



# Reelfoot Amateur Radio Club

Western Tennessee • Western Kentucky • Southeastern Missouri

EmComm • Amateur Training • Public Service • License Testing • Special Events

501c4 Non-Profit Organization



- [Home](#)
- [News](#)
- [Forums](#)
- [Meetings & Discussion](#)
- [Recent Events](#)
- [Photo Gallery](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Links](#)
- [Constitution & By-Laws](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

## "Ides of March" Hamfest 2009

March 21 , 2009

### Location:

Tennessee National Guard Armory, Union City, TN

Once again the Tennessee National Guard Armory in Union City was the scene of the 2nd annual "Ides of March" Hamfest. The weather was a bit warmer and drier than last year - but just barely. The armory again was a great venue for its garage-like entry and kitchen facilities as well as its wide open display area. It was also a great location as it was easily found on the main Reelfoot Avenue in Union City.

### The Event:

Setup for the event began the previous day with table arrangement and kitchen prep. Also posters and signs were hung. Bob K9IL was again directing and XYL Rose W9DHD and Ron W9RVR did great jobs on signs and posters. Bob made another 'chicken coup' rolling bin for prize tickets to go with the one from last year for the "50-50" raffle tickets. On the big day, club members arrived around 7AM to setup the entry points and get the coffee brewing. Ottis K5BSE came in with XYL Rhelda N5BSE as did Glenn N4MJ with XYL Linda. Ron W9RVR arrived with XYL Gladys KJ4EKN and Jamie WB4YDL arrived with XYL June shortly thereafter. Bob and Rose were already hard at work and Master Barbeque Chef Chris KI4TRM was setting



Glenn N4MJ showing Dean KJ4KHY around

up the big grill and awning. The weather was overcast with

temperatures in the mid-50's and no rain! Larry KI4UNT manned the PA system and ran the "50-50" prize. A very nice prize package was arranged by Ron W9RVR with the Grand Prize being a Yaesu FT-2800M 2 meter transceiver with Astron SS-25 power supply and MFJ-1728B mag mount antenna. Second and third prizes were Yaesu VX-170 2M handheld transceivers. Additionally, there were prizes from Radio Shack of both Union City and Martin, TN, N3FJP logging software, Win-EQF and Go Win software from John K1XN, the ARRL, DX Magazine, and CQ magazine. Additionally, our main vendor *Amateur Accessories*, run by Steve KR4S, donated prizes as well. Steve actually made the trip down from Champagne, IL the day before and set up his wares that evening. He was our major vendor and did great business. Steve said, "This is like the old days!"

[Field Day 2012](#)

[Hamfest 2012](#)

[Christmas 2011](#)

[Field Day 2011](#)

[Hamfest 2011](#)

[Christmas 2010](#)

[Field Day 2010](#)

[Hamfest 2010](#)

[Christmas 2009](#)



**Brandon KJ4FTN and Harold KJ4FTM minding the entrance**

People started coming in from as far way as Michigan with several from Indiana, Missouri, Illinois, and Kentucky. Tracy N4IL decided at the last minute to pack some items he wanted to sell and set up a few tables. He sold many items almost before he had them unpacked ! The money he made went to buy a new HT ... and keep peace in the family ! Randy KF4CMJ also set up a very nice Winlink demonstration station.

The food, of course, was great ! Master Chef Chris KI4TRM did a superb job with hotdogs and hamburgers. We also had 14 pounds of outstanding barbeque that went fast ! This was 5 pounds more than last year and it disappeared before noon ! Many thanks go out to our kitchen helpers who include Glenn N4MJ's XYL Linda, Jamie WB4YDL's XYL June, Rhelda N5BSE, and Glenn's granddaughter Lexi.



**Ron W9RVR greets TN SM Glen W4BDB**

**VIP's:**

This year, we were honored to have on hand Tennessee Section Manager Glen Clayton W4BDB and ARRL Vice Director of Delta Division David Norris K5UZ. We were fortunate to have them and they gave great forums on happenings around the TN section and the ARRL on a national level. *Thanks so much, Glen and David !*

**VE Session & DX Card Checking:**

We also had a good turn out for the VE sessions offered during the hamfest. There were two sessions offered and they were well attended. Ron W9RVR organized the sessions and was assisted by Ottis K5BSE, Randy KI4OAS, Andy KJ4CLS and Carl KI4PCW. We had one test taker that came in with nothing and came out with a General Class license ! Wow, well done !



**TN SM Glen W4BDB and ARRL Vice Director of Delta Division David K5UZ**

Also available was Ed

Pflueger AB4IQ who made the trip down from Paducah, KY as an official ARRL QSL card field checker for DXCC. Many DX'ers took advantage of Ed's services including Jamie WB4YDL.

**Major Prize Winners:**

- **Grand Prize - Brandon Snow KJ4FTN**
- **2nd Prize - Kathy Denton KJ4CLW**
- **3rd Prize - Billy Simpson AD4PF**

[Field Day 2009](#)

[Library 2009](#)

[Hamfest 2009](#)

[Event Archive](#)

### Epilogue :

Overall the attendance this year was a bit depressed as compared to last year. Estimated total attendance based on admissions, ticket and table sales, and

concessions was approximately 250 folks. Not bad considering the state of the economy. Because of this and our great prize offerings, the overall profit was less than \$200. However, in appreciation to the men and women of the Tennessee National Guard, a donation of \$200 will again be made to the 913th FRG (Family Readiness Group). Plans are already being made for the Ides of March Hamfest 2010.

**Don't miss it !**

### Soapbox:

**Glenn N4MJ:**

*It was great meeting and talking with hams I haven't seen nor heard in years. Came home with several items for the station. Food was good, too. It was gratifying to see someone go from zero to General in one sitting at the VE session.*



**Ray N4SLY shops Steve KR4S's wares**

Was glad to see the Vice Director of Delta Division, David Norris, K5UZ, and Tennessee Section Manager, Glen Clayton, W4BDB at our hamfest.

Thanks to our sponsors and to all who attended. A special thanks to those who helped with set-up, tear-down, and making sure things that needed to be done got done. Looking forward to 2010 hamfest - more vendors and a larger turn-out. CU there.



**Ed AB4IQ checking DXCC QSL cards**



**VE Crew - Ottis K5BSE, Carl KI4PCW, Ron W9RVR, Andy KJ4CLS, and Randy KI4OAS**