

Volume 4, Issue 2
OVARC E-Mail

February
2012

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

K5D - Desecheo Island 2009

The KP1-5 Project Mission Statement

The purpose of the KP1-5 Project is to work toward a solution to the closure of [Desecheo](#) and [Navassa](#) Islands to Amateur Radio operators by achieving lawful, periodic access to these islands pursuant to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service authorization.



PLAN NOW FOR NEXT MEETING

**February 2, 2012
7:30 PM**



March 1, 2012

Bob Heil, K9EID
Ham Radio can be fun!


April 5, 2011

Rick Crockett W0PC
APRS & WinLink



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=2012-01-26>)
 If you are a member of ARRL, why not sign up for your weekly email copy?




REPEATER UPDATES

Linked repeater system is operational

W9KXQ 147.165 Repeater site

KB9EGI 442.925 Repeater site



During the past weekend's storms our link to Carlinville was interrupted for several hours. Thanks to Les N9MFA for resetting the link and to Bob KC9BOZ for resetting the KB9EGI repeater. We have some work to do on EGI.

The Clinton County ARES are planning on holding a Net on Sundays at 8:00 PM on the 2 Meter Repeater. The 70 CM repeater will be their backup. (See Page 11 for information)

Location for February 2, 2012 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:

February 2, 2012

March 1, 2012

April 5, 2012

May 3, 2012

June 7, 2012

OKAW VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 2012 OFFICERS



Ken KK9N, John W9KXQ, Howard N9GEQ, Cary W4GRN

President | Vice President | Treasurer | Secretary

(Photo by Charley KA9NQL)

Minutes Highlights for January 5, 2012

Secretary Cary W4GRN called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday January 5, 2012 in Room 104 of the Kaskaskia College Education Center on Third Street in Greenville. Nine people were present. Cary chaired the meeting because this afternoon President Ken KK9N was hospitalized.

Secretary's Report

Cary W4GRN read the minutes of the November 3 and December 1, 2011 meetings. *Kris WB9SLM moved to accept the minutes of the November 3, 2011 meeting. Lance K2SGS seconded. Motion passed. Kris WB9SLM moved to accept the minutes of the December 1, 2011 meeting. Jerry WB9NEY seconded. Motion passed.*

Treasurer's Report

Howard N9GEQ reported a balance of \$668.38 after paying \$320 for our liability insurance. *On motion the treasurer's report was accepted.*

Reports

Neither John W9KXQ nor Jim KF4NGB were present, so there was no repeater report nor no official volunteer examiner report. Cary and Lance were among the VEs at the December testing and recalled that two upgraded to Extra.

Because Ken KK9N was absent there was no trivia corner question. The business meeting concluded at 7:50 pm.

Program:

Cary W4GRN presented a program on DXing. Cary showed his collection of QSL cards from about 90 countries. He also showed an atlas in which he has marked the location of many of the stations he has worked over the past several years. The program concluded at 8:25.

**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 KF4NBG
KF4NBG@ovarc.net

Net Manager

Clareen Dunn KB9BEB
KB9BEB@ovarc.net

Webmaster

John King W9KXQ
webmaster@ovarc.net

Website

<http://ovarc.net>

January, 2012-QSL Cards What you can Learn about DXing by Cary Holman W4GRN



Cary W4GRN
presented
a program on
DXing.



Cary showed his collection of QSL cards from about 90 countries. He also showed an atlas in which he has marked the location of many of the stations he has worked over the past several years.



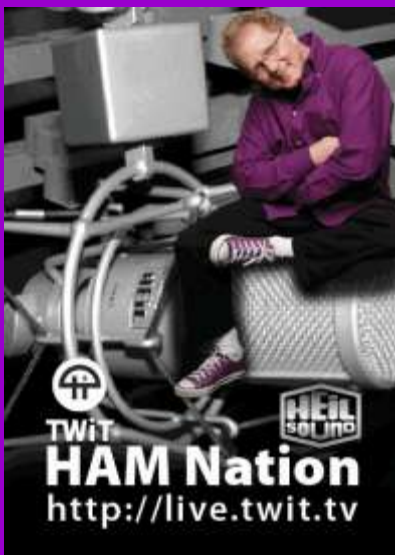
Website to checkout



EAARS, Eastern Arizona Amateur Radio Society, Inc. has a unique linked repeater system with an interactive map. David Wells N7AM maintains this site.

Check it out here:

<http://www.eaars.com/eaarsnetwork.html>



“HAM Nation” is a weekly HD video webcast about Ham Radio.

It is hosted by

Bob Heil K9EID, Leo Laporte W6TWT
& Gordon West WB6NOA

Tuesday Evenings 8:00 PM CDT

twit network

<http://twit.tv>



www.jimsengraving.com

ILLINOIS ARES SSB HF NET 3.905 MHZ LSB

W9FX calls a net at 1630 local time on the first and third Sunday of every month. They are called by Sections and Bond County is in Section or Region 8

Bond County will be called and someone who is an ARES member, or ARES volunteer can check into the net. Every HF station in Bond County is invited if they would like to come on-board. Multiple pathways into your county with information is the goal.



ARES HF Digital Net February 12, 2012

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.

- Feb. 5—John W9KXQ
- Feb. 12—Clareen KB9BEB
- Feb. 19—Hope KA9NRW
- Feb. 26—Kris WB9SLM
- Mar. 4—Howard N9GEQ
- Mar. 11—John W9KXQ
- Mar. 18—Clareen KB9BEB
- Mar. 25—Hope KA9NRW
- April 1—Kris WB9SLM
- April 8—NO NET-EASTER

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.



GES Ham Radio Club Activities

10 Students at the
Annual Meeting Dec. 1



For OVARC's Annual Meeting and Christmas Dinner 10 students were in attendance. Of the 10, 6 were licensed amateurs, 2 are "Hams in Waiting" and 1 is a "Wait and see if I really want to get my license" (oops I left Grace out of the photo-sorry)



My View from Here! John W9KXQ

The weather here in Mesa, AZ has been nice enough for Charley KA9NQL and I to make it to the local Starbucks in our shorts most every day. I know, you didn't want to hear this, but winter 2011 was much worse than this year in Illinois. We did attend a local hamfest in early January but not in shorts, it was too cool at 8:00 AM. With Charley and Ken (KK9N)'s help I have a HF station on the air with my second contact being Japan on 10 Meters. 10 Meters is definitely open more and more as the weeks go by. Spend a few minutes and you might be surprised where you will work on 10 Meters these days.

As I finish this edition of the Newsletter I received notification that Distracted Driving in Illinois has moved to the forefront in the Illinois Legislature. Less you think it can't happen, it can and may happen! In its current state the bills does not exempt Amateur Radio Operators. **No more QSOs while on the way to work, dinner or travelling to a hamfest!** This could seriously effect our ability to provide Emergency services to Skywarn, ARES or RACES to mention a few. Please take time to read page 12 of this newsletter and keep an eye on your email as OVARC will definitely want to take a "proactive" stand on this legislation. I also included W9FX's entire email and you should take the time to read it.

Thanks to our Linked Repeater system, I have been able from here in Mesa to listen to the repeater using EchoLink. It has provided me the opportunity to talk to several of you including some of our new hams. I am scheduled to be Net Control on Feb. 5th and I believe that this will be the first time that the net has been run via EchoLink, so bear with me and I will do my best to make our long standing net as efficient as possible. **73 from up here!**

GES Ham Radio Club Activities

January 2012

OK, as you can see, there were no activities **reported** involving GES Ham radio operators. Hopefully we will have something to report in February. Do not let an opportunity go by to “Elmer” one of these young hams.



Notice who has shorts on!

Ken KK9N, Barb KA9YMR, Charley KA9NQL



For those of you that missed the Christmas Party, you missed out on some crazy fun! And yes, these are all licensed Ham Radio Operators!

Emily KC9UBI, Cameryn KC9SHF holding Alexis KC9VAK, Anne KC9UBE, Kimberly KC9PBA

CLINTON COUNTY ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service)

January 22, 2012

Tonight we start the weekly Clinton County ARES Net at 8:00 PM local time and I want to again say thanks to the club for allowing us to use the VHF repeater for our use. I may be the only one checking in tonight but at least it's a start. We had a really good meeting Saturday morning at the Clinton County EMA office but unfortunately only a handful or two showed up due to the weather and the earlier than usual start time. It looks like the weather will hold out long enough tonight to get my Net in, which I only expect to last long enough to run through the script. We'll see...

Thanks again and 73,
Tim Rapp
K9XWX



Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES)

“The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes.” (Source ARRL)



Ken's Trivial Corner (KK9N)

During WWII several amateurs were recruited to work at a secret wireless listening and decoding station in England that intercepted communications from the Germans and contributed a great deal towards shortening the war. What is the name given this post and of what branch of the government did they work under?

The answer and a prize for the winner will be given at the February 2, 2012 meeting-I promise to be there this month!



Dues for 2012 due January 1, 2012

Dues for 2012 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

Clinton County ARES

The Clinton County ARES is getting geared up for 2012. Starting in January, the Clinton County ARES will hold weekly Nets on 147.165 at 8:00 PM before the OVARC Club Net. The first Net is planned for January 22, 2012.

Club member Tim Rapp (K9XWX) of Aviston and September McAdoo (KC9NFA) of Carlyle have joined forces to bring their separate efforts of establishing a working ARES group together in Clinton County.

Tim is a member of the St Clair County ARES and a resident of Clinton County and since October has been working with Curtis Williams (W5DTR) who is the District Emergency Coordinator for the South Western Illinois ARES District to create an organized group within Clinton County.

September is the Emergency Response Coordinator and Medical Reserve Corps Director for the Clinton County Health Department and has been responsible for getting several Clinton County residents involved in organizing an ARES group.

On December 1st Tim and Curtis delivered a Kenwood TM-D710A Dual Band Radio, Power Supply, Antenna and Feed Line to St. Joseph's Hospital in Breese. Soon St. Joseph's will have a functioning Emergency Radio station thanks to the new partnership.

The next Clinton County ARES meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2012 at 8:00 am at the Clinton County EMA office located at 431 21st St, Carlyle, IL. This is the first meeting of the new combined group and the agenda for the meeting is to lay the groundwork for what ARES is to new members and new Hams. If you are interested in joining this new group or willing to lend your expertise to new Hams feel free to stop by.

The group has established a website for existing and potential members to get news and information about the group.

The website address is www.ClintonCountyARES.net.

For immediate information contact Tim Rapp at K9XWX@arrl.net



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

Extra Class Questions Changes
July 1, 2012

Saturday February 4, 2012
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

KC9VAK	Alexis James
KC9VBJ	Karen Bare
KC9VBK	Monica Rensing
Karen joins her Daughter Helen KC9PPG & Son David KC9UBC	

UP GRADES

K9WDL	Jon Sugg	EXTRA
KC9UZQ	Rick Burgess	EXTRA
KC9KBB	Don Clements	EXTRA

HamFests Winterfest

Saturday, January 28, 2012 8:00A -1P



IL Section Manager

Thomas Ciciora, KA9QPN@arrl.org

Central Division Director

George "Dick" Isely, W9GIG@arrl.org

Central Div. Vice Director

Kermit Carlson, W9XA@arrl.org

Proposed Distracted Driving Legislation in Illinois

According to Brad Pioveson W9FX, ARRL Illinois Section Emergency Coordinator: “The horrific Missouri school bus crash of recent times resulting from a teen texting while driving led to a great cry to ‘ban distracted driving!’ I get it, I really do. Driving down the road while reading from a tiny little screen, typing on a midget-sized keyboard, and/or searching for iPod tunes cannot lead to safe drivers. We’ve all seen the results.

The National Safety Council (NSC) notwithstanding, the Illinois Legislature, and, more particularly, the House of Representatives, is set to begin consideration of two proposed pieces of legislation designed to prohibit DISTRACTED DRIVING. I put that in CAPS because that’s what the intent of the legislation is purported to be. These two bills, HB3970 and HB3972, prohibit using all manner of electronic devices while one is driving unless said device is hands-free and/or voice-activated. Certain classes of operation are exempted from these bills including ‘persons driving emergency vehicles,’ someone reporting an emergency situation, or when the operator of the vehicle has the vehicle’s transmission in neutral or park and on the shoulder of the roadway.

If this legislation passes as it is proposed, the use of amateur radio gear while driving will be outlawed in Illinois.

I urge you to take the time to follow the links, below, read the text of these proposed laws, and make yourself heard - while there's still time to make a difference.”

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/97/HB/PDF/09700HB3970lv.pdf>
<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/97/HB/PDF/09700HB3972lv.pdf>

Editor’s Note: Brad’s complete Email included in Email Newsletter Notification.

<p>February 2012 Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club</p>	<p>Inside This Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• January Meeting Highlights• DXing & QSL Cards• ARES Nets• Clinton County ARES• Distracted Driving in Illinois <p>"Official" League position statement on Distracted Driving and Amateur Radio (http://www.arrl.org/files/file/MobileAmateurRadioPolicyStatement.pdf)</p>
<p>Want to become a Ham Radio Operator??? Contact us at http://ovarc.net P.O. Box 3 Greenville, IL 62246</p>	<p>Amateur Radio Is...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Community Service</i>• <i>Emergency Communications</i>• <i>Learn new technologies for fun</i>• <i>Worldwide Friendships</i>• <i>A Fun Hobby!</i>

