



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

Inside this Issue

Youth DX Adventure	1
Future Meetings	2
Meeting Location	3
June Mtg. Highlights	4
Carlinville Hamfest	5
Website checkout 	6
Net Control Schedule	7
GES Hams @ Field Day	8
GES Ham Radio Ops	9
Jim AB9NH Field Day	12
Newsletter Summary	12

Club Repeaters

W9KXQ/R
(PL 103.5)

147.165+
224.440-

KB9EGI
442.925+

The Monthly Publication of the Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club

YOUTH DX ADVENTURE AT AUGUST MEETING & FIELD DAY 2011 WRAP-UP



The 2010 YDGA team.

“The Youth DX Adventure was a dream born at the end of the 2009 CQWW SSB contest. Don, N6JRL; Dave, KB8OCP; Todd, KD4YHY; Jim, AB8YK, and Keko, TI5KD, had operated the contest at Guacima de Alajuela (TI5N), a DX vacation villa that Keko operates in Costa Rica. The purpose of the adventure would be to introduce youth operators to the world of DXing at a young age and early moment in their ham radio careers.

The overarching idea was to bring youth operators from all over the country on a noncontest weekend to Costa Rica allowing them the opportunity to create the pileups. This would give the youths a chance to see what it feels like to be “on the other end.” (from ARRL website)

At our August 4 meeting Ken KK9N will be presenting more details on this DX-Pedition and information about the July 2011 DX-Pedition. Thursday night’s program will include a Field Day 2011 Wrap-up. Field Day 2011 is in the history books, and our stats have been submitted to the ARRL, how did we do and what can we do next year to make it even better? Plan to come a participate in the discussion.



PLAN NOW FOR August 4, 2011 7:30 PM

MEETINGS TO PLAN FOR

September , 2011
**LOOKING FOR A PROGRAM—CONTACT KEN
KK9N (kk9n@ovarc.net)**

October , 2011
**LOOKING FOR A PROGRAM—CONTACT KEN
KK9N (kk9n@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?issue=2011-07-28>)
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

Linked repeater system is operational
as of 05-25-2011

The banner features a light blue background. On the left and right are images of white communication towers. A yellow box at the top contains the title 'REPEATER UPDATES'. Below it, two lines of red text list repeater sites: 'W9KXQ 147.165 Repeater site' and 'KB9EGI 442.925 Repeater site'. At the bottom, black text states 'Linked repeater system is operational as of 05-25-2011'.

Location for August 4, 2011 7:30 PM Meeting

Kaskaskia College Center in Greenville (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 4, 2011

September 1, 2011

October 6, 2011

November 3, 2011

December 1, 2011

(Annual Mtg. Christmas Dinner)

OKAW VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 2011 OFFICERS



Ken KK9N, Cary W4GRN, Howard N9GEQ, John W9KXQ
President | Secretary | Treasurer | Vice President
(Photo by Charley KA9NQL)

Minutes Highlights for June 9, 2011

President Ken Norris KK9N called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM on Thursday June 9, 2011 in Room 104 of the Kaskaskia College Education Center on Third Street in Greenville. Those in attendance signed the sign-in sheet. There were 12 people present. A quorum was found to be present. The meeting began with a welcome and introduction of the members & guests present.

Secretary's Report

Cary Holman W4GRN read the minutes of the May 5, 2011 meeting. **John W9KXQ moved to accept the minutes. Jim KF4NBG seconded. Motion passed.**

Treasurer's Report

Howard Wise N9GEQ reported a balance of \$786.15. Howard just receive a bill for \$42.70 which is yet to be paid. **Kris KF4NBG moved to accept the treasurer's report. Second. Motion carried.**

Howard reported that the underwriter for ARRL insurance is no longer Marsh. John spoke in support of changing. He thought it would be good to go over our equipment list. **John W9KXQ moved to change to the new broker. Seconded by Jim Motion passed.**

Repeater Report

John W9KXQ reported that we need to replace the batteries at the 2m repeater site. He has been trying to get someone else to pay for those batteries which failed during a recent storm

Volunteer Examiner (VE) Report

Jim Thibeault KF4NBG reported that at the last VE testing 4 techs passed and one upgraded to general (Larry KC9ITK). Ken expressed thanks for John's work publishing our newsletter. The members present applauded John's efforts.

John worked the USS Missouri from Lake Powell.

Dave K9UK will be on a DXpedition in Antigua June 14-21, and others will operate on 6m to the 28th.

The Egyptian hamfest this coming Sunday, June 12, is in a new location—the Moose Lodge on Maryville Road. Details are in this month's newsletter. There will be no July meeting.

Trivia Corner

Ken Norris KK9N asked the trivia corner question: Can a transceiver manufactured for the Amateur Radio bands be used legally on the Commercial 2-way radio service including the police and fire frequencies? The answer is No, which surprised some in attendance.

The business meeting concluded at 8:07 pm. Kris/ Jim

Program: The GES contact with the International Space Station May 6, 2011

Ken KK9N reported on the contact with the International Space Station by amateurs at the Greenville Elementary School on May 6, 2011. We could not hear the answer to the 16th question, but had a contact for about nine minutes. Sixty-some viewers watched live on U-Stream.

At tonight's meeting we watched a video of the event shot and edited by Marc Seale N9LIS. The members applauded the video as very well done. Bob Heil has received a copy for use on his Ham Nation show. John has sent a copy of the video to ARRL.

Field Day 2011

Field Day will be June 25 & 26. Ken showed a band pass filter array setup that allows multiple radios (each the only one on a given band) to all operate simultaneously using the same antenna. Ken hopes to use the system at our upcoming field day. At Field Day Hope will bring a Carolina Windom, John a 40/80m NVIS, and Ken a tri-band vertical dipole.

Jim KF4NBG has offered to give a cup to anyone making 20 contacts on the GOTA station, 20 CW contacts, or 50 voice contacts.

Ken reviewed the equipment checklist of who will be providing what equipment for the upcoming Field Day.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Cary Holman W4GRN
Secretary



OVARC Information

Repeaters

147.165, 224.440, 442.925

2011 Officers

President

Ken Norris KK9N
KK9N@ovarc.net

Vice-President

John King W9KXQ
W9KXQ@ovarc.net

Secretary

Cary Holman W4GRN
W4GRN@ovarc.net

Treasurer

Howard Wise N9GEQ
N9GEQ@ovarc.net

Repeater Trustees

John King W9KXQ
Don Stover KB9EGI
KB9EGI@ovarc.net

V.E. Team Coordinator

Jim KF4NGB
KF4NGB@ovarc.net

Net Manager

Clareen Dunn KB9BEB
KB9BEB@ovarc.net

Webmaster

John King W9KXQ
webmaster@ovarc.net

Website

<http://ovarc.net>

Macoupin & Montgomery Amateur Radio Club Hamfest August 6, 2011

The West-Central Illinois

Hamfest

August 6th, 2011

Carlinville, IL

Macoupin County Fairgrounds
North of Carlinville on Illinois Route 4
I-55 Exit 60-Head to Carlinville

Setup at 6:00 A.M.

Hamfest open 7:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

\$5.00 tailgate charge

Indoor or outside space



FOOD and DRINKS will be available

General and Vendor Inquires please contact:

N9LOF – 217-854-3352 or K9MCE@hotmail.com



Talk in 146.82 or 444.250 + 103.5

\$5.00 Admission Fee

Hourly prizes drawings

Testing available

Contact: KI9Z –Gregg Laws at 217-854-8469

*Sponsored by the Montgomery-W9BXR & Macoupin- K9MCE
Amateur Radio Clubs*

Website to checkout

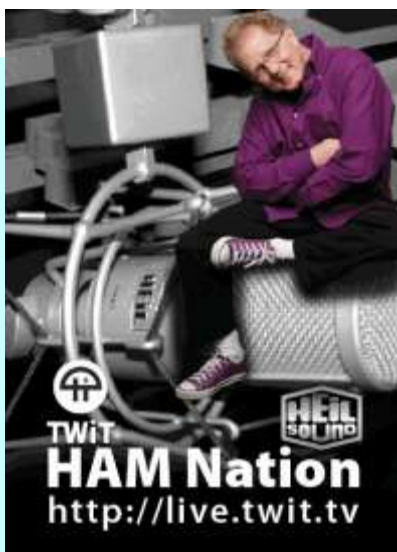


The K-Link Repeater System

is the result of many years of hard work and support of countless Amateur Radio Operators in North Central Kansas.

Check it out here:

<http://ks0lnk.wavedsl.net/intro.htm>



<http://live.twit.tv>

“HAM Nation” is a weekly HD video webcast about Ham Radio. It is hosted by Bob Heil K9EID Tuesday Evenings 8:00 PM CDT on Leo Laporte’s TWIT network



www.jimsengraving.com

WorldRadio

ONLINE

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

ARES HF Digital Net August 14, 2011

The Illinois ARES HF Digital Net meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 5:00pm local time. The mode used is **Olivia 16/500** and the frequency is **3.590 (dial) USB**

Regular Net Control:
Tim McDonough, N9PUZ
 IL ARES Assistant SEC - Digital Operations
 Sangamon County, Springfield, IL



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!

Net Control Schedule



Clareen, KB9BEB
 is our Net Manager. The Okaw Valley ARC holds a weekly net at 9:00 PM on Sunday evenings. The net control stations are on a rotating schedule.

July 31—Kris WB9SLM
Aug. 7—Howard N9GEQ
Aug.14—John W9KXQ
Aug.21—Clareen KB9BEB
Aug.28—Hope KA9NRW
Sept. 4—NO NET LABOR DAY
Sept. 11—Kris WB9SLM
Sept. 18—Howard N9GEQ
Sept. 25—John W9KXQ

Visit Us on the Web!!!

<http://ovarc.net>

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@ovarc.net

*Articles, New Items,
 Corrections, etc.*



Field Day with GES Ham Radio Operators

7 operators from Greenville Elementary School join the OVARC Field Day activities. 5 of the students have their license and 2 are working on theirs.



Cameryn KC9SHF helps Emily KC9UBI make her first contact on the GOTA station as Kris WB9SLM keeps the log



John W9KXQ with Grandson Clayten front of Club Logo Sign



My View from Here! John W9KXQ

August is almost here and it is time for some relief from all of this heat. It is hard to work on antenna projects, keep up with lawn care while you are inside sipping iced tea and or lemonade with your feet propped up on a block of ice. The West Central Illinois Hamfest is Aug. 6th in Carlinville and we need to strongly support this effort by both Macoupin & Montgomery County Amateur Radio Clubs. They work hard to put on a good hamfest and we need be there. They have asked yours truly to present a forum on our successful ISS

contact and how we have managed to get elementary school kids involved in Ham Radio. I have had some help from Ken, Charley and Cary for this program and I have 3 of the GES students going to the hamfest with me to help with the forum. I think that hearing from these kids will be fun and interesting for all who attend. I spoke with one of the three and her answers to the first question I will be asking each was very interesting. That question, "How did you get interested in Amateur Radio?" caused me to think back 50 years ago and how I would answer that question. Actually it is a very good question that each of us should give some thought too. This may be a good topic for an upcoming Club meeting. There are many of you that support OVARC month after month, but your answer to the question may help to motivate others to join our ranks. Think about how you would share your first impressions with Ham Radio and maybe even that first QSO! Hmmm! Are you thinking about it? I would love to have a few stories to include in our upcoming newsletters so if you are so inclined, drop me an email (W9KXQ@ovarc.net) It doesn't have to be fancy, but a few paragraphs in an email and I will include it. You can't do this if you don't give it a try. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

REMEMBER BOND COUNTY FAIR PARADE TUESDAY AUG. 9, 5PM LINE-UP-COME HELP!

73 from up here!!

GES Ham Radio Club Members

Photos in this issue by Larry KC9ITK,
Kim KA9NQK & John W9KXQ



Kim KA9NQK helps Emily KC9UBI catch the calls as they work the GOTA station.



Anne KC9UBD looks on as Cameryn KC9SHF show Kaitlynn KC9SHZ how to adjust the GOTA station radio.



John W9KXQ & Anne KC9UBD preparing to make a contact.

ARISSatTLM morse code decoder works on HF

The ARISSatTLM software was written to decode the signals from the satellite ARISSat-1, but it seems it works fine on 20m CW as well.

On the AMSAT bulletin board JoAnne K9JKM writes:

Did you know that the Morse Code Decoder window in ARISSatTLM will also decode Morse on the HF bands?

I was tuning around the low end of 20M and decided to give it a try. I'm already setup for PSK31 and JT65 on my FT857D so the audio path between the rig and computer soundcard is setup over here.

Here is what I did ...

1. Start ARISSatTLM
2. Click the start button in the lower left of the Tuning Indicator window.
3. Tune your HF receiver to put the CW signal in the display where it says "Put CW Signal Here"
4. Nice steady CW like the ARRL bulletins decodes nicely. I let it run for a minute and the buffer scrolled nicely through the display. Reading the CW bulletin was like reading the mail :-). Short bursty 50 WPM QRZ 5NN contest type operation missed a few characters. Perhaps it was just a weaker signal since I was looking for STOR.

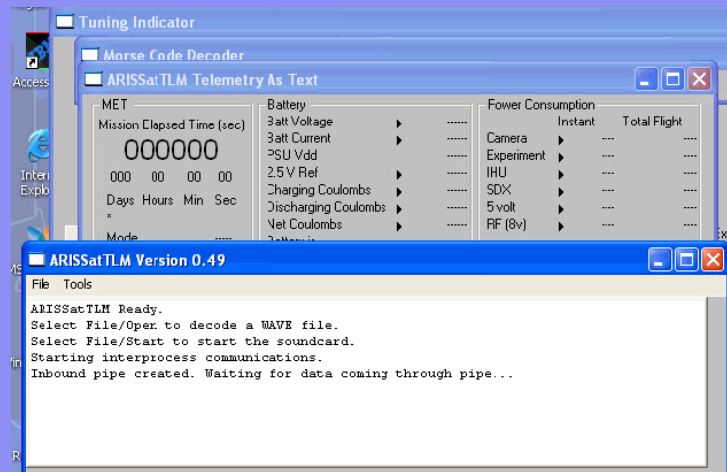
Have fun!

Download the Windows ARISSatTLM free ground station soundcard demodulator and display software:

http://www.arissattlm.org/download/ARISSatTLM_050_Setup.exe

Download the Mac ARISSatTLM software:

<http://www.arissattlm.org/download/ARISSATTLM.zip>
from Southgate Amateur Radio News



Ken's Trivial Corner



From what "Grid Square" did the Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club operate from for Field Day this year?

The answer and a prize for the winner will be given at the August 4, 2011 meeting

By Ken Norris KK9N



Dues for 2011 due January 1, 2011

Dues for 2011 are \$25.00 per member per year, second family member is \$10. Student dues \$5 per year

You can pay Howard N9GEQ at club meetings or send a check made payable to Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club P.O. Box 3 Greenville, IL 62246



The Sangamon Valley Radio Club, inc

Springfield, IL <http://www.svrc.org>

The SVRC qualified for one of the D-STAR Repeaters from Icom. If you missed out on the details they were something along the lines of If you buy the repeater & have X number of registered users on the gateway with in a given time frame, we will rebate the cost of the repeater.

The Repeater is currently at the N9UWI *secret bunker* for assembly & initial configuration. We are also awaiting final approval on frequency coordination. The final operation location of this repeater will be St. Johns hospital.

The frequency pair is official! The Illinois Repeater Association has approved W9DUA to use:

443.78125 (TX)/448.78125 (RX)

Thanks Tim N9PUZ



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

**General Class Questions Changes
July 1, 2011**

NO SCHEDULED SESSIONS FOR SUMMER

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

KC9UBC	David Bare
KC9UBD	Anne Ennen
KC9UBE	Harley Feaster
KC9UBF	Jackie Forys
KC9UBG	George Timmermann
KC9UBH	Katelyn Thomason
KC9UBI	Emily Unterbrink
KC9UDN	Chloe Matute
KC9UDO	Brandon Reeves

**David KC9UBC joins sister Helen KC9PPG &
George KC9UBG joins brother Matt KC9PBD**

HamFests

St. Charles ARC August 14, 2011

www.wb0hsi.org



IL Section Manager

Thomas Ciciora, KA9QPN@arri.org

Central Division Director

George "Dick" Isely, W9GIG@arri.org

Central Div. Vice Director

Kermit Carlson, W9XA@arri.org

Saturday,
July 02, 2011

[home](#) : [local news](#)

Search

Search

[Advanced Search](#)

Search Sponsored



- History of the Daily Record
- Local news
- Local sports
- Obituaries
- Guest Book
- Advertising Opportunities
- Calendar
- Menus
- Dotphoto
- Link Directory
- Announcements
- About Us
- Contact us
- Home
- Feedback

Field Day



More than two dozen members of the local ham radio club, R.A.D.I.O. (Radio Amateur Downstate Illinois Organization), put themselves to the test Saturday (June 25) at Red Hills State Park as part of a national field day weekend. The local group set up in the building under the cross in north park and were available to answer questions from the public. Above, James Tribble (AB9NH), of Albion, uses Morse Code to make contacts. While two lengthy storms halted the event for about seven hours, the group was still able to make more than 250 contacts. The local ham radio operators made contact with others hams from 27 different states, including Hawaii. The group was also able to communicate with people from Canada, Puerto Rico and several Pacific islands. Members of R.A.D.I.O. from Lawrence, Richland, Edwards, Wabash and other area counties participated. The group began the exercise about noon Saturday and ended about 10 a.m. Sunday. R.A.D.I.O. plans to have the rally at RHSP again next year. The weekend field exercise was part of a national field day to allow hams from all over the U.S. to demonstrate emergency capabilities.

Current Weather
for

Lawrenceville



Hazy Sunshine
80



powered by
AccuWeather.com

Kid Safe Search

Google
SafeSearch

Go



August 2011

Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club

Inside This Issue:

- West Central Illinois Hamfest
- June Meeting Highlights
- D-Star comes to Springfield, IL

Want to become a Ham Radio Operator???

Contact us at
<http://ovarc.net>

P.O. Box 3
Greenville, IL
62246

Amateur Radio Is...

- *Community Service*
- *Emergency Communications*
- *Learn new technologies for fun*
- *Worldwide Friendships*
- *A Fun Hobby!*