

Volume 4, Issue 5
OVARC E-Mail

May
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

FLdigi for Digital EmComm & RMS Express

Presented by Rick Crockett WØPC



**Rick
WØPC**
will be
covering
the use

of FLdigi and the
latest features that
have been devel-
oped for EmComm.
He will also be cov-
ering RMS Express
for WinLink.

**Rick will be demonstrating his EmComm operating station pic-
tured above.**

An In-Depth Look at RMS Express For WinLink



PLAN NOW FOR OUR NEXT MEETING

May 3, 2012
7:30 PM

MEETINGS TO PLAN FOR

May 3, 2012

Rick Crockett WØPC
APRS & WinLink




June 7, 2012

Field Day Preparation



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=2012-04-26>)
 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 May 3, 2012 7:30 PM Meeting

Kaskaskia College Center in Greenville (just south of the Dairy Queen on Third St.)



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

rear entrance

Future Dates this Location:

May 3, 2012
June 7, 2012
July NO Meeting
August 2, 2012
September 6, 2012
October 4, 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 April 5, 2012

President Ken Norris KK9N called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday October 7, 2010 in Room 104 of the Kaskaskia College Education Center on Third Street in Greenville. There were 14 people present.

The minutes of the March 1, 2012 meeting were approved as read. Howard Wise N9GEQ was not present to provide a treasurer's report.

John W9KXQ reported we still need to work on the power supply at the UHF repeater, and we have some fan noise at the 2 meter site.

Jim Thibeault KF4NGB reported that the next VE testing will be this coming Saturday in Highland. At the March testing one upgraded to General and one earned their Technician license. Field Day is coming up. Ken asked for ideas to improve Field Day. None was suggested, except to again have pancakes on Sunday morning. Ken will have a form at the next meeting for volunteers to provide items for Field Day.

The Dayton Hamvention is coming up. Ken has five hotel rooms reserved. Jerry WB9NEY plans to arrive on Thursday. John W9KXQ and Cary W4GRN plan to drive over on Thursday and return on Saturday.

John W9KXQ announced that our club has been approached by Our Common Ground in Greenville to provide an exhibit of amateur radio at a DIY Street Fair on Saturday, June 16. We are planning to do that. Larry K9ITK has offered his trailer. The event runs from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 pm. This is the weekend before Field Day, so it will be a good opportunity to advertise our Field Day event. Sh-Boom will perform 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Bo Hopkins and Candy Clark will also appear. There will be a car show for cars manufactured before 1986. Every event Our Common Ground has planned have been very successful.

Ken KK9N asked the trivia corner question: What is Reverse Beacon Network, and what technology allows it? Jerry Jones had the answer. Pet Smith N4ZR has spear headed RBN. It uses CW skimmer software to list stations using CW who are calling CQ.

Alexis KC9VAK and Emily KC9UBI narrated a PowerPoint about their trip to the Centralia Museum last month. After their presentation they distributed copies of a quiz. Ken KK9N and Tim K9XWX tied both getting seven answers correct.

Ken KK9N presented the second portion of tonight's program on Ham Radio Deluxe (HRD). HRD was initially developed by Simon. Three fellows bought him out and developed the software further. When interfaced through the serial port to your HF rig HRD can do many things, including controlling the radio, logging, displaying PSK stations, and more. The software is free. Version 5.0 is the latest version. Ken demonstrated HRD with his Elecraft K3 transceiver.

The program adjourned at 9:15 pm.

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

Secretary

Cary Holman W4GRN
W4GRN@ovarc.net

Treasurer

Howard Wise N9GEQ
N9GEQ@ovarc.net

Repeater Trustees

John King W9KXQ
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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>

W9CWA MUSEUM REVIEW *Presented by Emily KC9UBI & Alexis KC9VAK*



Emily KC9UBI & Alexis KC9VAK

**Ken KK9N introduces
Emily KC9UBI & Alexis KC9VAK**



**Alexis & Emily working on their
PowerPoint presentation**

Emily & Alexis presented a PowerPoint tour of our Club's recent visit to the W9CWA Historical Museum. Their unique view of the museum and their "were you paying attention quiz" at the end made it a fun evening. Emily age 11 and in the 5th grade and Alexis age 10 and in the 4th grade provided an interesting view of the Museum tour.

Ken KK9N presented an overview of some of the features and basic configuration for connection to a transceiver. Ham Radio Deluxe (HRD) offers Automation of your station, Remote operation, Logging, DX Cluster connectivity, operation of CW, PSK, RTTY, SSTV, and several other popular digital modes, satellite tracking, rotor and antenna control. It is a versatile software tool for Amateur Radio Operators.



Version 6.0 will be released after Dayton Hamvention, available with Phone and email support for \$79. Version 5.11 is free and 6.0 is \$59 until Dayton.



Ken KK9N on Ham Radio Deluxe

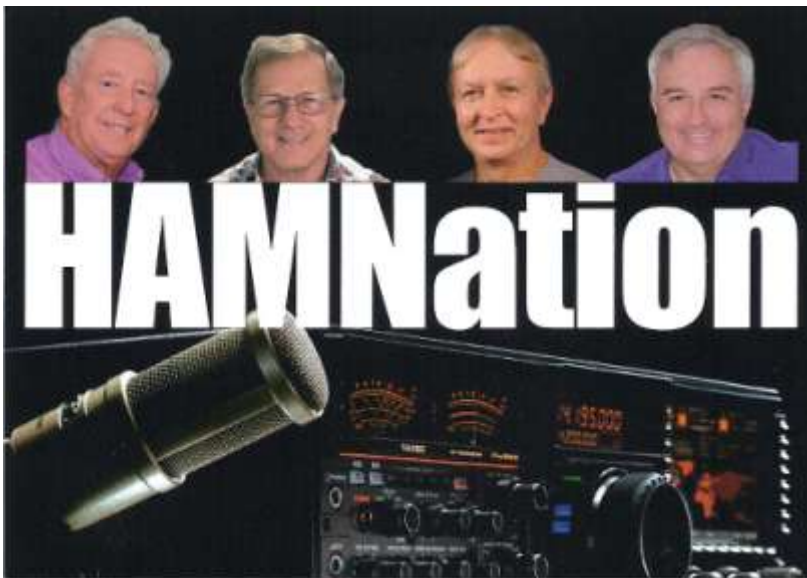
Website to checkout



This site is a window into Digital Slow Scan (SSTV) and many other tools and Amateur Radio Links.



<http://www.g0hwc.com/index.html>



“HAM Nation” a weekly HD video webcast about Ham Radio.

**Hosts: Gordo WB6NOA,
Bob K9EID, George W5JDX,
Leo W6TWT**

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 May 13, 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)

REMINDER!
The last day for the current Extra Class Question Pool is
JUNE 30, 2012

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.

- April 29—Clareen KB9BEB**
- May 6—Hope KA9NRW**
- May 13—Kris WB9SLM**
- May 20—John W9KXQ**
- May 27—NO NET-MEMORIAL DAY**
- June 3—Hope KA9NRW**
- June 10—Kris WB9SLM**
- June 17—John W9KXQ**

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

JUNE 25, 2011



Do you remember this photo from Field Day 2011. All of these girls have their ham license.

Can you identify them?

Hint: Their Call Letters are:

**KC9UBD, KC9UBI,
KC9SHF, KC9SHZ,
KC9VAK**



My View from Here! John W9KXQ

As an Amateur Radio Operator in Illinois we have an opportunity to insure that local governments will not be able to make it impossible for us to erect antennas and towers for our use with unreasonable restrictions. Should HB1390 become law, all local governments including home rule cities will have to comply with the FCC's PRB-1 as it will be part of our state law. I urge each of you to read page 12 of this issue and then send an email to your State Representative **immediately**. Liv-

ing in Greenville, I am fortunate to have been part of a group of Amateur Radio Operators that were able to get Amateur Radio Exempt from restrictive antenna ordinances currently part of the City's Municipal Code. That being said, Greenville is one of only a small number that have been proactive toward Amateur Radio. You may live in the County and County Government can enact Ordinances that would make putting up an antenna and tower very restrictive. Even if HB1390 becomes law, private CCR's do not come under it. More work needs to be done in this area and there is a current national drive to address this issue.

June is Field Day month and we are planning another fun and successful Field Day exercise, along with a pot luck supper and hopefully many operators. The weekend before Field Day we have been invited to participate in a DIY Amateur Radio display on the Greenville Square. Larry KC9ITK has offered his mobile communications trailer to set up an HF station in. We will need operators for this event from 9:00AM-3PM. Please consider being part of this event that will showcase our hobby. More details will follow.

As I complete this May edition of the Newsletter I am looking forward to Dayton Hamvention and getting to see the new products that are always a part of it. At least one member of OVARC will be attending for the first time and if you have not yet made it to Dayton, I encourage you to include it in your plans either this year or next. It is truly a Ham Radio extravaganza that every Amateur Radio Operator should experience at least once. I will look forward to see all of you at the May 3 meeting. Come and see what Rick, WØPC has in store for us. **73 from up here!**

OVARC FIELD DAY 2011 PHOTOS PARTRIOT'S PARK GREENVILLE, IL



**FUN!
FOOD**



**TESTING—LEARNING—
CONTACTS**





FBI: Hundreds of thousands may lose Internet in July

According to a news releases by the FBI, Internet users may not be able to use their computers after July 9, 2012. The FBI obtained a court order that directed at temporary fix for the “re-directed DNS”. The order expires July 9th.

To check your computer to see if it has been infected you can go to this website: <http://www.dcwq.org> . If you missed the news reports on this virus, one source is found on the KMOV.com website here: [KMOV](http://www.kmov.com).

This site is a safe site and is recommended by the FBI.

*Greenville
Graffiti*

Car Show

Saturday, June 16

Greenville, IL downtown

(2nd St. & College Ave.)

**Do
It
Yourself**
Street Faire

Our Common Ground's

Do It Yourself Street Faire featuring
robotics, metalworking, fishing/hunting
technology, amateur radio, and more!

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

OVARC has been invited to participate in this event. We will need Operators on hand to show off Amateur Radio. Details to follow. We plan to have an operating HF station.



Ken's Trivial Corner (KK9N)

Modulated CW (MCW) is a recognized emission type. Can you operate it in the CW portions of the Amateur bands, if so on what bands is it allowed by FCC Rules?

The answer and a prize for the winner will be given at the May 3, 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



FIELD DAY 2012

Field Day is always the fourth full weekend of June, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and running through 2059 UTC Sunday. Field Day 2012 will be held

June 23-24, 2012.



www.arrl.org



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 May 5, 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 to Report

UP GRADES

Andrew Trent Dittmer K9TYR
(Extra)

**Hamfests
Dayton Hamvention
May 18-20, 2012-Dayton, OH**



IL Section Manager

Thomas Ciciora, KA9QPN@arri.org

Central Division Director

George "Dick" Isely, W9GIG@arri.org

Central Div. Vice Director

Kermit Carlson, W9XA@arri.org

HB1390

Synopsis As Introduced

Amends the Illinois Municipal Code. Provides that a municipality shall not adopt or enforce an ordinance or resolution after the effective date of the amendatory Act that affects the placement, screening, or height of antennas or support structures that are used for amateur radio communications unless the ordinance or resolution: (i) has a reasonable and clearly defined aesthetic, public health, or safety objective and represents the minimum practical regulation that is necessary to accomplish the objectives; and (ii) reasonably accommodates amateur radio communications. Limits home rule powers. Effective immediately.

Link to HB1390 Status: [http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?](http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=1390&GAID=11&GA=97&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=57892&SessionID=84)

[DocNum=1390&GAID=11&GA=97&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=57892&SessionID=84](http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=1390&GAID=11&GA=97&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=57892&SessionID=84)

PLEASE EMAIL YOUR STATE REP. TODAY!!

Here is a link to use to find out your Reps email address:

<http://www.elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx>

It is imperative to Amateur Radio in Illinois that each Amateur Radio Operator Contact their State Rep. Today!

Ask that they:

“support HB1390 which would make the FCC's PRB-1 part of the Illinois Statutes. If this happens, we would have a better method for using PRB-1 in Amateur Radio antenna issues and litigation in Illinois. This bill is now expected to be up for a full house vote as early as next week.

It's too late to use the U.S. Postal Service. We must use email.

I ask you to be polite and to the point in your request for support of HB1390. Please use our emergency and public service communications abilities ("When all else fails... Amateur Radio") as your primary reason for making this request. And please send me a copy of your email so I will know how many messages have been sent to specific State Representatives.

Our Illinois ARRL State Government Liaison (SGL) Charles Richey, K9DUE (the person who has been calling all of the shots) also requests the following information. If you personally know your representative, please send Charlie an email advising him of your knowledge and possible influence you may have with your representative. Please send this email to me and to --

Charlie Richey <k9due@k9due.com>.

If we are successful in the Illinois House, there will be another opportunity when this proposal reaches the Illinois Senate.

I thank you for your participation in this political process.”

- George R. (Dick) Isely, W9GIG
ARRL Central Division Director

May 2012

Okaw Valley Amateur
Radio Club

**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!*