



The Feedline

“W9JZ – SERVING AMATEUR RADIO SINCE 1933”

Volume 27, Number 4

Club Information

2006 FLARC Officers

Frederick Baguhn W9GOC - President
John Steffl WZ9I - Vice President
Gary Muskat KA9SRM - Secretary
Don Michalski W9IXG - Treasurer

Board Members at Large

Steven Elliott, W9RAL
Dan Lautenschleger, KC9IAP
Doug Ward, W9DCQ

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS, etc.

Our club meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross building in Madison, 4860 Sheboygan Avenue. Regular meetings start with the business meeting at 7:30 PM, followed by the program unless otherwise noted. Times and location are subject to change, with prior notice.

Saturday morning “Zilch” locations

The Eastside Zilch (ham breakfasts) are at 7:30 AM at the Green Lantern on the west end of Siggelkow Road in McFarland.

The Westside Zilch is at 10:00 AM at Village Green at 7508 Hubbard Ave. in Middleton. See you there.

Madison Area InfoNet

Thursday evenings on 147.15 at 8 PM; 146.76 is the backup frequency. Traffic and check-ins are welcome.

Madison Ham Web Page

Website is at <http://www.gsl.net/flarc>. Keep checking the links page for new goodies!

Meeting dates and programs

March 21st meeting will be at Red Cross, 7:30 pm. Our guest speaker will be Steve Franzen, N9CK, talking about contesting in today's world.

- **FLARC Meeting on 18th at Madison-Kipp Facility.**
- MARA Swapfest, April 22.
- Field Day -- June 24-25, 2006

The Prez Says

Greetings to all!

The March meeting featured a presentation on contesting by Steve/ N9CK. Steve's enthusiasm for contesting was infectious and he provided links and references for those of us who are new to the contesting process. The audience in attendance seemed to have quite a few contest experts in attendance, as well, so there should be sufficient cumulative experience within FLARC to bring everyone in the club to a point where they are willing to play radio on contest weekends.

Some of the DXer techniques work on contesting, too - - tail-ending, computer logging, picking the band for propagation and so on. Newbies would do well to listen to the contest exchanges *first* and pick up the rhythm of the fray, and perhaps wait until later in the contest to jump in when the big-gun stations have gathered the easy pickings from the *other* big-gun stations.

Thanks, Steve, for the informative and interesting presentation!

This month's meeting will be **Something Different**. John/WZ9I has made arrangements for us to tour one of the Madison-Kipp facilities for a bit of a plant tour! We'll forego the general business meeting and **meet instead at 166 South Fair Oaks Avenue at 7:30 PM**. (John tells me this is the old city bus barn on Fair Oaks.) The plant is located about two blocks north of Atwood Avenue (2 blocks south of Milwaukee Street) on Fair Oaks. The entrance to the parking lot is immediately North of the rail road tracks. The parking lot is ONE WAY, so entrance from the back side is not advisable.

This is a working manufacturing plant, and Madison-Kipp has some safety requirements for

attire - - look for the notice of details elsewhere in Feedline.

The May meeting will feature Dan/AB9ME presenting N1MM - - This is the logging program we intend to use for Field Day. We hope to have an actual radio or two at the meeting so we can actually see the type of data the program can exchange with the radio(s), and we'll have some information available on how to make the radio/computer link.

The June meeting will be a site walk-through at the Field Day location - - followed shortly by FIELD DAY!!

Looking forward to seeing you at Fair Oaks Avenue for the plant tour - -

73, Frederick

News and Stories

You Know You're a Ham if:

- you buy electrical black tape in ten packs.
- you've stripped wire with your teeth.
- you've told your son that, "One day, all this will be yours", and he doesn't respond.
- you'd rather help a buddy put up a new tower than mow the lawn.
- you've grabbed the wrong end of a soldering iron.
- you start giving out RST reports when you are on the telephone.
- the propagation forecast means far more to you than the local weather forecast.
- the microphone or visual aids at a meeting don't work and you rush up to the front to fix it.
- you tell the XYL, when she notices a new rig in the shack, " why that has been there for years."
- your watch is set only to UTC.
- at night, when you pray, it starts off something like: CQ CQ CQ GOD DE (your callsign).
- you ever had to patch your roof after an antenna project.

- Ham radio magazines comprise more than 50% of your bathroom library.
- you ever put a GPS tracker in the XYL's car, just so you could watch her on APRS.
- you and the XYL took a cruise so you could visit the radio room.
- you ever tapped out HI in Morse on your car horn to another ham.
- you ever had an antenna fall down.
- your teenager refuses to ride in your car because it looks like a porcupine.
- you know the Latitude and Longitude of your home QTH.
- you go into the local Radio Shack store and the clerk asks you where something is.

Four Lakes Club Items

The Tour at Madison-Kipp

Our own John Steffl, WZ9I, has been able to get his company, Madison-Kipp, to allow FLARC to have a tour of their Fair Oaks Facility for our April 18th meeting.

We are to meet outside the facility building at 166 South Fair Oaks Avenue at 7:30 PM. (See the MAP on page 13 of *The Feedline* for directions.) The plant is located about two blocks north of Atwood Avenue (2 blocks south of Milwaukee Street) on Fair Oaks. The entrance to the parking lot is immediately north of the rail road tracks. The parking lot is ONE WAY, so entrance from the back side is not advisable.

The group will be split into two groups of approximately 10-15 for a tour which should last for about one hour. There will be a short safety lecture as we enter the building where everyone will be issued a pair of safety glasses and ear plugs. Please return the safety glasses at the end of the tour and dispose of the ear plugs.

Since we will be near machines and furnaces containing molten aluminum, there are some **safety requirements for those taking the tour**. These are the same safety requirements followed by our employees:

- Absolutely No open toed shoes or sandals. Sturdy shoes are desirable. Leather is preferable over tennis type shoes
- No shorts -- long pants are required (cotton preferred)
- No Tank Tops - short sleeve shirts are OK, but long sleeve shirts are preferred (cotton preferred)
- No Skirts
- If anyone has hair longer than shoulder length, it must be restrained (pinned up, pony tail, under a hat)
- Tour participants should remain in the aisles and not wander from the group
- ABSOLUTELY NO ALUMINUM CANS are permitted in the building
- No covered drink containers are allowed in the plant.
- Safety Glasses with side shields and ear protection is required, and will be provided.

This will be a great tour, so we encourage you to arrive early and be ready to begin at 7:30 PM. Thanks and see you there.

REMEMBER, DO NOT GO TO THE RED CROSS, FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS ABOVE.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

Time is up, so if you have not paid, PLEASE get your dues to Don, W9IXG, by the end of the month. (Form at end of newsletter.)

The NEW Feedline

Beginning in January 2006, *The Feedline* newsletter has been provided to the membership in electronic format only. Each member is sent a PDF (Adobe Acrobat file) copy of the newsletter in full color. Please be sure you renew your membership and put your e-mail address on the

form. If you prefer to send your e-mail address directly to the editor, please send it to w9ral@aol.com or w9ral@arrl.net. File size will be kept to a minimum to allow for fast as possible downloads from your Internet Service Provider.

Looking for Fun at Field Day?

FLARC is looking for a volunteer to be the chairperson for the Field Day event in June, 2006. If you have an interest in Field Day, and would like to be on the cutting edge of Field Day activities, contact John, WZ9I, the FLARC Vice President and Field Day Chairman.

A site for Field Day 2006 has been selected, which will be Token Creek County Park, near I-90 and Hwy 51, northeast of Madison. This appears to be a very good location, and a map of the location has been attached at the end of this newsletter.

FLARC Treasurer's Report

The FLARC treasurer reports \$ 4338.96 in our banking account at the March meeting, and a total of 100 members in the club.

General Class in May 2006

Amateur Radio General Class Workshop-- May 13, 14, 2006. You need, of course, a Technician or Novice license as a pre-requisite.

Here is a weekend workshop to help you upgrade your Novice or Technician Class ham radio license to General Class. Earn new privileges that will enable you to explore all the ham bands, try out new modes, and get into worldwide communications. A license examination session on Sunday afternoon concludes the workshop, so can upgrade your license to General Class in only two days. (The workshop covers the written element but does not cover 5 wpm Morse Code, which is required to earn the General Class license.)

The workshop is free-even refreshments are provided! (There is, however, an exam fee of \$14.00 to cover administrative costs.) To prepare you must get a copy of the ARRL General Class License Manual (5th ed., \$16.95), which is available via web or mail order from the American

Radio Relay League: www.arrl.org/catalog. (Check the ARRL web site for lots of information about ham radio.) You will receive suggestions for studying after you register. AES in Milwaukee sells the book, also. www.aesham.com.

Go to <http://www.spaceplace.wisc.edu/SPARC.shtml> for additional information.

Please tell us your age if you are a high school student or younger. Register soon! Class size is limited to 25. Email Don Michalski at w9ixg@arrl.org or call 608-274-1886.

If you already have your General, please pass this information around. I have included a flyer for you to post at your place of employment, also!

73, Don, W9IXG

The Big Project Update

The Big Project is OFF for the moment. Our school has no instructor for the program, so we are "back to square one." If you know of a local school which would be interested in beginning an amateur radio program, please contact Don Michalski, W9IXG, or Frederick Baguhn, W9GOC.

Programs for FLARC Meetings

We need lots more ideas and topics for programs to present at our meetings. So let us hear from you. Send your ideas to Frederick, W9GOC, or to any of the FLARC Board Members. Thanks for your support.

FLARC Web Site

The FLARC URL is <http://www.gsl.net/flarc>. If you see any errors, please let Steve Elliott, W9RAL know, e-mail: w9ral@aol.com.

Elmers

If you are interested in being an Elmer, one who helps newcomers get started in ham radio, we would like you to contact FLARC. Our coordinator for our Elmer Program is Ralph, W9CAR who can be contacted at 231-9195 or 212-7300. Let us all

get involved in helping others become better amateur radio operators. *BECOME AN ELMER!*

VE Testing Program

The Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club of Madison, Wisconsin sponsors a monthly VE testing program at the University of Wisconsin Space Place, 2300 South Park Street, downstairs on the lower level, in the Villager shopping center complex (located in the middle of the shopping center).

Exams are given the first Saturday of the month. Holidays included. Doors open at 8:00 AM, and we hope to have all exams completed and graded by 10:00 AM. Testing is also available to all candidates on Sundays after the Ham Training classes, which are offered three times per year, and after the spring MARA Swapfest.

We offer special accommodations for testing to those with alternate abilities. We require some advance warning on the nature of the accommodations you will need, e.g., an exam reader, visual code, etc. Other than that no reservations are necessary. Walk-ins preferred. Try to arrive at 8 AM or shortly thereafter.

UW-Space Place is located at 2300 S. Park Street, lower level, in Madison, WI. Watch for the Park Street, highway 151 north, exit from the Beltline which is highway 12 & 18 - UW-Space Place is approximately 1/2 mile north of the Beltline, and will be on your left as you head toward the heart of town just past McDonald's. That landmark is more identifiable than the Space Place signage. The Villager shopping center's 2300 S Park Street is the middle of the first parking lot past McDonald's. The UW radio club's BARS repeater, 146.685, pl 123.0, is used for talk in before the start time of 8 AM. Testing is in the lower part of the building in the Space Place class room. Look for signs when you enter the building.

Things to bring:

- Photo ID or two other forms of identification; If you have another FCC license (for example, GMRS) in your name, please bring your Federal Registration Number as it is used by the FCC's Universal Licensing System. (If you have no such license, your Social Security number will serve as an interim identifier until your FRN is generated.)

If you have a current amateur radio license, please also bring:

- The ORIGINAL license and ORIGINALS of any CSCEs which should be considered (both returned to you after inspection), and

- a photocopy of the license and CSCEs (sent with your application to the ARRL VEC) \$14.00 exam fee, preferably as a check or money order made payable to ARRL/VEC

Things NOT to bring:

- A fancy programmable calculator. (the calculator must not have memories, or the memories must be cleared before you use it on the test. This includes clearing the PDA or cell phone memories, so those would not be good choices to use for a calculator.) Simple calculators are provided for your use.

73, Sam Rowe KG9NG acting coordinator
E-mail: KG9NG@arrl.net
608 246-8582, 24-hour machine.

Buck Nite Winner at FLARC

The Buck Night Winner at the March meeting was Daniel Grim AB9LQ.

Mission Statement

The Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club

The Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club (F.L.A.R.C.) is a non-profit, general interest club that exists to promote the growth and enjoyment of Amateur Radio in South-Central Wisconsin. The club's mission is to encourage new operators, enhance the skills and interests of those already licensed and to provide communications in the event of disasters or other emergencies. To accomplish this mission, F.L.A.R.C. will:

- Schedule regular meetings with informational programs and the opportunity for informal fellowship.
- Publish a monthly newsletter for the membership.
- Sponsor training classes.
- Sponsor Volunteer Examinations.

The Feedline is the regular monthly newsletter of the Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club (FLARC). The editor for *The Feedline* is Steve Elliott, W9RAL, and can be contacted at (608) 345-2286 or e-mail: w9ral@aol.com.

Member Birthdays

April:

- 2 KB9LYM—Jackie Jeardeau
- 3 WBOCLI—Phil Carlson
- 4 W9RNF—Sharon Toal
- 6 K9APW—Richard Lust
- 9 KC9BFD—Emily Baguhn
KA9BYD—John Hicks
- 18 KB9UOL—Michelle Godfrey
- 23 KC9FNF—Carter Wegner
- 26 KC9AJN—Dorothy Sorge

May:

- 2 W9IXG - Don Michalski

- 3 W0ROT - Peter Fribley
- 4 W9DGI - Daniel Gomez-Ibanez
N9HNN - John Pellett, MD
- 5 KA9SSI - James F. Hill
- 7 DL7AOW - Jens Freydank
KC9EUC - Thomas Komsi
- 20 N9GTB - William Steaffens
- 21 KA9SRM - Gary Muskat
- 22 K9KVA - Joseph Turner

Wisconsin Items

Wisconsin Section News

Keep in touch with the ham action in Wisconsin by going to the Wisconsin section website: <http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=Wl>.

73, Don, W9IXG, Wisconsin Section Manager

Awards Checkers

Checker for the WAS Award is Gari, NG9V. When you are ready, just contact him; he'll be glad to do it, 608-221-2022 or gberliot@ameritech.net.

Checker for the VUCC awards is Richard, K9APW. Contact him at 608-833-0011 or k9apw@arrl.net.

For Weather Net Folks

The Wisconsin-based Badger Weather Net is held every morning on 3.985 MHz, between 0500 and 0715 local time.

For Sky Warn Watchers

If the weather gets active in the Dane County/Southern Wisconsin area, you may want to follow the action on 444.375MHz.

The Milwaukee Area Skywarn Association (storm spotters) webpage has a state-wide list of frequencies used for severe weather reporting. Follow the link near the top of the page: <http://www.mke-skywarn.org>.

ARRL Items

"HELLO" CAMPAIGN PROVIDES RALLYING POINT TO PROMOTE AMATEUR RADIO

The first components of the ARRL's "Hello" amateur Radio public relations campaign now are available. "This campaign will give hams the tools they need to reach out in their communities to non-hams and influence their perception of Amateur Radio," says ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, who conceived the campaign and is its principal Headquarters contact. The "Hello" campaign is aimed at recasting Amateur Radio in the light of the 21st century and focusing on its universal appeal. At the same time, it will mark the 100th anniversary of what many historians consider the first voice radio broadcast in 1906 by Reginald Fessenden.

"For years, ARRL public information officers (PIOs) and others interested in promoting Amateur Radio have been looking for leadership and a rallying point from which we can join together in a major promotion for ham radio," Pitts said. This is it! Tools include a distinctive "Hello" Web site <http://www.hello-radio.org/> and radio and TV public service announcements.

Based on the word "Hello," which Pitts calls "possibly the most pleasant word in any language," the coordinated campaign will set "a positive, upbeat tone that highlights the international capabilities of Amateur Radio," he explained. The "Hello" Web site is designed for non-hams to learn a little bit about Amateur Radio and to arouse more interest. The site points prospective Amateur Radio licensees to groups that have indicated they will provide a warm welcome to newcomers. The national "Hello" campaign can bring curious people into contact with ham radio groups, but it will be up to local radio amateurs to make them truly welcome, Pitts maintains.

"The key to creating a new ham operator is to develop a relationship with a current ham operator," says Pitts. Behind the effort is "an army of dedicated, truly motivated PIOs and others who want to see ham radio flourish."

A series of 30-second radio public service

announcements (PSAs)

<http://www.arrl.org/pio/pr.html> has been developed for the "Hello" campaign. "You can help by downloading the PSAs from the ARRL Web site onto a CD and taking it to your own local radio station," Pitts suggests. A broadcast-quality video for the "Hello" campaign will be available in April.

Copies of the special four-page "Hello" brochure <http://www.arrl.org/pio/hello/Hello-Campaign-Brochure.pdf> are available from ARRL Headquarters for use during presentations to non-ham groups. (Full details on the "Hello" campaign plus a pull-out copy of the brochure are available in the April issue of QST.) The brochures are suitable for talks to schools, clubs, displays and other venues promoting Amateur Radio to the public. There is a space on the back page to add local club info.

"For 100 years, the magic of the human voice over radio has brought imaginations to life. It opened a whole new era of human communication," the brochure declares, urging, "It's your world. Get on the radio and say 'Hello.'"

To obtain copies, e-mail the "Hello" campaign hello@arrl.org. Donations are welcome (make checks out to "ARRL") to help cover return postage to ARRL, Public Relations, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

"Hello" logo bumper stickers will be on sale through the ARRL on-line catalog <http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=9731>. Buttons for the "Hello" campaign will be available at Dayton Hamvention and at other major Amateur Radio events. Banners for the "Hello" campaign will be flying at Dayton Hamvention and at the National Association of Broadcasters convention in April. After that, they will be made available for use at major events in 2006.

"ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, was correct in stating that the Main Street of today is not the same as the Main Street of yesteryear," Pitts says. "To reach out today, the very first requirement is that Amateur Radio operators be perceived as friendly and trustworthy. That's a true public relations goal and the primary focus of the campaign."

Special offer to Amateur Radio club members.

Have you wondered about **Radio Frequency Interference**? Exactly what is it, what causes it, and how to get rid of it?

For a limited time, we are offering ARRL affiliated club members the opportunity to participate in the Radio Frequency Interference online course at a **\$15.00 discount**. (Regular price, ARRL Members \$65.00 Nonmembers 95.00)

- Get tips and suggestions for dealing with RFI problems
- Various types of filters.
- Sources of RFI
- Forms of TV interference
- On-line course, accessible 24/7 during the 16-week session

How to Register:

Follow the links:

(<http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html#ec006>)

Enter the discount code **AC42306** on the registration screen (this offer is only good for online registration.) Offer expires April 23, 2006.

W1AW 2006 Spring Operating Schedule

The W1AW Operating Schedule may be found on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html> .

Information Locator

Amateur Radio Web Sites

MARA www.qsl.net/mara
WAR www.wi-repeaters.org
MDXC <http://www.madisondxclub.org>
N9MW <http://www.n9mw.com> (DX-Cluster)
SMC <http://www.w9smc.com>

Dane County ARES/RACES

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dane_co_ares-races/
(has a current listing of Public Service Events)

Note: The Wisconsin Association of Repeaters

(WAR) site, <http://www.wi-repeaters.org/>, will provide a current list of all repeaters in the state of Wisconsin. You can get the list sorted by frequency, by city or by region. The list has the offset, tone frequency, availability of auto patch, emergency power, owner, if open and if it's associated with emergency nets.

MDXC works with Internet Explorer and not with some versions of Netscape.

Other interesting sites are www.qsl.net and www.qrz.com. There are many, many links to other sites, which promote things from antennas, antenna construction to software. Also www.ac6v.com and www.cpcug.org/user/wfeidt/index.htm are full of links about ham radio. The latter is NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX page with the link ADXO, Announced DX Operations.

If you click on some of these URLs, they may not work and you will get an error message. They are OK if you type them into your browser.

Also, the ARRL Letter is a weekly update of amateur radio news, which can be found at: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/> .

Badger Amateur Radio Society (BARS)

For those of you who utilize the 146.685 MHz, p123.0 Hz (W9YT), repeater in the Madison area, the Badger Amateur Radio Society (BARS) is the group which operates this equipment. The BARS group is the student based organization of the University of Wisconsin, and is open to amateur radio operators who are students, alumni, or just involved in amateur radio. BARS meetings are the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, at 5:00 pm and 5:45 pm, respectively, in room 1055 ECB (Engineering Center Building).

Currently, the BARS Echolink® unit is off-line and not operational, due to questions concerning the operation of the simplex unit under FCC rules.

QRP - A New Section

QRP is a subject within amateur radio which has been somewhat "low key," or lacking power. (Sorry, I got a million of them.)

The Feedline is about to answer the call of QRP by introducing a QRP section in our Newsletter. So, calling all you QRP fans and operators, we need your assistance in bringing our new QRP sections to life. We are interested in your stories, technical topics, references to articles you have seen or read, anything related and a part of QRP in amateur radio. We shall put the items together, and begin the QRP Section in next months *The Feedline*.

And Other New Topic Areas and Sections for The Feedline

As our newsletter continues to develop and grow, we are always looking for topic areas and sections to add to our monthly writings. If you have any ideas, are willing to contribute to a topic area, or just have found some information you think amateur radio operators need to know about, let our editor know. You can contact Steve Elliott, W9RAL, at w9ral@aol.com or w9ral@arrl.net.

Learn Morse Code

Here is yet another location on the Web where you can gain information about Morse Code and get assistance with your learning. The website: <http://justlearnmorsecode.com/>

Technical Round-up

Need Manuals or Tech Info for Your Radio?

The following website has a lot of information for a very large number of amateur radios by many manufacturers.

<http://www.ham.dmz.ro/>

Give it a whirl the next time you need a manual, schematic, bulletin, or how to repair a problem.

Wisconsin Repeater Frequencies

Repeater List (Booklet Format)

<http://www.wi-repeaters.org/Mar2006Listing.pdf>

Repeaters Listed by City, Region & Frequency in HTML & Text Formats

<http://www.wi-repeaters.org/warlst.htm>

WAR Band Plan

http://www.wi-repeaters.org/war_bandplan.htm

WAR PL Tone Plan Map

<http://www.wi-repeaters.org/wisctcssmap.pdf>

Cross Band Repeater Frequencies

http://www.wi-repeaters.org/war_crossband.htm

WAR March Newsletter

<http://www.wi-repeaters.org/Mar2006Newsletter.pdf>

Minnesota Repeaters

http://www.mrc.gen.mn.us/MN_List.pdf

For Sale and Advertisers

BUY — SELL — TRADE

ATTENTION FLARC MEMBERS: If you have amateur radio or computer items that you would like to BUY, SELL, or TRADE, you can do it in *The Feedline*. There is no charge for non-commercial advertising. Ads can be sent to Steve Elliott, W9RAL editor, w9ral@aol.com, and will be posted for 3 months. Continuations for additional months can also be sent to Steve.

FOR SALE

Great Prices -- local ham selling as follows:

- Vertical antenna - Eagle by Gap - list \$239 plus shipping, now \$50.
- Rig Blaster - manual uncertain but guaranteed, list \$129 - now \$20.
- 2 coax cables - make offer.

Bill Gulley, KB9SUP, 218-9293,
bgulley@charter.net

(Jan2006)

FOR SALE

Mosley TA-33 3 element/3 band beam. \$50.00
Pick up only, no shipping.
Roger, K9EMG at +1 (608) 221-8496. (Jan2006)

FOR SALE

The following items are for sale:

- M-18, 50-foot, Glen Martin tower with a Hazer 6 tram system for antenna mounting.
- XP-70 Series Sommer antenna which appears to be a 706 model or 708 model.
- Miscellaneous feed line and tower guy wires.
- Antenna rotor (no current information on what unit it is, or whether it works).

Tower is located in Madison, Wisconsin, and further information can be obtained by calling Steve, W9RAL, at 608-345-2286. Proceeds from the sale of this equipment is being donated by the Family of Mas Iyama to the Big Project work in our area and supported by FLARC. (Feb2006)

FOR SALE

New In Box Barker & Williamson BWDS-1.8-30 stainless steel folded dipole.

Used by governments world-wide. Great for both ham & shortwave radio. Covers 1.8 - 30 MHz CONTINUOUS, SWR under 2:1 & 30 - 54 MHz CONTINUOUS with an SWR of under 3:1 & rated at 2KW PEP SSB/CW.

Made of more durable stainless steel wire not the copperweld version. Popular Communications review article is attached or at:

<http://www.bwantennas.com/instr/PCJulyTechShowcase.pdf>

AES list price for stainless version of this antenna is \$374 plus shipping & Wis. Sales tax. (New part number is BWDS-90).

Make a reasonable offer. Email me or call me at 847-867-2774.

73, Mark, WB9QZB@AOL.COM

(Feb2006)

FOR SALE

Badger Amateur Radio Society has a LOT of tubes for sale, and you can get a copy of the Tube List from them by sending a self-addressed, stamped

envelope to:
Badger Amateur Radio Society
1415 Engineering Drive
Madison, WI 53706

FOR SALE

New in box Hy-Gain DX-88 HF Vertical covering 10/12/15/17/20/30/40/80m.

This is older stock originally made when Hy-Gain was owned by TELEX before MFJ acquired Hy-Gain. Current AES & MFJ new price is: \$370. I have KIT-160-88 add-on 160m kit new in box & it's new price is: \$190. I also have GRK-88 ground radial kit new in box & it's new price is: \$100 and RRK-88 roof radial kit which is also \$100.

I'm looking to sell these for a fair price. I can be reached by email at: WB9QZB@AOL.COM or phone at 847-867-2774. 73, Mark, WB9QZB. (April 2006)

FOR SALE

Hey everyone. Here is a list of some equipment from the family of John Offerdahl K9XH, now a silent key. Please contact them with any questions.

- The equipment is as follows:
- Kenwood TS-820
- Icom IC-271H
- Icom IC-471H
- Kenwood TR-7950 (2) one has broken backlight.
- Kenwood AT-200
- Icom IC-W21AT with spare AA battery pack
- Kenwood SP-520 speaker
- Kenwood SP-820 speaker
- Kenwood KPS-12 power supply
- Astron RS-35A power supply
- Larson NMO 2/70 antenna with Larson NMO-MM mag-mount

The equipment is at Rita's house near Mount Horeb. For questions/info contact

Eric Offerdahl KB9NAL
414-271-1491
wolf359@gmail.com

Rita Offerdahl
608-767-7790
n9ezx@execpc.com

Advertisers

The club is always looking for advertisers for our club. This helps defray the cost of the news letter some. If you have a candidate(s) in mind; see Don or any board member for details. It is a good way for some business to get exposure and help the club out. It isn't very expensive at all. Contact Don Michalski, W9IXG or Frederick Baguhn, W9GOC.

Ham University	CW!	Tech!
	General	Extra!

The Ham University

Ham University is the premier Windows program for helping you pass your FCC Exams. Ham University contains all the questions for all *three* FCC written exams. You can browse the questions, quiz yourself on your weak areas, or set yourself a mock exam. Ham University provides you with *three* ways to learn Morse code. First there are formal lessons which introduce the code one letter at a time. Then there are exercises, a set of typical transmissions to practice on (you set the speed). And finally there is *Pentode*®. This highly motivating game (inspired by *Tetris*) makes acquiring the code effortless.

Requirements: You will need a PC with a 386 or higher running Win95, Win98, Win-ME, WinNT, Win2000 or WinXP plus a sound card.

Goto: <http://hamuniversity.com/>

The Madison Area Repeater Association, Inc. is proud to announce:

The 2006 Madison Hamfest & Computer Fair

Saturday, April 22, 2006

8:00am until 1:00pm

(Dealer Set-Up Friday Night and Saturday Morning)

Talk-in Frequency: 147.75/15 Mhz

Featured vendors of new and used equipment for Amateur Radio, Electronics and Computer enthusiasts as well as computer software in the Mandt Community Center's spacious 26,000 sq. ft. main hall!

Same Great Location as in 2005!

Please note the Swapfest is on a Saturday this year!

The Madison Swapfest will be held at the Mandt Community Center
400 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, Wisconsin
The Mandt Community Center is located in the Stoughton Junior Fair Grounds on the south side of Stoughton.

Plenty of Spacious FREE PARKING!

Ticket Prices

Swapfest advanced sale general admission tickets are \$4.00 per person. \$5 day of show.

Vendor table fees are \$15.00 per 8 ft table if ordered before April 3, 2006. \$18.00 after that. Tables are \$25.00 day of swapfest, if available.

If you are interested in purchasing tickets or table space, contact Paul Toussaint by E-mail or by phone at: 608.245.8890.

Contest Information

WA7BNM Monthly Contest Calendar

Please note that you may not be able to operate during all of the total hours of the contests listed below. Total operating time may also vary by entry category. See individual contest rules for allowed operating hours. This calendar comes from website: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html> .

April, 2006	
Michigan QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 15 to 0400Z, Apr 16
EA-QRP CW Contest	1700Z-2000Z, Apr 15 (20-10m) and 2000Z-2300Z, Apr 15 (80m) and 0700Z-1000Z, Apr 16 (40m) and 1000Z-1300Z, Apr 16 (20-10m)
Ontario QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 15 to 1800Z, Apr 16
YU DX Contest	2100Z, Apr 15 to 0500Z, Apr 16 and 0900Z-1700Z, Apr 16
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Apr 17
Low Power Spring Sprint	1400Z-2000Z, Apr 17
432 MHz Spring Sprint	1900 local - 2300 local, Apr 20
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, Apr 20
DX Colombia International Contest	0000Z, Apr 22 to 2359Z, Apr 23
SP DX RTTY Contest	1200Z, Apr 22 to 1200Z, Apr 23
Florida QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 22 to 0159Z, Apr 23 and 1200Z-2159Z, Apr 23
Helvetia Contest	1300Z, Apr 29 to 1259Z, Apr 30

May, 2006	
AGCW QRP/QRP Party	1300Z-1900Z, May 1
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, May 1
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, May 2
Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, May 5
MARAC County Hunter Contest, CW	0000Z, May 6 to 2400Z, May 7
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW	0001Z, May 6 to 2359Z, May 7
Microwave Spring Sprint	0600-1300 local, May 6
7th Call Area QSO Party	1300Z, May 6 to 0700Z, May 7
Indiana QSO Party	1600Z, May 6 to 0400Z, May 7
ARI International DX Contest	2000Z, May 6 to 1959Z, May 7
New England QSO Party	2000Z, May 6 to 0500Z, May 7 and 1300Z-2400Z, May 7
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, May 10
Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, May 12
VK/Trans-Tasman 80m Contest, Phone	0800Z-1400Z, May 13
Mid-Atlantic QSO Party	1200Z, May 13 to 2400Z, May 14
VOLTA WW RTTY Contest	1200Z, May 13 to 1200Z, May 14
CQ-M International DX Contest	1200Z, May 13 to 1200Z, May 14
FISTS Spring Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, May 13

50 MHz Spring Sprint	2300Z, May 13 to 0300Z, May 14
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, May 15
NAQCC 80m Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, May 18 and 0330Z-0530Z, May 18
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	1900Z-2030Z, May 18
Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, May 19
US Counties QSO Party, SSB	0000Z, May 20 to 2400Z, May 21
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	1200Z, May 20 to 1200Z, May 21
EU PSK DX Contest	1200Z, May 20 to 1200Z, May 21
Portuguese Navy Day Contest, PSK31	1500Z-2100Z, May 20
Portuguese Navy Day Contest, CW/SSB	1500Z, May 20 to 1500Z, May 21
Manchester Mineira CW Contest	1500Z, May 20 to 2400Z, May 21
Baltic Contest	2100Z, May 20 to 0200Z, May 21
QRP Minimal Art Session	1900Z-2300Z, May 25
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 27 to 2359Z, May 28
VK/Trans-Tasman 80m Contest, CW	0800Z-1400Z, May 27
ARCI Hootowl Sprint	2000 local - 2400 local, May 28
MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint	2300Z, May 28 to 0300Z, May 29

Send comments and corrections about this page to Bruce Horn, WA7BNM

Revision Date: March 13, 2005

© 1998-2005 Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, All Rights Reserved

Information is also available from the ARRL contest web site <http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html> and the ARRL Contest Rate Sheet at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/>. You can also get the Rate Sheet emailed to you once a week. (You may have to copy these URL's into your browser to make them work.)

N2CQ QRP CONTEST CALENDAR

QRP CONTEST CALENDAR, March 2006

RUN FOR THE BACON (CW) * QRP CONTEST *****

EST: Apr 16, 9 PM to 11 PM

UTC: Apr 17, 0100z 0300z

Rules: <http://fpgrp.com>

Low Power Spring Sprint (CW) ... QRP Category

Apr 17, 1400z to 2000z

Rules: <http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/lpsprspr.htm>

SP DX RTTY Contest

Apr 22, 1200z to Apr 23, 1200z

Rules: <http://www.pkrvg.org/zbior.html>

Florida QSO Party (CW/Phone) ...QRP Category

Apr 22, 1600z to Apr 23, 0159z and

Apr 23, 1200z to 2159z

Rules: <http://www.floridaqsoparty.org/>

Nebraska QSO Party (CW/SSB/Digital) ... QRP Category

Apr 22, 1700z to Apr 23, 1700z

Rules: <http://www.qsl.net/hdxa/index.html>

FISTS/EUCW CW QRS Contest (CW) ... QRP Category
Apr 24, 0001z to Apr 28, 2359z

Rules: <http://www.agcw.de/eucw/euqrs.html>

Helvetia Contest (CW/SSB) (Swiss) ...QRP Category
Apr 29, 1300z to Apr 30, 1259z

Rules: http://www.uska.ch/e_index.htm

QRP To The Field (CW) ...QRP Contest!!

Apr 29, 1500z to Apr 30, 0300z

Rules: <http://www.zianet.com/QRP>

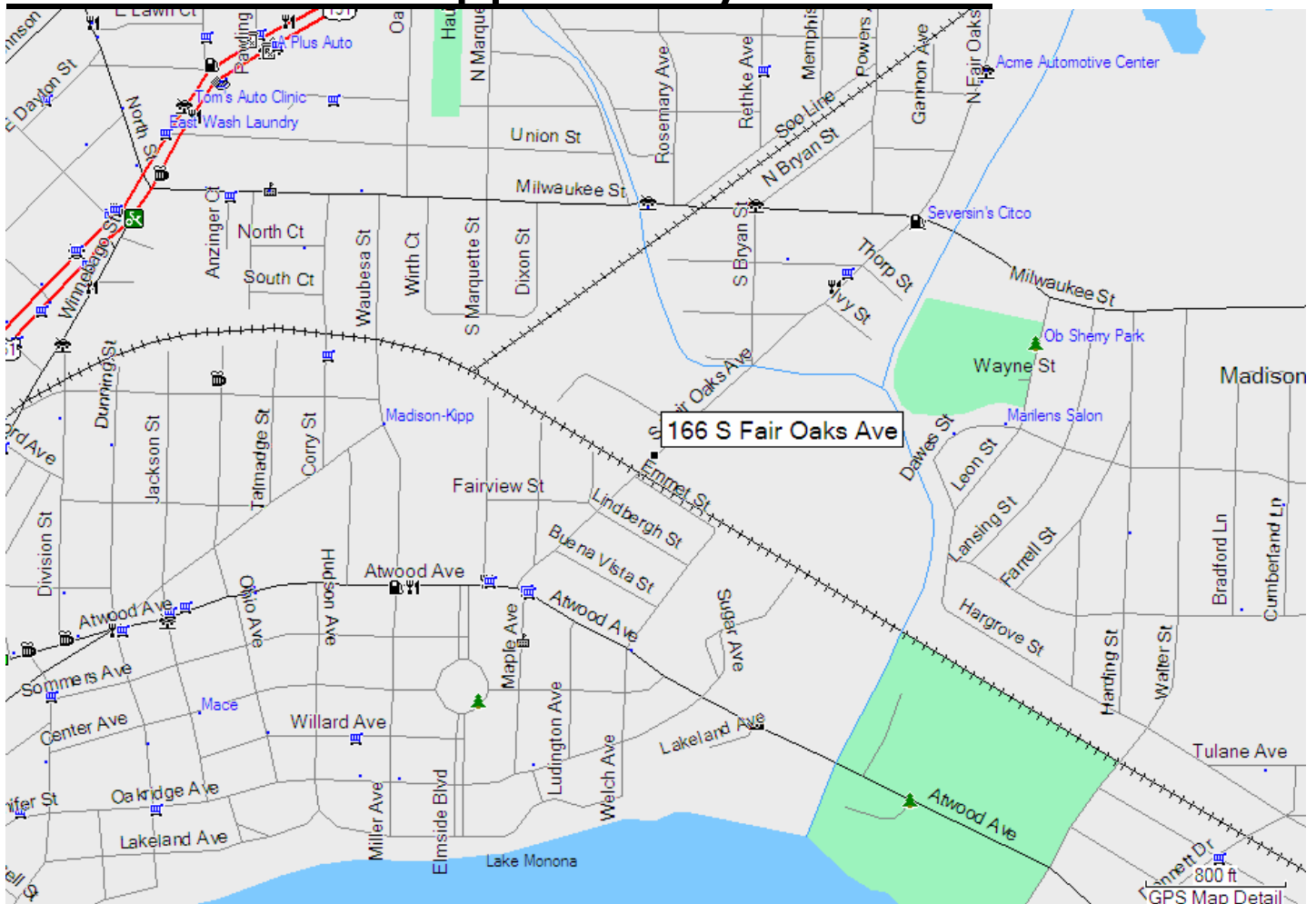
Alabama QSO Party (CW/PH/Mixed) ... QRP Category

Apr 29, 1700z to Apr 30, 0500z

Rules: <http://www.alabamagsoparty.org/>

Thanks to K3WWP, LA9HW, SM3CER, WA7BNM, ARRL and others for assistance in compiling this calendar.
Ken Newman - N2CQ N2CQ@ARRL.NET ; <http://www.amgrp.org/contesting/contesting.html> ;
<http://www.n3epa.org/Pages/Contest/contest.htm> ; *Ed Note: Thanks to Terry, WU9F.

The Madison - Kipp Facility Location



General Information

Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club Membership Mail-In Application

Date: _____ Callsign: _____ License Class: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Month & Day of Birth: (optional) _____

E-mail address: _____

ARRL Member: Yes _____ No _____

Newsletter delivery is via E-mail, so please include your E-mail address above. If you require a mailed copy, please check here _____.

Dues: \$20 regular, \$17 Senior (65 plus), \$10 Student, \$14 additional family members. (one newsletter per family)

Mail check and this completed application form to:

**FLARC c/o Don Michalski
4214 Mohawk Dr.
Madison, WI 53711**

MDXC Scholarship

The Madison DX Club (MDXC) has established a student scholarship program to financially assist students enrolled in institutions of higher learning. The program is intended to be a public service for this community and it is hoped all amateur radio operators and friends will contribute support.

For complete details of the program you may go to <http://www.madisondxclub.org>. You may contact us at scholarship@madisondxclub.org.

The MDXC (Madison DX Club) thanks you for your support to this important project.

.....