



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
Web site: www.ozaukeeradioclub.org Facebook: facebook.com/orcwi

Volume XXXIII

June, 2015

Number 6

From the President

de Chuck Curran, W9KR



Today as I write this article we actually have a beautiful sunny day that is already over 62 degrees, early in the morning. Since there have been so few days like this so far this spring, most will be able to deduct exactly when this is being written!

The trip to the big Dayton Ham Fest turned out to be a great adventure. There were 11-13 of us from the ORC at Dayton, and I believe we all had a great trip. As always, we experienced some rain, but not enough to upset things until late Saturday afternoon when there was quite a downpour. Many of the sellers packed up and went home at that point and did not return on Sunday. I went to Dayton with a mission, and that was to buy a HT to replace the little Baofeng I got in December. It chief function seemed to be heating up the antenna followed

by the transmitter shutting down. So, I now own an ICOM ID-51A Anniversary issue HT and it works great, with a cool antenna!

We will be seeing a significant amount of activity for the Field Day event, all coordinated by Ken Boston along with his support staff. This will be the first year at the Pioneer Village/Hawthorne Hills site and it will be really nice to have the additional two acres as compared to the last years Lazy Days site. So far the group that attended the "on-site" meeting several Saturdays ago all seemed to feel it looked really good! Stan Kaplan has already found out he can get the Turkey's for the Friday night dinner, my stomach is already growling! We will need help both Friday to set up and Sunday to tear down, please make an effort to help even if you won't be operating. Nate Seidler, KC9TSO has started working on the newly acquired trailer in order to improve our ability to load it up using the most efficient use of the available space. I think he will bring back a trailer that we can easily fit all Field Day items into it.

One last item to share with all, Jane Rediske, Leon's (K9GCF SK) wife called and indicated the tower she has on her property was available to the club. So, if there is someone out there with an interest in what appears to be a 54 foot crank up tower, please let us know. It might be a Rohn Model HD3-5-54G. Some work will be required to get it out of the back yard, but you will get help if you have an interest. The tower will be offered to any club member for free. Whoever takes it needs to coordinate the removal.

73's,
Chuck W9KR

DX'ing & Contesting

De Gary Sutcliffe (W9XT)



If it is June, it must be Field Day. Field Day is the biggest ham radio event in the country. Hundreds of clubs and groups comprising of thousands of hams come together for Field Day. I have met hams who only get on the air for Field Day. For some it a social event they won't skip. For me it is something I don't miss. My first one was in 1971. I came down to help a classmate set up the Novice station at the local club intending to be home by 5:00 PM. It hooked me and I didn't leave (or sleep) until it was over the next afternoon. The only Field Day I missed was in 1974 when I spent the summer in Africa.

The purpose of Field Day is to be an emergency communications exercise. The format is one of a contest. The ARRL says it is not a contest, but an "operating event." That may

be true, but they keep score. If the goal is to be a better operator in emergency situations, a higher score would tend to indicate it. This month's column will give a few tips on how we can improve our scores.

A few of them require simple equipment. The first one in a good set of headphones. I guarantee that there are a lot of stations you will hear with headphones you won't with a speaker with generator noise, wind flapping the tent and a bunch of people outside talking. Bring along your headphone to Field Day. Find out from your band captain if the radio you will be using has a 1/4" or 1/8" jack. If necessary, bring along an adapter.

Last year was a year for training new ops at my station, 40 Meter CW. I planned to spend time operating and explain what I was doing to the rest of my team. Later when they operated I wanted to be able to listen and give them suggestions or correct miscopied calls or exchanges. I needed a way the operator could use headsets and others could listen on a speaker since there could be a few people there.

I made up a little audio splitter that would let the operator use headphones, and the others listen on an amplified computer speaker. I wrote it up in the July ORC Newsletter if you want to build one for your station.

From time to time I would work a weak one. Afterwards I would ask if they were able to copy the station I just worked. Most of the time they could not. If you are a phone op, there is something else you need with your headphones. It is the microphone.

Using a hand mic is a huge waste of time. You need both hands to run the logging program. If you are using a hand mic you are constantly picking up the microphone, talking then putting it down to type. So, how do you go to transmit mode with a boom microphone? A foot switch is the way go. It lets you control the radio without using your hands.

If you don't have a boom microphone, one on a stand is the next best way to go. It takes up space on the table and you have to be positioned in front of the microphone. But, if you use a foot switch you don't have to take your hands off the keyboard.

One final tip. Practice with the logging program. Sitting down in front of the rig at Field Day is not the time to learn how to use it. We use the N3FJP logging program. You can download a trial copy from their web site and play around with it. You can only log 30 contacts, but you can restart it and log another 30.

Practice entering calls and exchanges. Enter a QSO then go back and make corrections as if you made a mistake you need to correct. If your station will be on multiple bands or modes, know how to change them. Actually, learn how to do that in case you accidentally get on the wrong band or mode. Know how to change the operator field when you start or end your shift. Enter a call sign that you already logged

and it will warn you it is a dupe. Know how to clear out the fields so you can enter a new call. Learn how to do all these things without thinking about it before you sit down at Field Day.

The other big contest this month is the ARRL June VHF Contest that starts at 1800 UTC (1:00 PM local) on Saturday June 13 and runs to 0259 on Monday June 15 (10:00 PM Sunday night local). The ARRL has 3 VHF contests. The other two are in September and January. Usually the June running is the best because there is a good chance that 6 Meters will be open.

It takes a lot of sunspots to get the F layer to ionize enough to support propagation at 50 MHz. However the E layer can get enough ionization without UV from the sun. The most popular theory is the ionization is caused by wind shear. This form of propagation is called sporadic E, or Es. It tends to occur most often between late May and early July. If we get lucky and get Es during the VHF contest when everyone is tuning the band, it can become really exciting. A number of years ago I was at a big multi-op effort in Illinois for this one. We hit it and I watched the 6 Meter op work 250 contacts an hour, hour after hour. It was amazing.

There is a new rule this year that I find interesting. Some contests let you use packet if you are a multi-op or in an "assisted" class. One universal rule is that you are only allowed to spot other stations. Spotting yourself, called self-spotting is normally not allowed. There are some special rules regarding self-spotting in the VHF contest. It will be interesting to see how this experiment works.

Full details on the June VHF Contest can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf>

June is usually a slow month in DXpeditions. Big time DXpeditions don't schedule them during the summer months in North America because HF propagation declines during this time of the year. The low bands have too much static from thunder storms, and the higher ones have polar absorption.

A few DXpeditions that caught my eye include OJ0V from Market Reef being put on by a group of Belgium hams. They will be on June 28 through July 4. Bands are 40-6 Meters and they will call OJ0V.

Another group of Belgium hams will activate Liechtenstein June 21-26. Bands are not listed but they will be on SSB, RTTY and PSK.

That wraps up June. See you at Field Day!

Editors Note on DX'ing:

A year or so ago I bought the HRD (ham radio deluxe) software for logging, rig control, etc. etc. It is a really great logging and awards DX tracking program – when used with a cluster it informs you if you have the cluster indicated country, on the indicated band and mode and if you have the country confirmed etc. It is really great and arouses your competitive instincts – with rig control, you just click on the cluster indicated station and you are immediately placed on frequency etc. As a result I now have added 112 countries on 10, 103 on 15 and 80 on 17. I already had DXCC on 20 the hard way. Plus, I now watch 40 and have just over 40 countries there. All on SSB. It is starting to look like I will have to get back on CW to add any significant number of new countries. It's great fun and mostly due to the computer logging/rig control software and use of the local cluster (W9ODD).

THE COMPUTER CORNER

No. 208. A Really Good Uninstaller

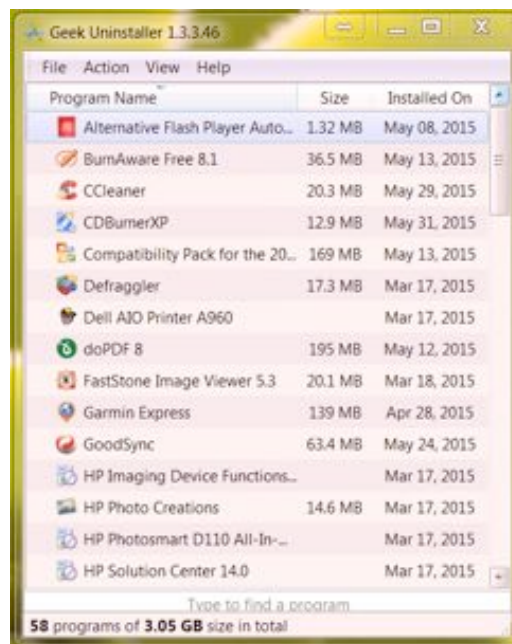
By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR
715 N Dries Street, Saukville 53080 (262) 268-1949
wb9rqr@att.net



Every now and then I run across an unusually good program. What does a “really good program” mean to me? It means that:

1. The program does what it promises to do.
2. It is relatively small in size so it downloads quickly and runs quickly.
3. It is fast and efficient, without unnecessary frills.
4. It has some nice touches that other similar programs do not have.
5. It is free – an important bonus.

Geek Uninstaller is just such a program. About 2.5 megabytes in size, the installation program downloads and installs quickly. When you run the program, it very quickly (unlike Add/Remove Programs) presents a simple list of all the programs installed on your machine, as shown here.



This rapid listing presents a good way to check to see if some unwanted program has snuck into your list of installed software. If you find one, or if you just want to uninstall a program, double-click it in the list, and the program very quickly uninstalls it. Even more important, Geek Uninstaller then quickly scans your system and cleans up the tons of leftovers that many other uninstallers leave behind to clutter up your machine. And, it even has a Force Removal option for stubborn and broken programs.

How about that? It does what it promises! It correctly describes itself as ultra fast, with instant startup and a minimalist approach, with a simple but efficient user interface. Plus, it is portable. Just copy its .EXE file to your USB flash drive and you can use it anywhere. I just tested this feature on Nancy’s machine and it works fine. It runs on both 32 and 64-bit machines, Windows 2003, 2008, Vista, XP, 7 and 8. I am sure a new version is in the works for 10. Trust me, this is a program you will like. I bet it will

storm the computing world, similar to CCleaner. Get it at Majorgeeks.com, under System Tools, Uninstallers. Happy Computing!

As It Was - A FIELD DAY MEMORY

De Ray Totzke, W9KHH

Many are they, who still alive,
Remember that day in sixty-five.
Sixty-four? Sixty-six?
Makes no difference. Est machts nichts.
That day in June, down by the lake,
Remember, man, for posterity's sake.

Tents were up, the operators busy,
The QSO's many, it made one dizzy.
Vertical masts reach to the sky
Supporting wires, oh, so high.
But, wouldn't signals be like fire,
If we could only get them higher?

Out of the cars came supporting stuff
To sail among the clouds of fluff.
First the dime store kites so frail,
Three together they did sail.
Lifting wire ... higher ... higher.
Oh, alas, the wind was strong.
These kites so frail did not last long.
The higher wire, so long, so brass
Lay horizontal in the grass.

What is this? A secret plan?
There it was in arms of man.
Balloon of rubber, without shame.
Kite of Gibson Girl fame.
Together, with H_ _ , they did conspire
To lift the corroded antenna wire.

Helium, in tank, a wondrous gift
In winds becalmed, it provideth lift.
The balloon was filled. Made secure.
For extra lift, the kite? ... sure!
"Attached to what?" the novice asks.
To antenna wire ... Would do the task.

No tether for these noble fliers
With corroded, braided antenna wire.
The balloon and kite on winds did soar
Above the trees.
The breeze
Did catch the kite and raised them higher.
Reel out, old man, that antenna wire.



Then to everyone's surprise,
An awesome sight before the eyes
Of hams on Lake Michigan's shore,
The balloon and kite did higher soar.

What happened then does legend make.
The wire broke, the wind did take
The flying pair north, along the lake.
Trailing corroded antenna stuff
Balloon and kite, through winds rough
Bobbed and danced, up and down
Across Belgium town.
Perhaps Hans and Fritz, maybe others
Pursued the kite, under cover.

Folks along Lake Michigan's shore
Called electric friends for sure.
Their clocks had stopped,
Their TV's quiet.
What had caused this silent riot?
Something caused power lines to part.
And, as you know in your heart,
If no wire goes,
No current flows.

For miles the boys chased balloon and kite
Until it floated out of sight
In Sheboygan County.

Lest there be substantial bounty
For those that caused this foolish mess
Nothing was said, nay, even less.
Until to a ham relaxing in Binks
Up strolled a man who said, "Methinks,
You know more than what's been said,
About this broken power wire.
Was it a balloon sailing free, Sire?"
"I know not that of which you think,"
This fearless ham did not shrink.
Though threatened with loss of limb,
He did not flinch, not him.

For many years the story slept,
Though to themselves
Hams laughed till they wept.
Gradually the tale was told,
The legend grew, the truth unrolled.

If you, new ham, must know more,
Seek out an old one from days of yore.
Listen, learn, await the day
You make your way
To the next Field Day

In the rough.

Legendary stuff!!!

TURKEY ROAST AT 2015 FIELD DAY

Hello All, from Stan the Turkey Man:

Field Day approaches! Owing to the recent mandated slaughter of many huge flocks of chickens and turkeys in the United States, I decided it might be a good thing to consult my supplier for the 3 fresh turkeys we have at the Friday night bash at Field Day.

He feels there will be no problem in getting the birds, since flocks reconstitute fairly quickly. Accordingly, we will continue to plan on having our Friday night turkey feast at the new Field Day site, just south of Pioneer Village, Hawthorne Hills Golf Course, Highway I. Your officers picked a beautiful setting, and the new cook tent will be right in the middle of it.

Do this. Bring a *dish to pass. Also plan on bringing folding/camp chairs and folding tables if you have them, since we will not have access to on-site picnic tables this year and we will be in dire need of both tables and chairs to use in the main tent. As usual, 3 roasted turkeys will be carved and served at 6:00 p.m. sharp, and we will also supply roasted potatoes and beverages.

Friday, 26 Jun. Mark your calendars! Don't forget the tables and chairs!

*For those of you who are unsure about dishes to bring or other procedures, call Nancy Stecker (KC9FZK) at (262) 268-1949.

Stan WB9RQR

Find of the Month

Below is a photo of attendees at one the locations of the first ever ARRL National Convention in September of 1921 . This group is at the Drake Hotel in Chicago. They had two locations because the attendance exceeded local hotel capacity. This photo was among some things donated by Audrey Juliana of Oconomowac . She has donated a number of items that had belonged to her husband Carl H. Rohde (W9ROM). Chuck Curran sent a copy to ARRL and it was new to them and much appreciated. It will now properly rest in the ARRL archives where it belongs.



Ozaukee Radio Club Meeting Minutes



Ozaukee Radio Club Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2015

Zach Yatso (KC9ZNR), Secretary

Chuck Curran (W9KR), President, called the meeting to order at 1930. Introductions followed.

Announcements:

The United Performing Art Fund Ride for the Arts on May 31st needs communications help; more information is available at their web site events.upaf.org.

Congratulations to Jerry Rauth, KC9WUI, for passing his General License exam!

Ken B. worked FK8CP (New Caledonia), a distance of over 8,000 mi.

Bill H. demonstrated a quick and easy setup for a ground plane magnetic antenna mount using a film canister lid and support bracket. The mount is affixed atop a pole and the antenna sticks to it.

Program:

Joe Schwarz, N9UX, gave a presentation on Amateur Radio in High Altitude Ballooning. A copy of the presentation is available upon request.

Note: If anybody has ideas for future programs, please contact Stan K., WB9RQR.

50/50 Drawing:

The 50/50 drawing was held by Kristian, KC9TFP, and the winning ticket #4966 was

held by Ed Rate, AA9W.

Auction:

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

Officer Reports:

Chuck Curran (W9KR), President – No report.

Kevin Steers (K9VIN), 1st VP – No report.

John Strachota (W9FAD), 2nd VP – No report.

Tom Trethewey (KC9ONY), Repeater VP – The amp for the 220 repeater failed and is being repaired. The 2m repeater is in good working order. The 440 repeater is experiencing intermittent interference from an unknown source.

Zach Yatso (KC9ZNR), Secretary – motion to accept April minutes was made by Dave, seconded by Nancy, and accepted without debate.

Dave Barrow (N9UNR), Treasurer – motion to accept Treasurer's report was made by Dave, seconded by Bill, and accepted without debate.

Committee Reports:

Lauren reports 247 tickets and 80 tables were sold for the Spring Swapfest. Of the 80 tables sold, 64 were supplied by the facility, 4 were supplied by LEFROG, and the rest rented by ORC (a total of 98 tables were available). The Wisconsin Antique Radio Club expressed interest in possibly joining the Spring Swapfest. Details will be further investigated.

Ken reported on the first evaluation of this year's Field Day event site. The ORC will run 4A again, and will utilize the cook tent for turkey dinner on Friday. If you are attending Field Day, please bring along extra folding tables and chairs, as these are less available at the new site than in past years. Several responsibilities remain to be filled. There will be a detailed discussion of Field Day at the June 10th ORC meeting.

Old Business:

N/A.

New Business:

N/A.

Adjournment:

Kristian made the motion to adjourn at 2127. The motion was seconded by Dave B. and the motion passed.

Attendance:

There were 36 members present and 2 guests.

A copy of the attendance sheet is available upon request in PDF format. Please contact Zach Yatso via email at: kc9znr@arrl.net for a copy.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Yatso

Zachary Yatso, KC9ZNR

Secretary

Zach Yatso (KC9ZNR), Secretary

AGENDA

June 10th, 2015

1. 7:00 – 7:30 PM – Network & Rag Chew
2. Call to order: Introductions. Chuck Curran, W9KR
3. Announcements, Bragging Rights, Show & Tell, Upcoming events, Etc.,
4. Program: ORC Field Day 2015
5. 50/50 – Kristian Moberg, KC9TFP
6. Fellowship Break
7. Auction – Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR)
8. Presidents Report – Chuck Curran, W9KR

9. 1st VP Report – Kevin Steers, K9VIN
10. 2nd VP Report – John Strachota, W9FAD
11. Repeater VP report – Tom Trethewey, KC9ONY
12. Acceptance of Minutes : Zach Yatso, KC9ZNR
13. Treasurer's report – Dave Barrow, N9UNR
14. Committee reports.
- Other:
15. OLD BUSINESS
16. NEW BUSINESS
17. 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, June 10th

7:00 PM – doors open

7:30 – Membership Meeting