



# The Feedline

“W9JZ – SERVING AMATEUR RADIO SINCE 1933”

Volume 26, Number 5

## Club Information

### 2005 FLARC Officers

Frederick Baguhn W9GOC - President  
 John Steffi KOZYA - Vice President  
 Gary Muskat KA9SRM - Secretary  
 Don Michalski W9IXG - Treasurer

### Board Members at Large

Phil Carlson WBOCLI  
 Steven Elliott W9RAL  
 Thomas Komsi KC9EUC

### 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.gsl.net/flarc>. Keep checking the links page for new goodies!

### Meeting dates and programs

May Fox Hunt, May 14, Village Green @ 12noon.  
 May meeting is to be held on May 17, at the Red Cross.  
 Program Topic is the N1MM logging program.  
 June meeting is to be held on June 21.  
 Program will be at Badger Prairie Park, Field Day preparations.  
 Field Day is weekend of June 25-26. See Page 11.  
 July meeting is to be held on July 19, at the Red Cross.

## The Prez Says

Greetings to all!

Thank you to all who participated in the April meeting! John/ KOZYA presented his secrets for hardware selection, antenna manipulation and techniques for direction finding / fox hunting. [John will be participating in the Spring foxhunt, but in the role of the Fox - - see if you can find him while the sun is still visible!] The Spring foxhunt is only days from now, on 14 May. It is time to check your antennas, reacquaint yourself with their peak and null patterns, and decide if you'll need an attenuator or some other magic direction-finding aid.

Our featured speaker for the May general meeting will be Dave/K9YT, one of our area's exceptional contesters. He will be enlightening us on the N1MM logging program, and how we can effectively get this software to exchange data with our modern transceivers. N1MM is the logging program we plan to use for Field Day in Badger Prairie Park, (next month !!) so this will be a fine chance to brush up on techniques and gain pointers from someone who has attained proficiency with this program.

An issue has been brought to my attention concerning how we conduct our meetings. It seems that folks new to our group are finding difficulty “breaking the ice” of conversation with some of us. ☹ Accordingly, some suggestions have been raised for modifications to our usual meeting format, to give folks a chance to say a word or two and give us a chance to put a face to the voice and callsign we may only know over the air.

Rather than just having folks mumble their name and callsign, this time I am going to ask folks to answer one of those (awful) ice-breaker questions - - and since you are dutifully reading this

column, you get advance warning of the question of the day !

The question:

"When did you join Four Lakes ARC?" This should give us a chance to listen for those who are recent additions to our group, and help the newcomers to identify folks who have been with FLARC long enough to have all the answers!! ☺

Upcoming events:

- VE Testing session at Space Place, 8:00 - 10:00 AM, 7 May.
- Spring Foxhunt - - 14 May, following Zilch in Middleton <details elsewhere in the Feedline>
- DAYTON Hamvention, 20-22 May
- General Class at Space Place, 21-22 May
- Field Day, Badger Prairie Park - Verona, 25-26 June

Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting - -

73, Frederick

## *FLARC Treasurer's Report*

From the March 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, at the end.

Balance in the treasury is \$4,082.01.

There are **101** members.

Don, W9IXG

## *BPL Report*

ARRL Bulletin 12

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington, CT; April 29, 2005

To: all radio amateurs

ARLB012 Resolution Calls on FCC To Evaluate BPL Interference, Review Rules

Rep Michael Ross, WD5DVR, of Arkansas, has introduced a resolution in the US House of Representatives calling on the FCC to "conduct a full and complete analysis" of radio interference from broadband over power line (BPL). The

resolution, H. Res. 230, says the Commission should comprehensively evaluate BPL's interference potential incorporating "extensive public review and comment," and--in light of that analysis--to "reconsider and review" its new BPL rules, adopted last October. If approved by the full House, the non-binding resolution, introduced April 21, would express the requests as "the sense of the House of Representatives."

"We are grateful to Congressman Ross and his staff for taking a leadership position in recognizing that the BPL interference issue deserves more careful consideration than the FCC was willing to give it under former Chairman Powell," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. The resolution has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, on which Ross serves.

The resolution's prime focus is on BPL's potential to disrupt critical public safety radio communication. It cites National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) studies that "have determined that broadband over power line creates a 'high risk' of radio wave interference, and that harmful interference to public safety mobile radio receivers can be expected at distances of 75 meters from the power line where broadband over power line is in operation, and at distances of up to 460 meters from fixed stations, such as VHF police or fire dispatch communications facilities."

The resolution notes that the same NTIA study determined that BPL interference to aeronautical and airline travel communications "could be expected at distances up to 40 kilometers from the center of the broadband over power line system, and that interference to outer marker beacons for airline instrument landing systems could be expected at great distances as well."

Many public safety agencies and support services, including emergency medical services, fire, and law enforcement, utilize Low-Band VHF (30-50 MHz), the resolution points out. According to the resolution, at least 13 states--California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia and Wyoming--

use the band for state police operations. It's the primary public safety radio band in nine states.

The resolution further notes that the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials Inc (APCO), and the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC), have urged the FCC to withhold final action in the BPL proceeding for at least a year, pending a "conclusive determination" of BPL's potential to interfere with public safety and other licensed radio systems operating below 80 MHz. It also cites comments filed by the Missouri State Highway Patrol, which uses a statewide radio system with more than 1400 Low-Band VHF users. The Missouri State Highway Patrol commented that the overall effect of BPL implementation would be "a potentially significant increase in interference to the mission of critical public safety communications," the resolution says.

The resolution recounts that the FCC has struggled for years to resolve widespread harmful radio interference to first responders on 800 MHz and "should not have proceeded with introduction of a technology which appears to have substantial potential to cause destructive interference to police, fire, emergency medical services, and other public safety radio systems" without first conducting a comprehensive evaluation.

A copy of HRes 230 is available on the ARRL Web site in .PDF format at, <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/filings/hr es230/HRes230.pdf>.

## *More BPL Information*

TEXAS LAWMAKERS IGNORING AMATEUR RADIO CONCERNS IN BPL BILL.

A bill aimed at amending the Texas utilities code to "encourage the deployment of BPL" by electric utilities could soon be up for a vote by the Texas Senate. The measure, SB 1748, recently received unanimous approval from the Senate Business and Commerce Committee. Sen. Troy Fraser, the sponsor of the measure, also chairs the panel. After reporting the bill out of committee following an April 21 hearing, the panel voted to put it on the "consent agenda" to expedite its

passage in the Senate. ARRL North Texas Section Manager Tom Blackwell, N5GAR, says the BPL bill was added to the committee's hearing agenda at the last minute "so we would have the minimum amount of time to submit input." At the hearing itself, "everything was well scripted in advance," he said, and radio amateurs' concerns about the measure have fallen on deaf ears.

"Those who opposed this and made phone calls, sent letters or e-mail or who made personal visits to the staff members or senators themselves were summarily ignored," Blackwell said. He suggests that his constituents would make better use of their time at this point by contacting members of the Texas House--the bill's next stop.

"I know there are amateurs who want their views considered on this bill," Blackwell said. "Amateurs deserve respectful treatment and consideration from these elected officials who will decide the outcome of these issues."

One radio amateur showed up prepared to testify on the originally scheduled hearing date of April 5. Fraser then announced that the committee would not be accepting testimony on the bill that day, and the hearing subsequently was rescheduled.

As drafted, the bill establishes a state regulatory framework for electric utilities, municipally owned utilities and electric cooperatives to develop and deploy BPL systems in Texas. It would allow utilities to lease their power lines to other concerns to operate BPL systems. The measure also would authorize a utility to recover its BPL investment from ratepayers. A utility offering BPL would only have to consider 40 percent of its BPL revenues as income in rate proceedings.

Fraser asserts that his measure, introduced March 11, will prove "especially important to rural Texas, where high-speed Internet service is not readily available." But he conceded in a statement issued after the bill's favorable committee report that BPL "is still in the early stages of development." His bill also makes BPL secondary to the delivery of electric power and requires that BPL not affect the reliability of power delivery.

An Irving, Texas, BPL pilot project that was the target of an ARRL complaint shut down in March and removed its equipment. There's been no word from TXU as to why it shut down the system and removed its equipment, but the League has withdrawn its complaint.

### *The Big Project Update*

The Big Project has been waiting for arrival of the HF antenna, but has continued 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, each month, updates on The Big Project can be found in this section of *The Feedline*.

### *Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Courses*

The grants that sponsor and pay for the tuition to the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Courses is in its third and final year. Those radio Amateurs who have not taken the on-line training yet, are encouraged to do so. Registration information may be found at <http://www.arrl.org/cce/>.

Don, W9IXG, Wisconsin Section Manager, ARRL

### *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
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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](mailto:w9ral@aol.com).

## *Elmers*

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

## *VE Testing Program*

Sam Rowe, KG9NG, is the acting VE Team Chairman.

FLARC sponsors FCC license exams, which are held on the FIRST Saturday of each month at Space Place, 1605 South Park Street, Madison, WI @

8am. (Space Place is next to Arby's, 1 mile north of the beltline.)

Note that **this address will change in July**. Space Place is moving south on Park Street to the Villager (mall) at 2300 South Park St.

## 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

Phil Carlson, WBOCLI, was the April 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](mailto:gberliot@ameritech.net).

Checker for the VUCC awards is Richard, K9APW. Contact him at 608-833-0011 or [k9apw@arll.net](mailto:k9apw@arll.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.

## Your Ham Shack Using Linux Computers

Harv Nelson, AI9NL, has put together a great opportunity for shack operators looking at using the Linux computer operating system. Visit his site at the following link to learn more.

<http://hamshack-hack.sourceforge.net/>

Please remember, FLARC does not endorse or recommend any products, and users of items presented in *The Feedline* should use appropriate caution when making changes to electrical systems.

## 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](mailto:w9ral@aol.com).

## Member Birthdays

### May:

2 W9IXG - Don Michalski  
3 W0ROT - Peter Fribley  
4 W9DGI - Daniel Gomez-Ibanez  
N9HNN - John Pellett, MD  
5 KA9SSI - James F. Hill  
7 DL7AOW - Jens Freydanck  
KC9EUC - Thomas Komsi  
20 N9GTB - William Steaffens  
21 KA9SRM - Gary Muskat  
22 K9KVA - Joseph Turner

### June:

02 K9YXW - John M Schroeder, MD  
10 KC9HED - Wade Olson

- 12 WD9BFV - Richard Lindgren
- 13 AD9X - Jim Lackore
- 14 W9JEK - Wilbur Jensen
- 21 N9MW - Ed Toal
- 25 KC9GDI - Woody Pfeffer
- 29 KC9CMA - Shyam Koppikar
- W9DCQ - Doug Ward

## *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/](http://www.dxzone.com/catalog/Antennas/J-Pole/)

## *Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2005 Introduced*

ARRL Bulletin 7, ARLB007

From: ARRL Headquarters

Newington, CT, March 1, 2005

To all radio amateurs.

At the urging of the ARRL, Rep Michael Bilirakis (R-FL) has introduced The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2005 into the US House of Representatives. The bill, designated HR 691, has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee where Bilirakis serves as vice chairman. Like previous versions of the proposal, the current measure would require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to Amateur Radio if the FCC reallocates primary amateur frequencies, reduces any secondary amateur allocations, or makes additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce their utility to amateurs.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, says the 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."

HR 691 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.

Rep Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD) has signed on as the bill's first co-sponsor.

Efforts now will focus on attracting additional cosponsors for the legislation. The League is encouraging members to urge their congressional representatives to sign aboard HR 691. More than 100 lawmakers agreed to cosponsor similar legislation in the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress, where it was designated HR 713. Work is proceeding to have identical legislation introduced in the US Senate.

The text of HR 691 is available on the Government Printing Office Web site  
[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=109\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:h691ih.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=109_cong_bills&docid=f:h691ih.txt.pdf)

## *FLARC Is Having A Fox Hunt!*

Yes, you heard that right, a Fox Hunt. May 14, 2005, FLARC will be having a Spring Fox Hunt. The 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 Spring's Fox will be John Steffi, KOZYA. 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 dormant for the winter. Come on out and have some FUN!

## *Amateur Radio Web Sites*

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

Dane County ARES/RACES  
[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dane\\_co\\_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](http://www.qsl.net) and [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com). There are many, many links to other sites, which promote things from antennas, antenna construction to software. Also [www.ac6v.com](http://www.ac6v.com) and [www.cpcug.org/user/wfeidt/index.htm](http://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/>.

## *General License Class Coming*

Space Place Amateur Radio Center (N9UW)  
1605 South Park Street  
Madison, WI 53715

presents another Amateur Radio General Class Workshop-- May 21 & 22 !!

You need, of course, a Technician or Novice license as a pre-requisite.

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

required to earn the General Class license.)

The workshop is free-even refreshments are provided! (There is, however, an exam fee of \$14.00 to cover administrative costs.) To prepare you must get a copy of the ARRL General Class License Manual (5th ed., \$16.95), which is available via web or mail order from the American Radio Relay League: [www.arrl.org/catalog](http://www.arrl.org/catalog). (Check the ARRL web site for lots of information about ham radio.) You will receive suggestions for studying after you register. AES in Milwaukee sells the book, also. [www.aesham.com](http://www.aesham.com).

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

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

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

## *Badger Amateur Radio Society (BARS)*

For those of you who utilize the 146.685 MHz, p123.0 Hz (W9YT), repeater in the Madison area, the Badger Amateur Radio Society (BARS) is the group which operates this equipment. The BARS group is the student based organization of the University of Wisconsin, and is open to amateur radio operators who are students, alumni, or just involved in amateur radio. BARS meetings are the 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, p1 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](mailto: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.

### *West High students work with NASA*

Sandy Cullen Wisconsin State Journal  
May 6, 2005

For high school students, getting together on evenings and weekends to have a blast isn't rocket science - unless they're actually designing and building a rocket in consultation with NASA engineers.

That's what the nine members of West High School's Rocketry Club have been up to since last summer. On Saturday, the students will launch their high-powered rocket - along with a scientific payload they developed to measure low-altitude wind patterns - more than a mile into the sky on a sod farm near the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala.

To get to this point, the students had to go through the same review process NASA uses for its space program.

"NASA's treating it as though it's one of their launches," said senior Dylan Mathieu. "It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

Mathieu and his fellow team members - seniors Kevin Green, Lena Song and David Yu, juniors Corey Watts and Adeyinka Lesi, and sophomores Dean Weesner, Tom Hanzlik and Grant Bilstad - have gone through preliminary design, critical design and flight readiness reviews with NASA engineers via teleconference from UW-Madison's Pyle Center.

"It was a really unique experience," Mathieu said, adding, "They provided the viewpoint of the engineers who are involved in real rocketry."

The students' 10-foot-tall, 30-pound rocket made of carbon fiber and Fiberglas is fueled by ammonium perchlorate, which must be loaded by a certified handler. It can be launched only with clearance from the Federal Aviation Administration at designated locations, including sites near Milwaukee and Peoria, Ill.

During their last launch, Mathieu said, "We actually exceeded the speed of sound for like a second and a half." They didn't hear a sonic boom over the roar of the rocket, he said, adding, "The whole thing is so loud."

When the rocket reaches its apogee, the payload separates and drifts to the ground under its own parachute, recording wind velocity at exact coordinates, similar to a weather balloon. A telemetry system provides an instantaneous wind profile in real time as the payload is drifting.

"In terms of rocketry, it's really useful," Mathieu said. "It's crucial to have the exact wind patterns at the time of launch."

A second experiment uses digital cameras to photograph the smoke trail emitted by the rocket's modified motor, providing backup data on wind velocity.

"We didn't use a kit for any of it," Mathieu said. "We built it all and designed it all."

UW-Madison physics professor Dan McCammon and astronomy professor Don Michalski helped the students build the electronics and other aspects of the experiments.

"Most of the NASA science is done by outside groups, like these students or university groups," said McCammon, an X-ray astronomer who builds telescopes with his students to look at X-rays from the sky and has launched sounding rockets as part of his research.

"Believe me, I'm keeping an eye on these folks," he said of the West students, some of whom he hopes will end up in his program.

When the Rocketry Club began in fall 2003, Mathieu said, "None of us actually knew how to build rockets."

Last May, the club placed in the top 25 in the national Team America Rocketry Challenge. That earned them a chance to submit a proposal to NASA's Student Launch Initiative, and they were selected as one of six teams to receive \$2,500 to develop and build their rocket.

NASA also is paying for airfare and accommodations for the students and their adviser, biology teacher Chris Hager, who said she is amazed by what the students have accomplished. "I can't stop talking about this to everyone I came across."

The rocket and equipment are being transported by mentor Pavel Pinkas, Hanzlik's father, who, Hager said, ignited the spark for the Rocketry Club nearly a decade ago. "Tom picked up a model rocket kit, and one thing led to another."

*From all of us at The Feedline, Don, W9IXG has once again shown his tremendous support for learning and education in our community.*

## Thanks Don!!!

## *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.

## *ON THE LIGHTER SIDE*

Reminds me of the time I was an Explorer Scout advisor in the 80's and one of the kids came up, showed me an old schematic, and asked "What's this funny thing here? It's got an upside-down "T" on top, dotted line in the middle, solid line on the bottom with a teepee underneath, all inside of a circle." I told him it was a vacuum tube. Blank stare. So I added, "It's like a cross between an FET and a lightbulb."

73,  
Bob, WO3E

## FIELD DAY PREPARATIONS

Preparations are coming together for Field Day, June 25 and 26 at Badger Prairie Park in Verona, but we also have several gaps that need to be filled in the near future to assure a successful event.

John Steffl (KØZYA) is again providing his large, quiet generator that will give us all the power we need for operating multiple stations at up to 150 Watts. In addition, we expect to have at least two backup generators. John also is heading up the GOTA (Get-On-The-Air) station and is signing up qualified operators (currently unlicensed prospective hams, Novice and Technician licensees, and licensed hams who have been inactive for at least the past two years.) If you are interested in GOTA operations, contact John by e-mail [steffl1@charter.net](mailto:steffl1@charter.net) or by phone (608) 846-5511.

Steve Franzen, N9CK, has agreed to operate 80 and 40 CW, which is good news as Steve produced one of our leading point totals in last year's FD. I'm sure Steve would welcome assistance from other CW operators.

Dave Nelson, K9TY, has agreed to join forces with FLARC for the third year in a row and plans to erect a beam for 20 meter sideband. Dave also will be making a presentation at the May meeting on computer logging.

We still need station leads and operators for 80 and 40 phone and for 20 CW. Phone and CW operations also could be accommodated on 15 and 10 if anyone is interested and optimistic that band conditions will be favorable during the current solar minimum. Last year we had a surprisingly successful 6-meter operation thanks to Joe Senulis and his J-pole antenna. I have not yet heard from Joe but hope he will be able to join us again. Several clubs in Wisconsin and Illinois will be operating point-to-point VHF and UHF stations and this would be a good way for FLARC to pick up some added points if we have interested operators (sorry, no repeater contacts permitted.)

Bonus points have been an important component of our total score in recent years and we expect to do well in that category this year as well. We get 100 bonus points each for setting up in a public park, for having an information booth dispensing fact sheets to visitors and any VIPs who turn out, for putting out a press release to local media, by securing a visit from a served agency such as the Red Cross, for completing at least 100 GOTA contacts (plus a point for each GOTA contact), for each station operated on emergency power, for accurately copying the ARRL Field Day bulletin off the air, and others. One bonus we have not collected in the past is the 100 points available for completing at least one earth to satellite and back to earth contact. This would be an interesting challenge for anyone with portable satellite communications capabilities.

We will need plenty of help setting up shelters, antennas and stations beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday, June 25. Even though the chairman is promising beautiful weather for the event again this year, if you have a pop up camper, wall tent or gazebo screen shelter we could make good use of these as operations shelters. We also could use a couple of push-up masts or portable towers for supporting dipoles and inverted vees.

The success of Field Day is directly proportional to the extent of membership participation. So if you would like to join in, whether you are an experienced operator or a newcomer to ham radio, contact Field Day chairman Doug Ward by e-mail [W9DCQ@AOL.COM](mailto:W9DCQ@AOL.COM) or by phone (608) 233-2468.

### *To all persons who make reports into the Skywarn net.*

GOOD NEWS. Midwest Severe Storm Tracking and Response Center (or Midwest SSTRC) now has exclusive use of two UHF frequencies 444.375 & 443.575 as well as the shared use of the 463.875 which on the UHF Business Band for severe weather events.

Midwest has written permission from the repeater owners for use of these repeaters for such events.

With the advent of such utilization and over 50

members in the group, we discovered that trying to man the 147.150 was confusing and interfering with other reports. (For example we were getting pea sized hail reports on the 15 while we were trying to manage wall cloud reports on the UHF frequencies.)

Therefore we will be suspending operations on the 15 until further notice. We hope to have a net on this frequency that adheres to our agreements with the repeater association, but currently we don't have the staff to do so. This is a fluid situation, so depending on how well the staffing, and reports flow on the UHF side, and how many operators have UHF capabilities, will determine if we will have a net on the 15. Because of agreements with MARA no one should attempt to operate a net on this frequency, who has not checked with me so that we can be sure that nets on this frequency meet with our agreements. If you are interested in becoming a net control for the 15 please reply to this e-mail.

Those persons with UHF capabilities who are hams are welcomed and encouraged to use the frequencies by the repeater owners as this is an open repeater. Hams trained by the NWS as spotters are also encouraged to file reports here, but be aware of the following.

On a Severe weather net, Midwest group net controllers have full control of the repeater, therefore on a day where severe weather looks possible an information net may activate as early as the morning, and may change over to full mode even though sky above is blue. Therefore you may be asked to suspend your conversation and move to another frequency.

Both ham frequencies may or may not be linked depending on the needs of the net.

During full net mode be aware of the situation in our area as reports are prioritized in order of importance. Therefore if severe weather is expected, and we are in full net mode, reports that meet non severe criteria, such as urban flooding, pea-sized hail, etc. are fine to report.

However if the reports have moved to severe criteria hail 3/4" in diameter, wind gusts in excess of 58 miles an hour, severe flooding-bridges and

streets washed out, houses moving down the street, wall clouds, rotating or non rotating\*, funnel clouds\* or tornadoes.

You should log and hold the non severe reports to be submitted later when the severe reports subside.

(\*passing wall cloud and funnel cloud reports by hams is subject to the discretion of the net control operator. This is mandated by the National Weather Service, to insure that these reports are accurate.) Trained (members of Midwest who are assigned a tactical call sign will be using the callsign during an event) to get a tactical callsign join Midwest for additional training today.

All reports should be brief using the TLCS format.

From: chad woodward <cmwood@terracom.net>

## 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

- Tektronix Type 535 Oscilloscope
  - Plug-in unit # 53/54K
- Contact KC9GDI, Woody Pfeffer, 608-592-5313.

### 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](mailto:Ki9h@arrl.net)

## *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

### Phasor Labs

[cforster@phasorlabs.com](mailto: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 January 26, 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

CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 28 to 2359Z, May 29
ARCI Hootowl Sprint	2000Z-2400Z, May 29
MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint	2300Z, May 29 to 0300Z, May 30

June, 2005	
VK/Trans-Tasman 80m Contest, CW	0800Z-1400Z, Jun 4
IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	1500Z, Jun 4 to 1459Z, Jun 5
RSGB National Field Day	1500Z, Jun 4 to 1500Z, Jun 5
QRP TAC Sprint	1800Z-2359Z, Jun 4
WorldRadio Friends' Day QSO Party	1800Z, Jun 4 to 1800Z, Jun 5
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	2000Z-2130Z, Jun 6
ANARTS WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Jun 11 to 2400Z, Jun 12
Portugal Day Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 11
Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z-1300Z, Jun 11
GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	1500Z, Jun 11 to 1500Z, Jun 12
REF DDFM Contest	1600Z, Jun 11 to 1600Z, Jun 12
ARRL June VHF QSO Party	1800Z, Jun 11 to 0300Z, Jun 13
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	2000Z-2130Z, Jun 15
SARL Kid's Day	0700Z-0900Z, Jun 16
All Asian DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Jun 18 to 2400Z, Jun 19
SMIRK Contest	0000Z, Jun 18 to 2400Z, Jun 19
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z-1900Z, Jun 18 (144) and 1900Z-2100Z, Jun 18 (432)
West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 18 to 0200Z, Jun 19
Quebec QSO Party	1700Z, Jun 18 to 0300Z, Jun 19
Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2400Z, Jun 18
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	2000Z-2130Z, Jun 23
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z, Jun 25 to 1400Z, Jun 26
ARCI Milliwatt Field Day	1800Z, Jun 25 to 2100Z, Jun 26
ARRL Field Day	1800Z, Jun 25 to 2100Z, Jun 26
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	1800Z, Jun 25 to 1800Z, Jun 26

*Send comments and corrections about this page to Bruce Horn, [WA7BNM](mailto:WA7BNM)*

*Revision Date: January 26, 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 p258.24 et e1T8 1 Tf10.98 0 0 10.98 12S737 scn7.6(h)0.2y havJ/Cs Tc-000/T5ww.ar.2( )-5.4(is

# Four Lakes Amateur Radio

## Club Fox Hunting Rules

### May 14, 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, May 14, 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 near 146.520.
- 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.

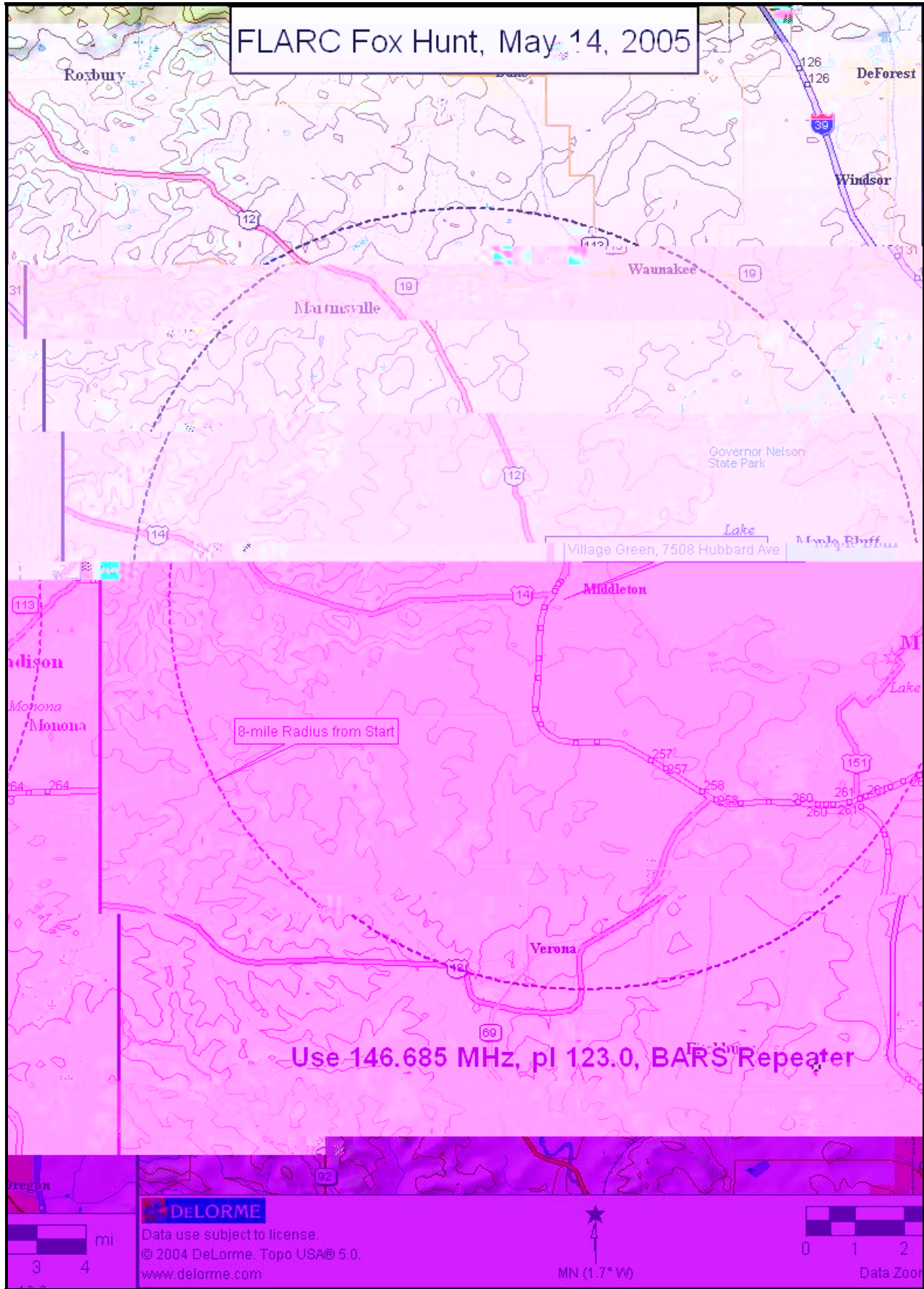
#### RULES FOR THE FOX:

- The location of the fox shall be:
  - a) Within a distance of 8.00 miles of the announced starting point.
  - b) In a public location.
  - c) In a location that is in no way offensive to the participants or the public.
  - d) 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: 25 April 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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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 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)

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ADDRESS

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CITY STATE ZIP CODE

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SIGNATURE DATE

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

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

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