



Squelch Tale



APRIL 2024

THE CHICAGO FM CLUB NEWSLETTER

VOL 2024 NUMBER 4

Message from the President

H ello CFMC Members,

Ok It's April and we're ready for May. What May mean, well for some Hams it's Hamvention 3 fun filled days or radio and good treasure hunting. It also means summer is right around the corner. And that means there are fun things on the horizon for CFMC. Start dusting off your POTA gear, your Fox Hunting Equipment. Maybe that UHF/VHF mobile gear that you have been waiting to install in your Car or Truck or maybe in the Camper. Whatever the case maybe as a member you know that you will always find some kind of Radio fun and other exciting things going on in the Chicago FM Club.

New Website.

Well it's official the new web site is up and running. Yes it's still at Chicagofmclub.org. Please check it out. I would like to thank Jim Fanning (KD9WNR) our new Admin Webmaster, for taking the time out of his life and stepping up and making a great new website for the club. I also want to thank our Editors Len Pollak (N9LEN), Bill Deans (KD9TWA), Mike Brost (WA9FTS). Teamwork that's what it takes to make a great Club like ours work.

Club Dues.

If you have not paid by now you will be off the roster and the newsletter. So you should hurry up and get your dues in NOW!!!! You can use Zelle to send WA9ORC@gmail.com or to the PO Box.

Squelch Tale is the monthly newsletter of the Chicago FM Club, available on an exchange basis, or to anyone outside the coverage area. Ad space is available; write for details.

Got ideas or feedback?

Please send comments to the editor, Mike WA9FTS, at mikeb2006@comcast.net. We're always looking for new ideas and article submissions.



The CFMC Club Meetings.

This Month's meeting will be held on **April 24th at 7:30pm At the 16th District Police Station. 5151 Northwest Ave Chicago. We're working on a Presentation.** There will be VE testing at 6:30 pm please let Vern K9VRT know you want to test K9VRT@att.net or call 773-777-2802 **Why not come out to a meeting this is your club come enjoy the night with coffee and donuts and good friends.**

Nets 2 meters 440 & 220.

440 10pm every night Tuesday night 2meter 9:00pm Thursday 220 7:30pm Saturday 8:00pm

We are always looking for Net Controllers to let one of the controllers know and they will help you out and get you to feel comfortable with it. Make it your net. It's a lot of fun doing one. We are Amateur Radio operators, talking is one of our tools so doing a net is just like talking to your friends or other hams.

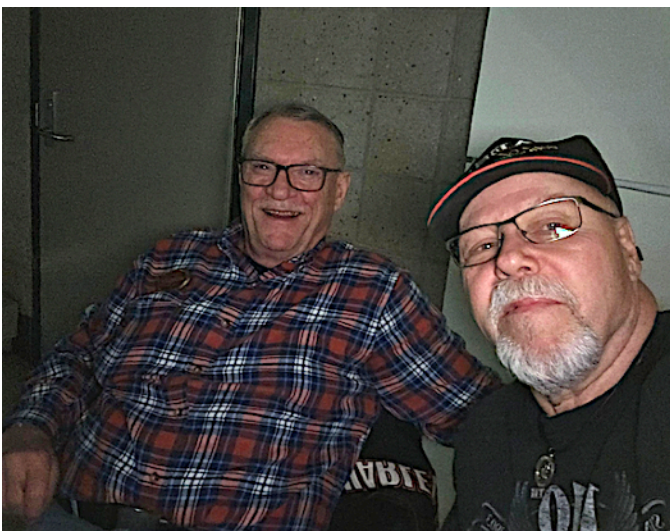
CFMC Friday night socials.

Friday night CFMC Social for April 26th, Ricobene's 252 W 26th St. Chicago

Please don't forget about the Friday's night Social. Start time is always 7:00pm till? We have been moving them around to different places now for the winter time. Please listen to the night watch nets for weekly updates or check your email on where we will be meeting. You should also be getting an email from the CFMC Group. If you like talking to everyone on the nets it's even more fun in person. Also while you're there come for some knowledge but really stay for the fun.

Thanks 73's Paul (N9JZY) President.

CFMC July Meeting Minutes - Mar 27th Pix by Paul N9JZY



March 27, 2024, CFMC Minutes

Paul Gris, N9JZY, President

John Cerza, N9SRY, Vice President

Bill Deans, KD9TWA, Secretary

Board Members Present:

Vern Thorson, K9VRT

Bill Parsons, N9WRP

Dave Johnson, KD9JFH

Joe Gratchner, KC9BUF

The March 27, 2024, meeting was held at the regular location, (the 16th District Police Station), and called to order by the President, Paul N9JZY at 19:33. There were 25 members present at the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call of Officers and Board Members.

The president also mentioned that the club is without a Treasurer.

The first order of business was the introduction of all attendees. The President thanked those in attendance.

The President commended Mike, WA9FTS for successfully publishing and distributing the Squelch Tale.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved by a voice vote.

John, the Vice President, gave the Treasurer's report which was approved by a voice vote. Cash on hand and status of bills was presented.

Radio Expo was briefly discussed. September 22 was tentatively decided on. A change in pricing for admission was discussed. No decision was made tonight.

Vice President John, N9SRY also gave the tech report and the need for net controllers. John also mentioned that some of the cooling fans have been replaced on the 2-meter repeater. The need for some future routine maintenance of the repeaters was also discussed.

Jim, KD9WNR is building a new website for the club, (it looks fantastic Jim), and should be up and running before the April CFMC in person meeting. Please check it out. Jim has put

in a lot of time modernizing the "Face of the Club". Thanks for volunteering your time to produce such a nice website.

New business. The club Trustee, Howard, N9KTW has resigned and the search for a new Trustee has begun.

Secretary Bill, KD9TWA briefly discussed Summer Field Day, (and Club Picnic). It will be held June 21, 2024, at Camp Reinberg in Palatine. The cabin is secured as is the callsign W9C. Paul, N9ISP is *again* donating the meat for the grill. The menu was discussed. The President also urged those who have never been to Field Day to please come and experience this great club event.

There was no unfinished business.

Vern congratulated a new Technician, Kris. Vern also congratulated Ken, KB9CFD who upgraded to General, and Doud, KD9YFR who upgraded to Amateur Extra. Congratulations all!



It was a cool and cloudy evening with a light breeze. Pete (K9PW) was the fox located in the back corner of Dooley Park (behind Dooley Elementary School) in Schaumburg. The location was next to a small creek with daffodils and tulips to provide color. The transmitter output power was 25 Watts to a quarter wave vertical antenna which was on a 7' pole against a small tree. At 6.4 miles from the starting point, the fox's signal was heard by 100% of the hunters.

Hunters were released at 8:04 PM. It took a bit longer than expected for hunters to arrive at the park. This fox is known for hiding in Schaumburg parks. But with around 100 parks in the village, it can be difficult to determine which one.

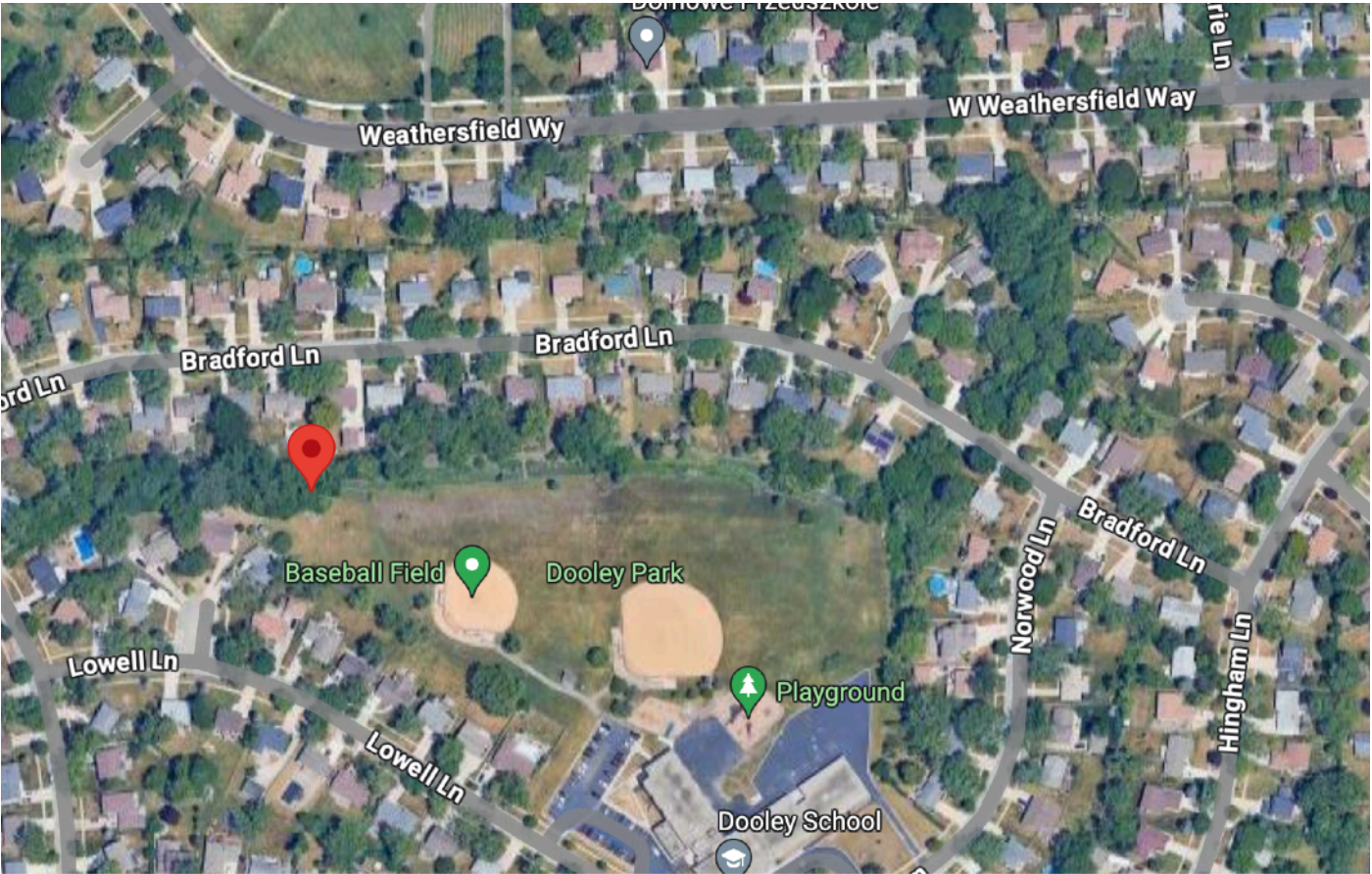
Several hunters stopped at multiple parks before finding the correct one. Winding streets and road closures also delayed some hunters. Frustration was experienced by more than one of the teams.

Munch was at Pilot Pete's at the Schaumburg Airport. The kids were thrilled to see a plane take off.

CALL FINISH TEAMMATES

- 1-N9CBA 8:31
 - 2-WD9EXW 8:35 Janet, Mike
 - 3-KC9SEM 8:36 Jacob, Patty & Mac
 - 4-AA9CC 8:45
 - 5-N9LTE 8:55 Bill
 - 6-KD9DJT 9:07 Tim & family
- W9RA DNF
Fox location: N42.01609 W88.10756





Get Involved with the Chicago FM Club!

...come to a monthly meeting.

Regular in-person meetings take place at 7:30pm on the fourth Wednesday of every month, at the 16th District Police Department. Pre-meeting social hour starts at 7pm. Everyone is welcome to attend, regardless of whether you're a member. Bring a friend! If you're thinking about becoming a ham, come learn about the hobby.

...chat on the repeaters, or join one of our weekly nets.

Our VHF/UHF network covers most of the Chicagoland area, with repeaters on 2m, 1.25m, and 70cm bands. See the back of this newsletter for details. We also have a P-25 digital repeater on 70cm, for those with the newest equipment. Jump onto a WA9ORC repeater and say hello!

- **220 Mhz Saturday Night Net:** every Saturday evening at 8pm, on both the 224.10 and 224.18 repeaters. "Use it or lose it!"
- **CFMC 2m Information Net:** every Tuesday night at 9pm, on the 146.760 repeater.

...join us for food.

Everyone is welcome!

...join a fox hunt.

On the third Saturday of each month (around 8pm) Mike WA9FTS organizes a good old fashioned fox hunt on CFMC. The starting point is Centennial Park just off Rowling Road, just south of Lake Street in Addison, IL. The hunt starts around 8PM. For more information, please contact Mike at mikeb2006@comcast.net

Night Watch

Join us on the Night Watch on 7 nights a week at 10PM.

We have a round table type net and talk about anything. There is also have trivia questions, tech Questions, and help with radio questions also.

So come for the fun and stay for the knowledge!
Net Controllers

CFMC is looking for Net Controllers for The Night Watch, Tuesday 2 meter net, Thursday and Saturday 220 nets. Our net manager Tom, KB9AJM is unable to do them for a while.

So let's pitch in and give him a hand! As you can see it's not that hard to run one of these nets.

Please let one of the Net controllers know of your interest. To help, scripts are available.

... take a VE test.

VE testing is only by scheduled prearrangement, and takes place at 6:30pm before our monthly member meetings. Please give our VE coordinator between 1 and 2 weeks prior notice when requesting a test date. Contact Vern K9VRT at k9vrt@att.net and see the detailed requirements on the club website.

...become a member.

Membership is open to all licensed radio amateurs. The annual membership fee of \$30 (\$20 for seniors or students) helps support the upkeep our repeater network, as well as sponsor major events such as ARRL Field Day and Radio Expo, our annual hamfest. Simply visit <http://www.chicagofmclub.org/membership.html> and download the PDF application form; you'll need two CFMC members to sponsor your application. Fill it out and bring it to a monthly meeting, or email it to the listed address.



Club Officers

President - Paul Gris N9JZY

Vice President - John Cerza N9SRY

Secretary - Bill KD9TWA

Treasurer -

Board of Directors

Joe Gratchner KC9BUF
Barry Friedman , K9FMB
Dave Johnson KD9JFH
Vern Thorson, K9VRT
Bill Parsons N9WRP

Trustee

Howard Goldberg, N9KTW

Chairs

Radio Expo	John N9SRY
Field Day	Paul N9JZY
Fox Hunts	Mike WA9FTS
Website	Len N9LEN
Refreshments	Joe K9CTA
Newsletter	Mike WA9FTS
Announcements	Tom KB9AJM

Repeaters

146.760/146.160 MHz PL 107.2 (P25 system)
Quantro - 250 watt: Located in Chicago 500 ft.
analog and P25 modes

Note: Analog mode has Priority at all times.

Please monitor in (Decode) pl 107.2

145.350 Mhz analog DCS code of 072, offset of -
600khz. Yaesu system fusion repeater. Wirex
access. Located in Park Ridge. 180 ft.

443.750/448.750 Mhz. PL 114.8 (P25 system)

Quantar- Located in Chicago 500 ft. analog and P25
modes

Note: Analog mode has Priority at all times.

Please monitor in (Decode) pl 114.8

Echolink Node # 6247 or WA9ORC-R

224.100 / 222.100 Mhz. 110.9 encode only

25watt system 500 ft. in Chicago, Ill.

Echolink Node # 420460 or AC9CO-L

224.180 / 222.180 pl 110.9 encode only

25 watt system 125 foot tower in Worth, Ill.

441.90625MHz. D-Star reflector 1C

Under Construction

CFMC emergency frequency 146.760 MHz
simplex.



*The Chicago FM
Club is a not-for-profit
amateur radio club
operating the WA9ORC
repeater systems.
Membership is open to
all licensed amateurs
and is encouraged of
those who use the
repeaters often. For
information, email us at
wa9orc@gmail.com*

CFMC Club Meeting

**Apr 24th at 7:30pm at the 16th Dist. Police
Station located at 5151N. Milwaukee Ave**