



The Feedline

“W9JZ – SERVING AMATEUR RADIO SINCE 1933”

Volume 26, Number 7

Club Information

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 <http://www.qsl.net/flarc>. Keep checking the links page for new goodies!

Meeting dates and programs

July meeting is to be held on July 19, at 7:30pm, at the Red Cross.

Another “Calling All Hams” Fox Hunt will be held on July 23, at 12noon, at the Village Green in Middleton. Rules are the same as May’s Hunt.

August meeting is to be held on August 16, at the Red Cross, and it is FOX HUNT NIGHT, so we start at 7:00pm. Plan to be there EARLY, to start at 7.

September meeting is to be held on September 20, at the Red Cross.

The Prez Says

Greetings to all!

I have AGAIN been the fortunate recipient of expressions of congratulations directed toward FLARC for the fine Field Day. Is this ever nice!!!

But of course, credit belongs to the team of folks whose efforts made the weekend activities possible. I don’t have the roster of the operators in front of me as I write this, so I won’t be able to give public credit here to all the individuals who made our QSO total possible. /

Doug/W9DCQ did a fine job on identifying that which needed to be done, and worked tirelessly to get us there. John/KOZYA brought a tower in addition to his ever-reliable generator, and was also the control operator for the GOTA station.

Paul/KC9CCS was our anchor operator on 6 meters; Dave/K9TY was the anchor on 20 and 15 meters, and Bud/K9ZT was the man who kept CW on the air from the W9JZ Field Day location.

Steve/W9RAL was our computer wizard on site, and is even now consolidating logs as he and Doug prepare our report for submission to ARRL. N1MM was helpful to many operators as they were alerted to ‘DUPE!’ before they placed the call.

Roger/K9EMG and George/W9WUU concentrated on capturing the ARRL Bulletin for us, and came out to Verona to provide their expert guidance and encouragement, as well.

I see that I’ve only listed OM’s, so far!! YLs were also an essential part of our team effort in Verona - - KC9CBT, WN9GOC, KC9GPG, KC9HHX, and WB9VHF provided the dulcet tones that draw QSO responses - - the 20dB YL advantage?!

FLARC members who couldn't be with us due to illness or other unavoidable commitments were with us in spirit, and frequently provided some local contacts for our GOTA station operators as well as the W9JZ callsign.

Those who were present at Verona this weekend seem unanimous in affirming that it is a Fine Field Day site, and hope that we'll be able to secure it again for next year.

Many folks provided equipment, skills, talents and enthusiasm which made the effort a success. Especially noteworthy is the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, who generously made the logging computers available to FLARC.

This continues the FLARC tradition of fine Field Days, and I hope you will each mark your calendar for the 4th weekend in June, 2006. We look forward to your help!

Upcoming events:

This month's General Meeting on the 19th brings us Gary Cannalte, famous local weather personality (who is occasionally also heard on the bands as WU9U). Gary will be talking to us about weather starting at 7:30, rather than after the business meeting, so he can slip away to his evening's duties at Channel 3. We'll do the business part of our monthly meeting after the break. Bring your weather questions - - ("Why did it rain on Field Day?" comes to mind ...)

We have another Saturday Fox Hunt planned for this month on July 23rd - - our Editor will provide details elsewhere in *The Feedline*.

Next Month, our General Meeting will be replaced by the annual FLARC Fox Hunt - - please plan to be at Red Cross by 7:00 PM (instead of our usual 7:30 time) with your DF gear at the ready.

73, Frederick

FLARC Treasurer's Report

From the May 17th meeting (since Junes meeting was at Badger Prairie Park).

Balance in the treasury is \$4,275.45.

There were 102 members.

Don, W9IXG

US Senate Version of Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act Introduced

ARRL Bulletin 14; June 17, 2005

A US Senate version of the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2005 has been introduced with bipartisan support in the 109th Congress. Senator Michael Crapo of Idaho sponsored the measure, S 1236, on June 14. The wording of the bill is identical to the House version, HR 691, introduced earlier this year by Representative Michael Bilirakis of Florida. Joining Crapo as cosponsors of the Senate bill were Senators Christopher Bond of Missouri, Max Baucus and Conrad Burns of Montana, and Daniel Akaka of Hawaii. The bill has been referred to the US Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee of which Burns is a member. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the League is pleased that Crapo has agreed to once again sponsor this legislation at ARRL's urging.

"We are grateful for Senator Crapo's demonstration of support by introducing the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2005," Sumner said. "His sponsorship of this bill shows his appreciation for the value and utility of Amateur Radio to the US public, especially in times of emergency."

Like previous versions of the proposal, the House and Senate measures would require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to the Amateur Radio and Amateur-Satellite services in the event of reallocation to other services of primary amateur spectrum or the diminution of secondary amateur spectrum. The bill also would cover additional allocations within Amateur Radio

bands that "would substantially reduce" their utility to Amateur Service licensees.

In a letter this week, ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, also thanked Crapo continued support for the Spectrum Protection Act. "As you know, this legislation is vital for ensuring that the Amateur Radio Service, the only 100 percent fail-safe emergency communication capability, remains a viable public safety option," Haynie said. "The ARRL looks forward to working with you on successfully passing this legislation during the 109th Congress," he said.

The legislation references Amateur Radio's role in providing "voluntary, noncommercial radio service, particularly emergency communications," and it points out that hams have "consistently and reliably" provided communication support in the event of emergencies and disasters including tornadoes and hurricanes, chemical spills, forest fires and rail accidents. As the measure notes, FCC actions already have led to the loss of at least 107 MHz of spectrum to radio amateurs.

Efforts will continue--now in both chambers of Congress--to attract additional cosponsors for S 1236 and HR 691. The League encourages its members to urge their congressional representatives and senators to sign aboard. There's more information on the ARRL Web site at, <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2005/06/17/5/>.

IBM, CenterPoint Testing Web Access Over Power Lines

IBM, CenterPoint Testing Web Access Over Power Lines

By BOB SECHLER
DOW JONES NEWSWIRES
July 11, 2005 1:59 p.m.

AUSTIN, Texas -- International Business Machines Corp. has teamed with CenterPoint Energy Inc. on an initiative aimed at delivering high-speed Internet service through electric power lines.

So-called "broadband over power lines" technology, or BPL, enables access to the Internet simply by plugging a special modem into a

standard electric outlet. It has generated widespread buzz among utilities, and many have been testing it.

Raymond Blair, vice president of IBM's BPL initiative, said the deal with Houston-based CenterPoint is IBM's first foray into the business in the U.S.

Under the deal, IBM is being paid to help CenterPoint with a pilot test of the service that runs through August and involves about 220 homes in Southwest Houston. IBM also helped CenterPoint design a "BPL technology center" that opened last month.

"We think this is a very big opportunity" for IBM, Mr. Blair said. "The key thing here is making sure this one is successful and it works out right."

Long term, Blair said he thinks most utilities in the U.S. will roll out such systems because they stand to benefit significantly from the technology. In addition to providing convenient Internet access for consumers, Mr. Blair said BPL technology brings "intelligence" to the power grid that can help utilities operate more efficiently.

IBM doesn't make the BPL hardware, but it hopes to become a major provider of integration and management services for such systems. "We think this could be a new growth area" for IBM, Mr. Blair said.

IBM is far from alone among major tech firms in showing interest in BPL technology. Among them, Google Inc. recently invested in Current Communications Group, a start-up that offers high-speed Internet connections over the power system.

Write to Bob Sechler at bob.sechler@dowjones.com

Hams Encouraged by NEW Motorola BPL Technology

Newington, Conn., May 23, 2005 --ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio, announced today that "The ARRL is pleased to hear Motorola's announcement of its Powerline LV system. This is the first Access Broadband over

Power Line (BPL) system that has been designed from the start with radio interference concerns in mind."

Motorola's Powerline LV system avoids using the medium-voltage (MV) power lines and introduces broadband signals only on the low-voltage (LV) side of the power transformer. This greatly reduces the potential for interference to and from radio users, especially radio amateurs. ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner commented, "We know that medium-voltage (MV) power lines are no place for broadband energy, since there is overwhelming technical evidence that radio interference from BPL is unavoidable if MV lines are used. By confining their Access BPL system to LV lines and by adding hardware notch filters for additional protection to amateur radio frequency allocations, Motorola has addressed our interference concerns."

While sometimes pictured by BPL proponents as opposing all BPL implementation, the ARRL has always maintained that radio amateur "hams" are not interested in blocking new technology but are justifiably concerned about pollution of the radio spectrum. Significant interference has been documented at numerous sites where other BPL systems are being tested, and other BPL developers have been unwilling to share information about their systems. By contrast, Motorola invited ARRL's suggestions and welcomed its input during product development.

Sumner concluded, "We look forward to seeing the first Powerline LV system in operation, and to continuing to work with Motorola to ensure that their new product is indeed the first BPL system that is a solution, not a problem."

There are approximately 670,000 Amateur Radio operators in the United States. Many other countries are watching events unfold in the US as they plan their own BPL systems. There are approximately 2.5 million Amateur Radio operators around the world. If the new Motorola system lives up to its initial promise in actual deployment, this new "shortwave-friendly" system will have many advocates.

Information about Amateur Radio is available from the ARRL, the national association for

Amateur Radio, 225 Main Street Newington, CT 06111 or by calling 1-800-32-NEW HAM. The URL for ARRL's home page is www.arrl.org.

Information about Motorola's "Powerline LV" system can be found at: http://www.motorola.com/mediacenter/news/detailpf/0,,5519_5509_23,00.html

(Information forward by ARRL Public Relations)

The Big Project Update

The Big Project has received the HF antenna, and continues to make plans for the installation of both the HF and VHF/UHF antennas at the school.

Don, W9IXG, has been in contact with a ham interested in the Iyama antenna and tower. Updates will be forthcoming once an on-site review by the ham can be made.

Remember, updates on The Big Project can be found in this section of *The Feedline*.

W1AW 2005 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

Congratulations once again to everyone who passed the technician exam and got your new amateur radio license. Now that the first step has been completed, you are probably thinking about the General test, and of course, the Morse code. And that is great, because the ARRL has a regular schedule for you so you can learn to copy and translate Morse code better.

The ARRL has a regular schedule of transmissions which are used to bring information and training to amateur radio operators, and below is the summer schedule for 2005.

From ARRL Headquarters, ARRL Bulletin 11
Newington CT, April 4, 2005
W1AW 2005 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

| Time | Mode | Days |
|--------------------|------|----------|
| ----- | ---- | ----- |
| 1300 UTC (9 AM ET) | CWs | Wed, Fri |
| 1300 UTC (9 AM ET) | CWf | Tue, Thu |

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1400 UTC to 1600 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM ET)
1700 UTC to 1945 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET)
(Station closed 1600 to 1700 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM ET))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

| | | |
|---------------------|-------|---------------|
| 2000 UTC (4 PM ET) | CWf | Mon, Wed, Fri |
| 2000 " " | CWs | Tue, Thu |
| 2100 " (5 PM ET) | CWb | Daily |
| 2200 " (6 PM ET) | RTTY | Daily |
| 2300 " (7 PM ET) | CWs | Mon, Wed, Fri |
| 2300 " " | CWf | Tue, Thu |
| 0000 " (8 PM ET) | CWb | Daily |
| 0100 " (9 PM ET) | RTTY | Daily |
| 0145 " (9:45 PM ET) | VOICE | Daily |
| 0200 " (10 PM ET) | CWf | Mon, Wed, Fri |
| 0200 " " | CWs | Tue, Thu |
| 0300 " (11 PM ET) | CWb | Daily |

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8175 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975
21.0675 28.0675 147.555
RTTY: 3.625 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095
28.095 147.555
VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160
21.390 28.590 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM
CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM
CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM
CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

RTTY = Teleprinter Bulletins = BAUDOT (45.45 baud) and AMTOR-FEC (100 Baud). ASCII (110 Baud) is sent only as time allows.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source

of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2230 UTC (6:30 PM ET), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular teleprinter frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Thursdays and 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Fridays.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Teleprinter at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1400 UTC to 1600 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM ET), and then from 1700 UTC to 1945 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur license or a photocopy.

The complete W1AW Operating Schedule may be found on page 97 in the April 2004 issue of QST or on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html> .

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 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 one of the FLARC Board Members. Thanks for your support.

FLARC Web Site

The FLARC URL is <http://www.qsl.net/flarc> . If you see any errors, please let Steve, 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. We are currently searching for a member who would like to be the Coordinator of the Elmer Program for FLARC. If you are interested, please contact Frederick, W9GOC, or John, K0ZYA. Let us all get involved in helping others become better amateur radio operators. *BECOME AN ELMER!*

VE Testing Program, New Location

The Madison Wisconsin, Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club sponsored VE testing has moved to the new University of Wisconsin Space Place, 2300 South Park Street, lower level, Madison, WI in the Villager shopping center complex.

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.

If you need special accommodations for testing, we need 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. As of July 2005 there was no outside 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, 146.685 pl 123, repeater is used for talk in before 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. As of July 2005 remodeling was still being done on the inside of 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 CSEs which should be considered (both returned to you after inspection), and a photocopy of the license and CSEs (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

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

Buck Nite Winner at FLARC

Gary, KA9SRM, was the May meeting winner.

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.

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

July:

- 01 K9IMM - Ted Gisske
- 03 N9UBZ - Scott Phillips
- 06 N9OJN - Floyd E. Creamer
KS9C - Keith Hester
- 09 KB9KVA - Yolanta Graniero
- 14 N9NZW - Ken Friou
- 16 K9UTC - Jeffrey Weiss
- 27 N9XVZ - Karl Wigdal

August:

- 08 KC9DSW - Mark Sullivan
- 09 K9WAJ - Wayne A. Jorgensen
- 16 NO9M - Dave Rece
- 20 KC9ASI - William Baguhn
- 21 WN9GOC - Elizabeth Baguhn
- 22 N9YON - Sue Wigdal
- 23 W0ZNM - Ade Gardner
- 24 WI9WI - Jim Fitzpatrick
- 26 K9SAM - Marylynn Franzen

Information About J-pole Type Antennas

Here is a website which may help you find information about J-pole antennas.

www.dxzone.com/catalog/Antennas/J-Pole/

FLARC Is Having A Fox Hunt!

Yes, you heard that right, another Fox Hunt. Saturday, July 23, 2005, FLARC will be having a Mid-Summer Fox Hunt, not to be confused with the Summer Fox Hunt, coming up on August 16, 2005. The Mid-Summer Fox Hunt will begin at the Village Green Restaurant in Middleton, Wisconsin, at 12 noon. The Village Green is located at 7508 Hubbard Ave. in Middleton. Come early if you want and join the Saturday Morning Zilch crowd to be nourished prior to the start of the Hunt. This Mid-Summer's Fox will be Steve Elliott, W9RAL. The Fox Hunt rules can be found later in *The Feedline*.

Fox Hunting is a wonderful sport for amateur radio operator's and is a chance to practice those skills which have been dormant and need to be prepared for the Summer Fox Hunt. **Come on out and have some FUN!**

Don't forget our upcoming Summer Fox Hunt, to be held on August 16th.

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, pl123.0 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 first Thursday of the month (through August while school is out), at 5:00 pm, in the Memorial Union Terrace. Meetings are held during the school year, so be ready for changes in time and meeting locations once the school year starts.

The BARS president, Jacob Ela, KC9CJW, would like to encourage you to come to a BARS meeting and find out the types of things BARS is doing in our amateur radio community. BARS has setup the EchoLink[®] simplex station here in Madison, on 147.510 MHz, pl 123.0 Hz. Please visit the BARS website for more information about BARS and the activities they are doing,
<http://w9yt.engr.wisc.edu/> .

Speaking of EchoLink[®]

As those of you who use EchoLink[®] know, if you want to contact some location directly via your radio or computer, you need to know their node number.

Unfortunately, there is no location anywhere on the Internet which includes every node number, and so our dilemma. We need to find a way to get your node numbers from you so we can build a database for both FLARC and BARS members.

If you use EchoLink[®] from your computer, or have

a base station tied to the Internet using EchoLink®, we would like to get you node number for our database. These numbers will be collected, placed in a database, and made available to FLARC and BARS members. This listing will allow EchoLink® users to connect directly to nodes, rather than taking the “random” selection.

Send your EchoLink® node numbers to Steve, W9RAL at e-mail: w9ral@aol.com.

TO HELP OUR NEW MEMBERS

We have seen a number of new members joining FLARC in the past couple of months. As members of this fun and exciting radio club, we should take a couple of minutes during our meeting breaks and introduce ourselves to these new members.

As I know from my own fears, meeting people can be a difficult moment. It should be remembered that the other person is often as shy as you, and only needs those few words of “Hi, I’m Steve, W9RAL, and welcome to the club!”

This will also work on those members who are able to come only every now-and-then, and you just have forgotten their name. Take that moment and make a Ham Contact at our meetings. Your little CQ might lead to a great QSL.

ICOM MANUALS

If you have ever had a difficult finding one of those needed ICOM owner’s manuals, here is the official website you need to know about:

<http://www.icom.co.jp/world/support/download/manual.html>

This site probably has what you been looking for, so have a fun time.

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*.

Thanks in advance, and we look forward to hearing from you. (Remember, submissions may be greater than 5 watts at the output/input for this section.)

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.

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.

Submitted by Kevin, K9EV.

And Also...

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> .

Scan_Wis members may find this page helpful for locating frequencies in their area in view that a unsettled period of strong storms is forecasted.

Spotters and Skywarn groups on the Scan_Wis list are encouraged to send updates and changes with a link on the page. There is also a mailing list available.

Regards,
Skip Voros - WD9HAS
Executive Director MASA inc.

Thank to State Department of Corrections

The Four Lakes ARC would like to extend our thanks to the Wisconsin State Department of Corrections for the four (4) refurbished laptop computers our group qualified to receive. These computers were used during our Field Day activities with the N1MM logging program. These computers worked flawlessly, and live through the two generator burps seen during our 24-hour activity. And special thanks to Mary Mezera for coming to Field Day to see the computers in action. Once again, thank you for the computers and we look forward to putting them in use during our training activities for new operators and our emergency communications training during the coming years.

EAA 2005 Oshkosh Station

The Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (club call sign:W9ZL) will host a "Special Event Station" on the grounds of EAA AirVenture at the historic Pioneer Airport Vette Hanger. The volunteer communications operators will provide grounds information on 146.520 (simplex) and the wide area 146.760- pl 100hz repeater. A certificate and QSL card will be issued to all HF contacts with SASE sent to the FCARC at P.O. Box 5233; Appleton, WI 54915. Contacts can be made on the 20 and 40 meter HF band on 14.270 and 7.250. The FCARC will operate the Special Event Station from 8:00AM to 4:00PM CST on July 28, 29, 30,

31st (Thursday -- Sunday). Guest operators are welcome and encouraged to stop by. For schedule placement, please email Bernie Hengels N9YMC: n9ymc@arrl.net; <http://www.fcarc.us/>

How to Improve Your CW

Form: Dave W8NF, Helvetia, OR

The very best way to increase your code speed for contest conditions is... (drum roll please) do more CW contests!

There are LOTS of CW contests. If you go into them with the idea that your goal is to have fun and get some good CW time in, then you will get exactly that out of it.

You can go to www.hornucopia.com/contestcal to see the WA7BNM contest calendar - for next week, or many weeks. Any contest sponsored by ARRL, CQ magazine, National Contest Journal (NCJ) or IARU will be plenty "big" enough that you'll be able to contact stations. I've made dozens of QSOs per hour even with indoor antennas and 20 watts, during some of these contests. While the "major" contests tend to run in the fall/winter/spring months, the NCJ Sprints and QSO parties do run in the summer. By the way, those Sprints and QPs are the ones where you find the fastest and sharpest CW operators.

You do NOT have to submit logs for any of the contests if you aren't interested in a score. But do read the rules ahead of time, so you understand the "exchange" and send it correctly.

BTW, contesting protocol - since most likely you are contacting guys who are CQing and looking for maximum points, it is best to not waste their time. Do NOT repeat their exchange back to them. In other words:

"QSL UR 2A MI PSE CPY 3A OR" will get you branded as inconsiderate, and if you do it enough, stations will avoid you.

If you received his exchange, then you don't repeat it - you might send "TU" (for thank you - some who are really trying to save time merge the TU into an "X") and then your info. You expect

them to reply with "TU" only, and then they try for the next station.

Generally, if a station is CQing, you get their attention simply by sending your callsign and nothing else - once.

On FD, for instance, let's say that W8VY was CQing and I was trying to contact them. If all is well, it goes like this:

CQ FD DE W8VY W8VY FD

W8NF (what I sent)

W8NF 2A MI (what W8VY sent)

TU 2A OR (what I sent)

TU QRZ FD W8VY (what W8VY sent)

That's it. Notice that I sent very little - my callsign once, and then "TU" and my exchange once.

If you don't copy something properly, you send AGN? and that's it. Brevity is the mark of not just a good contester, but a good op - the idea is to use the least amount of air time to get the message understood.

These tips work in any contest. FD actually is the one time when you'll find things different, as the ops are not all regular testers.

I have never participated in any of the QRP/ARCI or other "alternative" contests, so I don't know if the operators tend to stick with traditional contest protocol or not, or whether the CW speeds are pushed as aggressively as they are during the major events. Since your goal is increasing CW speed, I'd certainly stick with the events that tend to run excessive speed. (that rules out 160 meter contests - the "gentleman's band" contests are always done at pleasantly languid speeds)

Nice thing about being S&P (Search and Pounce - you look for those calling CQ, you don't call CQ yourself) is that you can wait a bit, listen to them give their exchange to others, then when you feel comfortable that you have their exchange, you engage with them. Your goal here is to get better

at CW, so listen for the faster ones and work them in particular.

Now, if you know that you have a weak signal, then you can modify this a bit. For instance, when I was running 20W to indoor antennas, I'd get their attention with "W8NF" on the first call - but they'd always come back to me with "W8?" After a few tries, I realized that sending my callsign only once wasn't adequate, so when I got a "?", I sent the callsign twice. I also tracked the number of repeat requests. If I sent my info only once (2A OR), more than half the time they asked for a repeat. So my routine became "2A OR 2A OR" But again, be sparing - if 75% of the time, they do not ask for a repeat, then do not automatically send your info twice.

I like MorseRunner, mentioned earlier, because it simulates the pile-up conditions you'll experience. However, I prefer a real contest, because frankly, I got the license to make contacts, and I find that performing poorly in a contest is still a whole lot more fun than making no QSOs whatsoever just listening to a tutor.

A few other notes about FD...

In deference to what a few others have said, you should expect computers will always be available on FD. In the past ten years, at five different FD sites, there has always been computer logging. Half the time, the computer can do your sending, as well, but I sure do prefer to have a keyer and paddle available, at least for "fills". Even if the computer is used for sending, it's by way of pre-programmed function keys - I've never seen anybody manually typing on a 'board to send. Gets in the way of logging!

I have never seen anybody use a computer to "decode" CW in contest conditions. I cannot imagine that working at all. Frequently, if I've been CQing, I get three guys calling me - which one would the computer pick? I pick one, work him, then call the next guy before he has a chance to call me, get him, then the third, very quickly. I cannot see this happening with a computer reading the CW. I belong to a contest club, and I don't know any member who uses a computer to decode. But logging? Any halfway serious FD effort (100 watts and any form of

outdoor antenna, or 5W and any form of well-hoisted outdoor antenna) will net 500 QSOs if operated 20+ hours. Without a computer to log, it's going to be very difficult to track the "dupes".

I did FD in the 1970s, before computer logging. Our advanced training almost all had to do with how you manage the "dupe sheets". We had paper split into 26 slots and ten districts, by "first letter of suffix". If you logged K1XX, you put "XX" into the "X" slot for district 1, then circled it because it was a K. Had it been "W1XX", you'd put nothing around it, and if it started with "WA", you put a box around it - and so on. With today's 2X1 call signs and so on, I cannot imagine paper duping. Remember, in addition to the dupe sheet, you also had to log. If you were running any sort of rate at all, it was a three-man operation. One to operate, one to log, and one to dupe! We mainly used bugs (mine was a Hi-Mound, but usually someone brought a Vibroplex to use - much better) and a few guys had homebrew "TO" keyers. Straight keys were certainly rare, even then - commercial telegraphers abandoned them in the 1920s due to "glass arm", so there's no shame in avoiding them today for contesting. We did use Coleman lanterns for light in the evening, so I suppose that counts for "gas lighting".

If you decide to try any of the CW contests, I recommend starting with the software "CT" by K1EA. It's free, it's what 99% of all the contesters started with, it supports most of the contests out there, has a DOS version (runs under DOS, or Win 3.1 or Win 95 on older PCs) and a Windows version and any other program available is compared to it. Many serious contesters "move on" to something else, but many stay with CT forever.

As far as speed, on FD, I have settled in to about 23-25, with a keyer or hand key available to go slower, if the other station needs it. Most other CW contests are a legitimate 35-40, and the Sprints have plenty of legitimate 50wpm ops running in them.

This was long, but I wanted to provide enough pointers to encourage you to try "other" CW contests than FD, as they are truly great ways to improve your CW speed for the quick exchange.

GL ES 73, Dave W8NF

You Got To Watch This Video

For an amazing ham related video (4 minutes) check

<http://64.27.98.24/clip.ram>

Takes a few seconds to load but it is worth the effort.

For A Chuckle

CHUCKLE CORNER

Submitted by Don Sass KC700

REWARD OFFERED!

A reward of 500 microfarads is offered for information leading to the arrest of this desperate criminal, Hop A. Long Capacity.

This unrectified criminal escaped from a western cell where he had been clamped in ions awaiting the gauss chamber.

He was charged with the induction of an 18 turn coil named Millihenry who was found choked and robbed of valuable joules. He is armed with a carbon rod and is a potential killer. Capacity is also charged with driving a dc motor over a Wheatstone bridge and refusing to let the band-pass.

If encountered, he may offer series resistance. The electromotive force spent the night searching for him in a magnetic field, where he had gone to earth. They had no success and believed he had returned ohm via a short circuit.

He was last seen riding a kilocycle with his friend Eddy Current who was playing a harmonic.

Doug (tongue in cheek) Hudson
K7CUU, Bremerton, WA
dhudson@silverlink.net

And Another...

Subject: More: "You Might Be An HFpacker If..."

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you have 3 fishing poles but you are not a fisherman.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you help other customers select the right battery in Radio Shack.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you think an electric power pole is a DC connector.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you have 3 attache' cases, but you are not a lawyer.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you rebuilt your backpack more times than you had the oil changed in your car.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you have more antennas than you have shoes.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you have more fun running 5 watts into a tree wire than a full gallon into a tribander.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you have more than one mini key.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you actually know what a mini key is.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
your favorite ham shack of all time was a tent.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you stole your kid's bike flagpole to make an antenna.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
hams walk up to you at hamfests to tell you that you have a wire falling out behind you.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you have ever soldered D-cells together.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...

you have to explain to the PVC pipe salesman that you're not actually doing any plumbing.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you drove 50 miles to buy a solar panel.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you turned your tape measure into an antenna.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you once tried to transmit on a balcony rail (after the window frame didn't work very well).

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you spent last Saturday looking for 3/8-24 fittings.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
you have to explain to the auto parts salesman that you're not actually doing any car repair.

You Might Be An HFpacker If...
before going on a picnic, you check if 17 meters is open.

73---Bonnie KQ6XA

Field Day 2005 Participation

The Field Day operators and participants based on sign-in sheets and my memory are as follows:

80 meter phone - Sarah Elizabeth Baguhn, KC9CBT

20 meter phone - Dave Nelson, K9TY and friend Jay ? (no sign-in sheet from Dave, but names and calls should be on the computer logs that Steve is getting together)

20 meter CW - Bud Morin, K9ZT

15 meter phone - Frederick Baguhn, W9GOC
6 meter phone - Joe Senulis, N9TWA and Paul ? (no sign-in sheet. Paul said you had invited him to help out with 6-meter operation and the computer log will have name and call)

GOTA 40 meter phone - John Steffi, KØZYA, served as control operator. Guest operators were: Carolyn Kammen, KC9HHX; Carol Steffi, KC9GPG; Dan Grim, KC9HDY; and Steve Elliott, W9RAL

George Shands, W9WUU, and Roger Deicher, K9EMG, copied ARRL Field Day bulletin on CW and RTTY respectively to give us the 100 bonus points

John Steffl again provided power with his ultra-quiet 12 KW generator

Betsy Baguhn, WN9GOC, provided visitor information and 2-meter talk in

Visitors to the Badger Prairie site included:

Sun Prairie Mayor, Joe Chase and his son Adam; Fred Hyde, K9FWH; John Angel, KB9WQD; Yrmuna Sadanandar; Kevin Kolpitzke, K9EV; Kevin Graniero, KF9AQ and daughter Anna; Julie Suder; Mary Mezera, KC9DQE; David Deicher, KD4GAX; David Marx, N9GC and son Adam; Chuck Forster, WA9ACI; John Kaiser, K9WI; Ralph Henes, W9CAR; Paulette Quick, WB9VHF; Sam Rowe, KG9NG, George Shands, W9WUU, and wife Joan

A couple of others dropped by and helped with setup but we did not get them to sign in.

One, as I recall, was Steve Geraths, KC9FKV.

Another was Brad from the Badger Amateur Radio Society, and I do not recall his last name or call sign.

FOR SALE ITEMS

FOR SALE

Azden PCS-6000 6 meter FM, 50 watt mobile rig. \$200.00

Cushcraft R7, hf vertical \$30

Alinco DR-MO3 10 meter fm mobile. \$50.00

If interested call Kevin KF9AQ at 608-273-0956

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

ALL ITEMS WORK ACCORDING TO SPECIFICATIONS AND ARE IN MINT CONDITION

MH-C777 Universal battery charger: \$45.

Astron 35M PS: \$95.

Astron 20A PS: \$55.

Kenwood KPS 15 PS: \$65.

MFJ 1275B TNC: \$55.

MFJ 1275 SC Interface: \$55.

MFJ 969 antenna tuner: \$59.

Yaesu 2600M 2-meter transceiver: \$85.

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

FOR SALE

A former ham has some gear to sell. His email explains:

From: Dr Mason <amason@aipathology.com>

To: <w9ixg@arrl.org>

Sent: Sunday, January 02, 2005 1:18 PM

Subject: equipment for sale

I am a former ham (WA9IQY) and I have a relative who passed away a couple of years ago who exported amateur radio equipment. I have a number of HAM-IV rotors for 220v 50-60hrz as well a[s] one sidewinder rotor. I have bench tested all of them and they are in perfect working order. I also have several Mosley multi band beams which were in a basement and the boxes got wet, but the antennas are like new. Do you have a suggestion as to how I might try to sell these items? I live in Wausau, WI.

Thanks for your assistance,
Al Mason

FOR SALE

PL 259 connectors are \$1.25 each.

100MFD/450VDC electrolytic capacitors (NOS)
\$1.50 ea or 4 for \$5.00.

Contact the FLARC President for more information.

FOR SALE



The Yaesu FT-2800M is a compact 2m mobile 65 Watt FM transceiver. The radio has a large back-lit LCD display, and features ARS, Advanced Track Tuning receiver (greatly reduces inter-mod), extended RX (137-174), weather alert RX, CTCSS tone encode/decode, DCS encode/decode, 221 memory channels, multiple scanning modes, and more. Supplied with a back-lit DTMF hand microphone with up and down frequency controls and four programmable keys, mounting bracket with hardware, and a fused DC power cord.

New Price

AES \$160.00, Burghardt \$160.00, Radio City \$165.00

New in the box

\$ 125.00

Jim Staatz KI9H

Phone 715-532-5903

Ki9h@arrl.net

FOR SALE

For Sale - Complete station. The awesome Kenwood TS-850SAT transceiver with built-in antenna tuner and original power supply, original manual. This low-noise-floor transceiver sold originally at \$2800 and still sells at \$720-800 on e-Bay due to excellent features. It will do it all - all HF modes and bands [not 2m/6m], keyer, voice processor, handles PSK31 with ease and also excellent for SWL. Perfect condition, third owner. Also, the excellent Eagle vertical antenna by Gap [28 feet - \$340 or so], also low-noise specialist. Rig Blaster for digital modes with CD of goodies [orig \$120]. Cables, speaker. All for \$1000 or offer! See it near Hilldale Mall. Call Bill Gulley KB9SUP at home, 608-218-9293 or bgulley@chorus.net. 60 day guarantee for Kenwood and power supply!

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, W9IXG or Frederick Baguhn, W9GOC.

Tom's Auto Clinic

2652 E. Washington Avenue

Madison, WI 53704

608-241-3391

Steve - N9CK

Marylynn - K9SAM

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 March 13, 2005

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> .

| July, 2005 | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| RAC Canada Day Contest | 0000Z-2359Z, Jul 1 |
| NCCC Thursday Sprint | 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 1 |
| Venezuelan Ind. Day Contest | 0000Z, Jul 2 to 2359Z, Jul 3 |
| WLOTA Contest | 0600Z, Jul 2 to 1200Z, Jul 3 |
| Original QRP Contest | 1500Z, Jul 2 to 1500Z, Jul 3 |
| DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest | 1100Z-1700Z, Jul 3 |
| RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW | 2000Z-2130Z, Jul 4 |
| MI QRP July 4th CW Sprint | 2300Z, Jul 4 to 0300Z, Jul 5 |
| NCCC Thursday Sprint | 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 8 |
| VK/Trans-Tasman 160m Contest, Phone | 0800Z-1400Z, Jul 9 |
| IARU HF World Championship | 1200Z, Jul 9 to 1200Z, Jul 10 |
| FISTS Summer Sprint | 1700Z-2100Z, Jul 9 |
| ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint | 2000Z-2400Z, Jul 10 |
| RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB | 2000Z-2130Z, Jul 13 |
| NCCC Thursday Sprint | 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 15 |
| CQ Worldwide VHF Contest | 1800Z, Jul 16 to 2100Z, Jul 17 |
| North American QSO Party, RTTY | 1800Z, Jul 16 to 0600Z, Jul 17 |
| RSGB Low Power Field Day | 0900Z-1600Z, Jul 17 |
| RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data | 2000Z-2130Z, Jul 21 |
| NCCC Thursday Sprint | 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 22 |
| Great Lakes Sweepstakes | 0000Z, Jul 23 to 2359Z, Jul 24 |
| VK/Trans-Tasman 160m Contest, CW | 0800Z-1400Z, Jul 23 |
| RSGB IOTA Contest | 1200Z, Jul 30 to 1200Z, Jul 31 |
| ARS Flight of the Bumblebees | 1700Z-2100Z, Jul 31 |

| August, 2005 | |
|---|------------------------------|
| TARA Grid Dip Shindig | 0000Z-2400Z, Aug 6 |
| 10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB | 0001Z, Aug 6 to 2359Z, Aug 7 |
| National Lighthouse Weekend QSO Contest | 0001Z, Aug 6 to 2359Z, Aug 7 |
| European HF Championship | 1200Z-2359Z, Aug 6 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| ARRL UHF Contest | 1800Z, Aug 6 to 1800Z, Aug 7 |
| North America QSO Party, CW | 1800Z, Aug 6 to 0600Z, Aug 7 |
| RSGB RoPoCo 2 | 0700Z-0900Z, Aug 7 |
| SARL HF Phone Contest | 1230Z-1630Z, Aug 7 |
| NCCC Thursday Sprint | 0230Z-0300Z, Aug 12 |
| WAE DX Contest, CW | 0000Z, Aug 13 to 2359Z, Aug 14 |
| Maryland-DC QSO Party | 1600Z, Aug 13 to 0400Z, Aug 14 and 1600Z-2359Z, Aug 14 |
| NCCC Thursday Sprint | 0230Z-0300Z, Aug 19 |
| SARTG WW RTTY Contest | 0000Z-0800Z, Aug 20 and 1600Z-2400Z, Aug 20 and 0800Z-1600Z, Aug 21 |
| ARRL 10 GHZ and Up Contest | 0600 local, Aug 20 to 2400 local, Aug 21 |
| Keyman's Club of Japan Contest | 1200Z, Aug 20 to 1200Z, Aug 21 |
| North American QSO Party, SSB | 1800Z, Aug 20 to 0600Z, Aug 21 |
| New Jersey QSO Party | 2000Z, Aug 20 to 0700Z, Aug 21 and 1300Z, Aug 21 to 0200Z, Aug 22 |
| NCCC Thursday Sprint | 0230Z-0300Z, Aug 26 |
| ALARA Contest | 0600Z, Aug 27 to 1159Z, Aug 28 |
| Hawaii QSO Party | 0700Z, Aug 27 to 2200Z, Aug 28 |
| SCC RTTY Championship | 1200Z, Aug 27 to 1159Z, Aug 28 |
| YO DX HF Contest | 1200Z, Aug 27 to 1200Z, Aug 28 |
| Ohio QSO Party | 1600Z, Aug 27 to 0400Z, Aug 28 |
| SARL HF CW Contest | 1230Z-1630Z, Aug 28 |
| Kentucky QSO Party | 1600Z, Aug 28 to 0400Z, Aug 29 |
| CQC Summer VHF/UHF QSO Party | 1800Z-2100Z, Aug 29 |

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

Revision Date: March 13, 2005

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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.

N2CQ QRP CONTEST CALENDAR, July 2005

Summer FOX Hunt - QRP 20M CW

UTC: Every Fri thru August 19, 0100z to 0229z

EDT: Every Thur thru August 18, 9 PM to 1029 PM

Info: http://www.cqc.org/fox/summer_rules.htm

RAC Canada Day Contest (CW/SSB) ... QRP Category

Jul 1, 0000z to 2359z

Rules: <http://www.rac.ca/service/infocont.htm>

>

"RUN WITH RAC" for more awards from QRP-Canada

See <http://www.qrp-canada.com/>

Original QRP Contest (CW) ... QRP Contest!

Jul 2, 1500z to Jul 3, 1500z

Rules: <http://www.qrpcc.de/contestrules/oqrpr.html>

MI QRP Fourth of July Sprint (CW) ... QRP Contest!

Jul 4, 2300z to Jul 5, 0300z

Rules: <http://www.qsl.net/miqrpcclub/contest.html>

Adventure Radio Spartan Sprint (CW) ... QRP Contest!

Jul 5, 0100z to 0300z (First Monday 9 PM EDT)

Rules: <http://www.arsqrp.com/>

VK/trans-Tasman Contests (160m Ph) ... QRP Category

Jul 9, 0800z to 1400z

Rules: <http://home.primus.com.au/vktasman/>

IARU HF World Championship (CW/SSB) ... QRP Category

Jul 9, 1200z to Jul 10, 1200z

Rules: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html?year=2005>

FISTS Summer Sprint (CW) ... QRP Category

Jul 9, 1700z to 2100z

Rules: <http://www.fists.org/sprints.html>

QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint (CW) ... QRP Contest!

Jul 10, 2000z to 2400z

Rules: <http://www.qrparci.org/contest.htm>

North American QSO Party (RTTY) /QRP Entries Noted

Jul 16, 1800Z to Jul 17, 0600Z

Rules: <http://www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php>

CQ WW VHF Contest (All, 6 & 2 Meters) ... QRP (10W) Category

Jul 16, 1800z to Jul 17, 2100z

Rules: <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/infoc.html>

RSGB Low Power Field Day (CW) ... QRP Contest!

Jul 17, 0900z to 1200z

Jul 17, 1300z to 1600z

Rules: <http://www.contesting.co.uk/hfcc/rules/rqrp.shtml>

Colorado Gold Rush (20 mtr CW QRP) ... QRP Contest

July 17, 2000z to 2200z

Rules: <http://www.cqc.org/contests/>

Run For The Bacon (CW) ... QRP Contest!

Jul 18, 0100z to 0300z

Rules: <http://fpqrp.com>

NAQCC WEEKNIGHT 40/80-METER SLOW SPEED SPRINT (CW) ... QRP Contest!

Jul 21, 0030z to 0230z

Rules: http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint_0507.html

Great Lakes Sweepstakes (Ph & Dig=CW-PSK-RTTY) ... QRP Category

Jul 23, 0000z to Jul 24, 2359z

Rules: <http://mdxa1.org/GLSWEEPSRULES.html>

VK/trans-Tasman Contests (160m CW) ... QRP Category

Jul 23, 0800z to 1400z

Rules: <http://home.primus.com.au/vktasman/>

Islands On The Air Contest (CW/SSB) ... QRP Category

Jul 30, 1200z to Jul 31, 1200z

Rules: <http://www.contesting.co.uk/hfcc/rules/riota.shtml>

Flight of the Bumblebees (CW) ... QRP Contest!

Jul 31, 1700z to 2100z

Rules: <http://www.arsqrp.com/>

Thanks to SM3CER, WA7BNM, N0AX(ARRL), WB3AAL and others
for assistance in compiling this calendar.

Please forward the contest info you sponsor to N2CQ@ARRL.NET and
we will post it and give it more publicity.

Anyone may use this "N2CQ QRP Contest Calendar" for your website,
newsletter, e-mail list or other media as you choose.

(Include a credit to the source of this material of course.)

72 de

Ken Newman - N2CQ

N2CQ@ARRL.NET

<http://www.amqrp.org/contesting/contesting.html>

<http://www.n3epa.org/Pages/Contest/contest.htm>

*Ed Note: Thanks to Terry WU9F for providing the list for our newsletter.

Four Lakes Amateur Radio

Club Fox Hunting Rules

July 23, 2005 Fox Hunt

PURPOSE STATEMENT: The purpose of this FLARC sponsored Fox Hunt is to provide an opportunity for local amateur radio operators to develop and test techniques for locating unknown sources of radio signals. This hunt is to give amateurs additional practice in preparation for the official August FLARC Fox Hunt.

GENERAL RULES:

This hunt will be held on Saturday, July 23, 2005. The starting time will be 12:00 noon after the West Side Zilch breakfast. The starting location will be the Village Green at 7508 Hubbard Avenue in Middleton, WI. The simplex frequency to be used for the hunt will be announced by the fox promptly at the starting time on the BARS repeater (146.685 pl 123.0). The participants will then QSY to the announced frequency to begin the event. This simplex frequency will be 146.535 MHz. The fox hunt will have a time limit of 2 hours. The first operator to locate the fox will be declared the winner(s) and will be the fox for the next fox hunt. The hunt is open to all local amateur radio operators. The winner (s) will be announced in *The Feedline* and the next FLARC meeting.

RULES FOR THE FOX:

The location of the fox shall be:

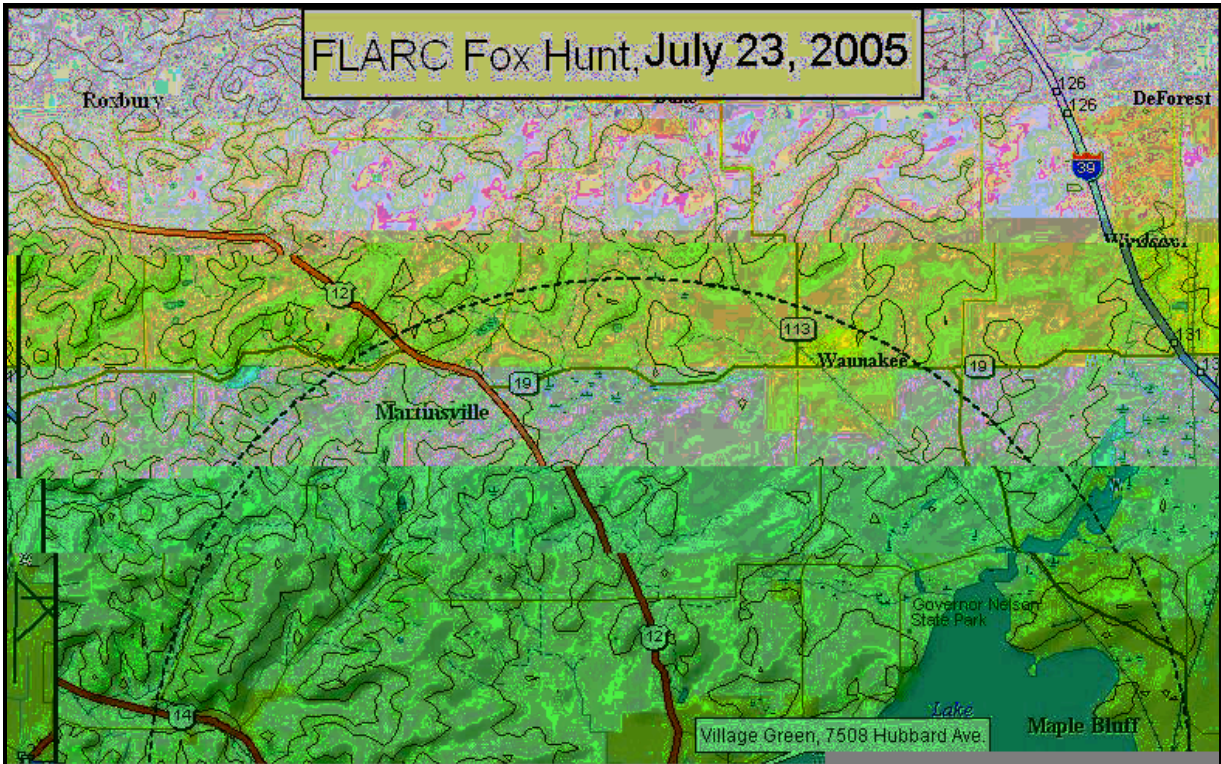
- Within a distance of 8.00 miles of the announced starting point.
- In a public location.
- In a location that is in no way offensive to the participants or the public.
- Accessible by all who may choose to participate.

Clues may be given after a period of 30 minutes. Clues should be helpful but not give the location away by clues alone. A transmission will be made for a period of 60 seconds out of every 5 minutes to provide an adequate signal for the participants to track. The first 5 transmissions will be for 2 minutes out of every 5 minutes. The fox will operate from a position that can be heard at the starting point using a reasonable power output. The Fox will record the times that the various hounds find his station. The first transmissions should give general information, such as our rules for the event, information about FLARC, club related events, and any announcements which would be of interest to the participants.

RULES FOR THE HOUNDS:

The participants shall all begin the hunt from the same location, which is the Village Green in Middleton. The participants may not trespass on private property. The participants may not enter areas that would in any way be considered obtrusive or inappropriate by participants or the public. There will be two classes of hounds: Doppler based stations and traditional direction finding equipment stations. Therefore, there will be two classes of winners. Participants shall act responsibly and safely at all times. Drive carefully and please observe all traffic rules. Actions taken during club events reflect on all amateurs.

Rev: July 16, 2005



**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: _____

License Class: _____

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: Gari Berliot - NG9V; 5326 Knightsbridge Road; Madison, WI 53714

I wish to contribute \$_____ to

featured conference

06 June 2005 08:00 AM (GMT -05:00)

Symposium Tackles Broadband Over Power Lines

BY BARTON REPPERT

U.S. President George W. Bush spoke well of it. Amateur radio operators may grow to hate it. However its future may unfold, the controversial fledgling technology of transmitting broadband signals over power lines (BPL) is expected to draw close attention at the 2005 IEEE International Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility, set for 8 to 12 August at the Navy Pier on Lake Michigan in Chicago.

BPL makes available broadband Internet service over electric power lines to users who simply plug their computer into an electric outlet.

The conference, sponsored by the IEEE Electromagnetic Compatibility Society, is designed to get attendees up to speed on BPL with a workshop on 8 August to introduce the issues surrounding the technology. Among the scheduled speakers are representatives of hardware manufacturers, users, regulators, and those interested in the potential the technology has for interfering with radio services. Data on RF emissions taken from installed BPL systems, as well as physical models that have been developed to further gauge emissions, is to be presented in a special session on 11 August.

Other sessions will cover everything from basic principles of electromagnetic compatibility to state-of-the-art theory, as well as ultrawideband communications and computer modeling, organizers say. More than 200 industry exhibitors are expected.

In a speech last year on technology issues delivered at the U.S. Department of Commerce, President Bush called BPL "a fantastic innovation" and "a great opportunity." However, BPL in some cases can pose serious interference problems, and it is firmly opposed by ARRL, a national amateur-radio association based in Newington, Conn. "Because power lines are not designed to prevent radiation of RF energy, BPL represents a significant potential interference source for all radio services using this frequency range, including the amateur radio service," ARRL says in a statement posted on its Web site at <http://www.arrl.org>.

So far, BPL has been deployed in several temporary test sites in Australia and the United States but in few commercial installations. The U.S. Federal Communications Commission in October voted to set new ground rules for BPL systems, in view of the radio frequency interference problems. At that time, an Associated Press story reported that BPL service was going to fewer than 5000 customers nationwide.

Ray Klouda, technical program chair for the conference, says it is unclear whether BPL will prove viable. "The U.S. government is very interested in BPL because it sees the technology as a way to provide Internet access to anybody who has power lines. But there are technical difficulties," he says. "They may be difficult to overcome. I'm skeptical as to whether the technology is there."

The controversy over BPL may generate particular activity at EMC 2005 because many members of the EMC society are amateur radio operators themselves. And, for the first time, the symposium will have a working amateur radio station on the site, K9EMC, available to licensed radio amateurs, as well as for demonstrations of radio techniques.

Klouda, vice president of Elite Electronic Engineering Inc., in Downers Grove, Ill., points to two other areas that might draw considerable attention at EMC 2005. One is the continuing development of ultrawideband. Another is the increased use of computer modeling and simulation to evaluate draft electronic designs for potential EMC problems before new equipment is built.

Kluda notes that ultrawideband communications, which involve very-low-power signals typically spread over a band in excess of 500 megahertz, may prove to be particularly valuable because they can transmit at levels that are below background noise, so they would not interfere with broadcast stations.

Work is under way to write standards that make ultrawideband the core technology for home entertainment networks—capable of transferring video, audio, and photos among home PCs, stereos, high-definition televisions, and DVD players. Several technical sessions at EMC 2005 will focus on computer modeling and simulation tools to help predict and understand electromagnetic compatibility questions, Kluda says. “The idea is that you take a circuit board in a CAD design, run simulation software on it, and decide that it’s going to have EMC problems”—before the device is actually fabricated, he explains.

Gary Grube, corporate vice president for government and enterprise mobility solutions at Motorola Inc., Schaumburg, Ill., is scheduled to give the keynote address on 9 August, speaking on “Advanced Wireless Systems, Seamless Mobility, and EMC.”

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