



# 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: [www.ozaukeeradioclub.org](http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org)

Volume XXVII

January 2008

Number 1

## The Prez Sez *(for the last time)*

By Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR)

Well this is the last of my messages for "07 and the last of three years as President. It has indeed been an interesting and I think, productive, three years.

Our membership numbers have continued strong with new members and a roster in the area of 130; the financial condition has continued strong with increased money in the bank and a scholarship fund of now over \$20,000; growth of existing projects; introduction of new projects; and competitive successes.

The continued success of our largest project, Field Day, has been especially pleasing. We have placed either 3<sup>rd</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in the nation these past several years. It is not only good practice for a total emergency it is fun and a good time socially. Special thanks to the event chairmen, Leon Rediske and Ken Boston, and the band captains as well as to Mark Potash who fabricated the various antenna towers and led the mobil tower refurbishment efforts. This project makes one proud of the ORC organizational, operational, fabrication and communications capabilities.

It is the traditional service projects that bind the core of the organization and these continue to thrive. These include the projects such as "Fish Day" parade in Port Washington, Grafton Christmas Parade and the Saukville River Clean up. New to the service activities this year is the MS Walk. I have enjoyed working on these projects. I guess it's nice to be needed.

The Circle B swapfest in May is another of our traditional projects. While the attendance and income have declined somewhat we have intro-

duced some new ideas that will hopefully continue it as our major moneymaker and an area social event.

Also, with respect to competition it was great to see Bob Truscott organize and motivate the ORC to capture first place in the 2007 Wisconsin QSO Party sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club.

Two of the great new projects are the September outdoor "Hobby & Amateur Radio Swapfest" and the "Lighthouse Activation" project. Who DA think it?

Well Ray Brunette (W9BUJ) thought up the outdoor swapfest for 2006 and chaired our first effort in the Circle B parking lot. The second year it produced a profit at Fireman's Park and it appears to have a productive and profitable future at that venue.

The "Lighthouse Activation" project was originated and chaired by Paul Schumacher (KD9FM) and Tom Nawrot (AA9XK) and provided a great time operating on the banks of the Port Washington harbor and good PR for the ORC. Plus, ORC took 3<sup>rd</sup> place ranking in the national ratings – not bad for the first effort.

In terms of training it was pleasing to see Mark Tellier originate the "Elmering program" preceding the regular meetings and taking on the license upgrade training for this upcoming year.

The ORC has also started to become more involved with our community youth through our BSA activities led by Mike Yugas and Bill Howe. In addition, we are now presenting "amateur radio as a hobby" at the Cedarburg Parkview Elementary School Opportunity Day event. Our future is with our youth so I was especially pleased to see increased activity in these areas.

An important aspect of any group is its social side. It has been especially enjoyable to participate in the on-going Post Everything Parties, Corn Roast's, membership meeting breaks, Saturday morning breakfast's, swapmeets and mutual aid parties when someone needs an antenna erected or rig repaired. Most of the individual learning occurs at the membership meeting and these informal gatherings. The ORC camaraderie is a most important aspect of membership.

I was also pleasantly surprised at the success of the uniform project. The ORC jackets and caps look great and provide personal and organizational identity - and the orders continue to come.

It has been especially significant to me that the Board of Directors had the insight to review the ORC Constitution and By-laws and has created changes and procedures that should assure the long term organizational and fiscal viability of the group.

I appreciate the opportunity to represent the membership these past three years and am grateful to the board members and project chairmen with whom I served for having made it an enjoyable experience.

## Contesting

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

Life is full of tough decisions, and choices must be made when you find that two of your most overwhelming passions are going to compete for your time on a particular day. When that happens one or the other is surely going to suffer and come up short of your expectations. That's my situation on Jan. 12. I've been looking forward to The North American QSO Party (CW), scheduled for that date, ever since I bombed out in that same contest last August. It's a great contest in which you can work any station once on every band from 160 to 10 meters. It's only fault is that it lasts for just 12 hours and you may operate for only 10 of those hours. Normally this is not a problem, but on Jan. 12 of this year it is, and you can blame the Green Bay Packers for that. It seems that the

NFL has scheduled the Packers first playoff game right smack in the middle of the QSO Party. They didn't have to do that—they could have scheduled the game for Sunday just as easily, but instead they chose to alienate all the CW contesters in Wisconsin. I don't know how they can afford to treat fans so shabbily—there must be at least 10 or 12 of us who are very upset about this thoughtless scheduling. So what's the solution? I'm going to penalize the NFL by not watching their half-time show. I'll spend those entire 12 minutes trying to make up for lost time in the contest. GO PACKERS!

Coming up in January:

Jan. 12 The North American CW QSO Party—  
1800Z—Rules in Jan. QST, page 98.

Jan. 19 The North American Phone QSO Party—Same as above.

Jan. 19 ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes—  
1900Z—Rules in Jan. QST, page 98.

Jan. 26, CW WW 160-Meter Contest-CW— 0000Z—  
Rules in Jan.QST, page 98.

Those of you who are not Packers fans, feel free to work the entire NA QSO Party on Jan. 12.

Have fun contesting.

## Upcoming Events

### January

- 1<sup>st</sup> Straight Key Night
- 5<sup>th</sup> WARAC Swapfest at Waukesha
- 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> ARRL RTTY Roundup
- 6<sup>th</sup> Kids Day
- 9<sup>th</sup> **Membership Meeting**
- 12<sup>th</sup> **ORC General Class Training Class**
- 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> ARRL January VHF Contest
- 19<sup>th</sup> **ORC General Class Training Class**
- 26<sup>th</sup> **ORC General Class Training Class**

### February

- 2<sup>nd</sup> **ORC General Class Training Class**

8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Orlando FL Swapfest

9<sup>th</sup> ORC General Class Training Class

16<sup>th</sup> ARRL Intl. DX CW Contest

16<sup>th</sup> ORC General Class Training Class

## The Sudden Storm QRP kit

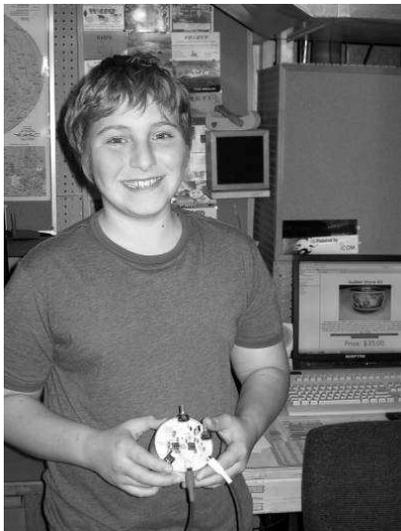
De: Dominic Brope, W9KKX

Over the Christmas holiday I built a Sudden Storm QRP kit. It is a crystal controlled receiver.



**40-meters in a can. Yes, it really is built on a tuna can. Really basic QRP.**

The version that I have is for 40 meters. Mine came with a crystal for 7.040 MHz. The kit included a printed circuit board that mounts on a tuna tin and all the necessary parts.



**Dominic (W9KKX) and his completed “Sudden Storm” 40-meter QRP receiver kit on a tuna can.**

I assembled the kit in an afternoon and when I completed it did not work. My dad and I worked to troubleshoot the problem and found three errors. One jumper was incorrectly placed in the instructions and the circuit board did not have traces to the ground pins of the two ICs. With these problems corrected the receiver worked fine.

The kit was a lot of fun to build. I have the matching 40m CW transmitter and am building it as well. The kits are pretty nice and there are a number of models to choose from. If you are interested in these kits go to [www.qrpme.com](http://www.qrpme.com) for more information.

## Dues are Due

Per the Constitution the ORC has only two classes of membership. They are “Regular Member” and “Family Member”. Regular Member dues are \$15 while there are no dues for a Family Member.

### ARTICLE 1: MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1 *An interest in Amateur Radio and payment of dues shall be the only requirements for membership. By paying dues each member consents to be governed by the bylaws of the corporation as they presently exist or as they may be amended or changed in the future.*
- 1.2 *Failure to pay dues prior to or at the annual meeting of any calendar year shall immediately suspend the right to vote on Club matters until the delinquency is rectified. Individuals who are still delinquent as of March 1 shall have their membership terminated.*
- 1.3 *Membership may be terminated for cause at any time by the majority vote of the Board of Directors. An individual whose membership has been terminated for cause by the Board of Directors shall, upon request, be entitled to a hearing and review of the Board of Directors decision at a regular meeting of the corpo-*

ration.

1.4 *The corporation is to have two classes of members, as follows:*

1.4.1 *REGULAR: REGULAR members shall receive all benefits of membership including voting at membership meetings on Club issues.*

1.4.2 *FAMILY: FAMILY members have all the privileges of their sponsoring member except the right to vote at membership meetings on Club issues. The FAMILY member may however, serve on the Board of Directors and vote as a member of the Board.*

1.4.3 *FAMILY membership shall be afforded to those persons who apply for FAMILY membership and who are children or spouses of REGULAR members and who are living in the same household. Children and spouses of REGULAR members are eligible for FAMILY membership on a continuing basis.*

## **Nominations for ORC 2008 Board of Directors**

The Nominating Committee nominates the following ORC members to serve on the ORC Board of Directors for the 2008 fiscal year:

President:	Mike Yuhas, AB9ON
Internal Vice Pres.	Bill Howe III, KA9WRL
External vice Pres.	Tom Nawrot, AA9XK
Repeater Vice Pres.	John Schrader, W9NRG
Secretary	Tim Boppre, KA9EAK
Treasurer	Nels Harvey, WA9JOB

The current President, Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR, will continue to serve on the Board as Past President.

The Club Trustee is Ed Rate, AA9W. This is a position appointed by the Board of Directors.

The Nominating Committee consists of:

Vic Shier, KB9UKE, Past President  
Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR, Retiring President  
Ed Rate, AA9W, Trustee  
Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR, Member

The elections will be conducted by the Nominating Committee at the Annual Meeting on January 9<sup>th</sup> 2008. Should any other ORC member wish to be considered for the above elective offices they may be nominated from the floor.

Voting for "Ham of the Year" and "Turkey of the Year" will be conducted at the February, 2008 membership meeting.

## **Club Static**



**Dominic (W9KKX) and his dad Tim Broppe (KA9EAK) both received great gifts from Santa – new ORC jackets and classic antique Vibroplex keys**

# HDTV 101 - a primer

De Nels Harvey, WA9JOB

All analog stations will go off the air on February 17, 2009. Digital television has the capabilities to bring much more detail. A digital channel can be split into several different programs. Just because it is digital doesn't mean it's High Definition.

Multi-programs means lower quality definition. Digital channels identify with their source channel. Digital channels aren't the same as the original channel.

A digital Ch. 6 says 6-1, but actually is on Ch. 33. Digital Ch. 10 shows 10-1,10-2,10-3,10-4,10-5,10-6, 10-7,10-8.

All those are actually transmitting on Ch. 8. In 2-09, some stations will revert back to their root channel. Ch. 18 digital is on Ch. 61. Ch.4 digital is on Ch.28.

Ch. 2 through 6 & above Ch. 60 go away 2-09, above Ch. 52 later. Ch. 18 will revert back to Ch. 18 then.

Some channels won't revert.

Ch. 4 & 6 go away forever on those channels. They'll stay on Ch. 28 & 33.

Satellite and cable will maintain analog channels for a time. Eventually, they will need the bandwidth for High definition signals.

Picture stuff:

Progressive means the lines start at the top, and move to the bottom.

Interlaced means every other line starts from the top to the bottom

The second scan brings the in-between lines from top to bottom.

The number of lines, 480-I, is what we have now. I = Interlaced.

720-P is a not so high definition program feed. P = Progressive.

1080-I is probably the best that will be seen from the networks.

Some networks are only using 720-P.

Some think sports and fast motion is better with 720-P.

1080-P is considered by some to be true high definition.

1080-P is only available now on HD-DVD's and Blu-Ray DVD's.

High definition needs a screen larger than 27 inches, or so to benefit.

720-P looks just great on screens from about 36 inches to the forties.

1080-I looks great for larger screen sizes but 720-P still is very good.

Pillar-boxes are those black bars on each side of the picture.

Letterboxes are those bands at the top and bottom of a picture.

Standard definition pictures will have pillar-boxes on wide screens.

Some wide screens can process the picture to expand, and fill the screen.

Some just stretch the picture, others process it to look more natural.

sometimes both pillar-boxes and letterboxes occur at the same time.

You didn't do anything wrong. Just get used to it!

Tuners:

Beware, some wide screen TV's do not have digital tuners!

You need both the analog and digital (NTSC & ATSC) tuners.

It's better to have more than one HDMI port on the TV. HDMI ports are high definition video inputs. Think HDTV DVR's.

TV Sources:

Cable, Over the Air, DVR's, and Satellite little dishes.

Cable and satellite have DVR's (Digital Video Recorders) for rent or sale.

Some DVR's aren't high definition capable.

Satellite and Cable charge extra for high definition programs.

Channel Master #4228 is an excellent over the air antenna.

TV Types:

Plasma, LCD, DLP, and vacuum tube.

Plasma is the skinny one you can hang on the wall. It costs a bit more.

LCD is also pretty thin, and can hang up too. It uses a mercury vapor lamp.

DLP directs the video to the screen through a rapid spinning mirror ball.

LCD's and DLP's have a soft motor noise that can be heard.

Large vacuum tube sets are too heavy.

Best of all, "Shop around".

73, Nels, WA9JOB

## UPGRADE TO General

The ORC and Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club (MRAC) are jointly sponsoring a six- week training class for Novice and Technician class operators to upgrade to General. The primary instructor will be Mark Tellier (AB9CD) and he will have a supporting cast of other instructors from the ORC.

The classes will be held at:  
Cedarburg Police Department  
W75 N444 Wauwatosa Road  
Cedarburg WI 53012

The text is "The ARRL General Class License Manual" which is available at Amateur Electronics Supply (AES).

The first session is Sept 12<sup>th</sup> and the training will continue on successive Saturday mornings from 08:30 to Noon. There is no fee for the course.

This is a great program for learning the material for upgrading and also for just learning about amateur radio operating practices & procedures, FCC Regulations, ARRL Programs, radio propagation, commercial and "home brew" equipment and electrical safety.

To enroll, email [ab9cd@arrl.net](mailto:ab9cd@arrl.net) with name, call sign, address and phone number. Put GENERAL CLASS in the subject line. As an option, contact Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR at 262-377-6945 or email [teruhlmann@sbcglobal.net](mailto:teruhlmann@sbcglobal.net).



## Column

By Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), Column Editor

There was no OZARES meeting in December, as is customary.

Your editor is happy to report that his **WinLink 2000** station is up and operating. Getting it set up has been a work in progress for over a year, and it is great to see it done. The main problem was my inability to hit a PMBO (Participating Mail Box, a radio message server) in Milwaukee, which I solved by building a 3-element Yagi and pointing it south. Then, Jim Darrow (KB9MMC, ASEC for Digital Communications, WI ARES/RACES) graciously helped me to set it up properly on the computer. Setting up the software is not an easy task since it requires the interaction of four separate programs to work.

So, **what is Winlink 2000?** It is simply a way to move messages worldwide among hams. It will use the Internet when it can, but it is not dependent upon the Internet. Even if the Internet was down world wide, the messages could get through! It does depend on a main server, but there are three of these, called Redundant Common Message Servers. One is located in San Diego, one is in Detroit, and one is in Perth, Australia. If any one of these is up and running, the messages will flow, worldwide. Currently there are about 10,000 users and 100,000 Internet recipients, with about 150,000 messages moving each month. The system has served the maritime community (currently daily, to locate lost vessels), NOAA, the United Nations, the US Coast Guard and many others. It is a fantastic communications tool for emergencies.

Want to try it? You can send me an ordinary email message addressed to **[wb9rqr@winlink.org](mailto:wb9rqr@winlink.org)**. Your message (and my reply) may travel via UHF, VHF, HF or the Internet, or any combination and permutation of these modes.

**NET CONTROL SCHEDULE:** OZARES nets are held each Thursday at 8:00 p.m., except on meeting nights (4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays). Both a net

script and check-in list can be obtained on the OZARES web site, [www.ozares.org](http://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, and keep the net manager (WB9RQR) informed of confirmed trades. Guests are welcome after the OZARES check-ins are complete, *most especially ORC members!* By the way, if you see a difference between the schedule on the website and this column, this column will always be correct, since it reflects last minute changes and substitutions. Such changes and substitutions to the website version will be in **bold print** here.

03 Jan	WB9RQR
10 Jan	<b>AB9ON</b>
17 Jan	K9GST
24 Jan	Meeting
31 Jan	<b>KC9FZK</b>
07 Feb	<b>WB9RQR</b>
14 Feb	WD9HOD
21 Feb	W9IPR
28 Feb	Meeting
06 Mar	W9KHH
13 Mar	WI9M
20 Mar	WJ9O
27 Mar	Meeting

## Minutes— July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006

De Nancy Stecker, KC9FZK

### Ozaukee Radio Club Regular Meeting

**December 12, 2007**

De Nancy Stecker KC9FZK

Mark AB9CD held a 6:30 p.m. Elmering session on the Smith Chart.

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:30p.m. by President Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR) at the Grafton Senior Center. Members and a guest introduced themselves.

#### Announcements, Upcoming Events, Etc.:

Congratulations to Mark (KC9GST) who upgraded to Extra Class. Tom (W9IPR) made a contact in Mozambique. Marc (N9ZF) contacted 2 more states on 160 meters. Dave (N9UNR) talked about the process to set up his HF radio in his car, with thanks to many helping hands.

Upcoming events in January are: Jan. 1- Straight Key Night, Jan. 5-WARAC Swapfest in Waukesha, Jan. 6-Kid's Day, Jan. 12-Class begins for General class at Cedarburg Police Department. Ed (AA9W) said over 65 scholarships are available from FAR. Go to [www.amateurradio-far.org/scholars.htm](http://www.amateurradio-far.org/scholars.htm) for further information about scholarships. Nels (WA9JOB) invited members to enjoy the cookies and donuts. Dave (N9UNR) had a few call sign tags for members to pick up.

#### Program: Television Productions by Bill Howe KA9WRL:

Bill (KA9WRL) talked about his long history in television. He showed clips of the award winning commercials he produced and directed along with humorous antidotes about TV personalities.

**Fellowship Break:** Members enjoyed a short break.

**Auction:** Stan (WB9RQR) held an auction of donated material. Afterward, Kent (N9WH) won this evening's 50/50 drawing.

**Business Meeting:** The chair entertained a motion to accept the minutes of the board meeting and the regular meeting as printed in the December ORC Newsletter. Mike (AB9ON) made such a motion; Stan (WB9RQR) seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nels (WA9JOB) placed copies of the treasurer's report on tables and noted the expenditures of \$1500 for scholarship fund, rents and other items. The chair entertained a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Dave (N9UNR) made the motion and the motion passed.

**Repeater Report:** In the absence of the Repeater Vice President, Nels (WA9JOB) said the committee was working on a request for a radio for the Grafton Police Department. A link from the Grafton Fire Department is not working and is being repaired. The .97 machine is working and work on the 220 repeater is continuing.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Membership Committee:** John (W9NRG) and Nancy (KC9FZK) will work on the Membership Committee; John on recruitment of members and Nancy will develop a welcome packet for new members.

**Training Committee:** Mark (AB9CD) announced there would be a General class beginning January 12, 2008 on seven Saturday mornings at the Cedarburg Police Department. Testing will be available after the class is completed. Dave (N9UNR) will try to get the new edition of the manual to the Cedarburg Public Library for circulation. A sign up sheet was on hand for those interested in taking the class and for those willing to assist in teaching.

**PEP Committee:** The president reminded members of the March 8, 2008 date for the Post Everything Party.

**Awards Committee:** At the February 2008 meeting, the Ham and Turkey of the Year Awards will be voted on. Look at Policy and Procedure #8 on the Ozaukee Radio Club Website for information on all the awards given and take time to make recommendations to the board for those deserving members. Board members are looking for your suggestions

**Nominating Committee:** Nominating Committee members are Tom (W9IPR), Vic (KB9UKE), Ed (AA9W) and Stan (WB9RQR). They are nominating the following people for the 2008 Board of Directors: President Mike Yuhas (AB9ON), First vice-president Bill Howe (KA9WRL), Second vice-president Tom Nawrot (AA9XK), Treasurer Nels Harvey (WA9JOB), Repeater vice-president John Schrader (W9NRG) and for Secretary Tim Boppre (KA9EAK). Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR) will automatically assume the Past President position. The board appoints Ed Rate (AA9W) as Trustee.

**Jacket Committee:** As treasurer, Nels (WA9JOB) requested a clarification about the cost of hats and jackets. The cost for a hat is \$15 to be paid to the club and then the hat is

taken to Uselding's in Port Washington for the name and call sign to be stitched, there is no further cost involved to the member. If a single jacket is ordered, the cost of a standard size is \$60, \$65 for the extra, extra large size. If there were a group of six ordered, there would be a \$5 discount per jacket.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Good of the Order:** Mark (AB9CD) said testing would be held at the bowling alley across the street from the WARAC Swapfest in Waukesha on January 5, 2008.

In response to a question from the floor, the contract with the Grafton Senior Center for the room rental will remain the same as in the past according to the President.

**Attendance:** Twenty-nine members and one guest attended the meeting: Members Dave N9UNR, Kent N9WH, Stan WB9RQR, Ed AA9WW, Ed AA9W, Jim K9QLP, Nels WA9JOB, Ron W9BCK, Terry KA9RFM, Chuck WA9POU, Nancy KC9FZK, Miko W9FIN, Doug N9KG, Roger W9UVV, Mark AB9CD, Mike AB9ON, Bob W9LO, Marc N9ZF, Tom AA9XK, Mark KC9GST, Mike N9JIY, Don AA9WP, Tim KA9EAK, Dominic W9KKX, Bill KA9WRL, Tom W9VBQ, Ken W9GA, Vince KB9ZOT, Tom W9IPR and guest John Strachota W9FAD.

**Adjournment:** Dave (N9UNR) made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25p.m. The meeting was adjourned

# Ozaukee Radio Club, Inc

## 2008 Membership Application/Renewal Form

Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Year first licensed \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Novice  Tech  General  Advanced  Extra

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member?  Yes  No

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (evening) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ (if you want to be listed on ORC Web page)

Do you want to be placed on the ORC "remailer" to get group email's  Yes  No

Areas of interest:

HF  UHF-VHF  Construction Projects  Antenna  Computers  Satellites  APRS  CW  
 SSB  AM  FM  Digital Modes  Portable  Mobil  Fixed  Fox Hunt  Ground  
Systems  Software  QRP  Contesting  ARES  Community Service  Collections  
 WAS & DXCC  Boat Anchors  Linears  Newsletter  "Elmer'ing"  Presenting Programs  
 Photography  Club Management  Community Service  Test Equipment  Equipment  
Repair & Restoration  Surfing the net

**Regular Membership - \$15.00**  **Family Membership - No Dues**

Make check payable to: Ozaukee Radio Club

c/o Nels Harvey (WA9JOB) 2104 W. County Line Road, Mequon, WI 53092

The newsletter is available at [www.ozaukeeradioclub.org](http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org) (web site version encouraged). Do you require a hard copy through the snail mail?  Yes  No

Check which of the committees on which you would like to serve:

Post Everything Party  Cornroast  Field Day  Membership  
 Newsletter  Swapfests  Youth  Meeting Programs  Training  
 Public Service Events  Scholarship  Public Relations  Repeater  
 Website  "Net Control"  Roster  Audit  Nominations  Other

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ & call sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **AGENDA**

*January 9th, 2008*

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 (WA0JOB).
9. Repeater report – John (W9NRG)
10. Committee reports.  
Membership –  
Youth Program – Opportunity Days @ Parkview  
Training -
11. OLD BUSINESS
12. NEW BUSINESS  
A. Elections
13. Good of the Order
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 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Grafton**

**Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30 PM**



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Volume XXVII

February 2008

Number 2

## Temporary Editor

While Tom Ruhlmann is away, your editor will be Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR. Stan will do this month's and possibly next month's newsletter. Please send submissions to him at: [skaplan@mcw.edu](mailto:skaplan@mcw.edu).

## New ORC Officers



The new Ozaukee Radio Club officers are shown here following their election at the January 9<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. From the left is Nels Harvey (WA9JOB), Treasurer; Bill Howe (KA9WRL), First VP; Tim Boppre (KA9EAK), Secretary; Mike Yuhas (AB9ON), President; John Schrader (W9NRG), Repeater VP; and Tom Nawrot (AA9XK), Second VP.

## Ten Reasons Why YOU Should Operate in the 2008 Wisconsin QSO Party

by Fred Helmstetter, N9FH

This year's running of the WIQP is right around the corner. Some people are sure to get on every year and always have a blast. Other hams either occasionally participate or have never given the WIQP a try. Here are ten good reasons why you should fire up the radio on

March 9th, 2008 (1:00PM local time) and join in the fun.

It might be best to start off with a short description of what the WIQP is. This is our state "QSO party" in which hams try to contact as many other stations as possible during the contest period (7 hours on Sunday afternoon and evening in our case). Lots of other states have similar events but ours is one of the best in terms of in-state and out-of-state activity. During the WIQP, the rules for stations inside versus outside WI are slightly different. Hams located in WI can contact stations anywhere for credit ("QSO points") while people outside of the state only work WI stations. Each of the 72 counties in WI counts as a score "multiplier" and for in-state participants other US states and Canadian provinces are multipliers as well. The exchange is your county if in WI and your state/province if outside. So the basic idea is to contact and accurately log as many stations as possible in as many different counties/states/provinces as possible. So - here are some things to think about:

**1) You don't need a big station to do well.** I often hear people talk about how there's no point in getting involved in something like WIQP or other contests because "everyone is running 3 kW amps into stacked beams" and the "little guy" has no chance. The reality is that in an event like WIQP, the ham with a typical small station is in a very good position to do well. Most of the important contacts for WI operators are made within a few hundred miles and local activity tends to favor the 80 and 40-meter bands. I have several antennas at my station but in the years that I've scored well in WIQP most of these contacts were made on a basic 40m dipole hanging 20 to 25 feet off the ground and fed with a long run of RG8/X. Most hams can manage an antenna like this even if it's only up for the weekend of the contest. As for

power, since the rules were changed several years ago to include a power multiplier, very few people seem to be running more than 100 watts.

**2) You don't need HF privileges or fast CW skills.** It is certainly true that most of the contacts that are available to you during the contest are on the HF bands. That said, you might be surprised to see how many people you can find on VHF and UHF. I know of a few VHF enthusiasts who focus their attention on those bands and have been quite active in WIQP. This includes QSOs on FM as well as SSB. If you only have a 2m radio and a vertical antenna, you might want to hang around the FM simplex frequencies and see whom you can find (146.55 is usually good). Some years there is quite a lot of activity here. As for CW, there are lots of folks that operate WIQP every year and don't use this mode at all. However, if you really want to maximize your score you can't beat doing some CW since the rules state that each contact in this mode counts more. If you tune around you'll find people at all different code speeds on the bands calling CQ WIQP.

**3) It is great practice for operating on Field Day.** There are an awful lot of hams that don't have a burning interest in HF operating but do like to get on maybe once a year for ARRL Field Day with their buddies. As with many skills, when it comes to being comfortable and proficient in front of a radio there is no substitute for practice. If you want to be a little smoother at FD this year then consider putting in some time during WIQP. You can practice your contest style exchanges, get familiar with a new radio or logging software, or try out a new idea for a portable antenna. Several years ago I did a WIQP "expedition" to a semi-rare county with a friend of mine from our FD group. We camped out and set up a portable station and had a great time playing around in the snow. We were also able to try out a few new tricks that helped our score in June.

**4) You can help your favorite club.** Did you know that WIQP has a club competition? Is your club looking for a little organized activity or a little more visibility within the state? Here's your chance. The more club members you can get to submit logs the better your chances for winning the club title in WQIP. This could also be a good reason to get together with other

members. There are several entry categories for multi-operator efforts. If you have an HF setup and others in your club don't, invite them over and do a multi-op entry. This can really be a lot of fun. It can also be a good opportunity to expose new hams to HF operating and contesting (see also #3 above). The Ozaukee Radio Club came out on top in WIQP 2007. Who will be next to hold the title?

**5) You can win certificates and awards.** Some folks like "wallpaper". If that's true in your case you should be aware that the WIQP organizers provide very attractive "certificates of achievement" for a large number of entries. The top scoring single operator also gets a beautiful engraved wooden plaque. Be the first in your neighborhood to have one! Of course, getting on for WIQP is also a good way to check off a few new states for your Worked All States (WAS) or grid squares for VUCC.

**6) Rare WI counties are active.** Are you a "county hunter"? Lots of hams get hours of enjoyment from chasing and tracking QSOs with counties throughout the US. It's kind of like taking the WAS award from ARRL to the extreme! The object here is to make 2 way radio contact with hams operating in every county in every state. State QSO parties like WIQP are great for this in that since counties are considered multipliers within the contest, rare counties are often put on the air. Also, don't forget that WARAC sponsors the "Worked all Wisconsin Counties Award". The WIQP might be the only time you're likely to hear some of them on the radio.

**7) Say hello to old friends (and make some new ones).** One of my favorite things about the WIQP is the opportunity to say hello to old friends. A number of hams that no longer live in WI make it a point to get on the air during WIQP and check in for this very reason. There is a pretty consistent group of operators that show up every year and after you do it a while you'll start to recognize a lot of callsigns. You're also going to hear lots of people you know from the local clubs. Some ops tend to try to keep it moving as fast as possible while others will take some time to "ragchew" and catch up a bit. It is a "QSO party" after all which amounts to a great way to get as many WI hams and interested others on the air at the same time.

**8) Support amateur radio in Wisconsin.** The WIQP is really the only organized amateur radio event in which all hams in the state are encouraged to get on the air and contact each other. The level of activity in the WIQP says a lot about the state if the hobby in Wisconsin. Our QSO party has a well-deserved reputation for being one of the best organized and attended. Those outside the Badger State also often mention the level and quality of CW activity. Get on the air and add your support.

**9) Learn more about contesting.** Are you the kind of person that likes to keep score? If you like healthy competition *and* amateur radio then contesting may be something you want to learn more about. State QSO parties like WIQP are a great way to get your feet wet in contesting. The operating period is short, the rules are simple, and the scoring structure favors low power stations with low antennas. While activity levels are such that you'll be able to consistently make contacts at a pretty good rate, they are not as high as in other domestic or DX contests when the entire band will be packed from top to bottom with people CQing. Operators also tend to be a bit more laid back in this situation. See how many QSOs you can manage in an hour, or think about ways to maximize the number of multipliers you work. The WIQP is a great place to start thinking about the strategy and tactics needed to maximize your score. Contesting in general is probably the best way to develop a whole group of skills including fast and accurate operating, knowledge of propagation, station design and optimization, etc. You can always do something to put up a better score. Importantly, "better" can mean better than the next guy you want to beat or, more often, just better than you did last year. Keeping score and having everyone play by the same set of rules allows you to measure your progress as an operator and quantify the effectiveness of your station.

**10) Have fun!** The most important reason to get on for WIQP is that it loads of fun. There's something in it for everybody from the hard-core contester to the casual mobile op with a 2m FM rig taking the kids to their afternoon activities. If you've never tried making contacts in the WIQP, I hope you will give it a shot this year. If you've done it in the past but have gotten out of the

habit then I hope you get on as well – if only to give your club a few more points and to say hello to some old friends.

You can read about the WIQP on the WARAC web site (<http://www.warac.org>). All the information you need to participate as well as the results for prior year's events can be found there. I hope to put you in the log on March 9th! CU on the bands. 73 de N9FH

## **“No Holes” Installation – Yukon XL - Part 1 of 2**

De Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR)

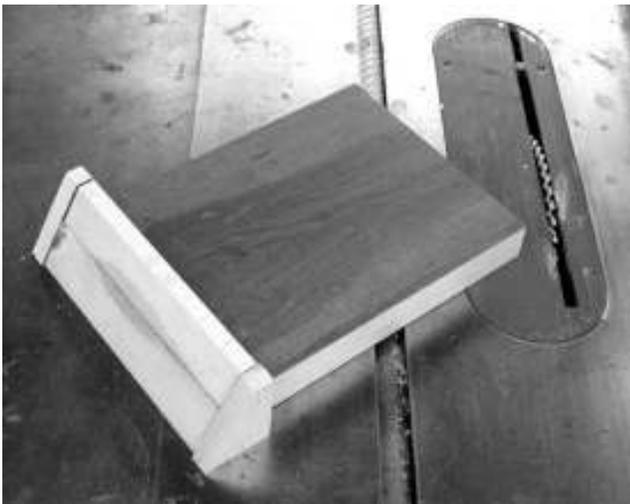
We were using a two wheel drive '97 Suburban to pull the trailer but decided to get something a little more "beefy" and more suitable for towing. We ended up with a 2004 Yukon with a 6.0L engine, all wheel drive and a towing package. We have been very pleased with the vehicle towing our 27" travel trailer however, where do we mount the ICOM 706 MkIIIG? In our previous vehicle, it sat on the "hump" in front and a mag-mount was used for VHF while HF was radiated with a bumper mounted Hustler antenna.

The wife wanted something that looked more commercial than the "lump in front" and the Yukon bumper was essentially plastic, with no metal surface on which to mount the HF antenna base.

Let's start with the transceiver. There was a blank compartment in the dash normally used for a DVD player but it was too small for the "706". I had the kit for remote installation of the control head and decided it was time to use it.



While the DVD compartment was also too small for the control head it did allow for rear access of the control head cable and fabrication of an “insert mount” for the control head.



Using the table saw and some scrap lumber an insert was fabricated that would allow for the control head to be mounted on its sloping face.



A little sanding, flat black paint and mounting of the control head bracket completed the “insert mount”.



The completed control head installation provided a dash mount with rear wiring access and most importantly, wife approval. Plus, it's easy to see and operate.

The next issue was how to get power to the transceiver, which I had decided to mount under the rear seat. There is a battery power accessory terminal in a red case under the hood but I elected to go directly to the battery using a circuit breaker system I had used on the previous vehicle.



Here is shown the unconnected circuit breaker mounted in the aluminum bracket. The bracket was insulated with thick electrical tape in the area that inserts down along the side of the battery.

The circuit breaker provides protection of the wiring from the battery to the transceiver (in addition to the transceiver fuses) and also allows me to switch the power off to the radio if desired. The circuit breaker is mounted on a bracket that can slide down between the battery and battery blanket. The wires are coiled only to allow for extra wire when removing the bracket. The circuit breaker attached to the battery positive terminal and the negative power lead attached to the battery negative terminal.



**Here the circuit breaker assembly is installed with the positive lead connected to the battery positive terminal. A GM dealer or parts house can provide "long" battery bolts to accommodate the addition of the lugs. Note the battery accessory power box in the upper right of the photo.**

Well that's about it for now. Time to take a rest. Creating an "insert mount" for mounting the control head in the dashboard and mounting the power source circuit breaker are enough for one issue. In the next issue we will run the power cables from the circuit breaker through the firewall to the transceiver and mount the antennas.

## Contesting: Party Time in Wisconsin

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

It's party time in Wisconsin and you're all invited to The WISCONSIN QSO PARTY on March 9th, from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM, local time. ORC is the defending champion, having taken first place in the competition in 2007. Our goal, of course, is to win it again this year but it won't be easy. We won by a comfortable margin in 2007 but you can be sure that our friends in Fond du Lac will mount a maximum effort to reclaim the plaque this year. And as you know, they took home the plaque 4 years in a row prior to 2007, so they will be a force to be reckoned with.

We won last year because we submitted 20 logs. Every club has its "big guns", and they are essential to winning. However, it's the accumulation of a bunch of average and small logs that always makes the difference between winning and losing. It's strictly a team effort, so we'll probably win again if each of us who participated last year improves our scores just a little bit, and if we can increase the number of participants to about 30. With a membership of over 100 people we should be able to do that. Also, I believe our VHF members are an untapped source of great potential—it's just a matter of getting organized.

Here's a brief description of the WIQP for those of you who are new to contesting or just haven't been interested in this particular contest: You may work SSB or CW, or both, on all bands from 80-2 meters except the WARC bands. You may work a station once in each mode on each band. The multipliers are 72 Wisconsin counties, 50 states, and 13 Canadian provinces. Your goal is to work as many stations in as many multiplier sections as you can. The message exchange is your home county (or state or province). Hint: Your best bet for working WI counties is 40 meters if the skip is short, and 80 if it is not. Those of you with beams will find good hunting on 20 meters, but you'll probably need to be a "CQer" on that band if it is to be productive. Mobile stations should be equipped to work at least 80 and 40. If you need more information on how to get started, talk to one of the known contesters at the next club meeting

or send me an email at [tbsi@hnet.net](mailto:tbsi@hnet.net). And, don't forget to reset your clocks, because daylight savings time starts on March 9th.

#### COMING UP IN FEBRUARY:

Feb 3 North American Sprint, CW. Rules at [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com)

Feb 9 CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest. Rules at [www.cq-amateur-radio.com](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com)

Feb 10 North American Sprint, SSB. Rules at [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com)

Feb 16 ARRL DX Contest, CW. Rules at [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com)

Feb 23 CQ 160 Meter Contest, SSB. Rules at [www.cq-amateur-radio.com](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com)

Feb 23 North American QSO Party, RTTY. Rules at [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com)

Have fun contesting.

## Upcoming Events

### February

2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> TEN TEN Intl. Phone QSO Party

3<sup>rd</sup> North American Sprint – SSB Contest

9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> CQ World Wide RTTY WPX Contest

10<sup>th</sup> North American Sprint – CW Contest

**13<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**

10<sup>th</sup> FISTS CW Winter Sprint  
School Club Roundup

11<sup>th</sup> MRAC FM Simplex Contest

16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> ARRL International CW DX Contest

23<sup>rd</sup> WeLCARS TechFest at Fox Lake IL

23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> CQ 160 Mtr. SSB Contest

23<sup>rd</sup> North American QSO Party – RTTY

28<sup>th</sup> OZARES

### March

1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> ARRL International Phone DX Contest

**8<sup>th</sup> Post Everything Party**

**9<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin QSO Party**

**12<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**

16<sup>th</sup> TriCounty ARC Hamfest @ Jefferson WI

29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest

27<sup>th</sup> OZARES

## 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> AES Superfest

### April

**9<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**

19<sup>th</sup> Madison Swapfest @ Stoughton

24<sup>th</sup> OZARES

Central WI Swapfest @ Colby WI

### May

**2<sup>nd</sup> Opportunity Day @ Parkview School**

**3<sup>rd</sup> ORC Swapfest at Circle B**

3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> 10-10 CW QSO Party

10<sup>th</sup> CQ National Fox Hunting Weekend

**14<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**

16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Dayton Hamvention

28<sup>th</sup> OZARES

24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> CQ WW CW DX Contest

## Meeting Programs



At the December meeting, Bill Howe (KA9WRL) gave a great program related to his creating original commercials at Channel 6. The group seemed to enjoy the “porta pottie” commercials the most.

# Training

At the January meeting we had a great Elmering session related to feed lines and the Smith Chart.



**Mark Tellier (AB9CD) continues to conduct Elmering sessions at 18:45 prior the regular membership meetings.**

The general class upgrade program got underway at the Cedarburg Police Station at 08:45 on January 12, 2008. There were 5 students at the initial session and indications that there will be a total of 8 on the 19<sup>th</sup>.



**Mark Tellier (AB9CD) is the chief instructor for the current General Class upgrade class held at the Cedarburg Police Station.**

The police station offers an excellent centrally located facility for the classes, which will continue on Saturday mornings through February.

The



Column

By Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), Column Editor

At our 24Jan08 OZARES meeting, our EC for Training Skip Douglas (KA9DDN) did a good job of setting up a **scenario** to practice with a message form. We practiced filling out the **Emergency Management ARES/RACES Message Form**, which is a local modification of **ICS Message Form 213**. The latter or a locally modified edition of the form is now virtually uniformly used throughout the United States for messages associated with emergencies. Since this will be the form we use in real emergencies, OZARES personnel will use it during practice drills, so that we become completely familiar with it. We also tweaked the form a bit to make it more user-friendly and clear, and to facilitate tracking messages when necessary during large emergencies.

During our regular OZARES Thu night net on 17 Jan, NCO Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR) turned the mike over to your editor for a drill. I assigned the net participants a task to complete after the net. They were to go to specific URL, [www.winlink.org/quickGuide.htm](http://www.winlink.org/quickGuide.htm) to read **A Brief Guide to the Elements of Winlink 2000**, and to find the location (city) of the three main servers in the world, then to report that to me via a message at [wb9rqr@winlink.org](mailto:wb9rqr@winlink.org). Everyone on the net completed the drill successfully, though we did have one glitch. The Winlink site has a strict spam filter, so their answers to me were rejected unless I had previously sent them a message via Winlink, or unless they appeared in my "white list" on the Winlink site. Those that had their message bounce resent it to me at my standard email address, which completed the assignment. I have since added all to my "white list".

**NET CONTROL SCHEDULE:** OZARES nets are held each Thursday at 8:00 p.m., except on meeting nights (4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays). Both a net script and check-in list can be obtained on the OZARES web site, [www.ozares.org](http://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, and keep the net manager (WB9RQR) informed of confirmed trades. Guests are welcome after the OZARES check-ins are complete, most especially ORC members! By the way, if you see a difference between the schedule on the website and this column, this column will always be correct, since it reflects last minute changes and substitutions. Such changes and substitutions to the website version will be in **bold print** here.

31 Jan	<b>KC9FZK</b>
07 Feb	<b>WB9RQR</b>
14 Feb	<b>KC9JJU</b>
21 Feb	<b>K9GST</b>
28 Feb	Meeting
06 Mar	W9KHH
13 Mar	WI9M
20 Mar	WJ9O
27 Mar	Meeting
03 Apr	KA9GCF
10 Apr	N9PBY
17 Apr	KA9PZG
24 Apr	Meeting

## Minutes– Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008

De Nancy Stecker, KC9FZK

A short board meeting was held at 7:10p.m. President Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR) called the regular meeting to order at 7:35p.m. Members introduced themselves.

**Announcements, Bragging Rights etc:** Mark (N9ZF) made contacts in the Ukraine, Orkney Islands and South Africa. Tom (W9VBQ) contacted the Azores. Cindy (KA9PZG) said her son James Douglas III passed the General Class test with no errors. Tom (W9IPR) showed a flexible arm for a mike stand he made using recycled material. Upcoming events include: a

General Class training class beginning Jan. 12; the ARRL VHF Contest Jan 19 and 20; and an Orlando Fl. Swapfest, Feb 8, 9 and 10.

**Auction:** Stan (WB9RQR) held a short auction.

**Business Meeting:** The Chair entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the December 2007 meeting as printed in the ORC newsletter. Mike (AB9ON) so moved, Stan (WB9RQR) seconded the motion, the motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nels (WA9JOB) had placed copies of the financial report on tables for members

to look over. He noted that a summary of the 2007 finances were included. The chair entertained a motion to accept the Treasures' report. Kent (N9WH) so moved, Terry (KA9RFM) seconded the motion, the motion passed.

**Repeater Report:** John (W9NRG) reported all is fine.

### Committee Reports:

**Training Committee:** Mark (AB9CD) announced there would be a General Class License course beginning January 12. If teaching, please see him. There are approximately six candidates for the class. There was no mentor session this month, but next month, beginning at 6:45p.m, Mark will bring a selection of kits for members to review. Over the next few months, members will be able to make a project with his assistance.

**Swapfest Committee:** Tom (AA9XK) said flyers have been handed out and the Swapfest has been talked up at many opportunities. The Waukesha Swapfest had many vendors, an interesting President's Round Table, a Badger Contester's meeting and a separate room for chatting and eating.

**Uniform Committee:** Ed (AA9WW) reported that everything ordered has been delivered, approximately 24 jackets being bought. He outlined the procedure to purchase hats and jackets.

**Corn Roast Committee:** The corn roast will be held on August 16, 2008, the third Saturday in August. Dave (N9UNR) will reserve the site in Waubedonia Park.

**Old Business:** Ed (AA9W) said the Cantenna Box Heath Kit sold for \$90 on e-bay.

**New Business:** The President listed the nomination committee's slate of officers for 2008 and asked for nominations from the floor. As there were none, Stan (WB9RQR) made a motion to close the nominations. The motion was seconded and passed. Stan (WB9RQR) made a motion to accept the slate as presented by the nominating committee; it was seconded and passed.

**The new officers for 2008 are as follows: President Mike Yugas (AB9ON), 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Bill Howe (KA9WRL), 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Tom Nawrot (AA9XK), Repeater Vice President John Schrader (W9NRG), Treasurer Nels Harvey (WA9JOB), and Secretary Tim Boppre (KA9EAK).**

**Good of the Order:** President Mike Yugas (AB9ON) thanked Past President Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR) and all the past presidents for their hard and excellent work over the years.

**Attendance:** Thirty-four members attended the meeting: Stan WB9RQR, John W9NRG, Ed AA9W,

Kent N9WH, Terry KA9RFM, Joe AA9HR, Nels W9JOB, Don W9VSC, Mike N9JIY, Dale N9NNE, Mike WJ9O, Joe KA9DFZ, Roger W9UVV, Dominic W9KKX, Tim KA9EAK, Bill K9WRL, Tom W9VBQ, Mark KC9GST, Don AA9WP, Mark N9ZF, Mark AB9CD, Rex W9CRQ, Gary W9XT, Ken W9GA, Tom AA9XK, Ray W9KHH, Mike AB9ON, Nancy KC9FZK, Ed AA9WW, Bob W9LO, Doug N9KG, Chuck WA9POU, Cindy KA9PZG and Tom W9IPR.

**Adjournment:** Stan (WB9RQR) made a motion to adjourn at 8:45p.m. The motion was seconded and the motion passed.

Nancy Stecker (KC9FZK) Outgoing Secretary

## **Board Meeting Minutes, January 9, 2008**

De Nancy Stecker KC9FZK

A meeting of the board was called to order at the Grafton Senior Center at 7:10 p.m. President Tom Ruhlmann W9IPR, Secretary Nancy Stecker KC9FZK, Trustee Ed Rate AA9W, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Mike Yuhas AB9ON, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Bill Howe KA9WRL, and Treasurer Nels Harvey WA9JOB attended the short meeting. Discussion centered on 2008 awards. Several suggestions were made. The president moved to approve the suggestions, the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30p.m.

Nancy Stecker KC9FZK Outgoing Secretary

## **From the President**

By Mike Yuhas, AB9ON

First off, a hearty thank you to the ORC nominating committee and to all ORC members for selecting me to help lead the Ozaukee Radio Club over the next year. I'm honored to serve our members, and delighted to work with a knowledgeable, capable, and thoughtful board. And I would be remiss if I didn't also acknowledge the efforts our previous board members have put into their duties. Tom Ruhlmann, in particular, deserves a lot of credit for helping the Club grow as President the last three years. I can only hope my tenure will be as successful!

One of the things that attracted me to ORC when I first got my ham license was the Club's sense of community. It was with a bit of timidity

that I first sent my call out over the Club's 2-meter repeater, but a moment later, a happy WA9JOB responded – my first ham contact! Members made me feel welcome at Club meetings. I won't forget bringing Janet along to my first-ever Field Day. We were impressed by Stan's cooking, and also the generosity of spirit of hams and spouses. Dave Barrow made a strong impression by extending his hand and introducing himself to the newcomers. True, you could argue that, as a politician, that's pretty much expected of Dave. But the fact is, he did it, and we were made to feel welcome. We should keep this level of friendship paramount.

The Club has a strong foundation, and as your new President, there's not much I plan on changing. I've worked toward bringing informative programs to every ORC meeting. February's program will feature a demonstration of Icom's D-Star digital technology by Dan Workenaour and Dave Schank; Andy Eliason returns in March to show some more of his homebrew projects; and in April, Chris Tarr will give us an overview of advancements in broadcast radio. Something for every interest! I hope our meetings will become even more of a focal point for members to gather and learn.

So, with that, I'll sign for now. See you at the meeting, at our Post Everything Party... and on the air!

## **AGENDA**

*February 13th, 2008*

1. Call to order – Mike (AB9ON)
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 (WA0JOB).
9. Repeater report – John (W9NRG)

10. Committee reports.

Membership –

Youth Program – JOTA – Bill Howe (KA9WRL)

- Opportunity Days @ Parkview

Circle B Swapfest – Tom Nawrot (AA9XK)

PEP -

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 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Grafton**

**Wednesday, Feb 13<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30 PM**



# The ORC News -

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Volume XXVII

March 2008

Number 3

## "No Holes" Installation - Yukon XL - Part 2 of 2

De Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR)

In the last issue we built an "insert mount" on which to mount the control head and made a circuit breaker bracket and mounted it along side the battery. Now to run the power leads from the circuit breaker and battery to the transceiver under the back seat and install the antennas.



The power leads from the battery were threaded along a main wiring harness that already passed through the firewall using a blunted clothes hanger. I was especially careful to avoid damage to any of the existing wires in the factory harness.

The wire used for the power leads was stranded AWG #10 to minimize voltage drop. The power leads were strung from the circuit breaker and battery along side an existing wiring harness and passed through the firewall. Inside the drivers compartment the wire harness passed through the firewall up high and behind the dash

area. The wires were protected and passed under the carpet and under the door floor moldings to the rear passenger seat area.



The exposed power wiring was protected with spiral "wrap around" plastic harness available at Radio Shack. Power connections were made using Anderson Powerpole connectors. A ferrite core was placed around the power cable "just in case".

It would be a little difficult to hear the speaker under the seat so a remote external speaker was mounted between the top of the driver's seat and the headrest. That places it right behind my head so only low volume is required.



With the seat lowered there is no evidence of the transceiver or cabling.

The transceiver is simply secured in place with “hook & loop” tape and it seems to do an adequate job. This completed the installation other than that of the antennas.



A special bracket was fabricated to mount the HF antenna ball mount. Shown is the upper portion. Note the mount rests on the bumper. This upper portion is secured with 3 metal screws to the doorframe to prevent any lateral motion of the mount. So OK, I did drill some holes but they were small.

My Yukon XL has a “hatch back” type of rear door and it allows about a half inch of clearance along the side of the hatch through which a flat bracket can be placed and secured to a fender flange below the vehicle. I made a cardboard pattern before any metal was cut and formed.



The lower portion of the mount that clamps to a fender flange is shown here from below the vehicle.



A “mag mount” UHF/VHF antenna was used as in the past and the coax was passed through the door and along side the door seal gaskets. Should the coax eventually be damaged just replace it. It’s a lot better than cutting a hole in the vehicle.



The HF antenna coax was also passed through the hatch door seal gasket and under the carpeting to the transceiver. Notice that the Hustler antenna was stabilized to the luggage rack using a stiff plastic rod (electric fence pole) and tie wraps.

Well, that's about it. An almost "no holes" installation. Actually I am very pleased with the overall result. It is "wife acceptable" and functions very well. About the only thing I might change is to add an ICOM antenna tuner so that I can use my 20-meter Hustler on 20 through 160 – maybe. I will let you know how that turns out once completed.

## The Orlando "HamCation"

De Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR)

It was great! And again I found some great bargains. My thanks to Leon (K9GCF) who last year told me about the Orlando "HamCation" just before we left for Florida for the month of February. This year I made sure that if I had to go to Florida it would be at "HamCation" time and I am glad I did.



**AES was there with great deals as were most of the other larger distributors.**

"HamCation" definitely has the flavor of swapfests past. There was one large building for commercial vendors, including AES and Tower Electronics, and another equally sized building for the "amateur" vendors.



**A whole building of "good stuff"**

And then there was the great outdoors – it was great.



**The best deals? The open air flea market of course.**

Well I guess inflation has occurred because I couldn't seem to get anything for fifty cents but I did get some great buys ranging from \$2 to \$200. They ranged from a \$2 Simpson VOM and 6 partial spools of #14 solid copper wire for radials for \$12 to an ICOM AT-180 automatic antenna tuner for my "706 MkII G. All in all it was a good time.

And then there were the visits to "Fantasy of Flight" and "Sun & Fun" aviation museums and watching the launch of the Space Shuttle Atlantis at the Cape. It has been a great visit to Florida and I won't even mention the 70-degree weather without a snowflake in sight. See you at the "Post Everything Party".

## **WISCONSIN QSO PARTY: THE CASE FOR QRP**

By Bob Truscott, W9LO

I wrote an article for the February 1993 issue of this newsletter suggesting that ORC might want to consider operating QRP on Field Day that year. The suggestion was based on an experiment that W9BCK and I carried out during a Saturday morning QSO on 75 meter SSB. We lived in Bolingbrook, IL at the time, a distance of about 130 miles from Ron's QTH in Grafton. He reduced his power output from 100 watts to 8 watts, the bottom end of his power knob, while I watched my S meter. The received signal dropped all the way down to S9. The club had no interest in QRP, so the idea died, but it provided some background for my later interest in QRP.

Some of the domestic contests have a separate category for QRP, while some do not. The WIQP offers an additional power multiplier for QRP, specifically, up from 1.5 for low power to 2 for QRP. This represents an opportunity to significantly increase your score, about 30%, for a given number of QSOs and multipliers. The question is, of course, can you produce the same numbers when you operate QRP. With this in mind I worked QRP in several contests during the past year to try to get a handle on that question. I found no simple answer, but did

find I could compete head to head with the 100-watt guys when band conditions were good, but could not when they were bad. But that's not all bad because my problems occurred in popular nation-wide contests, and resulted from heavy QRM from everywhere, not because my signal was 13 dB down, but because there were just too many competing stations. I believe that the QRM level in areas outside Wisconsin will be much lower in the WIQP than they were in those earlier contests, and that will result in an acceptable number of state multipliers. Another thing to consider is that if conditions are bad the 100-watt guys scores will also be down

I recently ran an experiment here in my shack, trying to simulate "real world" conditions. I set up a steady S-9 signal into the FT-1000, and then switched in 18 dB of attenuation. The S meter dropped off to S-7. I can live with a signal just 2 S-units lower than that of the 100 watt guys, and probably will in the WIQP. I want that x2 power multiplier. Tom, W9VBQ, told me at the last club meeting that he also is considering going QRP in the party. Go get em, Tom. Maybe we can start a trend.

## **Upcoming Events**

March

1st – 2nd ARRL International Phone DX Contest

**8th Post Everything Party**

**9th Wisconsin QSO Party**

**12<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**

16th TriCounty ARC Hamfest @ Jefferson WI

29<sup>th</sup> – 30th CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest

27<sup>th</sup> OZARES

**28th – 29th AES Superfest**

April

**9<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**

19th Madison Swapfest @ Stoughton

24<sup>th</sup> OZARES

Central WI Swapfest @ Colby WI

May

**2<sup>nd</sup> Opportunity Day @ Parkview School**

**3<sup>rd</sup> ORC Swapfest at Circle B**

3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> 10-10 CW QSO Party

10<sup>th</sup> CQ National Fox Hunting Weekend

**14<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**

16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Dayton Hamvention  
 22<sup>nd</sup> OZARES  
 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> CQ WW CW DX Contest

## LAST CALL FOR THE WIQP

By Bob Truscott, W9LO

Mark your calendars and reserve a few hours for THE **WISCONSIN QSO PARTY** on March 9<sup>th</sup>. It runs from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM, local time. CW, SSB, FM, choose any or all of these modes, work 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2 meters and up.

As you all know, ORC won the club competition in 2007, and we are hoping for a repeat performance this year. Last year we won by submitting 20 logs. This year we'll have a target painted on our backs, so we'll need more that. The goal is 30 logs, plus just a little bit of improvement from each of us who participated last year. (A lot of improvement would be OK, too.) Computer generated logs are preferred, but paper is OK. Be sure to spell out "Ozaukee Radio Club" on your entry form – the judges won't recognize "ORC". Get rules, entry forms, county maps, etc. at [www.warac.org](http://www.warac.org).

Daylight savings time starts on March 9, so don't forget to reset y our clocks. See you all at the party.

ten message over the air, they read it much too fast for the ham at the other end to write. Invariably, the ham reads it at a conversational pace, which is certainly not a pace conducive to accurate transcription at the other end. That tendency must be something that is hard-wired into our human brains.

Here is another example of why training is so important for emergency communications. A trained pair of hams will send (and receive) a written message just once, in a minimal amount of time. A pair in which one or both are not trained will need to send it several times before the message is accurately written down at the receiving end. A lesson best not learned during an actual emergency!

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE: OZARES nets are held each Thursday at 8:00 p.m., except on meeting nights (4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays). Both a net script and check-in list can be obtained on the OZARES web site, [www.ozares.org](http://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, and keep the net manager (WB9RQR) informed of confirmed trades. Guests are welcome after the OZARES check-ins are complete, most especially ORC members! By the way, if you see a difference between the schedule on the website and this column, this column will always be correct, since it reflects last minute changes and substitutions. Such changes and substitutions to the website version will be in bold print here.

06 Mar	W9KHH
13 Mar	W19M
20 Mar	WJ9O
27 Mar	Meeting
03 Apr	<b>KA9GCF</b>
10 Apr	N9PBY
17 Apr	KA9PZG
24 Apr	Meeting
01 May	KB9RHZ
08 May	KB9RLI
15 May	WB9RQR
22 May	meeting
29 May	W9BTN

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The



Column

By Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), Column Editor

At our 28Feb OZARES meeting, our EC for Training Skip Douglas (KA9DDN) had us work with the Emergency Management ARES/RACES Message Form, which is a local modification of ICS Message Form 213. As a result, we put the final tweaks into the new form, as well as practicing sending and receiving messages. Even the Emergency Manager Mary Fitzgerald (KB9NBW) got some practice at the microphone, as each group of us traded places at sending, receiving, logging and transcribing. A good training session!

You know, it is amazing to observe that almost uniformly, the very first time a ham sends a writ-

# Minutes of the Ozaukee Radio Club Regular Meet- ing, February 13, 2008

De Nancy Stecker KC9FZK, Acting Secretary

At 7:00, Mark (AB9CD) held an Elmering Session showing various kits to be made as a learning project.

President Mike Yuhas (AB9ON) called the regular meeting to order at 7:30. In the absence of Tim Broppe (KA9EAK), Nancy (KC9FZK) acted as Secretary. Members and guests introduced themselves.

**Announcements, Bragging Rights etc:** Sadly, the president announced the deaths of Terry Koller's wife and Skip Douglas's stepmother. Cards were passed out for members to sign prior to being mailed. Bob (W9LO) reminded the club of the up-coming QSO Party on March 9 and the club's win last year. More information to come. Marc (N9ZF) said Wisconsin won 1<sup>st</sup> place in a 2007 ARRL low power contest. Chuck (WA9POU) finished a home brew linear amplifier that worked.

**Program: D-Star digital radio by Dan Workenaour (N9ASA) and Dave Schank (KA9WXN):** Dan (N9ASA) and Dave (KA9WXN) discussed their local D-Star digital radio system including how the Milwaukee Area Digital Operator's Group began, what equipment was purchased and then presented a demonstration of some of the equipment they brought.

**Fellowship Break:** A short break gave members the opportunity for a first hand look at the D-Star radios.

**Auction:** Stan (WB9RQR) held an auction of donated items. The 50/50 drawing was held and Dave (N9UNR) had the winning ticket.

## **Business Meeting:**

**Treasurers Report:** Nels (WA9JOB) said the financial report had been placed on the tables for review. He noted the rates on a renewed CD had lowered significantly and that this will have an impact on the scholarship fund income. The chair entertained a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Dave (N9UNR) so moved; the motion was seconded and passed.

## **Committee Reports:**

**General, Extra Class Report:** Mark (AB9CD) stated the General Class has one more session and that one student had already taken and passed the test. There are plans for an Extra Class in the near future. Dates to be announced.

**Repeater Report:** John (W9NRG) had to leave for a fire call, so Nels (WA9JOB) filled in by saying that not much is going on, everything is working.

**Post Everything Party:** The president reported on the up-coming party on March 8, 2008. The price is \$17.50 per person, to be held at the Grafton Legion Hall, cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and dinner following at 7:15 p.m. Bring your gift-wrapped "treasures" for exchange; ladies may also bring a gift to exchange. Awards will be handed out.

**Swapfest Committee:** Tom (AA9XK) said May 3 is the date, work and ideas for this year's Swapfest is on going.

**Youth Committee:** Bill (KA9WRL) said May 2 is an all day activity at the Parkview Elementary School in Cedarburg. The club has been asked to participate in this project again. He is also working at getting information about an EAA activity for youth this fall.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Nels (WA9JOB) reminded members to get their reservations in for the Post Everything Party. In thanks for all the donated equipment for the scholarship fund from Hal Giese (W9RXJ) who now resides in nursing home, Nels (WA9JOB) made a motion to waive his dues for the year. Gary (WI9M) seconded the motion, the motion passed.

**Attendance:** The thirty members and three guests who attended the meeting were: Mike AB9ON, Ed AA9W, Doug N9KG, Joe AA9HR, Bill AA9OS, Stan WB9RQR, Mike N9JIY, Mike WJ9O, Dale N9NNE, Kent N9WH, Mark KC9GST, Jon KB9RHZ, Bill KA9WRL, Tom W9VBQ, Scott KC9IIZ, David N9UNR, Nancy KC9FZK, Mark AB9CD, Chuck WA9POU, Jeff WB9PZD, Bob W9LO, Marc N9ZF, John WA9KNY, Ted KB9POZ, Ron W9BCK, Ray W9KHH, Jim K9QLP, Nels WA9JOB, Gary

WI9M, Tom AA9XK and guests Phil KB9ZJU, Dan N9ASA and David KA9WXN.

**Adjournment:** At 9:20, the chair entertained a motion to adjourn, Dave (N9UNR) made the motion, it was seconded and the motion passed.

## ORC President's Column

By Mike Yuhas, AB9ON

THERE ARE a couple of fun things happening in March! First, I can almost guarantee that you can safely put away your snow shovel; it wouldn't hurt to start thinking about summerizing the snowblower, too. Just as the swallows return to Capistrano, our friends who spent the winter in warmer climes will soon be back in Wisconsin. Welcome back!

From a radio standpoint, the first item of importance is this year's edition of the Ozaukee Radio Club Post Everything Party. I'm looking forward to hobnobbing with ORC members and their spouses on March 8. The Awards committee assures me there will be a raft of recognitions to pass out. Will you be honored? You'll find out at the party!

The Wisconsin QSO Party takes place the following afternoon and evening. Remember to indicate the ORC when submitting your logs. Will our club take first place again this year?

Our regular meeting in March will feature Andy Eliason (KA9DOL) coming back for another program covering many nifty ham projects, including a 2-tube oscillator, an AM regen radio and a 40-meter CW transceiver. Please make an effort to attend on March 12.

ORC will again be represented at the Amateur Electronic Supply Superfest, on March 28 and 29.

Planning is proceeding for our own annual Swapfest. May 3 is just around the corner! Tom Nawrot is Chair this year; be in touch with him with suggestions and your offer of assistance.

Have a great month. See you on the air!

## Tips, Tails & Tools

By Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR



**Now that's a slingshot. It can shoot a really big sinker and leader line high over the tree limbs to pull antenna supports to where no man has dared to climb – at least not on my lot.**

## FOR SALE OR TRADE

Your ad for sale or trade could have gone in here. Got stuff to get rid of? Submit it to Tom Ruhlmann for next months newsletter!

## **AGENDA**

*March 12th, 2008*

1. Call to order – Mike (WB9ON)
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 (WA0JOB).
9. Repeater report – John (W9NRG)

10. Committee reports.

Membership –

Youth Program – JOTA – Bill Howe (KA9WRL)

- Opportunity Days @ Parkview

Circle B Swapfest - Tom Nawrot (AA9XK)

PEP -

11. OLD BUSINESS

12. NEW BUSINESS

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 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Grafton**

**Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30 PM**



# 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](http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org)

Volume XXVII

April 2008

Number 4

## From the ORC President

By Mike Yuhas (W9ON)

### The Amateur Radio Service

As I sat in the National Weather Service storm spotter class the other day, a couple of thoughts crossed my mind.

First, a goodly number of those in attendance were hams.

Second, I pondered what motivated the hams to be there in the first place. The answer, quite obviously, is a desire to serve.

I then started thinking about the service aspect of amateur radio. Yes, we all like to get on the radio and ragchew with old and new friends around the neighborhood and around the world. We all like to chatter about our radios, our antennas, our families, our health, and our latest project. But *service* is where hams really shine: whether participating in a weather emergency net, providing communications for a parade or bicycle ride, or just maintaining situational awareness by monitoring a radio band... we do it, and don't ask a cent in return.

Many ORC members actively serve the greater good through their involvement in amateur radio. I'm proud to be associated with a group that makes service to others a priority. To those hams, amateur radio is way more than a hobby.

Incidentally, do you know how many times the word "hobby" appears in Part 97? Zero. The FCC calls our little fraternity the Amateur Radio Service. It's a pretty good reflection of what we're capable of doing.

Please be sure to join us at our next membership meeting, coming up on Wednesday, April 9, at the Grafton Senior Center. Chris Tarr (W9JOL) will share with us the latest developments in digital broadcast radio. Chris is enthusiastic about presenting to our group. It should be an interesting, entertaining program. See you then!

## WI QSO PARTY REPORT

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

Well, the party's over. It was fun but it would appear that we were soundly beaten in the club competition by the folks in Fond du Lac. Last year we won it by entering 20 logs. This year we had 15, and our score reflected that. We haven't heard from a few of the stations we thought would be operating, but as of today our reported score is about 300,000, while the Fond du Lac people told me they had something over 500,000. These numbers are not official but I'm sure they are pretty close. So congratulations to our friends to the north for their fine showing in the Q party.

Having said these things, let me add that we didn't do too badly considering the number of club participants and the tough band conditions. The 40 meter skip was too long throughout the contest, and did not produce many in-state contacts. This made it especially tough for Tom, W9VBQ, and me because we each operated QRP. We did well on 80, but one usable band just isn't enough for QRP. Tom was able to improve his score relative to last year, but I was not—mine fell off considerably. I should have stuck with my original plan which was to start out with QRP on 40, and crank up the power if the skip went long too soon. But I didn't—dumb, dumb, dumb. It cost me a six-pack of Samuel

Adams to W9XT. ( But what the heck, I would have lost that bet regardless of band conditions.)

Here are the reported scores:

W9XT	96,600
W9LO	47,040
W9VBQ	38,048
WI9M	21,239
K9QLP	16,673
W9IPR	15,281
KC9DKQ	11,286
KY9P	4,935
N9KG	4,855
K0GCF	3,510 Mobile FL
W9KHH	2,924
KC9FM	1,134
AA9W	1,626
N9ZF	247
AB9CD	6

Thanks to all who participated. JUST WAIT TILL NEXT YEAR!!!!!!

Bob, W9LO

## Condolences

Our condolences to:

Terry Koller (KA9RFM) of Mequon who lost his wife Judy to cancer in February.

Walter Stasiowski (KA9KFR) of Port Washington, who lost his wife Marilyn.

Fred Helmstetter lost his father.

Skip Douglas lost his stepmother.

## Post Everything Party & 2007 Awards

A really great time was had by all at the traditional Post Everything Party March 8<sup>th</sup> at the Grafton American Legion Hall.



Bill Howe (KA9WRL) and Vic Shier (KB9UKE) provided before and after dinner entertainment and were later joined by Chairman Paul Schumacher for the vocals.



Nancy Stecker (KC9FZK) was presented a certificate of appreciation by Past President Tom (W9IPR) for her service as Secretary on ORC Board these past three years. Later in the program it was learned that Nancy was also voted by the membership "Turkey" of 2007 and she received that "good 'ol boy – er girl" award as well.



Bob Truscott (W9LO) was recognized as “Operator of the Year 2007” for his leadership in the ORC winning the 2007 Wisconsin QSO Party Contest sponsored by the West Allis club.



Tom Nawrot (AA9XK) and Paul Schumacher (KD9FM) received the “Club Project of 2007” award for their leadership of the new “Lighthouse Activation” project and ORC winning 3<sup>rd</sup> place in that national contest.



Cindy Douglas (KA9PZG) was given the ORC 2007 Community Service Award recognizing her leadership and participation in such activities as the Saukville Historical Society, OZARES, River Clean-up, MS Walk and Grafton Christmas Parade.

Other members recognized at the PEP included the following:

Tom Murtaugh (W9VBQ) was presented the “Radio Art Advancement” award for his persistent pursuit of QRP (low power below 10 watts) contacts and techniques.



**A really great time was had by all as evidenced by this group of ORC’ers following the “cleaning of the shack” gift exchange.**

Jon Gilmore (KB9RHZ) was presented the “Communications and Technical Skills Advancement” award for his leadership and encouragement of members to continually improve their emergency communications skills and capabilities through OZARES.

Doug Burghardt (N9KG) was presented the “Technical Project of 2007” award for his original design, programming and development of field day network logging software that is suitable for CW operators as well as SSB operators.

Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR) received the "HAM of the Year" award as voted by the membership.

At the membership meeting of March 12<sup>th</sup> there were additional members recognized for the contribution during 2007. These included:

Gary Sutcliffe (W9XT) was recognized with the "International Goodwill" award for his success in contacting all 337 ARRL international entities and his contributions to the DX'ers magazine, National Contest Journal.

Mark Tellier (AB9CD) was recognized as "Trainer of the Year" for his leadership of the Elmering program and organization of FCC license training classes.

Mark Potash (KC9GST) was recognized with the "Club Service Award" for his leadership and donation of time and effort in the redesign and fabrication of the ORC "tower trailer".

Awards to be made at upcoming meetings include the "Committee of 2007", "Contester of 2007", "Meeting Program of 2007" and the "Presidents Award" but the awardee must be present to receive the award.



Again this year, Chairman Paul Schumacher and wife Barbara organized a great Post Everything Party. Thanks for the good time.

## Mentor Session

De Mark Tellier, AB8CD

The pre-meeting mentor session group has decided to build the TenTec 1056 Direct Conversion Receiver. We hope to have a manual for the project at the meeting to review. We will take orders through meeting night and the kits will be ordered the next day. Kit building will begin at (or before) the May meeting.

## Extra Class Study Sessions

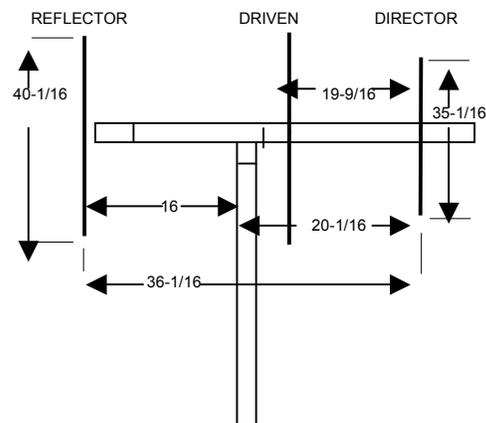
De Mark Tellier, AB8CD

It appears we will be unable to offer study sessions for the Extra Class exam. We were unable to get a minimum of three mentors for any of the proposed session dates. Thought is now being given to which class to offer next, when to offer the class and where.

## My Winlink 2000 Solution

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR

Frustrated with my inability to set up Winlink 2000, I delved into the reason why. The answer was simple. My omni-directional vertical antenna just could not communicate with the server ("PMBO") located down in Milwaukee County. So, I built a 3-element 2-meter Yagi and set it up vertically polarized as shown in the drawing. I installed it in place of the old vertical, and that solved the problem. Here it is. It is not original; I got the plans from WorldRadio<sup>1</sup>. It works!



Dimensions are in inches. The mast and boom are made of 3/4-inch PVC, with a T-connector in the center. Both the reflector and director are threaded steel rods, held in place with a single nut placed on each side of the boom. After tightening these nuts, a drop of clear fingernail polish prevents them from loosening due to vibration caused by the wind.

The two halves of the driven element (one points to the sky and the other to the ground) are brass rod, that I threaded where they penetrate the boom. You could substitute totally threaded brass rod, or steel rod, as well. Each is 19-7/16 inches long. A nut where the long side penetrates the boom holds them in place on that side. The other side projects 1/2-inch from the boom, and a nut, solder lug and another nut affix them there. The solder lugs are wired to an SO-239 connector which has been mechanically attached to the mast near the T-connector, but you could leave out the connector and solder the coax directly to the solder lugs. The half of the driven element that points to the sky is connected to the center conductor, while the half that points to the ground is connected to the braid.

SWR was measured with a MFJ-269 analyzer, in the shack where the coax attaches to the radio, and it is really pretty good (1:1.3) at the Winlink frequency (145.61 MHz). Since you may well be interested in some other frequency, a complete rundown follows, measured at my QTH. I built it quickly and threw it up on the roof in an effort to get on the air with Winlink. The SWR might have been improved with some tweaking, but I did not attempt that – I was in a hurry.

FREQ	SWR	FREQ	SWR
144	2.0	440	1.1
144.5	1.8	441	1.3
145	1.6	442	1.7
145.5	1.4	443	2.0
146	1.3	444	2.0
146.5	1.3	445	1.9
147	1.5	446	1.6
147.5	1.6	447	1.3
148	1.8	448	1.1
148.5	1.9	449	1.5

Quite respectable over both the VHF and UHF ham bands.

The original article<sup>1</sup> described the antenna with force-fit PVC parts so the whole thing could be taken apart and put together with ease, for backpacking or other temporary use. It certainly doesn't cost much to build – easily under \$25 with all new parts, and everything can be found in your local hardware store. And, it does perform. I can transmit and receive with solid copy to that PMBO in Milwaukee.

<sup>1</sup>Some Unfinished Business for QRP 2-meter FM, WorldRadio, Aug 2007, p. 44.

## AES Superfest

Well Ray Grenier (K9KHW) of Amateur Electronic Supply put together another great AES Superfest. Thanks for again inviting us from the ORC. This year AES entertained 37 different vendors and 37 different amateur radio clubs and organizations.



The ICOM booth was busy both Friday and Saturday as HAM's got a chance to see and operate "what's new" in the ICOM line and ask questions about their existing equipment and ICOM promotions.

Yaesu and Kenwood were also at Superfest with factory technical and sales personal in addition to their latest in equipment.



MFJ also had an impressive presence with their station accessories as well as tube type and solid state amplifiers and factory personal to assist with the technical questions.



And who was that drawing a crowd with answers to questions and providing autographs? It was none other than Gordon West (WB6NOA) at the W5YI booth promoting amateur radio and license training materials.



ORC member Gary Sutcliffe (W9XT) of Unified Microsystems was at Superfest showing their line of CW and Voice keyers and PC sound card interface kits available through AES.



Bill Howe (KA9WRL) was also at Superfest with his very impressive collection of classic microphones.

The Ozaukee Radio Club members were at Superfest in force manning the ORC table as well as the OZARES table. It was a great opportunity to tell attendees about both organizations and sell a few advance tickets and tables for the May 3<sup>rd</sup> swapfest. Additionally, Jon Gilmore (KB9RHC) won a door prize of a 6 meter beam and two antenna balun center supports.



**ORC members were manning both the ORC and OZARES tables.**

## ORC is an SSC

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR

Bet you didn't know! SSC stands for ARRL Special Service Club, and we have held this status continuously, since 1985. Below is our latest, dated January 2008.



Special Service Clubs are the recognized leaders in their Amateur Radio communities, and the designation shows that a club does more than the usual for the community and for Amateur Radio in general. They are the ones with active training classes, highly visible publicity programs and members that actively pursue technical projects. Over half of the members must be ARRL members, and the ARRL refers to us prospective hams that want to learn more about our hobby.

There are a whole bunch of benefits to the ORC so long as we maintain SSC status. Just to name a few, we can get \$15 for every new ARRL member recruited and \$2 for every ARRL renewal submitted by the club. We also can get free mailing labels and lists of ARRL members

in our area, for targeted mailing campaigns. We can also get free clip-art, club discounts on ARRL publications, ARRL-sponsored liability and equipment insurance, the ability to participate in the gavel competitions in the ARRL DX Contest, November Sweepstakes and the ARRL VHF Sweepstakes, and more. That is why your officers have applied for and kept up our SSC status over the years.

## ORC Audit Report - 3-21-08

De Vic Shier, KB9UKE – Audit Committee Chairman

The audit committee met on March 19, 2008. The committee consisted of: Kent Christiansen, N9WH; Ed Rate, AA9W; Tom Nawrot, AA9XT; and Vic Shier, KB9UKE. This audit covered the activities from January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007.

The club books and records were found to be well organized and in good order; all cash accounts balanced to the penny with a grand total of \$29,636.60.

The club currently has four bank accounts; a regular checking account, a money market/checking account, and two certificates of deposit. The balance of each of the accounts was verified to be the balance as reported in the December 31, 2007 treasurers report.

The committee selected certain transactions and traced those transactions to the bank statements. Some of transactions were selected on a random basis and others were selected because they were significant in size or importance. All transactions appeared to be in good order.

A comparison of budgeted items to actual revealed the following:

Estimated Income	\$7,130
Actual Income	\$6,796.97
Estimated Expense	\$5,475
Actual Expense	<u>\$6,075.47</u>
Estimated Change	\$1,655
Actual Change	\$ 721.52

The committee would like to make the following comments:

1. Some receipts are hand written receipts rather than actual receipts. Nels Harvey reported that from time to time club

members are entitled to reimbursements for out-of-pocket expenses, however, they were not able to produce a copy of the actual receipt. Although the noted expenditures were generally small, the lack of a receipt is not good accounting practice.

2. A determination of the extent to which the budget was adhered was time consuming and rather imprecise. The committee suggests that the chair of each significant program report on the actual and budgeted cash flows at the conclusion of the program.

The committee wishes to thank Nels Harvey, WA9JOB, for his service as treasurer and to commend him for maintaining accurate and organized records.

Submitted by: Vic Shier, KB9UKE, Chairman

## Upcoming Events

### April

9<sup>th</sup> **Membership Meeting – digital radio**

19<sup>th</sup> Madison Swapfest @ Stoughton

24<sup>th</sup> OZARES

### May

2<sup>nd</sup> **Opportunity Day @ Parkview School**

3<sup>rd</sup> **ORC Swapfest at Circle B**

10<sup>th</sup> CQ National Fox Hunting Weekend

14<sup>th</sup> **Membership Meeting**

16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Dayton Hamvention

28<sup>th</sup> OZARES

The



Column

By Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), Column Editor

By the time you read this, Nancy and I will be in Kentucky, visiting my daughter and her family, or in Florida, visiting Nancy's son and family. It will be good to get into green again!

The last OZARES meeting (20 Mar) was our annual **Severe Weather Training for Spotters**, hosted by Emergency Management with Rusty

Kapela at the podium. Rusty is a Meteorologist with the National Weather Service, and is Warning Coordinator for Severe Weather. His annual Severe Weather Training for Spotters is legendary. Rusty's presentations are always top notch, and even though he has been doing it for many years, he always provides new material and new things to learn. If you missed the presentation, go to this link to catch up:

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/mkx/?n=spotters>

OZARES is supporting a **Public Health Service Exercise** on 19 Apr, held in conjunction with Medicine Collection Day. Ops are needed with HTs from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. on that Saturday. Contact Jon Gilmore, KB9RHZ, our Emergency Coordinator, if you can help out. You know, there is no better way to foster a good reputation for OZARES than to take part in these agency exercises. It raises our visibility and advertises our capabilities, besides teaching us how to interact with them and teaching them how to interact with us. Contact Jon.

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE: OZARES nets are held each Thursday at 8:00 p.m., except on meeting nights (4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays). Both a net script and check-in list can be obtained on the OZARES web site, [www.ozares.org](http://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, and keep the net manager (WB9RQR) informed of confirmed trades. Guests are welcome after the OZARES check-ins are complete, most especially ORC members! By the way, if you see a difference between the schedule on the website and this column, this column will always be correct, since it reflects last minute changes and substitutions. Such changes and substitutions to the website version will be in bold print here.

03 Apr	<b>W9KHH</b>
10 Apr	N9PBY
17 Apr	KA9PZG
24 Apr	Meeting
01 May	KB9RHZ
08 May	KB9RLI
15 May	WB9RQR
22 May	meeting
29 May	W9BTN

05 Jun N9SQA  
12 Jun KB9UKE  
19 Jun N9UNR  
25 Jun No net or meeting; Field Day

## Minutes— March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008

De Nancy Stecker KC9FZK Acting Secretary

An Elmering Session was held previous to the regularly scheduled meeting. Mark (AB9CD) continued the discussion about kits.

**President Mike Yuhas (AB9ON)** called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. As requested by the president, members and guests introduced themselves and the year they became hams. Congratulations to Roger (W9UVV) who has been a ham since 1935.

**Announcements etc:** Tom (W9IPR) gave out 2008 awards to the following members not present at the PEP: Club Service Award went to Mark (KC9GST), Instructor of the Year Award to Mark (AB9CD), Radio Art Advancement Award to Tom (W9VBQ) and International Good Will Award to Gary (W9XT). Mike (AB9ON) displayed his AARP membership card and Tom (W9IPR) said he had picked up his almost new Harley.

**Program: Andy Eliason (KA9DOL):** Bill (KA9WRL) introduced Andy Eliason (KA9DOL) who presented a program showing many of the projects he built. Andy showed the diagrams used create new improved reproductions of old radios, displayed the models and turned them on for us to hear.

**Fellowship Break:** Members used this time to look over the radios from the program.

**Auction:** Stan (WB9RQR) held an auction of donated items. Nels (WA9JOB) won the 50/50 pot.

**Business Meeting:** The president entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the February meeting as published in the newsletter. Gary (W9IM) so moved, Stan (WB9RQR) seconded the motion, the motion passed. The president then entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the January meeting as published in the February newsletter. Dave (N9UNR) so moved, Stan (WB9RQR) seconded the motion, the motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nels (WA9JOB) placed copies of his report on tables for members to see. The ORC has a balance of \$10,715.08, a Scholarship Fund balance of \$20,998.79 for a total of \$31,713.87. A new CD renewed at a 3% interest. Dave (N9UNR) made the motion to accept the Treasurer's report, subject to audit, and Jim (K9QLP) seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### Committee Reports:

**Repeater Report:** In the absence of John (W9NRG), Nels (WA9JOB) the repeaters are in good working order, though not used.

**Swapfest Committee Report:** Tom (AA9XK) said the date is May 3, 2008 and that we will have to set up early Saturday morning, as Circle B will not be available on Friday night. He is looking for volunteers.

**Training Report:** Mark (AB9CD) will offer the Extra Class at a later time and in a different format.

**Other Reports from the President:** A thank-you to Stan (WB9RQR) for handling the ORC Newsletter while Tom (W9IPR) was on vacation. Tom (W9VBQ) does a human-interest column for the newsletter; if he asks to interview you, please do so. There will be no Fish Day Parade this year.

**Old Business:** A yearly audit of the finances is to be held. Vic (KB9UKE) volunteered to head a committee to audit the books.

### New Business:

Mark (AB9CD) said his Elmering group would choose a kit to build. That group meets at 6:45 p.m. before the meeting. Bill (KA9WRL) said JOTA might be moving to Long Lake from Pioneer Village. Nels (WA9JOB) said to see him if there is interest in jackets and hats. He also mentioned that Skip (KA9DDN) is in the hospital for tests. Tom (W9IPR) said Opportunity Day at Parkview Elementary School would have 5 sessions of 15 children each session on May 1, 2008. Jon (KB9RHZ) said that April 19 is a county-wide Medicine Collection Day to dispose of old medicines at the Ozaukee County Highway Department in Port Washington. Also, there will be a weather-spotting program on March 20, 2008 open to all members of the ORC and OZARES. Rusty Kapella of the National Weather Service will be at the Justice Center at 6:30 p.m. for this informative program. Dave (N9UNR) reminded all to vote at the April 1, 2008 election for local officials.

**Attendance:** The 31 members and 1 guest who attended the meeting were: Stan WB9RQR, Naomi KC9GSS, Kate KB0SIO, Richard AB0VF, Mark KC9GST, Dave N9UNR, Ed AA9W, Kent N9WH, Marc N9ZF, Ray W9KHH, Bob W9LO, Jerry W9GGR, Joe KA9DFZ, Bill AA9OS, Tom W9IPR, Doug N9KG, Tom AA9XK, Julia KB9WBQ, Bill KA9WRL, Tom W9VBQ, Gary W9XT, Roger W9UVV, Mark AB9CD, Nels WA9JOB, Jon KB9RHZ, Jeff WB9PZD, Gary W9IM, Vic KB9UKE, Jim K9QLP, Mike AB9ON, Nancy KC9FZK and guest Andy Eliason KA9DOL.

**Adjournment:** The chair entertained a motion to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Kent (N9WH) so moved, Vic (KB9UKE) seconded the motion, the motion passed.

## **AGENDA**

*April 9th, 2008*

1. Call to order – Mike (WB9ON)
  2. Introductions.
  3. Announcements, Bragging Rights, Show & Tell, Upcoming events, Etc.,
  4. Program: Chris Tarr ( W9JOL) – digital radio
  5. Fellowship Break
  6. Auction. Stan Kaplan , KB9RQR
  7. Acceptance of Minutes as printed.
  8. Treasurer's report – Nels (WA0JOB).
- 
9. Repeater report – John (W9NRG)
  10. Committee reports.  
Membership – Nancy Stecker, KC9FZ  
Youth Program – Opportunity Days @ Parkview  
May 3<sup>rd</sup> Swapfest - Tom Nawrot, AA9XK  
Field day – Ken Boston, W9GA  
Audit Committee – Vic Shier, KB9UKE
  11. OLD BUSINESS
  12. NEW BUSINESS
  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 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Grafton**

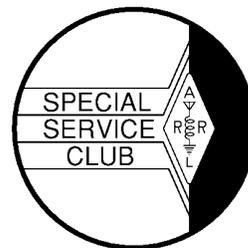
**Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30 PM**



# 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: [www.ozaukeeradioclub.org](http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org)

Volume XXVII

May 2008

Number 5

## From the President

De Mike Yuhas (AB9ON)

Are you ready?

I had a lengthy discussion on the repeater the other morning with an ORC member about emergency power generation. This individual was beginning a big project to install an emergency generator at his home QTH. I asked him how often he lost power; he said his commercial supply was generally reliable but he wanted to be ready for any circumstance. I was impressed.

That's when I started thinking. Power has gone out a few times in the 12 years we've lived in our home, but only once for more than a few minutes. Would the flashlights and candles placed strategically around the house be enough to see us through an extended outage? And, perhaps more important, how would I be able to use my ham station?

I haven't fully answered these questions, but I am thinking about them more than before. I'm interested in knowing about your emergency radio capabilities.

See you on the air!

## 40 Mtr. Moon Bounce?

By Gary Sutcliffe, W9XT

Moon bounce or EME (Earth-Moon-Earth) communications is a technique where signals are bounced off the moon, and received at another location back on earth. They normally take place at VHF or UHF frequencies. The path losses on the half-million mile round trip are so great that it is impractical to build antennas with high enough gain at lower frequencies. In addition,

the signals need to pass through the ionosphere with little attenuation, again something more efficient at higher frequencies.

Because of this most amateur EME communications happen on the 144 and 432 MHz. A few ambitious hams have systems for 6 meters (50 MHz). There have been a few reports of hams with huge arrays hearing their own echoes off the moon on 10 meters (28 MHz) and even 15 Meters (21 MHz). Surely that had to be the low frequency limit.

The High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP), an experimental station in Alaska, has high power transmitters and an antenna system for sending signals straight up to create artificial auroras and for other research. They announced that they would be running some moon bounce tests during the weekend of January 19-20, 2008. Because of my interest in EME I had to check this out.

The plan was to transmit for one hour on 6.7925 MHz. A second hour would be on 7.4075 MHz. The test would be repeated the next evening. These frequencies are below and above the 7 MHz 40-meter band. They would transmit for 2 seconds, and then stop for 3 seconds. There was no modulation, just a carrier.

Using this scheme it would be possible to tell if the signal you were hearing was through normal HF sky wave radio propagation or off the moon. If you heard a signal in the seconds of the minute ending in 0-2 or 5-7, you were hearing it direct. If you heard a signal in the seconds ending in 3-4 or 8-9 you were hearing echoes.

Direct signals from Alaska take 10's of milliseconds to reach Wisconsin. The round trip off the moon is about 2.5 seconds. All you needed was a receiver, an antenna and an accurate clock.

Signals the first hour of the first night were very strong. With my 2-element 40-meter beam the direct signal was about S7 and the moon signal was about S3, although it was hard to measure with static sometimes reaching S9. I listened for the first 45 minutes and recorded some of it.

I came back about 15 minutes into the second hour. Signals were down quite a bit. There was also a lot of interference from terrestrial sources. I didn't listen very long.

On the second night signals were also down. At times I could not hear anything. Most of the time, I could only hear the signals off the moon weakly. At that point I decided to use some software useful for detecting weak amateur signals off the moon.

The WJST software package by K1JT includes a digital signal processing (DSP) program for digging out weak signals. You take the audio output of the radio and feed it into the PC's sound card inputs. Complex mathematical processing in the program does the rest.

During the second hour signals improved. At times I could hear both the direct and reflected signals. The screen capture shows the program output at one of the better moments.

This is known as a waterfall display. The received signals are shown visually and the current signal shows up at the top and drops down over time. Lower frequencies are to the left, and increase as you go right. Higher signal strengths get brighter. It does have the appearance of a slow motion waterfall.

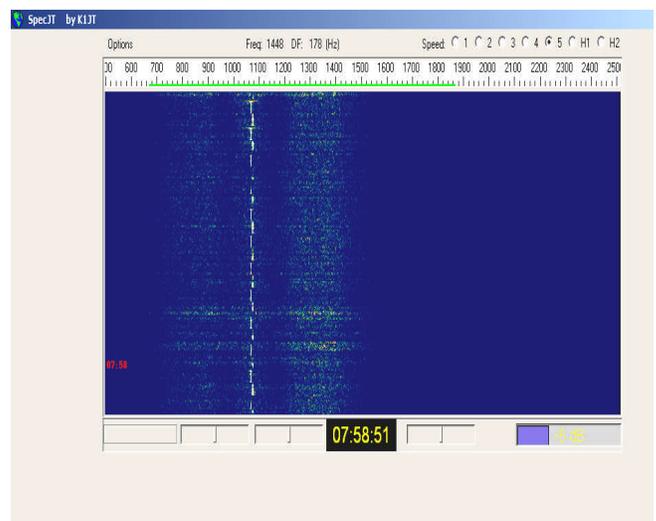
You will notice alternating vertical dashes. These are the signals. You might also see some fuzzy horizontal lines. This is static.

The most interesting thing is that the dashes from the direct and moon reflected signals are offset by about 4 Hz. You can see that the vertical lines shift to the left and right. This is caused by the Doppler shift from the earth's rotation. Because the moon was in the western part of the sky at the time, the frequency of the reflected signal was less than the transmitted

signal. We were essentially moving away from the moon. If the moon had been in the eastern sky, we would be moving toward the moon, and the received frequency would be higher.

More information on HAARP and pictures of their antenna array can be found at their web site, <http://www.haarp.alaska.edu/>. I have not seen a report of the power they were using, but they are capable of 3.5 MW - certainly not QRP! My end of the path was an FT1000MP and a 2 element Yagi beam antenna. On the first night when signals were strong I switched over to dipoles. Signals were still audible.

I consider moon bounce to be of the most challenging aspects in Amateur Radio. I had never considered it would be possible at such a low frequency, even with extremely high power levels. The whole event was quite remarkable. Maybe next year they can try for 80 Meter EME!



## Opportunity Days @ Park-view School

We had a really great time conducting the Park-view Elementary School Opportunity Days Introduction to Amateur Radio. We had a variety of equipment there for the kids to see and utilize. There was the QRP CW station, code training equipment, portable HF station and the OZARES communication van. This year the

program was expanded to six sessions from five and there were 12 to 16 kids per session. The kids got a chance to learn about the challenges and opportunities of HAM radio, including volunteer emergency service and a chance to talk on the HAM radio. Due to band conditions and a lack of operators on the repeater we had them talking to each other via HT's and the OZARES communications van.



**Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR) provided an introduction to HAM radio, which was followed by the Walter Cronkite video.**



**Tom Murtaugh (W9VBQ) showed the kids that CW was fun and had them spell out their names.**



**Bill Howe (KA9WRL) demonstrated the code and various CW training equipment.**



**Jack Morrison (N9SFG) and Jon Gilmore (KB9RHZ) provided the main attraction with the OZARES communications van and opportunities to talk on the radios and operate the "tower camera".**

Special thanks to Bill Howe (KA9WRL) and Tom Murtaugh (W9VBQ) for the CW programs, Tom Ruhlmann for the mapping and HF program and to Jack Morrison (N9SFG) and Jon Gilmore (KB9RHZ) for bringing the OZARES communications van.

We also gave out written special invitations to be GOTA station operators to all the kids so hopefully we will see some new operators at field day.

## MS Walk & ORC Support

Members of the ORC answered the request for service by providing communications between the MS Walk center at the High School, enroute walkers and the three refreshment sites. While some rain was predicted it turned out to be a really nice day for some exercise and to help out.



The “MS Walkers” crowd was gathering at the starting point of the Cedarburg High School.



Mark Tellier (AB9CD) manned the “emergency” vehicle providing mobil communications, immediate water refreshment and moral support.



Following the “Walk” refreshments were provided to the volunteers and walkers. The “subs” and juice really hit the spot. And note those orange “volunteer” T-shirts they all received.

Paul (KC9JJU), Nancy (KC9FZK), Stan (WB9RQR) and Cindy (KA9PZG) provided communications at the rest stops and control center while Mark (AB9CD) and Tom (W9IPR) handled the enroute reporting.

It was a great time. I wish more could have taken the time to enjoy the walk.

## Tour de Cure Bike Ride

I still have some spots open for this year's Tour de Cure bike ride for diabetes. This event is on May 18th and the base of operations is Grafton High School. This is a great event and I encourage new hams to consider working this event. I also would encourage those of you who live in Ozaukee County to volunteer.

If you would like to sign up, please contact OFF list at [n9rxd@sbcglobal.net](mailto:n9rxd@sbcglobal.net).

73's AI (N9RXD)

## Upcoming Events

**Mentoring Session** – Starts at 6:45 before the meeting – ordered kits will be distributed and a soldering demonstration will be presented.

### May

**14<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting – Home Brew HF Amplifier**

16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Dayton Hamvention

28<sup>th</sup> OZARES

24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> CQ WW CW DX Contest

### June

1<sup>st</sup> - Princeton IL Swapfest

8<sup>th</sup> 6 Meter Club of Chi Swapfest @ DuPage Fairgrounds in Wheaton IL

**11<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**

18<sup>th</sup> Tour de Cure

14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> ARRL VHF QSO Party

**27<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> Field Day**

**Miller Lite Ride for Life**

**River Cleanup**

### July

5<sup>th</sup> South Milwaukee Swapfest

12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> IARU HF World Championship

**9<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**

15<sup>th</sup> Fox River Radio League Swapfest @ Aurora IL

19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> CQ WW VHF Contest

24<sup>th</sup> OZARES

19<sup>th</sup> Fish Day at Port Washington

19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> NA QSO Party

28<sup>th</sup> – Aug 3 Airventure 2008 at Oshkosh  
VHF Society Conference  
@ Bloomington MN

## Club Static

Tom (AA9XK), Ed (AA9W), Ray (W9BUJ) and Tom (W9IPR) went to the swapfest at Stoughton where they handed out flyers for the ORC May and September swapfests while looking for “good deals”.



**The swapfest at Stoughton was great fun with seemingly more vendors this year.**



**Chris Tarr (W9JOL) explained how digital broadcast radio was transmitted.**

We had a great program at the April meeting when Chris Tarr (W9JOL) shared the latest developments in digital broadcast radio with us.

Marc Denis (N9ZF) has changed jobs and is moving back to his home in Lina WI. We will miss Marc but hope for his return at field day and other ORC events.

Chuck Currin, WA9POU, will be discussing his new home brew amplifier at the membership meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

# OZARES

De Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR)

The



Column

The last OZARES meeting (9Apr) was a dual-purpose meeting. One group went out to the MCT (Mobile Communications Truck) to train on the radios and general operation of the equipment. The second group stayed in the Justice Center and went over the Emergency Management ARES/RACES Message Form. This form is important ... it is a local modification of ICS (Incident Command System) Message Form 213, a government form that is mandated for use throughout the United States. It is the form that we will use to record incoming and outgoing messages during actual emergencies, so our local modifications need to be correct and usable. We tweaked it a bit more at the meeting, and when the final-final is done, it will be posted on the OZARES website. Pads of the form will be made up for storage and use in critical areas, such as the Justice Center's Emergency Communications Center, the MCT, and in the homes or cars of all OZARES members.

As an aside, on 2 May, the OZARES MCT moved to Parkview School in Cedarburg for a general ham radio show-n-tell session. Read about it elsewhere in this newsletter.

OZARES supported a **Public Health Service Exercise** on 19 Apr, held in conjunction with Medicine Collection Day. Kent (N9WH) and Dave (N9UNR) were stationed at MATC, with Cindy (KA9PZG) at the County Highway Department. Jon (KB9RHZ) oversaw the OZARES operation by moving back and forth between both sites. Public Health had an 800 MHz radio fail (no battery!) so OZARES actually provided communications for them, and simplex worked just fine. We impressed them! You know, working with agencies like this is a terrific way to foster good relations between OZARES and public agencies. Nice job, guys!

**NET CONTROL SCHEDULE:** OZARES nets are held each Thursday at 8:00 p.m., except on meeting nights (4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays). Both a net script and check-in list can be obtained on the

OZARES web site, [www.ozares.org](http://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, and keep the net manager (WB9RQR) informed of confirmed trades. Guests are welcome after the OZARES check-ins are complete, *most especially ORC members!* By the way, if you see a difference between the schedule on the website and this column, this column will always be correct, since it reflects last minute changes and substitutions. Such changes and substitutions to the website version will be in bold print here.

08 May	KB9RLI
15 May	WB9RQR
22 May	Meeting
29 May	W9BTN
05 Jun	N9SQA
12 Jun	KB9UKE
19 Jun	N9UNR
25 Jun	No net or meeting; Field Day
03 Jul	KB9URH
10 Jul	W9VBQ
24 Jul	Meeting
31 Jul	KB9VJP

## Minutes of 4-9-08 Meeting

De Mike Yuhas (AB9ON)

- President Mike Yuhas, AB9ON, called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. Attendees introduced themselves and indicated their favorite amateur radio band.
- Announcements and bragging rights
  - Marc Denis, N9ZF, announced this was his final ORC meeting, as he has taken a new job in the Neenah area.
  - President Yuhas announced, on behalf of Al Lederman, N9RXD, the Tour de Cure bicycle ride (diabetes benefit) on Sunday, May 18, with base of operations Grafton High School. Al is looking for hams to help with communications. His contact info is [n9rxd@sbcglobal.net](mailto:n9rxd@sbcglobal.net).
  - President Yuhas announced, on behalf of Cindy Douglas, the annual Saukville river cleanup, Saturday May 17, with participants meeting at

Grady Park 8:15 AM, and expected to be finished by 11:15 AM. Cindy is looking for hams to help with communications. Contact Cindy via the ORC 2-meter repeater or via telephone.

- Program: Chris Tarr, director of engineering at Entercom's Milwaukee and Madison broadcast stations, presented a lively and informative program about HD ("hybrid digital") broadcast radio.
- Fellowship break (8:40-8:50 PM)
- Past President Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR, presented the 2007 President's Award to Ray Brunette, W9BUJ, in recognition of Ray's efforts in establishing the ORC September outdoor swapfest.
- Jon Gilmore, KB9RHZ, noted that unused medicines will be collected on April 19, at the Port Washington DPW site, and at MATC's Mequon campus.
- Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR (assisted by Jon Gilmore) conducted the auction. Highest ticket item was a tube tester, donated by Bob Gorjance, W5CFB.
- Dave Barrow, N9UNR, held the 50/50 raffle. Bill Raymond, AA9OS, won the proceeds.
- Marc Denis moved to approve the minutes of the March meeting as printed in the April ORC newsletter. Seconded by Tom Murtaugh, W9VBQ. Motion carried.
- Treasurer Nels Harvey, WA9JOB, presented the Treasurer's report reflecting a net \$340.15 decrease in the treasury. Dave Barrow moved to accept the report as submitted, subject to audit. Seconded by Bill Howe, KA9WRL. Motion carried.
- Committee reports
  - Budget: President Yuhas reported the board is finalizing the club's two-year budget. He expects a draft to be available within a couple weeks. It will be announced on the ORC email distribution list and posted on the ORC website.
  - Repeater: in the absence of Repeater VP John Schrader, W9NRG, Nels Harvey reported that he's been addressing some voting issues on the 2-meter system. He also stated all repeaters are in good working order, though underutilized.
  - Swapfest: Vice President Tom Nawrot, AA9XK, updated the group on the May 3 Swapfest progress so far: tickets were sold at the AES Superfest; flyers were distributed at many

nearby Hamfest; a conflict regarding Friday evening setup appears to be at least partially resolved; the Swapfest committee will meet April 18 or 25 to discuss last-minute details. Tom made flyers available for members to post on bulletin boards at their favorite stores, barber shops, etc.

- Field Day: VP Nawrot will be organizing ORC's Field Day efforts after the May Swapfest. Nels Harvey expressed concern at the non-availability of the large generator this year. Terry Koller, KA9RFM, offered the use of his generator. Bob Truscott, W9LO, advised alternate arrangements are being made.
- Mentoring: Mark Tellier, AB9CD, reported that five members have signed on to build a TenTec 1056 receiver at the May mentor session (at 6:45 PM May 14, immediately before the May membership meeting). Mark will order the kits on Friday April 11; others interested in building the kit should contact Mark before then.
- President Yuhas reminded the group that the next membership meeting is May 14, with Chuck Curran, WA9POU, presenting a program on a homebrew linear amplifier.
- Jon Gilmore moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:28 PM.

A total of 41 members and guests were in attendance: John WA9KNY, Marc N9ZF, Gary W9XT, Ken W9GA, Paul KC9NHD, John KB9BJZ, Dan KC9BKA, Bob W5CFB (and guest Debbie), Stan WB9RQR, Jon KB9RHZ, Ed AA9W, Kent N9WH, Dave N9UNR, Bill AA9OS, Jim K9QLP, Nels WA9JOB, Jeff WB9PZD, Joe KA9DFZ, Roger W9UVV, Jim W9JRX, Jerry W9GGR, Tom W9IPR, Nancy KC9FZK, Kate KB0SIO, Dick AB0VF, Julia KB9WBQ, Miko W9FIN, Keith KY9P, Mark KC9GST, Ray W9BUJ, Bill KA9WRL, Tom W9VBQ, Bob W9LO, Mike N9JIY, Tom AA9XK, Terry KA9RFM, Chuck WA9POU, Ron W9BCK, Chris W9JOL, Mike AB9ON.

Minutes recorded by Ken Boston, W9GA, and Nancy Stecker, KC9FZK.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Yuhas, AB9ON

## **AGENDA**

*May 14th, 2008*

1. Call to order – Mike (AB9ON)
2. Introductions.
3. Announcements, Bragging Rights, Show & Tell, Upcoming events, Etc.,
4. Program: Home brew HF amplifier – Chuck Curran (WA9POU)
5. Fellowship Break
6. Auction – Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR)
7. Acceptance of Minutes as printed.
8. Treasurer's report – Nels (WA9JOB).
9. Repeater report – John (W9NRG)
10. Committee reports.  
Membership –  
Youth Program – Bill Howe (KA9WRL)  
- Opportunity Days @ Parkview  
May Swapfest - Tom Nawrot (AA9XK)  
Sept. Swapfest – Gabe Chido (WI9GC)  
Other -
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 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Grafton**

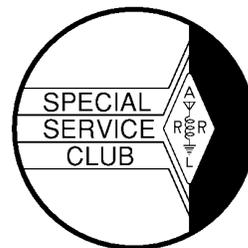
**Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30 PM**



# 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.



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Volume XXVII

June 2008

Number 6

## From the President

De Mike Yuhas (AB9ON)

As I write this in early June, we've had a few days of wonderful summerlike weather, which can only be seen as a relief by anyone who stuck around Wisconsin for the long, long, *long* winter.

For many hams, the "official" start of summer is not marked by Memorial Day, not the 4th of July, but Field Day weekend. Ozaukee Radio Club participates in Field Day in a big way. Right now, band captains are planning strategies to earn as many points as possible for the club. I'm impressed with Stan's advances in computer networking, and Doug's development of a logging system designed around ORC's unique needs. This is just the tip of the iceberg (sorry about that wintertime reference) when it comes to the efforts of many ORC members in ensuring good results in the event.

The Ozaukee Radio Club Field Day effort faces several challenges this year. Perhaps the largest is the loss of the use of the large generator truck, which had been freely loaned to us for years – all we had to do was gas it up at the end of the weekend. Other resources that we had depended upon will be limited or missing. There's truth to the old maxim that you don't miss your water until the well runs dry.

But we're an inspired, creative bunch, eager to face challenges head-on. This year, when our Field Day organizers ask for additional help, you can be sure they really need it, and they're counting on the wisdom and ingenuity of our membership to help guide us to another great showing.

With that in mind, I'd like to hear from ORC members whose plans *don't* include participating at ORC's 2008 Field Day event. What factors are keeping you away? Please drop me an email at [ab9on@ab9on.org](mailto:ab9on@ab9on.org), or give me a call some evening at 262-284-4401. Your candor and ideas are most appreciated.

If you are planning on coming out to Lazy Days at the end of June, or are curious as to what all the fuss is about, make sure to attend our next membership meeting, held at the Grafton Senior Center on June 11. We'll welcome your attendance and participation.

See you on the air!

## MY MOST FORGETTABLE FIELD DAYS

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

**F**ield Day is fun. It's ALWAYS fun. This year, 2008, will mark my 55<sup>th</sup> year (or maybe 56<sup>th</sup>, I'm really not sure which) of Field Day fun, and I have yet to experience one that was not fun. Some FD weekends are more memorable than others, and some you'd just as soon forget, insofar as performance is concerned. I'll always remember FD 1950 because that was the year that my brand new father-in-law, W0OR, introduced me to the event that would become a major addiction in my life. We scored poorly, but the seed was planted. That Sunday, by the way, was the day the Korean War started.

Among the memorable FDs was 1984 when I was introduced to computer logging for the first time. That was with The Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society in Greenville, S.C. It was a crude system, but it was a first. Then there was the

time we operated from somewhere near Port Washington, I believe it was 1960 or 61. It was a cold night, so we buttoned up the tent as securely as we could, and started a card game. After a while it got REALLY cold, so we brought the charcoal grill into the tent and placed it under the card table. It warmed us nicely, so the party continued. The next morning BCK and BUJ, and others were sick as dogs, that is, everyone but me. It so happens that I was recovering from a problem with a stomach ulcer at that time, and was on a strict milk diet, so I didn't share whatever the beverages were that they were drinking.

Charcoal fumes seem to react differently to alcohol than they do to milk. We scored poorly that year.

My most satisfying FD occurred about 4 or 5 years ago when 40CW set an all time club record of 1036 contacts. I'll remember that one. (Even after we beat it this year.)

1956 was the most forgettable FD experience that comes to mind. Ron, W9BCK and I went out with the Menomonee Falls club, and were partners in the 40 CW tent. As I recall, Ron had to work late that day, and didn't arrive at the site until late afternoon on Saturday. Up to that time we had been using my home brew 20 watt rig and HRO-7 receiver, and had a grand total of zero contacts. When I reported how well we had been doing, Ron said something like "it's got to be that 20 watt rig—let's see what my 90 watt Harvey-Wells rig can do". After a while we figured out that all the HF bands were dead and that even a 10KW rig wouldn't have been any help, so we gave it up and "partied" for a while. When we got around to visiting the VHF tent we found the guys there, pardon the pun, were having a field day. It was a wonderful aurora, and as I recall, lasted through the night. I don't remember if we worked anybody on Sunday or not. VHF was king for that day. If it happens like that this year we can expect Jeananne and Mike to "have a field day".

FIELD DAY—June 28-29. Lazy Days Campground. Setup begins about 10:00 AM on June 27, the party starts when the turkey is done. Come out and have some fun. But please don't leave as soon as the contest finishes—stick around and help tear down and haul the equip-

ment back to the barn. We've had too few people available to do that in recent years. Please help.

## VHF & UHF

There had been talk of openings on the "magic band" recently so I listened in at 54.125 Sunday evening (June 1<sup>st</sup>) and surprise surprise, there were some openings. I worked California, Colorado and Idaho. That was fun.

## ORC Spring Swapfest

De Tom Nawrot (AA9XK)

May 3<sup>rd</sup> was a decent weather day for our Spring Swapfest.

Thanks to everyone that helped Tom Ruhlmann and me with this year's Swapfest. We confined the 58 vendor tables to the west side of the hall and these included the ORC scholarship and consignment tables, and the ARRL table. This arrangement along with the "social tables" on the opposite side of the room seemed to work out very well.



**Ed Rate (AA9W) was busy selling tubes and other donated items at the ORC Scholarship Table.**

In terms of the finances the total income was \$1821.00. This included \$500.00 for the tables and \$1321.00 for admissions and the scholarship table.

With expenses of \$572.07 there was a net gain to the club of \$1248.93.



**Software defined radio was one of the forums as presented by Tom Macon (K9BTQ) and John Zach (K9IAC).**

Tom Macon did a forum presentation on Software Defined Radio and Andy Eliason did another forum on "Large Transmitter Tubes." They were informative and a great success.



**There's something in there somewhere that we all need.**

Bill Howe's idea for a roaming FM transmitter microphone drew attention to the vendors' goods, and created excitement on the floor. The vendors I talked to seemed fairly pleased with their sales.



**There was some really nice test equipment for those with the experimenter spirit.**



**The Presidents Roundtable was a big success with representatives from Wisconsin ARC, Milwaukee Repeater Club, West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Milwaukee Radio Amateur Club, Fond du Lac ARC, LAFROG and ORC.**

Thanks to everyone that helped out. Obviously it is not going to be getting any easier to increase table sales and admissions in view of increasing prices at the gas pumps etc. The club is calling on every member for a new promotional idea or two, and their time to implement their idea.

# MY MOST INTERESTING CONTACT

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR

It was back when I was a novice, during a cold winter night in 1976 (over 30 years ago!). I was operating CW back then, the only mode open to a Novice. From my station in Bayside, WI, I pounded out CQ on 21.177 MHz, and Bill in Birmingham, Alabama, came back. He had a nice fist, and we began conversing. He told me he was a Professor of Physics and Optometry in Birmingham, and so I mentioned I was also a professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin, and had moved up here from Florida. Then he told me he went to the University of Miami, and I let him know that it was my own alma mater, as well. He mentioned his wife was also a UM alum, and I mentioned mine was also. They both happened to be in their respective rooms at the time, and my wife asked what Bill's wife's maiden name was. I asked Bill, and he came back with her maiden name. My wife gave a squeal of delight when she saw me printing that name on my pad – the two women knew each other and had been in classes together! What a coincidence! But that is not all.

I mentioned to Bill that there was an echo on his signal. That is, when he sent the word B-I-L-L in CW, I heard a fainter but readable echo of each character as he sent it. He verified that there was a similar echo on my signal, as well. Days later, after conversations with the long-time Extra who was my Elmer, it was clear that we had been working both short path and long path. That is, Bill's signal came direct to me after once bounce off the ionosphere, and that was the loud signal. But his signal also went in the other direction, taking perhaps ten hops the long way around the earth to reach me, and that was the fainter echo. Why an echo? Even though radio waves travel at the speed of light, it does take a discernable time to travel 25,000 miles around the earth, and so it reached my radio, and my ears, a little later than the direct signal.

Wow! What a QSO! Bill mentioned in his QSL that it was his best contact so far. It was my best QSO, ever!

## Dayton – again

Well the ORC was again well represented at the Dayton Hamvention with a total of 10 members seeking out bargains.



**A day of bargain hunting starts with a good breakfast and this was the usual ORC group gathering in the early morning hours.**



**The “big guns” were all inside the arena and convention hall. All the big manufacturers and distributors, including AES, were there and making deals.**



There was a variety of action outside with all manner of vendor accommodations from car trunks to RV's and travel trailers. This one sold a Johnson 6N2 just moments before this photo was taken.



If you were looking for a "rig" or test equipment, it was there – somewhere.



The WWII German Enigma coding machine and display of various code machines and "keys" is always a crowd pleaser at the Hamvention.

Those in attendance included Nels Harvey (WA9JOB), Jim Albrinck (K9QLP), Gabe Chido (W19GC), Doug Burghardt (N9KG), Ernie Swanson, Ed Frac (AA9WW), Ed Rate (AA9W), Ray Brunette (W9BUJ) and his nephew Roger, Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR), Mark Tellier (AB9CD) and Leon Rediske (K9GCF). Listening to the banter it appeared all got a few "good deals" and had a great time.



This HF pedestrian mobile is also well equipped for the UHF transmitter hunt with his helmet mounted 2 meter four element rhombic beam.



**ORC's own Bill Howe (KA9WRL) spent most of the event working for Scotty at Tower Electronics – that's one way to save money.**



**And who was the winning mobile entry in 2008? Same as last year and Ed Frac (AA9WW) counted 54 antennas (approximately) and rigs galore on the dash and passenger seats.**

## Roster Production

By Dave Barrow, N9UNR

Each year the ORC produces a roster – a list of the club members with their addresses and phone numbers. Here's how it gets done.

The Treasurer sends me an Excel spreadsheet with the data needed. I then format it to match the Access database table that I have designed. Next is the query check to make sure that the member's first name is joined to the last name followed by the spouse's name (in parentheses) followed by the phone number. The second line of each entry is the address so the street number and name gets a comma, the city, a comma, the state, a space and the ZIP. There is only so much space so if your address is too long I have to edit it to fit. This year I decided that the ZIP is the "first to go".

Then the report (the actual pages to be printed) has to be designed. The printing has to be large enough to read and yet small enough to print all the data. This year I added something new – winter addresses. The problem is that not everyone has one (darn!). It was a bit of a challenge (and a couple of hours "hitting the books") to figure out how to print them for the five members that have them (that I know of). (I just now – AFTER the camera ready copy was delivered to the printer, came up with the idea that I could



**You heard of the Stepper beam antenna. Now you have seen one – big huh?**

have used this line to print Naomi's law school address – next year.)

Since few of us, other than WA9JOB, can remember the callsigns to go with the names we decided to have an alphabetical listing inside the front cover – particularly since the roster is listed by the letters that follow the number. Producing this requires the design of the query and the report.

In the past we have listed the Silent Keys in callsign order. This year I decided that it would be better in alphabetical order. Since I am occasionally alphabetically challenged – I constructed a table, query and report (let the computer “sort ‘em out”).

I also decided (I was “on a roll”) to construct a table, query and report for the Past Presidents. This should make it easy for future years.

I have NOT automated the production of the cover. I decided the IBM (Its Better Manual) rule applied – so I take last year's and paste in the changes.

Then the pages are output into Acrobat, one page at a time (the reason comes later) and I email it to everyone (whose email address I have) for proofing and corrections.

The final step is to produce “camera ready” copy to do the actual printing (thanks to Gabe Chido, WI9GC). To figure out the page layout consider the following: 8.5” x 11” paper is readily available; our booklet is 4.25” x 5.5” (folded) so we get four pages on each side of a sheet of paper. This also explains why the roster must have a multiple of eight pages. It works like this:

Sheet1		Sheet2		Sheet3		Sheet4	
P16	P01	P02	P15	P14	P03	P04	P13
P12	P05	P06	P11	P10	P07	P08	P09

Gabe then prints sheet 2 on the back of sheet 1 and sheet 4 on the back of sheet 3. Then he cuts the sheets in half. Then he stacks the sheets and staples. It is an interesting exercise – take two sheets of paper, number them like the table, cut, stack and fold.

## Upcoming Events

### June

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Princeton IL Swapfest
- 1st Miller Lite Ride for Life**
- 8<sup>th</sup> 6 Meter Club of Chi Swapfest @ DuPage Fairgrounds in Wheaton IL
- 9th Board Meeting**
- 11<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**
- 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> ARRL VHF QSO Party
- 27th -29<sup>th</sup> Field Day**

### July

- 5<sup>th</sup> South Milwaukee Swapfest
- 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> IARU HF World Championship
- 9<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**
- 15<sup>th</sup> Fox River Radio League Swapfest @ Aurora IL
- 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> CQ WW VHF Contest
- 19th Fish Day at Port Washington**
- 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> NA QSO Party
- 24<sup>th</sup> OZARES
- 28<sup>th</sup> – Aug 3 Airventure 2008 at Oshkosh

### August

- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3rd ARRL UHF Contest
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3rd 10 – 10 Phone QSO Party
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Cedar Rapids Swapfest
- Bolingbrook Swapfest @ Bolingbrook IL
- 13<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**
- Circus City Swapfest – Baraboo WI
- 16<sup>th</sup> ORC Corn roast**
- North American QSO Party

The



Column

By Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), Column Editor

At the last OZARES meeting (22 May), Jon gave a report on several regional meetings he had attended, including assisting Washington County ARES to reform into an active unit. He also introduced a **new member**: Dan Stroik,

KC9BKA, of Waldo. Welcome, Dan, to the ranks of active OZARES members!

Jon also emphasized that the two FEMA courses, **IS-100** (Introduction to the Incident Command System) and **IS-700** (Introduction to National Incident Management System [NIMS]), were going to be mandatory for all ARES/RACES units in the state AND in the entire United States in the near future. It is imperative that all OZARES members complete these so as to be compliant with Wisconsin ARES/RACES and federal requirements. If you have taken one or both and have not notified Jon of that fact, please do so immediately.

Why do hams need to take these? Because in actual emergencies, we will be communicating for or with government agencies, from the local level all the way up to the feds. There is now a standard terminology, countrywide, and we need to understand the titles and jobs and other terminology in order to effectively communicate with these agencies. Just to cite one example, some hams don't know what an **incident commander** is or what that job title actually means during an emergency. These courses will painlessly teach you that, with a very small expenditure of your time.

**FLASH!** To make it even easier, we now have access to a terrific local resource. Jack Morrison (N9SFG) was recently certified as an instructor for both these courses (after a full week's training in Maryland). He has tentatively scheduled the September OZARES meeting to teach them both, in one sitting. **SO MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW – 25 Sep 08.** You can get it done in one night. It is "good stuff" and easy.

**NET CONTROL SCHEDULE:** OZARES nets are held each Thursday at 8:00 p.m., except on meeting nights (4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays). Both a net script and check-in list can be obtained on the OZARES web site, [www.ozares.org](http://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, and keep the net manager (WB9RQR) informed of confirmed trades. Guests are welcome after the OZARES check-ins are complete, most especially ORC members! By the way, if you see a difference

between the schedule on the website and this column, this column will always be correct, since it reflects last minute changes and substitutions. Such changes and substitutions to the website version will be in bold print here.

05 Jun	N9SQA
12 Jun	KB9UKE
19 Jun	N9UNR
25 Jun	No net or meeting; Field Day
03 Jul	KB9URH
10 Jul	W9VBQ
17 Jul	K9VIN
24 Jul	Meeting
31 Jul	KB9VJP
07 Aug	AA9W
14 Aug	KB9WBQ
21 Aug	N9WH
28 Aug	Meeting

## ORC Minutes– May 14th, 2008

De Tim Boppre (KA9EAK)

President Mike Yuhas, AB9ON, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Attendees introduced themselves and indicated their state of readiness with regard to emergency power sources. Power sources ranged from batteries of various shapes and sizes (including hearing aid batteries) up to a 20kW natural gas fired generator.

### Announcements and bragging rights

#### Events

Saukville river clean-up is this weekend (17 May.) Cindy Douglas (KA9PZG) is looking for a few more volunteers.

Tour de Cure is this Sunday (18 May). The base will be at Grafton HS. AI (N9RXD) is running the operation and looking for a few more volunteers.

#### Silent Keys

W9SO – Steve Oelke

W9EQP - William F. Brossmann

Mark (AB9CD) announced that he has one more kit left if someone is interested in joining the kit builders.

#### Program:

Chuck Curran (WA9POU) made a presentation on his Grounded Grid Linear Amp project. It was a very

well done PowerPoint presentation narrated by Chuck. He used a pair of 3-400Z EIMAC tubes that he had lying around since the late sixties. He described many adventures on eBay obtaining parts including some Russian vacuum variables for the tank circuit. The transformer for the power supply came from a pole transformer. It took him 20 months to build the amplifier. He just completed it and got it on the air in the past few weeks. It was a very impressive project that was well done. He also briefly described a few Tesla coils that he built. One was 15 kW and the other was 25kW. Unfortunately he doesn't own them any longer so he won't be able to bring them to a future club meeting to demonstrate them.

Additionally, Doug (N9KG) gave an update on his Field Day logging software project. He's been working with Bob (W9LO) to make improvements for this year and by all accounts it appears that he has built a well thought out and well executed software application. There was some discussion of the Competitive Fairness Restraint feature (CFR) which was implemented to prevent those with a highly competitive spirit from getting carried away.

**Fellowship break:**

Dave (N9UNR) held the 50/50 auction. Kent, N9WH was the winner.

**Auction:**

Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), assisted by Ed Rate, conducted the auction.

**Acceptance of minutes**

A motion was made by Dave (N9UNR) to accept the minutes of the last meeting. The motion was seconded by Stan (WB9RQR). The motion was carried.

**Treasurer's report**

Nels (WA9JOB) gave the treasurer's report the largest update being the results of the Spring Swapfest. Income was down from past years. Nels noted that the net income amount shown on the financial report sheets distributed at the meeting was off. It should read \$1248.93 instead of \$1046.93 due to some late arriving payments. Due to the lower than expected income it was Nels recommendation that we watch our expenses for the coming year. A motion was made by Dave (N9UNR) to accept the treasurer's report as read (subject to audit.) The motion was carried.

Dave (N9UNR) volunteered to research some other revenue producing ideas for the club.

**Committee Reports**

*Field Day update*

Leon (K9GCF) gave an update on the preparations for Field Day. He is looking for a better radio for the GOTA setup. He did not have any updated information on the possibility of renting a generator. He is looking for a

volunteer to be the back-up point's captain. He is looking for a volunteer to take care of PR and media. The date for the next Field Day committee meeting is TBD.

*Repeater report*

John (W9NRG) reported that all of the repeaters are functioning well.

**Old Business:**

Tom (AA9XK) gave a Spring Swapfest recap. He thanked all the volunteers that helped at the event. He thanked Bill (KA9WRL) for the idea for the roving mic and said that the vendors appreciated it. Tom (W9IPR) stated that the Presidents Roundtable was informative. Tom (AA9XK) made the suggestion that we clarify the naming of the two swapfest (Spring and Fall was the suggestion) in order to clarify their timing. Tom (W9IPR) gave an update on Opportunities Day. He said that the kids in attendance showed much interest in Amateur Radio and that some would be in attendance for the GOTA operation at Field Day.

**New Business**

Nels (WA9JOB) requested that we consider not mailing newsletters in order to save postage. Mike (AB9ON) polled the attendees to see who received the newsletter by mail and asked whether they could switch to web only. Mark (AB9CD) suggested a surcharge of \$10 for those that wanted to receive the newsletter via mail.

**Attendance:**

34 attendees -- all members:

Mike AB9ON, Stan WB9RQR, Ed AA9W, Kent N9WH, Gabriel WI9GC, Dave N9UNR, Mark N0OKS, Nels WA9JOB, Mikko W9FIN, Doug N9KG, Bob W9LO, Gary W9XT, Tom W9IPR, Ron W9BCK, Ray W9BUJ, Mark KC9GST, Naomi KC9GSS, Richard AB0VF, Nancy KC9FZK, Kate KB0SIO, Don W9VSC, Ray W9KHH, Mike N9JIY, Mark AB9CD, Roger W9UVV, Paul KC9NHD, Tom AA9XK, Julia KB9WBQ, Terry KA9RFM, Bob N9NRK, Jim K9QLP, Dominic W9KKX, Tim KA9EAK, Chuck WA9POU

A motion to adjourn was made by Nancy (KC9FZK) and seconded by Dave (N9UNR) the motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

## **AGENDA**

*June 11th, 2008*

1. Call to order – Mike (AB9ON)
  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 (WA0JOB).
  13. Adjournment to ?
  - 14.
9. Repeater report – John (W9NRG)
  10. Committee reports.
    - Elmer Project -
    - Membership –
    - Youth Program –
    - Fall Swapfest -
    - Field Day -
  11. OLD BUSINESS
  12. NEW BUSINESS

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Cedarburg WI\* 53012

**First Class**

## **Next ORC Meeting**

**Grafton Senior Citizens Center**

**1665 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Grafton**

**Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30 PM**



# The *ORC* Newsletter

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[www.ozaukeeradioclub.org](http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org)

Volume XXVII

July 2008

Number 7

## From the President

De Mike Yuhas (AB9ON)

What fun at Field Day! I must confess that due to my son's high school graduation party, my participation was not huge this year. I stopped in only briefly on a mosquito-filled Saturday evening, and then for a bit to help with teardown on Sunday afternoon. I just have a couple observations to share:

- Mark Potash did one heck of a job in engineering and fabricating the tower base assemblies. I had heard lots of good comments about their debut appearance last year, but all those accolades only hint at the bases' awesome utility. Anyone who hasn't seen the towers going up or coming down should make a point to do so next year.
- Jim Hilins certainly went to town on 20 phone. That band was hot, and Jim kept bringing in even the weakest of signals with ease. He worked so fast I got exhausted just listening to him!
- The power team did an outstanding job in managing our stations' electricity requirements. Kudos to Ozaukee County for lending us a generator and for sending the OZARES mobile communications truck for use as the VHF station.
- Special thanks to Doug Burghardt for developing the feature-rich logging software and to Stan Kaplan for finding laptops to run it.
- At first look, it appears our expenses were lower than anticipated.

*Thanks to all for participating!*

## OK, WHO ATE ALL THE SLOPPY JOES???

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

We've had a wonderful Field Day tradition going on for I don't know how long, but it fell apart last Saturday night. The idea was that a big kettle of "sloppy joes" would be left in the cook tent to feed the operators and others who stayed up all night to keep the ORC stations on the air. One of the "food fairies" told me late Saturday afternoon that it would happen again this year. I thought that was great news because I remembered how good it tasted at 4:00AM last year. So when I finished an operating shift at midnight I headed straight to the cook tent, with a big appetite in hand. Big disappointment—it was not to be. When I lifted the lid of the cooker all I found were a few little dried up chunks of Joe's remains, and nary a bun in sight. Everybody in the tent laughed when I expressed my feelings on the subject, and one of the guys told me the pot had been empty since 7:30 PM. Now, I find it difficult to believe that any of the night operators got even a spoonful of the intended feast. So who did???? I suspect it was all the folks who were going home for the night, but stayed long enough to empty the pot. A snack for the road—just like stopping for a hamburger after a movie. Next year I hope the "food fairies" will keep the pot hidden till about 10:00 PM, or at least post a sign saying it is reserved for only the all night "worker bees". I'm still hungry, just thinking about it.

## Opportunity Days

De: Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR)

The ORC hosted a presentation on amateur radio at the Cedarburg Parkview Elementary

School on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. There were five each forty minute sessions with a total of approximately 70 kids participating. We were surprised that some of the kids had participated last year also and enjoyed it such that they wanted to do it all again. They got a broad view of amateur radio from homebrew equipment to Morse code, emergency communications and DX'ing. It was a joint presentation of ORC and OZARES in that we again had the OZARES communications van at the school for the kids to explore and twist the knobs.



**Tom (W9IPR)** opened the sessions with an explanation of amateur radio, station call signs and QSL cards.



**Tom Murtaugh (W9VBQ)** gave a demonstration of Morse code and QRP portable operations with the kids spelling out their names in code.



**Bill Howe (KA9WRL)** gave a demonstration of home brew and vintage military communications equipment.



**Jack Morrison (N9SFG)** and **Jon Gilmore (KB9RHZ)** gave tours of the emergency communications van and gave the kids a chance to look through and control the areal camera and to communicate using the "220" HT's.

## VHF & UHF

Six meters still seems to be providing sporadic openings – over 100 contacts were made on field day.

## Club Static

Back in the 50's we had a sunspot peak but even so, contacts were much more difficult using the AM mode and having separate receiving and transmitting equipment. It was in 1958 that W9BUJ earned his DXCC award for having worked 100 entities on 10 meters. His certificate number is 1115. To put that in perspective, mine (W9IPR) was awarded in 2005 and is number 34,121.

## New Member Paul Purgett

Paul is one of our most recent members having received his Technician license only this past March. His original interest in amateur radio traces back to building antenna for his dad who was very active in CB radio. Paul grew up in Germantown and even took a class in Morse code in his youth but then other interests prevailed. He has lived in Jackson these past 30 years where is active in the community fire department.



**Paul Purgett, KC9NHD, participated in his first field day event this year. Paul also is**

**a trained EMT with the Jackson Fire Department and is CERT certified.**

At QuadGraphics, where Paul was employed as a machinist, he trained as a first responder in his area. This motivated him to become involved with the Jackson Volunteer Fire Dept. where he currently volunteers as an EMT. He also works part time as an EMT for the Life Star Ambulance service in West Bend.

While taking a CERT class at QuadGraphics he noted that one of the instructors was a "HAM" and that resulted in a renewed interest in amateur radio. He reasoned this new communications capability would be a real asset since he has taken the "storm spotter" training these past 4 years and is a member of the SkyWarn organization.

Currently Paul is active with his Yaesu HT and is working on his General class license. His wife is a supervisor at Shopko and his daughter's husband recently shipped out to Iraq.

Paul's next community project is promotion of a bone marrow donor program to benefit leukemia patients.

## Field Day 2008

De Leon Rediske (K9GCF)

Here are the results from the past and this 2008 Field Day:

Year	CW	Phone	Total
2004	1996	1978	3974
2005	1872	1570	3442
2006	1991	2070	4061
2007	1572	1904	3476*
2008	1738	2247	3985

Does not include GOTA, did not get Ed Rates Data.

The results above are raw QSO's, and not points. CW gets 2 points per QSO, while Phone gets 1. Using QSO's is a way of comparing year to year statistics.

We can compare this year's total QSO's 3985 with 2004's 3974, but this year phone had more QSO's than CW, where in 2004 CW was tops.

What amazed me was Jim KA4UPW's performance. He personally was responsible for over 700 QSO's of our stations 1242 Q's. Many years our station does not accrue 700 QSO's. I personally logged for Jim, and I observed him make 400 QSO's in ONE SITTING! What a fantastic Job that you were able to accomplish, Jim.

I am so encouraged by the response to my plea for more help at set-up and shut down & storage. Folks came out in droves to help move from the shed to Lazy Days and back again. I'm so pleased.



**The manual erection of towers was greatly eased due to the use of the hinged base plates as designed and fabricated by Mark Potash (KC9GST)**



**Bob Truscott (W9LO) was busy repairing his tent with duct tape and a tarp after the roof split following the first down pour.**



**The most easily raised tower was that of the OZARES communications van. Only the push of a button was required to get the camera and the UHF and 6 meter antenna raised.**



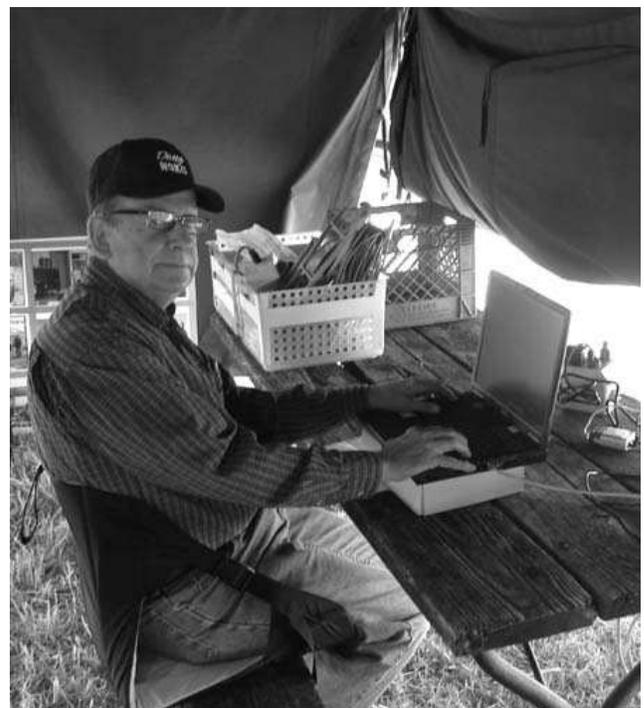
As usual, the group lined up for some of Stan's (WB9RQR) famous turkey at the Friday night feed.



Nancy Stecker (KC9FZK) and Jan Rediske (KB9SYI) were every man's hero as they organized the Friday night feed and the made the Sunday morning breakfast.



Ed Rate (AA9W) shepherds another new operator through the rigors of field day operations as he completes his first 20 contacts.



Doug Burghardt (N9KG) appears to be smugly satisfied as he monitors the performance of the various stations using the new field day logging software he developed. Even Bob Truscott (W9LO) used the software at the 40 meter CW station – that's the real seal of approval.



**Jim Albrinck (K9QLP) took a break from the mike while Gabe Chido (WI9GC) did the logging on 40 phone. Between them they logged 320 contacts.**



**Jon Gilmore (KB9RHZ) used the easy chair in the OZARES communications van to complete his 83 contacts on 6 and 2 meters.**



**Jim Hilins (KA4UPW) was busy making 772 contacts – mostly on 20 phone with Leon Rediske (K9GCF) logging.**



**Senator Grossman visited the ORC field day operations again this year and was toured through the site by Dave Barrow (N9UNR) and Jim Albrinck (K9QLP).**



Sometimes you just have to take a break from all the activity as did Mark Potash (KC9GST) and Ed Frac (AA9WW).



Todd Sprinkmann (KC9BQA) took a break from the VHF/UHF operations in the OZARES van to inspect the photos and literature at the ORC PR table at the 40 phone site.

As FD CO-chair, I wish to thank each and every one of you that helped our ORC's Field Day effort for 2008. It is amazing what we can do as a group. I'm sure I'll miss somebody, and for that please excuse me, but let me thank those that donated their equipment, the OZARES, those involved in Power Distribution, Equipment Transport, Towers, ARRL Points, Food & Turkeys, PR & Media, Antennas, Beverages, PC

Networking, PC Software Programming, the Band Captains, the Operators, the FD chairs, and all that helped in so many ways..... My SINCERE THANKS for doing your jobs, and doing them SO WELL.



This is most of the crew that took it all down and put things away at the end of the day. Field Day was over at 1300 hours and everything was put away by 1600 hours. Great show!

Even the weatherman did us some good. It could have been raining for pack-up & storage, or for transport and set-up, but we were blessed there again.....no rain at the critical times. Even the storm that breezed through Lazy Days left our towers & tents standing.

As FD Co-Chair, THANKS AGAIN for a job well done before, during and after Ozaukee Radio Club's 2008 Field Day Effort.

## Upcoming Events

### July

- 6<sup>th</sup> South Milwaukee Swapfest
- 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> IARU HF World Championship
- 9<sup>th</sup> **Membership Meeting**
- 15<sup>th</sup> Fox River Radio League Swapfest

19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> CQ WW VHF Contest

**19th Fish Day at Port Washington**

19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> NA QSO Party

24<sup>th</sup> OZARES

28<sup>th</sup> – Aug 3 Airventure 2008 at Oshkosh

**August**

2<sup>nd</sup> – 3rd ARRL UHF Contest

2<sup>nd</sup> – 3rd 10 – 10 Phone QSO Party

3<sup>rd</sup> Cedar Rapids Swapfest

**13th Membership Meeting**

Circus City Swapfest – Baraboo WI

**16th ORC Corn roast**

North American QSO Party



By Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), Column Editor

There was no meeting in June, owing to preparations for **Field Day**, and many OZARES members participated during the weekend. It was a great Field Day. We racked up lots of points, and preliminary data indicates we did better than last year (which you can read about elsewhere in this issue). Of note for both OZARES and the ORC was that the OZARES/Emergency Management **MCT** (Mobile Communications Truck) was at Field Day! Ray (N9PBY) brought it out (and returned it), and we wired it for the logging network. It was used for 6 meters, with a Yagi temporarily attached to the mast, cranked up and turned with a touch of the button in the operator's position. Ken (W9GA) ran the station with assistance from Jon (KB9RHZ). The OZARES banner was prominently displayed on the side of the MCT, and there is no doubt that the vehicle and station helped with public relations as visitors came and went from the Field Day site. Thanks to Ray, Ken and Jon, and to Mary at Emergency Management for making it possible to have the vehicle as a working station for the entire Field Day period.

Mark your calendars. The 25 September OZARES meeting will be a training session, FEMA courses **IS-100** and **IS-700**, in one sitting. We are all required to have these courses under our belt, so clear your calendars and attend.

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE: OZARES nets are held each Thursday at 8:00 p.m., except on meeting nights (4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays). Both a net script and check-in list can be obtained on the OZARES web site, [www.ozares.org](http://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, and keep the net manager (WB9RQR) informed of confirmed trades. Guests are welcome after the OZARES check-ins are complete, most especially ORC members! By the way, if you see a difference between the schedule on the website and this column, this column will always be correct, since it reflects last minute changes and substitutions. Such changes and substitutions to the website version will be in bold print here.

- 03 Jul **WB9RQR** sub for KB9URH
- 10 Jul W9VBQ
- 17 Jul K9VIN
- 24 Jul Meeting
- 31 Jul KB9VJP
- 07 Aug AA9W
- 14 Aug KB9WBQ
- 21 Aug N9WH
- 28 Aug Meeting
- 04 Sep N9WIU
- 11 Sep AA9XK
- 18 Sep N9XRU
- 25 Sep Meeting **IS-100 and IS-700**

## Minutes– June 11, 2008

De Tim Boppre (KA9EAK)

President Mike Yuhas, AB9ON, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Attendees introduced themselves and indicated if they would be attending Field Day.

**\*Announcements and bragging rights\***

Mike, N9JIY, stated that he will be at the Washington County Red Cross headquarters in West Bend at 10am on the Saturday of Field Day making a presentation on Amateur Radio and will be sending youth over to the Field Day operation. Bill, KA9WRL, broke his hand while working on the crank-up tower at AES.

Mike, AB9ON, contacted WA2JOB, on 20m phone over lunch the day of the meeting. Jon, KB9RHZ, thanked everyone for checking into the weather nets lately with all the severe weather we have had as of late. He reported that there were eight confirmed tornadoes in Wisconsin the week before the meeting. Mike, AB9ON, thanked Dave, N9UNR, and Gabe, WI9GC, for their work in putting together the 2008 rosters.

**\*Program:\***

The program consisted of a report and discussion on the upcoming Field Day event. Leon, K9GCF, provided the update. He reported that power problems

are largely resolved though fuel will be a significant expense. He stated that we need help for setup, teardown, and storage. Setup is Thursday evening at the shed to load the trailers. Meet at 6pm at the shed then 7pm at the grounds. (If you don't know where the shed is, Leon, K9GCF, will meet people at 6:45 at Circle B.) Some additional trailers are needed to drop equipment off at the site. Help is needed to erect the cook tent. Setup will continue on Friday morning. All required positions are filled. We will need to conserve power. There is a power budget of approx. 500 Watts per station. Be sure to tag any gear that you bring to Field Day. W9IPR suggested tracking performance per station year over year. Lazy Days is preparing the grounds.

**\*Fellowship break:\***

Dave (N9UNR) held the 50/50. Stan, WB9RQR, was the winner.

**Auction:\***

Stan Kaplan WB9RQR, assisted by Ed Rate, AA9W, conducted the auction. Various items including a pile of old copper wire and a vintage tube amplifier were auctioned.

**Acceptance of minutes** - A motion was made by Stan, WB9RQR, to accept the minutes of the last meeting. The motion was seconded by Tom, W9IPR. The motion was carried.

**\*Treasurer's report\*** - Nels (WA9JOB) gave the treasurer's report. A motion was made by Kent, N9WH, to accept the treasurer's report as read (subject to audit.) Dave N9UNR seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

**\*Committee Reports\***

**\*Repeater report\*** - Nels will be installing some new trays at the repeaters. The trays were built by Tom, W9IPR. Jim, K9QLP, told us Dick,

K9CAN, will be installing a new 220 transmitter. **\*Swapfest\*** - Gabe, WI9GC, gave a report on the plans for the fall swapfest. He asked for volunteers to work the event.

**Uniforms** - A reminder was made to contact Ed, AA9WW, if you need a hat or a jacket.

**Youth** - Bill, KA9WRL, announced that there was a new Amateur Radio in space brochure. He reminded the group to contact him with any needs for youth events or schools.

**\*Old Business\*** - None

**\*New Business\***

Dave, N9UNR, announced that he would send out updates to the roster in pdf format.

Nels, WA9JOB, announced the Friday night Field Day food charges of \$5 per person or \$10 per family in addition to bringing a dish to pass.

Mike, AB9ON, announced that the corn roast will still be free but that we will ask for an RSVP.

Ed, AA9W, announced that there is a new Field Day point's possibility for holding an education activity during the event.

Mark, AB9CD, announced that the mentor sessions are going well and that two radios have been completed. He also reminded that the new Extra question pool will be out in July.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ken, W9GA, and seconded by Terry, KA9RFM, the motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM. May 2008 Regular Club meeting minutes

**\*Attendance\*** - 40 attendees -- all members: Mike AB9ON, Stan WB9RQR, Ed AA9W, Kent N9WH, Gabriel WI9GC, Dave N9UNR, Mark N0OKS, Nels WA9JOB, Doug N9KG, Bob W9LO, Gary W9XT, Tom W9IPR, Mark KC9GST, Richard AB0VF, Nancy KC9FZK, Kate KB0SIO, Don W9VSC, Ray W9KHH, Mike N9JIY, Mark AB9CD, Roger W9UVV, Terry KA9RFM, Bob N9NRK, Jim K9QLP, Dominic W9KKX, Tim KA9EAK, Nicholas KC9MEA, Steve NC5B, Kent N9WH, Jeff WB9PZD, Jerry W9GGR, Joe KA9DFZ, Ken W9GA, Kimbel W9NAP, Patrick KC9LRK, Tom W9VBQ, Bill KA9WRL, Ron W9BCK, Ed AA9WW, Leon K9GCF, Jon KB9RHZ.

## **AGENDA**

*July 9th, 2008*

1. Call to order – Mike (WB9ON)
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 (WA0JOB).
9. Repeater report – John (W9NRG)
10. Committee reports.  
Membership –  
Youth Program – Bill Howe (KA9WRL)  
Fall Swapfest –  
Field Day -
11. OLD BUSINESS
12. NEW BUSINESS (note – items in new business require a motion – announcements belong under item 3 or 10)
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 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Grafton**

**Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30 PM**



# 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: [www.ozaukeeradioclub.org](http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org)

Volume XXVII

August 2008

Number 8

## From the President

De Mike Yuhas (AB9ON)

Summer's in full swing and it's time to think about two ORC August activities. Both happen on Saturday, August 16, so save the date!

The first activity is the traditional ORC summer corn roast. It's a great time to get together and socialize with fellow hams and spouses... plus there'll be plenty of food. Nothing beats a hot, butter-drenched ear of sweet corn in August. There will be at least a couple of activities, including the ever-popular "ladder golf." Try your hand at it! This year we'll be asking for advance registration to accurately gauge the level of interest. There's no admission fee, but we ask that each family bring a dish to pass, whether it be a cool salad, side dish, or dessert. We'll be meeting and eating at Waubedonia Park, as always. Look for an announcement shortly.

And after you've flossed the corn out of your teeth, head over to the lighthouse in Port Washington for your chance to operate our station in support of the International Lighthouse-Lightship Weekend. More details will follow on that, too. In fact, Tom Nawrot and Bill Howe will outline the event at our membership meeting, August 13. Will we see you there?

## 2008 FIELD DAY STUFF

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

If I had to put a ranking on the various ORC Field Day operations we've had over about the past 45 years, I'd put 2008 right up near the top. But not necessarily AT the top. We had some great times back about 20-10 BC (Before Computers, that is.). In those days our goals were different, our equipment was REALLY different,

and our operating techniques were primitive compared with 2008.

During most of those years we had transmitters and receivers – transceivers hadn't even been invented. And we had paper logging – computer logging was somewhere in the distant future.

We didn't really give a hoot if we had to shut down for a couple hours to repair the generator, and one year one of the generators even caught fire.

The Friday night sheephead game usually broke up about 2:00 AM – this year we didn't even have a game. And finally, most of us still believed the ARRL when they said FD was not a contest.

So when you add up all these factors, the old days can't begin to compare with 2008, but we had a ton of fun doing what we did with what we had. Looking back on the good old days, the things I miss the most are the smoked fish and cannibal sandwiches we had as part of the Friday night party. (For the uninitiated, the ingredients in a cannibal sandwich are raw beef, onions, mustard and anything else you care to put inside the bun.) If we had had those things this year maybe there would have been some sloppy Joe's left for the all night operators on Saturday night.

## CONTEST KUDOS

First, congratulations to K9GCF and the ops who worked with him at the 20 SSB station. They did a great job, and in the process set a new all-time club QSO record of 1219. They will fly the #QSO flag on their air conditioned camper next FD.

KA4UPW, Jim Hilins, was the club's top QSO producer, with 772 contacts. Great numbers, guys.

Our youngest member, Nick Pierce, KC9MEA, got off to a great start with 69 Qs. I watched him operate the 20 SSB station for about 15 minutes, and predict he will become one of our top phone operators before he gets to high school. He showed all the instincts of a 1st class operator. And he's only 12 years old, folks. (Let's talk about some CW training one of these days, Nick.)

Club members have been dissatisfied with the various FD logging programs we have used for quite a number of years now, but not anymore. This year we used Doug Burghardt's new N9KG FD Logger, a program that Doug has been working on for almost a year. Everyone is happy with it. It is the simplest and most intuitive program we have ever used, and produces volumes of data for analyzing the club's performance, as well as individual performances of the operators, plus all the data necessary to submit our entry to ARRL. Thanks for your fine effort, Doug. We all appreciate it.

We missed the VHF crew, headed up by Jeanne, N9VSV. We hope she and Gary will be back with us next year.

Praise the Gods of Field Day-----They sent us a 10 meter opening that was worth 430 contacts.

And praise the good work of Terry Koller, KA9RFM, and Bob Frank, N9NRK. They revamped our power system after the loss of the 50KW unit we had been using for several years, and kept our down time for refueling to a minimum--just a few minutes per stop, and there weren't many stops. Thanks guys.

So now it's time to start planning for the next WI QSO Party, which will be in early March, 09. We want to reclaim the 1st place plaque in that contest.

Bob, W9LO

## Port Lighthouse Activation

de Tom Nawrot (AA9XK)

Plans are coming together for the ORC to operate in the International Lighthouse / Lightship Weekend from the 1860 in Port Washington. This Amateur Radio event falls on August 16, and 17th.

Because August 16 is also The Corn Roast day at Fredonia Park, we aren't planning to start operating until 1:30 or so on Saturday. The website is <http://arlhs.com/> click on ILLW. The Lighthouse is at 311 Johnson Street. We will NOT be in Rotary Park where we were last year. The 1860 Lighthouse is on a small lot, and this will challenge what we can put up for antennas. We'll be guests of the Port Washington Historical Society.

Parking is limited around the lighthouse and the Historical Society needs open spaces for people touring the lighthouse on that weekend. Some of us may have to park in the St. Mary's lot only 4 or 5 blocks away. One of our cars can pick operators up from there ... call on the 97repeater.

A few of us are meeting Sunday afternoon August 3, at 2:00 at the 1860 lighthouse [http://www.portwashingtonhistoricalsociety.org/li\\_ghstation.htm](http://www.portwashingtonhistoricalsociety.org/li_ghstation.htm) (311 Johnson Street) to scope out where we can put up an antenna and work out other details.

So if you want to operate on Saturday or Sunday, August 16th or 17<sup>th</sup>. Send an email to Tom Nawrot (AA9XK) at [tnawrot@wi.rr.com](mailto:tnawrot@wi.rr.com). Watch the remailer and come to the membership meeting on August 13th for details on parking, open operating times etc.

## Annual ORC Corn roast

The annual ORC Corn roast is to be again held at the pavilion in Wabedonia Park. It will be on

Aug 16<sup>th</sup>, rain or shine. To avoid excess food and drink (and expense) it is requested that you indicate to Tom Nawrot in advance if you and any guests are coming. RSVP is required for attendance. It should again be a great time for the family – hope to see you there.

## Patrick Sullivan (KC9LRK)

One of the new faces you may have noticed at the past few meetings is that of Patrick Sullivan, KC9LRK. Patrick grew up in Amherst WI and one of his earliest memories of amateur radio activities is that of his father contacting a station in KY on his mobile CB radio.



**Patrick Sullivan, KC9LRK**

Patrick graduated in mechanical engineering from Milwaukee School of Engineering in 2005 and is currently employed at QuadTech developing auxiliary equipment for the printing press room operations.

He has enjoyed short wave listening and was at AES considering a new antenna when he noticed the license study guides on the book racks and this perked his interest in getting an FCC license. His interest was further perked by another new member, Paul Purgett, KC9NHD, who works at QuadGraphics and who introduced him to the use of Echo link. Using the ARRL study guides he earned both his Technician and General Class FCC licenses in 2007.



**Patrick and Ed operating at the GOTA station**

The ORC field day operations were the first time Patrick had the opportunity to operate HF and he made many contacts through persistence at the GOTA station under the tutelage of Ed Rate (AA9W).

With his appetite for HF now wetted Patrick now has plans for a few antennas at his home where he lives with his wife Lori who is a chemist at Cedarburg Pharmacy and their son Oscar who is 2 years old.

Welcome to the Ozaukee Radio Club Patrick.

## The Building of a Farm

De Marc Denis (N9ZF)

I've been pretty busy here at N9ZF. I 'dug' the holes for three towers and got the bases in. I 'dug' the holes by paying a local guy about 5 miles from me to get to the QTH with a Case skid-steer and a hydraulic post hole digger. \$60 and an hour later, I had three 6 foot deep 36 inch diameter holes in a line east to west and spaced 250 feet apart. I put the bases in myself and it was a bit of work I don't mind saying. I then got a local farmer buddy to come over with his tractor and front end loader. He helped get

the cranker onto its base; the result is shown in the poor image below.



I didn't quite get the tower fully functional, but took a picture to show some progress. Here is the EZ-WAY 60 foot self supporting crank-up tower in the backyard. Right now the birds seem to enjoy it. Joan is now complaining (weakly mind you) that when she looks into her china cabinet, she can see the tower. (being a real Ham, I told her we could move the cabinet...).



The winch I had secured for the tilt pole is damaged and I need to get another one. I got the beast vertical with a cable come-along winch. I'll

be lowering it again this weekend and attaching the top section and pulleys so as to add the wire antennas. While I was waiting on help, I refurbished a Hy-Gain 5 band trap dipole antenna for 80 to 10m and I'll place that on the 60 foot tower along with an open wire dipole 250 feet on either side of the cranker in a line east to west with two Rohn 25 towers at 30 feet. These are used to hold up the ends of the various dipoles.

Not seen in the picture is the TH7DX that I am refurbishing to go up on the cranker. I chose 250 feet to allow me to try a 'two-half-waves-in-phase dipole on the high end of 160m. The 500 foot span will also support a Bi-directional Beverage below the dipoles, maybe 8 or 10 feet off the ground. I plan to place a 50 foot pole in the front yard (Joan has not heard about this yet) to hold a north-south Beverage end.

Sitting in the garage are:

432-9WL for 70 cm

2M18XXX for twice meters

Another HB 2M Yagi, about as long as the 2M18XXX

Another short 432 Yagi

6m 9-element Yagi being built.

The 6m antenna will go on top the common mast with the TH7DX. The two VHF antennas will go on a 4th tower next to the house so as to minimize feed line losses.

The tower on the west is to be extended to 75 feet with a tilt hinge in the middle (Marc does not climb) and will act as a shunt fed vertical on 160/80 for this winter. Next year I plan to place a 40/30m quad on the top of it. Also installed at N9ZF is a Hustler 4BTV trap vertical that I use mainly for chasing DX on 20m PSK.

For 17m and 12m I plan to take the MT34XA and use its parts to build a Yagi for these two

bands. Then, I'd have to figure which of the 4 towers to stick it on.

Life is interesting here. I thoroughly enjoy the new job and wish I had found it a few years earlier. Nice to be in a place that values experience. This is a real change over the last 5 years.

Since I upgraded to Extra in 2006, I've worked 68 countries for 108 band-country combinations, mostly on 20m PSK. This has been a very productive mode and the Yaesu FT-2000 has been a superb rig to operate.

I hope to have more pics for the newsletter as things move forward a bit more.

My thanks to W9GA for all the previous support in getting all this aluminum at hand.

73's all

N9ZF

n9zf@arrl.net

## Upcoming Events

### August

2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> ARRL UHF Contest

2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> 10 – 10 Phone QSO Party

3<sup>rd</sup> Cedar Rapids Swapfest

13<sup>th</sup> **Membership Meeting**

9th Circus City Swapfest – Baraboo WI

16<sup>th</sup> **ORC Corn roast**

North American QSO Party

### September

6<sup>th</sup> **ORC Outdoor Swapfest**

6th North American Sprint – SSB Contest

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27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> CQ WW RTTY Contest

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### October

8<sup>th</sup> **Membership Meeting**

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18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> **JOTA Boy Scout “on the air”  
Weekend @ Pioneer Village**

23<sup>rd</sup> OZARES

25<sup>th</sup> – 26 CQ DX WW SSB Contest

25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> 10 – 10 CW QSO Contest

ARRL International EME Contest



De Joe Sturmberg (KA9DFZ)

## ORC Swapfest Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>

Time to clear out the shack and sell some of that stuff so as to get some dollars for different equipment. Contact Gabe (WI9GC) to volunteer.

## Club Static

The club extends our hart felt condolences to Paul Purgett (KC9NHD) who lost his son Paul in

June at the age of 28 following an ongoing bout with leukemia.

We are pleased to see that Ed Rate (AA9W) made a fast recovery following surgery in late July.

It seems that Jim Hilins (KA4UPW) got his girl to come to field day by telling her she could listen to the “bands”.

K4ZAD sent the following web site for our study and it is really quite interesting. It deals with a historical use of radio in our area. Is this the site at which Ray Brunette (W9BUJ) used to work?

<http://www.imradioha.org/WAD.htm>

## Whatever Happened to Whatsurname?

De A member

Look around at the next meeting or activity. Are some of the folks that used to be so active missing? Do you wonder why – or just accept the fact and move on. Do you call them or meet with them to find out why?

Are they burned out? It seems to be that when we find someone who can take on a task and accomplish it successfully we tend to keep heaping more and more on his or her shoulders. What is worse we just accept their accomplishment and then ask for more. How about making sure that they KNOW how much we appreciate what they have done – or even better asking what we can do to help.

Remember when we had doughnuts and coffee and cookies at the meetings? Why didn't that continue? May I suggest that we left the task entirely to the female members of the club, didn't offer to help tote the goodies in, and didn't offer to clean up the mess afterwards? What happened? We ran out of volunteers – or even gals who could be persuaded to take on the job. I may be mistaken - but I don't think the last member that we saddled with that job hasn't been to a meeting since.

Isn't it great to walk into the meeting? It is warm and dry and the lights are on. Did you remember to thank the member who made a special trip earlier in the day to get the key so we could get in? Did you thank the person who made the arrangements for us to use such a nice clean place?

We have great programs. Did you remember to thank the presenter for their efforts? Did you thank the person in charge of programs for making the arrangements?

Our most labor-intensive activity is Field Day. There is an awful lot of equipment that has to be taken from storage, transported to the site, set up, and then packed up and returned to storage. Are you one of those that arrive Saturday morning and leaves immediately after you load your vehicle on Sunday? Or are you one of the great members who help load up the general use stuff on Thursday and help get it back to storage on Sunday?

One of the greater contributors is Dr. Stan Kaplan. Every month he brings some of his personal property and holds the auction. (Other members contribute a few things as well but Stan is the mainstay.) Have you ever been to a Field Day when Stan wasn't cooking the turkeys? Or a Corn Roast when he wasn't cooking? How many other things has Stan done that I haven't thanked him for – have you? Has Stan helped YOU with YOUR computer problems? Could the club exist without Stan? Maybe – but I sure don't want to try!

Did you read the last issue of the newsletter? Why does Tom have to beg for contributions each month? EVERYONE has something to say – why not write it up and send it to him. Did you appreciate the three years that Tom Ruhlmann served as our president? That job reminds me of the phrase “herding-cats”. There are so many issues to resolve and so many little things that take so much time. Have you thanked him? I know of the times that he has helped individuals with their equipment problems.

These types of observations can be made of a lot of others who have “voted with their feet”.

Do you remember all of the contributions of Gregg, Gene & Carol, Sandy, Bernie, Dave, Vic, Bill, John, Mark and Mike? Have you seen them lately? Do you wonder why? Have you asked them? What have you done to fix the problem?

Take a look around the room. Is there someone there that you haven't recognized in the last couple of months? Why not break up the tables a little and get to know someone a little better? Everyone has something to contribute – even if it is just his or her friendship.

Is there an older member that is uncomfortable driving a night? Or is there a young member who doesn't drive (or can't afford the gas) for that matter. Have you offered to pick them up and take them home?

This is a volunteer organization. If we are to continue we must encourage the volunteers. I think that volunteers get "paid" in two ways: (1) in the pride of doing a task well, and (2) in the appreciation of those for whom they did the task. Are YOU doing YOUR part? Member retention is a problem for all organizations as our lives get busier and busier and our budgets get tighter. The Internet has become so pervasive that we can have a lot of the human interaction from our homes that we used to have to go to meetings for.

The



Column

By Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR)

At the 24Jul meeting, attendees were presented with pads of the new **Emergency Management – ARES/RACES Message Form**, a local modification of nationally used Incident Command System Message Form 213. KB9RHZ, WB9RQR and AB9ON went through many iterations of the modification, with input by KA9DDN and other OZARES members. There was some limited use of the form during the drill that same night, and it appears to work fine, though we are still debating whether we need to have it printed as a two-part carbonless form. The form is

downloadable from the OZARES web site, [www.ozares.org](http://www.ozares.org).

During the training drill that night, three operators staffed the Mobile Communications Truck (**MCT**), two staffed the Emergency Communications Center (**ECC**), and two ops acted as runners. Messages were passed fast and furiously. We noted a number of problems in keeping up, copying messages accurately, and some difficulty in logging them properly. It was agreed that practice in copying was needed, and each Thursday night net will include practice messages in the future.

Again, mark your calendars. The 25 September OZARES meeting will be a training session, FEMA courses **IS-100** and **IS-700**, in one sitting. We are all required to have these courses under our belt, so clear your calendars and attend. That meeting will be held in the Saukville Fire House (Hwy 33), **not in the Justice Center**.

**NET CONTROL SCHEDULE:** OZARES nets are held each Thursday at 8:00 p.m., except on meeting nights (4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays). Both a net script and check-in list can be obtained on the OZARES web site, [www.ozares.org](http://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, and keep the net manager (WB9RQR) informed of confirmed trades. Guests are welcome after the OZARES check-ins are complete, *most especially ORC members!* By the way, if you see a difference between the schedule on the website and this column, this column will always be correct, since it reflects last minute changes and substitutions. Such changes and substitutions to the website version will be in bold print here if known at the time of printing.

07 Aug	AA9W
14 Aug	KB9WBQ
21 Aug	N9WH
28 Aug	Meeting
04 Sep	N9WIU
11 Sep	AA9XK
18 Sep	N9XRU

25 Sep Meeting **IS-100 and IS-700, meeting at the Saukville Fire-house (Hwy 33).**

02 Oct N9SFG

09 Oct KA9DDN

16 Oct K9DXT

23 Oct Meeting

## ORC Board Minutes

9 June 2008

President Mike Yuhas, AB9ON, called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

### Attendees:

Mike, AB9ON  
 Gabe, WI9GC  
 Nels, WA9JOB  
 Dave, N9UNR  
 Tom, W9IPR  
 Bill, KA9WRL  
 Tom N., AA9XK  
 Tim, KA9EAK

The primary discussion centered on the budget for 2008. Nels, WA9JOB, presented a detailed report of past expenditures which were used to assist in developing a budget for this year. Dave, N9UNR, gave a presentation of various cost saving and revenue generating ideas that he was asked to research at the regular ORC meeting in May.

To help defray the expense for food on the Friday of Field Day a motion was made by Nels, WA9JOB, to charge \$5 per person or \$10 per family in addition to asking to bring a dish to pass. The motion was seconded by Tom, W9IPR. The motion was carried.

To help defray newsletter expenses a motion was made by Tom, W9IPR, to charge \$5 per year to receive the newsletter via mail. The motion was seconded by Tom N., AA9XK. The motion was carried. The additional charge will be collected starting in January 2009 with the regular membership dues.

Gabe, WI9GC, reported on the status of planning for the fall swapfest. He was given a preliminary budget of \$600. He plans to distribute flyers to vendors at Maxwell Street days in Cedarburg, in addition to the South Milwaukee swapfest. He is also purchasing a re-usable vinyl banner for our swapfests. He indi-

cated that he will need volunteers for setup and tear-down.

A motion to adjourn was made by Nels, WA9JOB, and seconded by Bill, KA9WRL, the motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:56 PM.

## Minutes– July 9th, 2008

De Tim Boppre, KA9EAK

Ozaukee Radio Club  
 Minutes for regular meeting  
 9 July 2008

President Mike Yuhas, AB9ON, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Attendees introduced themselves and indicated if they owned a 2m radio. All but two attendees had at least one with most having multiples, both functioning and non-functioning.

### Announcements and bragging rights

Mike, AB9ON, welcomed the club's newest member, Patrick, KC9LRK.

Tom, W9IPR, stated that he worked Nova Scotia and Maine on 6m earlier in the day.

Bob, W9LO, announced that the number one QSO flag for Field Day 2008 went to Leon, K9GCF, and the 20m phone crew.

Mike, AB9ON, invited everyone to check into the informal net which is held every Tuesday evening at 8pm on the 37/97 repeater.

### Program:

The program consisted of a recap of the Field Day event by Leon, K9GCF.

He was very effusive in expressing his thanks to all the people that helped to setup and teardown Field Day this year. He felt that it was the best Field Day ever.

The club had a total of 3985 QSOs, 1938 CW and 2247 phone.

The only casualties for the event were two lightning arrestors, one element of the 15m beam, and the A input on Tom, W9IPR's FT-1000.

There was much praise for Doug, N9KG's logging program. All were pleased with its performance and ease of use.

Leon, K9GCF, stated that his six sloping dipole antenna seemed to make the beam work better than any beam he has used for Field Day in the past.

In addition to Leon's discussion, Mike, AB9ON, had a picture presentation of Field Day.

#### **Fellowship break:**

Gabe, WI9GC, held the 50/50 which was won by Ron, W9BCK.

#### **Auction:**

Stan, WB9RQR, assisted by Jon, KB9RHZ, conducted the auction which included two of the clubs old Field Day logging PCs and a very nice vintage Tektronix storage scope with all the trimmings which was won by Ed Rate, AA9W.

#### **Acceptance of minutes**

A motion was made by Jon, KB9RHZ, to accept the minutes of the last meeting. The motion was seconded by Dave, N9UNR. The motion was carried.

#### **Treasurer's report**

Nels, WA9JOB, gave the treasurer's report. Overall Field Day expenses were down significantly over last year, partly offset by the food money collection on Friday night.

A motion was made by Dave, N9UNR, to accept the treasurer's report as read (subject to audit.) Mark, KC9GST seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### Repeater report

Nels, WA9JOB, reported that there were no problems with the repeaters. Jim, K9QLP, stated that the 200 transmitter was at the site.

##### Swapfest

Gabe, WI9GC, gave a report on the progress of preparation for the fall swapfest. He reported that he passed out flyers at the South Milwaukee hamfest. He will be handing out flyers at Maxwell Street days this weekend in Cedarburg and could use some help this Sunday morning (7/13). Bill, KA9WRL, also announced that he will be handing out flyers at a number of

Wisconsin area hamfests thru the summer.

##### Corn Roast

Bill, KA9WRL, reminded the group that the corn roast is 16 August. He needs someone to be the cook, someone to provide firewood, and someone to buy the food (which will be reimbursed by the club.)

#### **Old Business:**

None

#### **New Business**

None

#### **Attendance:**

40 attendees -- all members:

Mike AB9ON, Stan WB9RQR, Ed AA9W, Kent N9WH, Gabriel WI9GC, Dave N9UNR, Mark N0OKS, Nels WA9JOB, Bob W9LO, Gary W9XT, Tom W9IPR, Mark KC9GST, Nancy KC9FZK, Ray W9KHH, Mark AB9CD, Terry KA9RFM, Jim K9QLP, Dominic W9KKX, Tim KA9EAK, Nicholas KC9MEA, Steve NC5B, Kent N9WH, Patrick KC9LRK, Tom W9VBQ, Bill KA9WRL, Ron W9BCK, Ed AA9WW, Leon K9GCF, Jon KB9RHZ, Chuck WA9POU, Ed AA9W, Paul KC9NHD, Roger W9UVV

A motion to adjourn was made by Dave, N9UNR, and seconded by Ed, AA9GT, the motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

## **AGENDA**

*August 13th, 2008*

1. Call to order – Mike (WB9ON)
  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 (WA0JOB).
- 
9. Repeater report – John (W9NRG)
  10. Committee reports.
    - Membership –
    - Youth Program –
    - Corn Roast -
    - Swapfest -
    - Other -
  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 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Grafton**

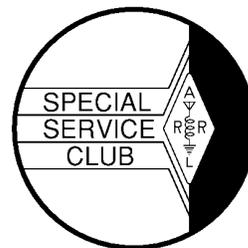
**Wednesday, Aug 13<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30 PM**



# 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: [www.ozaukeeradioclub.org](http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org)

Volume XXVII

September 2008

Number 9

## From the President

De Mike Yuhas (AB9ON)

Your Ozaukee Radio Club is always working on something to keep area hams busy and happy. Activities in August and September are typical.

Our well-attended August 13 membership meeting featured Tom Nawrot (AA9XK) and Bill Howe (KA9WRL) talking about the club's participation at the International Light-house/Lightship Weekend.

Corn was roasted, and everyone had a great time at our annual corn roast at Waubedonia Park on August 16. The weather was outstanding, the corn was delectable, and the meats were cooked to perfection. Many thanks to all – especially Tom Nawrot and Ed Frac (AA9WW) for setting up this fun annual event.

Did you notice several hams leaving the corn roast early? They were headed over to the 1860 Light Station in Port Washington, where Tom Nawrot, Bill Howe and Tom Murtaugh (W9VBQ) had set up a dandy amateur radio station to work the ILLW. Thanks to them, and also to Rick Waedekin (N9PMR) of Icom America who graciously loaned an IC-7800 for the event – and stuck around most all of Saturday and Sunday to support the radio and event. What a fun weekend!

September brings us the annual Fall Swapfest (September 6 at Fireman's Park, details elsewhere in this issue). While you're marking your calendar for the Swapfest, also be sure to circle Wednesday, September 10: our membership meeting features a demonstration of radio controlled model helicopters by AstroWings of Wisconsin.

And there's one other item worth noting. Club member Todd Sprinkmann (KC9BQA) is organizing an informal weekly FM simplex net, Thursday evenings at 8:30 PM, on 146.490. It's a great way to ensure your 2-meter rig can work something other than area repeaters! Todd hopes this weekly activity will inspire local hams to consider VHF and UHF operation and contesting.

Are you an expert? Antennas, amplifier design, inductors, PSK31, or perhaps something else related to amateur radio? I'll ask that question at our September membership meeting. See you then!

## VHF/UHF–Simplex for You?

De Todd Sprinkmann (KC9BQA)

When I first heard of ham radio nearly 40 years ago, I associated it with talking to people in far-away countries. Then some years later, I got a police scanner, and learned about shorter-range communications via repeaters. These are popular and enjoyable aspects of hamming.

However, when I finally got my ticket in 2002, I immediately became a VHF/UHF enthusiast. I operate almost entirely on the SSB, or "weak-signal" side of 6 meters, 2 meters and higher. Most of my antennas are horizontally polarized, which is the convention among the SSB crowd.

We can routinely have 100-200 mile QSO's on 144 MHz, or 2 meters. Without the help of repeaters, and without any sort of special propagation enhancement. Decent antennas are a big plus – your range definitely expands as you get more gain. Every db counts when you're trying to work weak ones on VHF/UHF. Also make sure to turn your squelch way down and use headphones.

At certain times of the year, sporadic E skip propagation appears suddenly on 50 MHz or 6 meters, and even stations with very modest antennas can find themselves talking to New England, Florida, all across the USA. This is a common occurrence in the summer months, and band openings can last for hours. I work at least 45-50 US states and Canadian provinces on 6 meters every summer. This is with a standard 100 watt rig and simple loop antennas on the side of a tower. Antennas about 30-40' up is optimal for E skip.

For hams who are looking for something new and exciting to do in the hobby, SSB operation with horizontal polarization can provide a lot of surprises. I will help anyone with questions. My email is good at [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com), and I also use the ORC email reflector via Yahoo.

I am currently running nets on Wed. and Thur. nights that ORC members can listen to or join in. Most popular among the majority of hams is the FM simplex net on Thursday nights, at 8:30pm, on 146.49 FM, vertical polarization. I get check-ins across SE Wis., and last Thursday, a dairy farmer from Wauzeka, WI checked in from his ridge top shack. Wauzeka is in SW Wisconsin, Crawford Co. – a 140 mile path.

The other net night is on Wednesdays, and at 8:30pm, I call the Badger Contesters net on 144.250, USB. While horizontal polarization is the norm here, we do get folks who check in on their verticals, and that's fine. The only point of these nets is to increase participation on the bands we enjoy. New folks are welcomed.

This is a great time of the year to get your feet wet in VHF/UHF weak-signal work. The most active contest of the year is Sep. 13-14. It's the ARRL September VHF Sweepstakes and all are welcome to participate, FM and SSB. The full rules are listed here: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2008/sepvhf.html>

There is also a 4-hour sprint devoted strictly to 2 meters on Monday, Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 7-11pm. That is another great opportunity to get a taste of contesting.

We will talk about these contests more during the Thursday 146.49 FM net – several ORC members will be operating and we need as many QSO's and points as we can get. I will also be happy to answer questions during the nets. In fact, we'll probably do a bit of a mock contest the next two Thursdays, so that others can listen in and feel a bit more familiar. I'd expect to hear that after about 9pm.

## New Members

We enjoyed the company of another new member at the August membership meeting. Richard Labuda of West Bend became interested in HAM radio through his Red Cross activities.



**Richard Labuda, KC9NZR**

Richard served as a Wisconsin State Trooper for 4 years and then joined the West Bend Fire Department where he served for 25 years. In 1998 Richard retired from the fire department but continued an association via his work with the Red Cross Disaster Assistance Team.

As the West Bend Red Cross began to upgrade their service they realized the significance of HAM radio in their emergency operations and it

was suggested that some of the members earn an FCC amateur radio license and that a Washington County communication plan be developed. That challenge was accepted by Richard and he passed his Technician license exam in June, 2008 and holds the call of KC9NZR.

Currently Richard is becoming familiar with the local UHF/VHF repeaters and his new Yasue FT60 and FT1802 equipments.

When not doing Red Cross volunteer work and learning to "HAM", Richard is active in the honor guard for the VFW and American Legion.

Richard, welcome to amateur radio and the Ozaukee Radio Club.

## ORC Swapfest Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>

6 AM at Fireman's Park (Fair Grounds)  
796 Washington Avenue  
Cedarburg 53012  
Go to [ozaukeeradioclub.org](http://ozaukeeradioclub.org) for a map etc.

## Cornroast

Pictures speak louder than words but it was a beautiful day and a really nice time was had at the annual ORC cornroast at Waubedonia Park.



The group spent time visiting while the vittles were being prepared.



Tom Nawrot (AA9XK) finally cleared the grill smoke and seemed to enjoy cooking the brats and burgers for the group.



Ed Rate (AA9W) seems to have a look of disbelief concerning the corn boiled by Tom (W9IPR)

Special thanks to those who again did the work to make the "roast" possible. Thanks to Ed Frac who transported the refreshments and equipment between the shed and park; Ed Rate who obtained the corn and Tom who boiled it: Tom Nawrot who handled the chef responsibilities and all those who brought a dish and the condiments.

If you missed the corn roast you missed a nice time.



**John Schrader (W9NRG) and Mariam Barrow fill their plates at the bountiful table of food.**



**Ah! Food is good. What more need be said.**



**All good things come to an end as the “contesters” gather around Ed Frac’s (AA9WW) truck to load up the corn boiler and equipment and take it back to the shed.**

## “Port” Lighthouse

Tom AA9XK

After the big Corn Roast on Saturday morning, the action moved to the 1860 Lighthouse in Port Washington where on August 16 and 17, the ORC operated a special event station in the International Amateur Radio Lighthouse Weekend.



**The weather was great and the shade of the tent welcome at the Port Washington Lighthouse Activation ORC special event station.**

The setup people on Friday afternoon included Tom W9VBQ, Loren N9ENR, Bill KA9WRL, Mark AB9CD, and Tom AA9XK. The antenna plan began with discussions with the Lighthouse Directors, a decision to use Old Glory to support one end of the dipole, and safety concerns such as carpet to cover the power cord, safety marking for supports and radials, etc. We did not want our presence to interfere with the many out of town and local people taking tours of the lighthouse on the Port Maritime Heritage Festival weekend.

Using the ICOM 7800 loaned to us for the weekend by Rick N9PMR, we had no trouble being heard. The weather and our view of the lake couldn't be better! The setup crew people along with, Stan WB9RQR, Nancy KC9FZK, Dick AB0VF, Kate KB0SIO, Ray W9BUJ, Rick N9PMR, Julia KB9WBQ, Tom AA9XK, Terry KA9RFM, Mike WJ9O and family, and Mike AB9ON and family made 172 contacts.



Rick Waedekin (N9PMR), coaches Mark Tellier (AB9CD) on the use of the new ICOM 7800 loaned to the ORC by ICOM for use at the activation.



Tom Nawrot (AA9XK) was the event chairman and kept busy making contacts on the IC7800 at the ORC special event station.

Tom Murtaugh was a logger extraordinaire logging ALL our contacts, including contacts with many sta-

tions operating from other lighthouses. Bill Howe developed an attractive photo QSL card with historical information input from Linda Nenn, Co-Director of the Port Washington 1860 Lighthouse. Linda wrote some kind words about the ORC and our humble effort:

## EAA AirVenture Oshkosh W9ZL Special Event station

De Steve Pierce ( )

The EAA's annual AirVenture Oshkosh is the Experimental Aircraft Association's annual Fly-In Convention and Aviation extravaganza. Sort of like an aviation counterpart to the Dayton Hamvention, this event draws somewhere between 500,000 to 700,000 visitors and over 10, 000 aircraft from all over the world! My son Nicholas (KC9MEA) and I were among those in attendance, and it's quite an experience!



The KidVenture station was setup in the shade tent next to the vintage radio shack. The shack contained vintage as well as current equipment for the AirVenture special event station.

For the past several years the Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club has operated a Special Event Station on the grounds of AirVenture, using the callsign W9ZL. This year (as well as last) they were part of "KidVenture". Located at historic Pioneer Airport, this portion of AirVenture is dedicated to exposing youngsters to a variety of aviation-related topics through a variety of fun and hand-on activities. This location gave the

club a good spot to expose KidVenture attendees to Amateur Radio, and work some contacts to boot.

They had several HF operating positions as well as VHF, and seemed to be having a great time! When we visited the station, Jon AB9AH, Eric ND0L, Nyles W9KUW, Steve KB9QPU, Dustin KC9MEL and Ken K9KJM were operating or showing off the station, and ARRL Section Manager Don Michalski was on hand to pass out information on ARRL and our terrific hobby. Nick even took a brief turn at the mic.

I believe they plan to be in the same place next year, so if you find yourself at AirVenture in 2009, stop by Pioneer Airport and say hello.

## And the winner is:

For the second year in a row the winner of the ORC \$1000 scholarship is Ms. Natalie Harding, KC9KIR. Congratulations on your being an "honors" student at Oshkosh and best wishes toward your continued success.



**Natalie Harding (KC9KIR) is again the ORC \$1000 scholarship winner.**

Ozaukee Radio Club members,

Thank you so much for choosing me again to be this year's Ozaukee Radio Club scholarship recipient. I am very honored and thankful for the wonderful generosity and support I have received from the Ham radio community. This scholarship will help me in reaching my goals. I will be starting my sophomore year this fall at The University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh this fall where I will continue to work, as an honors student, towards a degree in Anthropology with a possible minor in Spanish or Arabic. I hope to transfer to the university of Maryland my junior year, all the while spreading the word about the important role Ham radio plays, especially when disaster strikes'.

Natalie Harding, KC9KIR

## Upcoming Events

### September

**6<sup>th</sup> ORC Outdoor Swapfest**

*6<sup>th</sup> North American Sprint – SSB Contest*

*13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> ARRL VHF QSO Party*

**10<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**

*20<sup>th</sup> W9DXCC con. at Elk Grove Village IL*

**25<sup>th</sup> OZARES**

*27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> CQ WW RTTY Contest*

*20<sup>th</sup> – 21st Peoria Superfest @ Peoria IL*

*Chicago FM Club Swapfest @ Belvidere  
@ Boone County Fairgrounds*

### October

*4<sup>th</sup> ARRL simulated emer. test*

**8<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**

*11<sup>th</sup> NA Sprint*

**18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> JOTA Boy Scout "on the air"  
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### November

*1<sup>st</sup> – 2nd ARRL November CW Sweepstakes*

**12<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**

*15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November Phone Sweepstakes*

29th **Christmas Parade – Grafton**  
29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> CQ WW CW DX Contest  
MRC Swapfest @ Waukesha Expo



By Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), Column Editor

At the 28Aug meeting, we went over the answers to a net exercise held the week before. KC9FZK had authored eight short messages that were read on the air during the net on 21Aug. Listeners were not to copy the messages, but rather to decide what precedence each had – Emergency (always spelled out completely), P(riority), W(elfare) or R(outine). Stan went over the answers and read the definitions of each precedence, all of which are documented in ARRL FSD-218 (commonly known as the “pink sheet”, though it is actually a card).

During the training drill that followed, several operators staffed the Mobile Communications Truck (**MCT**), several staffed the Emergency Communications Center (**ECC**) and several staffed the Emergency Operations Center (**EOC**). Messages were again passed fast and furiously. Things went better this time, though we still need more practice. We will continue on the Thursday night nets with copying practice, more practice, and still more practice, until everyone can do it well. As always, non-OZARES ORC members are more than welcome to check into the net, or just sit back in the background and practice copying messages with us, whichever you prefer. It is good training for everyone’s ham ear!

Again, mark your calendars. The 25 September OZARES meeting will be a training session, FEMA courses **IS-100** and **IS-700**, in one sitting. Wisconsin ARES/RACES (as well as state and federal officials) have made this a requirement for all hams that respond to emergencies (in person or over the air). So clear your calendars and attend. That meeting will be held in the Saukville Fire House (Hwy 33), **not in the Justice Center**. Please note that this meeting will start at **6:30 p.m.**

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE: OZARES nets are held each Thursday at 8:00 p.m., except on meeting nights (4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays). Both a net script and check-in list can be obtained on the OZARES web site, [www.ozares.org](http://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, and keep the net manager (WB9RQR) informed of confirmed trades. Guests are welcome after the OZARES check-ins are complete, most especially ORC members! By the way, if you see a difference between the schedule on the website and this column, this column will always be correct, since it reflects last minute changes and substitutions. Such changes and substitutions to the website version will be in bold print here if known at the time of printing.

04 Sep	<b>AA9W</b>
11 Sep	AA9XK
18 Sep	N9XRU
25 Sep	Meeting <b>IS-100 and IS-700, meeting at the Saukville Firehouse (Hwy 33, 6:30 p.m.)</b>
02 Oct	N9SFG
09 Oct	KA9DDN
16 Oct	K9DXT
23 Oct	Meeting
06 Nov	WI9GC
13 Nov	AA9GT
20 Nov	Meeting
27 Nov	No net; Thanksgiving

## OZARES Announcement

WI ARES/RACES has set a requirement of the following 2 courses in order to remain a member of ARES/RACES.

- FEMA IS-700: NIMS, An Introduction
- ICS-100: Introduction to ICS or equivalent

On September 25 these courses will be offered together for all OZARES members. You may

take them on the 25th or you may take them online at the FEMA website and submit evidence of passing. There is no fee involved.

If you plan on taking the courses on the 25th, I need to have you let me know so planning can be done. Please do so ASAP.

Jon Gilmore (KB9RHZ)

## ORC Board Minutes

*4 August 2008*

President Mike Yuhas, AB9ON, called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM.

### Attendees:

Mike, AB9ON  
Nels, WA9JOB  
Tom, W9IPR  
Bill, KA9WRL  
Tom N., AA9XK  
Tim, KA9EAK

Bill, KA9WRL, made a motion to accept the minutes from the last board meeting. Nels, WA9JOB, seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Corn Roast** – The event will be held on Saturday, 16 August, at Wabedonia Park. Tom N., AA9XK, will help Bill, KA9WRL, with the planning and preparation. Tom R., W9IPR, will be helping with the cooking.

Tom, AA9XK, will put out a notice to get RSVPs for the event on the remailer. Tom will also ask for a volunteer at the upcoming general meeting to get the beer and soda for the event.

There was some discussion about potentially moving the event to the park on the bluff at Port Washington next year. It was decided to bring this idea before the members at the meeting after the Corn Roast.

### Other business:

The club's membership in the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society will be renewed. The cost is \$25 and will be paid out of the existing budget.

The program for the August meeting will be the Lighthouse Society and our operations associated with it.

The clubs records with the ARRL need to be updated. Mike, AB9ON, will update the records in conjunction with Ed, AA9WW.

There was some discussion about creating a job description for each position in the club to ensure smooth transitions of responsibility.

It was noted the Gabe, WI9GC, is doing a great job preparing (including promotion) of the upcoming fall swapfest.

Bill, KA9WRL, would like to have the club attend the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Scouting Jamboree that will be held 25-27 September 2009 at the EAA grounds in Oshkosh. This will be discussed further at the future meeting. Bill is going to contact Bay-Lakes council to let them know that we are interested in attending. He will update us on the status of the request at a future meeting.

The next board meeting will be held on Monday, 6 October.

Tom, AA9XK made a motion to adjourn, Bill, KA9WRL, seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36pm.

## ORC Membership Meeting

*Minutes for regular meeting of 13 August 2008*

De Tim Boppre, KA9EAK

President Mike Yuhas, AB9ON, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Attendees introduced themselves and indicated if they had ever worked a lighthouse special event station and/or if they have ever worked from a lighthouse special event station. A fair number had worked lighthouse stations and more than a handful had worked from lighthouse stations.

### Announcements and bragging rights

Ken, W9GA, reminded everyone about the VHF contest 13-14 September.

John Schrader, W9NRG, is the new Radio Systems Administrator for Washington County. Congratulations John.

### Program:

The program consisted of a presentation by Tom, AA9XK, and Bill, KA9WRL, on the upcoming lighthouse activation. They are going to activate the lighthouse at Rotary Park in Port Washington. They will activate three light-

house numbers. They will be active on 10, 15, 20, and 40m.

Daryl Sharpee of the Washington County Red Cross gave a brief presentation on how the Red Cross interacts with the local community.

#### **Fellowship break:**

Gabe, WI9GC, held the 50/50.

#### **Auction:**

Stan, WB9RQR, assisted by Jon, KB9RHZ which included the last of the club's old PCs from past Field Day operations.

#### **Acceptance of minutes**

A motion was made by Bill, KA9WRL, to accept the minutes of the last meeting. The motion was seconded by Jon, KB9RHZ. The motion was carried.

#### **Treasurer's report**

Nels, WA9JOB, gave the treasurer's report. A motion was made by Jon, KB9RHZ, to accept the treasurer's report as read (subject to audit.) Dave, N9UNR seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### *Repeater report*

John, W9NRG, nothing significant to report other than the power is intermittently dropping out on the 97 repeater. They are looking into the situation.

Nels, WA9JOB, reported that the Grafton firehouse installation is back on the air. The 220 repeater has the new Kenwood installed and the Id on the 440 repeater is working properly again.

Dave, N9UNR made a motion to add an announcement to the 97 repeater about the upcoming swafest. Gabe, WI9GC seconded the motion. Gary, W9XT stated that he would donate a voice keyer to the effort if needed. After a bit of discussion the motion was put to the members for a vote and was defeated, 18 – No against 16 – Yes. The motion was defeated.

##### *Scholarship*

Ed Rate, AA9W, announced that the scholarship was awarded to Natalie Harding, KC9KIR.

#### **Old Business:**

None

#### **New Business**

Astrowings of Wisconsin is the program for the 10 September meeting. They'll be flying RC helicopters.

#### **Attendance:**

43 attendees -- 42 members, and 1 guest.

Mike AB9ON, Stan WB9RQR, Ed AA9W, Kent N9WH, Gabriel WI9GC, Dave N9UNR, Mark N0OKS, Nels WA9JOB, Gary W9XT, Tom W9IPR, Mark KC9GST, Nancy KC9FZK, Ray W9KHH, Mark AB9CD, Terry KA9RFM, Jim K9QLP, Dominic W9KKX, Tim KA9EAK, Patrick KC9LRK, Tom W9VBQ, Bill KA9WRL, Ron W9BCK, Ed AA9WW, Leon K9GCF, Jon KB9RHZ, Chuck WA9POU, Paul KC9NHD, Roger W9UVV, Doug N9KG, Bob WQ9N, Mike WJ9O, John W9NRG, Naomi KC9GSs, Dick AB0UF, Kate KB0SIO, Daryl, Richard KC9NZR, Mike N9JIY, Ray W9BUJ, Jeff WB9PZD, Bob W9LO, Don W9VSC, Ken W9GA

A motion to adjourn was made by Nancy, KC9FZK, and seconded by Leon, K9GCF, the motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

## **AGENDA**

*September 10th, 2008*

1. Call to order – Mike (WB9ON)
  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 (WA0JOB).
  9. Repeater report – John (W9NRG)
  10. Committee reports.  
Outdoor Swapfest - Gabe Chido  
Lighthouse Activation – Tom Nawrot  
Cornroast – Tom Nawrot
  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 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Grafton**

**Wednesday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30 PM**



# The *ORC* Newsletter

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

[www.ozaukeeradioclub.org](http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org)

Volume XXVII

October 2008

Number 10

## From the President

De Mike Yuhas (AB9ON)

Many thanks to the ORC members who helped make our September outdoor swapfest a success! We were blessed with excellent weather, and a fine turnout of sellers and buyers. It was great to see commerce being conducted and friends welcoming friends. Kudos to all involved.

October's membership meeting features the homebrew gadgetry of Loren Jentz (N9ENR). Anyone who has ever seen Loren's enthusiasm can predict this will be one dynamic program. See you at the meeting, and see you on the air!

## November Sweepstakes

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

I call it the highlight of the fall contesting season, November SS, that is. CW on Nov. 1-2, and SSB on Nov. 15-16. Contests begin at 3:00 PM, local time on Saturday, each weekend, and end at 9:00 PM on Sunday. You may operate 24 out of the 30 hour periods each weekend. All bands, 160 thru 10 meters, except for the WARC bands. This is my current favorite contest. (Jean tells me I say that about every contest I work, and she's right—it depends upon the calendar.) My goal this year on the CW weekend will be to operate the full 24 hours allowed unless the Packers football game gets in the way, as it usually does. Join me, it's a fun contest.

For rules, see [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org), click on Operating Activities, then Contests, then Rules.

Coming up in October:

Oct. 12 North American RTTY Sprint—  
Rules in Oct. QST, page 82.

Oct. 18 Fall VHF Sprints

Oct. 19 Illinois QSO Party—

For rules see [www.w9awe.org](http://www.w9awe.org)

Oct. 25 CQ WW SSB Contest—[www.cqww.com](http://www.cqww.com)

Have fun contesting.

## VHF / UHF Corner

De Todd Sprinkmann (KC9BQA)

September is always a busy month for contesting and grid-chasing in the VHF/UHF world. The highlight is the ARRL September VHF QSO Party, which was Sept. 13-14. Due to the shaky weather, activity was down, overall. A bright spot for ORC was AA9WW and KB9ZOR operating together from EN53. This was their 1<sup>st</sup> contest and they got valuable experience.

ORC also helped out with QSO's on 146 FM. I had 13 Q's on simplex during that timeframe, which is darn good for FM. I know that with more time and familiarity, we'll continue to grow the numbers of FM contesters in SE WI. While it's true that the majority of VHF/UHF contesting and grid chasing occurs on SSB, the sheer numbers favor the FM folks. If FM'ers ever got on in big numbers, it would really spice things up. The best contests are busy ones. If you have questions, I'll be happy to help.

There was also an enjoyable 2 meter sprint on Monday evening, Sept. 22. It ran for four hours. Both propagation and activity was excellent. Once again, there were some FM Q's to be had on 146.55, 146.58 and 146.49.

We were also happy to see a new rover in the Milwaukee area. WB9TFH was loud throughout his 4 grids and he helped people's scores. On SSB, with a 3-el quad for 144 MHz above his car's roof, WB9TFH worked into the Twin Cities and out to Cleveland. For anyone who wonders

what a VHF/UHF rover's vehicle looks like, read K4GUN's article in the October QST, starting on page 48. Roving is a great way to make immediate friends in VHF contesting! As well as express yourself radio-wise, if your QTH limits what you can do.

We are into the 2<sup>nd</sup> month of a very successful FM simplex net. It runs @8:30pm every Thursday on 146.43, vertical polarization. I am net control, and the purpose of this net is to increase activity on simplex. We've had over 20 check-ins each of the past two weeks, so listen along or better yet join in and say hello. You can stay as long or as little as you like – it's very casual. The response to the nets has been fantastic, with check-ins from Door County down into Central Illinois. And this is on FM!

The next big VHF/UHF contest is the ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes. It runs from 1pm on Sat., Jan 19<sup>th</sup> until 10pm on Sun., Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>. We will be putting on a big push for this one. There's plenty of time to improve your antennas and feed lines before winter sets in.

If you can only operate one band in a contest, 2 meters is definitely it. A close 2<sup>nd</sup> would be 6 meters, followed by 70cm, and 1.25 meters. And if you have one of those multi-band HF rigs with SSB on 6, 2 or 432, get a horizontally polarized beam or omni-directional loop, and start hearing what you've been missing.

I also run a SSB net on 144.250 at 8:30 on Wednesday nights. All are welcome to join in. I do this net on behalf of our VHF/UHF group, located at [www.badgercontesters.org](http://www.badgercontesters.org). Several ORC members are involved with the BC'ers, and we'd enjoy having you as a member as well.

As I wrap things up for this month, I encourage anyone with questions to email me (I'm good in QRZ) or ask during one of the nets. The questions you ask may help someone else too.

## **The 300 Pound Ladder**

### ***BELIEVE IT OR NOT***

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

I had a rural paper route back in 1940. I delivered the Council Bluffs (IOWA) NONPAREIL to about 25 customers on my bike over a distance of about 5 miles. It was not very productive—the

paper sold for 3 cents on weekdays and 15 cents on Sunday, but it kept me supplied with model airplane kits and ice cream cones. A fella named Bob Ripley wrote a column for that paper and many others around the country. He called it "BELIEVE IT OR NOT" because the stories he told were so fantastic that any thinking person couldn't possibly believe them. But many people did. So many, in fact, that he sold the idea to one of the radio networks (That was before TV was born.), and a radio show was aired using the same name. Mr. Ripley never claimed the stories were true, he simply closed each column by inviting readers to "Believe It Or Not". Believers used to say "it's got to be true because it was in Believe It or Not." (That's sorta like people today saying "it's got to be true because it was on the internet".) I was 13 years old at the time, but in spite of that I never believed anything he said, that is, until recently.

When we moved to West Bend 15 years ago my first project was to install the HF antennas. I set up the aluminum extension ladder and carried the 3 necessary tripods to the roof, and installed them to support the 20 & 15 meter dipoles and one end of the 40 & 80 wires, which were strung to trees on the back lot line. I carried the ladder out to the tree line and pushed it up as high as the extension would go and finished the installation very quickly. No problem—the ladder only weighed about 50 pounds and the distance to the trees was only about 150', and I had enough gas left in my tank to push the lawn mower around to cut weeds for a half hour after completing the project.

Now, 15 years later, I'm beginning to rethink Mr. Ripley's columns in view of the strange things that are happening at our house. Several days ago I found one end of the 40 M dipole laying on the ground—the rope had broken in the tree. Not surprising, since it had been up there 15 years. So I figured this would be no problem, I'd just take the ladder out to the tree and string up a new rope. But first, I thought it would be a good idea to check the tripod end of that antenna. But when I took the ladder out of the garage and wrestled it up to the roof I knew right away that something beyond my understanding had happened to it. My best guess is that it now weighs at least 300 pounds and I'll never be able to car-

ry it back to the tree line, let alone push it up into a tree. But since I had gotten the ladder in place, I went up on the roof to see what condition the tripods were in. That's when I began to respect Mr. Ripley's writings—the roof pitch was much steeper than it was 15 years ago and the peak was much higher above ground. Somehow our ranch house had changed to a 3 story house when I climbed up there, but when I got down I found that nothing had changed inside the house. Strange happenings. Believe it or not.

So all this leaves me with a problem. CW November Sweepstakes is coming up on Nov.1, and I'm without a 40 meter antenna. *Is there someone (or maybe 2 someone's) out there who would be willing to give me a hand for a couple hours one of these days?* Volunteers must be able to handle the 300 pound ladder and not be afraid of heights. Anyone who remembers Bob Ripley is probably too old for this job, but is welcome to come along for a beer when we finish. We can talk about the good old days while the young pups do the work.

It looks like I'm beginning to pay the price of longevity, but it sure beats the alternative.

Bob, W9LO

## ORC Fall Swapfest

The Fall Swapfest continues to grow and prosper in its third year. This is turning out to be a really fun project and is now turning a profit. Certainly Chairman Gabe was blessed with great weather and a good turnout of ORC members to help. It was really a great time and Fireman's Park is the perfect setting.



**Bill Howe (KA9WRL) again acted as the event announcer as he also marketed some of his many treasurers,**

This year there were 148 paid admissions for \$740, food income of \$137 and a total of \$122 in scholarship project sales. The net income to the club operating fund was \$179.85 after deduction of all expenses and equipment purchases. Good show! Looks like we are well on our way to another profitable ongoing annual project.



**Among the more interesting areas was this array of antique and vintage radios.**



**There was a great variety of vendors this year and we filled two complete rows on both sides of the isles.**



**Here was a beautiful display of quality test equipment for sale. Amazing what will fit in the trunk of the car.**



**Ed Frac (AA9WW) and Ed Rate (AA9W) just sat and watched to see what kind of folks would buy Ruhlmann's (W9IPR) stuff.**



**Lots of vacuum tubes, manuals and whatever. Something for everybody.**



**Terry Koller (KA9RFM) was there with his converted "pop-up" and drew crowds to see the tiny operating engines he has built.**



**A really relaxed selling atmosphere was enjoyed by Gary Sutcliffe (W9XT) and Gerry Walker (KB9IMH).**



**Great job by the Chairman Gabe Chido (WI9GC), Grounds Coordinator John Schradler (W9NRG) and Jake Schmeling (KB9ZOR)**

## The B-17 comes to town

On Sept. 26-29 the EAA B-17 "Aluminum Overcast" was at the West Bend airport as hosted by EAA chapter 1158.



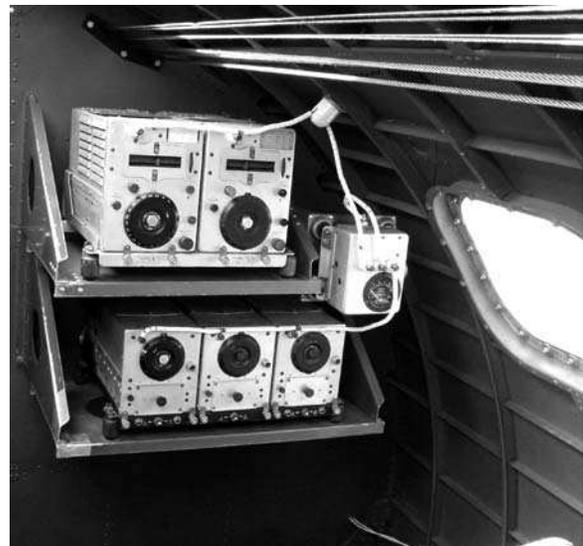
**Touchdown of the B17 is truly a beautiful sight and sound. It was a rare opportunity**

Also there were a number of WWII B-17 veterans who were only too eager to share their stories about flying out of the airfields about London and into the German airspace – their stories are hair rising and we certainly owe them a great debt of gratitude.



**At least the radio operator had a view as he listened to code on his BC348. These receivers are still available occasionally at swap-fests.**

I was especially surprised at the number of crewmembers there who were radio operators. They outnumbered all the others combined. I guess CW and RF leads to long life. In any event, I took a number of photo's of the radio operator's station to give the ORC a feel for what it must have been like in terms of equipment utilized.



**In front of the operator were the vintage "command set" 100 watt CW transmitters (2) and receivers (3). Many of our ORC members bought these as surplus and these were their first CW rigs.**

One of the things I noted was that few of the interconnecting cables were in place and the

BC475 equipment was less than pristine. In fact, it was even missing a few meters. Perhaps replacement of these equipments could be an ORC project of interest.



Behind the operator was the high power transmitter, the BC475. As I recall these were converted to run around 500 watts on the Ham bands. To change bands you replaced a complete tuning unit. These systems were not only some of the first high power Ham rigs following the war they came complete with a large case of TVI.



There was a separate storage rack for the individual band tuning units. I noted the lowest frequency was 200 to 500kc. Wow!



If the radios didn't have enough knobs and dials you could always go the flight deck for a whole new array of interesting stuff.

## Upcoming Events

### October

- 8<sup>th</sup> **Membership Meeting**
- 11<sup>th</sup> – **Fireman's Park Safety Day**
- 11<sup>th</sup> NA RTTY Sprint
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Fall VHF Sprint
- 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> **JOTA Boy Scout "on the air"  
Weekend @ Pioneer Village**
- 23<sup>rd</sup> OZARES
- 25<sup>th</sup> – 26 CQ DX WW SSB Contest
- 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> 10 – 10 CW QSO Contest

### November

- 1<sup>st</sup> – MRC Swapfest @ Elks Club on Good Hope across from AES
- 1<sup>st</sup> – 2nd ARRL November CW Sweepstakes
- 12<sup>th</sup> **Membership Meeting**
- 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November Phone Sweepstakes  
ARRL 160 Meter SSB contest
- 29<sup>th</sup> **Christmas Parade – Grafton**
- 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> CQ WW CW DX Contest

### December

- 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> ARRL 160 Meter Contest
- 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> ARRL 10 Meter Contest
- 10<sup>th</sup> **Membership Meeting**

## Club Static

Ed Rate seems to have recovered nicely from his operation and has embarked on another of his "mystery trips".

Joyce Harvey (WB9IMA) is currently recovering from her second knee replacement.

Stan and Nancy Kaplan (WB9RQR & KC9FZK) made a trip to Israel where they visited Stan's two sons.

## Minutes– Sept. 10th, 2008

De Tim Boppre, KA9EAK

President Mike Yuhas, AB9ON, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Attendees introduced themselves and responded to Mike's question of what areas you or others might consider you to be an expert. There were a fair number of jack of all trades, master of none as well as some folks that knew it all 40 years ago but "all" has become a much larger space over time (though the essentials still count for a lot today), and Tom, W9VBQ, said that he as an expert at being a friend to Bill, KA9WRL, which is mighty fine thing to be an expert in.

### Announcements and bragging rights

Doug, N9KG, informed the group that he placed second for the second year in a row in the Low Power Phone category for the ARRL DX contest.

Tom, W9IPR, announced that he got his 6m Lawn Chair antenna working and that it was headed for his roof. He did not clarify his intent to operate with the antenna, sit in it, or operate while sitting in it, once it was on the roof.

Leon, K9GCF, announced that he had just completed a total rebuild of his SB-220 and that it even worked.

Ken, W9GA, reminded everyone about the VHF contest 13-14 September.

### Program:

The program consisted of a presentation by Scott and Erin from Astrowings ([www.astrowings.com](http://www.astrowings.com)), the local RC club. They spent a fair amount of time presenting the progression of transmitters and receivers in the history of the RC hobby. They brought examples of many radios both old and new. They also brought some electric RC helicopters and flew them about the room. There were a number of questions regarding the hobby. Nels, WA9JOB, asked the best Amateur Radio question, "Do they use 6 meters anymore?" and the answer was sadly, no. Everyone is headed for 2.4GHz. Based upon the interest of the crowd and the types of questions (how much does it cost? Where can I buy some of these things?) my guess is that there were some Amateur Radio operators in the crowd that are going to be looking into another hobby.

### Fellowship break:

Gabe, WI9GC, held the 50/50 and Terry, KA9RFM won.

### Auction:

Stan, WB9RQR, assisted by Ed, AA9W held the auction. There were an exceptional number of items in the auction this month. In fact, once it became apparent that the auction was going to send the meeting well into overtime,

Stan and Ed decided to hold some of the items for next month.

### **Acceptance of minutes**

A motion was made by Stan, WB9RQR, to accept the minutes of the last meeting. The motion was seconded by Leon, K9GCF. The motion was carried.

### **Treasurer's report**

Nels, WA9JOB, gave the treasurer's report including the results of the fall swapfest. We cleared \$301.85 after expenses. A portion of the proceeds went to the scholarship fund and the rest to the treasury. A motion was made by Dave, N9UNR, to accept the treasurer's report as read (subject to audit.) Jim, K9QLP seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Special thanks were given to Gabe, WI9GC, and all of the folks that made the swapfest a success.

Dave, N9UNR, made a motion to reserve Firemen's Park for 12 September 2009. Bill, KA9WRL seconded the motion. The motion was carried. Jim, K9QLP was going to check with the Cedarburg city officials to verify the availability of the date and book it.

### **Committee Reports**

#### *Repeater report*

Nels, WA9JOB, reported that he has made a number of updates to both the 97 and the 220 repeaters.

Tom, AA9XK, and Ed, AA9WW, reported that the corn roast was well attended with good food and good camaraderie.

Bill, KA9WRL, gave a report on the recent lighthouse activation. Twelve club members participated in the event operating an ICOM 7800 that was provided by Rick, N9PMR. Bill passed around a copy of the QSL card for the event featuring the photography of none other than Tom, W9VBQ.

### **Old Business:**

None

### **New Business**

Tom, W9IPR, announced that he will head up the nominating committee for the officers for next year.

Bill, KA9WRL, announced that JOTA was coming up. It is the third weekend in October and asked for volunteers to come out to Pioneer Village and work with the Scouts that will attend the event.

### **Attendance:**

39 attendees - 37 members, and 2 guests.

Mike AB9ON, Stan WB9RQR, Ed AA9W, Kent N9WH, Gabriel WI9GC, Dave N9UNR, Mark N0OKS, Nels WA9JOB, Gary W9XT, Tom W9IPR, Mark KC9GST, Ray W9KHH, Mark AB9CD, Terry KA9RFM, Jim K9QLP, Dominic W9KKX, Tim KA9EAK, Patrick KC9LRK, Tom W9VBQ, Bill KA9WRL, Ron W9BCK, Ed AA9WW, Leon K9GCF, Paul KC9NHD, Roger W9UVV, Doug N9KG, John W9NRG, Dick AB0UF, Kate KB0SIO, Ray W9BUJ, Jeff WB9PZD, Bob W9LO, Ken W9GA, Ed AA9GT, Jim W9LL, Julia KB9WBQ, Tom AA9XK,

A motion to adjourn was made by Stan, WB9RQR, and seconded by Ed, AA9W, the motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

## **AGENDA**

*October 8th, 2008*

1. Call to order – Mike (WB9ON)
  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 (WA0JOB).
- 
9. Repeater report – John (W9NRG)
  10. Committee reports.  
Membership –  
Youth Program – JoTA – Bill (KA9WRL)  
Swapfest - Gabe Chido  
Safety Day – Jim Albrinck
  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 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Grafton**

**Wednesday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30 PM**



# 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: [www.ozaukeeradioclub.org](http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org)

Volume XXVII

November 2008

Number 11

## From the President

De Mike Yuhas (AB9ON)

I had just finished raking all the leaves off my yard, and had begun to think of ice loads on my antenna when a delightful email arrived from Leon K9GCF, announcing our great showing at Field Day 2008. That brought me out of autumn and straight back to the last full weekend in June! (See elsewhere in this issue for the details.) Congratulations – again – to all who participated in another great Field Day experience.

Did you know the club maintains three repeaters? Thanks to members such as John W9NRG, Nels WA9JOB and Dick K9CAN (and others), they're on the air 24 hours a day at 146.97, 224.18 and 443.750 MHz. Use them! And make it a point to check in to the ORC informal Tuesday night net at 8:00 PM on the 146.97 machine.

## Contesting

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

I sent out an "antenna type" SOS in the Sept. Newsletter because my 40 meter dipole was lying on the ground and I needed help to get it back in the air in time for the Nov. SS-CW Contest. Ed Frac, AA9WW, was the first responder. He came over that Saturday morning, and we got the job done in about an hour. He even trimmed the hickory tree branches that had grown around the antenna during the past 15 years, so it's now in the clear and a bit higher than it was. The results? 294 forty meter contacts that I would not have otherwise had in the SS-CW last weekend. THANKS ED.

Don't forget the November SS-SSB Contest. It starts at 3:00 PM (local time) on Nov. 15, and

ends at 9:00 PM on Nov.16. This is a great warm up for phone operators who want to work the Wisconsin QSO Party in March and Field Day in June. It's also an opportunity for CW contesters to spend a little time in "the other mode". I hope to see some of you that weekend. The rules are at [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests).

The other "biggie" this month is the CQ World Wide DX CW contest on Nov.22-23. Rules at [www.cqww.com](http://www.cqww.com).

Would those of you who work the SS-CW/ SSB and the CQ WW please send me their results so that we can publish them in the Dec. Newsletter.

Have fun contesting. Bob, W9LO

## Field Day 2008

De Leon Rediske (K9GCF)

Folks, pass out the champagne again..... the Ozaukee Radio Club (W9LO) came in #3 in Field Day, 5A class in 2008!!!

Additionally, we placed: #1 in the Ninth Call area, and #1 in Wisconsin!! We out performed everyone in Wisconsin, Illinois, and Indiana. Our club trounced all the big clubs from Chicago and Indianapolis. Our club! WE did it together!!

I wish to thank each and every one of you that helped the ORC do its best. Doesn't it feel good to be a winner?

The statistics:

We're listed as:

#3, (W9LO) 3985 QSO's, 12,916 points. WI  
#2 K4LRG: 4299 QSO's 15,080 points. VA  
#1 K1R: 4951 QSO's, 15,980 points. NH

We were just 314 QSO's behind #2. So in 2009, if we make just 63 QSO's more from each station, we'll be in the number 2 spot.

Thanks again for a job well done Ozaukee Radio Club supporters; we couldn't have done it without YOU! Soon, we'll begin planning for an even bigger, and better 2009 Field Day effort; with YOU making your part GO, and see what combined we can create.

Thanks again, Leon, K9GCF

## VHF & UHF

De Todd Sprinkmann (KC9BQA)

I continue to host VHF nets on 144 SSB and 146 FM simplex on Wed. and Thur. nights. The purpose of these nets is to promote activity on the airwaves and also to encourage hams to explore VHF without the use of repeaters. Anyone is welcome to join in and say hello, or to simply listen along to a different experience.

The Wed. net is on 144.250 SSB, starting at 8:30pm. This is the Badger Contesters net. W9GA, N9UUR, W9XT and myself (I'm probably omitting a few, sorry) are all BC'ers, and you are also welcome to join. The Badger Contesters group has no dues or stringent membership requirements. Email me at [sprinkies@excel.net](mailto:sprinkies@excel.net) or go to [www.badgercontesters.org](http://www.badgercontesters.org) for more info. This net is open – everyone is welcome.

The BC'ers are a club that promotes SSB operation on all VHF and UHF bands, as well as VHF/UHF contesting. I host the nets to help keep everyone in touch, to test our equipment and to encourage operation with modes that many hams never discover.

The Thur. net is on 146.43 FM, also starting at 8:30pm. I started this net a few months ago, to promote activity on FM simplex. We have had nights with as many as 15-20 check-ins. The FM net uses vertically polarized antennas, but we have had contacts out to 100-200 miles with decent band conditions.

The Wed. and Thur. nets are on every week, unless there's bad weather or a personal conflict. I also advertise the nets via the BC and the ORC reflectors, so it pays to keep up there.

The next big VHF/UHF contest is the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of January. My goal is to find new contest-

ers both from ORC and all of SE WI. I am always willing to answer questions via email.

## New Members

Joe Sturmberg (KA9DFZ) of Menomonee Falls is one of our newer members although not new to HAM radio. When asked about his interest in amateur radio he had quite a story to tell. According to Joe, he received a great Birthday gift in 1935, a Philmore Crystal Radio Set. With it he listened in rapt awe to the local HAMS in Wauwatosa. They talked about ohms and resistance and capacitors and coils and something called "bread boards: It was like talk from another world.

He graduated from Wauwatosa H.S. in 1943 and shortly thereafter joined the US Marine Corps. He went through radio communications school in San Diego CA. He then joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division and served in combat at Saipan, Tinian & Okinawa.

After college he went into sales (industrial chemicals) and after 45 years, retired. Joe grew restless in retirement and started his own company called "Mountain Technologies" through which he develops new products. His latest product is a biodegradable gun cleaner.



**Joe is at his favorite CW operating position with Albert the cat keeping a close ear to the activities. Joe claims that Albert does code at 5 wpm and can use a bug.**

In 1979 he took the leap into HAM radio when his wife asked him what he would like for

Christmas and he responded “ a Ten Tec Century 21 transceiver” with 65 watts output. For the next 20 years he operated CW on his Ten Tec with a “long wire” antenna and recalled that his first QSL card was from a high school student in Carbon KY. Today he has over 1000 QSL cards and all on CW. Joe really likes CW in that it is a lot like going fishing – you just never know what you will catch so each new contact is a thrill. Joe still operates with a Novice class license in that it allows him all the frequencies he needs for the CW operations that he enjoys. For the past 20 years he has checked into the Sunrise CW Net that meets daily at 8AM on 7.123 MHz.

About 7 years ago, Joe’s wife asked him again what he would like for Christmas so he went out and bought a Yaesu FT990. He is still operating just CW but now uses a 5 band Hustler vertical on the roof with tuned radials.

Among Joe’s other interests is cartooning. So how did a nice guy from Menomonee Falls like Joe come to join the ORC? He thanks Roger Zaun for introducing him to our group and inviting him to join. Welcome to the ORC Joe – we can use some more CW operators on field day.

## JOTA at Pioneer Park

It was a great time at Pioneer Park with the JOTA event again this year.



The BSA Jamboree On The Air event was again held at Pioneer Park on Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. It was hosted jointly by the LeFROG and ORC amateur radio operators.

The scouts were into computers, HF SSB communications, CW as introduced by Tom Murtaugh and Bill Howe, and Echo Link with Rick Waedekin (N9PMR). ICOM supplied most of the stations including the IC746, IC7000, IC756 Pro III and the IC7800. Tom, W9IPR set up his portable IC706 with a vertical for 40 meter operations.



Tim Boppre (KA9EAK) and Rick Waedekin (N9PMR) are here assisting scouts in understanding HAM radio and operating Echo Link. Rick again supplied “top of the line” ICOM radios for use at JOTA. It was great to operate a \$10,000 IC7800 transceiver.



Loren (N9ENR) did a great job of introducing the scouts to the internal workings of computers and the importance of software.

There were a total of six different stations set up and they contacted 24 different countries.

During the event Bill Howe (KA9WRL) was able to sign off on four BSA Radio Merit Badges and give 30 Cub Scout communications awards.



There were several stations operating however Mike Robinson (N9EAK) with his HF scooter mobil was without question the most unique.



Participation really picked up during the afternoon after the cub scouts were welcomed Bill Howe (KA9WRL)

Special thanks to all those who made JOTA possible including:  
Bill Howe (KA9WRL) – chairman  
Tom Murtaugh (W9VBQ) – CW guy  
Rick Waedekin (N9PMR) the ICOM rep.  
ICOM – for supplying the really great transceivers to use as demonstrators.  
Loren Jentz (N9ENR) – computer guy  
Mark Tellier (AB9CD)

Mike Robinson (N9EAX)  
Ed (N9SAQ) and Mary (KB9QFK) Dragovich  
John Leekley (WB9SMN)  
Tim Boppre (KA9EAK)  
Dominic Boppre (W9KKX)

## Safety Days at the Park

This was our first year participating in the community “safety Day” at Fireman’s Park. It was October 11<sup>th</sup> and was a really great time. It is sponsored by the Cedarburg Fire Department during Fire Prevention Week and all the public safety services participate and show their capabilities etc.



Tom (W9IPR), Dominic (W9KKX), Tim (KA9EAK) and Bill (KA9WRL) demonstrated a portable HF/VHF station using an IC706, verticals and a solar panel in addition to HAM videos on the PC.



One of the interesting displays was the collection of Cedarburg Fire Department antique fire trucks that the kids were allowed to crawl all over. All the new vehicles were also on display for inspection.



The “Flight for Life” chopper also made a visit so the visitors could see the inside trauma care equipment etc.



One of the more unique displays was that of the Cedarburg Dive Team. They even had a diver underwater playing tit-tat-toe through the dive tank window.



Perhaps the best of all the demonstrations was the TAZER. WOW! Believe me; if someone calls our “tazer-tazer” you want to stop whatever you are doing. Note the mat where the volunteer tazered is allowed to fall forward. Why would anyone volunteer to be tazered?



Operating a fire extinguisher can be a memorable experience and the waiting line of operators was long.

As you can surmise, it was an interesting afternoon that provided an opportunity to promote the ORC. In addition, it was fun.

## Tips, Tails & Tools

How about a metal scouring pad for use as a soldering iron rest? Cheap and it works great.



## For Sale, Trade or ?

The club does have some items for sale that may be of interest to serious members.

Fred Helmstetter (N9FM) donated a 5 element 20 meter beam that is big but ideal for contesting. Contact Tom (W9IPR) or Ed (AA9W) to negotiate a price - it is complete.

We also have several stake stands for mounting portable verticals or support pole's. They are complete with a radial attachment ring.

These were designed and fabricated by Mark Potash (KC9GST). \$25 for the small unit and \$35 for the larger one.

Also, remember that Ed Rate (AA9W) has a giant inventory of tubes for sale with the proceeds going to the scholarship fund.

## Christmas is coming!

It won't be long and the spouse will be asking, "What would you like for Christmas?" How about a new ORC jacket and cap personalized with your name and call sign?



The blue jackets are lined and have both the ORC logo and the owners name and call in gold. The blue cap has the owners name and call on the front and the ORC name on the back headband. The jacket is especially comfortable in terms of its weight – perfect for spring and fall. I really like the collar that zips up around the neck and chin. With a sweater it is an ideal wrap well into winter. It's nice to be at a HAM event and be warm and addressed by name

Contact Ed Frac (AA9WW) or Nels Harvey (K9JOB) for ordering details. The jackets are about \$50 and the personalized caps about \$15.

## Upcoming Events

### November

1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> ARRL November CW Sweepstakes

12<sup>th</sup> **Membership Meeting**

15<sup>th</sup>–16<sup>th</sup> November Phone Sweepstakes

ARRL 160 Meter SSB contest

29<sup>th</sup> **Christmas Parade – Grafton**

29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> CQ WW CW DX Contest

### December

6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> ARRL 160 Meter Contest

13<sup>th</sup>- 14<sup>th</sup> ARRL 10 Meter Contest

10<sup>th</sup> **Membership Meeting**

January

10<sup>th</sup> – Membership Meeting & elections

## George wouldn't do it

How often do we see the attitude of "let George do it". Well sometimes George doesn't do it and perhaps we should have – or the event/organization collapses and then it's too late.

I have for several years belonged to an organization called the "Firebirds". It is an organization of retired and current General Motors employees who are HAM's.

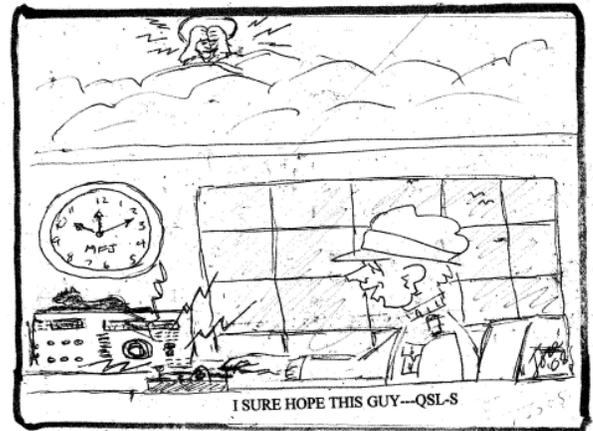
I have never been very active in the organization and the leadership came out of the Detroit area for the most part. However, it was fun to visit with another Firebird at Dayton.

Well, it was again time for Firebird elections and the nominating committee could not get a full slate of officers. Unfortunately the constitution said that if a full slate of officers could not be attained the club should be dissolved and the treasury given to a non-profit charity. And it was in October.

It seems that if we enjoy some of the benefits of an organization we need to get involved – or they may just go away. Then we will continue to wonder where George was at the time we needed him or why we didn't volunteer rather than wait for George.

## Election of Officers

The ORC nominating committee consists of Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR), Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR) and Mike Yuhas (AB9ON). If you have an interest in running for a board position contact one of the nominating committee members. The list of nominees will be published in the December newsletter with the elections to be held at our annual meeting in January.



De KA9DFZ

## Club Static

Joyce Harvey (WB9IMA) has returned home after partially recovering from her broken leg.

Friday I spent about 4 hours at the top of my tower installing an accessory plate and thrust bearing to relieve some of the load on my rotor. Wow, that's a job better done when the tower and antenna are first erected rather than 5 years later. Thanks' to Fred for use of his climbing body harness and Ed for standing by poised to call 911 with his cell phone in hand.

Leon and Jane are now in FL but you can still communicate with them via his Internet address or by checking into the Milwaukee – FL net on 20 meters. Bill Howe (KA9WRL) can give you the details on the net.

## Station Progress by Marc Denis (K9ZF)

Hey  
N9ZF has been awfully busy since the last update. I have 4 towers in place now: 65 foot crankup, 35 foot Rohn 25, and two 15 footers (Rohn 25) to hold up dipole ends. The 35 footer had the Ham IV, thrust bearing, mast and rotor cable installed this weekend.

High winds locally prevented me from placing the 2M18XX at 40 feet, so I worked inside and finished my homebrew link-coupled tuner for 160m. Boy I can tell you that I have received improved signal reports going to open wire feeder on the dipole and using a near lossless tuner. If I had not mentioned it before, I used parts from a Collins 5KW AM transmitter (BC Band) for the secondary coil and the secondary paral-

lel resonator cap. I would 6 turns of #12AWG over a plastic sheath over the secondary and placed a series 2000 pF cap in line. There you have it. Maybe I'll write you an article on how to build one. Let me know if the club members might find it of interest.

The TH7DX has been totally re-furbished. And man oh man is it beautiful all shined up. I plan to take Tuesday off to put the TH7DX on the crankup along with my 2nd Ham-IV.

I was just physically unable to get the west tower raised to 75 feet as I had planned, so, no 160m vertical this season, though I might put up an inverted L using a catenary line between the north and south towers. That is a do-able event before snow flies.

Now a final note: #3 for Field Day! My word, you guys are just contest animals! Congratulations folks! Now if we could waive the 75 mile rule, I'd join in from up here in EN54wx!

The  Column

By Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), Column Editor

There was no column last month because wife Nancy (KC9FZK) and I were out of the country – in Israel – for two weeks.

Our last meeting (23Oct) largely consisted of a debriefing of the annual SET. The consensus of those present was that there were some mistakes made and some things done very well, but all in all, it was a good exercise.

Note that the next meeting is different than our usual schedule, owing to the Thanksgiving holiday. The meeting will be on 20 Nov, which is only the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, instead of our usual 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday.

Nancy (KC9FZK) and I attended the annual EC Conference, held in Wisconsin Rapids on 25/26 Oct. Bill Stolte, N9VBJ, also attended. A great meeting! Of intense interest were breakout sessions chaired by the ECs who dealt with the major flooding that occurred last spring. The lessons learned and problems dealt with were eye-openers. Also of great interest was some background on why all ARES/RACES members MUST be NIMS certified (by completing IS-100 and IS-700). It seems that if an agency uses

volunteer hams that are not NIMS qualified, that agency risks losing all of its federal grants. That is clearly an incentive for the requirement that we qualify. The message: if you are not qualified by 1Jan09, you are no longer an OZARES member. It is out of Jon's hands and there are no exceptions. Take heed!

On Sunday during the conference, a display session was held in a parking lot, with over half a dozen mobile communications vans/trailers. It was a very nice display of various approaches to equipping mobile communications centers. However, there was one thing missing: our MCT should have been there!

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE: OZARES nets are held each Thursday at 8:00 p.m., except on meeting nights (4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays). Both a net script and check-in list can be obtained on the OZARES web site, [www.ozares.org](http://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, and keep the net manager (WB9RQR) informed of confirmed trades. Guests are welcome after the OZARES check-ins are complete, most especially ORC members! By the way, if you see a difference between the schedule on the website and this column, this column will always be correct, since it reflects last minute changes and substitutions. Such changes and substitutions to the website version will be in bold print here if known at the time of printing.

06 Nov	<b>KA9PZG</b>
13 Nov	<b>AB9ON</b>
20 Nov	Meeting (see text)
27 Nov	No net; Thanksgiving
04 Dec	<b>KC9FZK</b>
11 Dec	KC9GST
18 Dec	AA9W
25 Dec	No net, no meeting this month. Happy Holidays!

The schedule for the first three months of 2009 will be published next month.

# ORC Meeting Minutes of

8 October 2008 - De Tim Boppre, KA9EAK

President Mike Yuhas, AB9ON, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Attendees introduced themselves and responded to Mike's question of what other ideas the attendees might have for opening questions.

## Announcements and bragging rights

Bill, KA9WRL reminded the club about the upcoming JOTA event and asked folks to attend.

Nels, WA9JOB announced that the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters is holding a meeting on this Saturday at the Grafton Senior Center at 12Pm and invited anyone interested to attend.

Tom, W9IPR reminded the group of the upcoming Cedarburg Safety Days event. The event is to be held at Fireman's Park in Cedarburg from 12-3PM. Tom invited anyone interested to come and man the ORC table.

## Program:

The program consisted of a presentation by Loren, N9ENR on a number of very interesting homebrew projects that he has built using various components of the old Heathkit 3400 series microcomputer kits. Loren has built a CW practice oscillator, a calculator, a stepper motor controller, and a digital VFO emulator. Loren also explained some of the workings of the Motorola 6800 microprocessor.

## Fellowship break:

Gabe, WI9GC, held the 50/50 and Julia, KB9WBQ won.

## Auction:

Stan, WB9RQR, assisted by Ed, AA9W and Jon, KB9RHZ held the auction.

## Acceptance of minutes

Bill, KA9WRL, made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting. Leon, K9GCF, seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

## Treasurer's report

Nels, WA9JOB, gave the treasurer's report. A motion was made by Leon, K9GCF to accept the treasurer's report as read (subject to audit.) Kent, N9WH seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

## Committee Reports

### Repeater report

Nels, WA9JOB, reported that he resolved an output power problem with the 97 repeater. The exciter radio had problems so it was replaced with a spare. Nels has repaired the primary and the repeater is working well. The 220 repeater is working well with 72 watts of output. It is being driven by a Kenwood radio at minimum power output. He announced the club needed to get a phasing harness for the 220 antenna as owner of the one that was borrowed for the current installation would like it back. After a brief discussion Mark, AB9CD made a motion to have the club purchase a new phasing harness for the 220 repeater. This motion was seconded by Jim, K9QLP. The motion carried. Nels, WA9JOB agreed to make the purchase on the clubs behalf.

Mark, AB9CD stated that mentor sessions were on hold until he had some new topics. He also announced that he would likely be starting a licensing class the first week of November.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

At the 12 November meeting there will be a sign-up sheet for the Grafton Christmas parade. The club will need seven or eight operators for the event.

The program for the November meeting will be the Northern Cross Science foundation (astronomy.)

**Attendance:** 32 attendees - 27 members, and 5 guests.

Mike AB9ON, Stan WB9RQR, Ed AA9W, Kent N9WH, Gabriel WI9GC, Nels WA9JOB, Tom W9IPR, Mark AB9CD, Jim K9QLP, Tim KA9EAK, Bill KA9WRL, Ed AA9WW, Leon K9GCF, Dick AB0UF, Kate KB0SIO, Ray W9BUJ, Jeff WB9PZD, Ken W9GA, Julia KB9WBQ, Tom AA9XK, Jon KB9RHZ, Ed AA9W, Joe AA9HR, Stan WB9RQR, Don W9VSC, Bob W9LO, Patrick KC9LRK, Crystal, Kaitlan, Harold, Nancy KC9FZK, Ron KC9DKQ, John WA9KNY, Todd N9DRY, Mark KB9PXE

A motion to adjourn was made by Kent, N9WH and seconded by Jon, KB9RHZ, the motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

## **AGENDA**

*November 12th, 2008*

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### **First Class**

## **Next ORC Meeting**

**Grafton Senior Citizens Center**

**1665 7th Avenue, Grafton**

**Wednesday, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30 PM**



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Callsign W9CQO

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Volume XXVII

December 2008

Number 12

## From the President

De Mike Yuhas (AB9ON)

Where is everyone on Tuesday night? The ORC informal Tuesday night net is a longstanding tradition – but lately it seems as though all our regular participants have either forgotten or simply given up on the net. And that's a shame, since it's one of the few opportunities our members have to get together and chat. The net is informal, which means there is no script, and whoever volunteers to be the net control operator generally ends up being the net control operator. Tune your radio to 146.970 MHz on Tuesday evenings at 8:00 PM. Our repeater needs the exercise!

And speaking of things easily forgotten, I recently received a friendly reminder from Don Michalski, W9IXG, gently informing me that my ARRL membership had expired! How did that happen? And isn't that a little embarrassing, the president of an ARRL Special Service Club is a lapsed ARRL member. Don't worry, Don, I'll re-up soon.

And speaking of club memberships, why not hand your 2009 ORC dues payment to Treasurer Nels Harvey, WA9JOB, at this month's ORC membership meeting. Gus Gnorski will be our featured speaker, telling us tales about life on television. See you then!

## Contesting

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

I put out some bum information in the Nov. Newsletter—I said the CQ WW DX CW Contest was on Nov. 22-23. It wasn't, it actually occurred on Nov. 29-30. You can blame the folks at ARRL for this one—I used the date they pub-

lished in the Nov. QST. It appears that everyone in the contest world except me caught the error because they all showed up on Nov. 29. And from what I've read, it was one heck of a contest. Great scores, one Midwest station reported over 3,000 contacts. Perhaps I should start cross checking the dates with other sources. The only other publication I subscribe to is the National Contest Journal (NCJ), but the problem there is that they are also published by ARRL. (I dropped CQ mag about 10 years ago. Too bad, I'm sure they got it right.)

The ARRL 160 Meter Contest is Dec. 5-7. CW only, starts at 4:00 PM local time on the 5<sup>th</sup>, and runs till 10:00 AM local on the 7<sup>th</sup>. This is really a fun contest. It's amazing how well you can do with low power and virtually no antenna. Just throw a wire out the window, or load up whatever you happen to have. I'll be QRP, and will load up my 80 meter dipole as a random wire. That combination will never be a winner, but who cares? I always have a lot of fun with it. Hope to work a bunch of club members this weekend. Rules at [www.arrl.org/contest](http://www.arrl.org/contest).

The ARRL 10 Meter Contest is Dec. 13-14. CW, SSB, or both. Since we are at the bottom of the sunspot cycle we don't know what to expect on this band, but check it out, and hope for a surprise. Rules at [www.arrl.org/contest](http://www.arrl.org/contest).

And here's one for the lighthouse gang in the club. It's The Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party. Dec. 20 to Jan. 4. 160-10 meters, and 6 & 2 meters. I'm not familiar with this contest, but it should be of interest to those of you who participated in the lighthouse activities last summer. Rules at [www.arlhs.com](http://www.arlhs.com).

Have fun contesting.

# VHF & UHF

De Todd Sprinkmann ( )

I continue to host popular nets on 144.250 USB and 146.43 FM, on Wed. and Thur. nights, respectively, starting at 8:30pm. Since this summer, I have easily worked over 200 unique calls in at least 10 different states. That is not a misprint, and it doesn't tie up repeaters.

So many hams are unaware of the possibilities beyond repeaters. Two very recent ORC check-ins to the SSB net help show what is possible.

In the last few weeks, KA9WRL and KA9EAK (along with his son W9KKX) have checked in on Wed. on 144.250, USB. As I've spun my beam antennas around the compass, looking for check-ins from near and far, they've been able to hear almost everyone I check in. Including fellows from the Stevens Point area, from the south side of Chicago, and even from NW Ohio.

This is newsworthy for two reasons. 1) It's definitely winter time and on VHF/UHF, that typically means poorer propagation. 2) Neither Bill nor Tim is using horizontally polarized antennas, which are the norm with regular SSB operations. Supposedly that cross-polarization has a 20db reduction in signal strength, yet Bill and Tim are copying a station in NW Ohio, with modest antennas at modest height. And I have a pair of 12-el beams up at 105/115', and I'm only copying the NW Ohio station S5 at best.

What's the message I get from that? Get on the air with what you have, and be open to new learning experiences. Because I surely didn't think KA9WRL and KA9EAK were going to hear 80-90% of what I heard! So I'm still learning – especially the value of getting on the air. NO RF = NO propagation – 100% of the time.

All are welcome to join the nets, or to listen along and get a feel for it. These are fun, informal nets; stay as long or as little as you like. The only purpose is to stir up activity on under-appreciated parts of our 2 meter band.

Another way to play on VHF is to get involved with contesting. The SSB and FM simplex sides of 2M, 6M, 1.25cm and 70cm really come alive for contests. (More SSB than FM) VHF contests are also quite a bit more relaxed than

HF ones. There is always room on the bands for you, and some of us experienced guys will chat with a newcomer with questions. We can ALWAYS use more VHF/UHF stations in contests.

The next contest is the January ARRL VHF Sweepstakes. Here's a link to the rules: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2009/jan-vhf-ss.html> if reading thru those rules leaves you kind of cold, don't worry. VHF contesting isn't at all difficult to get started in. If you have 6M or 2M capability, those are the two most popular bands anyway.

I'm more than willing to develop some new testers from ORC. I think it would work best if you would ask me the questions that are on your mind. Questions would be fair game during either the 144.250 USB net on Wed., or the 146.43 FM net on Thur. – both starting at 8:30pm. In fact, I need to have a bit of a practice contest, on air. That's the best idea yet. Watch the ORC email reflector on Yahoo to find out when practice contests will be.

I am available via email at [sprinkies@excel.net](mailto:sprinkies@excel.net). Can also use the Yahoo ORC reflector. If I get enough questions to indicate interest, I'll be happy to devote next month's article toward getting started in VHF/UHF contesting.

In the meantime, here are informative links: <http://www.k0nr.com/rwite/2Mssb.html> [http://www.k0nr.com/rwite/vhf\\_contest.html](http://www.k0nr.com/rwite/vhf_contest.html)

## ORC Board Nominations

The nominating committee is comprised of:

Tom Ruhlmann – Chairman, Mike Yuhas and Stan Kaplan

The committee is nominating the following slate of officers for the 2009 Board of Directors. The election will be held at the ORC Annual Meeting (regular membership meeting) January 14, 2009.

President	-Bill	Howe,	KA9WRL
1st VP	-Tom	Nawrot,	AA9XK
2ndVP	-Doug	Burghardt,	N9KG
Secretary	-Charles	Curran,	WA9POU
Treasurer	-Nels	Harvey,	WA9JOB
Repeater VP	-John	Schrader,	W9NRG

Past President (automatic) - Mike Yuhas, AB9ON

Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR) will be retiring from the board. Ed Rate (AA9W) is serving as the ORC Club Trustee which is a position appointed by the board.

At the January Election, nominations can be accepted from the floor.

## Mic Econo Extension Arm

De Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR)

It all started one early morning as I walked the dog. There it was. Lying on top of the neighbors trash – how could he be discarding a perfectly good extension arm just because the light fixture it supported may be failed? This was an older heavy duty arm supporting a heavy fluorescent lamp fixture and it looked perfect to use as a mic extension arm in my shack. If only I could figure how to implement it with a mike holder and durable desk mount.



The finished "mic econo-arm" at my desk.

I happened to notice that Tower Electronics had the mic holders at the Waukesha swapfest for only a dollar and bought one. The trick at this point was how to mount it to the extension arm after removal of the fluorescent light. The mic holder had a 24 turns per inch thread and that's something you won't find at the local hardware store. However, someone once told me that a

coax coupling would fit a mic holder and sure enough, it will. Sure enough, a female to female coax coupling fits perfectly. The coupling has a hole along its centerline that allows for bolting of a metal standoff that can be gripped by the extension arm clamp that originally held the light fixture.



The mic holder was available from Tower Electronics for about a dollar and the 24 t/in thread fits a coax coupling.



The adapted mic holder is shown secured in the extension arm clamp.

The next challenge was to attach the extension arm securely to the operating desk. I measured the "mounting pin" and found it to be ½ inch in diameter. With a bit of experimenting I found it to fit almost perfectly within a ½ inch gas pipe. Then it was off to the hardware store where I

purchased a 3" long 1/2" pipe nipple and a 1/2 inch pipe floor flange. The 3" long pipe nipple was screwed into the bottom side of the floor flange. Then a hole was drilled in the desk top to receive the pipe nipple and the flange was screwed to the metal desk top. Now that is a robust mount.



**A 1/2" pipe nipple and floor flange is used to assemble a secure desk swivel mount for the "mic econo-arm"**



The "mic econo-arm" provides great arm and back relief during contesting and rag chewing while allowing free use of the hands to tune or manually log contacts. The mic is connected to the original mic desk stand via an 8 pin microphone extension cable I bought at Dayton and this allows continued use of the desk stand PTT switch and scanning ring.

So how much did the mic "econo-arm" cost? Well, I figure only about eight or nine dollars plus we saved something from the land fill. Neat, huh?

## For Sale

Scholarship fund items-Contact Ed Rate (AA9W)

KLM 20M-5 Beam \$85

KLM 15M-4 Beam \$65

Vacuum Tubes \$1 each

Heathkit Capacitance Tester model CT-1 \$15

Heathkit Ham Band Receiver Model SB-313 \$85

Heathkit SB-300 Ham Band Receiver \$ 85

Heathkit HR-1680 Ham Band Receiver \$85

Transoceanic All Band Portable Radio made by Zenith Sold by Silvertone – Collector item.

>

> Contact [etrade@milwpc.com](mailto:etrade@milwpc.com)

## Upcoming Events



*Our program for ORC's December meeting features Gus Gnorski from Fox-6. Gus is a*

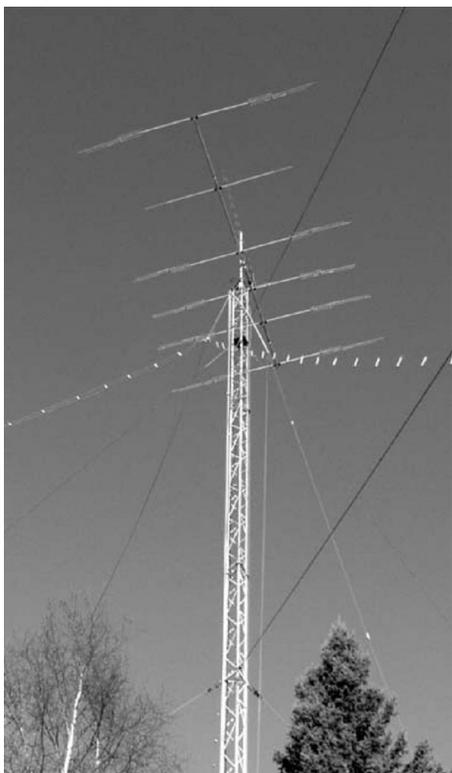
*former Eagle Scout, Ham Radio Operator, Vietnam Veteran, Radio personality and currently a Reporter for Fox-6 in Milwaukee.*

*The "Ask Gus" show, which ran for several years on Fox-6, was directed by Bill Howe, KA9WRL (now retired). Gus never used a script and only had to stop tape a total of 3 times in all those years. He'll tell you why and relay many other stories from his career in television and in the military.*

*Gus has interviewed Gordon West on several occasions as part of the Fox-6 Wake-Up News, typically on the Friday morning before AES's Superfest.*

## Club Static

There is a refurbished antenna in town. Ray Brunette refurbished his six element KLM tri-bander this past fall and then had it reinstalled atop his 110 ft section of broadcast tower. It took a commercial crane to get it up there.



Notice the open wire folded dipole made by Ray and also suspended from the tower.

Dean Jeutter (K3GGN) is an engineering prof. down at Marquette and he has a second home at Washington Island. He reports that the new BPL system on the island which is designed to provide internet over the power lines is radiating noise and creates an S9+ noise level at his QTH. This is one of the issues being addressed by the ARRL to the FCC. BPL as it is now implemented can essentially prevent use of the HAM HF bands due to the BPL illegal noise radiation.



**ORC members were unloading donated equipment for the scholarship fund.**

We received a donation of used equipment from the family of Thomas J. Christ (SK) who was a WWII pilot and although not a HAM, he was an avid collector of receivers from rummage sales, swapfests etc. The proceeds from the sale of this equipment will be going to the ORC scholarship fund. There was a good crew on Saturday morning to pick up the donated equipment and take it to the barn for storage until sold. The pickup crew included Ed Frac (AA9WW), Ken Boston (W9GA), Ed Rate (AA9W), Nels Harvey (WA9JOB), Chuck Curran (WA9POU), Tim Boppre (KA9EAK) and his son Dominic. Also assisting were Jim Albrinck (K9QLP), Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR) and Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR).

## Wanted

Two spoke tuning wheels for SX-28 (W9IPR)  
Two Speakers with 500/5000 ohm audio transformer for use with older hellicrafters SX-28 or SX-42 (W9IPR)

## Thomas A. Edison Special Event Station

De Leon Rediske (K9GCF)

While sitting here in SW Florida and contemplating my navel, and pitying my Wisconsin friends that must clear off 4" in the AM, and then again in the evening. I came up with notifying them of a Special Event being held here in Fort Myers.

This special event station will be celebrating the birthday of Thomas Alva Edison---you know the guy with the light bulbs? It will happen in February---the 16th through the 20th, 8 AM to 3 PM Central time. (9 to 4 Eastern)

Our frequencies will be: 14240, 21350, 28340, Plus or Minus QRM. (mostly 14 MHz) If folks will provide a SASE (Self Addressed Stamped Envelope) to:

FMARC  
PO BOX 061183FORT  
MYERS, FL 33906

You will receive a photo postcard (really nice) if U send a #10 business envelope. If you send an envelope large enough for an 8.5 by 11, you will receive the Photo Postcard plus a Certificate. Both are a collectors dream. Include enough postage to get it back! The Feb. issue of QST will have the info.

We will be operating from the HENRY FORD estate, adjacent to the EDISON Home. If you happen to contact us at the right time, you may talk with Leon K9GCF/4. Our honcho here is Stella Gurka, WB2FAU.

So if U have any questions regarding the special event, contact her at: [stellagurka@embarqmail.com](mailto:stellagurka@embarqmail.com)

We worked over 1000 Stations last year, help us to increase 20% this year. Put this week's Special Event on your calendar. (Feb 16 thru 20)

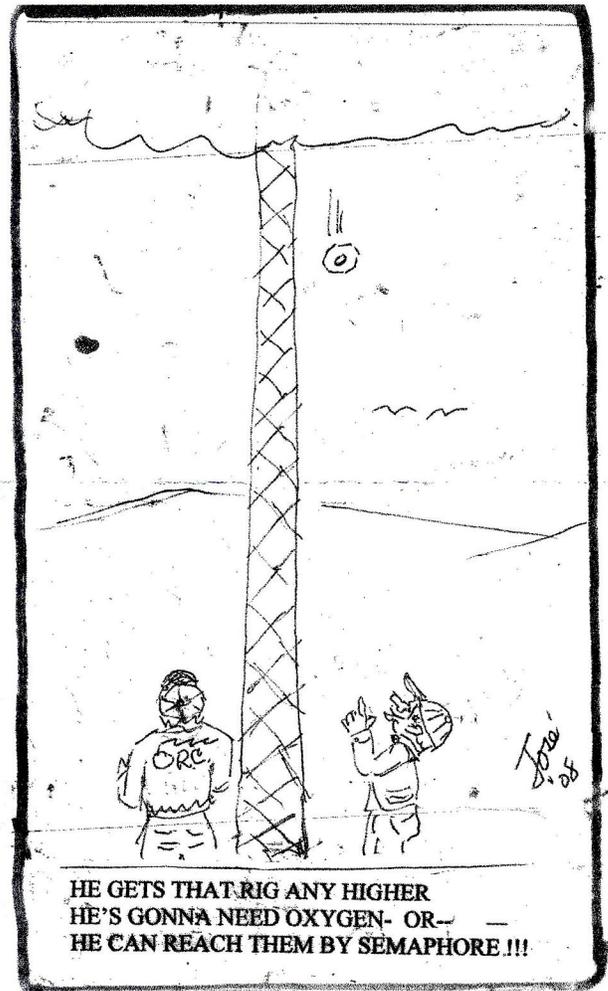
Remember the Orlando Hamcation February 13 thru 15. See U SNOW-BIRDS there!

## Silent Key

Fred Eltzsch (W9QMD) died of congestive heart failure, Saturday, 22 Nov. Fred was a long time member of the ORC and OZARES. He designed and supervised the cabling to the roof mounted antennas OZARES when the Justice Center was first occupied in the early 90's and continued to consult with later installations. The funeral was for the immediate family only.

## How High is High?

De Joe Sturmborg (KA9DFZ)



## ARRL – Membership?

De Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR)

About 15 years ago I started getting active in HAM radio again and for openers I joined the

American Radio Relay League (ARRL). Why? I wanted to read about what's happening and become current in terms of the newer technologies. I have never regretted it and feel it is the best \$39 I spend each year. For the past few years I have renewed my membership at the AES Superfest or one of the local Hamfest's. That's because they gave me a free publication (value \$10 to \$20) as an incentive to "reup". In any event, I encourage you to join if not already a member or "reup" in the event that you are a member. Why? For a number of reasons.

1. You will receive a subscription to QST, the premier magazine of amateur radio with various columns addressing such as things as antenna, modes of operation, product reviews, old time radio, electronic experiments and general news relevant to radio amateurs. I take QST, CQ, National Contest Journal (NCJ) and World Radio and if I could subscribe to only one it would be QST.

2. The ARRL is the only group that lobbies on behalf of the interest radio amateur radio operators. The frequencies and modes that we enjoy are privileges, not rights, which are extended to us by the US Government and by international agreements. The airwaves are a monetarily valuable asset and commercial enterprises actively attempt to gain access to our currently assigned bands for commercial and FCC profit motivated purposes. The ARRL frequency defense fund is established to support the position of amateur radio. They have been successful in the expansion of the phone portion of 75meters and eventual relocation of Latin American broadcast stations

from 40 meters and are currently addressing the BPL situation with the FCC with some success.

3. If you are a contester, the ARRL sponsors several types of contests annually and maintains and outgoing QSL service plus the "log book of the world".

4. ARRL provides [WWW.arrl.org](http://WWW.arrl.org) website with a variety of technical and membership information and services as well as providing an online classified ad service, product review archive, member e-mail forwarding service and generally current news of interest to amateur radio operators.

5. The ARRL provides a number of ARRL publications related to antenna, operating procedures, equipment, building techniques and projects, etc. to support the varied interest of its membership

These are a few of the reasons I have for being an ARRL member and I am sure most of these are common to the majority of members however, you may have your own and different reasons. Whatever the reason I encourage you to join the ARRL if not a member and to renew if a current member. How? Talk to Don Michalski (W9IXG) at the ARRL table at the next local swapfest (Jan. 3 in Waukesha) or join online at [www.arrl.org/join](http://www.arrl.org/join)

The



Column

By Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), Column Editor

Our last meeting (20Nov) consisted of a discussion of the standard OZARES frequency list. This list is a channelized guide for programming all HTs, mobile units and home stations by OZARES members. Additionally, the MCT radios, ham radios in other Emergency Management vehicles, and those in the Emergency Communications Center are to be identically programmed. This enables rapid agreement to "go to Channel 2" (which happens to be the ORC repeater), or whatever channel is appropriate, during training or actual emergencies. If all radios are programmed identically, there is no confusion and moving frequencies is smooth. It has been some time since the list was revised, and a number of repeaters have changed or dropped out and a few errors have been found, so we agreed to an update. Skip (KA9DDN) will check out the current list and provide suggested changes. A final guide will be published and provided to OZARES members before the first of the year.

**NET CONTROL SCHEDULE:** OZARES nets are held each Thursday at 8:00 p.m., except on meeting nights (4<sup>th</sup> 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, and keep the net manager (WB9RQR) informed of confirmed trades. Guests are welcome after the OZARES check-ins are complete, most especially ORC members! By the way, if you see a difference between the schedule on the website and this column, this column will always be correct, since it reflects last minute changes and substitutions. Such changes and substitutions to the website version will be in bold print here if known at the time of printing.

04 Dec **KC9FZK**

11 Dec **KC9GST**

- 18 Dec AA9W
- 25 Dec No net, no meeting this month.  
Happy Holidays!
- 08 Jan KC9BKA
- 15 Jan W9BTN
- 22 Jan Meeting
- 29 Jan KA9DDN
- 05 Feb KC9FZK
- 12 Feb WD9HOD
- 19 Feb W9IPR
- 26 Feb Meeting
- 05 Mar W9KHH
- 12 Mar N9NNE
- 19 Mar WJ9O
- 26 Mar Meeting

## Membership Meeting Minutes– Nov. 12th, 2008

De Tim Boppre, KA9EAK

President Mike Yuhas, AB9ON, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Attendees introduced themselves and responded to Mike’s question as to how fast they could send or receive CW. Answers ranged from -5 to as high as 30 wpm.

### Announcements and bragging rights

Tom, W9IPR announced a new column for the newsletter, “Junk Box Products.” If you have ideas for this new column please send them to Tom.

Ed, AA9W announced that he could use some additional help on Saturday to move the large lot of donated radio equipment from its current location to the barn.

### Program:

The program consisted of a presentation by Jeff from the Northern Cross Science Foundation on Astronomy. His subject was how telescopes have changed our understanding of the universe.

### Fellowship break:

Stan, WB9RQR won the 50/50.

#### **Auction:**

Stan, WB9RQR, assisted by Ed, AA9W and Jon, KB9RHZ held the auction. There were quite a few items including a digital camera. Tom, W9IPR must have sorted out a way into Fort Knox as he allowed himself to get bid up to \$6 whole dollars for an item.

#### **Acceptance of minutes**

A motion was made by Tom, W9IPR to accept the minutes of the last meeting. The motion was seconded by Nancy, KC9FZK. The motion was carried.

#### **Treasurer's report**

Nels, WA9JOB, gave the treasurer's report. A motion was made by Jim, K9QLP to accept the treasurer's report as read (subject to audit.) Bill, KA9WRL seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### *Repeater report*

Nels, WA9JOB, reported that he and Jim, K9QLP have done some work on the tube amplifier for the 97 repeater. The solid state amplifier is currently in us and is having a significant positive effect on the electric bill. (Approximately a 40-50% reduction.)

Jim, K9QLP reported that the organizers of the Grafton Christmas parade have informed him that they will not require our assistance for the parade.

Bill, KA9WRL gave a report on JOTA. There was a nice turnout of Scouts and a lot of nice ICOM radios. Four Scouts completed their Radio merit badges.

None

#### **New Business**

Nels, WA9JOB suggested that we begin to charge for postage for newsletters that are mailed via USPS. He made the motion to charge an additional \$5 annual fee to defray the cost of postage. Tom, W9IPR seconded the motion. Dave, N9UNR made the motion to charge \$6. There was no second. After a brief discussion the motion was put to a vote by the membership and the motion carried.

The program for the December meeting will be Gus Gnor-ski of Channel 6 fame.

#### **Attendance:**

31 attendees - 27 members, and 4 guests.

Mike AB9ON, Stan WB9RQR, Ed AA9W, Kent N9WH, Nels WA9JOB, Tom W9IPR, Mark AB9CD, Jim K9QLP, Tim KA9EAK, Bill KA9WRL, Ed AA9WW, Kate KB0SIO, Ken W9GA, Julia KB9WBQ, Jon KB9RHZ, Joe AA9HR, Stan WB9RQR, Nancy KC9FZK, Patrick KC9LRK, George WB9LVI, Milan N9UJV, Gary W9XT, Mike N9JIY, Ray W9KHH, Ron W9BCk, Chuck WA9POU, Bob N9NRK, Mark KC9GST, Dick AB0VF, Cindy KA9PZG, Paul KC9NHD, Doug N9KG, Dave N9UNR, Todd N9DRY, Mark KB9PXE

A motion to adjourn was made by Dave, N9UNR and seconded by Patrick KC9LRK, the motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:33 PM.

## **AGENDA**

*December 10th, 2008*

1. Call to order – Mike (WB9ON)
  2. Introductions.
  3. Announcements, Bragging Rights, Show & Tell, Upcoming events, Etc.,
  4. Program: Gus Gnorski
  5. Fellowship Break
  6. Auction.
  7. Acceptance of Minutes as printed.
  8. Treasurer's report – Nels (WA0JOB).
- 
9. Repeater report – John (W9NRG)
  10. Committee reports.  
PEP-  
Scholarship Fund Equipment Donation-  
Nomination Committee –  
Membership Dues -  
Other:
  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 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Grafton**

**Wednesday, Dec. 10th**

**7:30 PM**