



The Feedline

"W9JZ – SERVING AMATEUR RADIO SINCE 1933"

VOL. 24 – No. 10

October, 2003

2003 FLARC Officers

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

Board Members at Large

Bud Morin K9ZT
George Shands W9WUU
Doug Ward W9DCQ

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 8:00 AM at the Green Lantern on the west end of Siggelkow Road in McFarland. The Westside Zilch is at 10:30 AM at Village Green at 7508 Hubbard Ave in Middleton. See you there.

Madison Area InfoNet: Thursday evenings on 147.15 at 8 PM; 146.76 is the backup frequency. Traffic and check-ins are welcome.

Madison Ham Web Page

Website is at www.qsl.net/flarc Keep checking the links page for new goodies!

Meeting dates and programs

Prez Says –

Greetings to all!

The September meeting turned into a rather exciting one, with both **BPL** (Broadband over Power Lines), **The Big Project** (ARRL outreach program to schools), taking up most of the discussion.

Daniel/W9DGI and George/W9WUU each brought tapes (video and audio), demonstrating the type of interference we can expect if BPL becomes the law of the land. As a result of the presentation, motions were put forward to commit Club funds to support the ARRL's efforts in monitoring the field tests and publicizing their findings.

And it was at that point that, except for the vigilance of several of the members in attendance, we'd have run afoul of the bylaws by committing too much of the Club's funds without a public notice to the general membership.

ATTENTION - - ATTENTION - - we have a motion before the Club to commit a substantial amount of the Treasury balance for the purpose of supporting the ARRL's efforts to publicize the test data showing the impact on the RF spectrum. Please attend this month's general meeting and cast your ballot to vote your conscience on what we as a club should do on this issue.

At present, we have committed \$200 of the Club's resources to this effort - - the limit permitted without specific notice to the General Membership. The proposal before the body is to commit an additional \$800, raising the Club's support to \$1000.

One of our generous club members has made an anonymous contribution to the Club in support of the ARRL position; that \$50. has been forwarded to ARRL along with the Club's \$200. authorized at the last meeting. I publicly thank the anonymous club member on behalf of the Club.

Speaking of generosity - - Jim/KG9PT has fabricated several 2 meter J-pole antennas, and has contributed them to the club. Persons who can make constructive use of such an antenna are

invited to contact a Club officer. Jim also announced that he has an older Drake lineup that he'd like to see go on the air again in the hands of a young ham - - while we are looking first for a school radio club that might be able to use it, individuals will also be considered.

The other big topic from our last meeting is **The Big Project**, where we as a Club will be committing some of our time and expertise in assisting a local school or two in setting up a ham radio program. We've gotten some nibbles of interest from Stoughton and Mount Horeb schools, and are looking for members who will be willing to share some of their enthusiasm and radio skills with potential hams of the future. If you'd like to show off your favorite mode of operation, or answer some of the 'how does this work?' type of questions, we'd love to have your help in enriching the lives of potential hams. For those of you who'd rather not be in front of the audience, we'll need off-site hams to talk to in QSO demonstrations, too.

And we should mention the featured topic of this month's meeting!! Don/W9IXG, will enlighten us on the topic of antennas. I think 'wire antennas' will be the primary focus, but Don can provide enlightenment on many of the different types of antennas that are used in amateur service.

73,
Frederick

FLARC Treasurer Report 9/16/2003

Balance in the treasury is \$3,812.98.
Membership: 89 members.

Don, W9IXG

The Big Project

ARRL Big Project

By: Don Michalski, W9IXG, Section Manager

It was a pleasure to give a short presentation on the ARRL Big Project, the Amateur Radio Education & Technology Program, at the recent FLARC club meeting on September 16.

I'd like to summarize my presentation by saying that this is a cooperative educational program between the ARRL, a local school and local ham club. An exciting venture where students learn about Wireless Technology using material provided by the ARRL. The goal-- to improve the quality of education by providing a sound curriculum focused on wireless communications. We all know that wireless technology is an integral part of our daily lives. The world's economies depend on the free and timely flow of information... Wireless Technology is how information flows! In today's hi-tech world, employers need workers who are familiar not only with computers but also with wireless communications concepts. Applications of Amateur Radio in the classroom help students become employable, informed, conscientious citizens.

The project emphasizes integration of technology, math, science, geography, writing, speaking and social responsibility within a global society. Amateur Radio is a significant resource for the classroom teacher in the education of America's youth for life and work in a global, technological society. Amateur Radio, of course, encourages investigation and experimentation as a basis for understanding subjects.

The program includes curriculum guidance, administrative assistance, publications related to the use of technology in wireless communications, an on-line sourcebook, lesson plans and projects to help teachers provide authentic, hands-on technology experiences for their students. Also, the ARRL provides an amateur radio station for qualifying schools and progress grants to sustain the program for years to come!

What is needed from FLARC is the expertise to assist the school to establish the station, provide the technical assistance, and partake in communications demonstrations and experiments.

For this program to work successfully, it will take a long-term commitment from FLARC to assist the school. It is a perfect opportunity for FLARC with its large base of experienced amateurs to help youngsters get a practical education in the sciences and, hopefully, get them into amateur radio, too! I was encouraged to hear that there might be two schools- one in Mt. Horeb and one in Stoughton and that Jim Patch, WA9LJK, and Betsy Baguhn, WN9GOC, were interested to help get this started in those schools. But, we need more FLARC members to participate!

Additional information and FAQs on the Big Project can be found at this site: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/tbp/> This is an exciting program and I hope that FLARC takes the lead in Wisconsin! 73, Don, W9IXG
Wisconsin Section Manager

MDXC Scholarship Program

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

A Request

Jim Emery, KG9PT, who is donating the J-poles mentioned above, would like to acquire a short wave receiver for a disabled friend. It could be a general-purpose receiver or one for amateur use but should cover 80, 40, 20, and 15 meters. If you have something he could use, call him at 608-233-4172.

Programs

We need some more ideas or topics for programs to present at the meetings. So let us hear from you.

FLARC Web Site

The FLARC URL is <http://www.qsl.net/flarc> If you see any errors, please let us know.

Elmers

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

VE Program

Tim, WO9U, is the VE Team Chairman. The exams are given at SPACE PLACE on South Park Street on the FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH.

Wisconsin Section

Keep in touch with the ham action in Wisconsin by going to the Wisconsin section website: <http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=WI>. The old site: www.w9ixg.eboard.com is no longer available.

73, Don

Buck Nite

The winner was Frank Holliday, WB9NOV.

WAS Checker.

Checker for the WAS Award is Gari, NG9V. When you are ready, just contact him; he'll be glad to do it, 608-221-2022 or gberliot@ameritech.net.

BUY — SELL — TRADE

ATTENTION FLARC MEMBERS: If you have amateur radio or computer items that you would like to BUY, SELL, or TRADE, you can do it in the *Feedline*. There is no charge for non-commercial advertising.

Mission Statement

The Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club

The Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club (F.L.A.R.C.) is a non-profit, general interest club that exists to promote the growth and enjoyment of Amateur Radio in South-Central Wisconsin. The club's mission is to encourage new operators, enhance the skills and interests of those already licensed and to provide communications in the event of disasters or other emergencies. To accomplish this mission, F.L.A.R.C. will:

- Schedule regular meetings with informational programs and the opportunity for informal fellowship.
- Publish a monthly newsletter for the membership.
- Sponsor training classes.
- Sponsor Volunteer Examinations.

Birthdays

October

9 K9ZT—Bud Morin
10 KA9MTH—Timothy Gable
24 N9CHN—Bill Hanold

November

6 KC9CBT—Sarah E. Baguhn
12 AA9HS—Chuck Hansen
15 K9EMG—Roger Deicher

Web Sites:

MARA www.qsl.net/mara
WAR www.wi-repeaters.org
MDXC <http://www.madisondxclub.org>
N9MW <http://www.n9mw.com> (DX-Cluster)
Dane County
ARES/RACES <http://kb9orn.eboard.com>
(has a current listing of Public Service Events)

Note: The Wisconsin Association of Repeaters (WAR) site will provide a current list of all repeaters in the state of Wisconsin. You can get the list sorted by frequency, by city or by region. The list has the offset, tone frequency, availability of auto patch, emergency power, owner, if open and if it's associated with emergency nets.

MDXC works with Internet Explorer and not with some versions of Netscape.

Other interesting sites are www.qsl.net and www.qrz.com. There are many, many links to other sites, which promote things from antennas, antenna construction to software. Also www.ac6v.com and www.cpcug.org/user/wfeidt/index.htm are full of links about ham radio. The latter is NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX page with the link ADXO, Announced DX Operations.

If you click on some of these URLs, they may not work and you will get an error message. They are OK if you type them into your browser.

For Sale

SK equipment for sale by widow:

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

Contact Nancy Henry, 831-9367

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

The club is always looking for advertisers for our club. This helps defray the cost of the news letter some. If you have a candidate(s) in mind; see Don or any board member for details. It is a good way for some business to get exposure and help the club out. It isn't very expensive at all. Contact Don, W9IXG or Federick Baguhn, W9GOC.

Tom's Auto Clinic

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

Steve – N9CK

Marylynn – K9SAM

WA7BNM 13-Month Contest Calendar

Last updated September 26, 2003

Please send corrections and additions directly to Bruce Horn, WA7BNM

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

Please note that you may not be able to operate during all of the total hours of the contests listed below. Total operating time may also vary by entry category. See individual contest rules for allowed operating hours.

October, 2003

SARL 80-Meter QSO Party	1700Z	- 2000Z, Oct 2
TARA PSK31 Rumble	0000Z	- 2400Z, Oct 4
Oceania DX Contest, Phone	0800Z, Oct 4	- 0800Z, Oct 5
EU Autumn Sprint, SSB	1500Z	- 1859Z, Oct 4
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 4	- 2200Z, Oct 5
QCWA QSO Party	1800Z, Oct 4	- 1800Z, Oct 5
RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest, SSB	0700Z	- 1900Z, Oct 5
YLRL Anniversary Party, CW	1400Z, Oct 8	- 0200Z, Oct 10
10-10 Day Sprint	0001Z	- 2400Z, Oct 10
Oceania DX Contest, CW	0800Z, Oct 11	- 0800Z, Oct 12
EU Autumn Sprint, CW	1500Z	- 1859Z, Oct 11
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 11	- 0500Z, Oct 12 and
	1300Z	- 2200Z, Oct 12
FISTS Fall Sprint	1700Z	- 2100Z, Oct 11
Iberoamericano Contest	2000Z, Oct 11	- 2000Z, Oct 12
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z	- 0400Z, Oct 12
YLRL Anniversary Party, SSB	1400Z, Oct 15	- 0200Z, Oct 17
JARTS WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Oct 18	- 2400Z, Oct 19
ARCI Fall QSO Party	1200Z, Oct 18	- 2400Z, Oct 19
Worked All Germany Contest	1500Z, Oct 18	- 1459Z, Oct 19
W/VE Islands QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 18	- 2359Z, Oct 19
Asia-Pacific Sprint, CW	0000Z	- 0200Z, Oct 19
RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest, CW	0700Z	- 1900Z, Oct 19
Illinois QSO Party	1800Z, Oct 19	- 0200Z, Oct 20
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 25	- 2400Z, Oct 26
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW	0001Z, Oct 25	- 2400Z, Oct 26

November, 2003

IPA Contest, CW	0600Z	- 1000Z, Nov 1 and
	1400Z	- 1800Z, Nov 1
Ukrainian DX Contest	1200Z, Nov 1	- 1200Z, Nov 2
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW	2100Z, Nov 1	- 0300Z, Nov 3

North American Collegiate ARC Championship, CW	2100Z, Nov 1	- 0300Z, Nov 3
QRP ARCI Running of the QRP Bulls	2100Z, Nov 1	- 0300Z, Nov 3
IPA Contest, SSB	0600Z	- 1000Z, Nov 2 and
	1400Z	- 1800Z, Nov 2
High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z	- 1100Z, Nov 2 and
	1500Z	- 1700Z, Nov 2
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z	- 1700Z, Nov 2
WAE DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Nov 8	- 2359Z, Nov 9
Japan Int. DX Contest, Phone	0700Z, Nov 8	- 1300Z, Nov 9
SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Nov 8	- 1000Z, Nov 9
OK/OM DX Contest, CW	1200Z, Nov 8	- 1200Z, Nov 9
Anatolian ATA PSK31 Contest	1800Z	- 2400Z, Nov 8
All Austrian 160-Meter Contest	1600Z, Nov 15	- 0700Z, Nov 16
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB	2100Z, Nov 15	- 0300Z, Nov 17
North American Collegiate ARC Championship, SSB	2100Z, Nov 15	- 0300Z, Nov 17
RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest, CW	2100Z, Nov 15	- 0100Z, Nov 16
LZ DX Contest	1200Z, Nov 22	- 1200Z, Nov 23
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Nov 29	- 2400Z, Nov 30

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

Revision Date: September 26, 2003

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Information is also available from the ARRL contest web site

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html> and the ARRL Contest Rate Sheet at

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/>. You can also get the Rate Sheet emailed to you once a week.

**Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club Membership Mail-
In Application**

Date: _____ Callsign: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Month & Day of Birth: (optional) _____

E-mail address: _____

ARRL Member: Yes ___ No ___

Newsletter delivery:

Email: _____ Standard Mail: _____

Dues: \$20 regular, \$17 Senior (65 plus), \$10 Student, \$14 additional family members.

(one newsletter per family)

Mail check and completed application form to:

**FLARC c/o Don Michalski
4214 Mohawk Dr.
Madison, WI 53711**