



The Feedline

“W9JZ – SERVING AMATEUR RADIO SINCE 1933”

VOL. 25 – No. 08

August, 2004

2003 FLARC Officers

Frederick Baguhn W9GOC - President
John Steffl K0ZYA - Vice President
Gary Muskat KA9SRM - Secretary
Don Michalski W9IXG – Treasurer

Board Members at Large

Phil Carlson WB0CLI
Bud Morin K9ZT
Doug Ward W9DCQ

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS, etc.

Our club meetings are usually 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. They are subject to change.

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 www.qsl.net/flarc Keep checking the links page for new goodies!

Meeting dates and programs

Prez Says –

Greetings to all!

The July meeting featured a presentation and demonstration of EchoLink, with Steve/W9RAL sharing the information. EchoLink is establishing itself as an interesting extension of ham radio, bringing computers into play for more than logging and replacing the front panel controls on the radio. Steve’s presentation gave us each a bit more information on how the EchoLink web ties together, as well as demonstrating the operating

techniques to access the local site atop the Engineering Research Building on the UW campus.

Some of us will have some mike fright to overcome before using DTMF signaling to make QSOs over Internet links to remote repeaters, but Steve/W9RAL and Phil/WB0CLI remain ready and willing to ‘Elmer’ the timid as we learn new facets of the radio-computer interaction. Thanks, guys!

John/K0ZYA has some digital candid shots from Field Day; Roger/K9EMG had prints from other vantage points. Ed/N9MW has been charged with editing (expurgating?) some of the Field Day snapshots from the disks in preparation for the July meeting, purely in the interest of time, I’m sure. ☺ Talk to John about getting electronic copies of the images you need for your photo album (he may have copies of those that were cut in the N9MW edited version, too). We’ll be working with our webmaster to get some of the snapshots onto the website.

REMINDER: The August FLARC meeting will be replaced by the Fox Hunt / transmitter hunt, starting at 7:00 PM from the Red Cross (Sheboygan Ave) parking lot. John/K0ZYA is the fox; now is time to get your radio-direction-finding toys verified, and confirm your teammates for the event. Fox frequency will be announced at the Red Cross parking lot - - 2 meter FM band. John hints that he has narrowed his short list of fox sites down to two, and they have the potential to be ‘interesting’.

August also brings the Baraboo hamfest on the 14th; check the Yellow Thunder ARC website <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc> for details and talk-in frequency.

73,
Frederick

FLARC Treasurer Report

7/20/2004

Balance in the treasury is \$4,194.50..

Membership: 90 members.

Don, W9IXG

BPL Alert

From the ARRL Bulletin:

Progress Energy Corporation (PEC) says it's completed Phase II of its broadband over power line (BPL) field trial in the Raleigh, North Carolina, area. In an August 4 PEC internal memorandum made available to ARRL, the company said its program to "test the viability of providing broadband service to communities it serves" will wrap up by the end of August. The company reportedly will shut down the system once it's able to move its BPL customers to other broadband providers. [(Ed.) However there were come confusing remarks by a power company engineer, so I think we have to wait for the next installment.]

More details can be found on the ARRL website <<http://www.arrl.org/bpl>>.

CWRA SwapNet

The CWRA Sunday Morning SwapNet (146.880) 10:00 AM local time, is in need of an additional Net Control Station. This is a very popular net where ham radio equipment, parts and information are exchanged, and occasional announcements of upcoming events are heard.

Net control stations take turns; if a fourth operator will step forward, your rotation will come up once every 4 weeks.

There are exceptions to the schedule; weekends with 'local' hamfests or holidays are "pass" weekends, so the net control operators can participate in the hamfest or holiday festivities without feeling tethered to their transceivers.

Details, operating procedures, etc can be discovered by contacting Ed/N9MW ; ed@n9mw.com , or catch him (or another net control station) on the air on Sunday mornings, 146.880 MHz (minus offset, PL 123.0 Hz)

Technician Class

There will be a Technician License Workshop September 18 and 19 at the Space Place, 1605 S. Park St., Madison, WI 53715.

The workshop schedule is:

Saturday, September 18, 8 AM to 5 PM;

Sunday, September 19, 9 AM to 5 PM.

A Technician license exam, plus an optional 5 wpm code test, will be given from 3-5 PM on that Sunday. If you want to take the exam (and why not? You'll never be better prepared!) The FCC-required fee is \$12.00. For more information:

Don Michalski, W9IXG

Coordinator

(608)263-4685 (day)

(608)274-1886 (evenings)

W9IXG@arrl.net.

Society of Midwest Contesters

The following will be appearing in the August issue of the "ArcOver", the FRRL Club Newsletter. [FRRL = Fox River Radio League (Ed.)] This article grew out of a suggestion from W9GIG, George Isely, ARRL Central Division Director, that we include the SMC web site URL in our newsletter.

The SMC— Escaping the Black Hole
by Bill Muhr, KB9YSI

Recent news reports state that renowned scientist Stephen Hawking has revised his original theory and now believes that matter CAN escape from a black hole. These articles remind me of a group called the Society of Midwest Contesters. This group of rabid radio fans has been pumping out signals from the Midwest (the black hole of radio propagation) for almost 20 years.

The Society of Midwest Contesters (SMC), was formed early in 1985, with the goals of uniting Midwest contesters into a competitive group and promoting radio-sport in the Midwest. From the 51 charter members in the summer of 1985, the group has grown to a membership of over 300 contesters, mainly in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, and Wisconsin. Led by then president, Steve Dubberstein, K9WO, SMC launched their first major contest effort in the 1985 November Sweepstakes, winning the unlimited class. They repeated that performance in the 1986 SS. Since then, familiar calls like NT1N, K9ZO and K9NW have led the group, which draws together the experience of the Midwest's contesting greats to train up-and-coming operators.

Paul Gentry, K9PG, took over as President in May 2000. Since then, the SMC has quintupled in size. They came out of nowhere in 2000 to win the Unlimited Team Title in the ARRL Sweepstakes. SMC won again in 2001 by amassing over 22 million points. Then, in the face of intense competition, SMC completed the “3-peat” in 2002, winning by almost 7 million points.

This year the club is again gearing up for major efforts during the 2004/5 contest season. If you are interested in contesting and would like to add your score to the SMC total, visit the club website at www.w9smc.com.

Membership is free, although donations are welcome. Once you join, you will be part of a premiere contesting club and have access to a first class newsletter and an email reflector. You can

also participate in club sponsored NAQP and Sprint teams, visit the Club Suite in Daytona, and help to support plaques awarded to contesters around the world.

Contesting is a challenging and entertaining part of our hobby, and it’s better when you are a member of a contest club. Give the SMC a try and you’ll see what I mean.

73 — Bill, KB9YSI
Newsletter Editor,
FRRL "ArcOver"

MDXC Scholarship Announcement

The Madison DX Club has a program to provide local students enrolled in an institution of higher learning with financial assistance. The structure of the program is in place and a number of contributions have been received. The program is off to a good start. Any financial contribution you might make to the program will make more and larger scholarships available. A donation form is attached. Complete details of the program are available at <http://www.madisondxclub.org>. if you know of a ham who will be (or is) “attending college”, please pass on the information about this program.

Programs

We need some more ideas or topics for programs to present at the meetings. So let us hear from you.

FLARC Web Site

The FLARC URL is <http://www.qsl.net/flarc> If you see any errors, please let us know.

Elmers

If you are interested in being an Elmer, one who helps newcomers get started in ham radio, contact Gary Dennis, KG9FL.

VE Program

Tim, WO9U, is the VE Team Chairman. The exams are given at SPACE PLACE on South Park Street on the *FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH.*

Wisconsin Section

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

73, Don

Buck Nite

The winner was Bud Morin, K9ZT.

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.

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.

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.

Birthdays

August:

- 16 NO9M—Dave Rece
- 20 KC9ASI—William Baguhn
- 22 N9YON—Sue Wigdal
- 23 W0ZNM—Ade Gardner
- 24 WI9WI—Jim Fitzpatrick
- 26 K9SAM—Marylynn Franzen

September:

- 3 W9RAL—Steven Elliott
- 5 NK9U—Eldon Boehm
- 12 WB9RNJ—Paul McFee
- 13 KG9FL—Gary Dennis
- 16 W9WUU—George Shands
- 22 KC9AQG—Pierre Munson
- 23 K0ZYA—John Steffl
- KG9NI—Ernest Stracener
- 29 KA9VHG—Jim Anderson

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

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Contest Calendar

Another source of contest dates has been suggested instead of the one below. The source is <http://home.online.no/~janalme/hammain.html>. They overlap quite a bit and each has contests that the other does not have. Furthermore, they disagree on some dates and times. The above site has the advantage of having links to the rules.

WA7BNM 13-Month Contest Calendar *Last updated July 15, 2004*

Please send corrections and additions directly to Bruce Horn, WA7BNM

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.

August, 2004

RSGB RoPoCo 2	0700Z-0900Z, Aug 1
SARL HF Phone Contest	1230Z-1630Z, Aug 1
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Aug 3
TARA Grid Dip Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Aug 7
10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB	0001Z, Aug 7 to 2359Z, Aug 8
National Lighthouse Weekend QSO Contest	0001Z, Aug 7 to 2359Z, Aug 8
European HF Championship	1200Z-2359Z, Aug 7
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Aug 7 to 0600Z, Aug 8
ARRL UHF Contest	1800Z, Aug 7 to 1800Z, Aug 8
WAE DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Aug 14 to 2359Z, Aug 15
Maryland-DC QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 14 to 0400Z, Aug 15 and 1600Z-2359Z, Aug 15
SARTG WW RTTY Contest	0000Z-0800Z, Aug 21 and 1600Z-2400Z, Aug 21 and 0800Z-1600Z, Aug 22
ARRL 10 GHZ and Up Contest	0600 local -2400 local , Aug 21 and 0600 local -2400 local , Aug 22
Keyman's Club of Japan Contest	1200Z, Aug 21 to 1200Z, Aug 22
SEANET Contest	1200Z, Aug 21 to 1200Z, Aug 22
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Aug 21 to 0600Z, Aug 22
New Jersey QSO Party	2000Z, Aug 21 to 0700Z, Aug 22 and 1300Z, Aug 22 to 0200Z, Aug 23
CQC Summer VHF/UHF QSO Party	1600Z-2200Z, Aug 22
ALARA Contest	0600Z, Aug 28 to 1159Z, Aug 29
Hawaii QSO Party	0700Z-2200Z, Aug 28
TOEC WW Grid Contest, CW	1200Z, Aug 28 to 1200Z, Aug 29
YO DX HF Contest	1200Z, Aug 28 to 1200Z, Aug 29
SCC RTTY Championship	1200Z, Aug 28 to 1159Z, Aug 29
Ohio QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 28 to 0400Z, Aug 29

SARL HF CW Contest

1230Z-1630Z, Aug 29

September, 2004

All Asian DX Contest, Phone	0000Z, Sep 4 to 2400Z, Sep 5
Russian RTTY WW Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Sep 4
IARU Region 1 Field Day, SSB	1300Z, Sep 4 to 1259Z, Sep 5
RSGB SSB Field Day	1300Z, Sep 4 to 1300Z, Sep 5
AGCW Straight Key Party	1300Z-1600Z, Sep 4
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Sep 5
MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint	2300Z, Sep 6 to 0300Z, Sep 7
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Sep 7
YLRL Howdy Days	1400Z, Sep 8 to 0200Z, Sep 10
WAE DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Sep 11 to 2359Z, Sep 12
CIS DX Contest, RTTY	1200Z, Sep 11 to 1200Z, Sep 12
Swiss HTC QRP Sprint	1300Z-1900Z, Sep 11
ARRL September VHF QSO Party	1800Z, Sep 11 to 0300Z, Sep 13
North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 12
Tennessee QSO Party	1800Z, Sep 12 to 0100Z, Sep 13
ARCI End of Summer PSK31 Sprint	2000Z-2400Z, Sep 12
ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local -2400 local , Sep 18 and 0600 local -2400 local , Sep 19
SARL VHF/UHF Contest	1000Z, Sep 18 to 1000Z, Sep 19
Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW	1200Z, Sep 18 to 1200Z, Sep 19
Collegiate QSO Party	1200Z, Sep 18 to 0400Z, Sep 19
Med. Islands Award Contest	1200Z, Sep 18 to 1200Z, Sep 19
South Carolina QSO Party	1300Z, Sep 18 to 2100Z, Sep 19
QRP Afield	1500Z, Sep 18 to 0300Z, Sep 19
Washington State Salmon Run	1600Z, Sep 18 to 0700Z, Sep 19 and 1600Z-2400Z, Sep 19
QCWA QSO Party	1800Z, Sep 18 to 1800Z, Sep 19
North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 19
144 MHz Fall Sprint	1900 local -2300 local , Sep 20
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Sep 25 to 2400Z, Sep 26
Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB	1200Z, Sep 25 to 1200Z, Sep 26
Arkansas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 25 to 0600Z, Sep 26 and 1800Z, Sep 26 to 0200Z, Sep 27
Texas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 25 to 0200Z, Sep 26 and 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 26
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z-1900Z, Sep 25 and 1900Z-2100Z, Sep 25
Alabama QSO Party	1800Z-2400Z, Sep 25
UBA ON Contest, 6m	0600Z, Sep 26 to 1000Z, Sep 6
Fall QRP Homebrewer Sprint	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 27
222 MHz Fall Sprint	1900 local -2300 local , Sep 28

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

Revision Date: February 13, 2004

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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.

**Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club Membership Mail-
In Application**

Date: _____ Callsign: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Month & Day of Birth: (optional) _____

E-mail address: _____

ARRL Member: Yes ___ No ___

Newsletter delivery:

Email: _____ Standard Mail: _____

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

(one newsletter per family)

Mail check and completed application form to:

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

MDXC Scholarship Contribution Form

Mail to Bill Hanold, N3304 Tipperary Point Rd., Poynette, WI 53955

I wish to contribute \$_____.____ to the MDXC Scholarship Fund.

Payment is included with this form.

Make checks payable to the MDXC Scholarship Fund

Payment will be made on or before _____ 20_____

Please note that MDXC expects to award scholarships annually in May and make payouts at the end of each year.

NAME (please print)

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

SIGNATURE

DATE

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 contribution to this important project.

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