUST GENERAL MEETING

The next general meeting of the Chicago FM Club will be held at the Edgebrook Field House, Chicago. 6100 No. Central Wednesday August 20, 2008.

We will have a second "Cook Out" at 7:00pm. before the meeting. We will have, hot dogs, soda pop, and chips. The main room will be available for this meeting.

**EMERGING TECHNOLOGY:
A POSSIBLE ROBOTIC THREAT TO 70 CM**

Howard Gordon, W3CQH, reports over the VHF Reflector on a Public notice posted by the FCC. This, on a proposal to use 430 to 448 MHz for remotely-controlled surveillance robots for emergency use.

Gordon says that for the power proposed and the limited use, he does not believe the device will cause any significant interference to the amateur radio service. But he says that the real issue for the manufacture is how to stop the hams from interfering with the surveillance device.

W3CQH says that the possible threat to ham radio may be that once the manufacturer has its foot in the door on 440mhz, it could conceivably start petitioning the FCC for channelization to be done and assigned to it citing interference problems that have occurred in some future alleged emergency situations.

You can read the full FCC release on this robot device at http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-08-1077A1.pdf (W3CQH via VHF Reflector)

**PROPAGATION REPORT:
SOLAR CYCLE DELAYED A YEAR**

The next 11-year cycle of solar storms will most likely start next March and peak in late 2011 or mid-2012. That's up to a year later than expected according to a forecast issued today by NOAA's Space Environment Center in coordination with an international panel of solar experts. (NOAA, QRZ.COM)

**June CFMC Foxhunt - June 21st, 2008
by Mike WA9FTS**

Charlie KB9DIM and Alexis N9VRA hid near the Des Plaines River near the IM Canal. Getting to Charlie and Alexis was challenging. The path to take was a foot path off 171 and 55 and a walk 1/4 mile with weeds on both sides of the path. Charlie was using a 4 41 M2 yagi and a Yaesu mobile. Don W9RA was in the right spot and found the foot path. He got there while it was still light and win at 8:46. Tom N9CBA got there after dark and secured 2nd at 9:36. Paul N9LXF and Mike WA9FTS did not do so well and gave up. We all met at Appleby's in Hodgekins. Results:
1. Don W9RA 2. Tom N9CBA DNF Mike WA9FTS, Paul N9LXF

**July CFMC 2M Foxhunt - July 19th, 2008
By Mike WA9FTS**

There were 4 hunt teams present: Tom N9CBA, Mike WA9FTS & Paul N9LXF, Charlie KB9DIM and Alexis N9VRA, and Chuck KA9KZO. The weather was perfect and the hunters were told by Don W9RA this was going to be easy or very hard. We did not listen carefully. All the hunters took off and drove too far. Charlie took off north to Irving Prk Rd, The other three hunt teams took off on I290 to the city and turned around at Rt 83. FTS and LXF went directly to Foxdale Pk just on the other side of Lake St. Out on foot, we spotted Charlie running in the park. We both affected each other and ran right past Don who was behind small structure next to the sound wall next to I290. Charlie recovered quickly as Paul and I got lost in the woods. We recovered to finish 2nd with Charlie winning the 4th in a row - we hunt every weekend. Tom and Chuck took longer and got there to finish seconds apart for 3rd and 4th. We met at Culvers on Lombard Rd a few blocks away. Results

1. Charlie KB9DIM, Alexis N9VRA
2. Mike WA9FTS, Paul N9LXF
3. Tom N9CBA
Chuck KA9KZO

**HAM RADIO STATES:
THE LATEST NUMBERS FROM K3UD**

According to George Mc Couch, K3UD, it looks like the overall number of licensed radio amateurs numbers have increased by 873 from April through June 2008.

Continued on Page 4

George says that the Technician and Technician Plus category had large increases while General had a smaller increase. On the downside, Novice license holders declined by 299 and Advanced declined by 2,134.

Further breaking down the numbers, George says that the Technician license had gains of 1,856 over the reporting period and is still the most popular license for newcomers. He says that it is continuing to make good gains over the last 3 quarters. However, it also seems that the large movement from hams upgrading to General has slowed to trickle over the last 9 months.

On the other hand K3UD says that we are seeing very good movement in upgrading to the highest class with increases of 1,447 hams earning the Extra Class. He says that this increase about matched the last quarter in terms of growth.

George says that his figures are based on a comparison of two snapshots of the numbers taken at two different times. He says that the numbers do change every day, sometimes increasing and sometimes decreasing. He says that he always uses the last day of previous reporting period and the last day of the present reporting period as his points in time.

K3UD unofficially took over reporting ham radio license statistics at about the same time that Fred Maia stopped publishing his W5YI Report newsletter. George provides a truly valuable service to the nations ham radio community. You can see his actual figures on the news pages at www.qrz.com. (K3UD, QRZ.com)

RADIO LAW:

YES ITS OK TO RECORD AND DIVULGE HAM AND CB COMMS

Is it legal to record and divulge the content of ham radio and C-B radio communications? That's a question often asked by newcomers to ham radio or by those hams involved in chasing down malicious interference. FCC rules man Bill Cross, W3TN, says that the answer is yes, it is:

Cross: "There is an exception in the Communications Act — I believe it is Section 706 of the Act — Its called Privacy of Communications — and it is a ection that was enacted in the early part of the (last) century that basically was designed so that radio operators aboard ships or other people that had to relay a message were not supposed to use that information or divulge it to someone else. But at the very end of it there is an exception and its an exception for the Amateur Service and the Citizens Service.

"The import of it is that it does allow the recording of amateur to amateur communications on the amateur bands. And that's really a part of the whole mentality we have of self policing and looking after ourselves and being able to report violative communications. But its an exception right there in the Act."

The bottom line is that if you hear a major violation of the Part 97 Amateur Service rules, don't be afraid to record it and then send the tape or CD to the FCC.

ENFORCEMENT:

YOU CANT SELL PHONE JAMMERS IN THE USA

The FCC has issued an Official Citation to Phonejammer.com. This for allegedly marketing unauthorized radio frequency devices in the United States in violation of the Communications Act, and for failing to respond to Enforcement Bureau directives to provide certain information and documents. Bon Wilbanks, AE5DW, has the details:

In an earlier Letter of Inquiry or L-O-I to Phonejammer dot com dated November 6, 2007, the Spectrum Enforcement Division of the FCC's that company was marketing radio frequency jammers in the United States. Specifically units capable of disrupting communications on cellular and Personal Communications Service frequencies.

At the time of that letter and again on, May 20, 2008, the FCC said that it observed on its website, www.phonejammer.com, advertisements for the sale of multiple radio frequency jammers. The FCC says that the advertisements for the phone jammers listed shipping costs to the United States and displayed product prices in United States dollars. In addition, the website provided testimonials from United States residents who had purchased the phone jamming devices.

In its response the company claimed that it is based in the United Kingdom and that it doe not distribute, market, or advertise the phone jammers in the United States. In a response the FCC instructed Phonejammer.com to answer each question in the Letter of Inquiry. Though Phonejammers reply e-mails indicate that the comopany received the FCC's Letter of Inquiry, it has failed to respond to the questions set forth in it.

Now in its May 22nd Citation the FCC say that it appears as if Phonejammer has violated Commission orders by failing to respond to Enforcement Bureau directives to provide certain information and documents. It says that no party may ignore the directives in a Bureau inquiry letter. It has directly ordered Phonejammer to provide the information sought by its November 6, 2007 Letter of Inquiry.

Phonejammer dot com was given 20 days to respond or face the prospect of being fined up to \$11,000. It was also warned that future violations of the Commission's rules may subject your company to further monetary forfeitures.

September 2008

What's Happening This Month at CFMC!

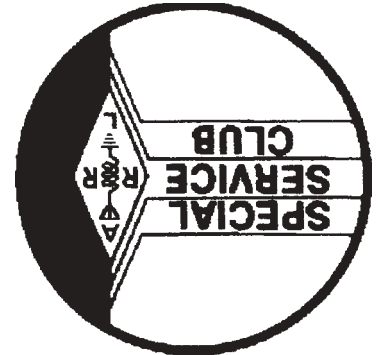
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Members Celebrating Their Birthdays This Month!

*** TBA = To Be Announce**



AFFILIATED CLUB



Address Correction Requested

CHICAGO FM CLUB
PO BOX 47648
CHICAGO, IL 60647

OFFICERS

President

XXXXX XXXXX

Vice President

Ken Havlick KA9TRG

Secretary

XXXXX XXXXX

Treasurer

Mike Brost WA9FTS

Board of Directors

Tom Stobble KB9AJM

Lynne Bosnyak N9CBE

Andy Ronan N9TGR

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 N9KTW

Squelch Tale K9FFY

Technical W9XB

VE Testing XXXX

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.