

Volume 3, Issue 1
OVARC E-Mail

January
2011

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-

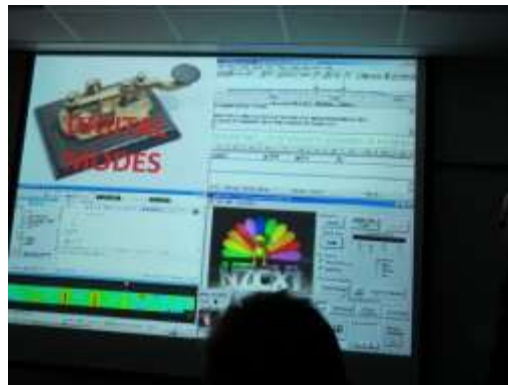
KB9EGI
442.925+

The Monthly Publication of the Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club

January Meeting - Facets of Amateur Radio



Following the Bond County ARES meeting Jan. 6th, Ken KK9N lead a roundtable discussion along with some visual aids regarding the many interests of Amateur Radio. With the interest shown by those in attendance, the next meeting topics will prove to be interesting and informative.



Photos for this issue
provided by Larry KC9ITK



Bond County ARES Chairman Mike
NF9M Conducts the Meeting prior to
OVARC's Meeting

A blue rectangular box with a white border and a small yellow pushpin icon in the top-left corner. The text "MEETINGS TO PLAN FOR" is written in bold black capital letters on a white background within the box.

MEETINGS TO PLAN FOR

Program needed for February 2011

Program needed for March 2011



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=2011-01-13>)
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



All systems are working. Let's use our repeaters!

Location for January 6, 2011 7:30 PM Meeting

The January 6th meeting was in the 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:

Feb. 3, 2011

March 3, 2011

April 7, 2011

May 5, 2011

June 2, 2011

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 January 6, 2011

President Ken Norris KK9N called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM on Thursday January 6, 2011 in Room 106 of the Kaskaskia College Education Center on Third Street in Greenville. There were 15 people present.

The minutes of the November 4 and December 2, 2010 meetings were read and approved.

Howard Wise N9GEQ reported a balance of \$603.15. He was glad that John W9KXQ was not present to hear the report and find places to spend the funds.

Jim Thibeault KF4NBN reported that the next VE testing will be this coming Saturday in Highland. At the September testing two new hams passed their Technicians Class exam and one upgraded to General. One of those taking an exam drove from Decatur.

Announcements included that Winterfest is coming up January 29, that 2011 dues are due (\$25 to Howard, N9GEQ), that the ARISS contact for GES is now planned for May 2-8, and that an informational club database may be developed.

Ken KK9N asked the trivia corner question: If you answer a CQ from AO1F where would he likely be calling from? Several knew that Spain was the answer. AC6V has a large data base of locations of calls worldwide. Kris WB9SLM won the prize.

Ken KK9N presented a PowerPoint presentation overview of amateur radio—definition, amateur television, antenna building, automatic packet reporting system (APRS), amateur radio on the International Space Station (ARISS), certificates, balloon launches, contesting, digital modes (CW, PSK-31, RTTY, slow scan TV, EchoLink, Internet Radio Linking Project IRLP), DXpeditions, chasing DX, emergency response services (RACES, ARES), earth moon earth EME, meteor showers, fox hunting/ amateur radio direction finding, home brewing, mobile/ portable, nets, collecting QSL cards, QRP, satellites, severe weather spotting, vintage amateur radios, VHF/ UHF/ microwave, and socializing club activities. Members expressed interest in a program on fox hunting. Hope knows a fellow in Highland who recently launched a balloon and would probably present a program.

Mike NF9M announced that there will be an ARES training session on January 22 at a location to be determined.



OVARC Information

Repeaters

147.165, 224.440, 442.925

2011 Officers

President

Ken Norris KK9N
KK9N@ovarc.net

Vice-President

John King W9KXQ
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Secretary

Cary Holman W4GRN
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Treasurer

Howard Wise N9GEQ
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Repeater Trustees

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Jim KF4NBG
KF4NBG@ovarc.net

Net Manager

Clareen Dunn KB9BEB
KB9BEB@ovarc.net

Webmaster

John King W9KXQ
webmaster@ovarc.net

Website

<http://ovarc.net>

Photos from January 2011 meeting!





Website to checkout
[QRZ.Com/HamSpeak](http://www.qrz.com/HamSpeak)

Ham Speak - Know the Lingo

If you've heard somebody use terminology you're not familiar with, look it up here and you're likely to find the definition.

<http://www.qrz.com/i/hamspeak.html>



New Amateur Radio bill introduced in Congress



The **Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act**, which died at the end of the 111th Congress, has been re-introduced in the 112th Congress as **HR 81**.

The sponsor is Representative Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX-18). The new bill - which was introduced on January 5 - has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Rep Jackson Lee first introduced the bill - HR 2160 - in the 111th Congress in April 2009. It gained an additional 41 co-sponsors but did not progress out of the committee of jurisdiction. A similar bill introduced in the Senate - S 1755 - made it all the way through that body in December 2009, but likewise was not taken up by the House.

The objective of the bill - which is supported by the ARRL - is for the Secretary of Homeland Security to study the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio communications in emergencies and disaster relief and to identify and make recommendations regarding impediments to Amateur Radio communications, such as the effects of private land use regulations on residential antenna installations.

"We are hopeful that this early start will lead to success in the new Congress," commented ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ.

HR 81 can be found on the web in PDF format at, <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-112hr81ih/pdf/BILLS-112hr81ih.pdf>.

Source: [The American Radio Relay League](http://www.arrl.org)

WorldRadio ONLINE

<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.

Jan. 16 WB9SLM—Kris
Jan. 23 N9GEQ—Howard
Jan. 30 W9KXQ—John
Feb. 6 KB9BEB—Clareen
Feb. 13 KA9NRW—Hope
Feb. 20 WB9SLM—Kris
Net Control Schedule can be
found at 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
*Articles, New Items,
Corrections, etc.*



Ham Radio with GES Fourth Graders



Greenville Elementary to have a ARISS contact sometime during the week of May 2 to 8, 2011.

Charlie Sufana AJ9N, ARISS mentor for Greenville has contacted our group and we are planning for the long awaited ARISS contact. OVARC has been involved from the beginning with this project. We will keep everyone up-to-date as to the actual date and time. It will be during the school day and we will want as many members there as can make it.



<<<<ISS024-E-013398 (5 Sept. 2010) --- NASA astronaut Col. Doug Wheelock KF5BOC, Expedition 24 flight engineer, uses a ham radio system in the Zvezda Service Module of the International Space Station.



My View from Here! John W9KXQ

2010 ended with Ken KK9N & I embarking on an adventure. For the first time since being licensed in 1961 I installed an HF mobile with the help of Rex, N9DAN & Ken KK9N. Rex's engineering of the control head mount and Ken's antenna expertise allowed for several contacts back to the homeland. Ken and I left St. Louis around noon on Thursday Dec. 30 driving to Weatherford, OK for our first night, Las Cruces, NM for our second night and on into Phoenix/Mesa, AZ on Sat. Jan. 1, 2011. (our trip totaled over 1600 miles) We were able

to make contact with Jim KA9LQF, Jay W9JF, Dave K9UK and Doug W9NJM. Several others tried, however, as we discovered, HF conditions didn't do us any favors. I must admit that with the use of APRS tracking and cell phones helped these contacts to take place. Doug W9NJM & I were able to make a D-Star contact as we travelled through both Tucson & Mesa, AZ.

2011 has started out to be an interesting year as I have been vacationing in warm and sunny Mesa, AZ. I have spent my time making a few 20 meter SSB contacts, and several IRLP contacts back to Greenville along with some computer work. Jan. 31, 2011 will be my last day as Bond County Circuit Clerk. I am retiring as of that date and turning that position over to another ham radio operator, Rex Catron N9DAN. Rex will be sworn in on Feb. 1, and will complete my un-expired term, standing for election in Nov. 2012.

Retirement should bring more time for ham radio and related hobbies and more time to get this newsletter back on schedule. Wishing you all the best for 2011.

PRO-197 39,000-Channel Digital Desktop Scanner



Has your scanner suddenly grown silent? Would you like to be in the loop again and know what's going on in the area? Scanners are back, at the Shack. New, pre-programmed digital scanners are now in stock. And now get \$50.00 off the suggested retail price while supplies last.

Will-o'-th'-Wind

**603 East Harris Ave
Greenville, IL 62246
(618)664-3353**

This scanner was featured in the Digital Presentation by Bob Lewis KC9BOZ at our May 6, 2010 meeting.

Visit Marc N9LIS to get this special price.

You can also check out Marc's website for Office Supplies and special prices on printer inks and printers.

www.will-o-th-wind.com



Marc N9LIS

*Engraved
Memories*

www.JimsEngraving.com



Irene KC9SPA Holding one of Jim's Cups



Our Treasurer N9GEQ deep in calculations



Our Secretary W4GRN hard at work



**Makes you wonder what Hope KA9NRW said?
Maybe Donna KA9NYF will tell us later?**



**No need to explain this photo!
KF4NBG & WB9NEY**



Ken's Trivial Corner

What type of transmission is indicated by the term NTSC? Is in in use today in the USA?

The answer and a prize for the winner will be given at the February 6, 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 St. Louis and Suburban Radio Club, Inc. PRESENTS



The largest Hamfest in the area!

Winterfest ~ 1/29/2011

The up-coming Winterfest will be on Saturday, January 29, 2011 with doors opening at 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM for the general public.

OVARC has reserved two (2) tables for use by club members. Contact Ken KK9N, Cary W4GRN or John W9KXQ if you have items you want taken in early. We will be admitted at 7:00 AM to set up. (If you use the table, don't forget to kick in a few \$\$ for the cost)

We will see you all there!

<http://www.slsrc.org/winterfest.html>



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

Technician Class Questions Change July 1, 2010

**Saturday
February 5, 2011 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

**Winterfest 2011
January 29, 2011—Collinsville, IL**



IL Section Manager

Thomas Ciciora, KA9QPN@ARRL.org

Central Division Director

George "Dick" Isely,
W9GIG@ARRL.org

Central Div. Vice Director

Howard Huntington, K9KM@ARRL.org

A Google Calendar has been added to our web-site. Click on **Calendar of Events** from our main webpage www.ovarc.net.

You can park your browser on www.ovarc.net as you can access QRZ.com from the main page.


QRZ callsign lookup:

Callsign lookups provided by qrz.com




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



<p>January 2011 Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club</p>	<p>Inside This Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upcoming ISS Contact • January Meeting Highlights • Winterfest 2011 • January Meeting photos • And Much More... 	
<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> 	