



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.



AMATEUR RADIO

**ORC Repeaters on 146.97, 224.18 and 443.750 MHz -
Callsign W9CQO Web site: <http://www.qsl.net/orc/>**

Volume XXIII

June 2004

Number 6

The Prez Sez

By Vic Shier (KB9UKE)

Field Day is one of the club's biggest events of the year and it is coming soon. As always, it is on the fourth weekend in June and we will set up at Lazy Days Camp Ground. This year the contest starts on Saturday the 26th for 24 hours. However, Field Day involves more than just the contest. Preparation has been going on for many weeks already. The Band captains are planning their stations, equipment has been inventoried and repairs are being made. We have made substantial improvements again this year and hopefully the results will show in our final scores. We still have several tasks that need to be assigned including the food tent, beverages, bonus point responsibilities, a crew for set up and takedown and operators.

The main activity starts Thursday evening the 24th when we load the equipment at the barn and haul it to Lazy Days. Friday afternoon is time to set up the stations and tents. Operations start on Saturday and continue to Sunday. Then it is time to pick up everything and put it away. We will cover these important details at the next meeting, which is June 9th.

For those of you who haven't experienced Field Day the ORC way here are few tips:

1. Don't lift the lid! The entrée for the Friday night potluck is turkey grilled to perfection. Enjoy the aroma but do not lift the lid.
2. If you are partner, lead with your highest trump. The Friday evening meal is followed by a social time including several sheephead games that run well into the night.

3. You can say anything you want about the 40 meter CW tent, it is impossible to hurt their feelings.
4. Do not call the humane society if you come upon an intense discussion about Park 'n Bark, just excuse yourself and get another beer.

This is a weekend of fun, come join us and you'll get a better understanding of Field Day the ORC way.

73's and remember...It's a hobby!

FIELD DAY MEMORIES

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

Sometimes it can be fun, or at least interesting, to look back at past Field Days and think about some of the things that happened. Most of the memories are fond, amusing, or downright funny. They can also be tragic.

I remember the phone (AM in those days) operator at Omaha in 1952 who called CQ FD about 3 times as fast as a TV sportscaster gives baseball scores. You had to be there to appreciate it—I had good ears in those days, but I could figure out what he was saying only by the rhythm in his voice. I guess he thought that if the CW guys sent as fast as they could that he should talk as fast as he could. I don't believe he worked anybody. Later that night we had the heaviest FD thunderstorm I can ever remember. We disconnected the feed lines from the rigs and dropped them to the ground, and were drawing 2-3" sparks off the ends of them. Lucky---we could have burned up few receivers that night.

I remember FD at the gravel pit (somewhere in Ozaukee County) in about 1958 or 59. It was the group that later became OZRAD. We had a tower set up close to the tent, with the coax from the beam entering the tent directly behind the operating table. About 9 PM or so, we ran out of liquid refreshment so W9BCK volunteered to go into town to renew the supply. It was raining and the visibility was poor, so he didn't see the guy anchor as he turned his car around. He backed into it, causing it to come out of the ground, and the tower to fall. Charlie, K9MAU, was tuning the transmitter at that time, and when the tower fell, the coax pulled the rig right off the table and out of the tent. What a surprise for Charlie.

I remember the year that the 75-meter phone guys, who shall remain nameless, used a balloon to support a vertical antenna. The year was about 1965 (give or take perhaps 5 years), and the place was WA9BMA's property on the lakeshore somewhere north of Port Washington. The wind came up, the wire broke, and the balloon went sailing inland, trailing the 200' piece of bare copper wire beneath it. A short time later there was a large area power failure—didn't bother us because we were using generator power, but the electric company and the natives of the area got pretty excited about it. It was rumored that our balloon laid the wire on the cross-country transmission lines, but of course this couldn't happen, could it? (But even if it did, it's not our fault those lines were not insulated.)

I remember the year that W9RXJ drove his car over one of the coax feed lines, and wrapped about 20' of it around his axle. (How did he do that?) I don't remember if he pulled the tower down or not.

I remember the year of the baked salt shaker. Ann Berg brought the charcoal grill and I brought the potatoes, all previously wrapped in foil. We loaded the potatoes in the grill, cooked them, and then added the steaks, brats, or whatever they were. It had the makings of a real feast. When Ann unwrapped her baked potato it turned out to be a salt shaker. It seems that I had wrapped the salt shaker in foil

to keep the salt from spilling out while in transit, and it got mixed in with the potatoes. Have you ever used brown salt? It tasted OK to me.

And finally, I remember the year W9WQ died in the tent. I believe it was 1989, but I'm not sure. We finished the set-up and testing about noon on Saturday, much later than we expected to, so there wasn't time to go out to lunch as we usually did in those days. I shared my brats & chips with Joe while we talked over our contest strategy for the next 24 hours. He said he was feeling pretty good, and hadn't had any chest pains all day. Prior to that none of us knew he had a heart problem. Joe took the first operating shift, and I relieved him at 2:00 PM. He said he was a little tired, and was going to take a rest. He laid down on the cot and went to sleep, while I took over the operating position. He never woke up.

These are some of my Field Day memories. We take the bad with the good. I hope to see you all at Lazy Days on June 28-30 to build a few more memories, hopefully all fond.

Bob, W9LO

New Members

Nancy Stecker is one of our newest ORC members. She was a student in the "Technician"



training class at the Justice Center and took her test on May 1st at the ORC Swapfest. She passed and is now known as KC9FZK. Nancy lives in Grafton and recently retired from the Cedarburg library staff. Currently you will find Nancy on 2 meters with her HT or at breakfast on Saturday mornings at Prime Minister's in Mequon. Nancy got interested as a result of watching the activities of ARES and at Field last year and after meeting several of the members at the socials throughout the year. Welcome Nancy – look forward to your acting as an operator this field day. Nancy's Elmer is Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR.



Steve Stevens was also in the “Technician” training class at the Justice Center and also passed his Technician class exam on May 1st at the ORC swapfest. Steve has been a long time short wave listener using an SX-99 that he has had for over 25 years. He was encouraged to take the class by John Laske of the ORC and with whom he works at American Signal. Steve lives in Port Washington and is an accountant for American Signal who makes outdoor sirens. Steve was originally issued the call KC9FZF and has already had it changed to K9DXT which was the call of his uncle who is now a SK. Steve should be a great asset at our GOTA station on field day. Steve's Elmer is Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR.

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

Yes indeed, count your blessings if you are able to read this.

I was standing at the US Tower exhibit at the Dayton Hamvention recently, waiting for my turn to talk to the tower guy. It was late in the day and I was tired, so I paid little attention when I noticed a black Labrador dog lying on the floor at my feet. That is, until he suddenly lunged and barked at the yellow dog walking past the booth. The Lab's owner immediately apologized for the dog's action (which turned out to be a friendly gesture—he just wanted to get acquainted with the other dog, and proceeded to do so in the manner that dogs normally do), and said “I'm another blind ham. My call is-----, and my name is-----.” The lady with the yellow dog responded with the same information, and they proceeded to have what most of us would call an “eyeball” QSO. But they couldn't call it that, could they?

All this got me to thinking about how difficult life must be for people without sight. How can you talk to a salesman about a tower if you've never seen one? How can you tune a transceiver to 3860 kHz for your afternoon schedule if you can't see the tuning dial? How will you know if your VSWR has gone sky high? And the list goes on. These are simple actions that those of us with sight take for granted, but they are also a reminder that once in a while we should count our blessings. And praise the “Elmer's” who made it possible for these folks to join us in this wonderful hobby we call ham radio.

Bob, W9LO

Elmer's – a new program

De Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR

We are starting a new Elmer program where all new members and requesting existing members will be assigned an Elmer. The job of the Elmer is to make sure new members feel welcome at the meetings and ORC activities and when ap-

appropriate, to encourage and assist them in advancing in their class of license.

Some existing members may also desire an Elmer to help them get on the air, solve a station problem or to assist in learning the code or upgrade theory.

Since one of the major responsibilities of an Elmer is to encourage the member to upgrade and assist in the learning of the code and additional theory, it is required that the Elmer's have a General or higher class license.

If you would like to have an Elmer to assist you in your amateur radio hobby or would like to volunteer as an Elmer, contact Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR.

The current Elmer's are:

1. Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR
2. Jim Albrinck, K9QLP
3. Kent Christiansen, N9WH
4. Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR

Field Day 2004

Here's looking forward to the weekend of June 25, 26 and 27. If you are looking to help set up or tear down and for some operating time during the event be sure to come to the June 9th meeting and sign up. If you can't make the meeting, just show up on Friday and Saturday and Sunday morning to get in on the action. The chairman this year is Jim Hillins, KA4UPW, and he is looking for the ORC to improve on the 3rd place finish of the past two years. We will have another crank-up tower this year and another tribander with all the parts this time. We will also have new dipoles for 80, 75 and the 40-meter stations.

If you have not been involved in field day in the past, do get involved this year. It is not only a fun social and learning experience, we need you to help setup, teardown and to serve as an operator. If you have not had much of a chance to operate HF phone in the past, take advantage of this opportunity – it's fun and we need your help.

Club Static

Our hart felt condolences go out to Tom Oehler (W9LNL) whose wife Brigitte, passed away on June 21, following a long illness.

Congratulations to Chris (N9VKC), one of our newer members from West Bend, who passed his Extra class exam in May. Chris has also been hosting a trivia net on 443.75 following our regular net on 147.97.

ORC Swapfest

Congratulations to Gene Szudrowitz (KB9VJP) who chaired the ORC 2004 Swapfest held at Circle B on May 1st. This project provides the revenue for the bulk of our operating expenses each year. This year Gene had revenues of \$2,681.50 and expenses of \$553 for a net total of \$2,127.83 to sustain the club. Great job Gene.



Nels (WA9JOB), Gabe (WI9GC) and Bernie (AA9CI) monitored the door and sold tickets making sure the swapfest was a financial success. There were 391 in attendance – nice crowd.

Again, Stan (WB9RQR) did a great job of raffling off the door prizes but the real thanks go to Julia (KB9WBQ) and Carol (KC9CBC) who

shook the bushes of Cedarburg and Grafton and supplied Stan with the door prizes from local merchants.



There was a great crowd all morning from before 8 AM to noon. They came for the prizes announced by Stan (WB9RQR) and for such treasures as offered by Fred (N9FH).



Ed (AA9W) was there again managing the "scholarship" table in an effort to clear his basement of donations and in the process earned \$440 for the scholarship fund.



Kent (N9WH) and Chairman Gene (KB9VJP) collected the money for over 90 tables from the vendors while Leon (K9GCF) operated the "talk in" station.

Dayton – Wet & Fun



Part of the ORC that made it to Dayton included Ray (W9BUJ), Gary (WI9M), Nels (WA9JOB), Rex and Tom (W9IPR). There were 6 vehicles and 17 members from the ORC – a really great showing.



Ray (W9BUJ) spied an SX-28 in the flea market and took a few moments to reminisce.



When the rain subsided the crowds returned to the flea market in force with a determination to make up for lost time.

Project of the Month

De Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR

Not sure where to mount the HF antenna on your SUV? Try a true bumper mount. The center hole is a bit large at about 7/8" but it's simple and effective. Note the rubber cargo strap pinched in the door and used to stabilize the "whip" in the wind.



As the Saturday rains came the flea market thinned out and the halls filled with damp bargain hunters. However, it was during the rains that the greatest treasures were discovered in the flea market by W9IPR.



Minutes – May 12th, 2004

De Carol Szudrowitz, KC9CBC

Announcements – Tom's W9IPR class is going very well. In fact, he can say proudly say 100% completion. Congratulations to Nancy KC9FZK and Steve for passing the test given at the Swapfest.

Program – Ralph Evens W9ETZ gave an interesting program on WI-FI. He is a visionary and considers this a relatively new wireless field. It is an unlicensed service partly on a ham band 2.2 – 2.3 GHz.. It has short radius coverage using a directional antenna. Starbucks has Hot Spots. This is not protected from interference. Everyone has it even on garage door openers.

Ralph showed the Wireless Mobile coverage that has been instituted for UW Madison using a candelabra tower. It works campus wide. The cost of cards for Internet access is buried in student fees. For more information talk to Nels WA9JOB who works with him. Tom suggested this as a possible area for the club to investigate for potential revenue.

Auction – Held by Stan WB9RQR

Business Meeting – Secretary minutes approved as published.

Badger Examiners – Gary WI9M thanked all the hams working with him for test hams over the past 22 years. It is time consuming work. May 1 was the last exam at Swapfest. It's time to shut it down.

Treasurer's Report - See the printed copy. Swapfest was a success. 90 tables were sold and 391 paid attendance, one more than last year. The scholarship table made \$440 alone. \$500 will be placed in the Repeater Improvement Fund from the Swapfest profits.

Repeater Report - Nels WA9JOB reported that he felt everything was doing well until NET was attempted to be set on the controller. Brian N9LOO tried it and couldn't get it on. So after 3 hours of reprogramming it is OK. May 8th Jim KA4UPW and others worked in the barn to check things for Field Day. Interference was tracked in the shack and we are putting in a grounding strap for ground impedance. Goal for the 220 is to go on automatically for NETS and with 2 meters. 97-repeater interface with 220 link is what he's working on. 440 seems OK. Discussion continues about increase power for 220. It is at 6 watts now, an amplifier would help (possibly a solid state one). Terry KA9RFM volunteered to construct a safety cage for current amplifier. We are

also checking if antennas should be updated. All links are working currently.

OZARES - Rusty Kappella held the storm coverage class May 5th, so there was no regular May meeting. Next meeting is June 17th. Per Jon KB9RHZ

Field Day – Leon K9GCF reported for Jim KA4UPW. Tower is welded. We are doing welding work on some antennas. When storing them in the barn, stand them up to prevent water from entering (it tends to freeze in winter and bust the antennas). There are a few other repairs needed. Also needed authorization for money for tribander antennas. (TA 33 and 20 mono bander) Tower trailer works well. A map or directions are available for way to Sandy Knoll Campgrounds, just ask.

Swap Fest – Gene KB9VJP thanked all for making Swap Fest a success. There was a great turnout for set-up help Friday night and Saturday morning! It was greatly appreciated. Last year we had to set up all the tables Friday night. This year Circle B was on top of things so it was ready for us. All we had to do was number them and admit the vendors. Thank you again especially to Jane KB9SYI for making all the labels for the mailing, and Julia KB9WBQ for eliciting a number of great door prizes. Carol KC9CBC also obtained some. Testing was provided by Gary WI9M and his team.

Old Business – None

New Business – Dayton, Ohio Swap Fest - Reminder for those going - 55 is frequency to be on.

Air Show in West Bend - Reminder for those interested this is really great. The show is Saturday and Sunday, June 17 and 18th. If you can not make it this year make plans for next year. The air aerobics are phenomenal and we could set up a table to extol the virtues of ham radio. Let Tom W9IPR know.

Attendance - Ron W9BCK, Ray W9BUJ, Dick K9CAN, Mark AB9CD, Bernie AA9CI, Ron KC9DKQ, Gabe WI9GC, Leon K9GCF, Ed AA9GT, Jerry KB9IMH, Tom W9IPR, Nels WA9JOB, Bob W9LO, Brian N9LOO, Dale N9NNE, Michael WJ9O, Carol KC9CBC, Jim K9QLP, Terry KA9RFM, Jon KB9RHZ, Ted KB9RLI, Stan WB9RQR, Dave N9UNR, Joe KB9URC, Gary N9UUR, Herb WA9UVK, Roger W9UVV, Gene KB9VJP, Chris N9VKC, Don W9VSC, Jeananne N9VSV, Ed AA9W, Julia KB9WBQ, Kent N9WH, Jim N9WIU, Ed AA9WW, Tom AA9XK, Jake KB9ZOR, Gary WI9M, Nancy KC9FZK.

FIELD DAY PERSONAL CHECKLIST

De Skip Douglas, KA9DDN

Shelter / Operating Position and Furniture

Tent or trailer

Poles, stakes, guy ropes, etc.

Table - heavy enough for all equipment

Chairs

Lawn Chairs / chaise lounges (for relaxing)

Ground cloth

Radio Gear & Logging Equipment

Radio set, power supply, speaker, cooling fan

Ground rods, heavy wires and clamps for ground rods

Antenna(s), tripod, masts, coax cable, coax fittings and adapters, rope, pulleys

Antenna tuner(s), SWR meters

Keyer and/or keyboard, paddles, straight key (for backup), connecting cables

Headset(s)

Extension power cords (120VAC 3-wire outdoor type, 12-ga . preferable)

Power distribution (multi-outlet) boxes (with line filter to reduce electrical noise).

Digital clock and/or watch

Pencils, paper, erasers

Dupe sheet boards

Lamp (table or clamp-on type) with spare bulbs

Electric fan

Heater (gasoline or propane)

Tool Kit and Spare Parts

Hammers - Sledge, carpenter's, and ball-pen

Pliers - Ordinary pliers, needle nose, channel lock, vice-grips, side cutters

Wrenches - Open end or combination wrench set, adjustable open-end wrenches, socket wrench set, nutdriver set

Screwdrivers - Standard and Philips, various sizes

Wire strippers, crimping tool with stake-on

terminals, wire nuts

Soldering iron (15-25 watt), soldering gun (100 watt), solder (60/40 or better yet, 63/37 alloy)

Fuses for radios, power supplies, car, etc.

Extra coax fittings and adapters

Extra coax cable for making jumpers, etc.

Extra bulbs for electric lighting

Flashlight with spare bulbs and batteries

For connecting things - Baling wire, heavy string, electrical tape, duct (gaffing) tape, masking tape, nylon reinforced tape, large rubber bands

Personal Food

Fruit, sandwiches, cookies, crackers, cheese spread, summer sausages, bagels, chips, etc.

COOLER with ICE, Milk, Orange Juice, Beer, Southern Comfort, etc.

Any special food because of your diet

Personal First Aid

Bug repellent

Sunscreen, sunburn ointment

Aspirin, antacid

Any prescription medicines you may need
FIRST AID KIT - bandages, antiseptic, etc.

Camping/Sleeping Equipment

Personal tent or camping trailer, etc.

Cot or air mattress (air pump for air mattress)

Sleeping bag, pillows, etc.

Personal Hygiene stuff (toothbrush, razor, soap, washcloth, towels, etc.)

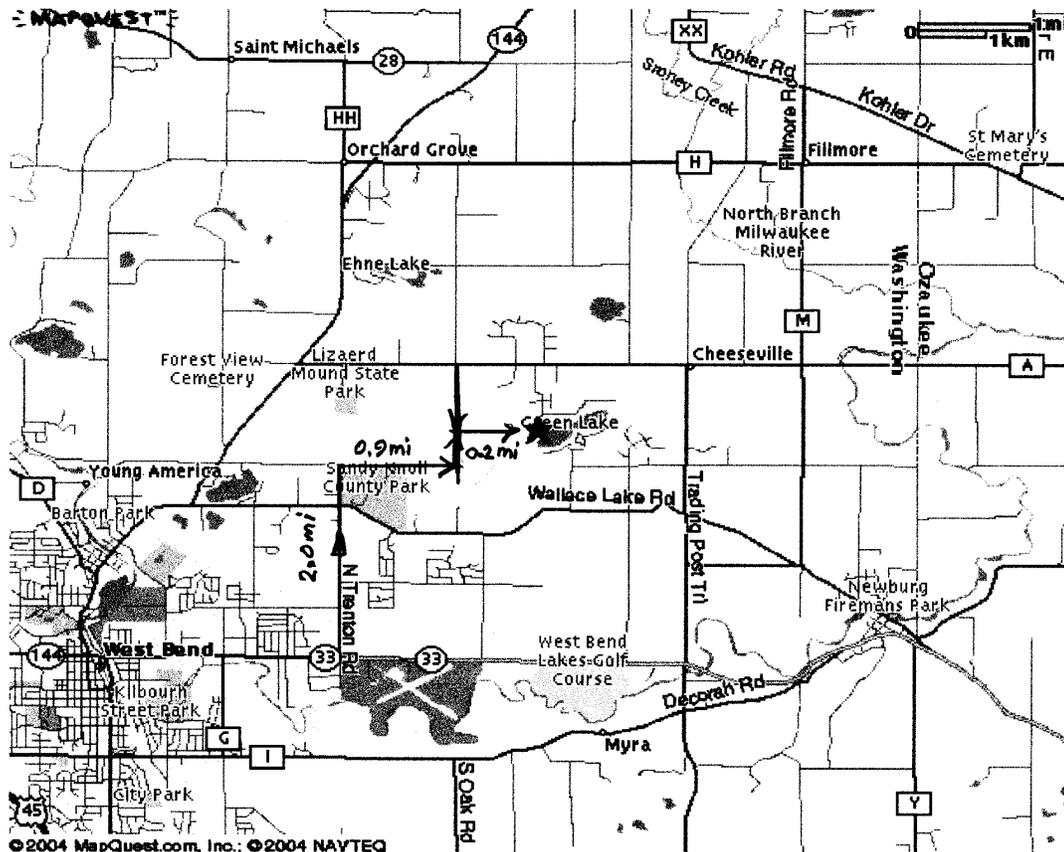
Clothing Items

LIGHT clothing for hot summer days

Jacket (light), jacket (heavier), sweater, long underwear or heavy slacks (for those cool nights)

SUNGLASSES, HAT - there's a hot sun out
Extra socks, underwear, jammies, change of clothes

Galoshes, raincoat or poncho, umbrella



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<http://www.mapquest.com/maps/print.adp?mapdata=RwuiQHj5qmyCVaYLxAWowrxQsip...> 5/26/04

We will be setting up at Lazy Days Campground. Perhaps the easy way to get there is drive West on Hy 33 past the West Bend airport about half a mile to North Trenton Road – Turn to your right (North). Go 2 miles North to the “T” in the road and turn right (East). Continue East for 0.9 miles and bear to the left (North again) for 0.2 miles. Now you are at the back entrance to Lazy Days Campground . Turn right (East) again and proceed very slowly as this is a very bumpy road. Stop when you see the antenna and smell the turkey – it’s Field Day.

AGENDA

June 9th, 2004

1. Call to order – Vic (KB9UKE)
2. Introductions.
3. Announcements, Upcoming events, Etc.,
4. Program:
5. Fellowship Break
6. Auction.
7. Acceptance of Minutes as printed.
8. Treasurer's report – Tom (AA9XK).
9. Repeater report – Nels (WA9JOB)
10. OZARES report – Jon (KB9RHZ).
11. Committee reports.
12. OLD BUSINESS
13. NEW BUSINESS.
14. Adjournment to ?

Return undeliverable copies to

The ORC Newsletter

465 Beechwood Drive
Cedarburg WI* 53012

First Class

Next ORC Meeting

Grafton Senior Citizens Center

1665 7th Avenue, Grafton

Wednesday, June 9th

7:30 PM