

Volume 5, Issue 10  
OVARC E-Mail

October  
2013

# 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*

*The Monthly Publication of the Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club*

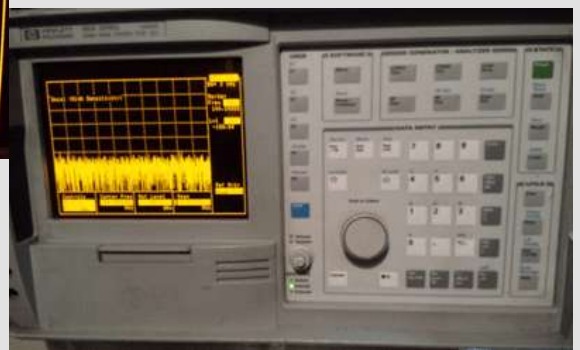
# Radio Performance?

## How is Your Radio Performing?

At the October meeting, come prepared to check out your hand-held radio, HF radio, mobile radio at our Radio Lab. We will have two Radio Lab Service Monitors available to test your radios on. This will be a fun evening of learning more about your radio. The Radio labs will be complete with wattmeters, dummy loads and 12 volt power supplies.



Are you on Frequency?



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### Club Repeaters

W9KXQ/R  
(PL 103.5)

147.165+  
224.440-

KB9EGI  
(PL 103.5)  
442.925+

**NEXT MEETING**  
**October 3, 2013**  
**7:30 PM**

**MEETINGS TO PLAN FOR**

**Next Meeting**  
**October 3, 2013**  
  
**Check Your Radio**  
**Performance**

**November 7, 2013**  
  
**New Constitution & By-laws**  
**Presentation and**  
**vote to adopt.**



**REPEATER UPDATES**  
**Linked repeater system is operational**

**W9KXQ 147.165 & 224.44 Repeater**

**KB9EGI 442.925 Repeater site**



Our **224.44 MHz** Linked Repeater is operational as of Aug. 14, 2013  
**IRLP Node 4385** is on the air on our Repeater System. Thanks Lance  
K2SGS for your hard work installing the new PiRLP node.

# Location for October 3, 2013 Meeting



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



### Future Dates:

- October 3, 2013
- November 7, 2013
- December 12, 2013

## September Meeting Highlights



The HKØNA DXpedition to Malpelo Island video was presented at the September 5, 2013 meeting. Ken, KK9N has secured this interesting video. Malpelo Island is located 235 miles from Colombia's Pacific coast and approximately 225 miles for Panama's coast. The island is an area of about 86 acres and uninhabited except for a small military post manned by the Colombian Army. The Team consisted of 22 licensed Amateur Radio Operators.



## Minutes Highlights for September 5 , 2013



**President Ken Norris KK9N** called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday September 5, 2013 in Room 107 of the Kaskaskia College Education Center on Third Street in Greenville. There were 16 people present. The meeting began with a welcome and introduction of the members & guests present.

Special guest tonight was **Miranda Dailey KC9ZMS**, age 5, who passed her Technician Class exam on August 15. Miranda brought her parents, **Rob NV9S** and **Cat KC9**, from Salem.

The minutes of the August 1, 2013 meeting were approved. **Howard N9GEQ** reported a balance of \$3164.41. The treasurer's report was approved.

**John W9KXQ** reported that the **KB9EGI** repeater (442.925) is on the air. **Wayne WA9NE** helped troubleshoot problems with that transmitter, and later worked on the unit on his bench. It seems to be working pretty well (just a little noisy). The 224.44 repeater is operational. It is a split site with the receiver at the **WGRN** tower and the transmitter two blocks west at the water tower.

**Jim Thibeault KF4NBG** reported that the next **VE** testing will be this coming Saturday in Highland. At the August testing 2 techs passed their exam. Two who tried to upgrade to General failed. Jim wants to take a break as our **VE** team leader. He has tested over 500 amateurs in the last ten years. Speak up if you are interested in taking on this role.

**Ken** welcomed **Miranda KC9ZMS** and presented her with an engraved cup.

**John** reported that **Sue Stone** passed her General class license exam, and now has her dad's call letters, **K9SXO**. She teaches class on Thursday nights, so she was not able to be here tonight. Sue's sister **Marsha** was in tears when she learned that Sue had gotten their dad's amateur call.

**Ken** shared a YouTube video from Jim's Engraving produced by **Gary Pearce** at the Shelby, NC hamfest. **Ken** thanked those who helped with the Bond County Fair lineup. **Ken** distributed pins to the operators at Field Day 2013.

**John** updated the club on the status of incorporating **OVARC**. We expect to have not-for-profit status within a week. A draft of the bylaws has been circulated among several members (**Cary**, **Ken**, **John**, and **Tim**) who provided feedback to **Mr. Willeford**, our attorney who drafted the document. **John** highlighted some of the articles in the proposed bylaws. The Board of Directors must elect (affirm) members. There are three categories of members: amateur, youth, and associate. The Officers can also serve as the Board of Directors. The individuals in the club will be protected from liability by incorporating. The document will be circulated to all members later this month. We hope to be able to vote on the constitution and bylaws by the October meeting.

The Halloween hamfest is in Kirkwood, MO October 26. **Ken** will have two tables. **Ken** asked if there was interest in a fox hunt this year. There was not strong interest. Another activity could be to visit the **K9CT** super contest station near Pekin. Several expressed interest in doing that. Oct 12 or 19 are possible dates.

**Ken Norris KK9N** asked the trivia corner question: What antenna was pictured in this month's **OVARC** newsletter? **Ken** said that it is a quadrifilar helical antenna. It is circularly polarized. It is useful for monitoring weather satellites.

What amateur radio technology has recently been activated for the first time on the International Space Station? Digital Amateur Radio TV (**DARTV**) on the 2.4 GHz band. The British Amateur Television Club has receiving stations linked to be able to watch the video for nearly 30 minutes as the **ARISS** passes over.

The business meeting concluded at 8:29 pm.

For our program **Ken** showed us a video about the **HK0NA** DXpedition to very rugged Malpelo Island 500 km off the coast of Colombia, South America in January 2012

**Cary Holman W4GRN, Secretary**



## OVARC Information

### Repeaters

147.165, 224.440, 442.925

### 2013 Officers

#### President

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

#### Vice-President

Tim Rapp K9XWX  
[K9XWX@ovarc.net](mailto:K9XWX@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 KF4NGB  
[KF4NGB@ovarc.net](mailto:KF4NGB@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>

# 2013 OVARC Officers



**Ken KK9N, President**



**Tim K9XWX, VP**



**Cary W4GRN, Sec.**



**Howard N9GEQ, Tres.**

## CONTEST CORNER

[Contest Website](#)

[Oceania DX Contest, Phone  
 0800Z, Oct 5 to 0800Z, Oct 6](#)

[Rules found here](#)

### Website to checkout-

[Click Here](#)



Welcome to HRD Logbook!. This very interesting website will take you to a whole new world of logbooks. Instructions are available to put your current logbook on QRZ. Check out [W9KXQ on QRZ.com](#) for sample.



Like Us on Facebook



[Facebook Field Day Photos](#)



Wednesday Evenings  
8:00 PM CDT  
twit network <http://twit.tv>

Weekly HD video webcast about Ham Radio.

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



Jim KF4NBG  
at Dayton Hamvention  
May, 2013

Check Jim's website here:

[Ham Shack Essentials](#)



[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.



### WINLINK 2000



### OFFICIAL DIGITAL MODE OF ILLINOIS ARES

Sometime during the week prior to the weekend of the 2nd Sunday Tim will post a message to the Illinois ARES Digital Working Group list with information specific to that month's test. subscribe here:

Illinois ARES Digital Mailing List

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IL\\_ARES\\_DWG](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IL_ARES_DWG)

Tim McDonough, N9PUZ

IL ARES Assistant SEC - Digital Operations  
Sangamon County, Springfield, IL

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.

Sept. 29—Clareen KB9BEB  
Oct. 6—Tim K9XWX  
Oct. 13—NO NET-Columbus  
Oct. 20 —John W9KXQ  
Oct. 27—Ken KK9N  
Nov. 3—John W9KXQ  
Nov. 10—NO NET-Veterans Day  
Nov. 17—Ken KK9N  
Nov. 24-Clareen KB9BEB  
[Download 2013 Schedule here](#)



## Regular Events

### *Club Meetings*

First Thursday of the month  
at 7:30 PM,  
KC Greenville Learning Center  
(Kaskaskia College)  
209 N. Third St.



## Visit Us on the Web!!!

<http://ovarc.net>

[Field Day 2013 Photos](#)

### **OVARC**

P.O. Box 3

Greenville, IL 62246

*Club Information, Dues,  
Event Notices,  
Ideas for Programs, etc.*

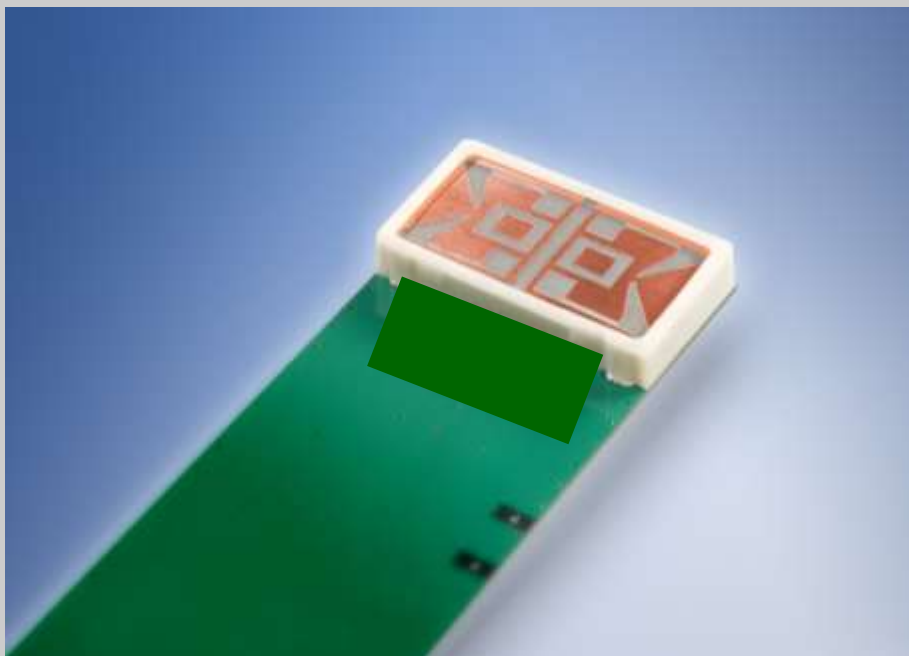
### **E-Mail Newsletter**

John King W9KXQ, Editor  
Email: [W9KXQ@ovarc.net](mailto:W9KXQ@ovarc.net)

*Articles, New Items,  
Corrections, etc.*



## 2013 Activities



**Antenna?  
What is it?  
What Freq.?**



### My View from Here! John W9KXQ



It is hard to believe that October is almost here. Somehow, I was just not ready to get this issue of the newsletter out. I guess I should stay home more, then there would be more time, but being retired has given me the opportunity to travel a bit more and thus the W9KXQ QTH gets left in the dust some months. Not all of my travels involve Amateur Radio, but most due. During the Sept. trip to Lake Powell, Amateur Radio played a significant part in providing necessary communications due to a family emergency. It takes a lot of effort on the parts of many people for us to communicate via Amateur Radio repeaters. This particular event involved the use of solar powered remote base station and a mountain top repeater financed by just two individual hams. Repeaters, that is what they are there for, but they do cost someone or some group to get them operational and keep them on the air. This is not a plea to send money, however, when each club or group supports their local systems, then using other systems feels better. That was the

original concept of repeaters and linked systems. That no one individual or group has to bear all of the costs.

**November 9th** will be a great day to spend with OVARC members and friends as we travel to near Peoria, IL to visit [Craig's \(K9CT\) contest station](#). Ken KK9N & I met Craig at the 2013 Dayton Hamvention where he invited us to get a group together to visit. This will be a great opportunity to see what a "contest station" looks like. I understand, if you say, "you are not a contester", but think of contesting as a way to improve our communications skills so when we are called upon to provide communications, we have some experience under our belts. Craig is a highly rated contester, who has put together a dream station, and then opened the doors to visitors. More details to follow, so stay tuned.

The **October meeting** will be a first in a very long time. To be able to check out your radios for frequency, sensitivity or power out in a "lab" environment doesn't happen all that often, so bring your radios and lets have some fun learning more about our own radios and pick up a tip or two.

Plan Now for Oct. 3rd, see you there! **For Now— from up here! 73!**



# Miranda KC9ZMS

**New Ham  
at Age 5**



Miranda Dailey KC9ZMS, who passed her Technician Class Amateur Exam on August 15, 2013 was present at the September, 2013 meeting along with her parents, Rob NV9S and Kat KC9WXT. Of course, Miranda was sporting her new "Red" handheld dual band radio.

President Ken KK9N presented Miranda with her own "pink" OVARC logo cup. Cup engraving by [Jim's Engraving](#). If you missed the story of Miranda, check out the [September, 2013 Newsletter](#) for details.



Miranda with her own "Red" dual band radio



Rob NV9S, Miranda KC9ZMS, Kat KC9WXT



# FCC NEWS

The FCC has determined that current rules prohibiting encryption on most amateur radio transmissions are not "impairing the ability of the Amateur Radio community to provide effective support to public safety agencies during emergencies," the FCC in mid-September dismissed a petition that sought approval for encrypting certain personal information in emergencies or emergency drills. Don Rolph, AB1PH, submitted the petition, claiming that the ban on encryption prevented hams from transmitting individuals' medical data on behalf of served agencies, thus reducing the effectiveness of amateur radio emergency communications.

The FCC received over 300 comments on the petition and they were against the proposal by a 2-1 margin. The commission concluded that "while the proposal could advance one purpose of the Amateur Radio Service - (emergency communications) - it would undermine other characteristics and purposes of the service."

[See full FCC Order here](#)



You can order your shirts from Chrystal using this online form: [Order Shirt](#)  
Specify "Red Polo for Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club"



The Place To Go For All Your Customized Needs!



## ***Ken's Trivia Corner (KK9N)***

What is AX.25, what was it originally used for and what is it used for today?

"

The answer and a prize for the winner will be given at the October 3, 2013 meeting



**Dues for 2014 due January 1, 2014**

Dues for 2013 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



**Testing Opportunities**

**Jim Thibeault KF4NBG  
OVARC VE Team**

Contact Jim KF4NBG  
(618)-409-8284  
[BecomeAHam@yahoo.com](mailto:BecomeAHam@yahoo.com)

**Saturday October 5, 2013 10:00 AM  
Louis Latzer Memorial Library  
Highland, IL**

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.

**K9SXO**



Sue K9SXO with her new Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club Coffee Cup sporting her new call letters with John W9KXQ . She is really not a 2 fisted drinker, but she did share that pink was her favorite color. Thanks to [Jim's Engraving](#) for the OVARC logo cups.

**FOR SALE**

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

Yaesu FT-897 HF/VHF/UHF Transceiver – 160 to 6 meter 100W, 2 meters 50W, 440 MHz 20W. Comes with MH-59 advanced microphone, Rigblaster Plug-n-Play computer interface and LDG AutoTuner Interface. \$600

**New Hams**

**Miranda Dailey KC9ZMS**

**Sue Stone K9SXO (new call)**

**UP GRADES**

**Hamfests**



**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)



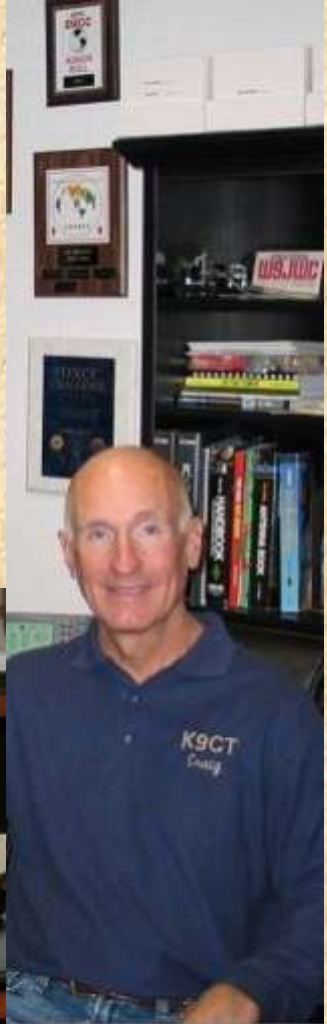
## Contest Station Field Trip Scheduled for November 9, 2013 Details to follow

Craig was first Licensed in 1967 at age 14 years old. He currently holds an Amateur Radio Extra Class license with 20 wpm code test.

Craig reports that he has been chasing DX since his years at Bradley University and has achieved Honor Roll, 9BDXCC, 5BWAZ and DXCC Challenge. He is an active contester on CW, SSB and RTTY. Top Band, Magic Band and 2M EME are also interests.

Craig has been happily married for 30 years to Ilean and they have a daughter Cara. He has owned Thompson Electronics Company, an electronics systems business in central Illinois for over 30 years.

In 2011 he completed a contest station which has 4 operating positions similar to the photo below. There HF antennas for all bands and guests are welcome. Plan now for this Field Trip Nov. 9th



Craig's station is located near Peoria, IL. We will plan to eat lunch together before the afternoon tour begins. More information on Craig's website: <http://www.k9ct.us/>

**Want to become a  
Ham Radio  
Operator???**

Contact us at  
[OVARC@ovarc.net](mailto:OVARC@ovarc.net)

P.O. Box 3  
Greenville, IL  
62246

### Amateur Radio Is...

- *Community Service*
- *Emergency Communications*
- *Learn new technologies for fun*
- *Worldwide Friendships*
- *A rewarding Hobby!*



**October 2013**  
Okaw Valley Amateur  
Radio Club