



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

September 2007

Number 9

The Prez Sez

By Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR))

The big event for August? That would naturally be the Lighthouse Activation at Port Washington. To me, one of the signs of a thriving organization is the development of new and interesting projects that involve the membership. My special congratulations to Paul Schumacher (KD9FM) and Tom Nawrot (AA9XK) for proposing and implementing the Port Washington Lighthouse Activation project. It was a fun project that involved the membership and put the ORC before the general public. I had a great time just being there and monitoring the activities and enjoying the scenery. Nice job, I am sure it will become an annual project.

While it seems old hat now, the scholarship program was once a new project started by Dave Knaus (N9QA). Under the guidance of Ed Rate (AA9W) that fund has grown to over \$20,000 and has benefited many Wisconsin students since it's inception. My congratulations to Ms. Natalie Harding (KC9KIR) of Burlington WI who was this years winner.

Also, I want to thank Ed Frac for chairing the Corn Roast again. It is members like Ed who keep the ORC going by stepping forward to lead a project. The Corn Roast is intended as a social event where we can discuss "hamming" and get to know each other and the families better. The social aspect of the club is very important. It is the glue that helps stick the membership together.

Pat and I had a special August in that we took a cruise-land tour through Alaska. It was really great. I even found a "Ham" in Crosscan Alaska.

I recommend Princess Lines; they seem to own Alaska. It was a Princess ship, Princess train cars, Princess lodges, Princess busses etc. Great logistics.

I am now looking forward to the ORC Outdoor Swapfest on September 15th at Fireman's Park. This is another newer project and was originally fostered and chaired by Ray Brunette (W9BUJ). Last year it was at the Circle B parking lot and this year it should be much larger as it is being held at the fairgrounds. Again, this was a new project idea and it may very well become a primary source of revenue for the club as well as an opportunity to socialize with others from the area and a lot of fun. Thanks for your efforts on this one Ray.

Another sign of a vital club is it's training program and Mark Tellier, AB9CD, is setting up a class for those that wish to upgrade to General Class or just review. Contact Mark to get involved in some learning and review.

If you are looking to get involved, we are looking for someone to replace Naomi and act as the ORC public relations chairman. Get involved, have some fun.

That's it for now. See you at the meeting and hoping to see you at the swapfest. Again, get involved and have some fun.

VHF-UHF Contest-Sept. 8th

De Ken Boston (W9GA)

We have an active group here in the Wisconsin area called the Badger Contesters, and I am

hoping that a few of the more ardent contesters within the ORC can help out in the upcoming September VHF-UHF contest. Many of you who are active on HF contests can operate 6 meters, or have some 6-2-222-440 FM capability. I would like to invite you to join in with our group this coming contest, September 8-9 and add to the activity. We in the BC'ers are trying to generate over 50 entries this September, and need any help we can get. Even a limited time window, of an hour or two would help out. Please email me direct if you can help, and I will probably e-mail to a few of you that I have perceived as having contesting 'in the blood' to see how you might think about his activity.

Scholarship Award

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. has awarded the ORC \$1000 scholarship to Natalie Harding, KC9KIR of Burlington WI. She was selected from the six applicants competing for the ORC scholarship.

Natalie is an 18 year old who will be a freshman at the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh in the fall. She holds a Technician class license and operates 2 meter FM. She is a member of the Kenosha County ARES and the Miller Valley and Milwaukee Repeater Clubs. She has passed two ICS courses and is a trained storm spotter. Following is a thank you note from Natalie.

Thank you very much for awarding me the Ozaukee Radio Club annual scholarship for 2007. I will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh this fall where I hope to major in anthropology and minor in Spanish. This scholarship will definitely help me achieve my future goals. I am an ARRL member and I hold a technician class license. Once again, I am very honored to be this year's scholarship winner. Enclosed is a recent graduation photo of me so you can put a face to the person to whom the scholarship was awarded.

*Sincerely,
Natalie Harding, KC9KIR*



This is Natalie Harding, KC9KIR, the 2007 recipient of the ORC \$1000 scholarship.

New Members

One of our newest members and a new ham is Miko Hilvo, W9FIN. The call sign has special significance because Miko was born in Lapland Finland above the Arctic Circle where his father was a Lutheran minister. Then his father was transferred to Taiwan as a missionary where Miko spent 13 years growing up and learning the culture.



Miko Hilvo (W9FIN)

Miko then came to Valpraso collage to earn a degree in Physical Education where he met his future wife and future father in-law, Doug Burghardt (N9KG). Certainly it was Doug who got him interested in ham radio and Miko passed his Technician Class exams at this past Superfest at AES. His original call issued was KC9LGB but then applied for the "FIN" call since it was unique to him. Currently Miko's operations are limited to his FT-60 HT but he is looking forward to earning his General license and working DX.

Miko just built a new home in Slinger and works as the Parks and Recreation Director for Cedarburg.

Pt. Washington Lighthouse Activation

De Tom Nawrot (AA9XK)

The ORC operated a Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society special event radio station at Rotary Park in Port Washington on August 4th and 5th. Bill Howe, Tom Murtaugh, Stan Kaplan, Nancy Stecker, Tom and Julia Nawrot, Dick and Kate Holt, Tom Ruhlmann, and Paul Schumacher made contacts - many with other stations also operating from lighthouses all over the US and Canada. With light antennas, battery power, and a small 'footprint' we made almost 200 contacts, including one with Jim (K2JXW) the founder of the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society, and the Sheboygan ham and his wife who did the program at the ORC April meeting.

Because our special event station coincided with the annual Port Washington Maritime Heritage Festival weekend, there were costumed, strolling musicians, tall ships to tour or sail on, a free maritime museum, music, and lots of summer fun.



The setting for the ORC operating tent was perfect. Right at the point of the park with a full view of the boats and lake activities.

The best part was our commanding view of the breakwater light. The ORC received about 50 QSL cards so far. Mike Matthies composed a dynamite QSL card for the ORC that pictures all three lighthouses.



Paul and Tom were set up and operating portable from a "gel/Cell" battery and charging solar panel. There was also a banner and photo display of ORC activities.

Our contacts should be receiving their OSL cards from us within the next week. Paul Schumacher, is building a contact log of all the contacts. He'll submit them for contest points because this was also the Amateur Radio Light-

house Society's - National Lighthouse Lightship Weekend.



When propagation was poor they could always enjoy the view of lake activities.

Thankfully, Bill Howe, Mike Matthies, and Ray Totzke arrived early on Sunday morning and helped with the canopy recovery after a wind gust toppled it overnight. Otherwise, the weather was pretty cooperative, and the propagation wasn't too bad either.



Bill and Tom were there also to make a few of the "lighthouse" QSO's.

A few people approached our station during the weekend, but not as many as we expected. Maybe all the wire, black boxes, and stuff is a little intimidating for people. Tom Murtaugh suggested that if we want to get serious about engaging the public, we need more than just operators. He says we need club 'hosts' to man a front table and a front person to engage with

people as they pass by. The front person should have some sort of a handout that promotes the lighthouse event, ham radio and membership in our club. The front person would also be responsible for putting pins into a USA/CANADA map set up on an easel on the table. As our station works another lighthouses, their locations would be pinned on our map, so that a person might track how we are doing. This would mean at least 6 club members on each shift - three front table people and three radio table people at the back table.



What a sight. The "tall ships" under full sale entering the Port Washington harbor.

All in all it was a good 'public appearance' for the club. Our goal was to have the Ozaukee Radio Club be the first club to activate Ozaukee County's three lighthouses. We did it - and we had a ton of summer fun.

Mentoring

At the 6:45 mentoring session we will be taking a journey through an example of an ARES jump kit. We will go through the items used to work from a fixed location as well as in a mobile vehicle.

Also, we are planning to hold a General License class for any club or non-club members that are interested. Contact Mark Tellier, AB9CD.

Tips,Tails & Tools

Recently I completed the erection of an inverted L antenna for 80 and 160 meters. I buried the 115ft coax feed line and a couple of radials about an inch deep. A couple of weeks later I noticed a very high SWR and noted with a continuity test that the shield and center conductor were shorted. Use of an MFJ 269 indicated there was a fault in the coax about 58 ft from one end. Sure enough, I pulled up the coax and at about the 60 ft point the shield was shorted to the center conductor. Moral of this story? He who buries coax and radials shallow should not aireate lawn.

ORC Outdoor Swapfest

Remember, the ORC Outdoor Swapfest is September 15th at Fireman's Park in Cedarburg. We will be needing help to control traffic, serve refreshments, sell tickets, man the consignment trailer etc. Be sure to volunteer at the meeting or give me a call at home.

Also, if you have stuff to sell feel free to utilize the club consignment trailer. Some of the items there will include a few towers, 15 mtr beam and a 20 mtr beam.

Bike for Wisconsin

De Jon Gilmore (KB9RHZ)

We still need volunteers for the annual Bike for Wisconsin bike ride. It is scheduled for Sunday, September 16, at 7:00 a.m. and will end at 2:00

p.m. There will be 2 SAGs and 3 rest stops in addition to Net Control. Please let me know (kb9rhz@arri.net) if you are able to help this year and for how long.

Upcoming Events

September

- 8th-9th ARRL VHF QSO Party
- 9th North American Sprint – CW Contest
- 12th **Membership Meeting**
- 15th W9DXCC convention at Elk Grove Village
- 15th **ORC Outdoor Swapfest**
- 16th North American Sprint – SSB Contest
- 16th OZARES - WI Bike Ride
- 15th & 16th Peoria Superfest @ Peoria IL
- 29th – 30th Chicago FM Club Swapfest @ Belvidere @ Boone County Fairgrounds

October

- 11th **Membership Meeting**
- 14th CQ WW RTTY Contest
- 20th – 21st **JOTA Boy Scout “on the air” Weekend @ Pioneer Village**
- TBD ARRL International EME Contest

November

- 7st **Board Meeting**
- 3st – 5th ARRL November CW Sweepstakes
- 14th **Membership Meeting**
- 17th–19th November Phone Sweepstakes
- 30th ARRL 160 Meter SSB contest

Project of the Month

De Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR)

For several years members have been commenting on the condition of the ORC tower/trailer used at field day. But naturally, the comments are usually made at field day and there is no time for renovation. Then at the end of field day it is again put away at the shed and forgotten until next year when the same scenario plays out again.

For some reason, Mark Potash (KC9GST) started a conversation on the topic in April and it resulted in he and I towing it to his shop for “renovation” in late May.



It was a sight with all the peeling paint, rust, lack of flooring and a spare tire and aging checking tire’s.

It towed great but there were serious questions about the ORC tower trailer appearance, functionality and safety when towed to Mark Potash’s shop.

The first task was Mark and Fred’s disassembly of the unit in preparation for cleaning and painting. At that point Ed Rate (AA9W), Gabe Chido (WI9GC) and Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR) showed up with grinders, wire wheels and brushes and started cleaning the frame, springs, fenders, axle, springs, tower etc. prior to painting.

Then Mark and Fred proceeded to redesign the trailer to accommodate the additional functions of component storage and transport of two additional towers. They even included metal flooring and a recessed area with mesh flooring to allow storage and washing of guying stakes etc.

With the trailer cleaned, redesigned and re-fabricated it was time to paint. Safety blue for the trailer and running gear and safety yellow for the towers.



Gabe, who worked in a body shop in his early years and Tom showed up to start painting. I got to do most of the painting because it was my spray gun. That was fun.



Fred and Mark with the completed re-fabricated ORC Tower Trailer at Mark’s shop.

Once the paint dried Mark and Fred reassembled all the parts and the trailer was complete. How has it changed?

1. Significant new enlarged storage areas.
2. Main tower removal with pulling of a pin.
3. Carries two additional towers and accessories.
4. New tires and a new spare
5. New electrical/lighting system.
6. New paint.
7. New tow chains.
8. Two new additional outriggers for support.

- 9. New cable and cable clamps.
- 10. Designed to fit in the shed.



Did it all work? Here the tower is shown supporting a Mosley Tribander Jr. and the center of a 75 Mtr. dipole at the Lazy Days field day site. The rotor? It was a rope hanging down for arm strong control. Perhaps we can electrify next year.



The real test – will it fit? Believe it or not when the main tower hinge pin was pulled allowing the tower to be removed the trailer would just fit inside the shed. Protected from the elements the tower trailer should see many field days to come.

By Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), Column Editor

AUGUST MEETING: Another very successful training session, headed up by Skip (KA9DDN) in the ECC and Ray (N9PBY) in the MCT. As was the case last month, the members were split up into teams of two. One team sat in the ECC; the other in the MCT. Each operator had to turn on the rig and dial in the appropriate channel, and the channel was changed for each op. Each op in the ECC sent a pre-prepared message, with the aim at the other end to receive and copy it verbatim. Each person in the ECC then received a message from the MCT. It did not take long to have everyone practice. All agreed it was good training to learn to turn on rigs, both in the ECC and in the MCT. After all, rigs differ, and learning how to provide power in the MCT is an added step, not very difficult but a necessary one. All agreed that actually having done it once or twice helps proficiency.

Ninth Annual Wisconsin ARES/RACES Conference will be held Sat/Sun, 27/28 October in Neenah at the Kimberly-Clark Corporation, as was mentioned last month. Pre-registration is required. See wi-aresraces.org for details and the registration form.

RACINE: Jon (KB9RHZ, our EC) relates - On Thursday night, 23 Aug, I received a call from the District Emergency Coordinator requesting ham assistance in Racine County. It seems the Racine ARES unit was providing communications for the Red Cross Disaster Assistance Teams, as well as at a shelter, and they did not have enough operators to staff shifts 24/7 for three days. In SE WI, the ARES/RACES groups have established a mutual aid plan in the event of such situations, hence the call. Jack (N9SFG) and Skip (KA9DDN) were asked to find OZARES volunteers to help out. Fortunately, the rain subsided somewhat and the need for help was cancelled for Saturday. I heard that Gene (KB9VJP) responded, but that may have been through the Red Cross as he volunteers with them. I do not know at this writing if any other OZARES members responded.

16 SEPTEMBER BIKE RIDE: The Bike Federation of Wisconsin is having its 3rd Annual Bike Ride, with several hundred bikers participating. For the third year, OZARES will be providing communications, and a number of us have participated during all three years. Hams are working in two SAG vehicles, in tracker vehicles, at three rest stops, and at the Net Control position. The event provides good practice as well as a public service. Signed up to work so far are Mark (AB9CD), Nancy (KC9FZK), Ed (AA9GT), Mike (AB9ON), Jon (KB9RHZ), Stan (WB9RQR) and Ray (N9SQA). More ops could be used, so if you are interested, contact Jon (KB9RHZ).

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, most especially ORC members!

06 Sep K9VIN
13 Sep KB9VJP
20 Sep AA9W
27 Sep Meeting

04 Oct KB9WBQ
11 Oct N9WIU
18 Oct AA9XK
25 Oct Meeting

01 Nov N9XRU
08 Nov N9SFG
15 Nov W9BTN
22 Nov No net; Thanksgiving

06 Dec KA9DDN
13 Dec K9DXT
20 Dec KC9FZK
27 Dec (No net today and no meeting this month; Season's Greetings!)

NOTE some recent changes above to the Nov and Dec schedule!

A new 2008 schedule will be posted on the web site during the month of September.

ORC Meeting Aug. 8, 2007

De Nancy Stecker (KC9FZK)

Mark (AB9CD) spoke about hams participating in special events in his Elmering session before the regularly scheduled meeting.

President Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR) called the monthly meeting of the Ozaukee Radio Club to order at 7:30 p.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Announcements, Bragging Rights Show & Tell, Upcoming Events, Etc: Joe (AA9HR) was presented a Past-President's Award. Naomi (KC9GSS) will be attending Law School at Valparaiso and was thanked for doing public relations for the club. Stan (WB9RQR) built a vertically polarized beam antenna to use for Winlink 2000. Upcoming events mentioned include: Circus City Swapfest-August 11, ARRL VHF QSO Party-September 8 and 9, ORC Outdoor Swapfest-September 15, Bike for Wisconsin Bike Ride-September 16, 2007.

Program: No program this evening.

Auction: Stan (WB9RQR) held an auction of donated material.

Business Meeting:

The President read letters from the ARRL Scholarship Foundation and the Fond du Lac Radio Club to the membership.

The President asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 2007 meeting as printed in the ORC Newsletter. Dave (N9UNR) made the motion, it was seconded and the motion was carried.

Treasurers Report: Nels (WA9JOB) noted that the back of his report contained 2007 Field Day expenses with an additional expense for the generator trailer that was added. Copies of the report were on hand for members to examine. The Chair entertained a motion to accept the

Treasurer's report, Jon (KB9RHZ) made the motion, it was seconded and the motion passed.

Repeater Report: John (W9NRG) said his committee recommended holding off on the D-Star system for now. As the result of that meeting, it was decided to secure a new controller, and several spare radios for the repeater. A new Scm 7330 repeater controller, and spare Motorola GM300 radios have been purchased for UHF and for VHF use. A combining harness for the 220 repeater is needed and the 220 MHz repeater transmitter needs to be upgraded.

Committee Reports:

Corn Roast Committee:

Ed (AA9WW) will be reminding members of the Saturday, September 18 Corn Roast via the remailer. Food, beverage, ice and corn have been ordered, with Stan (WB9RQR) cooking. Ed will need help picking up equipment from the barn. He hopes to have a Fox Hunt and would like to have some activities for children. \$100 has been allocated for prizes.

Swapfest Committee: Tom (W9IPR) will be sending out an organizational chart for Swapfest. There will be a trailer for members to use to sell items. Add your things to a 5-element 15-meter mono band antenna and a 4-element 20-meter mono band antenna that will be for sale. Gabe (WI9GC) said bathrooms would be open; electricity and lighting would be on. John (W9NRG), grounds chairman of the committee, said co-operation with the Fair Ground people has been good. Flyers and e-mails have been going out.

Uniform Committee: Ed (AA9WW) said the first batch of jackets has been ordered, received and distributed with a second order ready to go. He will check on the 2 dozen hats that have been ordered. The cost is \$15 per hat; check to be made out to the ORC with your name and call sign attached.

Awards Committee: Tom (W9IPR) asked for opinions about the Turkey Award given out at the Post Everything Party. Make your feelings known on the remailer. It was suggested a committee of past winners could meet to discuss the award.

Post Everything Party: Now is the time to reserve a date for next year's party. Paul

(KD9FM) has been the contact person in the past.

Light House Activation Report: Bill (KA9WRL) said Tom (AA9XK), Julia (KB9WBQ) and Paul (KD9FM) did a good job organizing the Light House Activation. Despite a problem with the tent during the night, the site was beautiful, with tall ships moored on both sides and the lake directly ahead. Almost 200 contacts were made using solar and battery power, several different antennas and two radios.

Old Business:

New Business:

Jerry (W9GGR) won the 50/50 drawing this evening. If anyone wants to upgrade to a General Class license, contact Mark (AB9CB).

Attendance: Stan WB9RQR, Ed AA9WW, Jake KB9ZOR, Tom W9IPR, Gabe WI9GC, Leon K9GCF, Mark KC9GST, Naomi KC9GSS, Terry KA9RFM, Ron W9BCK, Herb WA9UVK, Roger W9UVV, Mike N9JIY, Jerry W9GGR, Joe KA9DFZ, Joe AA9HR, Bob W9LO, Doug N9KG, Mikko W9FIN, Dave N9UNR, Nancy KC9FZK, Kate KB0SIO, Dick AB0VF, Mic AB9ON, Mark AB9CD, Marc N9ZF, Tom W9VBQ, Bill KA9RWL, Ken W9GA, Gary W9XT, Don W9VSC, Nels WA9JOB, John W9NRG, visitor Steve NC5B and new member Wayne KC9LRH.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45p.m.

AGENDA

Sept 12 th, 2007

1. Call to order – Tom (W9IPR)
2. Introductions.
3. Announcements, Bragging Rights, Show & Tell, Upcoming events, Etc.,
4. Program:
5. Fellowship Break
6. Auction.
7. Acceptance of Minutes as printed.
8. Treasurer's report – Nels (WA9JOB)
9. Repeater report – John (W9NRG)
10. Committee reports.
General Class – Mark Tellier, AB9CD
Scholarship Award – Ed Rate, AA9W
Corn Roast – Ed Frac, AA9WW
Youth Program / JOTA – Bill Howe, KA9WRL
Uniforms – Ed Frac, AA9WW
PEP – Paul Schumacher, KD9FM
Swapfest Sept. 15th – Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR
Field Day Points Submission – Gary, N9UUR
11. OLD BUSINESS
12. NEW BUSINESS
13. Adjournment to ?

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The ORC Newsletter

465 Beechwood Drive
Cedarburg WI* 53012

First Class

Next ORC Meeting

Grafton Senior Citizens Center

1665 7th Avenue, Grafton

Wednesday, Sept. 12th

7:30 PM