

WA4IWL NEWSLETTER

www.earsradioclub.org



October 1, 2018

Editor's Message



Hi all: my summer can be summerized in a single photo. Phew!



**Next Meeting
7:00PM
Tuesday OCTOBER 9th**

**Englewood Chamber of Commerce
601 South Indiana Ave
Englewood**

Let's take a look at some of your summer...

New repeater near Springbrook will aid National Weather Service

By DAVID NAMANNY
Bellevue Herald-Leader



Through the efforts of Bellevue's **Dave Trost** and La Motte Telephone Company, the local area will be better and more quickly informed in the future about severe weather threats. Trost, a retired electrical engineer, longtime amateur radio operator and local storm spotter; along with the Great River Amateur Radio Club have installed a new repeater near Springbrook on a tower owned by La Motte Telephone, which donated the use of the tower for a nominal fee. "Colin Wheatley, the club's emergency communications coordinator has been a tremendous help in completing this project," said Trost

The new equipment enables much more accurate storm tracking in several counties in eastern Iowa, including Jackson, Dubuque, Jones and Clinton as well as other areas west and east of Bellevue.

"The reason for the selection of this tower location is that it is centrally located in the county and exactly 50.1 miles from the Quad Cities National Weather Service in Davenport. The 300 foot height of the repeater tower allows reliable communications despite the hills and bluffs of the area." said Trost. That's one of the issues which this new system solves."

Trost as well as other storm spotters, while on duty during severe weather, will utilize the system to communicate with the National Weather Service and they are making plans for a system that will allow Jackson County Emergency Management as well as Jackson County Fire and Police to monitor the reporting.

According to Donna Dubberke, a Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service in the

Quad Cities who works with “Skywarn Spotters” like Trost, said the best method for storm-spotting communication is through amateur radio operators. Even though folks nowadays can call with smartphones, it is much more effective and uses a specific frequency with multiple contacts from trained people.

“Amateur radio has long been the backbone of the spotter communication network in eastern Iowa, and throughout the US” said Dubberke. “These operators voluntarily staff the radio desks at the NWS to serve as a liaison between the amateur radio community and our warning forecasters.”

With the repeater and lease agreement with La Motte Telephone in place, Trost also raised \$5,000 in donations to help offset the cost of the installation. Those businesses that have financially donated to the project include Maquoketa State Bank, Bellevue State Bank, the Bellevue Masonic Lodge, Fidelity Bank of Bellevue, Sedgwick and Dave North. Private donors of equipment include Dave Trost and Joe Feyen.

And, of course, the project would never have been possible without the cooperation of the La Motte Telephone. The project is still accepting donations to establish a link between the Jackson County repeater and the Dubuque County repeater, to expand the reporting area.

For more information contact Dave Trost at dtrost@netins.net.

THE GREAT RIVER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB has installed a new repeater near Springbrook on a tower owned by La Motte Telephone, who donated the use of the tower for a nominal fee.

Congratulations Dave

FIELD DAY









LIGHTHOUSE WEEKEND

August 18-19, 2018

Boca Grande Lighthouse activation for ILLW

Weather was good, operated both days approximately 9AM-4PM. Red tide not bad, nice breeze under lighthouse. Set up G5RV strung E/W and G5RV Jr strung N/S. All contacts were made on 20M

146 Contacts

4 Lighthouses

1 Lightship

Contacts made included Canada, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, and Ecuador with a wide range of states within U.S. coast to coast









All that AND Steve



passed the EXTRA exam!

Englewood Amateur Radio Society
Membership Application

Name: _____ Call Sign _____ Class _____

Local Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Local Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Secondary Address: _____ City/State : _____ Zip Code: _____

Spouse's Name: _____ ARRL Member: Yes/No _____

Please check activity interests: Field Day ___ Contesting: ___ RFI/TVI ___ VE Testing: ___

Training: ___ Technical: ___ Computers: ___ Packet ___ Publicity: ___ Special Events: ___

Single Membership: \$15.00 per year ___ Family Membership: \$18.50 per year

Give to Treasurer or Mail to: E.A.R.S. PO Box 572 Englewood, FL 34295