



# 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  
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Volume XXXIII

January, 2015

Number 1

## From the President

*de Gary Drasch, K9DJT*



Well, it's hard to believe a year has already gone by since I took the reins over from Ken Boston, W9GA. I was very excited at the time, having a variety of ideas to help further move the club forward. Instead, many of us spent more time than we care to remember in a reactive mode. Having just lost Gary Scharbuno, WI9M(SK), at the end of 2013 made it difficult for me to accept another loss right at the beginning of my term. That being Bob Frank, N9NRK(SK), who was then followed by Terry Koller, KA9RFM(SK). What are the odds of two good friends such as Bob and Terry passing so close together? Little did I realize this was only the beginning. A few members were wondering who was going to take over the responsibility of the Field Day generators when we learned Circle B double booked their facility for our Spring Swapfest. The

real downside was that we only had a week to find a new venue. I do need to say I was very proud of how everyone pulled together in saving the day. For me, the whole ordeal was a blessing in disguise in the fact we found a much better location for future events. Just as the dust started to settle the club was informed by Lazy Days Campgrounds that they sold the land we normally used for Field Day. The good news was they did have some other locations on their property which we were able to use. We had a crew of about 10-12 people survey the potential areas. One of the crew members was Bob Truscott, W9LO(SK), who was hoping to get some air time at Field Day. Little did we know we were also going to be losing him this year. Just prior to Field Day, Leon Redske, K9GCF(SK), a long time Field Day enthusiast, lost his battle with cancer. His wife Jane, KK9HQG, donated Leon's antenna trailer to the club which was used during Field Day, and where we designated the 20 Meter operating position as the "The Leon K9GCF Memorial Station". Later in the year, Jane donated the remainder of Leon's equipment which continues to be sold with the revenue being placed into the clubs general fund. The neat thing is that the club approved the purchase of a box trailer to be used for Field Day with some of the funds from Leon's Estate. I feel Leon would be pleased. Somewhere in between all the above, we wound up taking Circle B to small claims court to recover our deposit and the expenses incurred relating to the change of venue.

So was there any good news? The fact that the club managed to continue with its annual events, i.e., Awards Banquet, Spring Swapfest, Dayton Trip, Field Day, Corn Roast and Fall Swapfest is just some of the good news. Just think about it for a minute. That's a lot of stuff! When other organizations are having difficulty in just surviving, the Ozaukee Radio Club is

flourishing. Out of any organization I've belonged to, the ORC meetings have been the best. Great programs, an Auction, a 50/50 raffle along with minimal business discussion. Now add the number of new members who have joined us. It's a GOOD thing!

Several members thought I should serve a second term. I did consider it, but feel a year at a time is enough. I'm still going to be around...a lot! It's just that I'll be doing something else. None of us should have an expectation of our future slate of officers to serve more than a year either. There are plenty of us, and a lot of untapped talent, to go around.

In closing, I want to sincerely thank the membership, all my officers and appointees. It is ALL of you who helped make things happen this year. Needless to say, without your contributions the ORC would not be what it is today. I also want to extend a thank you to those who agreed to serve for the upcoming year. As past officers helped me during my term, I stand ready to help others with theirs.

It has been an honor to serve you. 73 and God bless,

Gary, K9DJT  
[k9djt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:k9djt@sbcglobal.net)  
262 707 4279

## DX'ing & Contesting

De Gary Sutcliffe (W9XT)



Last month I teased you with an upcoming DXpedition scheduled for January. It is to the number one needed DXCC country according to some surveys. No one has operated from there in 22 years. The last time I worked it was in 1987. Like many highly needed DXCC entities it is a small uninhabited island.

Most of the really rare ones are in some remote corner of the planet like the FT5ZM DXpedition to Amsterdam Island last year. To get there the crew had to brave heavy Antarctic seas for 9 days to reach their objectives. Well, this one is closer to a place you might consider to vacation this month. You would not even need a passport because it is a US possession in the Caribbean.

So why is it so rare? The reason is that it is a wildlife refuge and is managed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. They restrict access to the island to prevent disturbing the wildlife there. The island is Navassa Island and they will be using the call sign K1N.

Despite being a Caribbean island, getting there is not pleasant boat ride. Landing by boat is almost impossible so they will be taking long helicopter flights to get there. This will limit how much equipment they can take. Even so, it will be very expensive. In addition to the cost of transporting 15 operators and the equipment they have to bring along some US FWS people, adding almost \$100,000 to the cost of the trip.

Propagation wise, this is a chip shot for us. It will just be a matter of getting through the pile ups. The way they are organizing operating is to maximize the number of people who can make a

contact. They won't be on all modes on all bands encouraging some big gun DXers to fill up their log books with contacts, making it more difficult for others.

The dates of the operation were not set last month, and as far as I know they are not cast in stone now, but it will probably be early February. The dates are set to avoid the bird nesting season.

If you ever think you will get serious about DXing, you can't afford to miss this one. The last time Navassa was activate was 22 years ago. The FWS said they would not allow anyone back for at least another 10 years.

Last minute updates can be found at [navassadx.com](http://navassadx.com)

Although none come close to matching Navassa in importance, there are a few reasons to fire up the radio in January until the big event in February.

Easter Island will be on January 9-17 using the call XR0YJ. This is being put on by a large group of Japanese operators. They will be on 80-6 meters, SSB, CW and digital modes. They may also operate with their home calls signing /CE0Y.

Iran has been another tough one. I have not worked it since the 1990's, but there will be another chance January 16-31. A group will be operating from Kish Island on 160-10 meters. Iran is especially rare on the low bands so extra effort will be made there. They are bringing along special receive systems to help on those bands. They will have 5 high power stations on the air for this effort.

January has a good selection of contests as well. The North American QSO parties have two events this month. The CW weekend is January 10 and SSB is January 17. They start at noon local time and end at midnight but you can only operate 10 hours. The exchange is your name and state. This is a great contest for small stations. Domestic contests actually favor modest antennas, and the power limit is 100 watts. Rules can be found at <http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

Low band fans will look forward to the CW weekend of the CQ World Wide 160 Meter Contest January 23-25. It starts on Friday at 4:00PM local to take advantage of the first hours of darkness. While the contest lasts 48 hours, you can only operate 40. Send a signal report and state. DX stations will send signal report and their CQ Zone.

Contacts with your own country are worth 2 points, different countries in the same continent are 5 points and 10 points for contacts with other countries. Multipliers are states, Canadian provinces and DX countries. Hopefully we will have better DX conditions than we did in last month's ARRL 160 Meter and the Stew Perry Top Band DX Challenge.

The year long ARRL Centennial QSO part finished up on December 31. There was a huge pick up in activity the last couple of weeks and there was even some comments on the club reflector. I ended up with 5208 QSOs for a total of 57679 points. So far that is only good enough for 200<sup>th</sup> place! A lot people put in a lot of effort for it. The standings are not finalized, you have until Jan 15 to get your logs loaded into the LoTW.

The cold weather has arrived and January is a great month to spend in front of a warm radio.

# The Computer Corner

## No. 203. Keep That XP Going a Bit Longer

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



Support for XP ended last April, which means that, although you can still use your machine, Microsoft will install no security or other updates. That can leave you exposed to a bunch of bad stuff. Many folks just plug along anyway, since XP still fits like an old shoe. On the other hand, if you have more than one machine at home on your network, that puts them all at risk. So, what to do? Here are the major problems that most are facing.

- Your old XP machine just is not powerful enough to handle Windows 7 or higher.
- You simply like XP and don't want to upgrade even though your machine will handle it.
- You just don't want to put out the cash for a new Operating System at this time.

The (at least temporary) answer to all of these comes from a journalist (and computer guru) from Germany named Martin Brinkmann. It consists of a patch that will allow you to download and install all updates until 9Apr2019, over four more years. The patch converts your XP machine into a Point-of-Sale ready computer, now known as Windows Embedded industry, which Windows continues to support and supply security updates for. This works for all 32-bit copies of XP but **not** 64-bit.

First, for safety, back up your important files. Make copies of any critical files (your creations) and take the copies off the machine. That means copy them to a floppy, a CD or DVD, or copy them to another hard drive, either outboard or on another machine on your network.

Next, copy the text shown below in the box (not the box, just the characters in the box). To do this, highlight just the text characters and then right-click and select COPY. Go to the desktop, right click an empty spot and select NEW. Then select TEXT DOCUMENT. A new document will appear called NEW TEXT DOCUMENT.TXT. Open it – it will be empty. Put the cursor at the top, right click, and select PASTE. Just the words below in the box will appear. Save the document as XP.REG.

Now you are back on the desktop. Ready? Double click the document (XP.REG or XP) on your desktop. About one second later, the system will inform you that the patch has been added to your Registry. You are done with the modification.

Now, go to Windows (Microsoft) Update and have it look for updates for your machine. There will be many. Let it download and install them all. Do this several times, and include the CUSTOM option to pick up any patches that are unique to your computer. Make sure your Automatic Updates are turned on, your antivirus program is running and updated, and you are home free, now and in the future (to 2019).

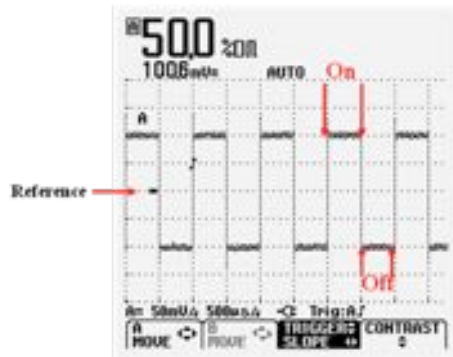
Windows Registry Editor Version 5.00

[HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SYSTEM\WPA\PosReady]  
"Installed"=dword:00000001

Having a problem creating the XP.REG file? Let me know and I will send you a zipped copy. Happy computing!

Editors Note: I tried this and its easy and works great.

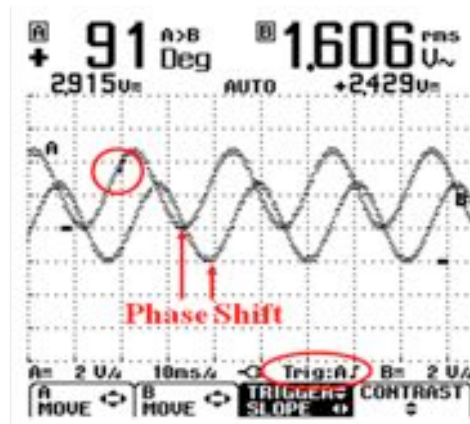
## Understanding Test Equipment© de Gary Drasch, K9DJT



OK, the last two measurement descriptions we will be taking a look at are “Duty-Cycle” and “Phase-shift”. Last month we discussed “Pulse-width”. “Duty-Cycle” is actually based on “Pulse-width” but is expressed as a percent. It is a measurement of the “on” time vs. the “off” time. The example at the left is a 50% duty cycle. The signal is “On” or high, for the same length of time as it is “Off” or low. So, if the pulse width is narrower at the

top of the signal and wider at the bottom of the signal, you might be able to say, as an example, that it has a 30% Duty-Cycle. This measurement is often used in the automotive industry. Some of you who are older, or should I say more mature, might remember the measurement as “Dwell” when adjusting a distributor, i.e., how long are the points closed vs open.

Phase-shift is a timing relationship between two signals. The measurement is expressed in degrees of shift. Looking at the example to the right, you will notice there are two traces displayed. Channel “A” and “B”. This instrument happens to be a two channel in contrast to a channel scope. The frequency and amplitude of both signals are the same, but as you can see, you would be pressed to lay one over the other. The difference between “Phase-shift” which in this case, is the signal brought channel “A” is running at 90 degrees ahead of channel “B”. The triggering or syncing of the traces is done by one of the traces(signals) as a reference. In this case would be said that we are triggering on channel “A” is indicated right above the highlighted TRIGGER-SLOPE button. It says, “Trig: A and positive going icon”. Look at the “A” trace, and you will notice the icon towards the left and top of the trace. Being there also tells you that is where on the waveform it is being triggered. There is actually a “Trigger Level” button or control which will allow you adjust the “Trigger Level Voltage”. As you adjust it, you will notice trace “A” (and Ch. B) move to the left and right on the



nals. Look-are stru-four sig-hard ing the into nel using it which

CRT or display. For example, you could trigger off of channel “B”, or “C” or “D” if you had a four channel scope. You chose one signal and then compare the others to that.

My hope is to provide you with some application examples next month.

As always, you are welcome to ask questions on the “ORC Radio Chatter” forum board. I look forward to hearing from you.

## Meet Bob Schatzman, KD9AAD



You remember Bob, he’s the guy that gave the program on “drones”. Actually his interest in drones relates to another of his hobbies, photography.

His interest in amateur radio actually derived from his interest in CB radio as a kid. He had CB HT’s as a kid and was fascinated by being able to talk across town (Waukesha) to his buddies and hear base stations that were miles away. His interest continued in CB through high school where he took several electronics classes and joined the local REACT group. CB was all the rage in those years.

However, electronics was not his only interest in that he started on his photography hobby at about age 10 buying his first camera with his paper route money. He continued the photography hobby through his high school years with his own dark room and where he was the high school newspaper and year book student photographer. Now of course, it’s all digital. He bought the drone so he could take pictures of the elementary school construction project behind the St. Francis Borgia church. He maintains a blog on the project at [ssbeac.com](http://ssbeac.com).

He graduated from Waukesha High School in 1987 and it was off to Whitewater. During those years he was working for a company that created 35mm slides from digital images and that activity started him into the computing technology field. Bob is a fast learner and is currently the IT Director at MTVB, a magazine publisher.

Bob’s interest in electronics was rekindled when he wanted to establish a GMRS (similar to family radio at 462 MHz) repeater at his home in Cedarburg. This would allow his kids to have an HT and communicate with him at work in the Milwaukee area. With his repeater up and running he got interested in amateur radio and DX. Bob got his Technician license in Nov. 2013 and his General in July of 2014. He is a natural on the mic and kept the 40 meter station alive half the night on field day.

Bob is at home in Cedarburg with his wife Alyona and three children.

His home station consists of an IC7200 running barefoot to a 43 ft. vertical in the back yard. He has a number of buried radials with the vertical but the new dog seems to have a good time digging them up. She also enjoys the taste of RG-8. He really enjoys watching the clusters for a rare one and then trying his luck at DX. He also has three dual banders so he can monitor local activities from home, the car or work.

You will be hearing more from Bob as he is the new editor of the “Meet out Members” column in the newsletter.

Welcome to the Ozaukee Radio Club Bob.

# Thoughts for a New Year

De Ray Totzke (W9KHH)



It's a new year and time to assess your situation and goals for amateur radio in 2015. The ARRL Centennial Worked All States program has finished. Now what to work?

Navassa DXpedition will be on the air during the end of January. No? Haven't worked Navassa yet? DX #1 Entity since the island has not been heard in over 20 years. QSO via CW or SSB or Digital? Where is that J-38, bug, or paddle? Where is the microphone, keyboard, headphones? Pileups? Enormous! Even apocalyptic! Extra

supply of antenna grease to make sure your signal slips through?

Upgrade your license to General, or Extra? Extra bandwidth on HF might help achieve WAS or DXCC. Or even 5BWAS or 5BDXCC. How about exploring the rest of the spectrum - Top Band on MW, HF, then VHF, UHF, and beyond? 1000 mile DX on two meters? High speed meteor scatter? EME? New digital modes?

Build a new gadget, a new desirable operation convenience, or a retro rig to make use of that FT-243 forty meter crystal and 6L6 recently found at the back of a parts drawer. How about a completely automated station that will operate during DX and Sweepstakes contests? Turn it on and it makes QSO's at a three per minute rate for the entire test. No dupes. Always ahead of propagation changes choosing the best band and frequency for that missing multiplier. Meanwhile you relax, periodically check the progress of your station, and go back to your favorite book, either "DX IS" or "How to Enjoy Sweepstakes and Field Day Without Losing Sleep".

Improve your CW abilities. Review the old tune up procedure - increase grid drive, dip the final plate current, increase the load. Repeat until the transmitter is ready to go on the air. Where is that dummy load?

Check out the hamfests for that needed item. Only have fifteen Hallicrafters or Heathkit receivers, transmitters, or test equipment on the shelf? Perhaps the missing mint condition AT-1 or SX28 will be waiting for you to take it home.

Be an Elmer.

Head to Dayton or an ARRL convention. Associate with friends old and new. At twelve midnight participate in secret ceremonies and become one with the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong.

T.O.M. - The Old Man in his QST articles about "Rotten QRM" wrote about instruments of torture to be used to inflict indescribable punishment on Rotten Operators. The 1930 Radio Amateur's Handbook described them this way: The Wouff-Hong is Amateur Radio's most sacred symbol and stands for the enforcement of law and order in amateur operation. The Ret-tysnitch... is used to enforce the principles in operating work."

There was a third device, the Uggerumph, of such power and influence that even Lucifer shudders and runs from its presence. It is seldom mentioned in conversation. It has never been captured in photos. Its purpose and manner or use has never been disclosed except in a long forgotten and unrecorded meeting of those entrusted with responsibility of all RF emissions from DC to light and beyond.

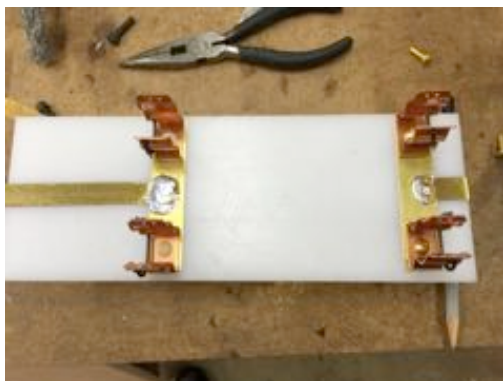
Internalize the principles of the Wouff Hong and Rettysnitch in your own mind and ham shack. Never require their use in your ham radio life.

Happy New Year!!!

## Project of the Month

De Chuck Curran (W9KR)

Last spring I looked at a web site found on ebay. It was a list of RF parts provided by a seller in the Ukraine. I had already purchased 2-3 items from the Ukraine, so I reviewed this relatively extensive site and came across some very large 100 ohm non-inductive resistors. Two in parallel would make a nice dummy load. I purchased a steel 5 gallon bucket and built up the load in early May of last spring. It turned out to be a dismal failure, since the non-inductive resistors were "very inductive" and caused a very high SWR.



This last fall I was being asked about potential Christmas gifts I would be interested in, so I quickly provide the part numbers for MFJ non-inductive resistors. My wife and daughters just sort of shake their heads when I provide a Christmas "Wish List". I got them this Christmas and just today, January 5<sup>th</sup>, I completed the new dummy load. Shown below is the start of the project:

The above shows the connectors, while the picture below shows the non-inductive resistors being put into the spring loaded contacts.



Four resistors were used in this project.



Next I checked the load resistance, four resistors in a series parallel connection. It looked fine. The last step was to mount the load to the cover and input connector, then check SWR using a MFJ-259B. (The item to look at is clamped in the vice.)





SWR checked from 1:1 up to 1.4 to 1 at 30 MHz, so the final assembly took place, resulting in the completed dummy load.

Yes, that is a five gallon bucket, load should take 5Kw without too

much trouble. I have nothing that will exceed the legal limit, so this is overkill. Hey, I needed a project and my Heath Antenna was 41 years old or so. Off I went, with reckless abandon-----



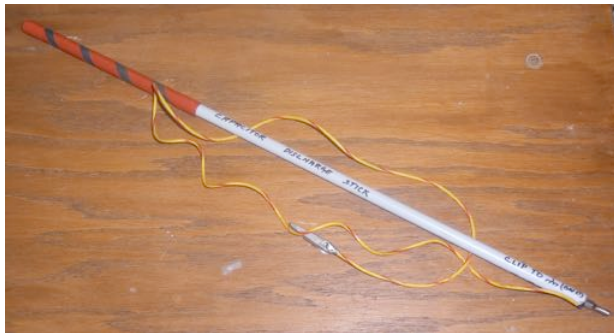
## Tips, Tails & Tools

Can't find a place to mount the rig control head in the car cabin? Try mounting it with Velcro (hook & loop) tape. It allows a temporary mounting almost anywhere. This was a breakfast tip from Greg.

## Junk Box Product

De Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR)

Have you ever been bit by a filter capacitor that was not fully discharged? Avoid the "jolt" by using a junk box grounding stick. I made this one using a fiberglass rod normally used as an electric fence support rod, some wire, an alligator clip and a test probe tip inserted in the end of the rod. The red spiral handle is simply red tape and for looks only. It helps me remember which end to hold.



The completed rod with tip probe and grounding wire/clip.



To use, simply attach the alligator clip to chassis and touch the connected end probe to the filter capacitor +..

# Election of Officers for 2015

De Ken Boston, W9GA

The nominating committee presents the following slate of candidates for election as officers in the Ozaukee Radio Club for 2015:

**President:** Chuck Curran, W9KR  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:** Kevin Steers, K9VIN  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** John Strachota, W9FAD  
**Repeater Vice President:** Tom Trethewey, KC9ONY  
**Secretary:** Zach Yatso, KC9ZNR  
**Treasurer:** Dave Barrow, N9UNR

Trustee to be appointed by the Board: Ed Rate, AA9W  
Past President: Gary Drasch, K9DJT

## Ozaukee Radio Club Minutes

*Brian Skrentny (N9LOO) - Secretary*

December 10, 2014

President Gary Drasch, K9DJT, called the meeting to order at 7:27 p.m. Introductions followed.

### **Announcements/Show-and-Tell:**

Gary, K9DJT, mentioned that Ron, W9BCK, is still recovering from a stroke and that he also broke his arm. He also noted that the ARRL CW/Phone 10 Meter Contest is this weekend (13-14).

Jim, K9QLP, noted that Gary, KC9EOV, is recovering and undergoing dialysis.

Zach, KC9ZNR, recently passed his General license and his mother just passed her Technician license.

Bob, KD9AAD, is looking for some hardline/Heliac cable for his repeater. W9IPR will check if the club may have some in the barn.

### **Program:**

Ken, W9GA, gave an updated presentation on VHF Weak Signal Operations - QRP. He explained the various propagation modes, station diagrams, weak signal calling frequencies, power amps and the importance of your surrounding terrain. Be sure to download his presentation on the ORC website at [www.ozaukeeradioclub.org/downloads](http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org/downloads)

### **50/50 Drawing:**

Kristian Moberg, KC9TFP, ran the drawing and Joe, AA9HR, was the winner.

### **Auction:**

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

### **Officer Reports:**

**President's Report:** Gary reminded everyone about the upcoming elections in January and that in order to vote dues need to be paid up for 2015.

**1<sup>st</sup> VP Report (Chuck, W9KR):** He stated as a Field Day trailer committee member that they will hold off on purchasing a trailer until after March 20<sup>th</sup> when it's easier to inspect.

He also has been investigating a new Field Day site. He has been in touch with Cindy from the Ozaukee County Parks and is suggesting that we consider using the H.H. Peters Youth Camp section of Hawthorne Hills Park off County Hwy I.

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP Report (John, W9FAD):** None.

**Repeater VP Report (Tom, KC9ONY):** The 2m repeater is working fine and the 2m Net has had good participation. The 440 repeater isn't being used from what he can tell and that K9QLP and WA9JOB are still investigating a minor issue with interference on the 220 repeater.

**Secretary's Report/Minutes:** Stan, WB9RQR, made a motion to accept the minutes and Dave, N9UNR, seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report (Dave, N9UNR):** Dave, N9UNR, moved to accept the treasurer's report. Bill, W9MXQ, seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Committee Reports:**

None.

**Old Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

Scholarship – Tom, W9IPR, made a motion to increase the annual scholarship award from \$1,000 to \$2,000. Chuck, W9KR, seconded it and after a brief discussion the motion on the floor was called and the motion passed.

Spring Swapfest – Loren, N9ENR, motioned that new/additional swapfest flyers have been printed and will be distributed.

**Adjournment:**

Kristian, KC9TFP, moved to adjourn and Stan, WB9RQR, seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM.

**Member Attendance:**

There were 38 members present and 2 guests.

A copy of the attendance sheet is available upon request in PDF format. Please contact me via email at: [n9loo@arrl.net](mailto:n9loo@arrl.net) if you would like a copy.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brian Skrentny, N9LOO  
Secretary

**Ozaukee Radio Club Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**Brian Skrentny (N9LOO) - Secretary**

## **AGENDA**

*January 14th, 2015*

1. 7:00 – 7:30 PM – Network & Rag Chew
2. Call to order: Gary Drasch , K9DJT
3. Introductions.
4. Announcements, Bragging Rights, Show & Tell, Upcoming events, Etc.,
5. Program:
6. 50/50 – Kristian Moberg, KC9TFP
7. Fellowship Break
8. Auction – Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR)
9. Presidents Report – Gary. Drasch, K9DJT
10. 1<sup>st</sup> VP Report – Chuck Curran, W9KR
11. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Report – John Strachota, W9FAD
12. Repeater VP report – Tom Trethewey, KC9ONY
13. Acceptance of Minutes -- Brian Skrentny, N9LOO
14. Treasurer's report – Dave Barrow, N9UNR
15. Committee reports.  
Other:
16. OLD BUSINESS
17. NEW BUSINESS  
Election of Officers for 2015
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 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Grafton**  
Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>

7:00 PM – doors open

7:30 – Membership Meeting