



The ORC News -

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 Web site: www.ozaukeeradioclub.org

Volume XXVI

March 2007

Number 3

The Prez Sez

By Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR))

Well I missed the February meeting and the auction because I had to go to Orlando FL where it was 70F. Oh well, but thanks to Leon I learned that there was a major swapfest in Orlando the weekend following when we were scheduled to arrive.

Actually we had a great couple of weeks at Disney World etc., air museums, Cape Kennedy and especially at the swapfest. Theirs is similar to the Grayslake event however; it is on a Friday through Sunday and has many manufacturers and National distributors showing their wares. I met a number of the operators from the Milwaukee - Florida net and had a great time snooping around the swapfest. Got a few great deals and missed one that I still regret. Oh well, there is always next year.



These are some of the participants in the MKE-FL net who were at the Orlando Swapfest. Note Leon (K9GCF) is second from the right.

The Post Everything Party was again a great success thanks to the efforts of co-chairs Paul Schumacher (KD9FM) and Ted Schweitzer (KB9RLI). My congratulations to our new HAM of the Year, Mark Tellier (AB9CD) and our new Turkey of the Year, Vic Shier (KB9UKE) and all those recognized by the Board for their special achievements throughout 2006. As usual, the Shack Junk Box gift exchange was educational as well as interesting. Again, thanks to all who made the PEP another great success.

I was especially pleased to read the e-mails between Paul Schumacher (KD9FM) and Tom Nawrot (AA9XT) related to activating the lighthouse at Port Washington. Sort of like Field Day but on a smaller scale and it will get much public visibility as a part of the Port Washington celebration. This will be a great ORC project. Perhaps it can become a traditional event, as is Field Day.

Don't forget about the AES Superfest March 30 and 31st. Looks like a great lineup of vendors, speakers and door prizes. I noted where Greg Lingling (W9DHI) would be presenting a talk on remote control of your HF station. Should be interesting. Also, ORC and OZARES will both have informational tables for recruitment etc. at the Superfest. Be sure to attend and help man the tables. It's a chance to learn from the speakers & vendors and have "eyeball" QSO's with other area HAM's.

Remember that Sunday March 11th is the Wisconsin QSO party. Bob Truscott (W9LO) is organizing the ORC club participation. Get on the air for this 7-hour contest sponsored by the West Allis ARC and submit your log information to Bob so we can WIN this one. The rules can be found at www.warac.org or give Bob a call for information.

Planning for the May and September swapfests is well underway. We have been distributing flyers at the recent local swapfests and just completed sending out 20 letters soliciting door prizes. Things are shaping up well for our May 5th swapfest at Circle B and it looks like our outdoor swapfest will be Sept. 15th at the Fireman's Park in Cedarburg. If you would like to get involved in these projects, just give me a call.

That's about it for the month – it's been a great one. Get involved and have some fun. Tom (W9IPR)

Contesting

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

WISCONSIN QSO PARTY

The WIQP will probably be history by the time you read this, but I must tell you that we are going into the contest with high hopes of winning the club competition this year. The weather predictions are somewhat "iffy" at this time, but hopefully the next snowstorm will hold off long enough for our two HF mobile units to make their rounds into a bunch of other counties. And, if 40 meters remains "short" for the first few hours of the contest we should do pretty well. You can download log forms and summary sheets from WWW.warac.org/wqp/2007rules.html. Logs and summary sheets must be post marked by April 11. Entries of 200 or more contacts must be accompanied by a dupe sheet. Be sure to specify Ozaukee Radio Club on your summary sheet. Send your entries to:

WISCONSIN QSO PARTY
WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB
P. O. BOX 1072
MILWAUKEE, WI 53201

Reported scores in recent contests:

CQ 160 Meter Contest

W9LO	462 QSOs----51 Mults----51,561
Score	
W9KHH	179 QSOs----48 Mults----17,760
Score	

ARRL DX CW

W9XT 328 countries—score, 1,001,712

Coming up in March:

Mar. 11 --- Wisconsin QSO Party— 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM, local time. Rules in March QST, page 90 or www.warac.org/wqp/2007 .

Mar. 17—10-10 Mobile Contest—Rules in March QST, page 91

Mar. 24-25—CQ WPX Contest—SSB Rules in Mar. QST, page 91

Have fun contesting.

Post Everything Party

Now this was a great party. Fine facility, good food, good company, fun gift exchange and recognition of excellence. Our many thanks to Ted Schweitzer (KB9RLI) and Paul Schumacher (KD9FM) who jointly chaired the event.

Those recognized by the Board for their contribution to the Club and hobby during 2006 were:



Leon Rediske (K9GCF) retiring from the Board as past Vice President and President.

Tom Nawrot (AA9XK) retiring from the Board as past Treasurer.



Mark Potash (KC9GST) was recognized with the Radio Art Advancement Award for his design and fabrication of “easy-up” field day towers

Mark Tellier (AB9CD) was recognized as Instructor of the Year for his “Elmering Program” prior to business meetings.

Gary Bargholz (N9UUR) was recognized with the Communications and Technical Skills Advancement Award for his work with AMSAT and the National Repeater Frequency Co-ordination Committee and for his activities with satellite communications systems.

Gary Sutcliffe (W9XT) as Contester of the Year for his DXCC Honor Roll status and promotion of DX via his serving as President of the W9DXCC group and his DX column in the ARRL National Contest Journal.

Ed Rate (AA9W) was recognized with the Club Service Award for his 17 years as Club Trustee, past Secretary, past Vice President and continuing efforts of marketing donated equipment on behalf of the Scholarship Fund.



Ed Frac (AA9WW) was presented the Presidents Award by Tom (W9IPR) for his acceptance of the appointment to the new Vice Presidents position in 2006 and assumption of the chairmanships of the “Corn Roast” and “Uniform” committees in the absence of volunteers.

The main awards of the evening were those of the traditional Turkey of the Year and Ham of the Year as voted by the general membership at the February membership meeting.

The voted Ham of the Year for 2006 was:

Mark Tellier (AB9CD)

For being a consistent contributor to the group via participation in ORC projects and meeting programs and conduct of “Elmering” sessions prior to the membership meetings

The voted Turkey of the Year for 2006 was:

Vic Shier (KB9UKE)

For being generally a “good guy” who has assisted in projects throughout the year and has promoted friendship and goodwill within the group.



Vic is shown with his "Turkey" award and wife Barbara who will help decide where it is displayed

Congratulations to all those who were recognized for their extraordinary efforts through the years and in 2006. Thanks on behalf of the ORC and HAM radio!

Meeting Programs

de Mike Yuhas, KC9GDV

Aside from camaraderie and Stan's famous auctions, one of the best reasons to attend an ORC meeting is to learn about other fun aspects of amateur radio. We've got a couple dandy programs lined up for Spring 2007:

At our March 14 meeting, John Draves (AB9HH) and Linda Draves (KC9DLO) will talk about the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society, and what's Involved in "lighting up" special event stations at lighthouses.

Our April 11 meeting will feature a discussion by Ken Boston, W9GA, about VHF modes.

Skip Douglas (KA9DDN) promises a lively talk about Anderson Powerpole connectors in May or June.

Do you have expertise in a particular area of amateur radio or electronics? Want to share your enthusiasm with the group? If so, please contact me at 262-284-4401 to discuss your program ideas. We can supply a computer projector and screen.

Your program ideas help! Let's fill up our calendar. I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

RIVER CLEANUP

By Cindy KA9PZG

Saukville will be holding the annual river cleanup this year on Saturday, May 19, 2007.

The normal 6-8 ham volunteers would be appreciated again to help with communications between cleanup crews and home base. The usual continental breakfast will be available for those ham operators and committee members around 7:40am at Grady Park, Saukville. Any others helping that can't make the breakfast should be at Grady Park by 8:15am for assignments.

Any questions, please contact committee member, Cindy Douglas, (262) 483-4570 or via email @ cindyd@wi.rr.com.

The River Fest committee has been very appreciative for your help over the past years; it has been very beneficial for the cause!!!

This Old Shack

De Photo's by Tom Murtaugh (W9VBQ)

Actually it started when he was a kid. The teenager across the street was a HAM and it seemed kind of interesting to Ed, as were model airplanes. He built a couple of radios from kits and then he noticed girls – so much for HAM radio and model airplanes.

In the 60's Ed went to Ohio State where he earned his Bachelors in Mortuary Science. At the time he also served in the Army Reserve. This led to his becoming a partner in a mortuary

business but it was during this time that he discovered he enjoyed sales.



Ed (AA9WW) at his shack with his FT990 and classic D104 microphone

His sales career started with Georgia Pacific and progressed to the metal fabrication business and then roofing materials. It was through the roofing materials sales that Ed developed his own roofing business in 1983. Although he sold the roofing business in 2005 he is still involved in sales for the new owner and enjoys every minute of it.

In 1996, while Ed was remodeling an old schoolhouse to live in, raising a family and running his commercial roofing business, he realized he needed an adult hobby. Thinking back to the good times he had with model airplanes as a kid he decided to get involved with radio controlled airplanes and he purchased his first RC airplane kit. As he was reading the instructions he noted that they suggested that if he had an FCC Technician amateur radio license he could use the 6 meter band for radio control. Since there were few operators at that frequency there was less chance of interference from other RC operators and accidents.

With the idea of using 6 meters for RC aircraft Ed went to AES and bought the text "Now You're Talking". He decided to go for the Technician Plus and was up to 5 wpm within a few months. At this point he joined the Washington

County Radio Club and bought an HT. It was at a Washington County meeting where he met Brian Skrentny (N9LOO) who suggested he also join the more active Ozaukee Radio Club. Within 4 months, Ed had his code speed up to 13 wpm and decided to take the exams for General. Again, he passed with flying colors so he bought an ICOM 706 for a base station and he set his sites on Extra Class. He set aside an early hour each morning and worked on his code. It was not easy but within a year of getting his Technician license, he had mastered the 20-wpm and Extra class license theory and acquired all the amateur privileges available.

Eventually he traded the IC706 in on the IC706 MkII that he uses in the truck. This rig feeds a screwdriver antenna for HF and a dual band short whip for 2 meters etc. for local contacts.

Ed is one of the regulars going to Dayton and always has his eye out for a good buy. And he has the antenna tuners to prove it.

During 2006 Ed filled the newly created spot of Internal VP and also took on the chairmanship of the Corn Roast and Uniform committees.

He has recently gotten interested in contesting and took advantage of Bob Truscott's offer to provide a "contesting 101" seminar at his home. It appears Ed now has the "bug" so to speak.

In the main shack Ed is using a Yaesu FT990 through an MFJ969 antenna tuner to a Batternut multiband vertical. In terms of a "shack" Ed recently moved to a new home in Dundee WI and is building his shack above the garage. He says it will have electric lighting, a refrigerator and air conditioning so when he gets finished he will have all the necessities of life to sustain him through endless hours of "hamming".

Club Static

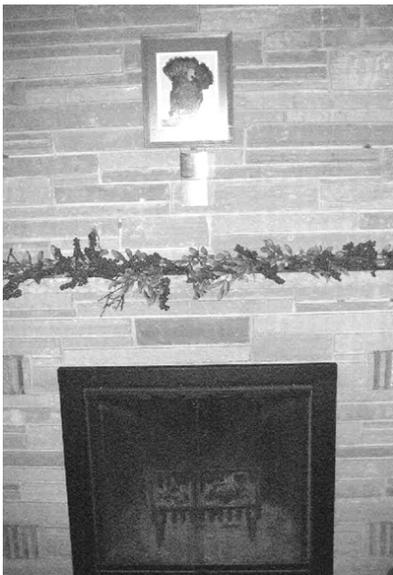
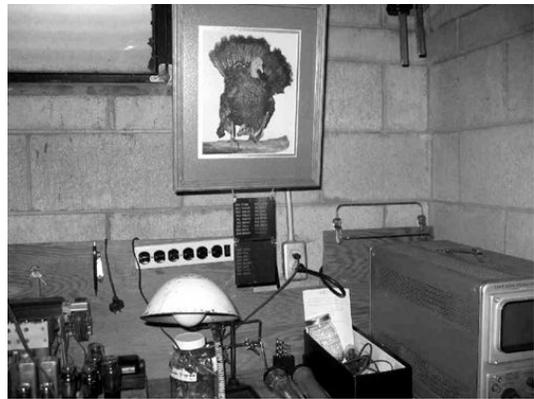
Ted Schweitzer (KB9RLI) is still recovering from his hip replacement but he did make it to the PEP and we look forward to his return to membership meetings.

Thanks for the Turkey

By Vic Shier KB9UKE

I want to thank the members of the ORC for selecting me as the Turkey of the Year. The Turkey will be displayed, with honor, in my home until the next club member takes it into custody.

I found the perfect place to display it. My first thought was on the fireplace mantel but it looked too small.



Then I tried the living room but the colors clashed.



Then I got an idea-How about my workroom. Yes that was perfect and of course Barb has no objection to me hanging it wherever I wish.

Project of the Month

De: Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR)

It all started at the Town recycling center. How could a person allow a beautiful battery box with sump pump control circuitry and a charger (I thought) to be thrown into the dumpster. They can't. Therefore I rescued the container from oblivion with the promise of a new more rewarding life as a portable re-chargeable 12 VDC power source.

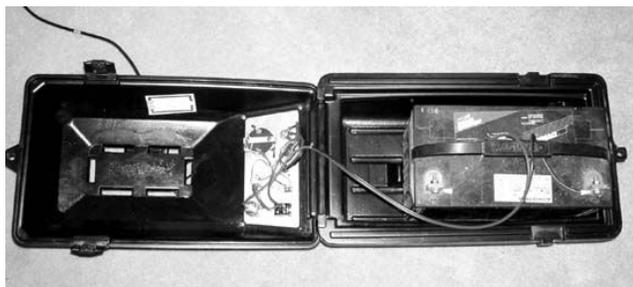


The exterior of the 12 VDC Battery Supply shows the voltmeter, circuit breaker, switch and power termination's

The first thing I found was that all the included circuitry related to controlling 3 LED's on the panel and the charging circuit consisted of only

a full wave bridge rectifier fed by a “wall wart”. So much for the control circuitry – it’s gone.

Then I removed the panel and attempted to remove the attractive adhesively bonded labeling on the aluminum panel. That was a slow task of pulling it from the panel (scraping would damage the aluminum) and removing the remaining adhesive with paint thinner.



With the cover opened the internal wiring behind the panel is shown as is a storage area in front of the battery. Note the ventilation slots in the cover to allow for venting of any hydrogen gas that could be generated during charging.



The 14 VDC laptop computer power supply used as a charger had the output cord adapted to Anderson “power-pole” connectors to facilitate charging. There is also an adapter for the “cigar lighter” type receptacle to all use with “power- poles” and other types of power connectors.

After a careful review of the existing holes in the panel and my junk box I decided to include a 12 VDC Dynasty AGM lead acid battery, voltmeter, On-Off switch (to prevent the voltmeter from draining the battery while in storage), circuit breaker (to prevent overload damage to the wiring) and various termination’s including a “cigar lighter” type receptacle, Anderson “power-pole” connectors and binding posts.

The “utility” charger utilized was a 14 VDC power supply for a laptop computer. However, the unit can also be charged from my 50-watt solar panel, which is equipped with “power-pole” connectors.

Success, the battery container was saved from oblivion and now rests in my garage awaiting the call to service.

Upcoming Events

March

South Milwaukee Auction

3rd Post Everything Party

3rd – 4th ARRL International Phone DX Contest

11th Wisconsin QSO Party

11th North American RTTY Sprint

14th Membership Meeting

18th Tri-County ARC Hamfest @ Jefferson WI

24th 25th CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest

30 – 31st AES Superfest

April

11th Membership Meeting

21st Madison Swapfest @ Stoughton

28th Central WI Swapfest @ Colby WI

May

2nd Board Meeting

4th Opportunity Day @ Parkview School

5th ORC Swapfest at Circle B

9th Membership Meeting

18th – 20th Dayton Hamvention

19th - Saukville River Cleanup

26th – 27th CQ WW CW DX Contest



By Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), Column Editor

SMO - A REAL EMERGENCY: On Sunday, 4 March, Jack (N9SFG) received a page relating that St. Mary's Hospital in Mequon had lost all internal and external telephone communications, and OZARES was needed. He activated OZARES and several hams scooted over to the hospital to provide communications until the phone systems could be repaired. In less than an hour from the time Jack received the page, OZARES hams had: 1. Erected an antenna at the hospital. 2. Powered up a rig there and established communications with two home stations so that telephone messages could be relayed to a working phone site from the ambulance bay. 3. Established cross-band repeater service using a vehicle parked in the hospital lot. This would permit deployed hams in all wings of the hospital to communicate with each other, and with the base station in the ambulance bay, thus providing communications for all wings of the hospital.

Just about the time that OZARES hams were to be deployed to various wings of the hospital to provide communications for the emergency room, operating rooms, etc., we were informed that telephone service had been restored by rebooting the computers in the system. We were asked to stay around for a time, just to make sure that everything was working, as it should, which we did. All was well, so we secured operations and went home. We received sincere thanks from the hospital.

Who participated? Some members were at home staffing base stations to relay messages as necessary (a vital service!). These were: KA9DDN, KA9FZK, W9IPR, N9UNR, KA9WBQ and AA9XK.

Those actually at the hospital were: K9GCF, KC9GSS, KA9PZG, WB9RQR, N9SFG, N9SQA, KB9VJP and N9WH.

This was a real emergency, and it turned out well, in the sense that OZARES was ready and responded in a timely fashion, and we set up adequate communications in a very short time.

A new communications center is being built at the hospital, and an OZARES operating position (with equipment) is being included. The hospital will also provide a radio there so that OZARES ops can talk with maintenance and key personnel using the SMO radio system. There have also been discussions concerning annual drills, to include both SMO and OZARES personnel.

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE: OZARES nets are held each Thursday at 8:00 p.m., except on meeting nights (4th Thursdays). Both a net script and check-in list can be obtained on the OZARES web site, www.ozares.org. If you are scheduled for NCO duty and cannot make it, it is your responsibility to find a substitute. Check the complete schedule on the web site for possible hams to trade dates with. Guests are welcome after the OZARES check-ins are complete, especially ORC members!

15 Mar WD9HOD
22 Mar Meeting (WX)

05 Apr KC9JJU
12 Apr W9KHH
19 Apr WI9M
26 Apr Meeting

03 May WJ9O
10 May N9PBY
17 May KA9PZG
24 May Meeting
31 May KB9RHZ

For Sale, Trade or ?

I have an RCA projection TV available for the hauling. It does not turn on. If I have no takers, I'll dismantle for parts. I tried to fix, but had no luck. Is this the ultimate PEP present or what? Call Leon (K9GCF) at 262-377-1080

These listings do work. I had a call from a guy in Canada who did a web search and wanted to buy a microphone that was listed in this column.

Minutes– Feb/ 14th, 2007

De Nancy Stecker, KC9FZK

In the absence of the President, First Vice President Mike Yuhas (KC9GDV) opened the meeting at 7:30 at the Grafton Senior Center. Members introduced themselves.

Announcements etc: Gary (W19M) reminded members of a fish fry at the Elk's Club on February 16, let him know if you can come. Bob (WQ9N) brought a Wouff Hong, originally devised by Hiram Percy Maxim. Ray (W9KHH) noted the AES Superfest dates are March 30 to 31, 2007. Dave (N9UNR) said February 24 is the next day to take the test for the general license at the cost of \$5.00 at the AES. Mark (AB9CD) added that if you have already taken the written test, the MARC would have a separate area for the paper upgrades. Vic (KB9UKE) talked about the Ham, Turkey and other awards, which will be given out at the Post Everything Party on March 3rd this year. He handed out nomination forms for the Ham and Turkey Awards to the membership and asked for them to be handed back to him at the end of the evening with recommendations for those awards. Bob (W9LO) opened up a discussion about the Wisconsin QSO Party to be held March 11. A lively discussion about contesting followed.

Business Meeting:

The chair entertained a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the ORC Newsletter. Dave (N9UNR) made the motion to accept the minutes; Stan (WB9RQR) seconded it, the motion passed. Mike (KC9GDV) went over the ORC Board Meeting minutes of January 15 and was joined by 2nd Vice President Bill Howe (KA9WRL) in a review of the proposed budget for the years 2007 and 2008.

Repeater Report: John (W9NRG), our new repeater Vice-President, has been meeting with Nels (WA9JOB) and visiting the different repeater sites. They are all working, use them and use them often.

Committee Reports:

Uniform Committee: Ed (AA9WW) said the committee has selected four jackets in four colors for members to look at. The prices are \$20, \$30, \$45 and \$48 for different styles. The club will pay for the cost of the logo, name and call sign. Members were given the option of having the embroidery done on other garments at their own cost.

Youth Committee: Bill (KA9WRL) hopes to get a fall date for a scouting event to be held on the EAA grounds with the ORC participating. It is a great opportunity to showcase amateur radio to thousands of scouts. School visits will be coming up and he said there would be a JOTA booth at the AES Superfest.

PEP Committee: Mike (KC9GDV) reminded members of the March 3 date for the annual ORC bash.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of the treasurer, Ed (AA9W) had placed copies of the treasurer's report on tables for members to look at.

Auction: Stan (WB9RQR) held an auction of donated items. Following the auction, a 50/50 drawing was held. Bernie (AA9CI) had the winning ticket.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business: Mike (KC9GDV) is looking for programs for upcoming monthly meetings. Mark (AB9CD) said next month's mentoring session will be a hands-on program beginning at 6:45 p.m.

Attendance: Thirty members attended: Stan WB9RQR, Bob WQ9N, Vic KB9UKE, Kent N9WH, Dave N9UNR, Ed AA9W, Ed AA9WW, Herb WA9UVK, John WA9KNY, Terry KA9RFM, John W9NRG, Bernie AA9CI, Gary W19M, Tom W9VBQ, Bill KA9WRL, Mark KC9GST, Naomi KC9GSS, Nancy KC9FZK, Mark AB9CD, Marc N9ZF, Ken W9GA, Gary W9XT, Ron W9BCK, Bob W9LO, Cindy KA9PZG, Ray W9KHH, Muhammad KC9CPC, Mike KC9GDV, Tom AA9XK and Julia KB9WBQ.

AGENDA

March 14th, 2007

1. Call to order – Tom (W9IPR)
2. Introductions.
3. Announcements, Bragging Rights, Show & Tell, Upcoming events, Etc.,
4. Program: Activating Light Houses - **John Draves (AB9HH) and Linda Draves (KC9DLO)**
5. Fellowship Break
6. Auction.
7. Acceptance of Minutes.
8. Treasurer's report – Nels (WA9JOB)
9. Repeater report – John (W9NRG)
10. Committee reports.
Membership –
Public Relations – AES Superfest
Youth Program – BSA / JOTA etc.
PEP – Ted (KB9RLI) & Paul (KD9FM)
Swapfest – Tom (W9IPR)
Light House Activation – Paul (KD9FM) -
11. OLD BUSINESS
12. NEW BUSINESS – Approval of 07 – 08 Budget
13. 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, March 14th

7:30 PM