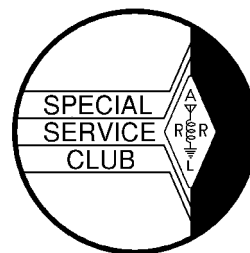


The ORC News -

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AMATEUR RADIO

**ORC Repeaters on 146.97, 224.18 and 443.750 MHz -
Callsign W9CQO Web site: <http://www.qsl.net/orc/>**

Volume XXIII

October 2004

Number 10

The Prez Sez

By Vic Shier (KB9UKE)

Fall is normally a time of the year that doesn't require much club activity. All of our normal events are finished and we can start planning for next year. However, this year is different. We have several projects that need to be finished before the first snowfall. We have to move all of the club equipment from "the Barn" to a new location, "the Shed".

There are four steps to the process, three of which need to be completed within the next few weeks.

- Step 1 is to get a cabinet for the repeater equipment. We club has two TV transmitters that are of little value but the cabinets may work at our future repeater site. Nels will determine the suitability of the cabinet in a few days. If they will fit, we will need two people to go to the barn and empty the cabinets by removing all of the TV transmitter equipment from the inside.
- Step 2 will be to move the cabinet into place at the new site (which is in Grafton), install the antennas, and run coax from the antennas into the cabinet. This will require four people.
- Step 3 will be to move all of the club equipment, except the repeaters, from the barn to the shed. This project will require a team larger than the Field Day moving crew. On field day we move about 60% of the equipment, this time we will need to move it all.

- Step 4 will be sometime later when we remove the repeater and related equipment from the barn.

Bring your calendars to the next meeting so we can pick out some dates.

It's also time to check your own antennas before the roof gets slippery. Hams often joke about waiting for crummy weather to fix the antenna but safety really is a concern. There are some beautiful days coming in October, look over your antennas before November.

73's and remember...It's a hobby!

Contesting

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

It's time for the big one again---November Sweepstakes, that is. CW--Nov. 6-8, and SSB--Nov. 20-22. This is a great one--in my book it's # 2 of the year, just a tad behind Field Day. 160 thru 10 meters, except for the WARC bands. The contest runs for 30 hours---you may work a total of 24 of those hours, you choose which ones. Or, if you're not a contest addict, try it out for 2 or 3 hours, or whatever. Tip: The addicts will normally use about the bottom 40-50 kHz of the various bands, usually operating between 25 & 35 wpm. If you're not comfortable with those speeds, move up above 50 kHz where you will usually find slower operators. Call CQSS at whatever speed you choose, and most people will answer you at your speed. And don't worry about it if you don't have a great antenna system. Just load up the bed springs, your rain gutters (metal only), or string a wire 10' above the ground---they all work, not well enough to make you a winner, but well enough for you to have a little fun. Winning is never a consideration for me,

there is just too much competition out there. Instead, my goal in each SS contest is to score just a little bit better than I did last year. Sometimes I do, sometimes I don't, but when I do, a great feeling of satisfaction comes with it. It's kinda like hitting a home run in the softball game at the company picnic. Try it for a few hours, and maybe you can hit a home run next Field Day.

Results—ARRL Int. DX Phone:
K9CAN—252 QSO's—82 Mults. —61,992 Score

Coming up in Oct.:

Oct. 9-10 ARRL Int. EME Contest—Rules in Sept. QST, page 98

Oct. 30-31 ARRL Int. EME Contest—Rules in Sept QST, page 98

Oct. 30-31 CQ World Wide DX Contest, SSB—Rules in Oct. QST, page 99

Nov. 6-8 ARRL November Sweepstakes, C W—Rules in Oct. QST, page 107

Have fun contesting. See you in SS.

Bob, W9LO

Radio Hot Spots

de Vic Shier (KB9UKE)

If you have an opportunity to visit the Minneapolis area there are a few great radio stops. There is the Pavlek Museum of Broadcasting in St. Louis Park, a new ham radio consignment shop on Prior Ave. just north of University Ave., the Antique Radio Store in Stillwater and Great Northern Antiques on Bloomington Ave.

We recently stopped at Great Northern Antiques which has a wide selection of old tube radios, radio signs and other collector items. The owner, Alan Jespersen, was quite helpful. He answered all my questions and even gave us a tour of his basement so we could view his complete inventory of console radios.

You can get more information on any of these Midwest radio hot spots through the web by using a search engine.

A Letter from our winner



Our 2004 ORC scholarship winner is Amber Ericksen (KC9FVW) of Chippewa Falls who is a junior in Elementary Education at Eau Claire

Dear Vic Shier,

It was great hearing from you. It is a pleasure knowing you want to publish me in your newsletter. It is a great honor. Again, I would like to thank you for choosing me as the recipient for your scholarship. It has greatly helped with the cost of tuition and books.

A little bit about me: I was born and raised in Chippewa Falls Wisconsin by my two loving parents, Karen and Rick.

I have three siblings: an older brother Adam who is 25 years old and a newlywed to a wonderful woman Bridget, an older sister Amy who is 23 and has a four year old named Austin and a one year old named Ethan, and lastly, a younger sister Alisha who is 18 and has a one year old named Abilgail.

My family is very strong and close to each other. When you need help, there is always someone there ready to lend a hand.

Currently I am in my junior year at the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire. I am studying Education and would like to teach at an elementary school, preferably third grade.

Amateur Radio is not new to me, only recently licensed; I have been around it for over five years. Justin, K9MU, sparked my interest in this amazing hobby and taught me what I needed to know. Before I knew it, I was studying for my license, which I obtained in April of this year. I currently hold a technician class license and got only one wrong on the exam.

I enjoy operating on six and two meters. I also like to contest. During this past September VHF contest I had the honor to operate at the old W0UC site on W0AIH's antenna farm near Fall Creek, WI. We were a multi-op using our club call K9CVC and our claimed score was just over 80,000.

I am the vice-president of the Midwest World Wide Young Contesters and a member of the Chippewa Valley VHF Contesters (K9CVC). I hope that this will help you for your newsletter. Please feel free to use what parts you want.

Thank you once again for choosing me as the recipient of the Ozaukee Radio Club Scholarship.

Sincerely,

Amber L. Ericksen, KC9FVW

Answering the Call

De Nels Harvey, WA9JOB

A couple of weeks ago, I put out a request on the re-mailer for a low band receiver that an old friend from my CB days wanted to acquire a receiver. Most of you know my interest in electronics started with CB, back in about 1962). Don, my friend, called me out of the blue recently, and I learned he was retired, pretty much restricted to home, and losing his eyesight due to diabetes. Don lives in Random Lake, and

recently found the 146.97 repeater on his scanner.

Todd Sprinkmann, KC9BQA, the guy that had been snooping in your hamshacks for the newsletter last year, stepped up to the plate. He wrote me: "The Icom R-70 is close to 25 years old, but was aligned by K9CAN two years ago. He said it was in good shape."

Todd, who also lives in Random Lake, has made arrangements with Don, visited him, his wife and son, and set Don up with the R-70. I want to thank Todd for his offer and assistance. This was a generous outreach by Todd that underscores the helping nature of most Amateur Radio operators. Perhaps we can encourage Don to get his ticket now, so he can further enjoy the benefits our great hobby offers.

73, Nels....

AA9W "SKELETON SLOT" ANTENNA DESIGNS FOR THE ORC REPEATERS

De AA9W, Ed Rate

My program presentation at the last meeting stirred up requests for construction information for this unusual antenna with dimensions for each of the club's repeaters. The skeleton slot described is a gain (3 dBd) antenna that looks like it should be horizontally polarized but isn't! When positioned as shown below, it produces equal front and back vertically polarized radiation lobes. The original design work was done in Britain in the 1950's. It was further explored by Japanese researchers but very little has been published in English. You will not find much about it published in the US ham literature. If it is designed for ham VHF frequencies using thick elements, it is very broad banded with out sacrificing gain and is very easy to make.

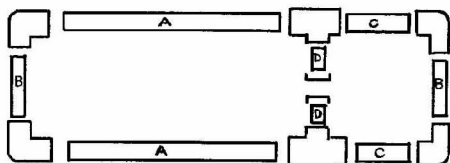
My designs are made from ordinary half-inch copper plumbing pipe (type L). The pipe, "elbows" and "T's" can be found at any home improvement store. The antennas are fed at the

caps using 50-ohm cable (RG-8) although a balanced line feed would be a little better.



Ed Rate (AA9W) is shown here explaining his design experiments and the resulting original “skeleton slot antenna” which exhibits 3-dB gain on the ORC repeater frequencies.

AA9W "SKELETON SLOT" ANTENNA
FOR OZAUKEE RADIO CLUB REPEATERS



The construction details given were determined for the ORC repeater input frequencies. The exploded view shows the dimensions for cutting the pipe

FREQ.	“A”	“B”	“C”	“D”
448.75 0	10 ½ inches	3 ½ inches	1 5/8 inches	1 3/8 inches
222.58 0	22 inches	7 1/8 inches	3 1/8 inches	3 1/8 inches
146.37 0	32 ½ inches	10 ½ inches	6 ¾ inches	4 7/8 inches

Breakfast Anyone?

Not everyone knows it but there are two locations for a Saturday morning “Ham” breakfast. The “Early Group” meets at Prime Minister in Mequon at about 6:30 or 7:00AM and hangs around until about 8:30 AM.



The “Early Group” had quite a crowd including the Tom and Julia Nawrot, Tom Oehler, Mike Yuhas, Gabe Chido, Nancy Stecker, Steve Stevens, Ed Rate, Stan Kaplan, Nels Harvey, Kevin Steers and Dave Barrow. Note Ed’s (AA9W) loop antenna used as a table centerpiece.



The “Late Group” crowd this Saturday was small but interesting with Gene and Carol Szudrowitz, Dave Knaus and Gerry Walker and his visiting son.

The "Late Group" gathers at about 8:00 AM at "The Family Restaurant" (bowling alley) in Grafton. They, like the "Early Group", usually have 10 or so at breakfast and there is much discussion about "hamming" as well as religion, politics and sex.

Grayslake! It was great!

Yes, I did find a number of treasures and some of them weren't broken – yet.



Tom Nawrot (AA9XL) camped in his tent at the adjoining campground to be sure he would get an early chance at bargains.



Gary Sutcliffe (W9XT) was on the selling end of things on Sunday following his participation in the W9DXCC convention on Saturday at Elk Grove Village.

How about a 400 VA UPS system for \$1.00 that works once the battery is replaced or a Heathkit 50 watt antenna tuner for \$7.50 (no rattles). Those that rattled were only \$5.00



As Gabe Chido toured the outdoor treasure tables he bumped into his old friend K9XHA. You will note that Gabe is still empty-handed so you know this is still early on Saturday morning.

What else? How about a Heathkit signal tracer for \$5.00 or an EICO Transistor Analyzer Md. 685 (I need a manual) for \$15.00. And these were only the "high lights". See you there next year.

E-mails of help from afar

De Nels Harvey (WA9JOB)

As you all know, Hurricane Charley passed through southwestern Florida in the middle of August. As a result, I received the following e-mail:

Mr. Harvey,

Your name was given to us by the Ozaukee Radio Club. We are trying to contact anyone from the Amberg family in Punta Gorda FL. First names are David, Dennis, and Carol. Another contact is Poullette McQuire, Sarasota FL.

The hurricane has wiped out all phone service in this area, for this reason we are urgently looking for alternate means to contact these families.

We certainly appreciate any assistance you can provide. You can reach me at the email address attached to this email. My phone no. is 262-284-5048?

Thanks again, JimPurdy.

Jim,

I am CC'ing your message to John, a former Ozaukee Radio Club member who lives down there also. I don't know if he is able to help you at all, but he has been able to use e-mail after the storm, so possibly he can be of some help.

John, is there some way that you may be able to help Jim out? Could you please contact Jim at any rate? I am sure he would appreciate anything you can do for them.

Thanks, Nels....

Nels,

I will see if we can get in touch w/ one of the Amberg's maybe thru a local radio station. If so I will get back to you.

John WD9JAC

Nels,

I got in touch w/ the Amberg's David's Sister and gave them the phone # and name that you sent to me

John WD9JAC

Nels,

We did hear from our nephew in Punta Gorda. Everyone is safe, and all the damage was "financial". We certainly thank you and your associate in FL for all the efforts you extended on our behalf.

Thanks again ...Jim Purdy

Just Another Shack

By Steve Stevens (K9DXT)

Time was getting shorter and I had a deadline to meet... Problem was I was not known for my writing, uncton or spelling skills. And which made matters worse I couldn't find my Valium.

I started making phone calls to find a victim or should that be subject for the article and ran

into a number of roadblocks. I was beginning to feel like I was driving on a stretch of Wisconsin highway in construction season.

Most people had conflicts because of over loaded schedules some just didn't return phone calls, others said they would be a subject down the line and still others felt they didn't have a "shack". These articles are not just about someone who has built an edifice to the great god Ham. My definition of a shack is anywhere you have a communication device and you can carry on a contact with someone at another location.

I took this assignment to write about people. I wanted to meet people in the club and learn about and from them. Where they had come from, where they were going and yes about their interest in amateur radio. And I promise to do this as painlessly as possible.

Thanks for your consideration and I'll see you on the radio.

WANTED

A good home for a portion of my ham radio magazine collection. The basement is getting too crowded, and they have got to go. Here's what's available:

CQ 1948 -2004

Ham Radio 1969 -1990

73 1961-1990

They are almost complete, but have a few missing issues. They are free—you transport. Tbsi@hnet.net, or 262-629-9685. If there is no interest they will drive away in the recycle truck next month.

Bob, W9LO

Tips & Tools

Gel hand cleaner works great to clean up an old dingy panel but be careful to use a "goop" that does not contain pumice. The pumice will leave microscopic scratches on the painted panel.

Save the “zip lock” lunchmeat bags from the market. They are great for separating and maintaining your smaller treasurers.

Membership Meeting Minutes – Sept. 8th, 2004

De Carol Szudrowitz, KC9CBC

Announcements: Amber Erickson KC9FVW is this year’s scholarship recipient. She attends the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire and is studying to become a Social Studies teacher.

Program: Ed AA9W presented an interesting program on Antennas – Loops, Squares, Rectangles and other Curiosities. Ed lives in the southern edge of Mequon and because of two ridges his radio transmissions can not reach the repeater. Also his subdivision restrictions forbid outside antennas/towers; therefore, he investigated dipoles. Ask for a copy of the design he came up with to solve the problem. It sure is nifty and it works very well. It is made with PVC pipes.

Auction by Stan WB9RQR

Business Meeting

Minutes stand approved as printed in the newsletter.

No Treasurer’s report this month. Tom AA9XK is out of town.

Repeater Report: The amplifier was acting up so the 33 repeater was used for a Tuesday NET. Dick K9CAN checked the amplifier out, and found nothing. Nels WA9JOB put the spare amplifier in service, and the same problem occurred. It turned out the problem was in the Radius radio used to drive the amplifier. It was exchanged with the local receiver radio and the problem was solved. 220 and 440 are both working.

We are looking for a work crew to put some equipment in the Grafton Fire House and within the next few weeks to move barn “stuff” to the new location off of Hwy. 33.

OZARES: Jon KB9RHZ reported that the by laws have been adopted and work is going for-

ward to gain non-profit status. The simulated Emergency Training Session is slated to be October 16 across the nation.

Nominating Committees are needed per Vic KB9UKE. Let him know if you are interested for the following; Awards (Turkey and Ham of the Year Awards), Nominating (for officers for next year), and By-Laws. Reminder again: Let Vic know if you are interested.

Old Business

Many thanks are in order. The Corn Roast was Very Successful. We did not cancel because of rain as we were able to use the pavilion and that was very pleasant. A motion was made by Jane KB9SYI that we reserve this shelter every year for \$50.00. Stan WB9RQR seconded this. It was amended by Tom W9IPR to add the time – the 3rd weekend of Aug. at Waubedonia Park.

Mike KC9GDV has created a wonderful website and donated his time. It should speed things up for printing the newsletter. Website is www.OzaukeeRadioClub.org

Tom W9IPR will be out of town in Nov. so Gregg W9DHI volunteered to publish the newsletter then. Tom is also inviting club members to become Elmer’s for new club members.

Leon K9GCF is looking for ideas for programs. Let him know what interests you and if you have any contacts or suggestions. One suggestion was field trips. Note: be on the lookout for aluminum towers/antennas for the club. Meeting was adjourned.

Attendance: Jon KB9RHZ, Cindy KA9PZG, Gary WI9M, Gabe WI9GC, Don W9VSC, Gregg W9DHI, Nels WAJOB, Tom W9LNL, Ben K9UZ, Jim K9QLP, Bill, Jim N9WIU, Bernie AA9HR, Ron W9BCK, Paul W9IPR, Jane KB9SYI, Dick WA9MME, Herb WA9UVK, Gene KB9VJP, Stan WB9RQR, Jim KA4UPW, Leon K9GCF, Gary W9XT, Mike KC9GDV, Nancy KC9FZK, Chris N9VKC, Roger W9UVV, Mark AB9CD, Julia KB9WBQ, Carol KC9CBC, Ray W9KHH, Vic KB9UKE.

AGENDA

October 13th, 2004

1. Call to order – Vic (KB9UKE)
2. Introductions.
3. Announcements, Upcoming events, Etc.,
4. Program:
5. Fellowship Break
6. Auction.
7. Acceptance of Minutes as printed.
8. Treasurer's report – Tom (AA9XK).
9. Repeater report – Nels (WA9JOB)
10. OZARES report – Jon (KB9RHZ).
11. Committee reports.
12. OLD BUSINESS
13. NEW BUSINESS.
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 7th Avenue, Grafton

Wednesday, Oct. 13th

7:30 PM