

Volume 4, Issue 3
OVARC E-Mail

March
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

Inside this Issue

March Meeting	1
Future Meetings	2
Meeting Location	3
Feb. Mtg. Minutes	4
Feb. Mtg. Highlights	5
Website checkout ✓	6
Net Control Schedule	7
March 17 Field Trip	9
ARES Net-Clinton Co.	10
Clinton Co. ARES	11
Distracted Driving-ILL	12

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 SCIENCE of Amateur Radio

Presented by Bob Heil K9EID



Bob's presentation will begin by covering some of his history in Amateur Radio in the past 50 years. From being one of the first few SSB stations on 6 and 2 meters in 1958 (when SSB wasn't prevalent on 20 meters yet) to the 128 element two meter array. He will then take us into some audio demonstrations that prove the science of the human ear and how important it is to tailor your audio properly.

Bob will also touch on receive audio - uncharted territory for most of us - and how it can improve your receive capabilities.

The program will conclude with Questions & Answers. The goal of this program is to help us understand this great hobby of Amateur Radio a bit better.



Bob has donated one of his Handi Pro Microphones as an attendance prize. You must be present to win.



Bob's presentation will be via Skype and if you are not able to make the meeting, we are planning on having an internet site available for you to attend the entire meeting via the Internet. Details to follow.

PLAN NOW FOR NEXT MEETING

March 1, 2012
7:30 PM

Greenville College Dietzman Center Room 202



April 5, 2011

Rick Crockett W0PC
APRS & WinLink

May 3, 2011

To Be Announced



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=2012-02-23>)
If you are a member of ARRL, why not sign up for your weekly email copy?



REPEATER UPDATES

Linked repeater system is operational

W9KXQ 147.165 Repeater site

KB9EGI 442.925 Repeater site



The Clinton County ARES Net on Sundays at 8:00 PM on the 2 Meter Repeater. The 70 CM repeater will be their backup.



Location for March 1, 2012 7:30 PM

Greenville College Dietzman Center Room 202, Greenville, IL 62246



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

rear entrance

Future Dates this Location:

**April 5, 2012
May 3, 2012
June 7, 2012
July NO Meeting
August 2, 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 February 2, 2012

President Ken Norris KK9N called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday October 7, 2010 in Room 107 of the Kaskaskia College Education Center on Third Street in Greenville. There were 13 people present.

The minutes of the January 5, 2012 meeting were approved. Howard N9GEQ was not in attendance, but he had called Cary earlier in the day to report a balance of \$723.38. The only explanation we had for the balance going up since last month was that John W9KXQ was in Arizona. The treasurer's report was accepted.

Les N9MFA turned off and turned on the remote link recently and got it reset. We were not hearing the 444.250 machine. Ken thought that we may need to replace the link. Les reported that some of the users in Carlenville thought the break may have occurred during resetting the link for a weather notice.

Jim Thibeault KF4NBG reported that the next VE testing will be this coming Saturday in Highland. Jim gave updates on the testing sessions for the past few months. At the Nov 5 testing 1 applicant passed the General class exam. At the Nov 23 testing 1 passed the Extra exam. At the Dec 3 testing 2 passed the Extra exam, and at the Dec 7 testing 2 passed the Technician exam. In 2011 we had 93 new and upgraded licenses. That makes 492 amateurs through Jim's testing for last 8 yrs.

Cary reminded Ken that we need to update our constitution and bylaws. Bob suggested a work day at the 2m repeater site to clean up some things. Les reported that about 50 people were in attendance at the weather spotter training held at Greenville College last Tuesday night.

Saturday, March 17 a trip is planned to the Centralia Wireless museum. There are eight people in Carlenville who have chartered a bus. They will stop in Greenville and pick up as many people as want to ride down. About five of those in attendance at tonight's meeting indicated interest in going.

Ken will be in Rochester, NY the date of our March meeting. We will Skype with Bob Heil at that meeting. We may move the location of that meeting to Greenville College where we could get a larger room and hopefully more bandwidth.

There was brief discussion of HB3970, the distracted driving bill. As it is currently written operating amateur radio with a hand-held microphone in a moving vehicle would be banned. Tim said an email was sent out today

Ken showed a rig he had built in about 7 hours. It is a really good QRP CW rig.

Tim reported that the Clinton County ARES net is going on Sunday nights at 8:00 pm. We have had two nets to date. Tim expressed appreciation for the use of the Greenville 2m machine. Larry said that the Coast Guard Auxiliary is interested in working with the Clinton County ARES group.

The answer to Ken's trivia corner question was the enigma machine.

For tonight's program Ken KK9N showed a DVD of the K5D Dxpedition to Desecheo Island, west of Puerto Rico in February 2009.

Cary Holman W4GRN
Secretary



OVARC Information

Repeaters

147.165, 224.440, 442.925

2012 Officers

President

Ken Norris KK9N
KK9N@ovarc.net

Vice-President

John King W9KXQ
W9KXQ@ovarc.net

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W4GRN@ovarc.net

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Net Manager

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KB9BEB@ovarc.net

Webmaster

John King W9KXQ
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Website

<http://ovarc.net>

K5D - Desecheo Island 2009

Ken KK9N presented a program on the Desecheo Island DX-Pedition that took place in 2009 complete with video.

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.



Ken KK9N



Desecheo Island on the map



DX-Pedition in operation



40 Meter CW Rig in operation

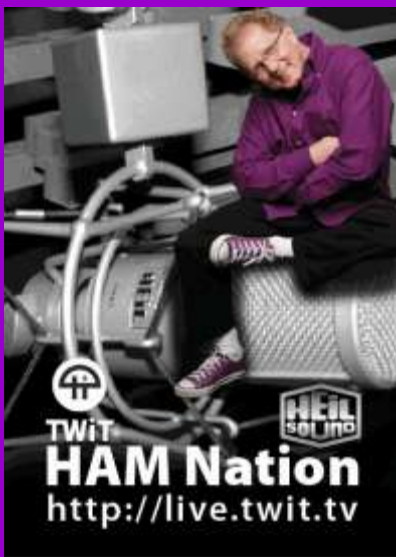
Photos by Larry KC9ITK

Website to checkout



Centralia Wireless Association has a very complete website. Their 70 CM Repeater is part of our wide area linked repeater system. Check it out here:

<http://w9cwa.homestead.com/index.html>



“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

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 March 11, 2012

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.

**LOCATION CHANGE
FOR March 1, 2012
Meeting held at
Greenville College
Dietzman Center
Room 202**

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. 26—Kris WB9SLM
Mar. 4—Howard N9GEQ
Mar. 11—John W9KXQ
Mar. 18—Clareen KB9BEB
Mar. 25—Hope KA9NRW
April 1—Kris WB9SLM
April 8—NO NET-EASTER
April 15—Howard N9GEQ
April 22—John W9KXQ
April 29—Clareen KB9BEB

Visit Us on the
Web!!!

<http://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



Let's see if you have been paying attention!
If you can name these two ham radio operators and provide their call letters, you may win a door prize at the March 1, 2012 meeting. You have time to figure it out!



My View from Here! John W9KXQ

They say that all good things come to an end and that seems to be true with my vacation to Arizona. The weather has been warmer here than last year as it has in Illinois, but I must come back to face the rest of the Illinois winter. Home is calling me and I am caving to that call. Like most good things, this past 2 months have flown by. I have had some opportunities to meet other ham radio operators and attend the Central Arizona DX Association February meeting as the guest of John Arthurs K7WP. John is Donna Carlson KC9LEG's uncle and I found him to be an avid DX operator. He has been on a DX-Pedition to Bamako, Mali, Africa. He and his wife have invited me to lunch before I leave Arizona where I am looking forward to touring his QTH. I will plan to share this experience with all of you over the next month or two here in this newsletter.

Meeting some of the members of the Central Arizona DX Association and listening to their program earlier this month gave me a new appreciation for this wonderful hobby. We have so much going on with Amateur Radio today that one wonders sometimes how we have time to get on the air. But, getting on the air, is part of what it is all about and I encourage each of you to up your operating time, keep your skills honed and hope you will never be needed in an emergency, but know that if you are needed, you are up to the challenge.

March is another busy month for OVARC. We begin the month with Bob Heil K9EID as our guest speaker. Bob has been visiting clubs around this country and sharing his message of "The Science of Ham Radio" in a unique way, by using the Internet. Our meeting is no exception. We will be able to see Bob's Ham Station and ask him questions. A new twist will be the ability to bring this meeting to those of you unable to attend via a USTREAM link. Finally, March 17th, along with 2 other Clubs we will be traveling to Centralia to visit the W9CWA Historical Museum. This is a first—Tri-Club Field Trip. Plan to join us (see Page 9) Thanks to Jim N9LQF for making this trip a reality. **73 from up here!**

**W9CWA HISTORICAL MUSEUM
Centralia, IL
Saturday, March 17, 2012 Field Trip**



Jim N9LQF, Macoupin County Amateur Radio Club has helped to organize a field trip to the Centralia Wireless Association's Museum. This trip involves 3 clubs, Macoupin Co. ARC, Montgomery County ARC and OVARC. A bus has been reserved and it will stop in Greenville at 9:00 AM. We should return by 4:00 PM. We will tour the Museum, eat lunch together and then complete the Museum tour before returning home. The cost is \$10 for the bus if you are under 60. Lunch is extra. Plan now to attend. There is a form for the bus ride that must be completed prior to March 17. The form and instructions will be emailed. Plan now to take in this exceptional opportunity.

under 60. Lunch is extra. Plan now to attend. There is a form for the bus ride that must be completed prior to March 17. The form and instructions will be emailed. Plan now to take in this exceptional opportunity.

**The Centralia Wireless Association's
Website can be found here.**

<http://w9cwa.homestead.com/index.html>



**Museum
Address:
240 S. Locust St.
Centralia, IL 62801**

Admission is Free





NEW RULES FOR 60 METERS

The new Rules for the 60 Meter band, were published in the Federal Register on February 3, 2012.

This means that the Rules will be in effect at 0001 EST on March 5, 2012. You should familiarize yourself with these Rules before operating on 60 Meters.

[FCC NPRM](#) This is a 10 page document— you may not want to print it all. The ARRL has summarized the rules here for you— [ARRL 60 Meter Rules](#)



Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES)

“The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes.” (Source ARRL)



Ken's Trivial Corner (KK9N)

What does WARC stand for and which WARC band is SSB only allowed during emergencies involving the immediate safety of life and property, and only by stations actually involved in the handling of the emergency traffic?

The answer and a prize for the winner will be given at the March 1, 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



According to Wikipedia, "Facebook is a social networking service and website launched in February 2004, operated and privately owned by Facebook Inc. As of February 2012, Facebook has more than 845 million active users" Are you a member, have you joined in this communications media? Amateur Radio has joined and there are many pages and groups that are directly related to Amateur Radio.

Below are listed just a few including the ARRL and OVARC. Each image is hyperlinked to their spe-



cific



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

**Extra Class Questions Changes
July 1, 2012**

**Saturday March 3, 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

None Reported

UP GRADES

None Reported

**HamFests
Moultrie Amateur Radio Klub
April 22, 2012-Arthur, IL**



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



Proposed Distracted Driving Legislation in Illinois

According From Tom Ciciora KA9QPN, ARRL Illinois Section Manager as of 02/17/2012:

****There has been precious little else going on except for the saga of HB3972. For those who came in late, this was an attempt to minimize 'distracted driving'. As written, the Bill would have severely crippled mobile Amateur Radio operation, (practically eliminated mobile ham radio in the State, negatively impacting public service, ARES/RACES and SKYWARN operations) and we sounded the alarm as such to you all. After much churning and commenting, we found an ally in Rep. Chuck Krezwick WV9C. As background, Chuck was appointed by his local officials to serve out the term of a retiring legislator. He is the only Amateur Radio licensee serving in the Legislature. As luck would have it, Chuck was assigned to the Transportation; Vehicles & Safety Committee. This created a perfect convergence between Chuck, the Bill and the Author of the Bill, Rep. John D'Amico. Chuck was able to take some time with Rep. D'Amico and bring him up to speed on who we are, what we do, and how this would harm our Service. The result was an amendment to the Bill, exempting licensed Amateur Radio operators. It was Chuck's idea to send QSL cards of thanks to Rep. D'Amico.**

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/97/HB/PDF/09700HB3970lv.pdf>

The amended bill is not available on line yet, however the Amateur Radio Exemption is subsection (d) Exemptions (7)

<p>March 2012 Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club</p>	<p>Inside This Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field Trip March 17, 2012 • February Meeting Highlights • Facebook-Social Media & Ham Radio • Distracted Driving in Illinois Update  <p>"Official" League position statement on Distracted Driving and Amateur Radio (http://www.arrl.org/files/file/MobileAmateurRadioPolicyStatement.pdf)</p>
<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>