

W0GQ

W0WSV



BANDSPREAD



Associated with *Linn County Emergency Management Agency* and the *ARRL*

CEDAR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday, May 14, 2009, 7:30 PM
Speaker to be announced
Kenwood Park United Methodist Church
175 34th St. NE

*POLICY STATEMENT: Renew your ads, or they get dropped at the end of the month.
Any Ham can submit ads. You don't have to be a member. TNX.*

IN THIS ISSUE:

Meeting minutes - Board minutes - ARES minutes -
Want & For Sale Ads - A Certain amount of opinion – news for Hams

CONTRIBUTORS WELCOME

Have an idea you want to share? A better way of doing things? Comments on Summerfest? Then let us at BANDSPREAD know. Contact any board member listed in the directory on page 2.

Send items via e-mail to any board member at cvarcbrd@rf.org

Deadline for June 2009 Issue is May 22, 2009

BANDSPREAD

The Voice of the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club

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Station Trustee	Al Groff, KØVM	køvm@arrl.net	393-8134
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ARRL Midwest Division Dir	Bruce Frahm, KØBJ	k0bj@arrl.org	
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ARRL Volunteer Consulting En	Steve Sawyers, NAØIA	295-5983	377-2877

Net Directory

3.896 MHz	3900 Club	8:45 a.m. Sundays
146.745 MHz (alt. 145.150-192.8PL)	Linn County ARES Net	7:00 p.m. Sundays
146.850 MHz (-600 KHz)	Johnson County Sunday Net	7:30 p.m. Sundays
145.390 MHz (-600 KHz)	Jones County ARES Net	8:00 p.m. Sundays
146.430 MHz	Iowa County Amateur Net (ICAN)	6:30 p.m. Mondays
3560 KHz	TLCN (CW Section)	6:30 & 10:00 p.m. Daily
3970 KHz	Iowa 75 Meter Net (SSB)	12:30 & 6:00 p.m. Mon—Sat

WWW Addresses

CVARC Web Page: <http://cvarc.rf.org/>

ARES Web Page: <http://ares.rf.org>

Want ads and articles are accepted from all amateurs, members or not, at no charge! Submissions must be sent to

**CVARC
PO Box 2352
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406
Or to kc0nxo@arrl.net**

Meeting place is indicated on the cover with program information.

For Club membership send, Name, Call, Address, Phone number, ARRL Status (Yearly, Life, or not a member), willing or not to be on call for Storm Watch and emergency situations and dues to CVARC PO Box

Yearly Dues, PAYABLE JAN 1: \$10 Regular or Family, \$5 under 18yrs of age,

After July 1: \$5 for all

APRIL CVARC MEETING PREVIEW

Meeting topic to be announced at the meeting, due to an illness on the part of the scheduled speaker.

If you are not on your way to the Dayton Hamfest, come to the meeting, and learn about communications support activities that we can do.

Gregg Lind KC0SKM

RECEIVE NOTICE OF BANDSPREAD BY E-MAIL

Bandspread is now available in PDF format on the CVARC Website, at <http://cvarc.rf.org/Bandspread/>. Back issues are organized in annual subdirectories.

If you would like to get an e-mail notice of when the latest Bandspread is on the Website, please email Laura, KC0NXO at kc0nxo@arrl.net.

If you like the convenience and economy of the electronic version, and want to be removed from the mailing list for the paper version, please contact Al, K0VM, at k0vm@arrl.net.

APRIL 2009 CVARC BOARD MINUTES

The April 2009 Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club Board of Director's meeting was held 9 April 2009 at the Kenwood United Methodist Church. President WA6GFD called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm. Others in attendance were: N0XZL, KC0PON, W0MRZ, KC0SKM, NA0IA, N0GUD. WA0KHH was unable to attend the meeting and had previously designated W0MRZ to forward ham examination information to the Board and general membership.

The Board Minutes from the March 2009 meeting were accepted without modification by a unanimous vote of the Board.

Treasurer KC0PON reported that we had a balance of \$2,186.56. Dennis Sutherland also indicated that the club membership subscription list had been submitted to the Bandspread editors for processing.

N0XZL led a general discussion about the CVARC Summerfest for this coming year. Included in the discussion were strategies for fine-tuning the hamfest mailing lists as well as the coordination of the Summerfest budget with the overall CVARC budget planning process. The Board was also advised that the ARRL has formally acknowledged our Summerfest for 2009.

On behalf of WA0KHH, MRZ reminded the board

that Cedar Rapids would be hosting an exam session on Saturday, May 9th, starting at 9:00am at the Rockwell Collins Main Plant Cafeteria [accessed via entrance 2]. Details of other regional exam sessions will be updated in the next Bandspread.

Steve Sawyers summarized student and instructor participation in the ongoing Technician and General Class training programs.

WA6GFD announced that the first CVARC communication event would be the Multiple Sclerosis Walk in Marion, starting on 25 April at Xavier High School. The terrain associated with this year's event requires more operators than were needed in previous years. The club president also highlighted other events CVARC will support in 2009, with full details to be provided in upcoming Bandspreads, including ARRL Field Day and the two-day MS Bicycle Ride. A general discussion followed about the possibility of holding Board Meetings at time(s) that would not conflict with ham class schedules and other venue-related activities.

The board meeting was closed at 7:22 pm.

Submitted by W0MRZ, Secretary

APRIL 2009 CVARC MEETING MINUTES

The April 2009 general membership meeting was held Thursday, 9 April 2009 in the Kenwood United Methodist Church.

A presentation was held in advance of the formal Club meeting: "Building the Elecraft Transceivers", by Craig Rairdin, NZ0R

The formal meeting was opened at 8:45 PM by President WA6GFD with all attendees and guests introduced themselves with 54 members and guests present, including students from the ongoing general and technician classes.

After a brief discussion that highlighted a recording error on a vote (N0UUS noted acceptance of the budget should be changed from 'unanimous' to 'majority'), the minutes for the March 2009 meeting were accepted unanimously by those present.

KC0SKM announced that the door prize for the meeting was the text 'Antennas Technology' and also indicated that he was still searching for additional speakers for the coming year.

Club Treasurer KC0PON reported that the club had a balance of \$2186.56.

The club VP discussed some of the planning that

is underway for the upcoming Summerfest and noted that the ARRL has provided its formal acknowledgment for CVARC's hamfest this year.

Mike Miller, KC0NXN, urged all club members to contact him directly if a 'low-bandwidth' version of the Bandspread was required.

W0MRZ gave a brief timetable for upcoming exam sessions, including the May 9th session to be held at the Collins main plant, with full details to be provided in the next Bandspread.

Club President Steve Jones updated members on the MS Walk at Xavier High School, to be held on Saturday, 25 April; details of this event will appear in the next Bandspread. Steve also reminded members that any/all submissions to the Bandspread must be made within two weeks from the prior meeting. Finally, the president discussed the merging of the EC002/003 ARRL courses into a single course, which should take effect toward the end of this year. Club members are still eligible to take advantage of the course (total of 3) reimbursement program offered by the club for those club members who successfully complete one of the EC-series courses.

N0UUS summarized the CERT training in Buchanan County that took place this past month. He noted special attention to the training that was done, and that a scenario they did, mirrored the shooting that took place in New York, and how the class was relating to the situation since they had just practiced this scenario in a reaction exercise the prior weekend. N0UUS also noted the more recent events here with the increase in crime and other threats, and that the CERT training does help citizens to be better prepared overall. Club members had inquired about more local CERT training. N0UUS replied it just needs to be requested through EMA, but he is willing to do a class if requested. N0UUS also stated that an overview of the class could also be a club presentation, if also requested to do so.

N0UUS also reflected on how advanced the central part of the State is when it comes to storm watch, and the linked systems on the NWS site. Comparing that to what we have here, with a single repeater, we could do better. He also used an analogy of: as when we drive, we look forward through the windshield to get to our destination. We look in our mirror on occasion, but in order to go forward, we need to look ahead. N0UUS compared this to how we as a club look at things. And as it is hard to not acknowledge a key success story in our own backyard with Aurthur Collins. But, we need to look

forward in order to advance, and not always dwell on the old-days, or old ways, as a club.

The meeting was closed at 9:01 pm

Submitted by W0MRZ, Secretary

ARES PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 2009

Minutes for 2 April 2009 ARES planning committee

Attending: KC0OX, KD0HF, WA6GFD, WA0FBX, N0XZK, AC0HB, N0GUD, N0AOE, KC0GFO, KB4SBY, KF0VF, KB0KW

- ◆ Introductions
- ◆ Getting the Collins radar picture up on the Collins "PC Central" page/getting CVARC repeater on Supertuner
 - WA6GFD talked to Garbes. The channels are hosted on a computer somewhere, linked from off the site. We would have to host the system someplace and provide them with an IP address.
 - The scanners up there are out of Scan America, which uses streaming audio from their website.
 - This is a workable project, but will require time and planning.
- ◆ NWS has changed severe storm criterion for hail to 1 inch (effective 1 April).
 - NWS still wants to know about 0.75 inch hail. Only the definition of severe has changed. In fact, nothing about how we report the weather should change. This is just informational for us.
- ◆ Iowa EC meeting
 - Update on events at the meeting
 - Talked about layout and ham station
 - NWS nets
- ◆ Benton County/Iowa County net
 - Benton County net replaced with Iowa County Amateur Net (ICAN) on 146.43 simplex
 - Last three nets had a total of 32 checkins from five counties
- ◆ NDMS drill this summer
 - We have a formal request from Dan Miller, AC0OF
 - Date is 11 July
 - Have been in contact with both local hospitals. Will work out the details of access as we get closer to the date.

AC00F has requested an HF link, but we will also work on linking through the Chelsea repeater links.

- KF0VF asked about message formats. N0GUD to check on this.

◆Global SET

- 18 April from 1100-1500 UTC
- 80, 40, 20, 17, and 15 meter bands near emergency Center of Activity frequencies
- N0GUD to send general note to ARES reflector

◆DSTAR repeater frequencies

- Passed on news from ARRL that the FCC has formally stated that DSTAR and other digital repeaters fall under the “simultaneous retransmission” definition, even though the digital repeaters have a very slight delay.
- Apparently, DSTAR repeaters are being run on simplex frequencies under an overly strict interpretation of “simultaneous.” The FCC asserts that if the transmitter and receiver are active at the same time, it is a repeater.
- Any DSTAR repeaters need to be coordinated through the Iowa Repeater Council or some such authority.

◆MS Bike Ride (August)

- Set up relay stations to pass traffic into/out of Atkins.
- WA6GFD talked about some practices that worked well last year.
- This event is non-trivial and will require some advance planning. See action list.

◆KC0GFO – Severe Weather Awareness Week next week

- 1000h on 8 April will be a statewide tornado drill
- Mainly a public awareness event, but can have a side activity for our group

◆Iowa has a new Section Manager

- N0LOH Tom Brehmer now holds this position. Jim Lasley “retired” after 15 or so years in the office.

◆Reviewed action item list

◆Collins Radar Test

- WA6GFD reports the radar is at least as good as it was the last time we used it.
- People are now seated in the aisle where the radar is located. Things may be crowded.
- WA6GFD will contact EMA to set a date

to test the link. Should happen in next two weeks.

- ◆WA0FBX asked about Power Pole connectors. Some discussion followed.
- ◆KB0KW asked about ham involvement in Fargo.
- ◆N0AOE said he's working on getting a radio/scanner in the security station at DAEC.
 - Discussed operations during severe weather at DAEC.
 - Asked about possibility of having someone go to the Palo area for spotting, as they do not have trained spotters at DAEC at all times.
 - ARES does not dispatch spotters, but will ask more regularly for spotters in that area.
 - Discussion followed on various ideas for making sure they are warned of tornadoes.
 - Further discussion on inter-county cooperation.

Submitted by N0GUD

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

If you attended the last meeting, you should remember we have a number of new Hams among us. In addition to those who have already taken and passed their exam, the students in the current class will take their exam in early May, and hopefully we will have several additional new Hams on board. Getting a license is only the first step of the process, the next and just as important step is helping those new Hams to get on the air and to get them active in some Amateur Radio Activities. In support of this effort, if you happen to have an old Handie Talkie or mobile rig laying around that you might be willing to sell or to loan to one of these new hams, please let us and them know. Hopefully we can get all of these new Hams on the air as soon as possible.

The next CVARC sponsored communications activity will be on the Marion Arts 5K run/walk on 16 May. More details on the event will be announced at the meeting and on the Sunday Night ARES Net. Please mark this on your calendar and if you are free, come out and help us make this a successful event.

Field Day is not too far off and would like to find a couple of volunteers to help organize and set up this years event. I am looking for volunteers to manage the CW, Phone, VHF and GOTA operations. If you are interested please let me know.

Obviously, we are still looking for a Communications Activities Director. If you are

interested in filling this position, please let me know. We have folks who will be willing to help you organize and run the various events.

Look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting.

73, WA6GFD, Steve

K-12 CORNER

Please see the announcement regarding the Iowa Youth Amateur Award, later in this newsletter.

We've been having fun with electronic kits here, and can recommend some simple kits to try. Besides the educational value of learning about each kind of part by putting it into the right place in the circuit, you will have the satisfaction of building your very own blinkie or flash trigger and the confidence to tackle larger projects.

Once again at the Des Moines science fiction convention one of the activities was the "build-a-blinkie" workshop. The "blinkie" kits range in price from \$10.00 to \$21.00, from a simple 4-LED blinkie to a 5 by 7 matrix with scrolling messages. The components are LEDs, resistors, small switches and DIP sockets. They're easy to put together, and it's easy to overcome your fear of soldering when you see 12-year old kids working on the bigger projects. These kits are available from <http://www.2dkits.com/zencart/>.

The second kit comes from [hiviz.com](http://www.hiviz.com). Unlike the "blinkies" that are made to look pretty, these kits are designed to trigger electronic flashes for the high-speed photography. This lets you catch balloons in the act of popping or freeze a drop of water in mid-air. They sell kits that will trigger a flash from a sound, after a time delay, or when a light beam is broken. For an additional charge, they'll throw in a small breadboard that will let you put the circuit together quickly without worrying too much about wrong connections. These kits are available from <http://www.hiviz.com/kits/kits.htm>, starting at \$7.

Just a note, from the standpoint of learning how circuits work you might tend toward circuits built on breadboards. This makes you pay close attention to how things are connected to each other.

As always, if you have tips, success stories or questions about working with K-12 students, we'd like to hear about them. If you have upgraded your license or received a radio award, such as Worked All States, we'd like to share that good news. Please contact us at kc0nrxn@arrl.net

KC0NXXN & KC0NXO

AN UPDATE ON COMMUNICATIONS EVENTS

Volunteers are still needed for the Marion Arts

Festival 5K Run/Walk to be held on Saturday 16 May. The Run/Walk will start at 0800 and will last for about 3 hours depending on the number of walkers. I would like to have about 10 stations if possible to ensure good coverage of the route. We will meet at 0730 in the South parking lot of the Walgreens Drug Store which is just East of the starting line. This should keep us clear of all of the heavy race traffic. We will use 146.505 MHz as our primary frequency of operation with the 146.745 as the backup. If you know one of the newly licensed Amateurs who would like to come watch and shadow during this event, please invite them along. If you can participate in this event, please contact me at WA6GFD@aol.com or at 377-2219.

We have been asked by CRPD to participate in a event being held on Thursday night, 21 May 2009. This Walk for the Community event is sponsored by the Concerned Citizens and the CRPD and will consist of a group walk from St Paul's United Methodist Church and run for about 20 blocks. We will have a station in the CRPD dispatch area as well as stations at the start and finish. We would like to have post some stations along the route as well as have some stations who will walk with the crowd. The walk will start at about 6:30 PM and will probably last still about 8 or so. I will post more details when they are available. If you are interested in participating in this event, please contact me at WA6GFD@aol.com or call me at 377-2219. This event is being co-worked by Phil, K0PAS and Ben, KD0BIG.

Thanks,
Steve

- ◆May 16 Saturday: Marion Arts Festival 5K Run and Fun Walk.
- ◆May 21 Thursday: Neighborhood Walk, St. Paul's United Methodist and route.
- ◆June 7, Sunday: Pigman Sprint Triathlon at Pleasant Creek State Park.
- ◆June 27, Saturday: Dragon Boat Races at Robbins Lake.
- ◆June 27-28, Saturday and Sunday: Field Day
- ◆August 16, Sunday: Pigman Long Triathlon at Pleasant Creek State Park and surrounding communities.
- ◆August 29-30, Saturday and Sunday: Multiple Sclerosis Cycle for the Cure 150 mile bike ride. Cedar Rapids to Marshalltown on Saturday. Marshalltown to Cedar Rapids on Sunday.
- ◆September 26, Saturday: Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk at Noelridge Park.
- ◆October 25, Sunday: Muddy Monster Cross Country Run.

ANNOUNCING THE 2009 IOWA SECTION YOUTH AMATEUR OPERATOR AWARD!

The Iowa Section Youth Amateur Operator Award is intended to recognize a young ham who has demonstrated his or her tremendous dedication to Amateur Radio through his or her activities.

Requirements: Nominees for the Iowa Section Youth Award must meet the following requirements to be considered for this award:

- ◆ A current Iowa resident
- ◆ A licensed Amateur Radio operator
- ◆ Under 21 years old

Time line:

- ◆ Nominations (including the nomination form and any supporting documentation) for the Iowa Section Youth Award must be submitted on or before August 31, 2009. * The winner will be notified by September 10, 2009.
- ◆ The official presentation and announcement of the award will be on October 4, 2009 at the Southeast Iowa Hamfest in West Liberty, Iowa.
- ◆ The winner will receive a 2009 ARRL Handbook!

Additional Information:

- ◆ Although all accomplishments and activities will be considered, the concentration should be on those activities that took place within the past calendar year, and it should be noted when each activity occurred.
- ◆ The judges will select an award recipient based on their involvement in ham radio, especially community service, promotion, operating, technical knowledge, and enthusiasm.
- ◆ All decisions of the judges are final.
- ◆ Nominations and all accompanying material must be mailed to Iowa Section Youth Award Committee PO Box 81 Dunkerton, IA 50626 or e-mailed to ke0j@arrl.net on or before August 31, 2009.
- ◆ Any questions about the award or nomination process should be directed to Joe Hoepfner, KE0J via e-mail to ke0j@arrl.net.

ON THE CALENDAR

Excerpted from the Iowa ARRL Section Newsletter, courtesy of Tom Bremer, N0LOH:

The Military Vehicle Preservation Association will convoy through Iowa June 21 - 23. They are looking for communications support from Iowa hams. Perhaps

your club would like to setup and operate a Special Event station? (Ed. Note: Cedar Rapids is the stop for the evening of the 21st. The route appears to be following Highway 30.)

QUESTIONS ABOUT NEWSLETTER?

Please let us know if there are any errors or omissions that we can correct. If there's something you'd like to see, please also let us know. Is there something that you think you can contribute?

KCØNXN & KCØNXO

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

WANTED: Information leading to recovery of the following amateur radio equipment stolen from my car in front of my residence in early February 2009: Kenwood Dual Band Mobile UHF/VHF TM-V71A, Serial Number 90200023; Kenwood Tri-Band Hand Held TH-F6A Serial Number 70600081. Dave, KB0KW, krk9840@msn.com

YOUR AD HERE

The rates are right (free for any amateur), and the audience is perfect for your for sale or wanted advertisement. Send to:

CVARC
PO BOX 2352
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

Or to kc0nxo@arrl.net

All advertisements must be renewed monthly!

About CVARC:

The Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club is a regional group promoting amateur radio activities in the Cedar Rapids, Iowa area. CVARC is a non-profit corporation registered in the state of Iowa. CVARC meets on the second Thursday of each month in the Kenwood Park Methodist Church at 7:30 PM, Central Time. The meeting consists of club business and a program. The programs tend to be Amateur oriented but we occasionally host a general interest topic. Watch the website at cvarc.rf.org or the Bandspread newsletter for the topic.

All are welcome at these meetings, neither membership nor amateur radio license is required.

CVARC affiliations:

- Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL)
- Linn County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)
- Linn County Emergency Management Agency

CVARC Activities:

- Sponsor and present the premier Hamfest of eastern Iowa, in August
- Participation in the Annual ARRL Field Day Event
- Publish a monthly newsletter known as the Bandspread
- Participate in a number of Public Service Activities in the Cedar Rapids area
- Support and Participate in the Storm Watch Net operated by the Linn county ARES organization
- Hold social functions during the year, including the annual Holiday Party and Picnic
- Sponsor a complete ham station at Linn County Emergency Management HQ.
- Conduct classes for Technician and higher licenses each year
- Sponsor VE testing three times a year
- Maintain the 146.745 MHz repeater in Cedar Rapids

Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club

PO BOX 2352

Cedar Rapids, Ia 52406-2352

Call and License Class _____ Name _____ Date _____

Spouse Call and License Class _____ Spouse Name _____

Family Members' Call, Name, and License Class _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ -- _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ (Cell) _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ Please Print

Would you like to be added to the CVARC E-mail reflector? Yes () No ()

ARRL Member? Yes () No () VE Check if yes ARRL VE () W5YI VE ()

Are you interested in participating in Public Service Events? ()Yes ()No

Help with ham fest? Many job types available. () Yes () No

Dues Regular or Family: _____ \$10/year; Under 18 years of age: _____ \$5/year; Half year after July 1: _____ \$5

===== Club Use Only – Do NOT Write Below This Line =====

Recd: _____ Treas: _____ Entered: _____ Card: _____

Bandspread: _____