



The *ORC* Newsletter

Official publication of the Ozaukee Radio Club, Inc. Mail all contributions to the editor, Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR, 465 Beechwood Dr., Cedarburg WI 53012 (phone 262 377-6945). Permission to reprint articles published in any issue is granted provided the author and the Ozaukee Radio Club Newsletter are credited.



ORC Repeaters on 146.97, 224.18 and 443.750 MHz - Callsign W9CQO

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Volume XXIX

March, 2017

Number 3

From the President

de Kevin Steers (K9VIN)



Thank you to everyone who went easy on me at my first meeting in February. It was refreshing to see such a great turnout, and I hope that the email reminders help to keep attendance up! As a reminder, it takes many volunteers to keep our club running, and we are currently in need of a 2018 Spring Swapfest chairman, who would shadow Loren Jentz during this May's event, in prep for the following spring. Additionally we are looking for a volunteer to take over the Club Trustee position, maintaining our club's 501c3 status. There are a number of

individuals who support these two roles, so please consider getting involved to continue our club's track record!

Thanks to Gary Sutcliff's W9XT contesting article last month, I remembered to participate in the recent 160M SSB contest. With just light operating over Friday and Saturday evening, I could add over 25 new states to my contact list for 160M. The band seemed very quiet to me, and it was exciting making oodles of contacts without any uncomfortable small-talk. With my HamLog app, call sign look-ups and logging contacts was simple with only my iPhone and no true internet connection. YaY.

On the Bench: Some time ago I came across an old-school KLM 2-meter Yagi antenna. It is a log-periodic type, over 12 feet long, with four driven elements to keep it resonant across the entire band. It came with the original build instructions

and hardware list, but was missing the hardware itself. After spending ~\$20 at the hardware store, I was in business. I intend to try 2-meter simplex, plus work repeaters in remote northern Wisconsin with it, or possibly working maritime mobile with it from my pontoon, for a hoot. When discussing the antenna with Tom Ruhlmann W9IPR, a while back, he marveled at why a person would design the antenna to be resonant across the entire band, since one end of the band is vertically polarized, and the other end of the band is horizontally polarized. Which now gives me something to go research and understand?

DX'ing & Contesting

De Gary Sutcliffe (W9XT)



One thrill a lot of hams never get is to be on the busy end of a pile up. Rare DX stations have it all the time as DXers try to add one new country to their DXCC totals, or maybe fill in a new band country.

Some hams spend tens of thousands of dollars to travel to some remote island to experience this for a week or so as part of a DXpedition. Contesters love a pile up on themselves because it means

they are making a lot of contacts and thus are racking up a big score.

Other than a summer in Senegal (West Africa) while part of a scientific project in college, my pileups tend to be short lived. During contests, I can occasionally get an hour with 100-120 contacts during big contests. Once I did about 250 contacts during an ARRL 10 Meter Contest during a Sporadic E opening.

So how does a ham with an average station from Wisconsin get a good stream of callers? The key is to be wanted for a QSO. The best chance for that happens in March. We are of course talking about the Wisconsin QSO Party. It is the world working Wisconsin, so they will be looking for us.

Sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club, this year's running starts Sunday March 12 at 1:00 pm local and runs for 7 hours. Note that we change to Daylight Savings Time that weekend so be sure to update your clocks.

For Wisconsin stations, the goal is to work many stations everywhere. The rest of the world just works Wisconsin. That means they are looking specifically

for us. There are a surprising number of out of state hams that operate this one seriously. Some are working on the Worked All Counties award. Some are former Wisconsin residents looking to connect with old friends. In the 1990's I would almost always work some guy out on a Pacific Island. His wife was from the Badger State. Some just get on because it is one of the best state QSO parties out there.

Multipliers are Wisconsin counties, US states and Canadian provinces. One thing that makes this fun is to track the mobile stations. They will go from county to county and you can work them again each time they arrive at a new one. A lot of the rarer counties are only activated by mobile stations so it pays to keep an eye out for them.

The exchange is your county. Stations out of the state will send their state, province, or country. Signal report is optional. CW contacts are worth 2 points, and phone contacts are worth 1 point. You can work a station once on CW and once on phone on each band. As mentioned earlier, mobiles get reset at each new county

Your score is based on power levels, QSO points, multipliers, and bonus points. It is best to check the rules to make sure you get everything right: <https://www.warac.org/wqp/wqp.htm> You should also get the list of state counties and their abbreviations at the site. Some like Washington and Washburn can be tricky. While you won't work 300 stations per hour in the WiQP, you can get some nice runs going if you pick your spots right.

Other contests this month include the ARRL DX Phone contest on March 4-5. That was discussed in last month's column. Conditions for the CW running a couple of weeks ago, were not great but there was a lot of activity. I managed to work over 1100 contacts running 100 watts.

The other big contest is the CQ WW WPX SSB contest. That runs from 0000 UTC March 25 and runs for 48 hours. Single ops can only operate 36 hours. Basically, you work anyone you can. The multipliers are the call sign prefix. Having a W9 call, I'm nothing special, but guys like ORC member Vic, WT9Q, are popular.

The exchange is the signal report and a serial number. QSO points vary depending if they are the same country, a different country in the continent or

on a different continent. There is also a difference depending on the band. Contacts on the low bands are worth more.

Because you can work anyone, you can get a lot of contacts in this one. Rules are available at <http://www.cqwp.com/rules.htm>.

There is a surprising number of interesting DXpeditions scheduled for March. The Maldives in the Indian Ocean will be activated by a group of German hams on March 2-9. They will be operating CW, SSB and digital on 80-10 meters with the call sign 8Q7LH.

A group of primarily British ops will be on from Ghana using 9G5X, March 7-21. They will have 3 high power stations on 160-10M, CW, SSB and RTTY. Overlapping much of the Ghana DXpedition, an international group including ops from Spain, Italy, France, Columbia, and the US will fire up another African country, Niger. That is March 9-21. 5U5R will be on 160-10, SSB, CW & RTTY. They are also planning on doing some operating on the 60M band.

If that is not enough RF coming from Africa, a 12-op team will be active from Ivory Coast using TU7C with 5 stations, 160-6m, CS, SSB, RTTY and PSK. The dates are March 9-21.

A good catch from this part of the world will also be active in March. A group of about a dozen Irish hams will be on March 8-20 from Nepal using 9N7EI. They will run 5 stations on 80-10, SSB, CW and Digital.

Another deep Asian country on the air will be S21GM from Bangladesh on March 15-21, 160-10M, CW, SSB, RTTY.

Albania used to be extremely rare for a long time because ham radio was banned in the country for years. Back in 1991 a group of hams mostly from Europe opened up the country. They were there for weeks and trained a lot of local hams. For a while ZA contacts became fairly common. In recent years, they have not been so plentiful. A group of Dutch hams will be operating there from March 22-19. Part of the effort will be focused on the WPX contest.

That wraps up March. See you on the air.

The Computer Corner

No. 229: Symbols in Text Files

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Well now, here is something different! Sometimes one needs to create or edit a simple text file, like those created by Notepad or other text editors, but not a word processing file like those created by Microsoft Word. Yet, one would like to include a special symbol of some sort in the plain text file. Well you can easily do it.

Start a test of this ability by clicking your desktop somewhere (not near an existing icon), and selecting NEW, then TEXT FILE. Then open the new text file, which will be blank at this point. Put your cursor at the beginning of the file and click it. Then press and hold the ALT key and type

a number shown in one of the boxes in the table below, then let go of the keys. The symbol will appear. As an example, if you press and hold the alt key and then type the number 12, the scientific symbol for female (Venus symbol, ♀) will appear. Similarly, press and hold the alt key and the number 11, when you let go, the scientific symbol for male (Mars symbol, ♂) will appear.

Be sure to use the keypad on your desktop keyboard, or it will not work. For laptops, you may have to invoke a keypad first. Experiment.

This is not an exclusive list, so experiment yourself with other numbers to reveal other symbols.

1 ☺	2 ☹	3 ♥	4 ♦	5 ♣	6 ♠	7 •
8 ◻	9 ◊	10 ◼	11 ♂	12 ♀	13 ♪	14 🎵
15 ☀	16 ▶	17 ◀	18 ↕	19 !!	20 ¶	21 §
22 —	23 ↓	24 ↑	25 ↓	26 →	27 ←	28 ⊥
29 ↔	30 ▲	31 ▼	33 !	127 △	128 Ç	129 ü
130 é	251 √					

Happy computing!

Upcoming Events

This is to inform you that the next ORC meeting on Wednesday, March 8th will NOT be held at the Grafton Senior Center. It will instead be at the Robert P. Zaun Pavilion in Lime Kiln Park at 2020 S. Green Bay Road in Grafton. The meeting will start at 7:30 PM as usual. The doors will be opened by 7:00 PM. Click the following link for a map:
<https://www.google.com/maps/place/2020+Green+Bay+Rd,+Grafton,+WI+53024/>

The change in location is because the floor of the room we meet in at the Senior Center is going to be waxed on or around that day. The room in the center's basement is unavailable due to a conflicting activity taking place there. Grafton Parks & Recreation has put us up in the banquet room of the Zaun Pavilion which should accommodate us quite nicely. There are tables and chairs for up to 72 people and plenty of parking. You can check out the facility for yourself online by going to this site -<http://www.village.grafton.wi.us/264/Robert-P-Zaun-Pavilion>

See you on March 8th at 7:30 PM at the Pavilion at Lime Kiln Park.

73s, Ben Evans, K9UZ
ORC Secretary

The Ozaukee County Division of Emergency Management is holding its annual Weather Safety and Weather Spotter Training Class on Wednesday, March 22nd at 6:30 PM (check-in at 6). The presentation is 2 ½ to 3 hours long, depending on the number of questions.

The class will be held in the Ozaukee County Pavilion (north side of the building) at the Ozaukee County Fairgrounds, W67 N890 Washington Avenue, Cedarburg, WI. Click this link for a map: <https://goo.gl/maps/gfzABPcVJut>

There is no need to pre-register and the class is free.

The presentation is given by the staff from the National Weather Service Milwaukee/Sullivan office and a few experts from other agencies.

In the first hour, there will be a Severe Weather Safety training presentation. In the second hour will be the Spotter training class which covers what spotters need to know to identify storm features and how to report to the NWS. There will be a 10 to 15 minute break midway through.

If you go, have a good class!

73s,

Ben Evans, K9UZ

This Month in ORC History: 35 Years Ago

Edited by Ben Evans, K9UZ

(The following is an edited version of the minutes from the ORC meeting on March 10, 1982.)

REPEATER MEETING convened by KA9DDN at 7:07 PM. Opening balance, \$613.68. Purchase of IC-30 receiver, \$206.96. Wisconsin Association of Repeater dues, \$20.00; savings account, \$86.10. Final balance, \$472.82.

The 911 access trouble has been cleared. Some thought should be given to adding additional code character information to the repeater ID to alert users to various non-normal conditions. Comments and suggestions are welcome. Query by WA9AWO concerning repeater carrier dropouts. Skip (KA9DDN) thinks this may be due to a false response to some tones. The new audio board is expected to eliminate this problem, plus the problem of single digit dump that someone has been using to annoy repeater users. [Repeater] meeting terminated at 7:11 PM.

REGULAR MEETING opened at 9:13 PM by WD9FQW. Minutes of previous meeting accepted as presented in the Newsletter. Treasurer's report presented by KA9HJR: RECEIPTS - 1982 dues, \$75.00; refreshment kitty, \$18.64; Swapfest, \$5.00; total, \$98.64. DISBURSEMENTS - February refreshments, \$23.53; Newsletter, \$4.68; Post-Everything Party, \$372.90; Swapfest reservation deposit (Circle B) for 1983, \$125; total, \$526.11. ASSETS - Checking account, \$168.57; savings account, \$1079.68; 81 patches @ \$0.75 = \$60.75. Starting balance: \$1736.47. [FINAL] BALANCE - \$1309.00. Treasurer' report accepted as read.

Query by treasurer as to whether spouses were included in motion to pay for DINNERS OF TOWER CLIMBERS. Motion in minutes of the December 1981 meeting made no mention of spouses (W9WQ). Report by WB9SFK on SWAPFEST PROGRESS: he will call a meeting, at his home, of committee chairmen and other interested parties in the near future. Information will be disseminated on the club net frequencies. POST EVERYTHING PARTY REPORT: WB9PAS not present, so no report was given.

Brief discussion on setting up a CLUB STATION. Site? Ralph Evans, WA9UDZ, will assume position of TRUSTEE, replacing Bob Truscott, W9LO, who is moving away from the area. W9CQO will be used as the CLUB STATION CALL and REPEATER ID when licenses are renewed in the near future. WA9USA has submitted names of 11 club members to Madison for certification as RACES OPERATORS. Decision on RACES RENEWALS will be a county responsibility. WA9AWO is leaving the area and has asked WB9RQR to assume the duties of NEWSLETTER EDITOR, so future submissions should be sent to Stan. WD9FQW made a statement expressing GRATITUDE to TERRY and ANN BERG for their manifold contributions to the club. Motion to adjourn was seconded and carried at 9:45 PM

E.J. Bauer, W9WQ, Secretary



Ozaukee Radio Club Meeting Minutes

Ben Evans (K9UZ), Secretary

Kevin S. (K9VIN), President, called the meeting to order at 7:28 PM. Introductions of the attendees followed.

Announcements:

Art D. (AC9CD) - Ozaukee County Emergency Management is offering a free class on weather safety and weather spotting on Wednesday, March 22nd at 6:30 PM (check-in at 6). The location is the Ozaukee County Pavilion (North end) at the Ozaukee County Fairgrounds, W67 N890 Washington Avenue, Cedarburg. There is no need to pre-register for the class.

Nels H. (WA9JOB) announced that he bought a QYT quad band transceiver and successfully got it programmed.

Gary D. (K9DJT) announced he made contact with operators in 15 countries during the recent 160-meter worldwide CW contest, bringing his total international contacts to 123 countries.

Zach Y. (KC9ZNR) – Loaner laptops are still available to members.

Ted H. (N9LLT) discussed Railroad Net, a forum for train enthusiasts, which Ted runs on the K9QLP repeater, and is also available via his node on Echolink. The net is on every Monday at 8:00 PM, except it goes on hiatus between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

Program:

Chuck C. (W9KR) gave a presentation on changing the high voltage wiring on a 1950s Collins KWS-1 transmitter.

50/50 Drawing:

There was no 50/50 drawing.

Auction:

Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR) conducted the auction and numerous items were sold.

Officer Reports:

Kevin S. (K9VIN), President – A volunteer is needed to plan Swapfests because this year's Spring Swapfest will be Loren J.'s (N9ENR) last one as organizer.

Awards Banquet – Chuck Curran (W9KR) reports that only 21 members and spouses have signed up. At least 30 sign-ups were needed in order to make the event viable. Therefore, there is no other choice but to cancel the event. Refunds will be issued to the 21 that signed up. Discussion followed as to what to do about the awards ceremony going forward, either rolling it into a regularly scheduled meeting with snacks and beverages, or having it at a place such as Galioto's Italian Restaurant in Cedarburg.

Pat Volkmann (W9JI), 1st VP – Would like to put together an inventory of club property, which exists at various locations. If any members are in possession of club property, they should inform Pat. Jim A. (K9QLP) commented that once the inventory is completed, both the Treasurer and the Secretary should have a copy of the list.

David Carpenter Sr. (KC9REP), 2nd VP – Dave C. was not in attendance, so there was no 2nd VP report.

Tom Trethewey (KC9ONY), Repeater VP – Rebuild of the 2-meter rack is progressing slowly.

Ben Evans (K9UZ), Secretary – The minutes from January’s meeting is in the newsletter. Motion to accept the January minutes as written was made by Dave B. (N9UNR), which was seconded and passed without debate.

Dave Barrow (N9UNR), Treasurer – Motion to accept January’s Income and Expense Report subject to audit was made by Dave B., seconded and carried without debate.

Committee Reports:

Audit Committee, Jim Albrinck (K9QLP) – An audit was conducted on the club’s funds and everything is in good order.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Nels (WA9JOB) reports that the 146.97 repeater antenna needs to be replaced. People are having trouble getting in. Nels made a motion for the club to buy a new antenna with a cost up to \$1,200. There is money in the improvement fund for the new antenna and for the tower climbing. The motion was seconded by Jim A. (K9QLP) and passed without debate.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 PM

Attendance:

There were 39 members and two guests present at the meeting.

A copy of the attendance sheet is available upon request in PDF format. Please contact Ben Evans via email at ben@evansengsolutions.com for a copy.

Respectfully submitted,



B. Benjamin Evans, K9UZ
Secretary

AGENDA

March 8, 2017

1. 7:00 – 7:30 PM – Networking and Rag Chew
2. Call to order: Introductions. Kevin Steers (K9VIN)
3. Announcements, Bragging Rights, Show & Tell, Upcoming events, etc.
4. Program: W9JI on SDAs
5. 50/50 – Kristian Moberg, KC9TFP
6. Fellowship Break
7. Auction – Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR)
8. Presidents Report – Kevin Steers (K9VIN)
9. 1st VP Report – Pat Volkman (W9JI)
10. 2nd VP Report – David Carpenter, Sr. (KC9REP)
11. Repeater VP report – Tom Trethewey, (KC9ONY)
12. Acceptance of Minutes : Ben Evans (K9UZ),
13. Treasurer's report – Dave Barrow (N9UNR)
14. Committee reports.
 - A. Spring Swapfest
 - B. Other:
15. OLD BUSINESS
16. NEW BUSINESS
17. Adjournment to John's Pizza in Grafton

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The ORC Newsletter
465 Beechwood Drive
Cedarburg WI* 53012

First Class

Next ORC Meeting

Zaun Pavillion in Lime Kiln Park

See upcoming events, this issue

Wednesday, March 8th 2017

7:00 PM – doors open

7:30 – Membership Meeting