

W0GQ

W0WSV



Since 1949

BANDSPREAD



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

CEDAR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday, June 8th, 2006

7:30 PM

Field Day Planning

*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 July issue is June 29, 2006

BANDSPREAD

The Voice of the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club

Bandspread Staff

		e-mail or Business (PHONE)	HOME
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Hamfest Chairman			

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Net Directory

3.896 MHz	3900 Club	8:45 a.m. Sundays
146.745 MHz (alt. 145.15Ø-192.8PL)	Linn County ARES Net	7:00 p.m. Sundays
146.85Ø MHz (-6ØØ KHz)	Johnson County Sunday Net	7:30 p.m. Sundays
145.39Ø MHz (-6ØØ KHz)	Jones County ARES Net	8:00 p.m. Sundays
145.23Ø MHz (-6ØØ KHz)	Benton County ARES Net	6:30 p.m. Mondays
356Ø KHz	TLCN (CW Section)	6:30 & 10:00 p.m. Daily
397Ø 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 kcønxn@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

JUNE CVARC Meeting Preview

It's time to get ready for Field Day. This is a test of a simulated communications emergency. How well can CVARC communicate for 24 hours without grid power?

Please come to help get the final arrangements made.
See you on the eighth!

MAY 2006 CVARC BOARD MINUTES

The May 2006 CVARC Board of Directors meeting was held Thursday, May 11, 2006 at 6:35 PM in the Kenwood United Methodist Church. The meeting was called to order by President WA6GFD. Others in attendance were; WA0ZZG, KC0OX, K0AL, WA0KHH, N0XZL, KC0OOF, N0LNO, and NA0IA.

WA0ZZG reported that during our program for this evening, State Representative Swati Dandekar will be presenting to us a Proclamation signed by Iowa Governor Vilsack. This proclamation names the week of June 18- 25 as Amateur Radio Week which coincides with the ARRL Field Day. Dave indicated that this proclamation may serve as the ARRL suggested model for such proclamations.

N0XZL reports that tickets and the postcard flyers are ready for the printers. He circulated a draft of the letter he will be mailing to the vendor list.

KC0OX reported that the station console from the old EMA station remains unsold. It was listed with the items at the silent auction last summer with no bids offered.

On a motion by KC0OX and seconded by NA0IA, it was approved that Ron may take whatever means required to dispose of the unit including gifting or selling for salvage.

WA0KHH reports that arrangements are in place for the VE session scheduled for Monday, May 15 at the Isaac Newton Christian Academy. Doors will open at 6:30 PM and testing will begin at 7:00 PM.

KC0OOF covered the Public Service Activities as listed in the May issue of the Bandsread.

WA6GFD reported that the repeater announcements have not been kept current. WA0ZZG offered to be the primary, with KC0OX volunteering as the backup.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM

Submitted by K0AL, Secretary

MAY 2006 CVARC MEETING MINUTES

The May 2006 General Membership meeting was held Thursday, May 11, 2006 at 7:30 PM at the Kenwood United Methodist Church. The meeting was called to order by President WA6GFD. All attendees introduced themselves with 42 members and guests present.

The meeting order was reversed in deference to our program presenter. WA0ZZG introduced State Representative Swati Dandekar. Representative Dandekar then presented to the club a proclamation signed by Iowa Governor Vilsack proclaiming June 18-25 as Amateur Radio Week.

Representative Dandekar then gave a brief synopsis of her life since coming to Iowa as a young bride in 1973 through her past years serving in the Iowa House of Representatives. She characterized Iowa as a great place to live and raise children and that she is always pushing to find creative technologies that can be employed to make greater use of Iowa's products and people.

She asked what she could do to assist Amateur Radio at the state level at which several members expressed opinions, mostly centered on antenna issues. She then asked for questions and comments of any nature as related to state government.

After the program a refreshment break was held.



Representative Swati Dandekar, District 36, reads Governor Vilsack's proclamation to CVARC.

During the customary introductions, special guest SF0F, Uva from Stockholm spoke briefly.

On a motion by W0WLL and seconded by K0LYP the April minutes as published in the May Bandsread were approved.

In our Treasurer's absence, KB0SK gave the bank balance of \$6,592.31 and reported that the State Raffle license for the Summerfest drawing has been received.

WA0KHH announced the VE session scheduled for May 15.

NA0IA announced the "Pre-Dayton" swapfest at the Collins main plant facility parking lot scheduled for Saturday, May 13 from 8:30 – 10:30 AM.

KC0OOF asked for volunteers for the Marion 5K event on Saturday, May 20. He listed the other coming Public Service Activities as the Pigman on June 4th at Pleasant Creek, the Dragon Boat races on June 24 at Pleasant Creek and Field Day the weekend of June 23 – 25 with a supper provided after set up on Friday evening June 23 at the Regis middle school.

KC0OX reported that the operating console from the old EMA facility remains available and any one interested should contact Tom, KD0HF

ARRL Midwest Director, W0EJ reported that Congressman Leach has agreed to co-sponsor House Resolution 230 which directs the FCC to investigate BPL concerns. Wade says the next move is for a revised Telecommunications bill to go to the Senate for their consideration.

Wade further reported that the FCC directed Manassas, VA to check for BPL interference, but ARRL representatives report that the tests were flawed. To date the FCC has not requested the tests be repeated,

N0LNO reported there will be an article in the June Bandspread outlining the changes for Summerfest 2006 precipitated by our change of venue. A larger number of volunteer helpers will be required for vendor set up and tear down due to the limited access to the display area.

President Steve asked that a moment of silence be observed for W0QCB, a long time CVARC member who became a silent key the past week. N0LNO reported that 5 of the 6 pall bearers were hams.

NA0IA held two door prize drawings for ARRL Repeater Directories which were won by WA6GFD and KC0NXN.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM

Submitted by K0AL, Secretary.

ARES APRIL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Attending: WA6GFD, KB0KW, KC0OX, N0GUD, KF0VF

- All backup net control operators -- should they

have to take two nets per year to maintain their skills?

- This is a good idea. N0GUD will speak to the Net Manager about making appropriate arrangements. KC0OX suggested that the onus should be on the stand-by operators to make their own arrangements. This will be suggested to the NM.
- Updates to Storm Watch procedures
 - Entire procedure was reviewed for updates and improvements (best practices).
 - Several paragraphs received minor changes and clarifications.
- March meeting minutes
 - Read and approved by those present who attended the March meeting.
- State EC meeting minutes
 - Minutes reviewed in brief. These were presented for information only – approval will be handled by comments from the participants.
 - Training recommendations were discussed at the EC meeting. The results are being flowed down to the individual ARES participants. Whether this will be required rather than recommended remains to be determined by the SEC.
- Updates to the FEMA FAQs
 - KC0OX presented the history of his exchange with FEMA concerning Amateurs and NIMS compliance. As the exchange was taking place, the frequently asked questions list (FAQs) changed three or four times. Currently, FEMA is strongly suggesting the NIMS and ICS training, but not yet directly requiring it.
- Training recommendations
 - KC0OX presented recommendations derived from the Iowa EC meeting.
 - Discussion followed on whether these recommendations were good for presentation to the amateur community.
 - Discussion followed on how to spark interest in the community for actually getting trained. WA6GFD suggested that we could perhaps set up a program to provide EC-001 for free to ARES-registered amateurs. The FEMA courses are free, but the ARRL courses cost \$45, which may put off people who are otherwise interested.
 - KB0KW suggested that a distinction could be made between operators who are supporting served agencies directly, and those who are providing general support to the effort.

- All agreed to discuss this again at the next meeting, when we may have more participation.
- "What Is NIMS?" article for Bandspread
 - Briefly discussed.
- NIMS worksheet from EMA meeting
 - The worksheet was released to emergency response groups.
 - The worksheet states that compliance must be complete by 30 September 2006.
 - The worksheet is correct for "true" first responders. It needs to better define "volunteers" in light of conflicting information from other FEMA sources.
 - This may be applicable only to groups that are receiving federal funding. We need better definition as to how this applies to amateur radio. We also need to determine how our training status affects EMA's ability to garner funding.
 - Due to limited attendance, we will address this again at the next meeting.
- SET status
 - Proposal was discussed at the last meeting. No comments have been made suggesting changes. If we agree with the concept, WA6GFD will complete the practice messages. We will then select umpires to oversee the exercise, and pick a date to conduct the SET.
- Projects brainstorming session (if time allows)

Submitted by N0GUD

From the President's Desk

I can't believe that it is June already, seems like we were just blowing and shoveling snow! Hopefully the rain will ease up a bit and all of those winter antenna projects can start taking root.

I want to thank Al, K0AL and his group of instructors for the outstanding job they did hosting the Amateur Radio License Class. The results of the VE Test Session on 22 May bore out the success of their efforts when all but one of the students passed their license exam! Outstanding results! The test session went very well too, with 14 of the 15 examinees coming away with new licenses or upgrades. Congratulations to all of the students, examinees, and instructors.

By the time this goes to press, we will have had two communications events: the 5K Marion Run and the short PIGMAN event. The next events will be

Field Day and the Dragon Boat races on 24 June. Both events occur on the weekend of 24 June. If you can support either event please get with Phil, KC0OOF.

There's been a lot of discussion about emergency antennas lately. From ground planes, to twin lead J-poles, to discone antennas, all designed to take the place of damaged antennas or to allow support from a temporary location or favorite campsite. If you have an interesting design or idea for a temporary antenna, let's hear from you. Summer is here, the weather is nice, and these might make a great summer project. Don't forget those HF antennas as well!

Don't forget the June meeting on 8 June as well as the other operating events scheduled for June. See you there!

From Communication Activity Director, Phil Shook

A quick update on hip surgery. Everything went well. I worked the Marion Arts festival 5K race. Since the doctor won't let me drive, I want to thank WA6GFD and WA0ZZG for lugging me around.

The first Pigman Race at Pleasant Creek State Park will be history by the time you get Band Spread, so won't waste time on that activity.

The event we really need to promote is FIELD DAY. The date will be June 24, and 25. Same location Behind Regis Middle School, 735 Prairie Dr. NE. We will again have a CW and DX Station plus a 2 meter and 6 meter station. If there are any additional stations that you would like to see operate please call me. This is a CVARC activity, and we will do our best to get your station on the air. The other part of Field Day will be the second annual cookout Friday evening, June 23, at Field day site behind Regis. Start time is 6:00P. CVARC will again provide the meat, hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken breasts, and a surprise meat item. My wife will be the grill cook, and the grill is provided by Nelson's Meat Market. All you need to bring is your table service, and a covered dish. Last year, there was more food than eaters, this year we would like to reverse the food to eater ratio. We will do our best to provide chairs, but bring a couple chairs just in case.

Just a review, this is a Club activity—your participation and help is really needed. That being said, I'm looking forward to seeing you at Field Day.

KC0OOF

K-12 Corner

Now that school's out we get to hear complaints that "I'm bored" instead of "I have too much homework!"

You might want to take a look at *Make Magazine*, from O'Reilly and Associates. It's at www.makezine.com. The current issue is on robots, starting with those built from a simple circuit and motor.

There are lots of other sites -- <http://www.instructables.com>, for example, has over 700 projects, including some that are useful for radio. There's the "Portable PVC Conduit Antenna Mast" at <http://www.instructables.com/ex/i/CB1A20C035CB1029BC6B001143E7E506/>.

A favorite of ours is still the "Howtoons" site, now at <http://www.instructables.com/howtoons/>. You'll find projects here on bending light, making air hockey pucks out of old CDs, and a simple electric motor out of a battery and a few other items like safety pins.

And lastly, in honor of Field Day, an antenna construction tip. A J-pole antenna for two meters is inexpensive, simple to construct, and has reasonable performance. It makes a great first antenna project. There are lots of plans on the web, for instance this one: <http://www.qsl.net/wb3gck/jpole.htm>.

A few weeks ago I got out the first one I'd built to hang it on my bike flag, and checked its SWR. It was higher than I remembered. I got out the second one that I'd built and checked it, and the SWR was much better. I suspect that rolling the antenna for storage and unrolling for use flexes the joint between the coax and the twinlead. I'm avoiding that on my good J-pole by making sure the joint can't flex. When I originally built the antenna, I used some electrical tape to insulate the joint, but that doesn't keep it from flexing. I cut a 3 to 4-inch piece of 1/2" ID PVC, and slipped it over the twinlead and down to the joint between the coax and the twinlead. A little bit of hot glue into both ends of the PVC keep the coax and the twin lead from sliding around in the PVC tube, and the stiff tube keeps the joint from bending. The tube is short enough that the rest of the antenna can still be rolled up.

As always, if you have tips, success stories or questions about working with K-12 students, we'd like to hear about them. Please contact us at kc0nrxn@arrl.net, or 377-5929.

Amateur Exams: May, 2006 Session Results

Wow, what a session! Attendance at an "off season" exam session in Cedar Rapids typically runs from 6 to 8 people. We had 15 candidates who appeared for testing and paperwork filing at the May 15 session, and they were very well prepared for the evening. Thanks to K0AL for his evening classes.

In addition to three new technician licenses, and two new technician with HF licenses, there was at least one of every imaginable type of upgrade earned that evening. I hope you can follow this upgrade summary! There was one tech plus to general, one novice to tech with HF, one tech plus to extra, two general to extra, two tech to general, one tech to extra, and one advanced to extra.

Here's an "extra credit" quiz. Can you think of any other type of upgrade that we missed? Hi!

Sincere thanks go to WA6GFD, W0SS, KI0AZ, W0DAT, K0VEP, K0HWE, K0HSE, and W0AYO for serving as examiners at the session, and to N0LN0 for arranging use of the school for the exam session and helping with registration. You all did a great job!

The next exam session in Cedar Rapids is planned in conjunction with Summerfest 2006 on August 6 at the Teamster's Hall. See you there!

73, Darrel, WA0KHH

HELP NEEDED WITH HAMFEST

Hi all, Please hand this info to everyone in your home. I need help! We will need help from 7:00am to 2:00pm in the kitchen. We will need the help with the following:

- Setting up
- Taking orders
- Taking money & making change
- Getting orders ready
- Keeping tables cleaned off
- Miscellaneous tasks

We can use your help an hour or two at a time, or you can work the whole time. If you can't stand we'll find a stool to sit on. If memory serves me right, the kitchen at the teamsters hall is a whole lot better than what we've had in the past.

Please call Daisy at 227-7796 and let her know when you can work. Thanks so much. Please don't make me beg any harder.....

See ya, Daisy, KF0EC

CVARC Helps out at Marion 5K

CVARC helped with the Marion Arts Festival 5K race on the morning of Saturday, May 20th. Starting at 07:30 next to the caboose in Marion Square Park, hams fanned out to several spots along the course.

The race started at 08:00 and was finished in just under an hour. One ham followed the slowest walkers in with a mobile bicycle rig.

Afterwards, the volunteers from CVARC held a debriefing session at the Country Kitchen in Marion.



From left to right: Doug, KF0VF, Dave WA0ZZG, Phil, KC0OOF, Sam, KC0TKF, Rob, KB9CEF, Steve WA6GFD. Not pictured: Brett, KC0VJI, and Mike, KC0NXN.

TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION

Whereas, Amateur Radio has played a significant role in Arthur Collins developing world wide radio communications; and

Whereas, the State of Iowa has more than 6,800 radio amateurs that continuously demonstrate their value in public assistance; and

Whereas, radio amateurs are on alert for tornadoes, floods, or any other local emergency and utilize their communications skills to assist city, county, or state officials; and

Whereas, Iowa radio amateurs have generously donated their time and equipment to provide communications support to local service clubs and organizations at no charge; and

Whereas, Iowa radio amateurs offer free technical training to all interested citizens; and

Whereas, Iowa radio amateurs continue to hone their communications skills by operating the twenty-

four [hour] simulated emergency known as 'Field Day' on June 24-25, 2006:

Now, therefore, I, Thomas J. Vilsack, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim the week of June 18-25 as Amateur Radio Week in Iowa.

(Des Moines, April 3, 2006)

Response to Proclamation from WA6GFD

"I am honored to accept this Proclamation not only on behalf of the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club and the other Clubs and Amateur Operators in Linn County, but on behalf of all of the Amateur Radio Operators in the State of Iowa. On their behalf, I wish to thank Governor Vilsack for recognizing our contributions."

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. Would ARRL news be redundant for most people? Is there a Q and A column you would like to see? Is there something that you think you can contribute?

KC0NXN & KC0NXO

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

30' Steel Antenna Tower
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1500 First Ave, Cedar Rapids

Contact Bill Rider
319-895-8908
319-361-2290 cell

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 kc0nxn@arrrl.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 Bandsread 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 Bandsread
- 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 _____ Name _____ Date _____

Spouse Call _____ Spouse Name _____

Family Members' Call and Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone (H)
 _____ (W) _____ ARRL Member? Yes() No()

Do you wish to be included on the Emergency Call List? Yes() No()

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Are you interested in participating in Public Service Events? 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: _____

Bandsread: _____ **Emergency Director:** _____ **Comm. Act. Director:** _____