



The ORC Newsletter

Official publication of the Ozaukee Radio Club, Inc. Mail all contributions to the editor, Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR, 465 Beechwood Dr., Cedarburg WI 53012 (phone 262 377-6945). Permission to reprint articles published in any issue is granted provided the author and the Ozaukee Radio Club Newsletter are credited.



ORC Repeaters on 146.97, 224.18 and 443.750 MHz -
Callsign W9CQO Web site: www.ozaukeeradioclub.org
Facebook: facebook.com/orcwi

Volume XXVV

March 2012

Number 3

From the President

De Ken Boston (W9GA)

I recently had the pleasure of attending my first ever Ozaukee Radio club P.E.P. party, and I and Steffi had a great time. I had never been before, although I have been with this club for several years now. It was a hit from all facets; great food, great music, good fun, and excellent camaraderie. I even enjoyed having a few adult beverages. (even though I had to explain to the bartender how to make a margarita 'on the rocks', he had the impression that they were a blender-only drink)

One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the awards for various initiatives within which the club members have participated. Congratulations to all, and also to those who have yet to receive their awards. I was surprised to experience the dubious (?) honor of receiving the Turkey award, and had to share a few laughs over that presentation.

We have several great programs scheduled over the next few months, so don't be bashful about showing up on those Wednesday nights that have an ORC meeting scheduled. Stan has done an excellent job in arranging these speakers to come in to make their presentations. Again, I want to encourage those within the club who have a topic on their minds to speak to Stan about sharing with the rest of us. I am also looking for suggestions as to topics where we would go outside the group to look for a qualified speaker to address our group. (I must warn that some topics may require us to look for someone more professionally engaged, which could cost us a few \$\$; and therefore may not work out)

The board has also been toying with re-instituting a question and answer period for dealing with questions from the newer members and guests as to ham radio operations and our club operations. I will then look for questions from the floor during the upcoming meeting, and see who can answer them. If you are a bit shy, please write out your question on a slip of paper or index card, hand it to me before the meeting, and I will 'ask' that question of the group at large.

I am looking forward to seeing all of your smiling faces at the upcoming ORC meeting.

73 Ken W9GA

Computer Corner

De Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR) - skaplan@mcw.edu

No. 168: Microsoft Security Essentials

I am a great believer in freeware. I also want my computers (and the ones I rebuild for ARES/RACES use throughout Wisconsin) to be protected. The logical answer for me is, and has been, Microsoft Security Essentials.

Microsoft Security Essentials (MSE) was released to the public at the end of September 2009, and Version 2 was released mid-December 2010. At that point in time, it had gained 30 million users. In September 2011, it was announced that it would be integrated into the upcoming Windows 8 operating system. At that point, it had become the second most popular anti-virus product in the world, and the most popular in the USA.

This security program is an anti-virus package that also protects against spyware and adware. Thus, it is probably best described as an anti-malware program. It is free for household use, and free for use on up to 10 computers in small businesses.

I have been using antivirus software since the Norton product was first released as part of Norton Utilities, over 20 years ago. Besides this pay-for product, I have also used the free products, AVG, Comodo, Avast, Avira and ClamWin. One complaint I always had was that, at least the early versions I used, were resource hogs – taking a lot of space on the hard drive, taking a lot of memory away from the operating system and generally slowing things down. When I tried and settled on MSE, it was because it was not an “in your face” product. It is also not a memory hog and does not take a lot of hard drive space. A recent comparison by Fred Langa in the Windows Secrets Newsletter (<http://www.windowssecrets.com>) confirmed this to be true. MSE fared very well on four tests, when compared with AVG, Comodo, Avast, Avira and ClamWin.

MEASURE	DEFINITION
Startup Time	How much time the antivirus product added to Windows startup.
Shutdown Time	How much time the antivirus product added to Windows shutdown.
RAM Footprint	How much memory the product consumed.
Disk Footprint	How much hard drive space the product used.

His conclusions confirm his recommendation (and mine) that MSE is a good program. As Fred says, “It’s free, it’s in widespread use, and it has proven itself in the real world.”

The bottom line is that MSE can protect your system with very little impact on how fast your machine operates, and it is FREE. My suggestion is that if your (paid for or free) antivirus program seems to be slowing things down, uninstall it and install MSE. (You must uninstall. To run two antivirus programs at the same time in a machine is asking for trouble.) Try it for a while and see if things are better. If not, you can always uninstall it and put your old software back. But I bet you will like and keep it. It simply works, and it is not “in your face”. I take the time to install it on every ARES/RACES machine that I prepare (23 so far this year; over 600 since I began the program).

By the way, if you DON’T have antivirus software installed on your machine, you are flirting with disaster. Install MSE post haste! Happy Computing!

Orlando Swapfest



One of the fun things about volunteering at Sun-N-Fun in Lakeland FL is that it is close to the Hamcation event in Orlando. There are four of us here at Sun-N-Fun that are HAM's and we get together to drive the 65 miles to Orlando and find some more of that stuff that we always wanted.

As has happened the past few years we met up with Leon Rediske at the McDonalds and had lunch together.

The gates open at noon on Friday and the ticket line started building about 11AM. The line moved fast and before you know it we were in the outdoor flea market sizing up the various "great deals" available.

I was lucky in that I found some more broken stuff that was priced right that I figured I could fix. Namely, a Biddle dipper that needed a new battery, a 19 volt Craftsman right angle drill that also needed a new battery and a newer sweep generator to replace the one I got at Dayton.

While the flea market is always my first stop there were also three buildings with commercial vendors including Tower Electronics and AES. It was great fun and provided me with a few projects on which to work while here in Florida.





Sun-N-Fun

Sun-N-Fun is an aviation fly-in about 15% the size of the EAA Oshkosh fly-in and it has an associated education center, air museum and High School aviation academy. At the education center during the 5 day event we have a variety of activities for kids and this year it includes demonstrations etc. for weather, paper airplanes, making wing ribs, use of "flight sim", air traffic control problem demonstrations, aircraft weight and balance problem solutions etc. Then a couple of us got the idea for an amateur radio station and recruiting kids from the high school as amateur radio operators. We don't have much time but the project is underway. We went to the Lakeland Amateur Radio Club meeting last week and hope to involve them in these ongoing projects including a historical exhibit of aviation communications equipment at the FL Air Museum here on the grounds. It is all coming together and looks to be a lot of fun. Be sure to listen for us from March 27 through April 1, 2012.

Opportunity Days

We will again be doing an introduction to amateur radio at the "opportunity days" at the Parkview elementary school. It will be May 4th, again the day before our swapfest.

MARS Cross-band

by Dave Barrow, N9UNR

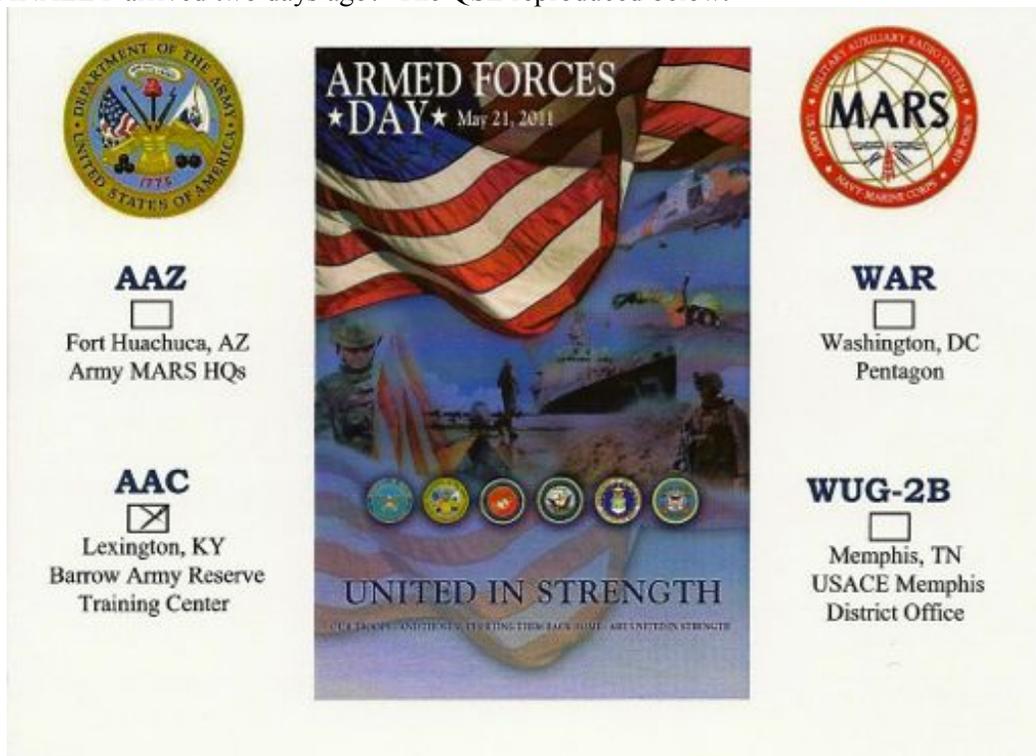
For some reason or other I noticed an article in QST a year ago, It announced a MARS-ham cross-band effort to be held on May 21, 2011. The thing that grabbed my attention was that one of the four stations participating would be AAC, located in the BARROW Army Reserve Training Center in Lexington, KY. I was present in 1956 when the center was dedicated to my grandfather, Col. David W. Barrow, MD, who organized, recruited and commanded Base Hospital 40, (a type of MASH unit) who went to the field in France in WWI. I was therefore particularly motivated to participate.

Now I am basically a VHF operator although I have a General license. Worse than that – the operation was cross-band. I'd never done that. My only HF rig is in my van – an Icom 706. I consulted with the breakfast group and then parked in my driveway and tried all of the frequencies listed, 10M, 20M, 40M and 80M. No luck. An hour later I tried again – no joy.

Fortunately I have a friend with great equipment and a large “aluminum overcast” - Leon Rediske, K9GCF. Leon told me that probably, due to propagation characteristics, the only usable frequency band would be 40M between here and Lexington, KY. After trying for another half-hour I called the MARS station on the phone. They were having a problem with the 40M equipment and were trying to get on the air. Leon agreed to monitor the frequency at his home.

Two hours later Leon called and said he had been successful in a contact. I tried the mobile and was not successful. Leon invited me to his home and JOY!!!!

Guess what FINALLY arrived two days ago? The QSL reproduced below.



No time, no RST – but it has the family name on it!

Financials

De Dave Barrows (N9UNR)

The Post Everything Party was GREAT! The music by the BLTs was fantastic, the catering by the Prime Minister was delicious and a good time was had by all. Financially we took in \$511.50 and had expenses of \$888.00 of which \$609.00 was for the food.

ORC Income and Expense for February, 2012

Total income was \$595.50 of which \$240.00 was dues and \$341.00 was PEP tickets.

Total expense was \$802.39 of which \$787.00 was for the PEP.

Our expenses exceeded out income by \$206.89.

If anyone wants all of the detail - email your request.

73 de Dave

ORC Membership Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2012

de Janice Hoettels (KA9VVQ)

President Ken Boston, W9GA, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Members present then introduced themselves.

Announcements/Show-and-Tell:

Dave Barrow, N9UNR, mentioned that he is accepting membership dues and PEP fees during the meeting.

Mark Fielkow, KB9PXE, showed us his new, tiny, inexpensive, hand held oscilloscope.

Nels Harvey, WA9JOB, mentioned that he sent out a notice on the club re-mailer about the club's annual trip to the Dayton Hamvention in May. If you are interested in going to Dayton as part of the club's caravan, contact Nels. Nels reserves a block of hotel rooms for those going along. Anyone interested in going should let Nels know in the next few weeks as rooms do fill up quickly for this popular event.

Mark Tellier, AB9CD, mentioned that the 2nd MRAC & MAARS Midwinter Inter-club Swapfest is Feb. 18. More info at <http://www.w9rh.org>.

Mark Tellier, AB9CD also mentioned that the MRAC FM Simplex Contest is Sunday, Feb. 12. More info available at <http://www.w9rh.org>.

Glenn Classey, KC9UHP, brought along a vintage ARRL Handbook from 1942 for members to view.

Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR, showed us his inexpensive, tiny, Chinese-made, dual-band (2m/70cm) HT that costs only \$46.

Program:

Jim Albrink, K9QLP, gave a presentation on the basics of repeaters and the equipment and antennas that make up the backbone of the club's repeater network.



50/50 Raffle:

Lori Ann Parkinson, N9PCA, won the 50/50 raffle.

Auction:

Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR held the usual auction with a modest returns this month due to a small number items up for bid. Proceeds go to the club's scholarship fund.

Business Meeting:

President's report: Ken Boston, W9GA, asked for volunteers to serve on various committees. He highlighted the position of public information officer and the audit committee. See Ken if you're interested in helping out.

Ken also brought up the possibility of changing the order of the meeting. At the last Board meeting, Brian Skrentny, N9LOO, asked if it would be possible to move the auction that occurs at every club meeting to the very end of the meeting. He and the others would like to have the main program and business meeting occur back to back with the auction at the end. With this sequence, he and the other could leave at the break before the auction. Ken asked for comments about this change, but none were forthcoming.

Ken mentioned that the Board has decided to suspend the club's annual corn roast this year due to continued declining attendance. He encouraged members to come up with ideas for other club activities.

Ken reminded the club about the upcoming Post Everything Party (PEP), which includes the club's annual awards ceremony. Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR, discussed the nominations procedure for the 2 main awards: the Turkey Award and the Ham Award. Ballots were handed out at the meeting and were to be turned in to Bill Howe, KA9WRL, before the end of the meeting.

1st VP Report: none

2nd VP Report: Brian Skrentny, N9LOO, reminded the members of the club's upcoming May 5 Swapfest. Flyers are now available. Brian encouraged members to take flyers along to distribute. Brian also asked Jim Albrinck, K9QLP, for an update on the club's fall swapfest. Jim noted that a date at Fireman's Park has finally been settled. However, with the new date, he will be unable to attend due to being out of town that weekend. As Jim has been the club's liaison with the fire department and Fireman's Park officials, a new liaison must be found for this year's event.

Repeater VP Report: Tom Trethewey, KC9ONY, mentioned that the 2m and 220 MHz repeaters have had some intermittent problems. He's also noticed frequent "kerchuncking" on the 2m repeater. Tom encouraged users to ID themselves when testing access to the repeater and not just "kerchunk".

Tom also encouraged members to use the 440 MHz repeater. He's heard very little, if any, activity on this repeater.

Tom would also like to get the Tuesday night informal 2m net started again. He volunteered to be the net control, but asked for patience as he's never been a net controller before.

Secretary's Report/Minutes: Janice Hoettels, KA9VVQ, noted that there were minutes from the last month's meeting and 2 board meetings posted in the last newsletter and encouraged everyone to review them as a lot of issues, especially at the 2 board meetings, have been discussed.

Brian Skrentny, N9LOO, requested 2 corrections to the January 11, 2012 minutes published in the February 2012 newsletter. First, he was not the pistol instructor mentioned by Dave Barrow, N9UNR. It was new club member Bri-

an Kunick (no callsign) who was the instructor. Second, Brian did not win the 50/50 raffle. It was Jon Sanfilippo, WW9JON, who won the raffle. He donated his proceeds to the club's scholarship fund.

Nancy Stecker, KC9FZK, made a motion to accept the January meeting minutes published in February newsletter as amended above. Dave Barrow, N9UNR, seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Barrow, N9UNR, noted that although a financial summary was provided for inclusion in this month's newsletter, the newsletter editor forgot to include it. Dave provided a brief summary, noting that the club took in about \$1,100, mostly from membership dues. Also, the club's account balance is about \$16,000 and the scholarship fund has about \$40,000.

Ken Boston, W9GA, made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Nels Harvey, WA9JOB, seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Old/New Business:

Bill Howe, KA9WRL, briefly discussed the club's Spring (May) Swapfest. He also noted that the Amateur Radio demonstration at Parkview Elementary School is scheduled again for this spring. Bill mentioned that the LeFrog amateur radio club, of which he and several ORC members are a part, is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. LeFrog will be sending an email invitation to all ORC members to join LeFrog for a celebration dinner at the Machine Shed in Pewaukee on March 10.

Dave Barrow, N9UNR, again encouraged ORC members to come to the PEP.

Nels Harvey, WA9JOB, mentioned that Mequon Copy Master offers 501(c)(3) organizations, like the ORC, a 10% discount. Nels recommended the club take advantage of this discount for its printing needs, such as swapfest flyers, etc.

Adjournment:

Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR, moved and Kent Christiansen, N9WH, seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

At 9:20 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Members signing the attendance sheet:

Nancy Stecker, KC9FZK; Joe Sturmberg, KA9DFZ; Jon Sanfilippo, WW9JON; Ben Smith, KC9TQM; Glenn Clasesey, KC9UHP; Bill Howe, KA9WRL; Tom Murtaugh, W9VBQ; Tom Trethewey, KC9ONY; Michael York, KB9YHF; Dave Parkinson, KA9RNU; Lori Ann Parkinson, N9PCA; Chris Kelling, KC9UXC; Mark Fielkow, KB9PXE; Todd Fast, N9DRY; Ron Yokes, W9BCK; John Strachota, W9FAD; Nels Harvey, WA9JOB; Jim Albrinck, K9QLP; Bernie Golownia, AA9CI; Ted Schweitzer, KB9RI; Kent Christiansen, N9WH; Terry Koller, KA9RFM; Cliff Kollross, KC9RNV; Dave Barrow, N9UNR; Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR; Jon Gilmore, KB9RHZ; Nate Weidler, KC9TSO; Brian Skrentny, N9LOO; Ed Frac, AA9WW; Mark Tellier, AB9CD; Jeff Alper, WB9PZD; Paul Given, N9PG; Ray Totzke, W9KHH; Bob Frank, N9NRK; Dale Nedra Matthies, N9NNE; Janice Hoettels, KA9VVQ; Ken Boston, W9GA.

AGENDA

March 14, 2012

1. 7:00 – 7:30 PM – Network & Rag Chew
2. Call to order: Ken Boston (W9GA)
3. Introductions.

4. Announcements, Bragging Rights, Show & Tell, Upcoming events, Etc.,
5. Program:
6. 50/50 – Kent Christiansen (W9WH)
7. Fellowship Break
8. Auction – Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR)

9. Presidents Report – Ken Boston (W9GA)
10. 1st VP Report – Art Davidson (KC9PXR)
11. 2nd VP Report – Brian Skrentny (N9LOO)
12. Repeater VP report – Tom Trethewey (KC9ONY)
13. Acceptance of Minutes – Janice Hoettels (KA9VVQ)
14. Treasurer's report – Dave Barrow (N9UNR)

15. Committee reports.
PEP – Art Davidson (KC9PXR)
Other:
16. OLD BUSINESS
17. NEW BUSINESS
18. Adjournment to ?

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The ORC Newsletter

465 Beechwood Drive
Cedarburg WI* 53012

First Class

Next ORC Meeting

Grafton Senior Citizens Center

1665 7th Avenue, Grafton

Wednesday, March 14th

7:00 PM – doors open

7:30 – Membership Meeting