



The Feedline

“W9JZ – SERVING AMATEUR RADIO SINCE 1933”

VOL. 25 – No. 12

December, 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 November meeting featured the FLARC Budget for 2005, which was approved by the quorum of members present. We were also privy to a supplemental presentation on the ARRL Frequency Measurement Test which took place on 18 November 2004 (UTC date). John / K0ZYA did a fine presentation on the difference between this year’s FMT and those previously held. Thank you, John!

For those of you who took part, your measurement results need to be returned to the ARRL soon:

Send entries to: **W1AW/FMT, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.** To be eligible, entries must be postmarked by Friday, December 17, 2004. Participants may submit a separate report for each band.

WA2PUX provided junque box treasures which were recycled in the appropriate ham fashion - - Thank you, Ralph!

The Holiday Party was December 7. A good time was had by all. There was food, fellowship, and a chance to recognize some of the noteworthy ham activities we’ve enjoyed over the last twelve months.

Upcoming Activities:

The program for the December general meeting (21 December) will be Radio Astronomy, by our own Chuck Forster, WA9ACI.

ELECTIONS:

Contemplate whom you would like to nominate for an Officer or Board member position (or which position you would like to be nominated for !) December is our Nominations meeting, January will bring the elections.

73,
Frederick

Condolences

The officers and members of the Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club express their deep condolences to Frank Holliday, WB9NOV, and his family, over the loss of his wife, Virginia, on December 6, 2004.

In Memoriam

Don Liedl, WB9OQX

Don Liedl, WB9OQX became a silent key on Sunday, November 21, 2004. Don was born on July 4, 1927 so he was 77 years of age. He had been living in Florence, AZ for the past several years. However, he obtained his Amateur license while living in Madison. Was very active in the Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club - FLARC. Don was Treasurer of FLARC for the years of 1977, 1978, 1986 and 1987. He was also a Director for the year 1980. Don was active in a large number of Field Days and Fox/Transmitter hunts.

Don will be missed very much.

FLARC Treasurer Report

11/16/2004

Balance in the treasury is \$3,694.95.
There are 94 paid up members.

Don, W9IXG

Awards

At the Xmas Party the following awards were presented:

Certificate of Appreciation to our Field Day Coordinator, Doug Ward, W9DCQ, for again

taking the lead and marshaling necessary resources to bringing FLARC another successful Field Day in 2004

Exemplary Service Award to our outgoing VE Liaison Tim Czerwonka, WO9U, for providing six years of dedicated service in that role

FLARC Ham of the Year, 2004 to Sam Rowe, KG9NG in recognition of his many and varied leadership roles in ARES/RACES on both a county and State-wide level, as well as his frequent participation in the multitude of publicly visible ham radio operating activities grouped under the ARES umbrella term of 'public service activities'.

VE Announcement

The following is a slightly modified version of a spiel given to the Madison DX Club by its president, but it applies equally well here.

VE Chairman:

Tim, WO9U, is resigning as the VE Chairman. He has been at it for several years now and wants to close out his hitch. Currently the VE tests are given the first Saturday of each month at the Space Place. A new Chairman is needed to coordinate the activity.

Having this program in Madison is worthwhile. We've had VE sessions since the very beginning of the VE program which started in the early 80's. It would be an absolute shame to see this end just because we can't find a Chairman for the program.

FLARC has always provided for some funding (although the costs are extremely low). In addition Don, W9IXG, has been providing facilities at Space Place in concert with the two-day weekend classes that he runs on behalf of the ARRL and FLARC. There are four to six of these per year.

Also, Volunteer Examiners are needed as well. The work isn't hard or complicated at all and the rewards are pretty neat.

Don't just think about. Step up!

Humor

Courtesy of Gari Berliot, NG9V.

Country Wisdom

(My Grandfather called it Horse Sense):

Don't name a pig you plan to eat.

Country fences need to be horse high, pig tight, and bull strong.

Life is not about how fast you run, or how high you climb, but how well you bounce.

Keep skunks and lawyers at a distance.

Life is simpler when you plow around the stumps.

A bumble bee is faster than a John Deere tractor.

Trouble with a milk cow is she won't stay milked.

Don't skinny dip with snapping turtles.

Words that soak into your ears are whispered, not yelled.

Meanness doesn't happen overnight.

To know how country folks are doing, look at their barns, not their houses.

Never lay an angry hand on a kid or an animal, it just ain't helpful.

Teachers, Moms, and hoot owls sleep with one eye open.

Forgive your enemies. It messes with their heads.

Don't sell your mule to buy a plow.

Two can live as cheap as one if one don't eat.

Don't corner something meaner than you.

You can catch more flies with honey than vinegar--assuming you want to catch flies.

Man is the only critter who feels the need to label things as flowers or weeds.

It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.

Don't go huntin' with a fellow named Chug-A-Lug.

You can't unsay a cruel thing.

Every path has some puddles.

Don't wrestle with pigs: you'll get all muddy and the pigs will love it.

The best sermons are lived, not preached.

Most of the stuff people worry about never happens.

And

Blessed are they who can laugh at themselves for they shall never cease to be amused!

Peace!!!

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.

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

The next Technician License Workshop will be held February 19 and 20, 2005. Contact Don Michalski, W9IXG.

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 has resigned. 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

Steve Geraths, KC9FKV, won the buck.

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

December:

- 8 N9LGZ—Marvin VanCleave
- 13 WA9ACI—Chuck Forster
- K9GRD—Dorothy Gable
- 14 WU9F—Terry Bachmann
- 18 KC9GHL—Kimberly French
- 28 N9NTB—Duane Brophy

January:

- 2 KE9XN—Phil Koclanes
- 6 AF9B—Bill Fletcher
- 13 N9CP—Curtis Peters
- 17 AB9FN—Ed Wagner
- 21 K9ADN—Ken Trachte
- W9VFD—Frederick Weigt
- 28 NK9U—Eldon Boehm

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.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

ALL ITEMS WORK ACCORDING TO SPECIFICATIONS AND ARE IN MINT CONDITION

- Antenna Tuner: MFJ 949E - \$60.00.
- HF SWR/Watt Meter: MFJ 816 - \$15.00.
- 144/220 SWR/Watt Meter: MFJ 812B - \$15.00.
- Keyer: MFJ EconoKeyer 401B - \$20.00
- Keyer: Palomar PK44 - \$25.00.

- 144/440 Mobile Transceiver: Kenwood TM-V7: \$190.00
- 50/144/440 HT: Yaesu VX-5R w/external mic, earphone mic, alkaline battery holder, soft case - \$145.00.
- Headphone/mic: Heil w/foot switch and Yaesu and Kenwood mic cords - \$40.00.
- Sound Card Interface: MFJ 1273B (for RJ-45 mic): \$20.00.
- Sound Card Interface: MFJ1273B (for 8-pin mic): \$20.00
- Antenna switch: MFJ 1804, four-postion: \$35.00.

If interested, contact Jim Lackore, AD9X, at 608-233-3902 (home), 608-770-3902 (cell).

For Sale:

Tektronix Type 535 Oscilloscope
Plug-in unit # 53/54K

Contact KC9GDI, Woody Pfeffer, 608-592-5313.

For Sale:

FLARC has RG-213 in stock for 47 cents per foot.
PL 259 connectors are \$1.25 each.
100MFD/450VDC electrolytic capacitors (NOS) \$1.50 ea or 4 for \$5.00.

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, W9IXG or Federick Baguhn, W9GOC.

Tom's Auto Clinic

**2652 E. Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53704
608-241-3391**

Steve – N9CK

Marylynn – K9SAM

Phasor Labs

cforster@phasorlabs.com

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. The following is excerpted from:

WA7BNM 13-Month Contest Calendar

Last updated November 16, 2004

Please send corrections and additions directly to Bruce Horn, [WA7BNM](#). A [text version](#) of this calendar is also available.

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.

December, 2004

ARCI Topband Sprint	0000Z-0600Z, Dec 2
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	2200Z, Dec 3 to 1600Z, Dec 5
TARA RTTY Melee	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 4
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0400Z-0600Z, Dec 4
CIS DX Contest, CW	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 5
ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint	2000Z-2400Z, Dec 5
ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Dec 7
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	0000Z, Dec 11 to 2400Z, Dec 12
Fall NA Meteor Scatter Rally	0000Z, Dec 11 to 0700Z, Dec 15
Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	0200Z-0359Z, Dec 11
Russian 160-Meter Contest	2100Z-2300Z, Dec 17
MDXA PSK DeathMatch	0000Z, Dec 18 to 2400Z, Dec 19
OK DX RTTY Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 18
RAC Winter Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 18
Croatian CW Contest	1400Z, Dec 18 to 1400Z, Dec 19
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Dec 18 to 1500Z, Dec 19
International Naval Contest	1600Z, Dec 18 to 1600Z, Dec 19
RAEM Contest	0200Z-0959Z, Dec 26
DARC Christmas Contest	0830Z-1059Z, Dec 26

January, 2005

SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	0800Z-1100Z, Jan 1
AGCW Happy New Year Contest	0900Z-1200Z, Jan 1
Original QRP Contest	1500Z, Jan 1 to 1500Z, Jan 2
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z-1900Z, Jan 1 and 1900Z-2100Z, Jan 1
WQF QRP Party	0000Z-2400Z, Jan 7
Midwinter Contest, CW	1400Z-2000Z, Jan 8
ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z, Jan 8 to 2400Z, Jan 9

North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Jan 8 to 0600Z, Jan 9
EUCW 160m Contest	2000Z-2300Z, Jan 8 and 0400Z-0700Z, Jan 9
NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW	0530Z-0730Z, Jan 9
Midwinter Contest, Phone	0800Z-1400Z, Jan 9
NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB	0800Z-1000Z, Jan 9
DARC 10-Meter Contest	0900Z-1059Z, Jan 9
Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2400Z, Jan 9
Hunting Lions in the Air Contest	0000Z, Jan 15 to 2400Z, Jan 16
LZ Open Contest	1200Z-2000Z, Jan 15
MI QRP January CW Contest	1200Z, Jan 15 to 2359Z, Jan 16
Hungarian DX Contest	1200Z, Jan 15 to 1200Z, Jan 16
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Jan 15 to 0600Z, Jan 16
BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z, Jan 22 to 1200Z, Jan 23
ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes	1900Z, Jan 22 to 0400Z, Jan 24
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	0000Z, Jan 29 to 2359Z, Jan 30
REF Contest, CW	0600Z, Jan 29 to 1800Z, Jan 30
UK DX Contest, RTTY	1200Z, Jan 29 to 1200Z, Jan 30
UBA DX Contest, SSB	1300Z, Jan 29 to 1300Z, Jan 30

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

Revision Date: October 13, 2004

© 1998-2004 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.

**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.

.....