

# 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 XXVIV

September, 2011

Number 9

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## From the President

De Dave Barrow (N9UNR)

September 24 is the ORC Fall Swapfest. Contact Tom Ruhlmann W9IPR to volunteer to help with parking, tickets, food, etc, through the web site <http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org/index.php/memberspublic>. It is also a GREAT place to buy and/or sell! Did you hear that Tower is going to be there! Please make it worth their while!

What a great Corn Roast Tom and Julia organized for us. They had a lot of help from the Kaplans, Ed Frac, the Rediskes and the Howes. Like many others, I'm sure, when I was driving home from the "early breakfast" (if it gets any earlier we'll have to call it a Friday Fish Fry) in the driving rain I despaired for a pleasant event. Mother Nature must have heard our pleas because by 10 AM the skies cleared and a delightful breeze came along. I hope that everyone else had as a delightful time as Marian and I did.

In accordance with Policy & Procedure #5, I have asked Bill Howe (KA9WRL) as past president to chair the nominations committee and Stan Kaplan (KA9RQR), Ed Rate (AA9W) and Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR) as members of the committee. If any of you aspire a leadership position to keep the ORC as one of the outstanding clubs in Wisconsin (if not in the country) please let one of them know that you would like to be considered. Our continued success is not an accident – it requires a LOT of hard work by dedicated members to keep it going.

In preparation for a talk on amateur radio I ran across a few youtube videos:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZpdUb1YJ-HU>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvvvYdILHqM&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mfyf5Y5AHNc&feature=related>

and, for little humor:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOtoUjYOWw0&feature=related>

We sure have a GREAT bunch of members! Thanks for ALL of your efforts to make this the best club around.

73 de Dave

# Computer Corner

## No. 163: *Death of the Computer*

Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR

Well, sometimes I feel the need to “wax philosophical”, and this is one of those times. I am seeing a trend that is changing the way we compute, and it will definitely lead to the death of the computer as we know it today.

Laptops have already outpaced desktops. Back in 2000, laptops were only 25% of all computer sales. This past May, laptops sales had risen to 54% of all computer sales, outpacing desktops for the first time in history. It is not hard to see why this trend has emerged. Laptop prices have gone down considerably, and they are just more convenient for many users. Their built-in batteries not only make them more portable in the home or outside it, the batteries also keep the units going if there is a power failure. Several years ago, I switched our Ozaukee Radio Club Field Day logging network to all laptops for just that reason. If the Field Day generators go down for refueling or whatever, the laptop logging computers just keep chugging along and there is no danger of data loss. My home Winlink station, on 24/7, also uses a laptop for this reason. The rest of the equipment (rig and TNC) is on a UPS that keeps it all going for a while even when the lights go out. Laptops screens have also improved greatly in the recent past, and one can always plug in a desktop monitor to a laptop to improve size and readability even more. So, I think it is plain to all that the boxy old desktop will continue to decline in sales and use, even in the corporate world. But it may well not be the laptop that replaces it.

Another emerging technology that threatens the single use “computer” of the past is the smart phone. These gadgets can now do any communications task that a computer can do and more – voice communications, email, texting, and social networking on Facebook, Twitter and the like. Many models can also shoot still photos and video, play music, perform GPS functions and some have multiple-axis motion sensing (the ones that keep the picture horizontal even when you rotate the phone), which is useful in some games and other apps. Some can show you web videos, and we have all seen TV ads touting smart phone “apps” counting into the thousands. One of our ORC members logs into his Echolink machine with his phone, and has talked through it to hams in Europe. The amazing thing is that the cost of smart phones is so low – many are well under \$300.

Tablet computers are no slouches, either. These are generally larger than smart phones, often with 9 to 10 inch screens. They cost more, too, ranging from around \$300 to \$800. Some offer as much as 64 Gb of storage for videos, magazines, books or whatever. Tablets can do pretty much anything a smart phone can do, which means they can do pretty much anything a regular desktop or laptop can do.

So, we are seeing the emergence of a do-it-all gadget. Call it a smart phone or tablet, or use the old term Personal Digital Assistant (PDA). The point is, whatever it is called, it will do everything. Get your email while you are catching lunch at McDonalds, plug it in to a big monitor when you get home to compose a document, watch a U-Tube video while sitting on the throne, listen to music before you hit the sack, etc. Just one device that does it all and it will be with you 24/7. Many folks have it already and hundreds more are getting it every hour. The thing we call a computer today will soon be obsolete and gone.

What is the next step beyond that? The device will be implantable. There will be nothing to carry around. It will be under the skin of your arm. Happy Computing!

## New Members

De Janice Hoettels (KA9VVQ)



Meet **Lori Ann (N9PCA)** and **Dave (KA9RNU) Parkinson**, returning members of the Ozaukee Radio Club.

Lori Ann and Dave took a few years hiatus from the ORC to focus on other commitments that often occupied their Wednesday evenings. But now that their Wednesday evenings are free again, they've come back to reconnect with their old ORC friends and to make some new ones. Welcome back!

Both Dave and Lori Ann are long time hams. After dabbling with electronics in his youth, Dave later became interested in ham radio and obtained his Novice license in the early 1970s. Although that license eventually lapsed, he decided to get back into ham radio a few years later, upgrading to a

Technician license, and later a General license. His shack includes an Icom 718 with a G5RV antenna, from which he primarily operates SSB and occasionally PSK31. He is active on 80m, where he talks with his twin brother and brother-in-law, who are also hams. Dave is also active on the Mercury Amateur Radio Association Net on 80m.

Lori Ann obtained her Technician license in 1992 on Dave's urging. She is an occasional operator on 2m, primarily chatting with Dave on the way home from work.

Both Dave and Lori Ann are life-long Wisconsinites. Dave grew up on a farm near Mineral Point and graduated from UW-Platteville with a degree in chemistry. He presently works as a chemist at Hydrite Chemical Company in Milwaukee. Lori Ann was born in Milwaukee and attended UW-Whitewater for two years before transferring to Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah to complete her degree in geography. She presently works for the Manitou Group (formerly Gehl Company) in West Bend as a cost assistant.

Dave and Lori Ann have 3 grown children, Rachel, Nathan, and Carrie, and an 18-month-old grandson, Easton. Dave's other interests include cross-country skiing and gardening, and Lori Ann enjoys reading and sewing. Both are also very active in their church.

Welcome back to the ORC Lori Ann and Dave!

## Port Washington Light House Activation

De: Tom AA9XK



Steve and Nick Pierce, Loren Jentz, Tom Nawrot, Tom Murtaugh, Bill Howe and Tom Tretheway, and Tom Ruhlmann participated in the International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend at the special event station in Port Washington on a August 21. Setup started at 8:00 on

Sunday morning and we were on the air by 9:00 or so. Dick Smith, Co-director of the 1860 Lightstation came out to oversee our setup and gave us access to the flagpole halyard to support one end of our dipole.

Our very first contact was with the Southern Amateur Radio Association (K2BR) club operating from the Abescon Lighthouse located in Atlantic City, GA... The Abescom Lighthouse was placed into service only 3 years before our 1860 Lightstation in Port, but claims to be the third tallest lighthouse in the US. It too, was recently restored and operates as a museum. Go to the photo gallery at <http://www.abseconlighthouse.org/gallery/photos.asp?catID=8> to see a picture of the K2BR setup. We went on to make a casual 61 lighthouse contacts. The lion's share of these contacts were logged by Steve Pierce NC5B and his son Nick KC9MEA (see pictures)



Researching some of our lighthouse contacts, we found these interesting web sites:

<http://www.shmp.qc.ca/phare/phare/index.php>

<http://www.lighthousefriends.com/light.asp?ID=369>

<http://www.qsl.net/ws1sm/gallery.html>

<http://www.plumtv.com/videos/nantucket-inside-lighthouse>

This year, with the participation of the LeFrog Club, D-Star specialist Loren Jentz demonstrated the capabilities of his handheld his D-Star (Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio) system. Loren logged several contacts, including MM6BFH in Greenock, Scotland, and G0SFV in Brighton, England.



Even with Tom Ruhlmann's Clear Speech speaker, we struggled with high QRM levels from the power lines running along Johnson Street. Next year, with more participants, we'll explore the possibility of getting access to the vacant lots adjacent to the Lighthouse for a better antenna setup and make it a two day event with a special event callsign.

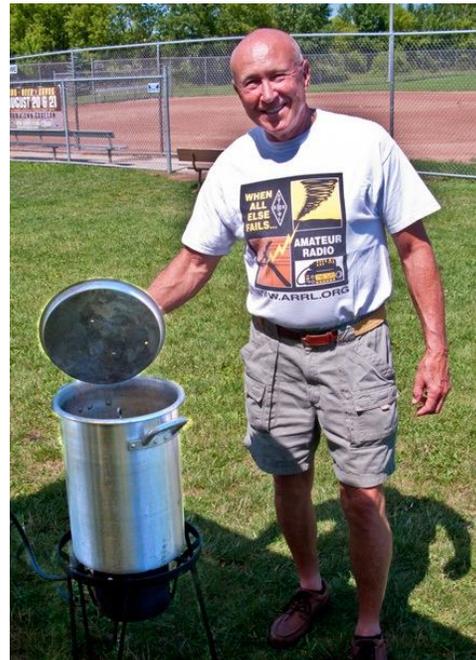
Editors comment: It was a great time if only to tour the tall ships in the harbor and the view from the light house through the trees.

# Corn Roast

De Tom Nawrot (AA9XK)



Well we had a little better turn out for the summer picnic on August 20th. Thanks to those of you that helped with this – especially the clean up. We should be getting back our deposit soon if the parks department found that we left everything as clean as we found it. Thanks to Ed Frac for letting the club uses his turkey cooker to boil the corn and to Stan Kaplan for lending his expertise as the burger & brat cook. The corn was DE-LI-cious as usual.



Set up started in the light rain but the sun came out before the group arrived and it turned out to be a beautiful day for eating, socializing and playing games...

## For Sale, Trade or ?

Refer to [ozaukeeradioclub.org](http://ozaukeeradioclub.org) for scholarship fund items for sale.

## Club Static

Do keep Bob Truscott's wife Jean in your thoughts and prayers. She is presently in physical rehab in Cedarburg.

### Minutes– August 10th, 2011

de Nancy Stecker (KC9FZK)

President Dave Barrow, N9UNR called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Members present introduced themselves.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Gabe Chido, WI9GC said to contact him if anyone is interested in older ham equipment he has for sale from another party.

Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR had one computer from Field Day to loan out. Tom Trethewey, KC9ONY will use it until late next spring.

Bill Howe, KA9WRL along with Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR and Mark Tellier, AB9CD, have been working on the Wurlitzer jukebox belonging to the Grafton Senior Center, and have done a number of repairs. The ORC will also purchase a manual for it as part of our continuing support for the facility.

#### **Health and Welfare:**

Jean Truscott, Joyce Harvey, WB9IMA and Herb Roehner.

#### **Program:**

Ed Rate, AA9W gave a presentation on the History of the Vacuum Tube.

#### **50/50 Raffle:**

Mark Feilkow, KB9PXE was this month's 50/50 raffle winner.

#### **Auction:**

Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR held an auction of donated items.

#### **Minutes:**

Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR made a motion to accept the minutes as written in last month's newsletter. Art Davidson, KC9PXR seconded the motion and the motion passed.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Nancy Stecker, KC9FZK noted that the Field Day expenses were printed on the back of last month's financial report placed on all tables. She also reported that since 2007, the 50/50 raffle has added \$709.25 to the club's funds. Leon Rediske, K9GCF made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, subject to audit. Bill Howe, KA9WRL seconded the motion and the motion passed.

#### **Repeater Report:**

Tom Trethewey, KC9ONY said there were no problems with the 440 repeater and that the 220 repeater was still being worked on by Nels Harvey, WA9JOB.

**Committee Reports:**  
**Corn Roast:**

Tom Nawrot, AA9XK reminded the members that the corn roast would be in Centennial Park in Grafton on August 20 at 11:00. The club supplies food for grilling, with attendees bringing a dish to pass. There will be games and activities.

**Fall Swapfest:**

Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR will have a planning meeting at his house on August 24 at 7:00 p.m. The fall swapfest is on September 24 at Fireman's Park in Cedarburg and help will be needed.

**Business Meeting:**

**Old Business:**

There was no old business.

**New Business:**

President Dave Barrow, N9UNR would like to organize a tent committee to look into a new cook tent and small tents with screened sides for better ventilation. He is looking for someone to head the committee. Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR and Leon Rediske, K9GCF would be willing to help a committee chair.

Tom Nawrot, AA9XK and Bill Howe, KA9WRL talked about the Lighthouse Special Event Station, to be set up and run on Sunday August 21. It will be at the 1860 Lighthouse Station in Port Washington.

Consent Agenda-unless objected the motion will be to approve the minutes as published and receive the Treasurer's report subject to audit.

**Adjournment:**

Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR moved to adjourn, Leon Rediske, K9GCF seconded the motion. At 9:17 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

**Members Attending:**

Stan Kaplan WB9RQR, Mark Tellier AB9CD, Gabe Chido WI9GC, Kristian Moberg KC9TFP, Dave Barrow N9UNR, Brian Skrentny N9LOO. Bill Howe KA9WRL, Glenn Classey KC9UHP, Nancy Stecker KC9FZK, Ron Yokes W9BCK, Gary Klupper KC9EOV, Ed Seigworth AA9GT, Michael York KB9YHF, Terry Koller KA9RFM, Tom Trethewey, KC9ONY, Antonio Bustamante KC9TDC, Ben Smith KC9TZM, Kate Holt KB0SIO, Mike Yuhas, AB9ON, Nathan Scheunemann KC9SMP, Leon Rediske K9GCF, Art Davidson KC9PXR, John Thielen WA9KNY, Jim Albrinck K9QLP, Lori Ann Parkinson N9PCA, David Parkinson KA9RNU, Tom Nawrot AA9XK, Ray Totzke W9KHH, Todd Fast N9DRY, Mark Fielkow KB9PXE, Gary Sutcliff W9XT, Joe Sturmberg KA9DFZ, Tom Ruhlmann W9IPR, Jon Sanfilippo WW9JON, David Carpenter Sr. KC9REP, David Carpenter Jr. KC9REO, Jacob Carpenter KC9RUD, Rudy Zarling WA9GAT, Dick Holt AB0VF, Janice Hoettels KA9VVQ, Julia Nawrot KB9WBQ and guests John Strachota W9FAD and Joe Neibrand KB9URC.

## **AGENDA**

*September 14, 2011*

1. 7:00 – 7:30 PM – Network & Rag Chew  
“Tagging” by Glenn Classey (KC9UHP)
2. Call to order Dave Barrow (N9UNR)
3. Introductions.
4. Announcements, Bragging Rights, Show & Tell,  
Upcoming events, Etc.,
5. Program: Sun Spots – Ken Boston (WA9GA)
6. Fellowship Break
7. Auction – Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR)
8. Acceptance of Minutes as printed – Nels Harvey  
(WA9JOB)
9. Treasurer’s report – Nancy Stecker (KC9FZK).
10. Repeater report – Tom Trethewey ( KC9ONY)
11. Committee reports.  
    Fall Swapfest – Ed Frac (AA9WW)  
    Corn roast – Tom Nawrot (AA9XK)  
    Light House Activation – Tom Nawrot (AA9XK)  
    Other:
12. OLD BUSINESS
13. NEW BUSINESS
14. 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. 14<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 PM – doors open**

**7:30 – Membership Meeting**