

Volume 5, Issue 2
OVARC E-Mail

February
2013

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

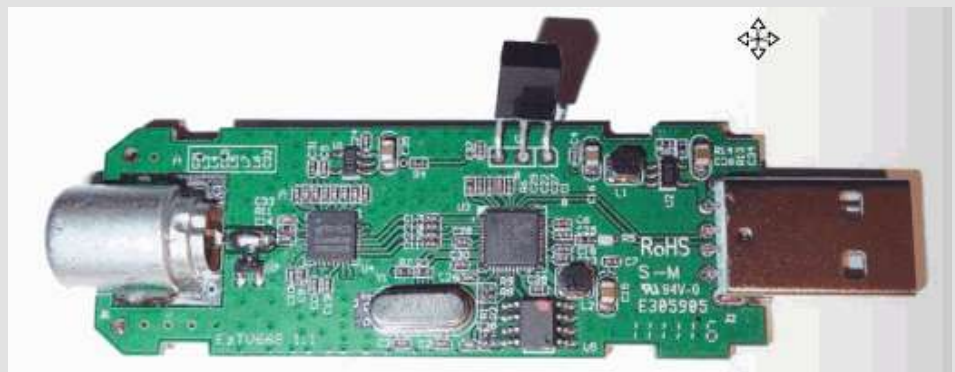
W9KXQ/R
(PL 103.5)

147.165+
224.440-

KB9EGI
(PL 103.5)
442.925+

The Monthly Publication of the Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club

"SDR Radio For The Beginner"



SDR (Software Defined Radio) are becoming to new generation of Amateur Radios and their price has dropped dramatically. For an investment under \$50 and some free software you can be on your way to learning SDR Basics. Ken KK9N has some answers, explanations and "hopefully" a working SDR. The possibilities for this inexpensive approach to Amateur Radio will make the February 7, 2013 Meeting worth attending. **Bring a friend, a camera and a notebook!**



PLAN NOW FOR OUR NEXT MEETING
February 7, 2013

MEETINGS TO PLAN FOR

February 7, 2013
SDR Radio
for the Beginner

March 7, 2013
To Be
Announced



Bob KC9BOZ in "the temporary housing" This is where the Repeater has lived for the past 5 months. Bob is removing the equipment for reinstall in newly update cabinet.

Les N9MFA upgrades AC circuits. The repeater is on its own circuit and the RF Amp is on a separate circuit. A delay timer was installed to keep the repeater controller from immediately restarting after a power outage.



REPEATER UPDATES
Linked repeater system is operational

W9KXQ 147.165 Repeater site

KB9EGI 442.925 Repeater site



The KB9EGI UHF Repeater has been installed into the refurbished cabinet and is now operational. A great big thanks to everyone who helped on this project. The project was completed Friday Nov. 16 with the help of Les N9MFA, Bob KC9BOZ and Cary W4GRN. The actual move of the equipment cabinet required us to "man handle" the cabinet into place. See photos above & page 3.

Location for February 7, 2013 Meeting



Regular Meeting location Kaskaskia College Greenville Education Center
209 N. Third St. Greenville, IL 62246
rear entrance



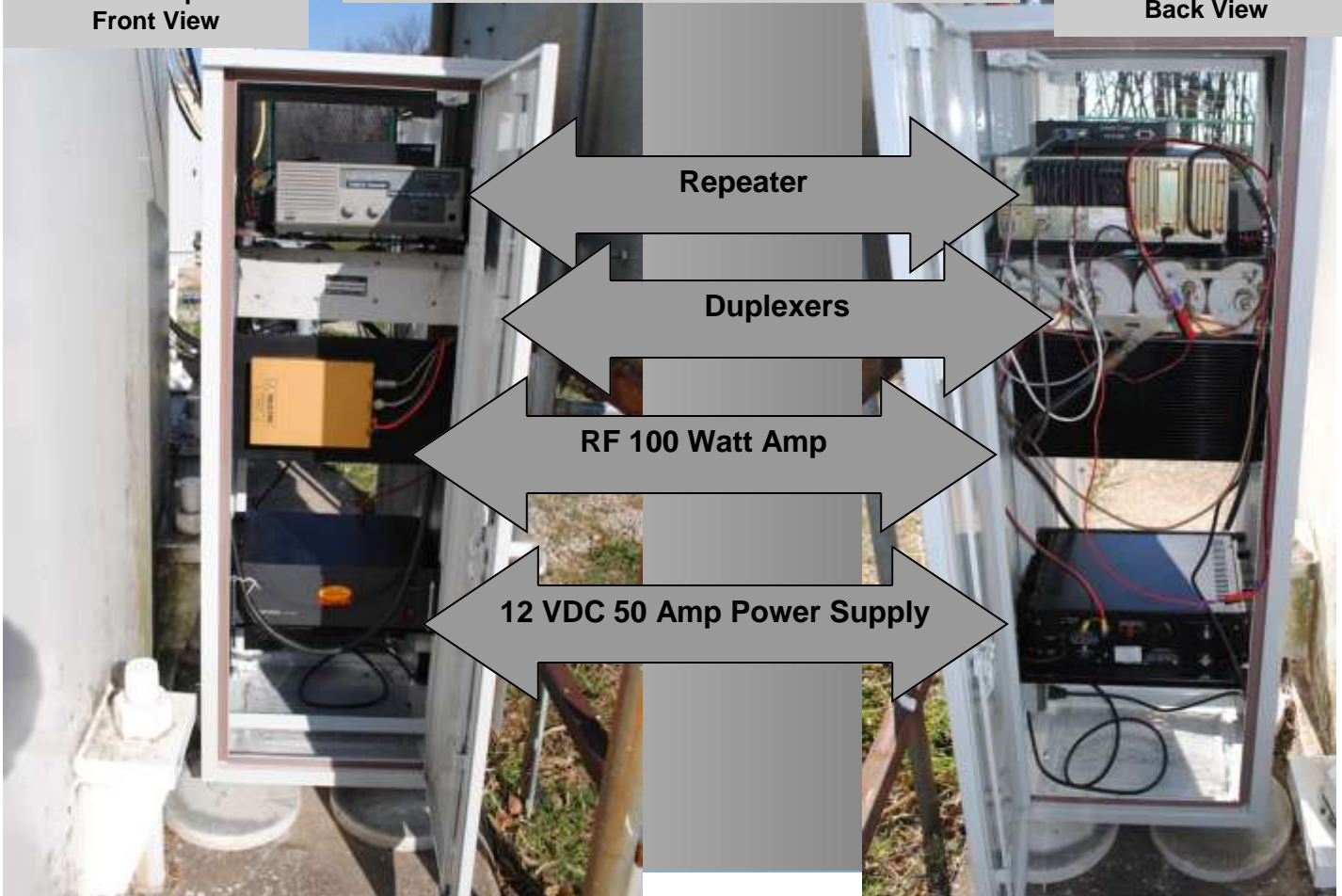
Future Dates:

- March 7, 2013
- April 4, 2013
- May 2, 2013

“KB9EGI UHF Repeater”

KB9EGI Repeater
Front View

KB9EGI Repeater
Back View



Minutes Highlights for January 3 , 2013



Vice President Tim Rapp K9XWX called the meeting to order. Our Secretary was otherwise occupied (see photo below) and unable to carry out his duties for the January, 2013 meeting. Maybe he will offer his excuses at the February meeting.

Cary Holman W4GRN Secretary





OVARC Information

Repeaters

147.165, 224.440, 442.925

2013 Officers

President

Ken Norris KK9N

KK9N@ovarc.net

Vice-President

Tim Rapp K9XWX

K9XWX@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 KF4N BG

KF4N BG@ovarc.net

Net Manager

Clareen Dunn KB9BEB

KB9BEB@ovarc.net

Webmaster

John King W9KXQ

webmaster@ovarc.net

Website

<http://ovarc.net>

2013 OVARC Officers



Ken KK9N, President



Tim K9XWX, VP



Cary W4GRN, Sec.



Howard N9GEQ, Tres.

CONTEST CORNER

10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB: 0001Z, Feb 2 to 2359Z, Feb 3

Mode: Phone only

Band: 10 Meters

Rules: <http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSO%20Party%20Rules.pdf>

Website to checkout—2012 DX Sound Bites
Tom, K8CX, provides 135 memorable DX sound clips from
2012.



[Ham Gallery-DX Sound Bites](#)



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

Hosts: Gordo WB6NOA,
 Bob K9EID, George W5JDX,
 Leo W6TWT

Wednesday Evenings 8:00 PM
 CDT
 twit network



Jim KF4NBG's
newest display
Check Jim's
website here:

[Ham Shack](#)
[Essentials](#)

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.



WINLINK 2000



OFFICIAL DIGITAL MODE OF ILLINOIS ARES

Sometime during the week prior to the weekend of the 2nd Sunday Tim will post a message to the Illinois ARES Digital Working Group list with information specific to that month's test. subscribe here:

Illinois ARES Digital Mailing List

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IL_ARES_DWG

Tim McDonough, N9PUZ

IL ARES Assistant SEC - Digital Operations

Sangamon County, Springfield, IL

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. 3—Ken KK9N
Feb. 10—Clareen KB9BEB
Feb. 17—Tim K9XWX
Feb. 24—Kris WB9SLM
March 3—Clareen KB9BEB
March 10—John W9KXQ
March 17—Ken KK9N
March 31—NO NET-Easter

[Download 2013 Schedule here](#)



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

Visit Us on the Web!!!

<http://ovarc.net>

fieldday.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

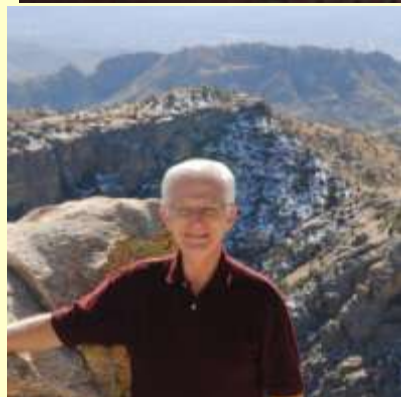
*Articles, New Items,
Corrections, etc.*



GES Ham Radio Club Activities



Within this group of 8, 6 of them hold their Amateur Radio License and the other 2 have shown an interest in getting their license. Their ages range from 8 years old to 13.. The photo speaks volumes.



My View from Here! John W9KXQ

What am I doing up here? For starters, I set out to drive to the top of Mt. Lemmon near Tucson, AZ. I had hoped to see the towers that host 11 repeaters on this 9,000 ft. mountain. I could see the towers, but never found a road that would take me to their base. Thanks to my tour guide (a former Greenville resident) we were able to find the restaurant at the top that served fresh homemade "hot" personal pies complete with ice cream. So much for finding the towers! Another trip for another day. The scenery was beautiful as you can see from my photo. Some of the repeaters cover into Phoenix with solid signals at a distance of 90 miles. The repeater systems in the southwest part of the country only have their

height on us. Spending January and February here, I have had the opportunity to monitor several repeaters, most of them have activity over the course of the day, however, they don't sound as good as our home system. Yes, I have been listening and using the Club Linked Repeater system via EchoLink®. This system is worth some investigation if you haven't got connected. I will warn you, if you are not yet registered, you will need a digital photo (not a .pdf scanned image) of your current Amateur Radio License before you can register. Their system must verify that you are a licensed amateur radio operator before you are afforded access to this world wide system. Check it out www.echolink.org (see page 9)

I decided to leave the photo at the top of this page for another month. This photo reminds me that as Amateur Radio Operators, we can have fun even when we are not in front of our radios, and that these young people are our future. I hope that if you haven't already, you will get an opportunity soon to have a QSO with one or more of them. All of the licensed Amateurs in the photo have radios! Give them a listen.

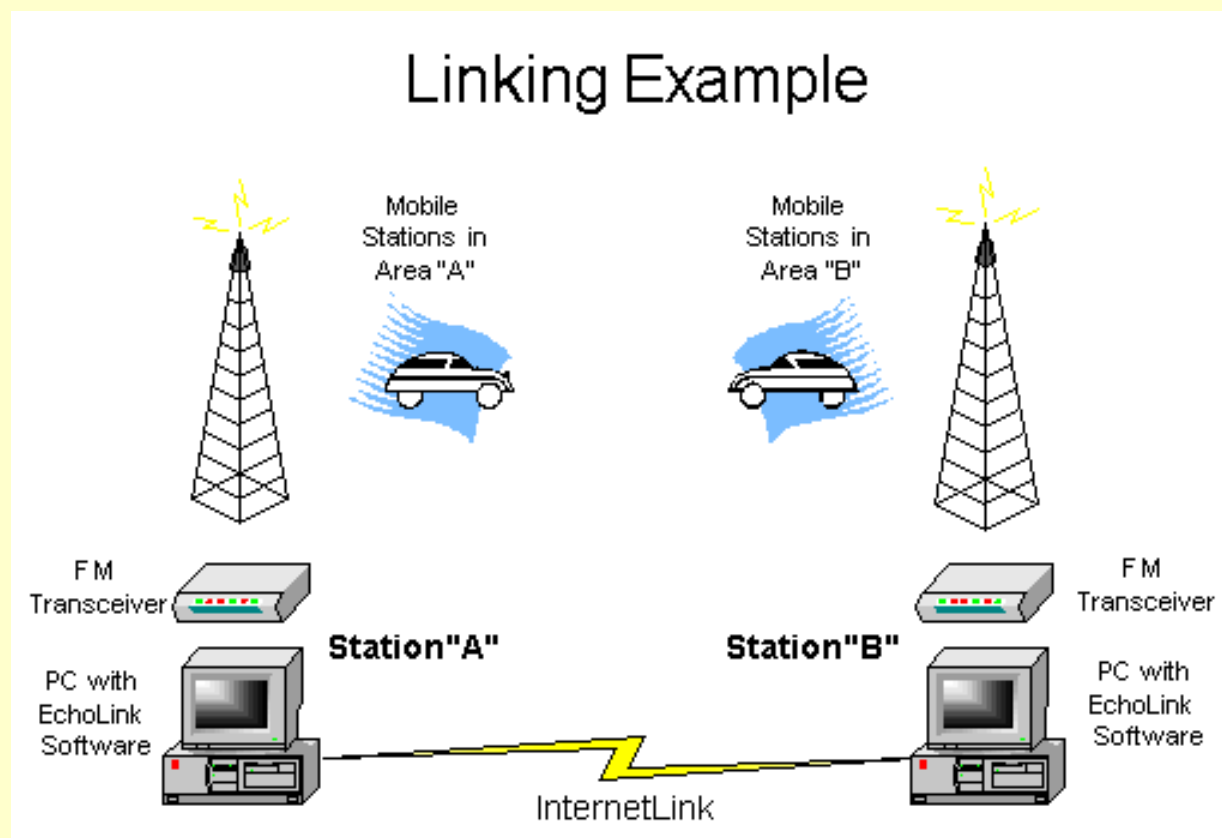
Don't forget the February 7th Meeting mark your Calendars.
See you all there. **For Now— from up here! 73!**



EchoLink®



EchoLink® software allows licensed Amateur Radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet, using streaming-audio technology. The program allows worldwide connections to be made between stations, or from computer to station, greatly enhancing Amateur Radio's communications capabilities. There are more than 200,000 validated users worldwide — in 162 of the world's 193 nations — with about 5,000 online at any given time.



The Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club and the Macoupin County Amateur Radio Clubs sponsor EchoLink® Nodes on the following Linked Repeater Systems:

W9KXQ-R (Node # 228190)

WS9V-R (Node #117935)

EchoLink® Description & images from
EchoLink® Website

www.echolink.org



John, W9KXQ, Dennis KA9YTV, Kortney KC9WZM, Clayton KC9WZL hold ornaments that were present by Emily KC9UBI. The ornaments were especially made by Emily & Kortney's parents (Photo below). Check out their website. Clayton KC9WZL is wearing a red OVARC shirt from Sew Unique

<http://www.sewuniqueweb.com/>



Chrystal & Steven Unterbrink



Screen Printing
 Laser Engraving
 Rhinestones
 Embroidery

The Place To Go For All Your Customized Needs!

You can order your shirts from Chrystal using this online form: [Order Shirt](#)



Ken's Trivia Corner (KK9N)

What is a DVB-T Dongle and what was it developed for?

The answer and a prize for the winner will be given at the February 7, 2012 meeting



Dues for 2013 due January 1, 2013

Dues for 2013 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

Who's Antenna is this?



Send your guess to:
OVARC@ovarc.net

Winner will be announced at February 7th Meeting



Testing Opportunities

**Jim Thibeault KF4NBG
OVARC VE Team**

Contact Jim KF4NBG
(618)-409-8284

BecomeAHam@yahoo.com

Saturday February 2, 2013

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

**Clayten Gan, KC9WZL
Kortney Unterbrink, KC9WZM
Brian Doss KD0TXB
Dan Frey KC9WZJ**

UP GRADES

**Phillip Carreon KC9WXF (General)
Wesley Will N9KDY (Extra)**

Hamfests

Dayton Hamvention® 2013
"DX Hamvention"
May 17-19 2013



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

ITU PHONETIC ALPHABET

| Letter | Word | Pronunciation |
|--------|----------|---------------|
| A | Alpha | AL FAH |
| B | Bravo | BRAH VOH |
| C | Charlie | CHAR LEE |
| D | Delta | DELL TAH |
| E | Echo | ECK OH |
| F | Foxtrot | FOKS TROT |
| G | Golf | GOLF |
| H | Hotel | HOH TELL |
| I | India | IN DEE AH |
| J | Juliet | JEW LEE ETT |
| K | Kilo | KEY LOH |
| L | Lima | LEE MAH |
| M | Mike | MIKE |
| N | November | NO VEM BER |
| O | Oscar | OSS CAR* |
| P | Papa | PAH PAH |
| Q | Quebec | KEH BECK |
| R | Romeo | ROW ME OH |
| S | Sierra | SEE AIR RAH |
| T | Tango | TANG GO |
| U | Uniform | YOU NEE FORM |
| V | Victor | VIK TOR* |
| W | Whiskey | WISS KEY |
| X | X-Ray | ECKS RAY |
| Y | Yankee | YANG KEY |
| Z | Zulu | ZOO LOO |

The **Bold** syllables are emphasized

***Edited From Original**

**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!*

February 2013
Okaw Valley Amateur
Radio Club