



MAY 2007

# PREPARATIONS FOR EGYPTIANFEST 2007

We have one month to go before the big event, Egyptianfest 2007.

We have three vendors that have confirmed. They should give us a good drawing card for a good turnout on June 10. Now, we need to get commitments from our members as to what they can do to help us put this event together.

1. We will need people to help unload the vendor trucks on Saturday night and to set up tables in the Commons area of the college.
2. We will need people to meet the vehicles as they arrive on Sunday morning and direct them to the appropriate locations. Tailgaters must be sent to the tailgating area and others vehicles must be sent to the regular parking area.
3. A person is needed at the front entrance to sell tickets for admission and extra chances on the drawing.
4. We will need folks to sell food and drinks on Sunday morning. As I write this, I still have not heard if the college will do food or if we will sell our own brats and soda with coffee and donuts for the early arrivals.

5. A person will be needed at the main club table to handle tickets and ticket stubs.

6. At the close of hamfest, we will need people to help cleanup and restack tables into the normal college layout.

This club event is very necessary in order for the club to meet its annual bills. Membership dues do not cover these expenses. We just raised dues this year and had a number of members say the dues are too high for a local club. Inflation hits everywhere, even the Egyptian Radio Club. The board of directors realize this was an unpopular decision; but a necessary one.

The ARRL charges \$39.<sup>00</sup>; and you get QST with your membership. We don't have a professional magazine; but we do have 4 repeaters for use by the membership and nonmembers, plus we have more improvements in store; providing this hamfest is successful. That means, we make money. If this endeavor does not show a small profit, it may mean the end of hamfests for the Egyptian Radio Club.

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE HAMFEST  
GIVE AS MUCH HELP AS YOU CAN.  
YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU**

## HAM RADIO POLITICS

George Isley, W9GiG, sent an email to many amateurs in the Central Division of the ARRL asking for help in requesting our Congressman support H.R. 462 the "Emergency Amateur Radio Interference Protection Act:". We would like Congressman John Shimkus to become a cosponsor and support the passage of H.R. 462 within the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Telecommunications and Internet Subcommittee.

Congressman Shimkus is a member of this committee and his sponsorship and support of H.R. 462 would go a long way to insure the passage of the bill. Printed below and continued to the second column of this page is a sample letter recommended by the ARRL.

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The Honorable John Shimkus  
United States House of Representatives  
2452 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
ATTN: Ryan Tracy

Dear Congressman Shimkus:

On behalf of the 20,400 federally licensed Amateur Radio operators in Illinois, we wish to bring to your attention an issue that affects the nation's 686,000 federally licensed Amateur Radio operators. As a \_\_\_\_\_ in your district, we request your assistance on the below item pending before Congress;

Become a cosponsor and support passage within the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Telecommunications and the Internet Subcommittee on which you

serve, of H.R. 462 the "Emergency Amateur Radio Interference Protection Act". This bill urges the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to conduct a very targeted but comprehensive evaluation of "broadband over power line" (BPL) systems to to interfere with public safety and other licensed radio services.

BPL utilizes electric power lines to serve as the conductors of the broadband signals. Unfortunately, because the power lines are not shielded, they also act as antennas and radiate the signals into the air. These radiated signals will interfere with radio receivers tuned to the same frequency range. BPL has only been deployed to a very limited extent, but Amateur Radio already is experiencing severe BPL interference that the FCC has been unable or unwilling to correct. Unlike BPL, other methods of providing broadband Internet services to consumers, such as cable, DSL, wireless and Fiber to the Home, do not pollute the radio spectrum.

Please let us know if you can support us on this issue, as it is very important to Amateur Radio licensees in Illinois undertaking emergency communication to protect lives and property for our citizens and families.

For more information please feel free to contact our Washington Representative Janet Worthington at 703-684-7703 or via email at:

[janet.worthington@chwatco.com](mailto:janet.worthington@chwatco.com) if you have any questions or concerns. We understand she visited your office on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
(Insert your Name, Title, and Contact Information)

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## **FAREWELL W1ATC**

In sadness, we must say a fond farewell to Sean Bell, W1ATC, ex KC9ICB. Sean has been working as an Air Traffic Controller at Bethalto and is now going to a new position in Memphis, Tennessee. Sean will be moving by the end of this month and the Egyptian Radio Club will miss him.

Memphis is the central hub for United Parcel Service air traffic. Sean will have his work cut out for him with all the UPS flights in and out of Memphis International.

Sean, say "Hi" to Elvis and 'Thank you very much' for being with us.

## **FIELD DAY**

Are you ready for Field Day? It is the last full weekend in June. June 23 – 24. Marty Schultz is the head honcho for our Field Day operations this year. Marty has scouted out a great location for our trailer and will erect two antennas, in opposite directions, to allow the operation of two stations.

Bill Bell, W9BEL, has offered the use of his transceiver to supplement the clubs Icom transceiver. This should prove to be a good exercise of our emergency capability. Marty will reveal the details of times and the exact location he has selected at the June 7 club meeting at the college in Granite City.

Contact Marty Schultz, N9PPJ, to volunteer your services as an operator or setup/breakdown person. 146.790 MHz repeater.

## **NEXT MONTH**

In the June issue of this newsletter, we will publish a new list of our membership. Only calls, names and addresses will be listed. Many people do not wish to give out their email address and phone numbers.

If you have moved recently, please contact WA9BRQ, the club Secretary-Treasurer with your new address. We will need it for official mailings such as ballots and even this humble newsletter.

We have not given this newsletter the name of Podunk Hollow News because the editor does not consider this publication to be worthy of that name. The late Patrick Riley, W9PAT, was the last editor of the Podunk Hollow News and did a fine job. This editor does not feel the present newsletter meets the quality that Pat had established.

## **COMING IN JULY**

The July issue will give a synopsis of our Egyptianfest 2007. We will tell you if we made money, broke even or went broke on the event.

If possible, we will give details on why the outcome is/was as it is/was. The members working on the hamfest will meet after the event is over and discuss what we did wrong, what we did right and what we can do to improve the Egyptianfest 2008.

**SUPPORT EGYPTIANFEST 2007  
OUR CLUB DEPENDS ON IT**