



# The Feedline

“W9JZ – SERVING AMATEUR RADIO SINCE 1933”

Volume 26, Number 11

## Club Information

### 2005 FLARC Officers

Frederick Baguhn W9GOC - President  
 John Steffl WZ9I - Vice President  
 Gary Muskat KA9SRM - Secretary  
 Don Michalski W9IXG - Treasurer

### Board Members at Large

Phil Carlson WBOCLI  
 Steven Elliott W9RAL  
 Terry Bachmann WU9F

### 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

November meeting will be at the Red Cross, 7:30 pm, and will have as our guest speaker Tom Weeden, WJ9H from Channel 15 to talk about Digital TV. The FLARC Christmas Party will be held on December 6 at the Capital Brewery. And we have some great donated gifts for this years party drawing. December meeting will be at the Red Cross, 7:30 pm.

## The Prez Says

Greetings to all!

I extend the Club's thanks to Herb, W9LA and Ken, W9XM for facilitating and guiding the tour of the transmitter facility at the Community Tower for our October gathering. It was quite a treat to see 'up close and personal' where those PBS dollars turn programming into RF. 'Klystrode' isn't a word that my spell checker knows (until now), and we had a chance to see some in real life and in action.

The analog transmitters were impressive - - there is a Lot of 'stuff' that has to be *just right* to make a signal that looks and sounds good when demodulated by your TV receiver. We forget about a lot of the magic in these days of special purpose microchips dealing with all of the detection and demodulation - - they just work, and we take the process for granted.

But the comments I've heard most are regarding the digital transmitters - - they are positively unassuming (compared to the analog equipment) and the picture that is transmitted has remarkable definition.

The transmitters are naturally in the shadow of the antenna tower, which means that the roof of the transmitter shack is impressive, too. We get icing in Wisconsin - - and having refrigerator-sized icicles fall off the antenna almost a quarter of a mile above the roof means there is significant kinetic energy by the time they get to the ground.

Thank you Herb and Ken for giving us a peek behind the curtain to see what Real Transmitting Equipment looks like!

Thank you also to Terry, WU9F and the hams who helped both on-site and as on-the-air contacts for

the Scouts who participated in the Jamboree on the Air.

This month's meeting will feature Tom Weeden, WJ9H from Ch 15. Tom will tell us about Digital TV, and help us understand where its footprint is found in the RF spectrum. There will be some interesting technology demonstrated. The business meeting will discuss the FLARC budget.

### Upcoming activities

This month brings the **ARRL Frequency Measuring Test** - 0245Z on 17 November 2005. Folks who are marking their calendars in local time will want to block out Wednesday evening for this, of course. More details can be found at: <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/fmt/2005/05fmtsilver.pdf> or your November issue of QST.

The FLARC **Holiday party** is scheduled for 6 December; elections are coming soon, too.

*Now* would be a terrific time to think of the types of activities that FLARC should be engaged in, both to meet your needs and the needs of the community. The FLARC Officers and Board value your input, and look forward to helping FLARC meet your objectives. [Identifying the goals before we talk about the Budget will help make sure the dollars go where they are needed, too.]

73, Frederick

## News and Stories

### *Jamboree on the Air Follow-up*

The Belleville JOTA event is history. Had a turnout of about 10 to 12 scouts, four adult leaders, and several parents for the event. The equipment/antenna worked well. The Scouts were interested and asked lots of questions. Most of them took turns talking during the QSO's. Although we did not make a lot of contacts, the ones we did make, all lasted ten minutes or longer. The highlight was working W1AW in Newington, CT. The operator on that end, Ron, kept asking questions of the boys and kept things

moving. That QSO was on 20 meters. We also contacted a station in Cambridge, Ohio, on 40 meters, and a number of boys got a chance to participate in that QSO as well. On VHF, Bill - K9ITW, was kept busy answering questions they had for him.

Peter, W9SQ and Chad, KB9NWZ helped out and their participation was greatly appreciated.

The code practice oscillators got a good work out throughout the day. Boys would send to each other using a character chart from one of the publications which were on display.

Pizza and soft drinks were provided at 2 p.m. and there were no leftovers to cart away.

Tim Peterson, the Scout Leader, said he was happy with the event and looks forward to doing it again in the future.

If anyone has any questions please drop me an email or catch me on the radio.

73, Terry WU9F

### *No mercy for jammer of cops' radios*

*November 1, 2005*

MILWAUKEE -- The U.S. Supreme Court refused Monday to consider an appeal from a man who was sentenced to eight years in prison for jamming Madison police radio frequencies.

Rajib Mitra, 27, from Brookfield, was convicted of interfering with emergency communications during the 2003 Halloween weekend -- a time of hectic police activity because the holiday draws thousands of people to the city -- and on Nov. 11, 2003.

Mitra's attorney Lew Wasserman said people in other parts of the country have done similar crimes and the Federal Communications Commission usually only gave out a civil violation.

Prosecutors said Mitra, a former University of Wisconsin-Madison student, knocked police radio

transmissions off the air by broadcasting a strong tone on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 on the system's control channels. He also piggybacked pornographic sound snippets onto the ends of police transmissions on Nov. 11.

## Four Lakes Club Items

### *Looking for Fun at Field Day?*

FLARC is looking for a volunteer to be the chairperson for the Field Day event in June, 2006. If you have an interest in Field Day, and would like to be on the cutting edge of Field Day activities, contact Frederick or John, the FLARC President or Vice President, respectively.

### *FLARC Treasurer's Report*

Since we had a field trip for the October meeting, no budget report was given.

Provided by Don, W9IXG, FLARC Treasurer

### *Technician Class in February 2006*

A Technician License training class will be held February 11 and 12, 2006, at Space Place in Madison. This training class is open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio. More information in future issues of *The Feedline*.

### *The Big Project Update*

The Big Project is on hold for the moment. Our President and Treasurer are currently working with the school to determine the future of the project. More as things develop.

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

### *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, 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 CSCEs which should be considered (both returned to you after inspection), and
- a photocopy of the license and CSCEs (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

## *Buck Nite Winners at FLARC*

The Buck Night was not held, because of our field trip in October.

## *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*

### November:

06 KC9CBT - Sarah Elizabeth Baguhn  
15 K9EMG - Roger Deicher

### December:

08 N9LGZ - Marvin E. Van Cleave  
13 WA9ACI - Chuck Forster  
K9GRD - Dorothy Gable  
14 WU9F - Terry Bachmann  
18 KC9GHL - Kimberly French  
28 N9NTB - Duane Brophy

## Information About Friends, SK

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of George Shands, W9WUU. From the family, "George had been a licensed amateur ("ham") radio operator for more than 50 consecutive years, operating under the call letters W9WUU. He resumed operating in earnest after his retirement in 1996, enjoying "DXing" and contesting. He was a member and served on the board of Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club (FLARC) and also belonged to the DX club. He enjoyed many close friendships through his involvement with ham radio. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to First Congregational Church UCC or to HospiceCare Inc., 5395 E. Cheryl Parkway, Madison, WI 53711, or to the charitable organization of your choice."

FLARC has made a contribution to HospiceCare.

## Wisconsin Items

### 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=WI>.

73, Don, W9IXG, Wisconsin Section Manager

### 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.

## 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@arrl.net](mailto:k9apw@arrl.net).

## USA and World Items

### DXCC Country List

The "DXCC Country List/Beam Headings" is from the North Jersey DX Association web site <http://www.njdx.org/index.php>. Click on "DX tools" and then "beam headings".

Also, more detailed information on Russian callsigns is available at:

<http://www.cpcug.org/user/wfeidt/Cis/russia.html>

Thanks to Roger K9EMG for this GREAT information.

## ARRL Items

### W1AW 2005/2006 Winter Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
-----	-----	-----
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)  
1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)  
(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC (4 PM EST) CWf Mon, Wed, Fri

2100	"	"	CWs	Tue, Thu
2200	"	(5 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
2300	"	(6 PM EST)	RTTY	Daily
0000	"	(7 PM EST)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
0000	"	"	CWf	Tue, Thu
0100	"	(8 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
0200	"	(9 PM EST)	RTTY	Daily
0245	"	(9:45 PM EST)	VOICE	Daily
0300	"	(10 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0300	"	"	CWs	Tue, Thu
0400	"	(11 PM EST)	CWb	Daily

FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1500 UTC to 1700 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM EST), and then from 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur radio license or a photocopy.

The W1AW Operating Schedule may also be found on page 100 in the November 2005 issue of QST or on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html> .

#### 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 2330 UTC (6:30 PM EST), 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 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Thursdays and 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) 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.

### *ARRL 2005 Frequency Measuring Test set for November 17 UTC*

Returning to the airwaves November 17 at 0245 UTC (Wednesday, November 16 in US time zones), the 2005 ARRL Frequency Measuring Test (FMT) once again will call on participants to measure the frequency of an audio tone modulating the carrier.

"Measuring the tone frequency, as opposed to that of the carrier, reinforces the understanding of the relationship between carrier frequency and the actual components of a transmitted signal," Engineer and ARRL Contributing Editor Ward Silver, NOAX, says in "Tune In the 2005 Frequency Measuring Test," in November QST (p 54), [www.arrl.org/w1aw/fmt/2005/05fmtsilver.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/fmt/2005/05fmtsilver.pdf). "With the carrier largely suppressed for SSB signals, only the sideband components remain. A single modulating tone results in a single transmitted component." But, Silver notes, the frequency of the absent carrier is what the operator sees on the radio's display.

The FMT signals will emanate from Maxim Memorial Station W1AW this year on 160, 80 and 40 meters. The 20-meter transmission has been dropped for 2005 because of the generally poor conditions during evening hours on that band. The frequencies will be 1855, 3990 and 7290 kHz, and all transmissions will be on lower sideband (LSB). The FMT will replace the W1AW phone bulletin normally transmitted at 0245 UTC on November 17 (November 16 in US time zones).

Participants may utilize either direct or indirect techniques to determine the tone frequency. "Direct measurements assume a carrier frequency

and measure the audio tone frequency directly," Silver explains. "Indirect measurements obtain the transmitted frequency of the tone component at RF, then compute the difference between the published carrier frequency and measured frequency."

Silver advises that since the W1AW exciters are independent units and not fed with a single local oscillator, participants can expect the measured tone frequency to differ slightly on each band.

The test itself will consist of three 60-second tone transmissions on each band, followed by station identification. The whole test will run for about 15 minutes and will end with a station ID.

Submitted reports should include the time of reception and the tone frequency. Those using an indirect measurement method should show how they calculated the tone frequency. Participants also should include name, call sign and location in their reports, and they may submit separate reports for each band. A Certificate of Participation is available to all entrants.

Those entrants coming closest to the measured frequency as determined by the ARRL Laboratory will be listed in the test report and will also receive special recognition on their certificate. Entries must be received via e-mail [fmt@arrl.org](mailto:fmt@arrl.org) or postmarked by December 16, 2005. Send hard-copy entries to W1AW/FMT, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

## Information Locator

### *Amateur Radio Web Sites*

MARA	<a href="http://www.qsl.net/mara">www.qsl.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/>.

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

The following map provides good location information for repeaters on EchoLink. Just click on the state wanted, and then move the cursor over the city for the node and repeater frequency: <http://www.echolinkmap.org/> .

And this website will give you the node numbers of stations who are on EchoLink at the present time: <http://www.echolink.org/logins.jsp>

### *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](mailto:w9ral@aol.com) or [w9ral@arrl.net](mailto:w9ral@arrl.net) .

### *For Weather Net Folks*

The Wisconsin-based Badger Weather Net is held every morning on 3.985 MHz, between 0500 and 0715 local time.

### *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.

### *Learn Morse Code*

Here is yet another location on the Web where you can gain information about Morse Code and get assistance with your learning. The website: <http://justlearnmorsecode.com/>

## Technical Round-up

### *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.

### *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/)

### *A New Satellite for Hams*

A retired commercial satellite is being re-configured for amateur use.

Uplinks, 145.925 and 145.975 MHz  
Downlinks, 435.075 and 435.275 MHz

See the link below for more info.

[http://www.southgatearc.org/news/jul2005/new\\_satellite.htm](http://www.southgatearc.org/news/jul2005/new_satellite.htm) .

### *Need Manuals or Tech Info for Your Radio?*

The following website has a lot of information for a very large number of amateur radios by many manufacturers.

<http://www.ham.dmz.ro/>

Give it a whirl the next time you need a manual, schematic, bulletin, or how to repair a problem.

### *Ring tones for Your Cell Phones*

Get a free Morse Ring tone at

<http://morsetones.no-ip.org>

### *Digital Formats for Amateur Radio*

From AL7OC, 11/5/2005

-----  
D-STAR VS APCO P-25 for Amateurs

-----  
A popular debate which seems to creep into most threads is whether amateurs should adopt the D-STAR digital standard, or the APCO P-25 standard for digital voice/data radios.

From an engineering perspective, are there any significant technical merits of the P25 standard which would justify the higher cost for this technology? Why would I want to buy an Icom F1721D P25 radio instead of my ID-800H?

I don't see amateur interoperability with public safety communications systems a big issue. Currently, you cannot legally use a radio certified for Part 97 amateur use in a Part 90 licensed land mobile system. Likewise, unless they are licensed amateurs, public safety officials cannot transmit

messages on the amateur bands. I am a volunteer Search and Rescue K9 handler and have both amateur and Part 90 certified radios. I can't legally reprogram my ham radio for use outside the ham bands, and I can't justify the cost of getting a Part 90 certified radio for both Part 90 public safety and amateur work.

As I have stated before, I am an avid fan of recycling commercial radio equipment in the amateur service. The vintage Motorola and GE land mobile equipment that I have is rugged and performs very well on the air. The initial outlay for older surplus equipment was often less than \$100, and for the cost of a few crystal pairs, you could be on the air.

Newer land mobile radios are a different matter to convert to amateur use. Just about all new radios require programming software and cables to re-channel. Unless you are a radio shop tech, most of this equipment is difficult or very expensive to come by. Also, the price of P25 surplus equipment is still high compared to new D-STAR equipment. Even if you get a great buy on a P25 radio, there is that problem of getting it programmed on the amateur bands. The commercial radios are not made to be user programmable so if you want to put in a new repeater pair, it means a trip to a radio shop or the purchase of the proprietary programming tools to do it yourself.

I think that the best bet for amateurs is to adopt and use the D-STAR standard for now. It is economically priced and based on my limited experience, it performs its basic functions well enough. There is always room for improvement, but that is the fun of new technology - taking part in its evolution.

Seriously - if you have compelling reasons for amateurs adopting P25, please share them with us. Your arguments should include the costs vs. benefits. I don't care who owns the P25 technology licenses - I want to know how much it is going to cost me to license the P25 technology and implement it.

Thanks in advance for your insights. We need differing opinions so that we can all make well

informed decisions on where to go with digital radio technology.

Editor Note: If you have any comments on digital formats for amateur radio, please send them to *The Feedline*.

### *xMax Technology, Is It Good?*

Here is an article about a new low wattage, very high performance wireless technology, which is being treated as ... we, you decide.

<http://www.techworld.com/mobility/news/index.cfm?NewsID=4722&inkc=0>

The xG Technology site is:  
<http://www.xgtechnology.com/>

## For Sale and Advertisers

### *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.

#### FOR SALE

- Azden PCS-7500 6 meter FM, 50 watt mobile rig. \$200.00
- Cushcraft R-5, HF vertical \$30
- Alinco DR-MO3 10 meter fm mobile. \$50.00
- Glen Martin RT-832 8' roof tower with TB-25 thrust bearing \$250.00
- Hy-gain/Telex CD-45 II Rotor with 100' cable \$325.00
- Hy-Gain/Telex 3 element 15 meter beam with BN-86 Balun \$150.00

If interested call Kevin KF9AQ at 608-273-0956

#### 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 information.

## FOR SALE



The Yaesu FT-2800M is a compact 2m mobile 65 Watt FM transceiver. The radio has a large backlit 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)

## FOR SALE

Great Prices -- local ham selling as follows:

- Vertical antenna - Eagle by Gap - list \$239 plus shipping, now \$50.
- Rig Blaster - manual uncertain but guaranteed, list \$129 - now \$20.
- 2 coax cables - make offer.

Bill Gulley, KB9SUP, 218-9293,

[bgulley@charter.net](mailto:bgulley@charter.net)

## FOR SALE

Mosley TA-33 3 element/3 band beam. \$50.00

Pick up only, no shipping.

Roger, K9EMG at +1 (608) 221-8496.

## FOR SALE

The following antennas are available for sale.

1. Force 12 C3SS
2. Cushcraft Ringo Ranger - ARX - 2
3. Cushcraft AR - 270B
4. Cushcraft A 50 - 3S
5. Cushcraft 13B - 2
6. Cushcraft A 443 - 22 element  
144 MHz, 169" boom
7. Homemade Whip antenna 220 ?  
Ground plane configuration
8. Cushcraft? 2 meter - 4 element
9. Cushcraft Ringo ?
10. Larson Kuland YA - 2 - 450,  
Frequency 450 -470 MHz
11. Drake? 2.4 GHz with Drake  
Down converter to 2 meters

These antennas can be viewed in Madison, WI by contacting Dave Carlson, via e-mail

[djbejaj@tds.net](mailto:djbejaj@tds.net) or phone 262-539-2765 and a time can be arranged to view the antennas.

## FOR SALE

The following items are for sale:

- M-18, 50-foot, Glen Martin tower with a Hazer 6 tram system for antenna mounting.
- XP-70 Series Sommer antenna which appears to be a 706 model or 708 model.
- Miscellaneous feed line and tower guy wires.
- Antenna rotor (no current information on what unit it is, or whether it works).

Tower is located in Madison, Wisconsin, and further information can be obtained by calling Steve, W9RAL, at 608-345-2286. Proceeds from the sale of this equipment is being donated by the Family of Mas Iyama to the Big Project work in our area and supported by FLARC.

## 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)

### **HyGain Repairs From Don, W9IXG**

If anyone wants their HyGain rotator refurbished, UW alumnus, Pete Byfield, K9VAL, (k9val@arrl.net) comes highly recommended, having completed repairs on the BARS unit at the University. Pete has a complete stock of parts for all common HyGain (now MFJ) rotators. But, the most important thing is he really knows how to rebuild the rotator so it comes back to you like new or better!! Little things like that make a world of difference for the long term. Plus, his prices are very fair.

# Contest Information

## WA7BNM 13-Month Contest Calendar

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> .

<b>November, 2005</b>	
IPARC Contest, CW	0600Z-1000Z, Nov 5 and
	1400Z-1800Z, Nov 5
Ukrainian DX Contest	1200Z, Nov 5 to 1200Z, Nov 6
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW	2100Z, Nov 5 to 0300Z, Nov 7
NA Collegiate ARC Championship, CW	2100Z, Nov 5 to 0300Z, Nov 7
IPARC Contest, SSB	0600Z-1000Z, Nov 6 and
	1400Z-1800Z, Nov 6
High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z-1100Z, Nov 6 and
	1500Z-1700Z, Nov 6
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Nov 6
NCCC Thursday Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Nov 10
WAE DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Nov 12 to 2359Z, Nov 13
JIDX Phone Contest	0700Z, Nov 12 to 1300Z, Nov 13
SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Nov 12 to 1000Z, Nov 13
OK/OM DX Contest, CW	1200Z, Nov 12 to 1200Z, Nov 13
LZ DX Contest	1200Z, Nov 19 to 1200Z, Nov 20
EUCW Fraternizing CW QSO Party	1500Z-1700Z, Nov 19 (20m) and
	1800Z-2000Z, Nov 19 (40m) and
	0700Z-0900Z, Nov 20 (40m) and
	1000Z-1200Z, Nov 20 (20m)
All Austrian 160-Meter Contest	1600Z, Nov 19 to 0700Z, Nov 20
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB	2100Z, Nov 19 to 0300Z, Nov 21
NA Collegiate ARC Championship, SSB	2100Z, Nov 19 to 0300Z, Nov 21
RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz Contest, CW	2100Z, Nov 19 to 0100Z, Nov 20
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Nov 26 to 2400Z, Nov 27

<b>December, 2005</b>	
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	2200Z, Dec 2 to 1600Z, Dec 4
TARA RTTY Melee	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 3
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0400Z-0600Z, Dec 3
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	0000Z, Dec 10 to 2400Z, Dec 11
CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	0200Z-0359Z, Dec 11
Russian 160-Meter Contest	2100Z-2300Z, Dec 16
MDXA PSK DeathMatch	0000Z, Dec 17 to 2400Z, Dec 18

OK DX RTTY Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 17
RAC Winter Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 17
Croatian CW Contest	1400Z, Dec 17 to 1400Z, Dec 18
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Dec 17 to 1500Z, Dec 18
DARC Christmas Contest	0830Z-1059Z, Dec 26

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

*Revision Date: March 13, 2005*

*© 1998-2005 Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, All Rights Reserved*

Information is also available from the ARRL contest web site <http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html> and the ARRL Contest Rate Sheet at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/>. You can also get the Rate Sheet emailed to you once a week. (You may have to copy these URL's into your browser to make them work.)

## N2CQ QRP CONTEST CALENDAR

### November 2005 QRP CONTEST CALENDAR

**40 METER FOXHUNT - Each Friday 0200z to 0329z**

(Thurs 9 PM to 10:29 PM EST)

Info: <http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org>

**HA-QRP Contest (CW - 80 Meters) \*\*\* QRP Contest\*\*\***

Nov 1, 0000z to Nov 7, 2400z

Rules: <http://www.radiovilag.hu/hagrqp1.htm#32>.

**Ukrainian DX Contest (CW/SSB/Dig) ... QRP Category**

Nov 5, 1200z to Nov 6, 1200z

Rules: [http://www.ucc.zp.ua/urdx2005rules\\_eng.htm](http://www.ucc.zp.ua/urdx2005rules_eng.htm)

**ARRL Sweepstakes (CW) ... QRP Category**

Nov 5, 2100z to Nov 7, 0300z

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

**High Speed Club Contest (CW) ... QRP Category**

Nov 6, 0900z to 1100z and 1500z to 1700z

Rules: <http://www.dl3bzz.de/html/hsscconte.html>

**Adventure Radio Society - Spartan Sprint (CW) \*\*\* QRP Contest\*\*\***

Nov 8, 0200z to 0400z (First Monday 9 PM EST)

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

**WAE RTTY Contest (Digital)... 100W Category**

Nov 12, 0000z to Nov 13, 2359z

Rules: <http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/xedcwr.htm>

---

**Japan International DX Contest (phone)... 100w category**

Nov 12, 0700z to Nov 13, 1300z

Rules: <http://je1cka.jzap.com/jidx/jidrule-e.html>

---

**OK/OM DX Contest (CW) ... QRP Category!**

Nov 12, 1200z to Nov 13, 1200z

Rules: <http://okomdx.crk.cz/>

---

**NACC 80M/40M Straight Key/Bug Sprint \*\*\* QRP CONTEST! \*\*\***

Nov 17, 0130z to 0330z

Rules: <http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/contests.html>

---

**LZ DX CONTEST (CW/SSB) ... QRP Category**

Nov 19, 1200z to Nov 20, 1200z

Rules: <http://www.qsl.net/lz1fw/contest/>

---

**ARRL Sweepstakes (Phone) ... QRP Category**

Nov 19, 2100z to Nov 21, 0300z

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

---

**HOT Party (CW) ... QRP Category**

Nov 20, 1300z to 1500z (40 Meters)

Nov 20, 1500z to 1700z (80 Meters)

(HOMEBREW & OLDTIME - EQUIPMENT - PARTY)

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

---

**RUN FOR THE BACON (CW) \*\*\* QRP CONTEST! \*\*\***

Nov 21, 0100z to 0300z

Rules: <http://fpgrp.com>

---

**CQ World Wide DX Contest (CW) ... QRP Category!**

Nov 26, 0000z to Nov 27, 2400z

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

---

**80 METER FOXHUNT**

Nov 30, 0200z to 0329z (Tue Nov 29, 9 PM to 10:29 PM EST)

Info: <http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org>

---

**QRP BARBERSHOP QUARTET CONTEST (CW QRP)... QRP Contest!**

Nov 30, 2100 EST to 2300 EST

Rules: [http://www.io.com/~n5fc/barbershop\\_contest.htm](http://www.io.com/~n5fc/barbershop_contest.htm)

---

Thanks to K3WWP, LA9HW, SM3CER, WA7BNM, ARRL and others for assistance in compiling this calendar.

Ken Newman - N2CQ

[N2CQ@ARRL.NET](mailto:N2CQ@ARRL.NET)

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

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

\*Ed Note: Thanks to Terry, WU9F, for providing the information for our newsletter.

## General Information

### 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 the MDXC Scholarship Fund.

- Payment is included with this form.  
Make checks payable to the MDXC Scholarship Fund
- Payment will be made on or before \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_  
Please note that MDXC expects to award scholarships annually in May and make payouts at the end of each year.

NAME (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

.....