

The Oscillator

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2012 Membership Dues Are Now Due!

Membership in Tri-Town runs from January 1 to December 31 each year. Please renew your membership as soon as possible in the new year. Membership dues cover the Club's expenses of insurance, repeater phone costs and other costs relating to the operation of the Club. Please use a membership application form. It will give you the costs involved and help keep track of member's addresses, phone numbers and email addresses.

Upcoming Meetings and Programs

January 20, 2012, 8 PM at the Hazel Crest Village Hall.

Business meeting will include the swearing in of 2012 Officers and Board members. The program for this meeting will be a Show and Tell. Please bring something to show and tell about. It does not have to be ham radio related. We all have other hobbies other than ham radio. What else is interesting to you?

February 17, 2012, 8 PM at the Hazel Crest Village Hall.

There will be a general business meeting. The program has been tentatively scheduled for a presentation on alarm systems by two of our Club members.

Tri-Town Elects Officers and Board Member for 2012

The membership of the Tri-Town Radio Amateur Club elected Officers and a Board member at it's December meeting. The following were elected: Tom Niemeyer AB9LA, as President, Matt Schumann N9OTL, as Vice-President, Jim Everard WD0GXU as Secretary, Tricia Jaggard N9WDG as Treasurer and Bill Muller AB9RM as Board member. Continuing in their current terms as Board members are Brian Bedoe WD9HSY and Todd Schumann KA9IUC. Bruce Haffner WD9GHK continues as W9VT trustee. Thank you to those willing to serve the Club as an Office or Board member. Thanks also go to Bill Muller for serving as Election Committee Chairman.

From the Board Room

From Todd, KA9IUC

The first order of business for the Officers and Board members at the January Board meeting will be to elect a Chairman for 2012. All Board members, with the exception of the Club's President are eligible to serve as Chairman. Remember that all members are invited to Board meetings, which take place the first Monday of the month, 7:30 PM at the Bunker. The Board would like to thank all of those who supported the Club in 2011. That support comes in many forms. The Club was supported by being a member, contributions to the Bunker Fund, attendance at meetings, Field Day and other activities, presenting programs at the meetings and helping to promote the Club and ham radio. The Club needs your continued support in 2012. Please renew your membership.

Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG

Officers, Board Members, & Committee Heads for 2011:

Tom Niemeyer AB9LA	President	708.672-5844	tom1485@sbcglobal.net
Matt Schumann N9OTL	VP, Raffle Chairman	708.423.7066	mattschuman@yahoo.com
Jim Everand WD9GXU	Secretary	708.748.6798	None @ No I' dont have one
Trish Jaggard N9WDG	Treasurer	708.957.1973	the_jaggards@sbcglobal.net
Todd Schumann KA9IUC	Chairman of Board	708.423.7066	tschum3063@aol.com
Bill Mullen, AB9RM	Director	708 754-4525	AB9RM@ATT.NET
Tom Gunderson W9SRV	Webmaster, W9VT	815.466-0245	webmaster@w9vt.org
Bruce Haffner WD9GHK	W9VT Trustee.	708.614.6134	WD9GHK@comcast.net
Brian J. Bedoe WD9HSY	Repeater Trustee, Oscillator Editor, Dir.	815.469.1383	Bbedoe@aol.com

Members of the Tri-Town Radio Club Inc. publish the Oscillator 6 times a year. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Officers or members of the Tri-Town RAC, but of the contributors. All articles may be reprinted as long as full credit is given. Other publications are asked to reciprocate their newsletter. Some Articles printed here are from AMSAT, ARRL Letter, TAPR, World Radio, and Other Amateur Radio Publications.

Club Meetings & Nets

Club meetings are the **3rd Friday** of each month at the **Village of Hazel Crest Village Hall**, 170th and Holmes. All are welcome and refreshments will serve. Don't forget to bring a Friend.

Official Club 2 Mtr hangouts:

146.49 Simplex, & The Club's Repeater 146.805 WD9HSY/R

Unofficial Club Hang Outs:

442.375 Homewood, 441.300 Grant Park WA9WLN/R, "Waldofar"
443.325 Frankfort WD9HSY/R & 147.165 Kankakee Co. WD9HSY/R
All UHF's use a 114.8 PL All VHF's use a 107.2 PL

Club Nets

2 Mtr FM 49'ers Net - Wed, 8:00 PM Local, 146.490.

10 Mtr SSB Net - Thursdays, 8:00 PM Local, 28.490.

2 Mtr FM Weather Net - Sundays, 8:00 PM local, on **The Club's Repeater** 146.805 -600kc 107.2 PL

Upcoming Local / Major Hamfests

01/22/2012 Mid-Winter Hamfest Sponsor: Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs
Location: St. Charles, IL Website: <http://www.w9ccu.org>

03/04/2012 Sterling-Rock Falls ARS Hamfest
Location: Sterling, IL Website: <http://www.w9mep.org>

Looking for public service frequencies for your scanner or two-meter rig? Give radioreference.com and carma.com a try.

Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG

The Beginnings of the Car Radio

Radios are so much a part of the driving experience, it seems like cars have always had them. But they didn't. Here's the story.

SUNDOWN- One evening in 1929 two young men named William Lear and Elmer Wavering drove their girlfriends to a lookout point high above the Mississippi River town of Quincy, Illinois, to watch the sunset. It was a romantic night to be sure, but one of the women observed that it would be even nicer if they could listen to music in the car. Lear and Wavering liked the idea. Both men had tinkered with radios. But it wasn't as easy as it sounds: automobiles have ignition switches, generators, spark plugs, and other electrical equipment that generate noisy static interference, making it nearly impossible to listen to the radio when the engine was running.

SIGNING ON- One by one, Lear and Wavering identified and eliminated each source of electrical interference. When they finally got their radio to work, they took it to a radio convention in Chicago. There they met Paul Galvin, owner of Galvin Manufacturing Corporation. He made a product called a "battery eliminator" a device that allowed battery-powered radios to run on household AC current. But as more homes were wired for electricity, more radio manufacturers made AC-powered radios. Galvin needed a new product to manufacture. When he met Lear and Wavering at the radio convention, he found it. He believed that mass-produced, affordable car radios had the potential to become a huge business. Lear and Wavering set up shop in Galvin's factory, and when they perfected their first radio, they installed it in his Studebaker. Then Galvin went to a local banker to apply for a loan. Thinking it might sweeten the deal, he had his men install a radio in the banker's Packard. Good idea, but it didn't work – half an hour after the installation, the banker's Packard caught on fire. (They didn't get the loan.) Galvin didn't give up. He drove his Studebaker nearly 800 miles to Atlantic City to show off the radio at the 1930 Radio Manufacturers Association convention. Too broke to afford a booth, he parked the car outside the convention hall and cranked up the radio so that passing conventioners could hear it. That idea worked – he got enough orders to put the radio into production.

WHAT'S IN A NAME- That first production model was called the 5T71. Galvin decided he needed to come up with something a little catchier. In those days many companies in the phonograph and radio businesses used the suffix "ola" for their names – Radiola, Columbiola, and Victrola were three of the biggest. Galvin decided to do the same thing, and since his radio was intended for use in a motor vehicle, he decided to call it the Motorola. But even with the name change, the radio still had problems. When Motorola went on sale in 1930, it cost about \$110 uninstalled, at a time when you could buy a brand-new car for \$650, and the country was sliding into the Great Depression. (By that measure, a radio for a new car would cost about \$3,000 today.) In 1930 it took two men several days to put in a car radio. The dashboard had to be taken apart so that the receiver and a single speaker could be installed, and the ceiling had to be cut open to install the antenna. These early radios ran on their own batteries, not on the car battery, so holes had to be cut into the floorboard to accommodate them. The installation manual had eight complete diagrams and 28 pages of instructions.

HIT THE ROAD- Selling complicated car radios that cost 20 percent of the price of a brand-new car wouldn't have been easy in the best of times, let alone during the Great Depression. Galvin lost money in 1930 and struggled for a couple of years after that. But things picked up in 1933 when Ford began offering Motorola's pre-installed at the factory. In 1934 they got another boost when Galvin struck a deal with B. F. Goodrich Tire Company to sell and install them in its chain of tire stores. By then the price of the radio, installation included, had dropped to \$55. The Motorola car radio was off and running. (The name of the company would be officially changed from Galvin Manufacturing to "Motorola" in 1947.) In the meantime, Galvin continued to develop new uses for car radios. In 1936, the same year that it introduced push-button tuning, it also introduced the Motorola Police Cruiser, a standard car radio that was factory preset to a single frequency to pick up police broadcasts. In 1940 he developed with the first handheld two-way radio – the Handie-Talkie – for the U. S. Army. A lot of the communications technologies that we take for granted today were born in Motorola labs in the years that followed World War II. In 1947 they came out with the first television to sell under \$200. In 1956 the company introduced the world's first pager; in 1969 it supplied the radio and television equipment that was used to televise Neil Armstrong's first steps on the Moon. In 1973 it invented the world's first handheld cellular phone. Today Motorola is one of the largest cell phone manufacturers in the world. And it all started with the car radio.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO- The two men who installed the first radio in Paul Galvin's car, Elmer Wavering and William Lear, ended up taking very different paths in life. Wavering stayed with Motorola. In the 1950's he helped change the automobile experience again when he developed the first automotive alternator, replacing inefficient and unreliable generators. The invention led to such luxuries as power windows, power seats, and, eventually, air-conditioning. Lear also continued inventing. He holds more than 150 patents. Remember eight-track tape players? Lear invented that. But what he's really famous for are his contributions to the field of aviation. He invented radio direction finders for planes, aided in the invention of the autopilot, designed the first fully automatic aircraft landing system, and in 1963 introduced his most famous invention of all, the Lear Jet, the world's first mass-produced, affordable business jet. (Not bad for a guy who dropped out of school after the eighth grade.)

Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG

Another Hobby - World's Biggest Train Set.

It covers 1,150 square meters / 12,380 square feet and Features almost six miles of track and is still not complete.

Twin brothers Frederick and Gerrit Braun, 41 began work on the 'Miniature Wunderland' in 2000. The set covers six regions including America, Switzerland, Scandinavia, Germany, and the Austrian Alps. The American section features giant models of the Rocky Mountains, Everglades, Grand-Canyon etc ...and Mount Rushmore. The Swiss section has a mini-Matterhorn. The Scandinavian part has a 4ft long passenger ship floating in a 'fjord'.

It is expected to be finished in 2014, when the train set would cover more than 1,800 square meters / (19,376 sq. ft) and feature almost 13 miles of track, by which time detailed models of parts of France, Italy and the UK would have been added. It comprises 700 trains with more than 10,000 carriages and wagons. The longest train is 46ft long.

The scenery includes 900 signals, 2,800 buildings, and 4,000 cars - many with illuminated headlights and 160,000 individually designed figures. Thousands of kilograms of steel and wood were used to construct the scenery. The 250,000 lights are rigged up to a system that mimics night and day by automatically turning them on and off. The whole system is controlled from a massive high-tech nerve centre.

In total the set has taken 500,000 hours and more than 8 million euros to put together, the vast majority of which has come from ticket sales. Gerrit said: "Our idea was to build a world that men, women, and children can be equally astonished and amazed in." Frederick added: "Whether gambling in Las Vegas, hiking in the Alps or paddling in Norwegian fjords - in Wunderland everything is possible. "This 4-minute video is worth watching for this amazing stuff. Click below to see it all in action!

<http://www.miniatur-wunderland.com/exhibit/video/4-minutes-wunderland/>

IBEC CLOSES DOWN BPL OPERATIONS DUE TO \$\$ LOSSES

Courtesy of Newline

One of the very few remaining United States operators of a Broadband over Powerline Internet access system has announced that it is shutting down. A notice that appeared on the International Broadband Electric Communications web site said that due to its inability to overcome financial damage from the April 27th 2011 tornadoes that ravaged some of its service areas in Alabama, it regrets that it has no other option than to close its doors and cease operations.

International Broadband Electric Communications better known by the acronym IBEC went on to say the customer support would cease on January 16th and urged its customer base to seek alternative Internet access as soon as possible. It also stated that it sincerely cares about the Internet needs of rural America and detests watching the national carriers ignore the communications needs of so many hard working families across the nation.

IBEC was headquartered in Huntsville, Alabama. It provided Internet service using broadband over power line technology to rural communities in several states including Virginia, Pennsylvania, Indiana as well as Alabama. With its departure, the ARRL says that there is no other Broadband over Powerline system in the United States that uses the amateur bands in their deployments. You can read the IBEC closure announcement on its website at www.ibec.net. (Various news reports)

SAMOA AND TOKELAU JUMP INTERNATIONAL DATELINE

The tiny South Pacific nation of Samoa and its neighbor Tokelau have jumped forward in time crossing westward over the International Date Line. This, to align themselves with their other 21st century trading partners throughout the region.

At the stroke of midnight on December 29th time in Samoa and Tokelau leapt forward to December 31st which was New Year's Eve. For Samoa's 186,000 citizens, and the 1,500 in Tokelau, Friday December 30, 2011 simply ceased to exist.

Of course this does complicate the QSL'ing process for ham radio contacts made with either of these entities on the dates that were simply cast away. It will be interesting to see how the DXCC and other awards operations handle this situation. (Media Network)

Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG

Youtube Videos of Interest

Via the Clearwater Amateur Radio Society (Clearwater Florida)

The following Ham related Yuletide videos were shown at their December meeting. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c_9REVC4dtc

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=endscreen&NR=1&v=EcAfKYxGNCo>

Monitoring 146.520 simplex?

Via [QRZ](#) and Clearwater Amateur Radio Society

[The Interstate Highway Rest Area Society](#) (IHRAS) is launching a grass roots effort to increase usage of simplex communications. [The National Simplex Monitoring Team](#) was created to promote the "Active Monitoring" of 146.520 simplex. How many times have you driven down the road and seen another ham and wanted to have a short QSO? How many times have you put out your call on simplex on not received a response? How many times do you recall stories of the "good old days" when you could regularly make contacts on simplex? Well let's bring the good old days back. Please monitor 146.520 simplex while at home or mobile. For this effort to work we will also have to use 146.520 simplex. This means throwing out your call sign once in a while going down the road and for the rest of us it means not letting calls go unanswered. The facts are that many of you use 6m FM and 10m FM simplex on a regular basis. While this effort is promoting 146.520 we encourage the use of any frequency or band you have access to. A webpage has been set up to promote the monitoring team and other announcements/enhancements will be made in the coming days. Please help promote this effort by republishing this announcement in your club newsletters, message boards, or email lists. "At home - Away from home - In town - In the country" National Simplex Monitoring Team - 146.520 Brian K0MCM Founding Member Interstate Highway Rest Area Society.

Stephen Hawking: Finds Women A Mystery

Huffington Post First Posted: 1/4/12 04:45 PM ET Updated: 1/6/12 04:02 AM ET

[Stephen Hawking](#) is a man who knows more about the universe and its inner workings than the rest of us mere mortals. This is the man who has battled his motor neuron disease since he was 21, when he was expected to only live a few years. He's turning 70 this month. But there is at least one mystery Mr. Hawking doesn't have a handle on. In an [exclusive interview to New Scientist](#), Hawking was asked, "What do you think most about during the day?" **To which Hawking replied, "Women. They are a complete mystery."**

YOUR HELP NEEDED TO KEEP W5KUB NETCASTS ON THE WEB

(ARNewsline™ from W5KUB.com posting)

One of the true good-guys of ham radio says that he needs the financial support of those who watch his live video coverage of the Dayton Hamvention and other major ham radio events at W5KUB dot com to keep these Netcasts coming their way. Tom Medlin, W5KUB, has been Netcasting the Dayton Hamvention and Huntsville Hamfest for the past 10 years. He says that covering such events is a major undertaking for him that requires several months of preparation for each one that is live streamed. And during the decade he has provide this service he has done so paying almost every penny himself.

Medlin lives in the Memphis, Tennessee area. According to W5KUB, it now costs him close to \$1500 to live stream any of these shows to viewers worldwide. Using the Dayton Hamvention as an example, some of his expenses include over \$500 in hotel charges; \$200 or more in gasoline for his mobile unit and another \$210 for his flea-market parking spaces. But that's not all. As Tom points out, his video streaming service is not a part of the Hamvention he gets no subsidy from it. So he has to pay another \$70 for tickets for himself and his crew plus about \$400 for food and expendable items such as batteries and the like. And in the end it works out at about \$1500 each time he provides the video streaming service.

He says that his goal is to try to raise at least \$1000 in donations this year to go towards the \$1500 expense. Tom adds he never wanted to ask for donations but that may be what it takes if he is to continue broadcasting these events. More information on how to support this worthy cause is on-line at tmedlin.com/donate.html.

ARRL Diamond DXCC Challenge

2012 is the 75th anniversary of the ARRL's DXCC Award. The world's preeminent DXing award continues to be DXCC, so reaching the "Diamond milestone" is an event that we all want to celebrate. Going back to the roots of the award, and specifically reading the 1937 DXCC List (January 1937 QST, pages 52-53) to learn what countries were counted at the onset led us to create the Diamond DXCC Challenge.

The country list we will use for the Diamond DXCC Challenge is based upon the list of 231 places shown in 1937. We tried to find corresponding entities today that would represent the places listed in 1937, and we were mostly successful. There are a couple of places that were merged, like French and British New Hebrides, and the Papua and New Guinea Territories. In those places, for 2012 if you work a YJ or a P29 (on the main island of New Guinea) you will get credit for working two entities! Many other oddities are sprinkled throughout the list, too. Returning to the air in 2012 will be the Canal Zone (any HP operating within 8 kilometers of the Panama Canal), the Cities of Gdansk, Poland, and Ifni, Morocco and Balochistan. The list is fascinating and leads us to learn more about world history and how geopolitics has changed leading up to today.

As you "check off" these entities during the course of 2012 working DX (which is an achievement even today) using spotting networks, pan-adapters, 200 watt rigs and stacked tribanders, imagine how DXing was different in the early years of radio and DXCC! Working Tibet or Aldabra with 50 watts and crystal-controlled transmitters to simple wire antennas had to be a thrill like no other in that time for ham radio operators.

We anticipate that this award will be very popular thanks to the unique nature of the entities that we will try to put-into the log in 2012. Not only are there traditional DXCC entities, but there are cities, Islands on the Air (IOTA by RSGB) island groups, and various sub-political entities inside DXCC entities, such as the Indian State of Goa, and many States in Malaysia and islands in Indonesia. There are even three individual "countries" that make up today's Yemen (7O --Yemen, Socotra Islands and the City of Aden)! Yes, we would like to have even one of them on the air. An interesting factoid about this 1937 list came via the late Jim Maxwell, W6CF. Jim said the only entity from the 1937 list to be removed without a single QSO being made was Wrangel Island.

For some entities that today consist of multiple countries, you may work any of today's entities to qualify for that single 1937 country. For example, French Equatorial Africa will be considered worked if you log a station in TL, TN, TR or TT in 2012. The Diamond DXCC country tables show the current entity names and prefixes that qualify for the 1937 countries.

The Diamond DXCC Challenge is an "Honor Award" and will not require acquisition or inspection of QSLs or proof of confirmation, although it still will be fun and useful to seek out cards or LoTW confirmations. We will provide forms online to use at your operating position to track what you have worked and forms for applying for awards and endorsements. As the year goes on, we will also provide hints and tips about what is happening with the Diamond DXCC Award and, for instance, who might be on the air from Goa or Gdansk!

The Diamond DXCC certificate will be available for working 100 of the 226 entities, and will be endorsable at 5 levels: 125, 150, 175, 200, and 225. If anyone works all 226, there will be a special award for that remarkable achievement! There will also be awards for the top finishers. We hope to publish award recipients' call signs online during the year, and identify high numbers.

There will be a Diamond DXCC Challenge Honor Roll. The Honor Roll level will be determined by the leader in worked entities submitted to HQ, and the bottom of the Honor Roll will be 9 entities less than **that of the** leader. Example: If W1AW has worked 165 entities, the bottom of the Honor Roll will be 156 entities. In February 2013, HQ will issue a final Honor Roll tally with overall leaders.

The entity list is not frozen, so if we discover something significantly in need of change, we will do so and make an announcement.

(See next page for rules on the ARRL Diamond DXCC Challenge)

ARRL Diamond DXCC Challenge Rules

1. The Diamond DXCC Challenge Awards are available to all amateurs worldwide who contact a minimum of 100 countries from the Diamond DXCC List. US amateurs must be members of the ARRL. Generally, the rules for the Diamond DXCC Challenge are the same as the rules for the DXCC Program, except as listed here.
2. Contacts must be made from within the same DXCC entity by the same operator.
3. Contacts must be made during 2012 -- from 0000Z on January 1, 2012, through 2359Z on December 31, 2012. All amateur bands may be used except for 60 meters.
4. There are no mode endorsements or band endorsements. The Diamond DXCC Challenge is considered to be a Mixed-Mode/Mixed-Band award. There are no power categories or restrictions for the award.
5. Confirmations are not required to obtain this award, but HQ will review submitted entries for accuracy and validity.
6. The Diamond DXCC Challenge certificate will be available for working 100 entities and will be endorsable with stickers at the following levels: 125, 150, 175, 200 and 225.
7. Applications should use ARRL-supplied forms available online or obtained by writing DXCC, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.
8. The Diamond DXCC Award certificate fee is \$12 including shipping within the USA, and \$13 including shipping outside the USA.
9. Endorsement stickers are \$1, including shipping in the US, and \$2 outside the US.

Thanks to W3LPL, IK2UVR, YO3JW and K9JF for their assistance with this project.

FEMA PLANS MORE AND LONGER EAS TESTS

FEMA and the FCC plans to conduct more, longer, national EAS tests. This, according to Damon Penn who is the assistant administrator for National Continuity Programs at the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Amateur Radio

According to news reports FEMA's Damon Penn recently told a congressional panel that after broadcasters report their E-A-S results to the FCC that his agency will be able to determine the extent of the successes and limitations of the November 9th 2011 national test. It will also let FEMA lay plans for future system testing.

Reports say that much of Penn's testimony centered on how to improve the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System known by the acronym IPAWS. This includes making it accessible to people with disabilities. To accomplish this, FEMA has partnered with organizations like National Public Radio to demonstrate that incorporating Common Alerting Protocol enabled technologies to alert persons with access and functional needs. Penn says that National Public Radio is working on using Common Alerting Protocol compliant messages to deliver alerts through N-P-R's digital radio to prototype devices that activate a bed shaker, display an audio alert in text and output the text to a Braille printer.

Penn also noted that FEMA continues to expand and harden Primary Entry Point stations, going from 36 in 2009 to a current level of 63 with three more under construction. Primary Entry Point stations are those used by the government to originate a nationwide alert. Penn says that by the end of 2012, some 77 Primary Entry Point stations will cover more than 90% of the nation's population.

In his testimony Penn noted that new Primary Entry Point stations all use a standard configuration. This he says means savings in maintenance costs and ensuring ease of movement between these operations. New stations also have the ability to operate under extreme conditions and possess backup equipment and power. Penn said that legacy Primary Entry Point stations will be retrofitted to meet the current Primary Entry Point station resiliency standards.

Ham Radio in Hollywood: Amateur Radio Makes Its Debut on Last Man Standing

If you watched the January 3 episode of Last Man Standing -- the ABC hit situation comedy starring Tim Allen as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT -- you were in for a treat. While this episode didn't feature Amateur Radio per se, it did show Mike's shack in the background. Viewers could see the DXCC, Worked All States, Worked All Continents and the Morse Code Proficiency Certificate -- all provided by the ARRL -- in the first scene. Later on in the show, Mike records his video blog. Sharp-eyed viewers spotted the 2012 ARRL Handbook underneath the mini-tripod, next to issues of QST!

The episode airing on January 17 will introduce Mike Baxter as KA0XTT. According to Last Man Standing Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, Mike will have a QSO on the show. "We had two Amateur Extra class staff members complete a QSO on 10 meters and we recorded it," Amodeo explained. "Unfortunately, we were set up on a stage that is basically a Faraday cage. The very QRP signal made it radio-to-radio. We varied the Receiver Incremental Tuning to give it a little extra SSB sound, but I don't think the signal made it much past the stage walls. The recording will be on the show. We thought our ham viewers would get a kick out of it. Non-hams will think it's just distorted."

Amodeo said that all the radio gear on the set is real, working and connected to antennas about 50 feet above the set. But since all the antennas are inside the stage, this reduces their efficiency. Mike's shack boasts an ICOM IC-9100 HF/6 meter/2 meter transceiver and an IC-92AD handheld transceiver, both provided to the show courtesy of ICOM America, as well as a Comet CHV-5X HF dipole and GP-1 antenna for 2 meters and 70 cm (courtesy of NCG/Comet).

Amodeo told the ARRL that the radios are always on and lit whenever they are shooting scenes in the office. Hams on the Last Man Standing crew use the equipment to make contacts during their off-time. Amodeo also said that he plans to add vintage equipment to the shack in the future.

Last Man Standing Trivia: The show is shot on historic Stage 9 in Studio City, California. This is the same set where Seinfeld was shot.



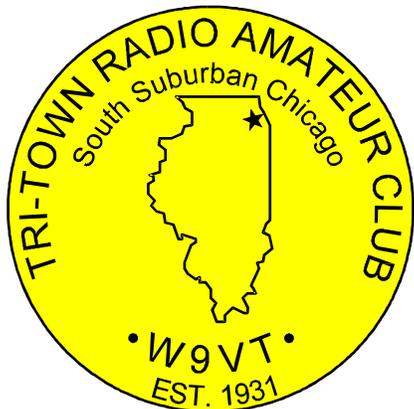
Watch the complete episode Moon Over Kenya (air date January 3) online.

Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG

Tri-Town Radio Amateur Club Inc.
PO Box 1296
Homewood, IL 60430-0296

January 2012

First Class Mail



Check out the Club Website: **WWW.W9VT.ORG**

Tri-Town Radio Amateur Club Membership Application

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____ License Class _____ ARRL Member Y / N

City, State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email Address: _____

_____ Regular Membership	\$ 20.00
_____ SWL Membership	\$ 20.00
_____ Extra Family Membership	\$ 6.00
_____ Bunker Buddie	\$ 5.00

_____ Auto Patch w/1 Speed Slot	\$ 25.00
_____ Extra Speed Slots	\$ 5.00

\$ _____ Total Paid by Club Member

For Example: Regular Member, with A/P and Bunker Buddy (20+25+5) = \$ 50.00

Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG