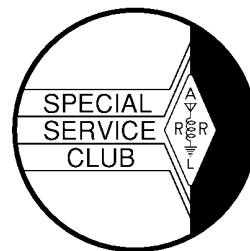


The *ORC* Newsletter

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

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.

The other "biggie" this month is the CQ World Wide DX CW contest on Nov.22-23. Rules at 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 Contester group has no dues or stringent membership requirements. Email me at sprinkies@excel.net or go to 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 3rd 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 2nd 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. 18th and 19th. 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 11th 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

1st – 2nd ARRL November CW Sweepstakes

12th **Membership Meeting**

15th–16th November Phone Sweepstakes

ARRL 160 Meter SSB contest

29th **Christmas Parade – Grafton**

29th – 30th CQ WW CW DX Contest

December

6th – 7th ARRL 160 Meter Contest

13th- 14th ARRL 10 Meter Contest

10th **Membership Meeting**

January

10th – 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.

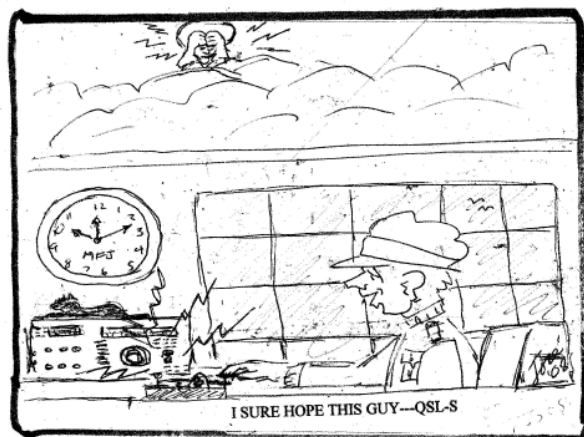
I have never been very active in the organization and the leadership came out of the Detroit area for the most part. However, it was fun to visit with another Firebird at Dayton.

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 3rd Thursday of the month, instead of our usual 4th 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 (4th 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.

06 Nov	KA9PZG
13 Nov	AB9ON
20 Nov	Meeting (see text)
27 Nov	No net; Thanksgiving
04 Dec	KC9FZK
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

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.
JOTA –
Nominations:
Safety Days:
Training:
 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 7th Avenue, Grafton

Wednesday, Nov. 12th

7:30 PM