

Volume 5, Issue 9  
OVARC E-Mail

September  
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*



The HKØNA DXpedition to Malpelo Island video will be presented at the September 5, 2013 meeting. Ken, KK9N has secured this interesting video and you will want to be on hand to see it on the large screen. Malpelo Island is located 235 miles from Colombia's Pacific coast and approximately 225 miles from 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. Let Ken know if you are interested in signing up for the next DXpedition!

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**There will be an update on our  
Not For Profit Status progress**



## Club Repeaters

W9KXQ/R  
(PL 103.5)

147.165+  
224.440-

KB9EGI  
(PL 103.5)  
442.925+

**NEXT MEETING**  
**September 5, 2013**  
**7:30 PM**

**MEETINGS TO PLAN FOR**

**Next Meeting**  
**September 5, 2013**  
**The HKØNA DXpedition**

**October 3, 2013**  
**FOX**  
**Hunting**  
**(again?)**



The KB9EGI 442.925 MHz Repeater has continued to provide troubleshooting opportunities for W9KXQ & N9LIS. With Don KB9EGI out of service, he contacted Wayne WA9NE for assistance. Wayne & Don originally built this repeater. Wayne made the trip to the repeater site Monday Aug. 19th after work and spent a couple of hours checking things out. When we left the site, the repeater was working (power out at 80+ watts). By Wed. no power out again.

The RF Amp was removed and taken to Wayne's shop where another 2 hours of work on the Amp provided success. The Amp is currently on line. Thanks to Wayne WA9NE & Marc N9LIS. The RC-96 controller with PL will be reinstalled soon.



Wayne WA9NE @ KB9EGI Repeater



80 watts & 20 Amps @ KB9EGI Repeater

**REPEATER UPDATES**

**Linked repeater system is operational**

**W9KXQ 147.165 Repeater site**

**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 September 5, 2013 Meeting



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



### Future Dates:

September 5, 2013  
October 3, 2013  
November 7, 2013  
December 5, 2013

## August Meeting Highlights

### Field Day Debriefing:

Ken reviewed the report he submitted to ARRL for our participation in Field Day 2013. We had 19 operators operating 3 transmitters. Five youth participated in the event and two of those made contacts. Cary W4GRN had the most contacts (120). Our total for 2013 Field Day was 2,228 points (vs. about 2,900 last year). The rain put a damper on our contacts this year.

Members liked the additional space available in the Main Pavilion. The members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of reserving the new air conditioned building south of the road for 2014. The big advantage would be to have air conditioning and being out of the weather. The disadvantages would include getting coax across the road and into the building. John will reserve both facilities for 2014. Our antennas were not as successful as we would have liked (3 Windom's and one DXCC). Ken had some suggestions for antennas for 2014. This was our first year using three xmtrs plus a GOTA station. Jerry suggested that if we run three xmtrs next year that we dedicate one xmtr to digital. John would like some relief as the licensee of the GOTA station. Food was good.

W3AO west of Baltimore, MD, is a super station during Field Day. Ken showed us a video The Last Big Field Day in 2004 when W3AO operated as 50A—yes fifty A. The video was produced through and available via ARVN.tv by Gary Pearce KN4AQ.

Howard sold 50/50 tickets. Howard won. He donated his winnings back to the club.

Cary Holman W4GRN  
Secretary

## Minutes Highlights for August 1 , 2013



President Ken Norris KK9N called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday October 7, 2010 in Room 118 of the Kaskaskia College Education Center on Third Street in Greenville. There were 8 people present. A quorum was found to be present.

The minutes of the June 13, 2013 meeting were approved. Howard Wise N9GEQ reported a balance of \$3424.41. The treasurer's report was accepted.

John W9KXQ reported that the officers agreed that the 220 xmtr link needed to be replaced. It is working at John's house. 224.44 should be on the air soon.

John reported that the soldering project with kids at Field Day was very successful. The kids worked during the rain in Marc's travel trailer. By the end of the project the kids all wanted to solder more. They would like to tackle more soldering projects.

### Incorporating OVARC

Our attorney, Brock Willeford, talked to us via telephone about the process we need to go through to incorporate OVARC. Doing so is necessary in order for people to be able to get a tax deduction for donations to the club, and for the club to own property (e.g., the trailer donated by Betty Shenkel). Mr. Willeford is doing this work for OVARC pro bono. Mr. Willeford explained that the first step we need to go through is to accept a mission statement that is consistent with what the State of Illinois accepts to let us register as a not-for-profit organization. The mission statement Mr. Willeford recommended was displayed on the screen for all members to read. The filing fee required by the State of Illinois is \$77. That application should be approved in just a few days from its submission. As a not-for-profit organization we would be required to file both state and federal tax returns.

The first step once the club is incorporated is to elect a Board of Directors. The next step would be to email a proposed constitution and by-laws to our 35 members for their approval. Officers could be the same people elected as the Board of Directors, or different people. Once we have corporate status with the State of Illinois and we have elected a Board of Directors, we can apply for 501 (c) (3) status. That process will take at least a year.

We can avoid some liability issues by incorporating, which could occur while doing community service. As a 501 (c) (3) organization we will be able to receive donations for which the donor could receive tax benefits.

The members present discussed what Mr. Willeford explained. *Howard N9GEQ moved that the officers be authorized to pursue incorporating OVARC as a not-for-profit organization. Jim KF4NBG seconded. Motion passed.* John noted that the club formed in 1974. *John moved that we accept the mission statement as our Statement of Incorporation that was proposed by Mr. Willeford. Seconded by Tim. Motion passed.*

Jim Thibeault KF4NBG reported that the next VE testing will be this coming Saturday in Highland. In separate testing sessions organized by W9KXQ we had 1 upgrade to Extra and 1 Tech since the June testing.

There were several announcements about upcoming contests, area hamfests, and lining up floats Tuesday for the Bond County Fair parade.

Ken Norris KK9N asked the trivia corner question: From the July newsletter: Who was our youngest and oldest operators at the OVARC Field Day 2013 site? We concluded that the correct answers were John King and Clayton Gan. What is the image pictured in the August OVARC newsletter? Tim said it is an acoustic mirror. They were used in England during WWII.

The business meeting concluded at 8:23 pm.

**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 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>

# 2013 OVARC Officers



**Ken KK9N, President**



**Tim K9XWX, VP**



**Cary W4GRN, Sec.**



**Howard N9GEQ, Tres.**

## CONTEST CORNER

[Contest Website](#)

**Feld Hell Sprint:** 0000Z-2359Z, Aug 31

[Rules Here](#)

**CW Ops CW Open:** 0000Z-0359Z, Aug 31 and 1200Z-1559Z, Aug 31 and 2000Z-2359Z, Aug 31

[Rules Here](#)

**Website to checkout-**  
**FCC Registered Amateur Radio Licenses in**  
**Greenville, Illinois** [Click Here](#)



Marc N9LIS discovered this site quite by accident. It seems to be very current. You may want to check out the home site for more information [HERE](#). The registered Amateur Radio License home page [HERE](#).

**Like Us on Facebook**  
**Thanks to Bobbi KC9KFD for our**  
**Facebook Page**

[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



## Regular Events

### Club Meetings

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



If the Weather Net is  
Active

Regular Net will not be held!

Visit Us on the  
Web!!!

<http://ovarc.net>

[Field Day 2013 Photos](#)

### Net Control Schedule



Claren, 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. 1—NO NET LABOR DAY  
Sept. 8—Kris WB9SLM  
Sept. 15—Kris WB9SLM  
Sept. 22—Ken KK9N  
Sept. 29—Claren KB9BEB  
Oct. 6—Tim K9XWX  
Oct. 13—NO NET-Columbus  
Oct. 20—John W9KXQ  
[Download 2013 Schedule here](#)

### OVARC

P.O. Box 3  
Greenville, IL 62246  
Club Information, Dues,  
Event Notices,  
Ideas for Programs, etc.

### E-Mail Newsletter

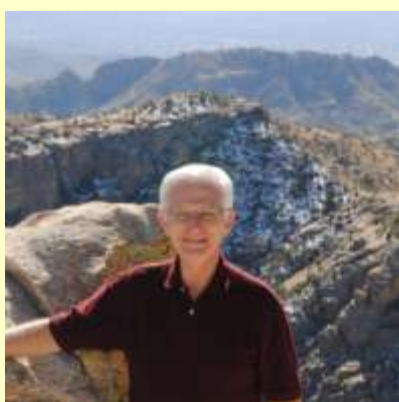
John King W9KXQ, Editor  
Email: [W9KXQ@ovarc.net](mailto:W9KXQ@ovarc.net)  
Articles, New Items,  
Corrections, etc.



## 2013 Activities



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



### My View from Here! John W9KXQ

Hopefully you have read page 9 first. It is all about Miranda KC9ZMS, who at the age of 5 passed her Technician Exam. As a VE I have had the opportunity to not only assist with the amateur exam process, but have had the opportunity to “Elmer” {Mentor} many young amateurs into our ranks. The young amateurs have been in the age range of 5—72. Because I have already said her age, and she is always willing to tell her age yet I am not going to identify her by name or call. She, however, was an amazing student, many times causing both Marc N9LIS and I to scratch our heads trying to explain a few of the questions in the Technician Question Pool. When MMM (her initials) passed her exam, we were not surprised. Her decision to just study and get this behind her might have been coerced somewhat, but she did pass just the same. Sue K9SXO, also had a reason to just get the exam behind her. Her coercion was “self-inflicted” but just the same, she passed. Which brings me to Miranda—Miranda with the assistance of her parents, studied and got her test behind her. Was she coerced? (Gently nudged)! She studied 6 months, took the test and passed just the same as the other two (MMM & Sue). I was honored, to be asked to be the reader for Miranda. Rob, contacted me a few days before the test to see if I could be Miranda’s test reader. Before this opportunity, I might have been a “Doubting Thomas” with regards to a 5 year old passing the test, but seeing was defiantly believing. Miranda is a sharp 5 year old, she studied, as most of us have to get our license, and she was successful. All before starting her first day of kindergarten. My space here is limited, however, if you want to know how the test went, just ask me and I will share the story. I get a bit “misty eyed” when I tell it. Both Rob & Kat were sent outside while the test was administered, just 3 VE’s and Miranda were in the room. Watching my daughter and grandkids pass their exams was certainly the pinnacle of my 52 years in ham radio, but Miranda allowed me to see that there is much more that lies ahead for us, if we decide we “can do it” and then we accomplish it!

Next Meeting is Sept. 5th, see you there! **For Now— from up here! 73!**



# Miranda KC9ZMS

New Ham  
at Age 5



August 15, 2013 was an important day for Miranda Dailey. Miranda, age 5 joined the ranks of the amateur radio community by passing the Technician amateur radio exam and started kindergarten the next day at Hawthorn Elementary School in Salem. Miranda, who celebrated her 5th birthday in February, joins her father Rob NV9S and mother Kat KC9WXT. As you can expect, having both Dad and Mom licensed was an inspiration for Miranda. Rob and Kat upgraded their licenses within the past few months. Rob attaining his Extra and Kat her General which was the boost Miranda needed to get busy studying. She told her parents that she wanted to get her license so she could talk to them on the ham radio. Thus begin a 6 month journey for Miranda, wading through most all of the 396 questions in the Technician Class pool. I am sure that there were days when Miranda would have rather been playing than studying, but she was able to do both. Rob attributes her lack of shyness on the radio to her using "Family Radios" to keep in contact with him while she was outside playing with her friends.

Miranda is definitely five years old. Her Dad asked her if she wanted to be five-and-a-half, now that it's six months past her birthday, but she declined. She says she wants to stay just "five" until the day she turns six. Arguing about age with this young lady will get you nowhere. Miranda is a pretty typical five year old, she reports her favorite colors are equally pink and purple, and her favorite pet is Hulu. Hulu is a cat... a gray and white stuffed toy cat. She has asked for her own Baofeng UV-5R radio in "red please"

Rob obtained his amateur license when he was 15 and Kat got her at the age of 24. Rob attributes his high school electronics teacher, with giving him the final encouragement to obtain his license. This dedicated teacher held evening classes for several of his students. Rob says that since the first hamfest he took Miranda to, she has expressed interest in amateur radio. He tells the story this way, he was done for the day -- his back was hurting, and he and Miranda were sitting on a bench outside -- "Miranda insisted on going back inside because she had not yet seen everything." According to Kat, Miranda saw Clayton KC9WZL at the Granite City Hamfest this past June and was encouraged that kids could get their license too. At the West Central Hamfest (Carlinville) Kat overheard Clayton telling Miranda "she needed to get her ham license so that they could talk on the radio" She didn't tell him then that she was studying.

Give a listen on the "[Linked Repeater System](#)" for KC9ZMS or on 10 Meters where she also listens for contacts. When you hear her, make sure you take the time to meet her on the radio. It will warm your heart!



Miranda signing  
her FCC Form 605





# FCC NEWS

The new FCC regulatory fee of \$16.10 now applies to the Amateur Radio vanity call sign program which went into effect Friday, August 23, 2013. Earlier this year the FCC had proposed upping the vanity call sign fee from its current \$15 to \$15.20, but in the Report and Order in MD Docket 13-140, released August 12, the Commission offered no explanation for the higher fee.

In another change, starting in FY 2014, the FCC will require that all regulatory fee payments be made electronically.

The R&O ordered a broad schedule of new fees and waived the usual 30-day waiting period following Federal Register publication, because it feared there would not be time for FY 2013 fees to become effective before the start of the new federal fiscal year on October 1.

The FCC says it expects \$230,230 in revenue to cover the costs of administering the vanity call sign program. It anticipates 14,300



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

**SEW UNIQUE** (618) 664-2127

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- Embroidery

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

What Amateur Radio technology was for the first time on the International Space Station?

The answer and a prize for the winner will be given at the September 5, 2013 meeting



**Dues for 2013 due January 1, 2013**

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 September 7, 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.

**FOR SALE**

**Ken KK9N has the following equipment for sale. Please contact him directly for more information**

[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



Elecraft KX1 QRP Transceiver – 40 and 20 meters 5 watts. \$200



Sue's sister Marsha Clark after she learned that Sue was now K9SXO, their father had previously held the K9SXO call.

**New Hams**

**Miranda Dailey KC9ZMS**

**Sue Stone K9SXO (new call)**

**UP GRADES**

**Hamfests**

**Peoria Superfest**

**September 20-22, 2013**

**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)



Jim Tribble, AB9NH has a saying, "if it don't glow it ain't a real radio" evidenced by his very elaborate line up of tube radios in his new shack. They all work and some could work even better with some TLC to get them "good as new". Jim took his Novice Exam in October, 1964 but didn't receive his license and call WN4WFQ until December

1964. Jim worked CW relentlessly to get to 13WPM. He drove to Washing-



ton, DC in April, 1965 where he took his General Exam. His trip was successful but he "shook nervously the whole time"! Obtaining his General caused a call change to WA4WFQ. A year later he returned to take his Extra passing the code but failing the written. He received a certificate for 20 WPM code credit, good for one year, but never got back to retest. In 1969 he moved to Pittsburgh, PA where he "stored" his call at his Father's address. He applied for an "Additional Station License" of WA3KAK. This call was Jim's favorite "CW" call. Upon moving to Louisville, KY in 1975 he put the WA4WFQ back to work. 1977 was the year that Jim moved to Vandalia, IL where he used WA4WFQ/9 until he was issued WD9GRQ, which he used for a short time before moving to Omaha, NE in 1980. KAØJUW was the call he kept for 26 years. Jim moved back to Illinois in 1986 and kept KAØJUW until he upgraded to Extra in January, 2006. Now known as AB9NH he limits his "paper chasing" {QSL Cards} to "special events" only. In Jim's own words he says of "special events" "they are still a challenge and searching for stations on the HF bands is still fun for me." In commenting about his station equipment he tells us, "I have quite a few "boat anchors" but also, a few state of the art rigs." I am not sure that it is a "claim to fame but he reports that he still has KAØJUW license plate on the truck. "I would like to keep this as long as possible as it was made by X Governor Ryan! AB9NH license plate is on my car, made by X Governor BLAGO. Wow, what kind of record is that?!"

**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!*

**September 2013**  
Okaw Valley Amateur  
Radio Club