



The ORC News -

Official publication of the Ozaukee Radio Club, Inc. Mail all contributions to the editor, Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR, 465 Beechwood Dr., Cedarburg WI 53012 (phone 262 377-6945). Permission to reprint articles published in any issue is granted provided the author and the Ozaukee Radio Club Newsletter are credited.



ORC Repeaters on 146.97, 224.18 and 443.750 MHz -
Callsign W9CQO Web site: www.ozaukeeradioclub.org

Volume XXVI

October 2007

Number 10

The Prez Sez

DeTom Ruhlmann (W9IPR))

Wow! This has been a fun month with lots of activity.

First it was the VHF/UHF Contest. I put together a tripod with a 2-meter beam orientated to vertical polarization for FM and set it on the garage expecting great results. I had a special Poly-Phaser lightning arrester in the coax and it reduced my output from 50 to 25 watts – seems it is frequency selective. Further, it seems 90% of all the contest activity is on SSB (which is horizontally polarized) plus contacts on the National calling frequencies don't count. Wow, that reduced my total of 8 contacts down to five. That's pretty minimal considering Todd (KC9BQA), Ken (W9GA) and Gary (W9XT) talk about a couple of hundred contacts. Oh well, I learned a lot and am now preparing for the VHF/UHF contest in January. For that one I should have a better idea of what I am doing.

The really big event of the month was the ORC Sept. 15th Swapfest. I was really pleased with the facilities and ORC turnout. Tower Electronics provided many prizes to be used in the raffle, as did ARRL. We provided a great forum for socializing and making good deals. In addition, we made a profit and received much positive feedback about the facility, free coffee and parking so it looks like a “do again”. My very special thanks to the Swapfest Committee, workers, ARRL and Tower Electronics for making it such a great day.

Also, special congratulations to Paul Schumacher (KD9FM) and Tom Nawrot (AA9XK) on having earned the ORC 3rd place in the Nation with the Port Washington Lighthouse Activation project in August. It was a well organized and

implimented project. Great job guys and it was fun.

I would like to welcome Todd Sprinkman (KC9BQA) to the newsletter staff. As most of you are aware, Todd really enjoys VHF/UHF contesting and he will be authoring articles on the world above 50 MHz. This should be of great interest to the membership in that all classes of license can operate these bands. I am looking forward to these articles in that based on my performance in the Aug. UHF contest I have a lot to learn.

Incidentally, if some of you new members are interested we do have some openings in various ORC committee's; Membership, Newsletter, Meeting Programs, Public Relations and Youth Programs to name a few. Just let me know your interests.

October should be interesting with the JOTA event the weekend of the 20th at Pioneer Village. Call Bill Howe (KA9WRL) to get involved in that event. Well, other than JOTA we really don't have much in the way of ORC organized events through the end of 2007 so I plan on getting a bit of “hamming” done. I hope to get my 2meter/70cm beams and the Az-El rotators erected and operational before the snow starts flying and am looking forward to using my new inverted L antenna on 160 meters as winter sets in.

73's – get involved and have some fun!

Contesting

De Bob Truscott (W9LO)

It's hard for me to decide which contest is my favorite—that seems to vary according to which one will be happening “next week.” So while it's

not exactly next week, the Nov. CW SS, coming up on Nov. 3-4, is my current favorite. I guess "next month" is close enough. I've been working this contest since 1951, and it seems to get better each year. Heck, I even won first place in Wisconsin in 1974 & 75 and in South Carolina in 1986. So with that background SS has to be one of my all time favorites. However, those WI wins were before people like W9XT and N9FH came into the picture—they probably weren't even licensed at that time. But they're here now, along with a whole bunch of other great CW operators in the state. I don't stand a snowball's chance in Hades of ever beating them in SS, so I'm going to try a new approach this year. I'm going to get out of their category and give QRP a shot. It'll be interesting to see what I can do with 5 watts and dipole antennas. Just call it LO's folly.

Coming up in October:

Oct. 6 PSK Rumble—An opportunity for you PSK people to have a little fun.

Rules in Oct. QST, page 90

Oct. 21 Illinois QSO Party—Give our friends to the south a few contacts on CW or SSB. 40 & 80 meters should be very good in this contest.

Rules in Oct. QST page 91.

Oct. 27-28 CQ World Wide DX Contest—SSB—Rules in Oct. QST, page 91 or www.cqww.com

Nov. 3-4 November Sweepstakes—CW—Rules in Oct. QST, page 102, or

www.arrl.org/contests/forms.

Have fun contesting. Bob, W9LO

New Member Steve Pierce

Steve's interest in HAM radio had gone dormant for a number of years for a variety of reasons but he held onto his ham gear. Steve is also an avid aviation enthusiast and is a member of the EAA 1158 chapter in West Bend where he lives. One of the chapter members noted the NC5B on his car license and told him about the ORC. From that encounter he again got interested in HAM radio and mentioned it to his 11-year-old son Nicholas. Nicholas then got interested and he passed his Technician license with a 100%

score in September. His new call is KC9MEA and we will be seeing him at meetings also.



Steve Pierce (NC5B)

Steve originally got interested in "radio" as a kid in Galveston TX as a SWL and using the CB walkie-talkies with the neighbors. The neighbor kid's dad was W5KIW and he eventually became Steve's Elmer. He eventually earned his Novice license (KA5MFG) about 5 years after graduating from high school. This was followed by his General (N5EHO), Advanced (KD5JD) and Extra (NC5B) class licenses. His first rig was a Tempo 1, which was really a YEASU FT-200, imported by Henry Radio.

Fortunately Steve stored his HAM equipment during his period of inactivity and he now is operating an IC2000 on 2 meters; IC48 on 70 cm; an IC745 on HF and a Swan MX HF mobil. His challenges now include getting the IC745 working right and putting a couple of antenna in the air.

Steve moved here from Galveston in 1994 since his wife was originally a Milwaukee girl. He has two sons and works for United Health Care in Wawautosa as the Information Technology Manager.

Welcome to the Ozaukee Radio Club Steve.

Fireman's Park Swapfest

De Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR)

It was generally a success and a lot of fun. The weather was good even if a bit cold initially and the facilities were excellent. Coffee, bathrooms, the barn and plenty of space.



The West Allis club was here with a variety of audio and RF equipment for sale.

Attendance was down a bit perhaps due to the conflicts with the Peoria two-day swapfest and the W9DXCC conference in IL. Ticket sales were 125 this year as compared to 150 last year.

There were 19 club members involved in organizing and conducting the swapfest with an additional 10 there either buying or selling on Saturday. A very special thanks to ARRL for their donation of Handbooks and to Tower Electronics who donated at least \$200 worth of door prizes.

In analyzing the survey forms returned (17 vendor and 32 buyers) it appeared that the advertising that is most effective are the flyer, ARRL listing, e-mails, net announcements and "word of mouth".



Terry (KA9RFM) used his converted "pop-up" camper as a general store for electronics and test equipment of all types.

Actually, "word of mouth" was mentioned by 40% of the respondents so it important to make good impressions and "talk it up" when the opportunity presents itself



It looked like "Radio Row" as the early morning sun rose up in the East.

About 30% of the attendees are from within 20 miles, 70% within 50 miles and 90% within 100 miles. About 60% of the attendees have been to the ORC May Swapfest at Circle B and it was the first ORC Outdoor Swapfest for about 50% of the attendees.



The parking girls, Catharine Holt (KB0SIO), Pat Ruhlmann and Nancy Stecker (KC9FZK) took time to show off their magic wands with which they threatened drivers that failed to follow directions.



The refreshment concession gang took a break from kibitzing to pose for posterity.

Some of the advantages of the Fireman's Park location were the space available, barn for use in the event of rain and/or for commercial vendors, bathrooms and use of the concession booth for coffee, soda, donuts etc. sales.



Tom Murtaugh (W9VBQ) took a break from his announcing duties to admire the various prizes donated by Tower Electronics.

The most common complaint was too few vendors and "festival traffic" while the most common compliments were for the great facility and friendly people running and attending the swapfest. The social aspect of the swapfest is very important to the attendee's.



Don Michalski, our ARRL Section Manager, was on hand to explain ARRL membership benefits and encourage participation.

It is also an advantage that two of our ORC members (John Schrader and Jim Albrinck) who are also volunteer fire fighters and familiar with the operation and procedures related to the facilities and it's use.

All things considered we learned a lot these past two years and it is fun. After talking with most of the vendors it looks like we have a winner here. Get involved and have some fun.

So how did we do financially?

Income:

Ticket Sales	\$610.00
Refreshment Income	176.46
Subtotal	\$786.46

Expenses:

Flyer Printing	\$ 88.00
Survey Printing	12.00
Ticket Printing	34.87
Facility Rental	300.00
Postage	9.76
Refreshments	64.63
Subtotal	\$509.26

Net Profit **\$277.20**

Plus ORC equipment sales of \$ 90.50

Total Profit \$367.70

Lighthouse Winner

Paul Schumacher (KD9FM) received the following message on behalf of W9COQ related to the ORC Port Washington Lighthouse Activation project.

“Congratulations to W9CQO on achieving third place in the ARLHS annual NLLW contest.”



Paul (KD9FM) and Tom (AA9XK) set up the station with solar-battery power and ORC recruitment materials for participation in the National LightHouse Activation contest.

The ORC scored third with 802 points on our National Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend in August at Port Washington. Stations participated from the US and Canada. Not bad for our first attempt.

We ran one station with 90 watts on battery power with a combination of a wire doublet and a dipole using two Hamsticks on 20 and 40 meter sideband. Congratulations to the club and especially to those that participated.

2007 Corn Roast Report

De Ed Frac, AA9WW

Well, it's another year under the "Corn Belt". This year saw our Club celebrating over thirty (30) years of "Corn Roasts", and that's been accomplished using the same corn cooker. That reminds me of an old watch commercial "It's the Cooker that keeps on Cooking".

Despite the weather that turned drizzly at the end, it was great social event complimented by outstanding food (especially the corn), and ice-cold beverages. As it turns out we did have some leftover Beer. Some people didn't apply their full capabilities to the job at hand. This Beer was auctioned off at the Club Meeting on September 12th.



Chairman Ed Frac (AA9WW) was kept busy tending the fire to boil the water to "roast" the corn -- and great tasting it was.

If you missed the corn roast and the meeting you really missed some good times and good deals.



Stan Kaplan (KB9RQR) had a forlorn look as he again prepared the grill to cook the burgers and brats.

This year we added an "Attendance Door Prize". The prize was a "2008 Paid-Up Membership" to the Ozaukee Radio Club. The prize was won by none other than Nels Harvey. See you all at the next meeting.

73's, Corn Roast Committee & Workers

Oct. 10th Meeting Program

Andy Eliason, KA9DOL, will discuss a homebrew 40-meter 2-tube rig, built from plans found online. Andy is the Chief Engineer at Channel 30.

Trying for HW

De: Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR)

A couple of years ago I got interested in 160 meters. They said it was the "gentleman's band".

So I started listening in the evenings and noted there are any number of "rag chewer's" there and a number of nets. One net in particular is the Century Club net. The early net meets at about 9PM at about 1.892 each evening and the purpose is to provide a platform from which to work all 50 states on SSB. I worked several states in the ensuing months but I received many 35 and 46 signal reports using my 100-

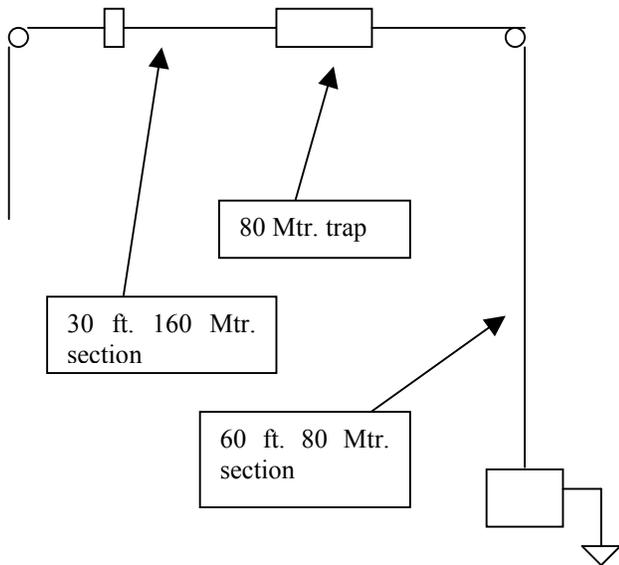
watt FT1000-MP and center fed Zepp or the 550' loop. Then I bought the AL572 amplifier at Dayton and was able to pump out a full kW on 160 meters. That did improve the signal reports and eventually I worked all but HW. It appeared that would require some form of vertical so as to provide a lower angle of radiation.

Remember that B&W 80-meter trap I got at Dayton this year? It was just the ticket for an inverted L antenna useful on 80 meters and 160 meters.

First I downloaded some instructions from the B&W web site on the Internet to determine what the length of each section was in the multiband dipole that used the 80-meter trap. Since the trap circuits reduce the required lengths for resonance I started with a 67' wire section (approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ wavelength) on 80 meters and a 40' section (the original antenna used 30') for the 160 meter section. I used a longer length for each section because the vertical would have no 15, 20 or 40 meter traps which would reduce the length of wire required in the 80 and 160 meter sections of the original antenna.

Finally I located the tree that would allow me height (approximately 60'), clearance for the vertical and horizontal sections and a certain amount of stealth. At the base of the tree I mounted a termination box (old telephone standby battery box) using a mailbox metal post and drove an 8' ground rod. This was followed by installing a couple of long radials to establish a ground plane.

I then used my bow and arrow with fishing line to locate and hoist my main plastic pulley (clothes line pulleys obtained at South Milwaukee swapfest) into the air along with the vertical section of the antenna. Then I positioned another plastic pulley in a distant tree from which I could support the free end of the 160-meter horizontal section. I use pulleys and weights so as to allow the trees to sway in the wind without stressing the antenna wires. I used an aluminum hunting arrow with the tip removed and replaced by a pencil eraser on the blade end. After a few disconcerting shots I started using more caution as to how I aimed the arrow through the tree crouch.



First I connected my couple of radials and the metal termination box to the ground rod and connected the feed end of the antenna to the termination box feed through insulator.



Metal Termination Box for Inverted L

Then, using an MFJ-259 at the base of the antenna I proceeded to trim the 80-meter section to resonate at 3.800 MHz followed by trimming the 160-meter section beyond the trap for resonance at 1.920 MHz.

With tensioning of the guy ropes and positioning the counter weights the antenna was essentially finished except for the installation of additional radials and the coaxial feed line to the shack. I buried the coax about an inch or so and pro-

ceeded to recheck the antenna from the shack using the MFJ-259. All checked OK and that evening I made a few contacts around the bands to make sure all is well while the weather is still warm.

Now I am ready to work HW on 160 meters. I should have a lower angle of radiation with the inverted L and with a kilowatt, they should hear me ----- now if I can only hear them. Well, here's to the coming winter evenings and rising sun spot cycle.

Mentor Sessions

De Mark Tellier (AB9CD)

The pre-meeting (6:45 PM) mentor session this month will talk about the Smith Chart. The discussion will not be technical, but more of a description of where it came from, what it is and how it is used to demystify the magic of the Smith Chart.

I'm always looking for good topics for these sessions and I need suggestions. I'm looking for someone that can talk about the rules and regulations that apply to non-amateur' s using a radio, including phone patch, control operator w/ non-licensed operator, etc.

Upcoming Events

October

10th Membership Meeting

14th CQ WW RTTY Contest

20th – 21st JOTA Boy Scout "on the air"

20th-21st CQ WW SSB Contest

November

3rd MRC Swapfest @ Elk's Lodge

3rd – 5th ARRL November CW Sweepstakes

7th Board Meeting

14th Membership Meeting

17th–19th November Phone Sweepstakes

30th ARRL 160 Meter SSB contest

Christmas Parade - Grafton

December

1st - 2nd ARRL 160 Meter Contest

8th - 9th ARRL 10 Meter Contest

12th Membership Meeting

January

5th - West Allis RAC Swapfest at Waukesha

Tails & Tools

RG-8 with PL259 connectors will slide through 3/4" plastic conduit. Works good to protect buried co-ax. Be sure to provide drain holes at low spots and plug the ends with caulk.

For Sale, Trade or ?

Scholarship Fund – Ed Rate, AA9W

KLM 20-5

KLM 15-4

Rohn 25 tower (30')

HD Tilt-up Mast Support

LD Tilt-up Mast Support

Cushcraft 5 element beam with damaged boom for parts

Sony DXC-1200 "Trinicon" Color Studio Camera with a B&W tilt viewfinder (with built-in scope) and push-rod zoom lens. First \$75 from an ORC member takes it home! I think it would compliment the OZARES van. It features an SO-239 Composite Video out. Any standard heavy-duty Tri-Pod would work with it. The color is excellent! Bill, KA9WRL

The



Column

By Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), Column Editor

AEC FOR NETS: Because Leon (K9GCF) will be traveling much more now that Jane (KB9SYI) has retired, he has asked to be replaced, and Jon tapped WB9RQR to take over, effective the last day of August. Stan has prepared a 2008 NCO schedule, along with a slightly revised net script and check-in list, all of which are now posted on the web site. Persons scheduled for NCO duty will be reminded in the month previous to their scheduled duty, and provided with the script and list. Each net will be held as scheduled. As usual, if the 147.33 MHz repeater is down, we will automatically switch to the 146.97 MHz machine, as was the case on 30 Aug. So, if you are listening for a Thursday

night net and hear nothing at 8:00 p.m., check 146.97 MHz for activity.

SET: On Saturday, 6 Oct, OZARES will participate in the annual **Simulated Emergency Test**. Although our participation is at the local and state level, it should be noted that this test is a nationwide exercise, sponsored by the ARRL. The scenario includes destruction of Justice Center communications capabilities, and the Mobile Communications Truck will be deployed to act as an off-site communications center (although Net Control will be operating from a different, home-based site). The 147.33 MHz OZARES repeater may be turned off for a while, to simulate its destruction, and the ORC 146.97 MHz repeater may be used for a short period as a backup, so ORC members should not be concerned if strange communications are going through it. It should be fun and a good test of our communications capabilities.

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!*

04 Oct KB9WBQ

11 Oct N9WIU

18 Oct AA9XK

25 Oct Meeting

01 Nov N9XRU

08 Nov AA9W

15 Nov W9BTN

22 Nov No net; Thanksgiving

29 Nov Meeting

06 Dec KA9DDN

13 Dec K9DXT

20 Dec KC9FZK

27 Dec (No net today and no meeting this month; Season's Greetings!)

NOTE the addition of a meeting on 29 November, which was inadvertently left out of the last published schedule.

Minutes—Sept 12th, 2007

De Nancy Stecker, KC9FZK

At the Elmering session scheduled before the regular meeting, Mark (AB9CD) displayed and explained items in his emergency jump kit.

President Tom Ruhlmann (W9IPR) called the monthly meeting of the Ozaukee Radio Club to order at 7:35 p.m. Members introduced themselves.

Announcements, Show and Tell Etc: Jon (KB9RHZ) and Ed (AA9WW) are new grandfathers. Stan (WB9RQR) announced the he and Nancy (KC9FZK) had married earlier in the week. Tom (W9IPR) showed the L type antenna tuner he made.

Program: No program this meeting.

Auction: Stan (WB9RQR) auctioned an assortment of items.

Business Meeting:

The President asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August meeting as printed in the Ozaukee Radio Club Newsletter. Kent (N9WH) so moved, it was seconded and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Nels (WA9JOB) reported the following figures: Check book balance \$542.63; General fund balance \$9,385.56; Repeater Upgrade fund balance \$442.01; Repeater Improvement fund \$231.59; Non-radio Equipment fund \$351.05; Scholarship fund \$20,747.65. The operating expenses are down \$567.25 from last month. Jon (KB9RHZ) made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, it was seconded and the motion passed.

Repeater Report: In the absence of John (W9NRG), Nels (WA9JOB) stated a new controller was purchased that will connect the 220MHz and 146.97 repeaters.

Committee Reports:

General Class Committee: Mark (AB9CD) will conduct a General Class License course, site and dates to be announced. Cedarburg Public Library will be receiving copies of the ARRL and Gordon West General Test Instructions thanks to Dave (N9UNR). Ways to promote the class were discussed.

Scholarship Award Committee: Ed (AA9W) said Natalie Harding (KC9KIR), this year's scholarship winner, has a technician's license and is involved in many aspects of ham radio.

Corn Roast Committee: Ed (AA9WW) noted the attendance was light, and that the rain was not a problem thanks to the shelter at the site of the picnic. It was hoped to have a bigger attendance next year.

Youth Committee: Bill (KA9WRL) reported he had sent information to a statewide level about the Pioneer Village site for JOTA on October 19, 20 and 21, 2007. He will also be teaching a Communications Merit Badge to scouts.

Uniform Committee: Ed (AA9WW) has received another shipment of jackets and will wait for a total of 6 requests before ordering more. Individual orders can be made at Uselding's in Port Washington for an additional cost. He has ordered more caps. The cost is \$15 payable by check made out to the club.

PEP Committee: The 2008 Post Everything Party will be on Saturday, March 8 at the Rose-Harms American Legion Hall in Grafton.

Swapfest Committee: Tom (W9IPR) went over details for the September 15, 2007 Swapfest.

Field Day: The generator the Club has used for Field Day has been sold and we will need to explore options for supplying power at site in 2008.

Additional Comments: Ken (W9GA) said the VHF-UHF contest had good results. Mike (AB9ON) is looking for programs for future meetings. Jon (KB9RHZ) has enough help for the Bike Federation of Wisconsin Ride on September 16, 2007.

Old Business: None

New Business: None. Jerry (W9GRR) won the 50/50 drawing. Congratulations.

Attendance; Thirty two members attended the meeting: Jake KB9ZOR, Stan WB9RQR, Dave N9UNR, Kent N9WH, Don AA9WP, Ed AA9W, Steve NC5B, Nels WA9JOB, Bill AA9OS, Jim K9QLP, Joe AA9HR, Mike AB9ON, Herb WA9UVK, Terry KA9RFM, Chuck WA9POU, Dick AB0VF, Kate KB0SIO, Nancy KC9FZK, Tom AA9XK, Ray W9KHH, Ron W9BCK, Bob W9LO, Jerry W9GRR, Ed AA9WW, Bill KA9WRL, Tom W9VBQ, Marc N9ZF, Ken W9GA, Roger W9UVV, Mark AB9CD, Jon KB9RHZ and Tom W9IPR.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Oct 10th, 2007

1. Call to order – Tom (W9IPR)
 2. Introductions.
 3. Announcements, Bragging Rights, Show & Tell, Upcoming events, Etc.,
 4. Program: Andy Eliason, KA9DOL – Home Brew
 5. Fellowship Break
 6. Auction.
 7. Acceptance of Minutes as printed.
 8. Treasurer's report – Nels (WA9JOB)
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9. Repeater report – John (W9NRG)
 10. Committee reports.
Youth Program – JOTA – Bill Howe, KA9WRL
Training – Mark Tellier , AB9CD
Contests – SS CW Contest -Bob Truscott, W9LO
Lighthouse Activation – Tom Nawrot, AA9XK
Swapfest – Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR
 11. OLD BUSINESS
 12. NEW BUSINESS
 13. 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. 10th

7:30 PM