



The Feedline

“W9JZ – SERVING AMATEUR RADIO SINCE 1933”

VOL. 25 – No. 10

October, 2004

2003 FLARC Officers

Frederick Baguhn W9GOC - President
John Steffl K0ZYA - Vice President
Gary Muskat KA9SRM - Secretary
Don Michalski W9IXG – Treasurer

Board Members at Large

Phil Carlson WB0CLI
Bud Morin K9ZT
Doug Ward W9DCQ

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS, etc.

Our club meetings are usually held the third Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross building in Madison, 4860 Sheboygan Avenue. Regular meetings start with the business meeting at 7:30 PM, followed by the program unless otherwise noted. They are subject to change.

Saturday morning “Zilch” locations

The Eastside Zilch (ham breakfasts) are at 7:30 AM at the Green Lantern on the west end of Siggelkow Road in McFarland. The Westside Zilch is at 10:00 AM at Village Green at 7508 Hubbard Ave in Middleton. See you there.

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

Madison Ham Web Page

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

Meeting dates and programs

Prez Says –

Greetings to all!

The September meeting was different from our norm - - actual electronics troubleshooting of the novice transmitter that George/W9WUU built back in the days when even old geezers like me were unimaginably young. Don and Doug and others did some real testing, and George took the radio home to deal with the recommended component adjustments. Thank you to all who participated in this cooperative venture!

I also extend thanks to Joe/K9KVA, who brought junk/junque box treasures to share. There were ‘vintage’ components (carbon resistors, paper capacitors, switches, microphone plugs, etc.) as well as muffin fans, cable thimbles, terminal strips and other stuff appropriate to warm a ham’s heart. Pocketfuls of goodies went off to grace the shacks and projects of many new owners, instead of becoming recycling fodder.

We didn’t get a chance to hear of Don/W9IXG’s construction adventures with his Elecraft KX-1, so Don has graciously agreed to do a return engagement and will be THE featured attraction for this month’s meeting.

The KX-1 is a QRP level multi-band transceiver that demonstrates current technology - - digital frequency synthesis, variable bandwidth filtering, electronic keyer, etc.

Upcoming activities - - October 16-17 brings the Jamboree on the Air, where we hope to offer the area Scouts a chance to talk to Scouts via ham radio. Space Place is the location; we’ll be looking for hams to help, either on site or as over-the-air contacts. The 16th is also the scheduled date for the ARES Simulated Emergency Test - - the radio room at Space Place is going to be busy!

73,

Frederick

FLARC Treasurer Report

9/21/2004: Balance in the treasury is \$4,408.42.
9/28/2004: There are 104 members.

Don, W9IXG

ARRL Proposal to Regulate Amateur Subbands by Signal Bandwidth

The ARRL is planning to petition the FCC to regulate the amateur subbands by signal bandwidth instead of by mode of emission as it is currently done and is asking the amateur community to give the League their comments. The scheme is too complicated and long to put in this newsletter. Ignoring the fine points, roughly the idea is to divide a band, e.g., 40 meters, into subbands. The lowest frequency subband would allow only signals of bandwidth less than or equal to 200 Hz, the next higher subband would only allow signals of bandwidth less than or equal to 500 Hz, the next subband 3 KHz; there might be more subbands and the maximum allowed bandwidth 6 KHz or, in some cases, 100 KHz. There are other possibilities. There is also stuff about automatic operation, robots, and WinLink which this editor has not been able to comprehend. Someone with experience in digital modes needs to explain some of this for me.

The proposal is at <http://www.arrl.org/announce/bandwidth.html> . A member of the ARRL committee has written a dissenting report at <http://www.zerobeat.net/bandplan-dissent.html>. There are discussions at www.qrz.com and www.radio-info/mods/board?Post-251682&Board=ham and more at radio-info. Also www.eham.net/speakout/opinions/328 and more at eham.net.

The idea is probably in the right direction but the details and the consequences from them need to be better understood, especially the consequences. Perhaps it should be gone over again by an ARRL committee with broader representation than just the HF digital community, even though considerable time has already been put in on this by the ARRL. [The other night I spent the evening reading through 52 pages of QRZ.com's forum with all its

repetition. It's amazing some of the comments. If the ARRL gave some people sugar they would say that it's too salty and, if they got salt, they would say that it's too sweet! Ya can't win!]

BPL Information

The following is quoted from the Society of Midwest Contesters' email list:

State Regulator Exploring Broadband Over Power Lines
10/6/2004

Note the past tense to the first sentence. I suspect most all of the public was not informed about this.

By John Bartholomew (WIBC radio)

The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission hosted a public forum to talk about using power lines to provide broadband internet service.

The technology would turn every outlet into computer port, according to Jay Birnbaum with Current Communications.

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The technology would turn every outlet into computer port, according to Jay Birnbaum with Current Communications.

"We use different frequencies than your electricity travels over... so the two signals don't interfere. They really don't even notice each other," he says.

Birnbaum says the spectrum used is shared by amateur ham radio operators but specific bands have been filtered out to eliminate interference.

Cinergy plans to provide this service to customers in 2005. Birnbaum says the service is now available in Cincinnati, where it's already grabbed 16 percent of the broadband market.

CWRA SwapNet

The CWRA Sunday Morning SwapNet (146.880) 10:00 AM local time, is in need of an additional Net Control Station. This is a very popular net where ham radio equipment, parts and information are exchanged, and occasional announcements of upcoming events are heard.

Net control stations take turns; if a fourth operator will step forward, your rotation will come up once every 4 weeks.

There are exceptions to the schedule; weekends with 'local' hamfests or holidays are "pass" weekends, so the net control operators can participate in the hamfest or holiday festivities without feeling tethered to their transceivers.

Details, operating procedures, etc can be discovered by contacting Ed/N9MW ; ed@n9mw.com , or catch him (or another net control station) on the air on Sunday mornings, 146.880 MHz (minus offset, PL 123.0 Hz)

Technician Class

There was a Technician License Workshop September 18 and 19 at the Space Place, 1605 S. Park St., Madison, WI 53715. There were thirteen students, twelve took the exam, and eleven passed.

The next Technician License Workshop will be held February 19 and 20, 2005.

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

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>.

73, Don

Buck Nite

Gary Muskat, KA9SRM, won the buck.

Awards Checkers

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

Checker for the VUCC awards is Richard, K9APW. Contact him at 608-833-0011 or k9apw@arrl.net.

BUY — SELL — TRADE

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

Mission Statement

The Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club

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

- Schedule regular meetings with informational programs and the opportunity for informal fellowship.

- Publish a monthly newsletter for the membership.
- Sponsor training classes.
- Sponsor Volunteer Examinations.

Birthdays

October:

- 9 K9ZT—Bud Morin
- 10 KA9MTH—Timthy Gable
- 26 N9CHN—Bill Hanold
- 31 W5ECC—Wesley French

November:

- 6 KC9CBT—Sarah E. Baguhn
- 15 K9EMG—Roger Deicher

Web Sites:

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

Dane County ARES/RACES

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dane_co_ares-races/
(has a current listing of Public Service Events)

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

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

Other interesting sites are www.gsl.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:

FLARC has RG-213 in stock for 47 cents per foot.
PL 259 connectors are \$1.25 each.
100MFD/450VDC electrolytic capacitors (NOS) \$1.50 ea or 4 for \$5.00.

For Sale:

Tektronix Type 535 Oscilloscope
Plig-in unit # 53/54K

Contact KC9GDI, Woody Pfeffer, 608-592-5313.

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

Phasor Labs

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.

WA7BNM 13-Month Contest Calendar

Last updated September 28, 2004

Please send corrections and additions directly to Bruce Horn, WA7BNM

The calendar below was obtained from <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal> . A [text version](#) of this calendar is also available.

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, 2004

TARA PSK Rumble Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Oct 2
Oceania DX Contest, Phone	0800Z, Oct 2 to 0800Z, Oct 3
International HELL-Contest	1400Z-1600Z, Oct 2 and 0900Z-1100Z, Oct 3
EU Autumn Sprint, SSB	1500Z-1859Z, Oct 2
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 2 to 2200Z, Oct 3
UBA ON Contest, SSB	0600Z-1000Z, Oct 3
RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest, SSB	0700Z-1900Z, Oct 3
German Telegraphy Contest	0700Z-0959Z, Oct 3
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Oct 5
YLRL Anniversary Party, CW	1400Z, Oct 6 to 0200Z, Oct 8
432 MHz Fall Sprint	1900 local -2300 local , Oct 6
SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Oct 7
Makrothen RTTY Contest	0000Z-0800Z, Oct 9 and 1600Z-2400Z, Oct 9 and 0800Z-1600Z, Oct 10
Oceania DX Contest, CW	0800Z, Oct 9 to 0800Z, Oct 10
EU Autumn Sprint, CW	1500Z-1859Z, Oct 9
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 9 to 0500Z, Oct 10 and 1300Z-2200Z, Oct 10
FISTS Fall Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Oct 9
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Oct 10
10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint	0001Z-2359Z, Oct 10
UBA ON Contest, CW	0600Z-1000Z, Oct 10
YLRL Anniversary Party, SSB	1400Z, Oct 13 to 0200Z, Oct 15

JARTS WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Oct 16 to 2400Z, Oct 17
Microwave Fall Sprint	0600 local -1300 local , Oct 16
Worked All Germany Contest	1500Z, Oct 16 to 1459Z, Oct 17
Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW	0000Z-0200Z, Oct 17
UBA ON Contest, 2m	0600Z-1000Z, Oct 17
RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest, CW	0700Z-1900Z, Oct 17
Illinois QSO Party	1800Z, Oct 17 to 0200Z, Oct 18
ARCI Fall QSO Party	1200Z, Oct 23 to 2400Z, Oct 24
W/VE Islands QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 23 to 2359Z, Oct 24
50 MHz Fall Sprint	2300Z, Oct 23 to 0300Z, Oct 24
FISTS Coast to Coast Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Oct 24
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 30 to 2400Z, Oct 31
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW	0001Z, Oct 30 to 2359Z, Oct 31

November, 2004

ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Nov 2
IPARC Contest, CW	0600Z-1000Z, Nov 6 and 1400Z-1800Z, Nov 6
Ukrainian DX Contest	1200Z, Nov 6 to 1200Z, Nov 7
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW	2100Z, Nov 6 to 0300Z, Nov 8
NA Collegiate ARC Championship, CW	2100Z, Nov 6 to 0300Z, Nov 8
IPARC Contest, SSB	0600Z-1000Z, Nov 7 and 1400Z-1800Z, Nov 7
High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z-1100Z, Nov 7 and 1500Z-1700Z, Nov 7
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Nov 7
WAE DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Nov 13 to 2359Z, Nov 14
JIDX Phone Contest	0700Z, Nov 13 to 1300Z, Nov 14
SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Nov 13 to 1000Z, Nov 14
OK/OM DX Contest, CW	1200Z, Nov 13 to 1200Z, Nov 14
LZ DX Contest	1200Z, Nov 20 to 1200Z, Nov 21
EUCW Fraternizing CW QSO Party	1500Z-1700Z, Nov 20 and 1800Z-2000Z, Nov 20 and 0700Z-0900Z, Nov 21 and 1000Z-1200Z, Nov 21
All Austrian 160-Meter Contest	1600Z, Nov 20 to 0700Z, Nov 21
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB	2100Z, Nov 20 to 0300Z, Nov 22
NA Collegiate ARC Championship, SSB	2100Z, Nov 20 to 0300Z, Nov 22
RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz Contest, CW	2100Z, Nov 20 to 0100Z, Nov 21
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Nov 27 to 2400Z, Nov 28

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

Revision Date: September 28, 2004

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

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

Date: _____ Callsign: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Month & Day of Birth: (optional) _____

E-mail address: _____

ARRL Member: Yes ___ No ___

Newsletter delivery:

Email: _____ Standard Mail: _____

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

(one newsletter per family)

Mail check and completed application form to:

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

MDXC Scholarship Contribution Form

Mail to Bill Hanold, N3304 Tipperary Point Rd., Poynette, WI 53955

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.madisonxclub.org>. You may contact us at scholarship@madisonxclub.org.

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

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