

Volume 4, Issue 1  
OVARC E-Mail

January  
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*



## 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**

**January 5, 2012  
7:30 PM**

MEETINGS TO PLAN FOR

**January 5, 2012**

The January program will be a video of the K5D Dxpedition.

**February 2, 2012**

**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=2011-12-15>)  
 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

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 January 5, 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:**

**January 5, 2012  
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 Decemere 1, 2011

### **OVARC Dec 1, 2011 meeting summary**

**President Ken KK9N called to order the annual meeting of the Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club at 6:15 pm at Cunnetto's restaurant in Greenville prior to the annual Christmas party. On motion the reading of the minutes and treasurer reports were dispensed with.**

**Nominating Committee representative, Charley KA9NQL presented the following slate of officers for 2012: President, Ken Norris KK9N; Vice-president, John King W9KXQ; Treasurer, Howard Wise N9GEQ; Secretary, Cary Holman W4GRN. Lance K2SGS moved that nominations be closed and that the secretary record a unanimous ballot. Seconded. Motion passed.**

**The business meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.**

**Cary Holman W4GRN  
Secretary**



## OVARC Information

### Repeaters

147.165, 224.440, 442.925

### 2011 Officers

#### President

Ken Norris KK9N  
[KK9N@ovarc.net](mailto:KK9N@ovarc.net)

#### Vice-President

John King W9KXQ  
[W9KXQ@ovarc.net](mailto:W9KXQ@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



At the annual meeting Club Officers were re-elected for 2012 (see page 3). There were 37 in attendance with 23 of them being licensed Ham Radio Operators. Following dinner, Emily KC9UBI shared her experiences watching the Mars rocket launched (page 10). Cary W4GRN provide a Christmas Trivia game with one table the "declared winner".



Ken KK9N is presented with a new Mic Mixer for his Ham Shack of course, you understand he picked it out, paid for it!

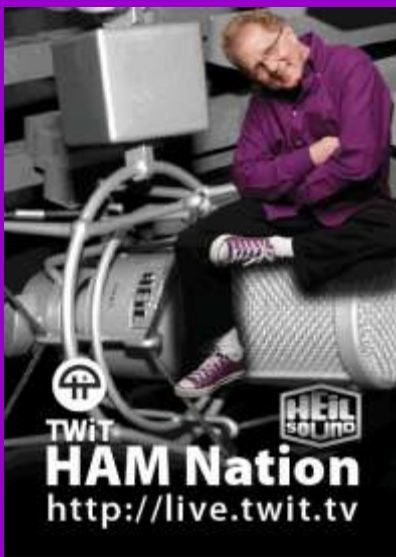
## Website to checkout



Jim KF4NBG has provided a lot of information for new hams on his website. Check out the Ham Radio Study Guide Page.

Check it out here:

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



**“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](http://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 December 11, 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!

**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. 1—NO NET NEW YEARS**
- Jan. 8—Clareen KB9BEB**
- Jan. 15—Hope KA9NRW**
- Jan. 22—Kris WB9SLM**
- Jan. 29—Howard N9GEQ**
- Feb. 5—John W9KXQ**

### **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

Can you believe it, 2011 is just about in the history books. It is hard to believe the many events that this club has been involved in during 2011. Thanks to Ken KK9N's leadership and everyone's willingness to help out when the call went out, we have had a very successful year. We have lost some members and we have celebrated new members and new ham radio operators. The number of Ham Radio Operators (Licensees) have grown to a number greater than ever before. Our club has had a small part in increasing these numbers. Without new Ham Radio Operators, we will not survive. I have enjoyed serving this year as your Vice President and editor of this Newsletter. To publish this takes more time always than what I think it will, but it is a labor of love. Many of you have helped me this year accomplish the installation of a new HF antenna system at my QTH. I was able to participate in my first ever (after 50 years) 10 meter SSB contest. I managed to work 50 countries and over 500 contacts over the December 11th weekend. Of course "ole Sol" helped but so did the antenna system. Thanks to each of you that helped make my dream come true.

My view is shorter than usual, as I am preparing to leave Wed. Dec. 28th for Arizona. Ken KK9N and I will once again be operating HF Mobile across the country (check MIDCARS on 40 Meters) and I will be beaconing APRS. Look for W9KXQ-1 on <http://aprs.fi/?call=w9kxq-1>. I intend to Check into the net from Arizona and plan to do my Net Control turn from there if the EchoLink system doesn't fail.

I want to take this opportunity to wish each of you a HAPPY NEW YEAR. **73 from up here!**

# GES Ham Radio Club Activities

## December 2011



**Emily KC9UBI**

Emily KC9UBI made a presentation at the Annual meeting. She and her family took a trip over Thanksgiving break to Merritt Island, Florida (Brevard County) where they watched the launch of Curiosity. The Mars Science Laboratory was launched from Cape Canaveral. The one-ton, car size exploration vehicle was sent to Mars using a Atlas Five Rocket. Following the launch, Emily and her family met Roy W6QCM who gave them a tour of the emergency communications unit pictured below.



**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**

## BOND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ADDS 2 AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS TO STAFF

During Emergencies, when all communications are down within the city of Greenville, the HAM radio is used as redundant communication to contact Bond County EOS and Department of Public Health. Following an 8 week class taught by John King W9KXQ, two Bond County Health Department employees, Monica Rensing KC9VBK and Karen Bare KC9VBJ, are now licensed Amateur Radio Operators. They were assigned VHF hand-held radios to use should the need arise. The Okaw Valley V.E. Team administered the exams December 7, 2011.



Cary W4GRN, Karen KC9VBJ, John W9KXQ, Hope KA9NRW

Bond County Health Department Facility-Greenville, Illinois



### ***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 January 5, 2012 meeting



## 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](http://www.ClintonCountyARES.net).

For immediate information contact Tim Rapp at [K9XWX@arrl.net](mailto: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](mailto:BecomeAHam@yahoo.com)

Extra Class Questions Changes  
July 1, 2012

Saturday January 7, 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](mailto:KA9QPN@arrl.org)

## Central Division Director

George "Dick" Isely, [W9GIG@arrl.org](mailto:W9GIG@arrl.org)

## Central Div. Vice Director

Kermit Carlson, [W9XA@arrl.org](mailto:W9XA@arrl.org)

## Tim Allen as Ham Radio Operator KA0XTT on New TV "Last Man Standing"



"Tim Allen -- star of Home Improvement, Toy Story, The Santa Clause and Galaxy Quest, just to name a few -- stars in Last Man Standing, an ABC comedy airing at 8 PM (EST) on Tuesday nights. Allen plays Mike Baxter, KA0XTT, a married father of three and the director of marketing at an outdoor sporting goods store in Colorado whose life is dominated by women. While Ama-

teur Radio has not been prominently featured in the first episodes, according to John Amodeo, NN6JA -- the producer of Last Man Standing -- it is a part of the show and an important part of Mike's character. The episode that will establish Mike as a radio amateur is currently scheduled to air in mid-January. "Tim's character Mike is involved in creating the sales strategy for the store, including their catalog and Internet identity," Amodeo told the ARRL." (from Blind Hams List Server) More on this story can be found here:

[Link](#)



January 2012  
Okaw Valley Amateur  
Radio Club

### Inside This Issue:

- Annual Meeting & Christmas Party
- December Meeting Highlights
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- Clinton County ARES
- KC9UBI and the Mars Science Laboratory



**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!*