The ORC Newsletter

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From the President

de Pat Volkmann, W9JI

The first week in May brought thunderstorms, which are a reminder to me to take a look at my emergency power situation. We have been very fortunate that we haven't had an extended power outage in our area for many years but that can, of course, change with the next storm system. Emergency power isn't just about the radios, you may need to keep your sump pump and refrigerator running too. If you have a generator, make sure that it starts and that you have fuel for a few days. If you use backup batteries make sure that the charging system is working. High capacity LiON battery packs are very inexpensive and can keep your phone working for days. Some advance preparation makes things a lot simpler when the lights go out.

Our monthly club meetings have been on Zoom for more than a year now and it looks like we will be sticking with virtual meetings. When we do resume in-person meetings we will very likely continue to use Zoom in parallel with the live meeting to allow everyone to attend. Gary Bargholz, N9UUR, has edited Fred Schwierske's, W9KEY, talk from the April meeting into a 58 minute presentation. Fred's talk is available through the ORC YouTube channel. The video is "unlisted", so you will need the link (https://youtu.be/TADkUidurQc) if you want to watch it. The link was also posted to the groups.io reflector. Fred's talk has been viewed 21 times so far. If you watched the video, please let me (and Fred!) know what you think.

Ken Boston, W9GA, will be our Field Day chairman again this year. At the last meeting we polled members to see how much interest there was in getting together for a Club Field Day. About of third of the folks present said they would like to participate, assuming proper Covid precautions were taken. We will keep an eye on the situation but I doubt that we will making any firm decisions until we see what things are like in June. Ken is going to need some assistance with Field Day, so contact Ken at kboston6@wi.rr.com if you would like to help out.

Do you use Logbook of the World? If not, you should consider signing up, especially if you use FT-8 or one of the related digital modes. There is no cost to use LOTW, though US hams must be ARRL members for award credits. JTAlert, one of the companion programs to WSJT-X, can flag LOTW users. For those working towards an award, this feature can help identify which stations can be easier to get a QSL from. The number of people who use LOTW on FT-8 is pretty high, which results in about 80% QSL success from US hams. DX stations do not use LOTW as much and will require more traditional methods to get a QSL card.

The ARRL Contest Update reports that Bob, N6TV, has updated his presentation "Everything You Need To Know About USB and Serial Interfaces". If you have been wondering how to set up a serial or USB port, this is a great source of information. Bob also discusses which chipsets to use and which to avoid when selecting a serial to USB interface, using Windows Device Manager, sharing serial ports and lots of other information that you would be great to have on hand the next time you are trying to connect a radio to a computer. Check out Bob's QRZ page for a list of his presentations and other info.

See you at the meeting.—Pat Volkmann, W9JI

THE COMPUTER CORNER

No. 278: AT&T Domain Email

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(262) 268-1949 wb9rqr@gmail.com

Guest Author: Gregg Lengling, W9DHI w9dhi@att.net

Gregg sent this out as a general message to those on the Ozaukee Radio Club mailing list, and I thought it was terrific information that no one should miss. Since there are a significant number of non-ORC members who read the ORC Newsletter each month, I asked his permission to reprint it here, hoping it would reach a few more people. So, thank you Gregg for the good guidance! Edited a bit for punctuation.—Stan, WB9RQR

Many people have ignored warnings over the last three years that Client Email needs to move to a secure key instead of a password. So if you have any of the AT&T email domains (ameritech.net, att.net, sbcglobal.net, etc.) and use Client Email, your email could stop working at any time because of failed attempts to access or hackers trying to access and causing the multiple attempt lock outs. Here's how to set up Secure Key.

To test if you need a SECURE MAIL KEY please do the following:

1. Test all your devices to validate you are unable to get your email.

2. Go to www.yahoo.com and login with your email account as your account and your email password as your password. You should be able to login. Go to the email and you should be able to see all your emails through their web portal.

3. If yes to #1 and #2 above, go to www.att.com and login with the same account and password as above . If you have a different login pair, you can try it.

4. Once logged in, click on your name in the upper right hand corner (exactly where you see it depends somewhat on the browser) and select Manage Profile.

5. Click on Sign-In Info.

6. Scroll down. There should be a secure Mail Key box, click on it.

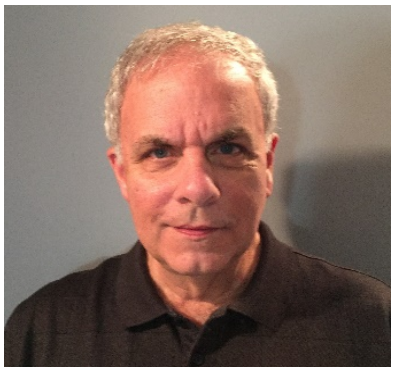
7. Get the key and use it as your new email password for third-party applications like Outlook, IOS, Thunderbird, etc. Note: The key will look like 18 random lowercase letters.

I hope this helps.

Gregg, W9DHI

Vintage Amateur Radio

de Bill Shadid, W9MXQ



Writing articles about Vintage Amateur Radio has certainly had its positives – and as they become more numerous, the return comments are growing. And that makes the entire process even more fun. Here are three items with a story to tell about each.

First Story.
An upgrade to the Drake PS7 AC Power Supply.

Recently, good friend and fellow appreciator of Vintage Amateur Radio equipment, Bill Schnell, AC9JV, came up with a question that I am frequently asked by other collectors.

Like me, AC9JV is an appreciator of Drake amateur radio equipment – we discuss the brand almost anytime we are talking about collecting. Bill often operates his Drake TR7 and TR-4 Transceivers. Like many Drake fans, Bill was looking for a fan to install instead of the now rare Drake FA7 Fan unit. The FA7 was optional on the following products:

- Drake TR7 Transceiver – optional cooling fan for continuous duty operation
- Drake TR7A Transceiver – optional cooling fan for continuous duty operation
- Drake TR5 Transceiver – optional cooling fan for continuous duty operation
- Drake PS7 Power Supply – optional cooling fan for continuous duty operation
- Drake DL-1000 Dummy Load – optional for full power (above 300 watts) output being tested under load

The Drake FA7 fan is no longer available and is often worn out or noisy when found removed from a Drake product. Even a brand new (NOS) FA7, at its best was a somewhat noisy product. Bill was asking if I had a recommendation for a suitable replacement. Having restored quite a few Drake items using the FA7 Fan, I did provide AC9JV a recommendation. For those of you with any of the products listed above, I recommend this replacement that I found on Amazon:

- AC Infinity AXIAL 8038, Quiet Muffin Fan, 120V AC 80mm x 38mm Low Speed, UL-Certified for DIY Cooling Ventilation Exhaust Projects

Here is a picture of the fan:

Item Dimensions	**3.2” x 3.2” x 1.5” L x W x H**
Cooling Method	**Air**
Noise Level	**28 dB**

Screws that come with the fan are too large. I used 4-40UNC x 2” Pan Head Phillips Head Screws to fit the thread inserts in the Drake units.

The cord is a plug-in type that has a traditional 2-wire plug on the end. But the 48” cord length is far too long. So, I purchased DIY molded two wire plugs to plug into the 120-volt outlet installed on Drake equipment. An exception to that advise is for use with the DL-1000 Dummy Load. For that application I

use the full cord length. I might also add that the plug provided on the supplied AC cord shipped with the AC Infinity fan will not work with the non-polarized chassis socket in the Drake products mentioned.

Here is Bill's installation on the back of his recently acquired Drake PS7 AC Power Supply:

Note that Bill used the OEM technique Drake used to install short machine screws to fasten the fan to the chassis.

Bill has cut the 48" cord short and installed the white DIY, two wire plug that is installed into the pre-wired socket on his PS7 Power Supply.

Bill has also carefully controlled the wire placement by installing a cable tie at the upper right-hand corner (in the picture) of the fan. In fact, Bill used cable ties to fasten the grill to the fan – perfectly acceptable.

AC9JV Photo

The fan goes in place of a panel installed by Drake when no fan was present. Good work, Bill – it looks nice.
That heavy gray wire you see at the left side of Bill's picture is the main 12VDC feed line to the TR7 Series or TR5 Transceiver. It is hard wired into the back of the PS7.

I have done many installations of the AC Infinity fan, but I thought it would be good to show you a Drake FA7 installation done with a NOS Drake branded FA7:

Drake FA7 Fan installed on a TR7 Transceiver
Note Drake installed power-lead to molded non-polarized plug on cord.

W9MXQ Collection

The AC Infinity is significantly quieter than the FA7 in all Drake installations. AC Infinity also sells an AXIAL 8025 fan that has the same dimensions but provides an increased air flow (and more noise) than the one mentioned above. The AXIAL 8038 discussed above has a 28 dB noise level while the 8025 has a 32 dB noise level. I recommend the 8025 and use it currently on the Drake DL-1000 Dummy Load that resides in my collection. The DL-1000 needs all the air flow that can be provided when running near its power limit.

Second Story.
A Collins KWM-2 Transceiver and a few notes about its former owner.

This short story goes back to an article written for the January 2018 Edition of the Ozaukee Radio Club Newsletter. It covered the Collins KWM-2 and KWM-2A Transceiver. The article correctly credited that product as being the first successful move to putting a transceiver in every ham shack. The star of that article was a KWM-2A in my radio collection. Recently that same article appeared in a club newsletter in the Atlanta, Georgia area, and was updated to show a recently acquired KWM-2 with a connection, directly and indirectly, to members of Ozaukee Radio Club, Washington County Amateur Radio Club, and the Wisconsin Amateur Radio Club – to all of which I belong. The original article can be found in the archives of the ORC Newsletter[1].

At the end of a slight rewrite of the 2018 article, I related that I would be remiss if I left out another Collins KWM-2 that is in my radio collection. This set, including a KWM-2 Transceiver, 312B-5 Remote VFO/Station Console, and 516F-2 AC Power Supply came to me from a local friend, Paul, W9SIZ. Paul, who is still active on the HF bands is a World War II veteran. Most particularly, Paul is a veteran of the Battle of Normandy – the D-Day invasion of Nazi Germany's "Fortress Europe." As we all know now, that signaled the beginning of the end of Nazi Germany's occupation of Europe. Paul was storming the beaches at Normandy that fateful day – 6 June 1944 – almost 77 years ago.

Here is a picture of this beautiful station – looking every bit the same today as it did when brand new – needing no apologies for time:

Collins KWM-2 HF Transceiver
With Collins 516F-2 AC Power Supply and 312B-5 Remote VFO
W9MXQ Shack Photo

This complete station was purchased in 1961 at Amateur Electronic Supply, Milwaukee. As I can determine from my records, it was in the first 1,100 KWM-2's built, in 1960. It was late in that production that included all KWM-2 units and just 5 KWM-2A units. Production was at the Collins facility in Anamosa, Iowa, about 30 miles from the Cedar Rapids corporate home of Collins Radio Company. To me, the historic value of this radio and its owner are especially important and are prime reasons for its collector value.

Paul, W9SIZ, is an accomplished CW operator so perhaps I am the first person to seriously use this radio on SSB. As I have mentioned before, serious CW operation with the KWM-2 and KWM-2A required the use of the 312B-5 Remote VFO. That was likely well known to Paul when he purchased this station.

Paul is the uncle of Tim Broppe, KA9EAK (SK). Tim, of course, was a member of Ozaukee Radio Club until his untimely passing. Paul is also a member of the Washington County Amateur Radio Club. Friends in common with W9SIZ are Gary, K9DJT and Gary, W9XT and likely among many others in the clubs mentioned. Gary, W9XT, first introduced me to Paul.

The KWM-2 and 312B-5 Remote VFO in the above picture is an early model from the KWM-2 and KWM-2A product line. The newer model, shown in the picture below, was the subject of the article in January of 2018. See more detail below of model differences.

Collins KWM-2A HF Transceiver in the Original Article
With Collins 312B-5 and 30L-1 Linear Amplifier – and Heathkit HA-1410 Keyer
W9MXQ Shack Photo

My original KWM-2A, 312B-5 and 516F-2, from the January 2018 article came to me via another friend, a veteran of the United States Marines, Phil, KC9CI. Phil is one of the first ham radio operators that I met when moving to Wisconsin, 23 years ago – and remains a close friend. The 30L-1 Linear Amplifier has been a part of my collection of Collins equipment for many years.

To those of you students of Collins history, note some obvious differences in these two Collins KWM-2 stations. (Obvious, that is, if you know where to look!)

1. The KWM-2 in the recently acquired station (first one shown) is an early version of the first KWM-2 released in 1961. Youi can tell by the “wings” on the Collins emblem just above the readout. Also, early KWM-2 and KWM-2A Transceivers did not have the finger hole in the main tuning knob. This KWM-2 was one of 1,094 units made in 1960.
2. The KWM-2A in in my original 2018 article (second one shown, above) still has the winged emblem but is later in that it has the finger hole in the main tuning knob. This KWM-2A was one of 313 made in 1963.
3. Note that the 312B-5 Remote VFO/Station Console in the first station shown also has the winged emblem and the original main tuning knob without the finger hole.
4. The 312B-5 Remote VFO/Station Console in the second picture shown has the later round Collins emblem and the finger hole in the main tuning knob.
5. Like the other parts of the station, the first picture shows an original edition, winged emblem 516F-2 AC Power Supply.
6. The 516F-2 AC Power Supply for the second station shown is not in the picture but it is a later edition, round emblem unit.

Another detail item for reference in looking at the two KWM-2 transceivers (KWM-2 first, then the KWM-2A) is a collector related item giving away a KWM-2A. The KWM-2 (not 2A) has 14 bandswitch position for which the user can choose 200 kHz wide bands in essentially anywhere between 3.5 and 30 MHz. By contrast, the KWM-2A is different in that it has a two-level bandswitch. That is, by turning a switch just above the BAND switch on the KWM-2A, the user can select for an additional 14 positions.

Now for the most obvious – if you look carefully – difference between the KWM-2 and KWM-2A. Look at the two knobs at either side of the main dial readout. The one on the left is the EXCITER TUNING and the one on the right is P.A. TUNING. These controls tell a story about most KWM-2 or KWM-2A units. You can see that the legend above the knobs on the KWM-2 is less pronounced than the same legend on the KWM-2A. This difference, known to collectors as “eyebrows” on the KWM-2A, merely hints at the extra 14 band positions which may well be outside the carefully marked ham bands. Many, if not most, KWM-2A units went to military and/or commercial users who would operate in other parts of the high-frequency spectrum. Similarly, KWM-2 units were made for the ham radio market. At the end of the product’s life cycle, only the KWM-2A was produced.

One caveat on the above is that Collins offered a conversion kit to change the KWM-2 into a KWM-2A. This conversion supplied a new Tuning Dial Escutcheon showing the “KWM-2A” model number and a new switch panel and internal parts to add the two level bandswitch. It did not include a new front panel

with the “eyebrows.” So, a KWM-2A without the “eyebrows” is proof of a KWM-2 that has been converted to a KWM-2A.

Third Story.
Vacuum Tubes – especially RF Power and Sweep Tubes – Not an endless supply.

The third item is just a note relating to a lot of comments from users of vacuum tube radios, including right up to the hybrids with vacuum tubes only in the driver and final amplifier circuitry.

Receiving Tubes

Transmitting Tube

Several readers have written that they are wondering where to find sweep tube finals (6HF5, 6JB6, 6LQ6, 6KD6, etc.), traditional tetrode transmitter tubes (6146, 6146A, 6146B, 807, 6550, etc.), high-power glass high power transmitting tubes (572B, 3-400z, 3-500z, 4-400A, 3-1000z, etc.), and ceramic tubes (8122, 4CX-250B, 8877, etc.).

My advice is that if you have a tube transmitter then you need to invest now in spare tubes. Many of the above tubes are now available only from China[2] and Russia[2]. While some of those coming from good North American distributors are tested and guaranteed, others are not so high in quality. Sweep tubes are becoming hard to find – and even when available they may not be available in matched sets as needed.

Many tubes from North American distributors carry dependable warranties but remember that vacuum tube warranties are based on purchase date – not in-service date. Any tubes purchased for spares should be tested immediately upon receipt and stored only after you know they are working. I rotate spare tubes in my linear amplifiers just to be sure they are heated up and used occasionally[3].

At this time, my comments about vacuum tubes do not generally apply to receiving tubes., Even there, beware of tubes found of value by the audiophile group – that has inflated some receiving tube prices to stratospheric levels[4].

A bit of extra information here – only one of the popular sweep-tube equipped transceivers from the 1970’s seemed to foresee the future shortage of matched tubes. Hallicrafters, in their 1972 release of the SR-400A Cyclone III Transceiver was equipped with one of the most powerful sweep tubes offered, the 6KD6 Tetrode. The SR-400A Cyclone III is on the next page.

Hallicrafters SR-400A Cyclone III HF Transceiver
Shown with PS-500A-AC AC Power Supply/Speaker and HA-1 Electronic Keyer
W9MXQ Shack Photo

The SR-400A Cyclone III had internal circuitry to match most any two 6KD6 final amplifier sweep tubes – regardless of brand, age, or most other factors. This was a rather revolutionary feature and not repeated elsewhere to my knowledge. The similar SR-400 Cyclone and the SR-400 Cyclone II predecessors with their 6HF5 final amplifier sweep tubes did not share the feature.

Attempts to implement this tube matching technology to other sweep tube equipped transmitters and transceivers would seem to have some merit. Readers also should note that tube failures in final amplifiers are rare if the radio is operated correctly[5].

I collect these short stories on the ongoing collecting and restoring of Vintage Ham Radio Equipment. Occasionally, it is nice to share a bit of the experience. The basic text for the next article like this one is already written – I am just looking for a few more stories.

I appreciate that you read my articles. Remember that I am open to questions and comments anytime at my email address, W9MXQ@TWC.com.

A special note of thanks to my proofreader, Bob Bailey, W9DYQ. Bob is a lot more than a proofreader as he often adds commentary that makes it into the article. Bob and I work to collect and restore many examples of Collins, Drake, Hallicrafters, National, RME, Swan/Cubic, Ten-Tec, and some of the Japanese products of historic and/or personal importance.

Notes and Comments:

[1] The Ozaukee Radio Club Newsletter Archives can be found at . . .
https://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org/index.php/newsletters

[2] The sources found in Russia (Svetlana, Sovtek, and others) are quite good and many times made using tooling formerly at RCA, GE, Raytheon, and other well-known brands. Chinese tubes are tied to the quality and reputation of the importer. “Let the Buyer Beware!!” As an importer of goods from many countries, I am aware that offshore sources in the third world are not necessarily competent and technically knowledgeable and are dependent on the North American or European distributor to set and enforce technical specifications. This sadly does not bode well for the American buyer who is totally drawn by price.

[3] "Readers needing vacuum tube sourcing advice can feel free to send a note requesting up to date information on sources. Write to W9MXQ@TWC.com – remembering that such advice is not guaranteed!!

[4] There is a good side to this as well – many audiophile tubes are being produced new, today, due to this new demand.

[5] There is good reason to be confident in the life of final amplifier tubes in vacuum tube radios. One item in my collection is a Swan 500cx using a pair of 6LQ7/6JE6 final tubes. The former owner of this radio, now a SK, was a friend – and I remember his Swan 500cx purchase, brand new, in 1972. This radio was operated daily for over nearly 45 years with its original final amplifier tubes at 550 watts PEP input. I use it with those same tubes today and net a power output of just over 275 watts – and are capable of much more if pushed a bit. Similarly, a Hallicrafters SR-400 Cyclone II Transceiver in my collection has its original Hallicrafters branded 6HF5 final amplifier tubes operating at 400 watts PEP input. To this day, these

tubes net well over 200 watts output – but are loaded to about 200 watts output in operation. (Hallicrafters branded tubes were not sold by dealers – so it is an easy way to determine if a tube found in an old Hallicrafters radio is original.)

W9MXQ

DX'ing & Contesting

De Gary Sutcliffe (W9XT)

Last month I mentioned the 6M sporadic E (Es) season about to start. We have begun to see a few openings towards the end of April. W9GA reported working some southern South American stations.

It was very spotty and was much better if you were further south. While Ken was working some countries I needed, I barely managed to get an FT8 decode here and there. PSKreporter and other information sources indicated no one north of me worked these stations. Even the seven miles between Ken and me made a difference.

I decided to upgrade my 6M antenna before things get rolling this season. If you have been looking for an antenna lately, you might have noticed that they are hard to get. You might need to wait several months for delivery.

A big part of this is a shortage of aluminum tubing. The prices have skyrocketed. I was looking at some 1/8" aluminum rod about 3' long. I bought some for around $1.00 (if my memory is correct) a few years ago. I see them for sale for nearly $8 now!

I decided to build a four element 6M Yagi from the YU7EF design. If you remember, W9GA showed some slides at an ORC meeting a couple of years ago of some beams of that design series he had a hand in building.

I needed to buy tubing for the elements. Despite a rather large pile of aluminum tubing, I didn't have enough of the right size for the elements. Looking around, I was getting prices well over $200 (plus shipping). I found that DX Engineering apparently had a lot of older stock at more reasonable prices. The boom is salvaged from an old broken down small tribander. I had an old rusty boom to mast clamp that has been wire brushed and coated with anti-rust paint. I am now just waiting for some Teflon for the element insulators. That stuff is not cheap either!

It looks like this will cost about 1/3 of what a new commercial one would cost, not to mention being able to use it this season. With luck, it will be ready to put up by the time you read this.

May is the month of the Hamvention®. Like last year, it is a victim of COVID again. But there will still be some on line events you might want to check out.

The first one is Contest University (CTU). CTU is normally an in person event on the Thursday before the start of the Hamvention. I attended one year in person, and it was excellent. Last year it was on Zoom and very good. CTU will be on Zoom again this year. It starts at 8:00 AM CDT Thursday, May 20. As usual, there will be talks of interest to contesters.

Registration is free. https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_uFqLO-ZhQg-KtrH0zKaVjg

ICOM will be giving out four radios as prizes at random times, but you must be present (virtually anyway) to win.

One big draw of the Hamvention is the presentations. They will have some the next day, Friday, May 21, starting at 10:00 AM CDT. Registration is free. https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_jHSTZ6RlT3eOaM_ykZ4oVQ

Like CTU, ICOM will be giving away four radios as prizes. Again, you have to be present on Zoom to win one.

Traditionally other groups have had events on Thursday of the Hamvention weekend like CTU. One of them is Four Days In May (FDIM) by the QRPers. They will have an on line event on Saturday. May 22. Info at https://qrparci.org/ Note there is a $10 fee for this.

The weekend before the Hamvention, the International DX Convention is held. Hams from other countries often went to this one in California and went to Dayton the following weekend. This year it will be on line. Saturday's events are on DXing, contesting, propagation, operating, etc. Sunday presentations are by ham radio businesses.

This convention is free. Registration and other information is at http://dxconvention.com/.

Prizes are gift certificates from various companies. You don't need to be present to win, but you need to register in advance.

With all this on line stuff, who has time to get on the radio? To make matters worse for me, back in January, I signed up for an online engineering conference that runs May 17-20. I paid money for this, so I better attend. I could be spending ten days in a row watching programs! Yikes! I guess I will be skipping less interesting talks.

The big contest this month is the WPX CW contest. I have covered this one before. Basically, you work everyone. Multipliers are the call sign prefix. If you have a call like WT9Q, you will be more popular than something plain like W9XT.

Send a signal report and sequential serial number starting with 001 for your first QSO. QSO points vary depending on the band and location of the other station. Your logging program will handle that for you.

It starts at 0000 UTC on May 29 (7:00 PM local time Friday, May 28) and runs for 48 hours, but you can only operate 36 hours. WPX CW is a fun contest, but yes, it is during the Memorial Day weekend. I have a hard time sitting in the shack on a holiday weekend if the weather is nice. https://cqwpx.com/rules.htm

DXpeditions are starting up again. Although I am not aware of any big operations in May or early June, there was a big announcement of another attempt to go to Bouvet Island, 3Y0. There were two attempts in the last few years but had to be aborted due to weather and mechanical problems. If you draw a line between the southern tips of Africa and South America, Bouvet is in the middle. It takes at least a week by boat to get there. Then you need to get above some high glaciers to get to a place to make a camp. It is not a surprise that it is #2 on the DX needed list.

The budget for this is $764,000. Each member is contributing at least $20,000. The rest of the money comes from contributions from corporate sponsors, DX foundations, DX clubs, and individual DXers. In addition to the cost, the hardships of living in a tent on an Antarctic island, they will be gone from home for 5-6 weeks. That is an incredible sacrifice just to give us another QSL card. My hat is off to people who do these.

The 3Y0J operation is scheduled for January of 2023. https://3y0j.com/

That wraps up May. Don't forget Field Day is not that far off. Hopefully, it will be a group event this year.

Ham Radio Podcasts

de Jeff Whisler, W9KW

Are you bored with Ham Radio? Are you newer to the hobby and looking to build your knowledge and skills? Want to try the latest digital mode but don't know where to start? Try listening to a ham radio podcast. They can be very instructive, inspirational and just plain fun. What else are you going to do during the 2 hours you spend mowing the lawn or commuting to work or whenever you have a slice of time.

What is a podcast?

A podcast is a recording of audio discussion on a specific topic, like business or travel or ham radio, that can be listened to. They're often found on iTunes, Spotify and many other applications but are also sometimes hosted on websites. Content is delivered on a cadence set by the creator such as weekly, bi-weekly or monthly. This dynamic medium can be a perfect way to receive your regular dose of inspiration wherever you might be. A user can download a podcast to a personal device such as a phone or tablet or iPad for easy listening. Streaming applications and podcasting services provide a convenient and integrated way to manage a personal consumption queue across many podcast sources and playback devices.

Common podcast player applications include: Podbean, Sticher, RadioPublic, Castbox and many more. These applications install cross platform between Android and iOS. Most are free and allow you to control your listening much like any digital playback device with fast forward, rewind and pause. Some allow you to play back at increased speeds as well as bookmark and archive favorites. These shows often have an extensive back catalog of episodes which you can search and access for topics of interest. Often creators will have show notes which provide links to products and services mention on that episode. Here are some examples.

"Ham Radio 2.0" **https://www.livefromthehamshack.tv/**

Hosted by Jason, KC5HWB. He focuses on 'What is New in Amateur Radio?' during this podcast series titled Ham Radio 2.0. Talk about new radios, new transmission modes, License classes, Technical talks, and trips around the world. This is a shorter podcast with new material daily.

"QSO Today" **https://www.qsotoday.com/**

QSO Today is a weekly conversation, rather like a QSO, between amateur radio operators about ham radio. Eric Guth, 4Z1UG, hosts a new guest every week to talk about their ham radio journey, their specialized expertise in ham radio, and how amateur radio has impacted their personal and professional lives. QSO Today is targeted at anyone interested in amateur radio who wants to learn more about our fascinating hobby. New interviews weekly. Eric is founder and facilitator of the QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo.

"Ham Radio Workbench" **https://www.hamradioworkbench.com/**

This is your bi-weekly deep dive on making, DIY, electronics, and technical topics of interest to the radio amateur. Join your hosts George KJ6VU and Jeremy KF7IJZ as they discuss current developments in ham radio while introducing listeners to a plethora of topics and skills such as test equipment, 3D Printing, Arduino, Raspberry Pi, and more.

This is my current favorite podcast. Always fun and inspiring although can be hard on the wallet. I love the banter between hosts and guests. Format has two segments with the first segment dedicated to sharing "what's on your workbench" and the remaining time spent on the topic of that episode. This is a

long format show with many episodes lasting up to 3 hours. I can't listen without a notebook handy. They produce content about every two weeks.

The ARRL also has several podcasts such as *On the Air* https://feeds.blubrry.com/feeds/arrlontheair.xml and *The Doctor is In* http://www.arrl.org/doctor. While no longer produced, four years of back episodes are available at the league website. Finally, ARRL's *Eclectic Tech* Podcast http://www.arrl.org/eclectic.

There are many other podcasts of interest to the amateur radio operator. Let me know your favorite and I will add it to this list.

73, Jeff W9KW

Upcoming ORC Monthly Meeting Programs

May – Mike Harrington, KD9GCN – Virtual Shack Tour

June – Ken Boston, W9GA – Field Day

July – Pat Volkmann, W9JI – Members' Field Day Reports

August – Tim Duffy K3LR – K3LR Talks About Contesting

Creating a Presentation

Almost all of our presenters use Microsoft's PowerPoint to organize and present their information. If you don't have access to or aren't familiar with Power Point there is an alternative. The Open Office package contains Impress, which is similar to PowerPoint. Impress is easy to use and available at no charge. You can check out OpenOffice here: http://www.openoffice.us.com/

The monthly program is the highlight of the Ozaukee Radio Club meeting. We are fortunate to have a number of very talented people in our club, many of whom have shared their knowledge through a presentation. Share your expertise and experience with the club. Programs can be on any topic that is ham radio related. Contact Pat Volkmann W9JI at orc_pat_w9ji@outlook.com (underscores between the words left of the "@") to discuss your idea for a program.

Vintage Magazine Cover Art

By Pat Volkmann, W9JI

Our cover this month, “How To Make A Radio Set Work Best”, is from the May 1922 issue of Popular Science Monthly. Popular Science Monthly and a host of similar magazines provided eager experimenters with information on how to build and operate crystal, tuned RF and regenerative receivers. Articles also covered the fabrication of parts such as speakers, headphones, coils and capacitors for those who could not afford the pricey components offered by the many radio parts jobbers in business at the time. The superhetrodyne receiver had been invented in 1917 but wouldn’t become a mainstream device for another 10 years or so.

Cover, Popular Science Monthly, May 1922

Ozaukee Radio Club
April 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

de Ken Boston W9GA

This ORC meeting was conducted via an online (internet) connection using the ZOOM app. Prior to the meeting start, those members who were able to access the 'waiting room' via phone or computer/webcam were then introduced into the meeting space hosted by Pat W9JI. At that time various audio and video connection issues were addressed for the members before the meeting began.

ORC President Pat W9JI officially initiated the meeting at 7:30 PM, as introductions were recognized when members checked into the meeting, so a go-around was not conducted. A brief mention was made that Ben K9UZ has been briefly hospitalized for a medical emergency, affecting the newsletter preparation; Marc KD9MFS commented on CW practice procedures.

Program: Fred W9KEY gave a detailed step by step of his project to erect a new antenna support made from aluminum irrigation pipe. After getting a 30 foot section of 4 inch pipe from the ORC storage 'barn', he detailed the process of moving, erecting and outfitting the pipe as a support for his 'antenna farm' of various wire antennas that had previously been supported by trees on his lot.

Committee Reports: Gregg W9DHI [repeater] states that the activity on the repeater system has been quiet, after the busy days during the 'key up' activity. There has been only minor interference seen on the system.

Gary N9UUR [treasurer] is still collecting some dues, as we continue to have minimal expenses. W9MXQ moved acceptance, W9JI 2nd, motion carried.

Ken W9GA [secretary] posted minutes of the April 2021 meeting; W9JI moved, W9MXQ 2nd, motion to accept then carried.

Tom W9IPR [scholarship] again indicates no new developments.

OLD Business: The certificates for the Key Up activity will be going out shortly, with 14 participants having filed logs. Many more calls were seen in the logs, both club and non-club members were seen, indicating a high level of interest,

Jim K9QLP commented on the fall swapfest, with firemen's park available, only waiting on the rental rates to become available.

Pat W9JI performed a brief poll of the members on their willingness to have an in person meeting. The results were a qualified 'yes' over a 3 to 1 ratio. Meeting outdoors with distancing was favored, with some willing to meet once they had received the vaccine.

NEW Business: There was no new business.

Adjournment: WB9RQR moved to adjourn, W9MXQ 2nd, motion carried. Meeting ended at 8:45 PM.
There were 35 members (unique callsigns) on the Zoom meeting. Contact Ken W9GA to obtain the list.
Following the meeting breakout rooms for WiresX, W9KEY's presentation; were opened.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Boston W9GA
Secretary

ORC Meeting Agenda

May 12, 2021

1. 7:15 – 7:30 PM – Check-In and Introductions
2. 7:30 PM Call to Order – President Pat Volkmann (W9JI)
3. Announcements, Bragging Rights, Show & Tell, Upcoming Events, etc.
4. Presentation: M. Schultz WH6ZZ, M. Johnson, WO9B
5. President's Update – Pat Volkmann (W9JI)
6. 1st VP Report – Ben Evans (K9UZ)
7. 2nd VP Report – Bill Church (KD9DRQ)
8. Repeater VP Report – Gregg Lengling (W9DHI)
9. Secretary's Report – Ken Boston (W9GA)
10. Treasurer's Report – Gary Bargholz (N9UUR)
11. Committee Reports
12. OLD BUSINESS
13. NEW BUSINESS
14. Adjournment

Meeting Note:

Until the club decides it's safe to hold in-person meetings again, we will be holding the meetings via the Zoom Videoconferencing platform on the same evening and time as we had the in-person meetings. Sign-in info will be emailed by President Pat Volkmann, W9JI via the ORC remailer usually about an hour before the start of the meeting.

Return undeliverable copies to:

The ORC Newsletter
524 Alta Loma Drive
Thiensville, WI 53092

First Class

Next ORC Meeting via Zoom
May 12, 2021

7:15-7:30 PM – Check-In
7:30 PM – Meeting Begins