

Volume 2, Issue 7
OVARC E-Mail

July
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



Field Day Wrap-Up



On Saturday June 26, 2010 about 9:00 A.M. members of OVARC met at Patriot's Park to begin the annual set-up of our Field Day Operation Site. Following the installation of several antennas, the first contact was made on the GOTA at 12:20 PM and all stations were operational by 1:00 PM.

This year's event was well attended and included new hams and older hams alike. We had 4 hams from our April, 2010 class participating along with their parents. Even the parents were treated to a great introduction to Amateur Radio by Ken KK9N. Our own Kris WB9SLM, made this year her first Field Day in her 35 years of being licensed. See Article on page 8,9.



MEETINGS TO PLAN FOR

August 5, 2010

Field Day recap & Planning for future meetings.

August 10, 2010

Annual Bond County Fair Parade, Bond County Fairgrounds, Greenville. Allan Davis WB9YVE Parade Line up Chairman. Line up begins at 5:00 PM and we can use your help. Will be using the 2 Meter Repeater and will unlink it during the parade operations.

Use South entrance to fairgrounds and advise the gate you are there to help with the parade.

See you there!



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/index.html?issue=2010-07-08>)

If you are a member of ARRL, why not sign up for your weekly email copy?



REPEATER UPDATES

KB9EGI 442.925 Repeater site

442.925 Repeater back on this air. Controller unscrambled itself and the 2 meter system is up and running.

Meeting Location for August 5, 2010 Meeting

The August 5th meeting will be in 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).



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

rear entrance

Future Dates this Location:

August 5, 2010—Room to be announced



Field Day food was enjoyed by many.
Thanks to Nancy (KF4NBG's XYL) & Don KB9EGI

Minutes Highlights for June 3, 2010

The Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club held its regular monthly meeting at 7:30 pm June 3, 2010 at the Kaskaskia College Center on Third Street in Greenville. Treasurer Howard N9GEQ reported a balance of \$690.07.

John W9KXQ was not present to make a repeater report. There was some discussion about what type of batteries to buy to backup the 2 meter repeater. KC9BOZ offered a used handheld radio for any of the new elementary school hams who needed one, but all apparently have a rig.

A VE testing session was scheduled for June 13. No VE testing is scheduled in July.

Hope KA9NRW and Cary W4GRN participated today in a disaster drill at Greenville Regional Hospital. Storms last night in the metro east had damaged one of the key repeaters, so no contacts were received or made.

Several hams knew the answer to KK9N's trivia question: How often does an operator need to identify his station? The answer was Every ten minutes and at the end of the transmission.

The program was to finalize plans for Field Day June 26 & 27. Hope passed around a sheet for members to sign up to bring needed items. By the end of the meeting members had agreed to bring nearly all the needed items.

Cary W4GRN sold 50/50 tickets.



Ken KK9N looks on as Clayten (KC9SHF's little brother) learns about digital communication. In the background is Lawton KC9SHY explaining the radio to his Dad.





OVARC Information

Repeaters

147.165, 224.440, 442.925

2010 Officers

President

John King W9KXQ
W9KXQ@ovarc.net

Vice-President

Hope Walker KA9NRW
KA9NRW@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>

Field Day 2010 is a wrap!



Field Day setup began a 9:00 AM with Ken KK9N (blue shirt) tossing an antenna line over a tree.

Even Ken KK9N and Marc N9LIS (closer to camera) had time for a steak, thank to the OVARC VE Team



Jerry WB9NEY & his XYL Janice (back to camera) enjoy a visit with Jeremy (KF4NBG's grandson)



Ken KK9N (Mr. Antenna Wizard) at his FD station.

OVARC Field Day Photographer Gets in the Picture !

Larry, KC9ITK (front right), our Club Photographer gets a lesson on how to use Jim's KF4NBG (standing) radio as Corey KC9RZT (front left) looks on. Larry contributed the photos for this month's E-Mail Newsletter.



HAMFEST ANNOUNCEMENT

The West-Central Illinois Hamfest August 7, 2010 will be held in Carlinville, IL at the Macoupin County Fairgrounds. Setup at 6:00 AM, Hamfest open 7:00 AM to Noon. \$5.00 tailgate Charge. Sponsored by the Montgomery & Macoupin Amateur Radio Clubs. Talk-in on 444.250+ 103.5 tone or 146.82- repeaters.

Testing: Contact Gregg KI9Z at 217-854-8469

General & Vendor questions Contact Jim N9LQF 217-854-3352 or K9MCW@hotmail.com

Flyers available for download at Macoupin County ARC's website <http://k9mce.org/>

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 May 2010 issue for up to date articles. These are downloadable. Stop by and give it a try. (<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 evenings.

The net control stations are on a rotating schedule.

July 18 WB9SLM—Kris
July 25 N9GEQ—Howard
Aug. 1 W9KXQ—John
Aug. 8 KB9BEB—Clareen
Aug. 15 KA9NRW—Hope
Aug. 22 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.

RADIO CLUB CONDUCTS FIELD DAY

(Reprinted by Permission from *The Greenville Advocate* June 29, 2010)

The Okaw Valley Amateur Radio club (OVARC) held another successful Field Day exercise at Patriot's Park Saturday and Sunday.

Among those operating the radios during the exercise were two newly licensed youths, Cameryn Gan and Lawton File and a woman who also participated in her first Field Day, Kris Hickerson.

Gan and File recently earned their ham radio licenses through a program offered by OVARC at the Greenville Elementary School.

Hickerson, who now lives in Greenville, has been licensed for 35 years, but had never attended a Field Day event. She is blind, but amateur radio has allowed her to develop many friendships throughout the United States.

"I have people I talk to regularly in California, Arizona, Nevada, Michigan and out on the East coast," she said.

Hickerson earned her ham radio license in July of 1975. Over the years, she had done a lot of emergency communication work in Illinois. She remembers being involved in communications during a severe ice storm in 1978, and she has provided information during tornadoes and other severe storms.

Upon reaching the Field Day shelter at Patriot's Park Saturday afternoon, Hickerson quickly went to work making contacts via the radio. "I'm having a ball," she said.

"We've been picking them off like gangbusters!"

Assisting her at the radio was Russ Lentz of Highland, who has also been a ham radio operator for 35 years.

Hickerson said participating in a Field Day exercise was something she has wanted to do since she was 10 years old. "This is really neat and I'm having a lot of fun doing it."

With the temperature around the 90 degree mark, Hickerson admitted it would be a little nicer if it was about 15 degrees cooler, but she was still enjoying the experience.

Each year in June, OVARC members participate in Field Day, which is held during "Amateur Radio Week" by the Amateur Radio Relay League, (Ed. Note: American Radio Relay League –ARRL) the national association of amateur radio.

John King, president of the local club, said Field Day allows the organization to show to the public its equipment and how it can assist providing communications in times of disasters.



KRIS HICKERSON (right) assisted by Russ Lentz as Hickerson participates in her first amateur radio Field Day event after being a licensed operator the past 35 years.



RADIO TRAINING: John King (center) president of the Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club, informs newly licensed ham radio operators Cameryn Gan (left) and Lawton File (right) about how to use the radio to make contacts during Field Day exercises.

Jeff Leidel, Editor of the Greenville Advocate (with camera) has been covering our Field Day events for most of 20 years. He is always willing to come out in the heat to cover this event, and freely shares his photos for club use. He wrote the article on pages 8 & 9. Jeff's father, Bill Leidel (SK) was a ham radio operator and Director for the Bond County/Greenville ESDA programs for many years.

This is a rare photo of Jeff, as he is usually the one who takes everybody else's pictures.

(Photo by Larry KC9ITK)





+ ARRL Now on Facebook!

“With more than 400 million active users, [Facebook](#) is the most popular social network site on the Internet. And since radio amateurs are generally a social bunch, many hams are active on Facebook. Thanks to Herman May, KE5HYW, the [ARRL has its own Facebook page](#). Check out the page to see a lot of features you won't find anywhere else, such as pictures from ARRL events and interactive status updates. We invite hams to "like" the ARRL Facebook page and leave productive comments. Joining Facebook is free, and you just might be surprised at who you'll find on the site.” (from The ARRL Letter July 8, 2010)

ARRL Field Day : 2010 Statistics

Phone contacts (Including GOTA): 217

CW contacts: 210

Digital contacts: 6

Total contacts for Field Day 2010: 433

Total QSO points with multipliers: 1298

Total Bonus points: 490

Total Claimed score: 1788



The Bonus points will be discussed at the August meeting.



Ken's Trivial Corner

The Sun is advancing into its next Solar Cycle. What number is it, when is it expected to peak, what is a Solar Cycle and what does it mean to you as an Amateur Radio Operator?

The answer and a prize for the winner will be given at the August 5, 2010 meeting.



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

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

**You can pay Howard N9GEQ at club
meetings or send a check made pay-
able to Okaw Valley Amateur Radio**



Jim K9CNP was one of my Elmers when I was first licensed in 1977. He never bothered to get the "big rig", a Yaesu FT-857D out of the car. When he first got to the site Jim decided to try out his new 4 Watt Ten-Tec R4020 QRP rig with a 20 Meter Par Electronics end fed antenna supported by a crappie pole. 5 hours later when he headed home he and the R4020 had worked 36 states on 20 Meters CW! Below is a photo of Jim's killer station...

Tim N9PUZ

(Editors Note: Jim, K9CNP does major engineering work for both WGRN & WGEL FM Stations in Greenville.)



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**

No summer Test Sessions Planned

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

New Members to the Club

None to Report



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

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

<p align="center">July 2010 Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club</p>	<p>Inside This Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field Day wrap-up with photos • Carlinville Hamfest Announced • QRP Operations for Field Day • 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>A fun way to learn new technologies</i> • <i>Local and International Friendships</i> • <i>A National Resource!</i> 	