

Volume 2, Issue 8  
OVARC E-Mail

August  
2010

# E-Mail Newsletter



## Just a Reminder...

### CLUB MEETINGS

First Thursday each month  
at 7:30 PM  
KC Greenville Learning  
Center  
(Kaskaskia College)  
209 N. Third St.  
Greenville, IL 62246

### CLUB NET

Sun. 9:00 PM - 147.165

*Linked Repeater System*

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## Club Repeaters

W9KXQ/R  
(PL 103.5)

147.165+  
224.440-

KB9EGI  
442.925+

*The Monthly Publication of the Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club*



## Field Day Wrap-Up



Our August, 2010 meeting will include a wrap of Field Day 2010 along with many photos of this year's event. Ken KK9N has compiled the photos taken by Larry KC9ITC & John W9KXQ

into a slide show you won't want to miss.

Additionally we will be working on plans for future meetings and programs and your Board of Officers needs your help. Plan now to be there.

Mark August 5, 2010 on your calendar now 7:30 PM



## MEETINGS TO PLAN FOR

**August 10, 2010**

Annual Bond County Fair Parade, Bond County Fairgrounds, Greenville. Allan Davis WB9YVE Parade Line up Chairman. Line up begins at 5:00 PM and we can use your help. Will be using the 2 Meter Repeater and will unlink it during the parade operations.

Use South entrance to fairgrounds and advise the gate you are there to help with the parade.

See you there!

**September 2, 2010**

This space needs to be filled with a program announcement for September. If you have a program idea, please contact the Editor.

John

W9KXQ@ovarc.net



The ARRL Letter is published Thursdays, 50 times each year. ARRL members may subscribe at no cost or unsubscribe by editing their Member Data Page as described at <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>.

To see the most current copy go to the following website:

The ARRL Letter (<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/index.html?issue=2010-07-08>)

If you are a member of ARRL, why not sign up for your weekly email copy?



### REPEATER UPDATES

W9KXQ 147.165 Repeater site

KB9EGI 442.925 Repeater site



442.925 Repeater back on this air. Controller unscrambled itself and the 2 meter system is up and running. A 2 Meter repeater, hosted by WS9V in Athens, IL on 147.045+ with 210.7 tone.

## Meeting Location for August 5, 2010 Meeting

The August 5th meeting will be in the Kaskaskia College Center in Greenville (the building that used to be the location of the hospital thrift store just south of the Dairy Queen on Third Street).



**Meeting location Kaskaskia College Greenville  
Education Center 209 N. Third St. Greenville,  
IL 62246**

**rear entrance**

**Future Dates this Location:**

**August 5, 2010—Room to be announced**

### **FCC to allow employees to participate in Emergency Communications training drills**

The FCC has adopted a Report and Order on Docket RM 10-124 that contains new and less stringent rules regarding employee participation in emergency communications training drills.

Specifically, the FCC is to amend the Part 97.113 of its rules to permit amateur radio operators to transmit messages for their employers under certain limited circumstances. This includes both government or non-government sponsored emergency and disaster preparedness drills, regardless of whether the operators are employees of entities participating in an exercise.

Under the newly modified 97.113, the amount of time employees are now allowed to participate in government sponsored drills is essentially unlimited. In the case of non government sponsored drills the limitation is one hour a week and two drill sessions of up to 72 hours per year.

In making its decision, the FCC categorically refuted all comments against the rules modification. The FCC essentially stated that improvement in the public's welfare by allowing such participation in emergency training outweighs any concern within the ham community that such a rules change would erode the non pecuniary interest and not for profit status of the amateur radio service.

The Report and order was released on July 14th. It should become effective 30 days after publication in the Federal Register.

The full document is on the FCC website at

[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/FCC-10-124A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-10-124A1.pdf)

or

[http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/FCC-10-124A1.doc](http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-10-124A1.doc)

## Minutes Highlights for July, 2010

The Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club did not meet during the month of July.



**Don KB9EGI (our BBQ Chef) explains to Hope KA9NRW & Donna KA9NYF that his name tag won't stick as Jerry WB9NEY looks on!**



## OVARC Information

### Repeaters

147.165, 224.440, 442.925

### 2010 Officers

#### President

John King W9KXQ  
[W9KXQ@ovarc.net](mailto:W9KXQ@ovarc.net)

#### Vice-President

Hope Walker KA9NRW  
[KA9NRW@ovarc.net](mailto:KA9NRW@ovarc.net)

#### Secretary

Cary Holman W4GRN  
[W4GRN@ovarc.net](mailto:W4GRN@ovarc.net)

#### Treasurer

Howard Wise N9GEQ  
[N9GEQ@ovarc.net](mailto:N9GEQ@ovarc.net)

#### Repeater Trustees

John King W9KXQ  
Don Stover KB9EGI  
[KB9EGI@ovarc.net](mailto:KB9EGI@ovarc.net)

#### V.E. Team Coordinator

Jim KF4NBG  
[KF4NBG@ovarc.net](mailto:KF4NBG@ovarc.net)

#### Net Manager

Clareen Dunn KB9BEB  
[KB9BEB@ovarc.net](mailto:KB9BEB@ovarc.net)

#### Webmaster

John King W9KXQ  
[webmaster@ovarc.net](mailto:webmaster@ovarc.net)

#### Website

<http://ovarc.net>

## Field Day 2010 is a wrap!



Lawton KC9SHY learns how to use the GOTA Station from John W9KXQ

The Internet wouldn't work but Mark (KA9NQG's Husband) provided Internet for the entire Field Day crew. Thanks Mark!



Donna KA9NYF & Jancie (WB9NEY's XYL) enjoy an Eyeball QSO!



Nancy (KF4NBG's XYL) carries a drink as Cameryn KC9SHF makes a contact on 2 Meter repeater.



## OVARC Field Day—Are You In This Photo?

Larry, KC9ITK was quick on the “camera shutter button” Did he catch you? Larry contributed the photos for this month’s E-Mail Newsletter.



### HAMFEST ANNOUNCEMENT

The West-Central Illinois Hamfest August 7, 2010 will be held in Carlinville, IL at the Macoupin County Fairgrounds. Setup at 6:00 AM, Hamfest open 7:00 AM to Noon. \$5.00 tailgate Charge. Sponsored by the Montgomery & Macoupin Amateur Radio Clubs. Talk-in on 444.250+ 103.5 tone or 146.82– repeaters.

Testing: Contact Gregg KI9Z at 217-854-8469

General & Vendor questions Contact Jim N9LQF 217-854-3352 or K9MCW@hotmail.com

Flyers available for download at Macoupin County ARC's website <http://k9mce.org/>

# WorldRadio Online

*WorldRadio* is now on-line including back issues to **it's February 2009 debut.** The online monthly publication takes the place of its predecessor the newsprint version. Check out the August 2010 issue for up to date articles. These are downloadable. Stop by and give it a try. (<http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/WorldRadio.html>)



## Regular Events

### Club Meetings

First Thursday of the month  
at 7:30 PM,  
KC Greenville Learning Center  
(Kaskaskia College)  
209 N. Third St.  
Greenville, IL 62246

If the Weather Net is  
Active

Regular Net will not be held!

Visit Us on the  
Web!!!

<http://ovarc.net>

## Net Control Schedule



Clareen, KB9BEB  
is our Net Manager.  
The Okaw Valley  
ARC holds a  
weekly net at 9:00  
PM on Sunday eve-

nings. The net control stations  
are on a rotating schedule.

Aug. 1 W9KXQ—John  
Aug. 8 KB9BEB—Clareen  
Aug. 15 KA9NRW—Hope  
Aug. 22 WB9SLM—Kris  
Aug. 29 N9GEQ—Howard  
Sept. 5 NO NET-LABOR DAY  
Net Control Schedule can be  
found at [www.ovarc.net/calendar](http://www.ovarc.net/calendar)

## OVARC

P.O. Box 3  
Greenville, IL 62246  
Club Information, Dues,  
Event Notices,  
Ideas for Programs, etc.

### E-Mail Newsletter

John King W9KXQ, Editor  
Email: [W9KXQ@arrl.net](mailto:W9KXQ@arrl.net)

Articles, New Items,  
Corrections, etc.

## RADIO CLUB CONDUCTS FIELD DAY

(Reprinted by Permission from *The Greenville Advocate* June 29, 2010)

The Okaw Valley Amateur Radio club (OVARC) held another successful Field Day exercise at Patriot's Park Saturday and Sunday.

Among those operating the radios during the exercise were two newly licensed youths, Cameryn Gan and Lawton File and a woman who also participated in her first Field Day, Kris Hickerson.

Gan and File recently earned their ham radio licenses through a program offered by OVARC at the Greenville Elementary School.

Hickerson, who now lives in Greenville, has been licensed for 35 years, but had never attended a Field Day event. She is blind, but amateur radio has allowed her to develop many friendships throughout the United States.

"I have people I talk to regularly in California, Arizona, Nevada, Michigan and out on the East coast," she said.

Hickerson earned her ham radio license in July of 1975. Over the years, she had done a lot of emergency communication work in Illinois. She remembers being involved in communications during a severe ice storm in 1978, and she has provided information during tornadoes and other severe storms.

Upon reaching the Field Day shelter at Patriot's Park Saturday afternoon, Hickerson quickly went to work making contacts via the radio. "I'm having a ball," she said.

"We've been picking them off like gangbusters!"

Assisting her at the radio was Russ Lentz of Highland, who has also been a ham radio operator for 35 years.

Hickerson said participating in a Field Day exercise was something she has wanted to do since she was 10 years old. "This is really neat and I'm having a lot of fun doing it."

With the temperature around the 90 degree mark, Hickerson admitted it would be a little nicer if it was about 15 degrees cooler, but she was still enjoying the experience.

Each year in June, OVARC members participate in Field Day, which is held during "Amateur Radio Week" by the Amateur Radio Relay League, (Ed. Note: American Radio Relay League –ARRL) the national association of amateur radio.

John King, president of the local club, said Field Day allows the organization to show to the public its equipment and how it can assist providing communications in times of disasters.



**KRIS HICKERSON (right) assisted by Russ Lentz as Hickerson participates in her first amateur radio Field Day event after being a licensed operator the past 35 years.**





**RADIO TRAINING:** John King (center) president of the Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club, informs newly licensed ham radio operators Cameryn Gan (left) and Lawton File (right) about how to use the radio to make contacts during Field Day exercises.

## *Two Meter Radio in Memory of W9YCI*

Friends and family of Don Thompson family have purchased a new Yaesu FT270R/E Handheld Radio and are donating in to one of our new **ham radio operators in memory of Don's many years of contributions to Amateur Radio.** A formal presentation of the radio is planned for the Macoupin-Montgomery County Hamfest Aug. 7. We will report these happenings and the winner in our next news letter.



Thanks to Jimmy WX9DX & Joyce KA9UBJ for their help in honoring their long time friend and fellow ham Don W9YCI .





## + FCC Launches Consumer Help Center

07/27/2010

Beginning July 28, those who have dealings with the FCC will have a new tool that the FCC claims will put them "within one click of all the information they want" from the Commission: a new "easy-to-use" [Consumer Help Center](#).

The site will be updated to include new FCC consumer initiatives as they are launched.

## **ARRL Field Day : 2010 Statistics**

Phone contacts (Including GOTA): 217

CW contacts: 210

Digital contacts: 6

**Total contacts for Field Day 2010: 433**

Total QSO points with multipliers: 1298

Total Bonus points: 490

Total Claimed score: 1788



The Bonus points will be discussed at the August meeting.



## ***Ken's Trivial Corner***

*The Sun is advancing into its next Solar Cycle. What number is it, when is it expected to peak, what is a Solar Cycle and what does it mean to you as an Amateur Radio Operator?*

The answer and a prize for the winner will be given at the August 5, 2010 meeting.



**Dues for 2010 due  
January 1, 2010**

**Dues for 2010 are \$15.00  
per member per year.**

**You can pay Howard N9GEQ at club  
meetings or send a check made pay-  
able to Okaw Valley Amateur Radio**

### Ken Norris KK9N attends Contest University

I'm a professor at [Contest University](#) again this year - take a look at the program! This morning, I gave my "Small Project and Contest Strategies for Small Stations" presentation to a number of eager folks.



Look - the students are all waving to you! There are more than 220 signed up for the all-day courses, including an "eyeball sprint" and other fun things.

Here's a shot of two of the CTU students enjoying the short "eyeball sprint" contest this afternoon. The basic idea is a contest conducted



"by voice" in which the competitors have to move a fixed distance after every QSO. Sounds complicated, but it's a ton of fun.

73  
Ward N0AX



## Testing Opportunities

**Jim Thibeault KF4NBG  
OVARC VE Team**

Louis Latzer Memorial Library  
1001 9th St.  
Highland, IL 62249  
Contact Jim KF4NBG  
(618)-488-6411

[BecomeAHam@yahoo.com](mailto:BecomeAHam@yahoo.com)

**Technician Class Questions Change  
July 1, 2010**

**End of Summer Session-Saturday  
August 7, 2010 10:00 AM**

Courtesy call or e-mail appreciated. Two forms of ID required (one with photo). If upgrading, original, plus copy of both license and any Certificates of Successful Completion (CSCE's) are required.

## New Hams

KC9RPF	Mike Huff
KC9SHF	Cameryn Gan
KC9SHG	Travis Neer
KC9SHW	Cody Finley
KC9SHX	Logan Hilmes
KC9SHZ	Kaitlynn Smith
KC9SIA	Josh Brannon
KC9SIB	Tyler Bryant
KC9SIC	Maddy Balducci
KC9SID	Allison confer
KC9SIJ	Alex Moeller
KC9SIK	Justin Rieke
KC9SHY	Lawton File
KC9SPA	Irene Seale

## HamFests

**Macoupin-Montgomery Co Aug. 7, 2010  
Peoria Superfest**

## IL Section Manager

Thomas Ciciora, [KA9QPN@ARRL.org](mailto:KA9QPN@ARRL.org)

## Central Division Director

George "Dick" Isely,  
[W9GIG@ARRL.org](mailto:W9GIG@ARRL.org)

## Central Div. Vice Director

Howard Huntington, [K9KM@ARRL.org](mailto:K9KM@ARRL.org)



A Google Calendar has been added to our website. Click on **Calendar of Events** from our main webpage [www.ovarc.net](http://www.ovarc.net).


You can park your browser on [www.ovarc.net](http://www.ovarc.net) as you can access QRZ.com from the main page.

QRZ callsign lookup:    
 Callsign lookups provided by [qrz.com](http://qrz.com)




**Club Events Calendar**  
 Includes Net Controls & V.E. Testing



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<p><b>Want to become a Ham Radio Operator???</b>                  Contact us at <a href="http://ovarc.net">http://ovarc.net</a>                  P.O. Box 3                  Greenville, IL                  62246</p>	<p><b>Amateur Radio Is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Community Service</i></li> <li>• <i>Emergency Communications</i></li> <li>• <i>A fun way to learn new technologies</i></li> <li>• <i>Local and International Friendships</i></li> <li>• <i>A Fun Hobby!</i></li> </ul>	