

Volume 2, Issue 1  
OVARC E-Mail

January  
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*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR! 2010**



**"Why Too Low a VSWR Can Kill Your Signal"**

**Presented by Ken Norris KK9N**  
**January 7, 2010 7:30 PM**  
**KC Greenville Learning Center**  
**Greenville, IL**

A look into the Myths and Misconceptions of Antennas and Transmission Lines. Based on the teachings of Walter Maxwell, W2DU and Lew Gordon, K4VX.

Walter still holds his original call, W8KHK, and in addition, he is the trustee of K2BSA, the station of the National Headquarters Radio Club, Boy Scouts of America.

Lew now lives in Missouri and began construction on his current contest station. Lew's School of Contesting reopened in 1981 where KR0Y, KM9P, AG9A, W9WI, WX3N, WX9E and others have polished their contesting skills over the years. Lew says future plans are for "more towers and more antennas."

You won't want to miss Ken's Program on VSWR myths.

[Mark Jan. 7, 2010 on your calendar now](#)

## E-Mail Newsletter Style Change

For the past several years, our monthly newsletter has changed very little. This new format should not only be easier to read but should hopefully be easier to edit and for those of you who wish to print it, it should be easier on the eyes. Photos will be an additional part of the newsletter with a copy available from our website as we roll into 2010.

Your comments and criticism will be greatly appreciated. E-mail me at:  
[W9KXQ@ovarc.net](mailto: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/?issue=2009-12-17> )  
If you are a member of ARRL, why not sign up for your weekly email copy?

### REPEATER UPDATES

**442.925 Repeater is down for repairs due to ongoing noise interference to receiver. A PL board will be added to eliminate constant keying problem.**

## Meeting Location for Jan. 7, 2010 Meeting

The January 7th meeting will be in a new location—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).



Jan. 7th meeting location Kaskaskia College  
Greenville Education Center 209 N. Third St.  
Greenville, IL 62246  
rear entrance

By [Kim McGuire](#) St. Louis Post-Dispatch (from copyrighted story)

### Blue moon set to rise on New Year's Eve

This New Year's eve will be the last "Blue Moon" of the year. In fact, according to the Kim McGuire in her article featured in December 28, 2009 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, she explains, "a blue moon occurs when there is two full moons in a calendar month. The first full moon of this month occurred on Dec. 2 and the next happens Thursday.

Blue moons happen every two years or so. The last was May 31, 2007 and the next will be in November 2010. And there won't be any blue moons in 2011, 2014 and 2017.

In case you were wondering, the last blue moon that fell on New Year's Eve happened in 1990. The next will be 2028. "

So if you are out celebrating, or just star (moon) gazing, look for the last Blue moon of 2009. "For those expecting a slight blue hue encircling the moon, you might be a little disappointed.

"It won't be blue at all - it's just a saying," said David Richey, associate director of the James S. McDonnell Planetarium at the St. Louis Science Center."



## Minutes Highlights for Dec. 3, 2009

Vice President John W9KXQ called the annual meeting to order. It was noted that President Hope KA9NRW had left town without the rest of the club. Thus the reading of the minutes and treasurer's report were dispensed with. (we showed him!)

Jim, WD9JDM made the nomination committee report. The following were elected for 2010 by unanimous vote of those present.

John W9KXQ-President  
Hope KA9NRW-Vice-President  
Howard N9GEQ-Treasurer  
Cary W4GRN-Secretary

A prayer was offered by Jim WD9JDM and the meeting was adjourned for the meal and fellowship.



**OVARC members, spouses & friends**



## 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>

## Annual Meeting Christmas Dinner Dec. 3, 2009

The Annual Meeting and election of officers for 2010 was held at Cunetto's on Thursday, Dec. 3, 2009. Following the election of officers (see Page 3) The menu included roast beef and marinated chicken along with mashed potatoes, salad and a cheesecake desert bar. Following dinner, Cary (W4GRN) & Tonya Holman distributed a Christmas quiz (Twas the Night Before Christmas) with words and sentences missing. I think Kris WB9SLM & Janice (WB9NEY's XYL) actually won! Attendance prizes were awarded and Jim Keaster WD9JDM was presented with a personalized coffee cup (Thanks Jim KF4NBG)



Janice & Kris



John W9KXQ & Jim WD9JDM



E-Mail Addresses, would you like one?

[OVARC@ovarc.net](mailto:OVARC@ovarc.net)

Not a member of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), but still would like to have your call letters as part of your email address? Easy to remember, and easy to manage, your call letters @ovarc.net forwarded to your current email address.

The ARRL provides this E-Mail forwarding service to its members. As we use the Internet more and more, we find that being an active Ham Radio Operator in this day requires us to have an E-Mail address. Often, we don't want to provide our main E-Mail address. We have the solution for 2010. The Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club will begin providing "E-Mail Forwarding" to its members. There is no cost for this service as it is part of the hosting package for our domain name (ovarc.net).

**New for 2010 each club member will be entitled to have this service setup for their call letters when you pay your dues for 2010.** Howard N9GEQ will be happy to collect your dues at the January meeting on Thursday Jan. 7th, or you can mail them to Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 3, Greenville, IL 62246. Please include your current E-Mail address. The E-Mail Forwarding service will be setup within a couple of days for your use. You can test it by sending yourself an email at the newly created address.

For example, [W9KXQ@ovarc.net](mailto:W9KXQ@ovarc.net) is an active E-Mail address that has been forwarded to my regular E-Mail address. You may use Capital letters as in the example above or lower case letters when typing it or giving it to someone. Capital letters are easier to read, however the E-Mail server does not care which case you use. It is not case sensitivity.

Since this is a free service of OVARC for its members, I encourage each of you to pay your 2010 dues and sign up for the E-Mail Forwarding service.

I have already set up this service for the Club Officers and you can email them using this new service.

John

W9KXQ

# WorldRadio Online

***WorldRadio*** is now on-line including back issues to its February 2009 debut. The online monthly publication takes the place of its predecessor the newsprint version. Check out the January 2010 issue for up to date articles. These are downloadable. Stop by and give it a try.



## 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

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

Jan. 3 KA9NRW—Hope  
Jan. 10 WB9SLM—Kris  
Jan. 17 N9GEQ—Howard  
Jan. 24 W9KXQ—John  
Jan. 31 KB9BEB—Clareen

## 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.*







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

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

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



**Lucas, KC9PAF, son of Lynn &  
Donna (KC9LEG) Carlson and  
brother to**

**Lyndsey KC9OYI sang a solo part  
(*All is Well*) in the 36th Annual Can-  
dlelight Christmas Concert held on  
Christmas eve at the Greenville Free  
Methodist Church.**

**Lucas and his sister obtained their  
Technician Class amateur licenses  
earlier this year.**



**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)

**Saturday Jan. 9, 2010 10:00 AM  
Saturday Feb. 6, 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.

## Hamfests

### Winterfest 2010

**January 30, 2010  
Gateway Center**

**One Gateway Drive  
Collinsville, IL 52234**

**2 tables reserved for OVARC**

## **New Members to the Club**

**Please Welcome:**

**No new members in December**



### **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).



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

Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club							Print	Week	Month	Agenda
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	January 2010			
27	28	29	30	31	Jan 1	2				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NET 9:00 PM Local 9pm NC KA9NRW			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	NET 9:00 PM Local 9pm NC WB9SLM			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	NET 9:00 PM Local 9pm NC N9GEQ			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	NET 9:00 PM Local 9pm NC W9KXQ			
31	Feb 1	2	3	4	5	6	NET 9:00 PM Local 9pm NC KB9BEB			
						10am V.E. Testing				
						10am V.E. Testing	Winterfest 2010			

**January 2010**  
Okaw Valley Amateur  
Radio Club

**Inside This Issue:**

- New E-mail addresses
- Google Calendar on website
- And Much More...



**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*
- *Electronics and Communications Training*
- *Local and International Friendships*
- *A National Resource!*