
CQ BARS

Volume XXVI Issue 05

May 2008

President's Corner

Hello everyone, I would like to give you an update in regards to our web site. The Webmaster has been hard at work and we would like for everyone to create a login, and logon to the site. If you look just below the username and password you will see "create an account", click on that link and fill in the blanks. Please use your "Call Sign for user name. There are a lot of changes being done and new things are being added weekly. The web page as you will notice has a new look to it, and it looks great. Jim, (N9ABF), has done a fantastic job with it! Also there is a poll on a new meeting time I need everyone to vote so we can get a census whether to change the time or not.

We also need to get field day finalized at our next meeting, so we have everything ready to go. It's only a month away and we would like to get some more band chairman! I would like to run 6A this year and it going to take all of us working together to make this happen and most importantly have fun too! This is one of the few events we get to enjoy our hobby together.

Finally Hamfest, I do have the advance tickets and will have flyers for next meeting. I need to see all the committee chairs after the meeting for a short meeting of the minds. Again were going to need everyone to participate in any way they can, to make this a success. This will be a win, win for BARS. I would like to say again, Thank You to everyone that was out there last year, and hope our new members can join in with us this year.

See you at the meeting,

Tom, N9LJY
BARS President

Secretary's Column

N9ZMM is still trying to organize the foxhunt(s). The last one did not take place and he's trying to determine if there's still an interest. So he's looking for feedback to the following questions:

1. Do you want to have Foxhunting part of BARS?
 - 1a. If you said "NO", would you like me to take you off this list?
 - 1b. If you said "YES", would you come to them if the day and time was better?
2. If you do want Foxhunting to be part of the BARS group, what day would work out best for you?



3. What time slot would you like to have it around?
4. How many times a year should we have foxhunts?
 5. What other activities would you like BARS to do?
 6. Would you like to have any Nets on the weekend?
 7. If yes what should it be about?Please let him know at N9ZMM@sbcglobal.net

I've also included some information about the American Red Cross drive for volunteers. Please keep in mind that they still require an extensive background check for some of the positions. Make sure that you're comfortable with that before deciding to volunteer.

73's for this month

Don - N9VJV

Last Months Meeting Minutes

The meeting was opened at 19:00 hours by N9LJY (Tom). Introductions followed. Officers present were: N9VJV (Don) and KB9JLB (Barb). Also present at the meeting were:

KB9LMK	K9JTB	W9KHX
WA9PDD	N9ABF	K9SW
N9BR	KC9JXD	KB9JLB
N9LJY	KA9J	N9VJV
WA9IQL	KA9SFW	KC9GRH
KC9JLK	KC9HHS	WA9IL

A motion to accept the minutes as published in CQ Bars was made by KC9JLK (Marianne), seconded by WA9IQL (Elden) and carried

The Treasurer's report was presented by KB9JLB (Barb). No Approval required.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2 meter: N9LJY (Tom) Reported that it's working.
220/440 WA9IL (John) reported that all of the 220 & 440 equipment has been removed form the water tower. Barry is looking for a replacement for the 440 machine. N9LJY will be meeting with the Village Attorney to see if he can assist with the situation KC9GRH (Bryan) and WA9IL (John) will meet to discuss possible alternative to a machine and/or repairs.

Net Control: KC9JLK (Marianne) reported good checkins. But still more are needed

Hamfest: N9LJY (Tom) reported that volunteers are needed for committees. Sign up on the sheets. Flyers and tickets will be available next month. The Table committee needs to meet and get tables reserved. There are 3 speaker slots still available

Education: No Report. Still need a volunteer to chair

VE: W9KHX reported that the leas session had 6 candidates. 2 Tech and 3 Generals passed. Next session will be June 21. This will be the last one before the Advanced question pool changes.

Field Day: N9LJY (Tom) reported that we still need band chairs. Setup will be June 27 after lunch. KC9JQW (AJ) will take 20 Meters. WX9WRN (Toni) will take 2 Meters and 440. WA9IQL (Elden) will take Packet and 10 Meters. K9JTB (Bill) will take 15 Meters. 40 and 80 Meters are still open. KA9J (Frank) will check with Willie about the generator.

Public Relations: No Report.

Skywarn: N9LJY (Tom) reported that there is a link on the web page. He reminded us that earthquake is another hazard that we need to keep aware of..

OLD BUSINESS:

N9ABF (Jim) is still looking for submissions for the web page. He's looking for Pictures, links, articles, and suggestions.

We were reminded of the request to consider changing the meeting time from 7 PM to 7:30 PM. N9ABF (Jim) will put up a poll on the web page. A motion to have Jim also look into setting up a PayPal account to accept payments only was made by KA9SFW (Jim), seconded by WA9IQL (Elden) and carried

N9LJY (Tom) would like to create an emergency communication plan for the hospital, to take place after the repeater relocation.

A motion to close old business was made by KC9GRH (Bryan), seconded by KB9LMK (Dale) and carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

KB9JLB (Barb) reported that the phone for the repeater has been discontinued as per our request. It will be needed after the machines have been relocated to conform to FCC regulations and can be reconnected at that time.

A motion to close old business was made by KB9LMK (Dale), seconded by KC9JLK (Marianne) and carried.

A motion to adjourn was made by KC9GRH (Bryan), seconded by KC9JLK (Marianne) and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Don, N9VJV
Secretary

Thursday Night net Statistics courtesy of N9ZMM (Archie)

Here is the April 2008 Net Report:

Total check-ins: 77

Total First time: 6

Total number of Hams checking in for 2007: 157

Total number of Hams checking in for 2008: 73

Top Five check-ins for 2008:

Bryan, KC9GRH.....17

Joe, KC9ERT.....17

Bob, N9RAT.....16

Lavert, KA9CCH.....13

Marianne, KC9JLK.....11

Charles, KC9LCT.....11

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Host with the Most:

New Checkins

Marianne, KC9JLK.....90 Check-ins.....6

John, WD9IWC.....58 Check-ins.....4

Archie, N9ZMM.....147 Check-ins.....7

Numbers do not count the Net Controller

Archie Hawley, N9ZMM

Bolingbrook Amateur Radio Society

*NET Control Coordinator

*BARS Foxhunt Coordinator

It Takes a Club

By David Sumner, K1ZZ, ARRL Chief Executive Officer
May 01, 2008

"Looking at variations in Amateur Radio licensing activity and new ARRL membership around the country, it's apparent that there are "hot spots" where newcomers are joining our ranks in relatively large numbers compared to other areas."

What does it take to make such a "hot spot"? One answer is that it takes a local radio club -- but not just any club. It takes a club that has made a commitment to reach out to the community or communities that it serves, with a program to bring friends and neighbors from a vague awareness of Amateur Radio all the way to being active radio amateurs.

Such clubs don't just happen. It takes vision, leadership and a lot of hard work. It takes club officers and members who are willing to venture beyond their normal comfort zone. It takes a welcoming, supportive and non-judgmental attitude on the part of everyone in the club that a newcomer is likely to encounter.

The good news is that once you have such a club it becomes -- almost -- a perpetual motion machine. Here's how it works.

Assuming that your community has a radio club and that you're a member, the first step is to develop a culture of outreach and welcome within the club. This takes conscious effort, especially if your members are in the comfortable rut of talking to the same group of friends all the time.

Imagine that you're listening to the club's repeater for the first time, as an amateur who is either new to the community or a new licensee. Would you feel welcome to join in the conversation, or would you feel that you would be regarded as an intruder? Now, imagine that you're attending a club meeting for the first time. You walk in and see knots of people talking among themselves. Would anyone greet you and introduce them-selves or would you be left standing by yourself? Before you're ready to make a serious outreach effort you must be able to answer these questions positively.

Being friendly and welcoming is necessary, but not sufficient. Does your club offer licensing classes? Do you help new licensees get over the many other hurdles -- selecting and installing antennas, learning how to use equipment, debugging interference to and from consumer electronic devices, and so on - that stand in the way of aspiring operators? Do you make sure that their first on-the-air contact is a positive experience, and offer nets and roundtables that they will want to join? Do you expose them to the wide variety of activities that they can pursue as radio amateurs? Do you encourage ARRL membership, so they will enjoy full access to membership benefits and will receive the monthly stimulus of QST?

If you have all of these bases covered, congratulations! Your club is ready to promote itself to the community. Most clubs already have some experience doing this, with varying degrees of success. While a full discussion of the do's and don'ts is more than this page can accommodate, here are a couple of thoughts.

There are many amateur licensees in your community who are not presently active. With the caveat that some are Silent Keys and others have not kept their addresses current in the FCC data base, it's easy to compile a mailing list for an invitation to an Open House or other special event. If you succeed in reactivating them, their renewed enthusiasm may infect their friends and family members.

If you invite the general public to come and see your club, make sure there's something for them to look at. Even a static display with some QSL cards and photos of past club events can be an ice-breaker, giving your greeters something to talk and invite questions

Field Day is just around the corner. With proper planning it can be an ideal event for introducing Amateur Radio to your community, and your club to existing and prospective licensees. This year there is a new, easy-to-use tool for publicizing your club's Field Day site: the ARRL Field Day Station Locator Web Site:

www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/locator.php

But remember -- an invitation to visit your site carries with it the responsibility to ensure that visitors (including children) are safe and that they have a positive, informative experience. If your Field Day operation is open to the public, the proper greeting of visitors cannot be left to chance -- it's as important a part of Field Day planning as the antennas, equipment, operators and food.

Every club has its ups and downs. If yours has been in the downward part of the cycle, now is a good time to take stock -- to capitalize on the strengths and overcome the weaknesses. The opportunities for club growth, in quality as well as quantity, have never been greater.

Oh, about that "perpetual motion machine." Have you ever attended a club meeting where there was to be an election of officers, but there were more offices than candidates? If not, you're fortunate. Many clubs with static or shrinking membership lists find that it's difficult to fill club offices or undertake new projects. Once a club finds the formula for attracting and nurturing new members, maintaining the club's vibrancy and activity becomes much easier.

The best local clubs provide a logical path for identifying and developing their future leaders, from student to new member and in succession to greeter, committee member, committee chairman, and officer. Your club's president for 2012 may be someone who sees Amateur Radio in action for the first time on Field Day -- or may be sitting in your licensing class right now!

Weather (in this case geological) Facts

By our own George Geotsalitis NB9R

Although the New Madrid fault system gets the majority of the press in the Midwest, the recent earthquake and aftershock experienced in southern Illinois was the result of the Wabash fault system which extends (roughly) through White, Edwards, Wabash and Lawrence Counties in Southeastern Illinois. The epicenter was in the town of Mt. Carmel in Wabash County. In addition to the Wabash fault, Illinois has several fault systems throughout the state; some of which include: St. Genevieve, Cottage Grove, Shawnee-Rough Creek, Sandwich and Plum River. For details on the location of these and other faults, see the Illinois Geological Survey website below.

Within the New Madrid Seismic area and centered in northeastern Arkansas, just west of Memphis Tennessee, the most powerful earthquakes to impact North America (estimated at magnitude 8.0

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(or higher) on the Richter scale) heavily damaged the Mississippi Valley in December 1811 and January 1812. While the science of the time did not allow detailed parametric analysis of the tremors, they were experienced in at least 28 states. Employing damage assessments and personal accounts of the events, seismologists estimated that the shocks were felt **lightly** over 2,000,000 mi²; **moderately** over an area of 965,000 mi² and **strongly** over an area of 50,000 mi²; contrast this with the 1906 San Francisco earthquake that was felt **moderately** over (only?) 60,000 mi².

While a 90% chance for an (New Madrid) earthquake of magnitude 6.0 or greater has been forecasted by the year 2040, newer science might suggest otherwise. An interesting article in [Science Daily](#) (12/06), suggests that scientists from Northwestern University, the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center and the University of Illinois at Chicago have found that the New Madrid seismic area appears to be "**Cold and Dying**."

[Science Daily](#) article:

www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2006/12/061211221056.htm.

Also see:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080419/ap_on_re_us/midwest_earthquake

Illinois State Geological Survey can be found at:

www.isgs.uiuc.edu/research/earthquake-hazards/earthquake-haz.shtml

Richter Magnitudes and **energy release** details can be found at:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richter_magnitude_scale#Richter_magnitudes

Apple **Seismac** (free laptop accelerometer software)

www.suitable.com/tools/seismac.html

QST de W1AW

Space Bulletin 004 ARLS004

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington, CT April 28, 2008

To all radio amateurs

SB SPACE ARL ARLS004

ARLS004 Ten New Satellites in Orbit

Submitted by our friend Frank Rasmusson (KAVPH)

Ten satellites reached orbit April 28 aboard an Indian PSLV-C9 rocket launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Center. The primary payloads were India's CARTOSAT-2A and IMS-1 satellites. In addition to the NLS-5 and RUBIN-8 satellites, the rocket carried six CubeSat research satellites, all of which communicate using Amateur Radio frequencies. All spacecraft deployed normally and appear to be functional at this time.

The SEEDS satellite is designed and built by students at Japan's Nihon University. When fully operational, SEEDS will download telemetry in Morse code and 1200-baud FM AFSK packet radio at 437.485 MHz. The satellite also has Slow-Scan TV (SSTV) capability.

Several stations have reported receiving SEEDS CW telemetry and the team would appreciate receiving more reports from amateurs at their ground station Web page.

AAUSAT-II is the creation of a student team at Aalborg University in Denmark. It will downlink scientific telemetry at 437.425 MHz using 1200 or 9600-baud packet.

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Can-X2 is a product of students at the University of Toronto Institute for Aerospace Studies, Space Flight Laboratory (UTIAS/SFL). Can-X2 will downlink telemetry at 437.478 MHz using 4 kbps GFSK, but the downlink will be active only when the satellite is within range of the Toronto ground station.

Compass-One was designed and built by students at Aachen University of Applied Sciences in Germany. The satellite features a Morse code telemetry beacon at 437.275 MHz. Compass-1 will also provide a packet radio data downlink, which will include image data, at 437.405 MHz.

Cute 1.7 + APDII is a satellite created by students at the Tokyo Institute of Technology. This satellite will not only provide telemetry, it will also offer a 9600-baud packet store-and-forward message relay with an uplink at 1267.6 MHz and a downlink at 437.475 MHz.

Delfi-C3 was designed and built by students at Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands. It includes an SSB/CW linear transponder. The satellite will be in telemetry-only mode for the first three months of the mission, after which it will be switched to transponder mode. Delfi-C3 downlinks 1200-baud packet telemetry at 145.870 MHz. The linear transponder, when activated, will have an uplink passband from 435.530 to 435.570 MHz and a corresponding downlink passband from 145.880 to 145.920 MHz.

NNNN
/EX

Disaster Assessment Opportunity

The American Red Cross of Greater Chicago is recruiting volunteers to join the Disaster Assessment Team.

Disaster Assessment is an activity that provides support in the earliest stages of disaster relief operations. Team members gather, analyze, interpret and report accurate and timely information about the extent of damage and overall impact, weather conditions, and demographics of a disaster-affected community. The team also provides mapping support. This information is reported and processed by various methods including Red Cross and amateur radio, conventional telephones, computers, and paper. The Disaster Assessment team is engaged as soon as it is safe within minutes of a major storm or other event occurring. Some members of the team, if they are able, may continue assessment activities for days following the event.

We think this activity may be particularly appealing to amateur radio operators because, as hams, we are committed to public service, we have invested in radio equipment, and for many of us, we have emergency communications training and experience with damage assessment and reporting from our weather spotting activities.

Please let me explain how this will work.

The Disaster Assessment team will be comprised of three types of volunteers depending on the amount of time and scope of involvement one is able to provide. The first two types of volunteers, which we call Core and Affiliated volunteers, upon the chapter obtaining satisfactory background checks, are issued Red Cross identification and are allowed to display the Red Cross signage on their vehicles when conducting field assignments. However, unlike core volunteers who choose to be much more involved with the chapter, Affiliated volunteers are used when a disaster happens and are not solicited for additional participation within the chapter. In other words, Affiliated volunteers will be focused on the Disaster Assessment activity.

The third type of volunteers, which we call External Partners, unlike Core and Affiliated volunteers, are not required to have background checks, but then will not be issued Red Cross

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credentials, will not be able to display the Red Cross signage on their vehicle while conducting Disaster Assessment activities, and the Red Cross will not assume liability for their service.

As you can see, there are opportunities for everyone in this important activity.

There is some Red Cross, Emergency Management, and weather spotter training required of all three types of team member, which will be provided at no cost to the volunteer. Some of this training is available online and the classroom training will be scheduled at times and locations with consideration for the volunteer schedule.

In closing, the Greater Chicago chapter serves about 8 ½ million people in seven counties covering more than 4,000 square miles, and as a Regional Chapter, lends support to the Northwest Indiana, Grundy County, Kankakee County, and Fox-River Valley chapters. If you are interested in being a core, affiliated, or external partner Disaster Assessment volunteer, please reply by e-mail to DisasterAssessment@arcqcdst.org and someone will follow-up with you promptly.

SEC/IL QST080420

Courtesy Pat Ryan KC6VVT

RRL Illinois Section Emergency Coordinator

ILARES HF Net 4/20/08 1630L 3.905 MHz LSB +/- The Illinois Section ARES HF Net meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays on 3905 KHz to test HF NVIS propagation for the emergency. The next regularly scheduled session of the Illinois Section ARES Net will be on this third Sunday, April 20, 2008, at 4:30 PM local time on 3905 KHz, plus + or minus - for QRM. This statewide net is a regular on the air meeting of Emergency Coordinators and their EC liaisons, including Official Emergency Stations around the section. Roll call of District and Local EC, or their net liaison, is first made in the directed portion of this net, and then recalled for brief reports. Following these EC reports, OES/IL and ARES may check in the latter open part of the net.

ISB -

The Illinois Sideband Net follows the ILARES HF Net at 6:00 PM local, and this is a daily traffic net. The ISN is a traffic handling net for the Illinois Section, and may have Radiograms for delivery in YOUR local area. And the ISN will provide an outlet for your local formal traffic to relay nationwide through the National Traffic System. ARES will share this 3905 frequency in the emergency with our NTS in the Illinois Section. Each local ARES Net should maintain a regular traffic liaison to NTS for sending and receiving Radiograms.

QST DE KA9QPN

**While perusing a number of Amateur Radio related forums, I note the disturbing trend of some of our fellow hams referring to ARES@/RACES participants as 'whackers'. I prefer not to think as to what that exactly means or how the general public might react to that appellation. Some folks in Amateur Radio don't get what the NRA, AARP and other special interest groups have known for years: All pursuits within a worthy discipline have merit and must be defended vigorously as a package. In our case, the experimenter and the builder advance the art. The Elmer freshens our ranks with new blood and guards our traditions by passing them on. The club member organizes, encourages, and showcases our pursuits. The contester and award chaser sharpens his communications skills for use in other venues. The traffic-handler preserves our most basic function. The ARES@/RACES member serves the public and helps pay the rent on our spectrum. The rag-chewer fosters good will and the fine art of conversation. What has the namecaller ever brought to the table that is positive? Tom Paine said it years ago: 'If we do not hang together, we shall surely hang separately.'

Some articles courtesy of the ARRL.