



The Feedline

“W9JZ – SERVING AMATEUR RADIO SINCE 1933”

VOL. 25 – No. 01

January, 2004

2003 FLARC Officers

Frederick Baguhn W9GOC - President
Sam Rowe KG9NG - Vice President
Gary Muskat KA9SRM - Secretary
Don Michalski W9IXG – Treasurer

Board Members at Large

Bud Morin K9ZT
George Shands W9WUU
Doug Ward W9DCQ

President: Frederick Baguhn, W9GOC
Vice President: John Steffl, KOZYA
Secretary: Gary Muskat, KA9SRM
Treasurer: Don Michalski, W9IXG
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

ATTENTION

January 20:

Vote on proposed 2004 budget.
Vote for Club Officers and Members-at-Large.
It is time to pay club dues.

Nominations

So far, the nominations are:

Prez Says –

Greetings to all!

“Thank you” to all who attended the Holiday party! Those in attendance seemed to enjoy our modest get together. But I have to ask, why were the rest of you absent ?? Sure, many of you had prior commitments, and some may have preferred a different venue. And pizza isn’t everyone’s favorite holiday fare. What could / should we do differently in 2004 that will make it possible for you to attend? Drop me a note, please?

December’s meeting reviewed the draft of the 2004 budget proposal. An oversight in the interpretation of previous year’s budgets caused some confusion on the accounting for the Holiday party, and our Treasurer has been burning the midnight oil to find a way to adjust the budget to reflect the true costs of the annual get together. The revised budget proposal will be available for your approval at the January meeting.

January also brings with it the annual election of officers and Board members.

Once we get the business out of the way, Herb Jordan/W9LA has kindly offered to tell us about the installation of the Community Tower and the candelabra which sits atop the tower. Herb tells me that some of you have heard parts of it before, but

not all of us knew in '95 that we were supposed to be attending these FLARC meetings, so it will be new to us.

While I have your attention:

According to the ARRL website, FEMA has advised the FCC of the perceived risk to EmComm and other HF activities which the HF spread-spectrum BPL proposals represent. We can hope that FEMA carries sufficient influence to stem the pro-BPL tide of enthusiasm in the FCC office.

For those of you who have not yet tried **Ham Radio Deluxe** software, let me bring it to your attention? [This is NOT a commercial message, as HRD is FREE written-by-hams-for-hams software.] Ham Radio Deluxe is written by Simon Brown, who FT-817 owners will likely recognize as the author of the very popular **FT-817 Commander** program, used for computer control of Yaesu's little purse-sized multi-band multi-mode radio. An adjunct to the **FT-817 Commander** program is **PSK31 Deluxe**, which takes advantage of the sound card in modern computers to modulate and demodulate the PSK31 datastream.

While **FT-817 Commander** may be the cat's meow of radio control software for the FT-817, Yaesu in its finite wisdom has managed to modify the computer interface commands in just about every one of its radios, so using certain functions of **FT-817 Commander** with other Yaesu radios has sometimes led to unwelcome surprises. Folks who purchased the newer FT-897 and FT-857 radios initially tried to use **FT-817 Commander**, and discovered that certain sequences of operations were detrimental to the radio operating experience, as the code uses some undocumented FT-817-specific operations.

So, Simon Brown undertook a major rewrite / update of the radio control program, which now became **Ham Radio Deluxe**. One of the first supported radios was the new Icom IC-703, which obviously has a Very Different command set than a Yaesu anything. Support has been added for much of the Yaesu line, both current and out of production models, along with Kenwood, Ten-Tec,

Elecraft, Icom radios such as the 706 and others. While the product is still under development, satellite operation has just been added for radios that feature that activity, and more radios are being added regularly. Worth a look !

<http://www.kns.ch/sysgem/hb9drv/73>,

Frederick

FLARC Treasurer Report

12/17/2003

Balance in the treasury is \$3,394.60.

Membership: 88 members.

Don, W9IXG

MDXC Scholarship Program

The Madison DX Club has initiated a student scholarship program for students attending post high school educational institutions. The intention is to promote amateur radio and help ease the financial burden that students encounter. If you know of a graduating high school student, or a student currently enrolled in a college who has a valid amateur radio license, please refer him or her to this program. The details are available at <http://www.madisondxclub.org>; click on Scholarship Program and then the Application button. Contributions are being handled by N9CHN, Bill Hanold, N3305 Tipperary Point Rd, Poynette, WI 53955. The programs administration details and a contribution form are also available at the web site.

A Request

Jim Emery, KG9PT, who generously donated several J-poles to the Club, would like to acquire a short wave receiver for a disabled friend. It could be a general-purpose receiver or one for amateur use but should cover 80, 40, 20, and 15 meters. If

you have something he could use, call him at 608-233-4172.

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>. The old site: www.w9ixg.eboard.com is no longer available.

73, Don

Buck Nite

The winner was Roger Deicher, K9EMG.

WAS Checker.

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.

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

January:

- 2 KE9XN—Phil Koclanes
- 8 AF9B—William Fletcher
- 13 N9CP—Curtis Peters
- 16 K9VDD—Ralph Henes
- 17 AB9FN—Ed Wagner

- 21 N9ADN—Ken Trachte
W9VFD—Frederick Weigt
- 28 NK9U—Eldon Boehm
- 31 W9LA—Herb Jordan

February:

- 4 N9CK—Steve Franzen
- 9 W9UPK—Colin Wheatley
- 25 N9UDG—George Edgerton
- 27 K9REO—Jim Lattis

Web Sites:

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

For Sale

SK equipment for sale by widow:

- Drake R8 receiver \$350
- Grundig Sat-700 receiver \$250
- Sony ICF-2010 receiver \$150
- Radio Shack HTX-100 xcvr \$50
- discone antenna \$35
- Heathkit HD1410 keyer \$25
- JPS NIR-10 filter \$75
- voltmeter/mA meter \$5
- no name code practice key \$8

Contact Nancy Henry, 831-9367

FLARC has RG-213 in stock for 47 cents per foot.
PL 259 connectors are \$1.25 each.

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

WA7BNM 13-Month Contest Calendar

Last updated November 7, 2003

Please send corrections and additions directly to Bruce Horn, WA7BNM

For an e-mail version of this calendar, send a request to: calendar@hornucopia.com

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.

January, 2004

AGB NYSB Contest	0000Z	- 0100Z, Jan 1
SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	0800Z	- 1100Z, Jan 1
AGCW Happy New Year Contest	0900Z	- 1200Z, Jan 1
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z	- 1900Z, Jan 1 and
	1900Z	- 2100Z, Jan 1
ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z, Jan 3	- 2400Z, Jan 4
EUCW 160m Contest	2000Z	- 2300Z, Jan 3 and
	0400Z	- 0700Z, Jan 4
Kid's Day Contest	1800Z	- 2400Z, Jan 4
Hunting Lions in the Air	0000Z, Jan 10	- 2400Z, Jan 11
East Asia 160/80 DX Contest	0900Z, Jan 10	- 2200Z, Jan 11
UK DX Contest, SSB	1200Z, Jan 10	- 1200Z, Jan 11
Midwinter Contest, CW	1400Z	- 2000Z, Jan 10
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Jan 10	- 0600Z, Jan 11
NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW	0530Z	- 0730Z, Jan 11
NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB	0800Z	- 1000Z, Jan 11
Midwinter Contest, Phone	0800Z	- 1400Z, Jan 11
DARC 10-Meter Contest	0900Z	- 1059Z, Jan 11
070 Club PSKFest	0000Z	- 2400Z, Jan 17
LZ Open Contest, CW	1200Z	- 2000Z, Jan 17
MI QRP January CW Contest	1200Z, Jan 17	- 2359Z, Jan 18
Hungarian DX Contest	1200Z, Jan 17	- 1200Z, Jan 18
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Jan 17	- 0600Z, Jan 18
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	0000Z, Jan 24	- 2359Z, Jan 25
REF Contest, CW	0600Z, Jan 24	- 1800Z, Jan 25
BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z, Jan 24	- 1200Z, Jan 25
ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes	1900Z, Jan 24	- 0400Z, Jan 26
UBA DX Contest, SSB	1300Z, Jan 31	- 1300Z, Feb 1

February, 2004

North American Sprint, CW	0000Z	- 0400Z, Feb 1
Vermont QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 7	- 2400Z, Feb 8

New Hampshire QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 7	- 2400Z, Feb 8
10-10 Inter. Winter Contest, SSB	0001Z, Feb 7	- 2400Z, Feb 8
Minnesota QSO Party	1400Z	- 2359Z, Feb 7
Delaware QSO Party	1700Z, Feb 7	- 0500Z, Feb 8 and
	1300Z, Feb 8	- 0100Z, Feb 9
Mexico RTTY International Contest	1800Z, Feb 7	- 2400Z, Feb 8
North American Sprint, Phone	0000Z	- 0400Z, Feb 8
FYBO Winter QRP Field Day	1600Z	- 2400Z, Feb 8
ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Feb 9	- 0100Z, Feb 14
CQ/RJ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 14	- 2400Z, Feb 15
SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Feb 14	- 1000Z, Feb 15
Asia-Pacific Sprint, CW	1100Z	- 1300Z, Feb 14
Dutch PACC Contest	1200Z, Feb 14	- 1200Z, Feb 15
YL-OM Contest, CW	1400Z, Feb 14	- 0200Z, Feb 16
FISTS Winter Sprint	1700Z	- 2100Z, Feb 14
OMISS QSO Party	1700Z, Feb 14	- 0500Z, Feb 15
RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest, CW	2100Z, Feb 14	- 0100Z, Feb 15
QRP ARCI Winter Fireside SSB Sprint	2000Z	- 2400Z, Feb 15
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 21	- 2400Z, Feb 22
YL-ISSB QSO Party, CW	0000Z, Feb 21	- 2400Z, Feb 22
YL-OM Contest, SSB	1400Z, Feb 21	- 0200Z, Feb 23
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	0000Z, Feb 28	- 2359Z, Feb 29
REF Contest, SSB	0600Z, Feb 28	- 1800Z, Feb 29
UBA DX Contest, CW	1300Z, Feb 28	- 1300Z, Feb 29
Mississippi QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 28	- 0300Z, Feb 29
North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 28	- 0600Z, Feb 29
High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z	- 1100Z, Feb 29 and
	1500Z	- 1700Z, Feb 29
North Carolina QSO Party	1700Z, Feb 29	- 0300Z, Mar 1

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

Revision Date: November 7, 2003

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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**