

W0GQ

W0WSV



Since 1949

BANDSPREAD



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

CEDAR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday, October 12th, 2006

7:30 PM

Contesting, with Bill, NØLNO

*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 November issue is October 26th, 2006

BANDSPREAD

The Voice of the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club

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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 kcønxo@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

October CVARC Meeting Preview

The October CVARC meeting will be held at the Kenwood Park United Methodist Church, 175 34th St. NE. The program will be on contesting, assisted by Bill, NØLNO.

How does contesting help all Hams? What skills do you sharpen in contesting? How do you get started, if you have never contested?

Receive Notice of Bandspread by E-mail

Bandspread is now available in PDF format on the CVARC Website. To see Bandspread on the web, and even download it to your own computer, please go to <http://cvarc.rf.org/Bandspread/2006/>

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.

Copying and mailing Bandspread is one of the largest expenses in the CVARC annual budget. If you like the convenience (two to four days faster than the paper version) 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.

Services for Wade, W0EJ, Attended by ARRL Officers

On Friday, September, 1st, friends, colleagues, and fellow Hams said farewell to Wade Wahlstrom, W0EJ. Many ARRL Board members attended.



Pictured are (left to right): Twila Greenheck, N0JPH Dakota Division Vice Director, Bruce Frahm, K0BJ, former Midwest Division Vice Director, succeeding Wade as Midwest Division Director, Jay Bellows, K0QB, Dakota Division Director, Solveig Walstrom, Wade's XYL, Joel Harrison, W5ZN, ARRL President, Dick Isely, W9GIG, Central Division Director, Dale Fitzgibbons, W0WW, Close personal friend of Wade, Jim Lasley, N0JL, Iowa Section Manager. Photo Courtesy of Alan, WB0OAV.

SEPTEMBER 2006 CVARC BOARD MINUTES

The September 2006 CVARC Board of Directors meeting was held Thursday, September 14, 2006 at 6:30 PM at the Emergency Management Center on the Kirkwood College Campus. The meeting was called to order by President WA6GFD. Others attending were: NØXZL, KF0EC, WT0D, KC0OX, WA0ZZG, NA0IA, K0AL and NØLNO.

KF0EC reported the current checking account balance is \$1,957.82 and that she had purchased a "7 Day CD" in the amount of \$5,000. The "7 Day CD" allows immediate access to those funds after the initial 7 day holding period and pays 3.94%.

On a motion by WA0ZZG and seconded by NA0IA, the August 2006 BOD minutes as printed in the September 2006 Bandspread was approved on a voice vote.

KC0OX reported that there were some upcoming emergency drills that he would be announcing at the membership meeting.

WT0D asked if we should be making reservations for the Holiday Party. It is presumed that the date would be our normal meeting date which would be Thursday, December 14.

WA0ZZG announced that he would prepare a "pre-event" press release for "Witch Watch."

NØLNO discussed coming program possibilities, the scheduling of the weather spotting class and options for licensing classes.

On a motion by NØLNO and seconded by NA0IA, it was approved by voice vote that AA0II be authorized up to \$200 to acquire suitable Amateur Radio promotional items that are to be made available at appropriate events.

WA6GFD reported that the Alzheimer's walk at Noelridge Park went really well. In spite of heavy rains on Sunday, the Tandem Bike Rally went quite well.

KC0OX reported that activities for the Annual SET (Simulated Emergency Test) will appear in the October Bandspread. One function that will be conducted during this test is to determine simplex communications coverage with the antennas installed at the new EMA center.

WA6GFD reported on recent e-mails from W0NEW raising questions about CVARC's policy for observing the deaths of members and their immediate family members. The BODs policy is, and remains, to send flowers (unless other memorials have been requested by the family) upon notification of death of a member or their immediate family. Immediate family has been interpreted to include parents of the member, spouse of the member and the member's children.

On a motion by K0AL and seconded by NØXZL, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Submitted by K0AL, Secretary

SEPTEMBER 2006 CVARC MEETING MINUTES

The September 2006 General Membership meeting was held Thursday, September 14, 2006 at 7:35 PM at the new Emergency Management center on the Kirkwood College campus. The meeting was called to order by President WA6GFD. All attendees introduced themselves with 36 members and guests present.

On a motion by W0WLL and seconded by K0ECW, the August meeting minutes as appearing in the September Bandspread were approved on a voice vote.

KF0EC reported a checking account balance of \$1,957.82.

WA0KHH reported that the Vinton club will resume VE testing at the Vinton High School on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Al, KOHWE is the contact for these sessions. There also is planned a VE session at the West Liberty, Iowa hamfest on Sunday, October 1.

KC0OX reported that on Wednesday, September 20 an emergency drill for the Duane Arnold Energy Center will be held. He would like a volunteer to man the HF station at the EMA center. There will also be a FEMA graded drill in October. Ron will have details in the October Bandspread.

K0LYP reported on the recent passing of KC0IRV.

WB0OAV reminded members that while Alliant stopped BPL testing in Cedar Rapids, the issue has not gone away. Alan would welcome anyone interested in working on this to contact him.

WA6GFD asked for a moment of silence to note the recent death of a CVARC member, W0EJ. Wade also was the ARRL Midwest Director and had help author the paper which was submitted to the FCC condemning the BPL system as tested in Cedar Rapids.

W0LBK announced that he has a 46 inch projection TV for free and also a Butternut vertical HF antenna.

N0LN0 reported on his recent UHF/VHF roving experience with his son Chris. They had 95 QSOs in 12 grids. Rotten propagation, but a good experience with his son.

NA0IA conducted the door prize drawing for a 2006 ARRL Handbook which was won by W0GWK.

The business meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

After a short social break tours of the new EMA center were conducted by Tom Ulrich assisted by KD0HF, N0TNR and KC0OX.

The facility is constructed of reinforced concrete with provisions to deflect explosion forces. In addition to its own water well, it is connected to two separate water supply circuits, it has food stocks for prolonged isolation and is equipped with a diesel generator.

Submitted by K0AL, Secretary



Tom, KD0HF, and Ron, KC0OX at EOC. Photo Courtesy of Alan, WB0OAV

ARES Meeting Minutes for September 7, 2006

The meeting was called to order by KC0OX at 1915 hours.

Attendees: KC0OX, KD0HF, KF0VF, KC0PON, WA6GFD

PAST EVENTS:

- **PIGMAN** – The PIGMAN Triathlon was a great success communications-wise. The new location and the higher antenna for simplex seemed to greatly improve communications. The event was uneventful with the exception of the motorcycle fatality that occurred on the route. We were a little short of manpower and recommendations were made to try to bring in some of the Benton County Amateurs for next years event. This would be a good opportunity to strengthen mutual support operations.
- **VFW Parade** – This event was a one time event and went off without any problems. The route was short and communications were good all along the route.
- **TANDEM Bike Ride** – This event was also a one time event that presented more of a challenge due to the distances and number of participants involved. We were a little short handed on Saturday, but it worked out well due to the excellent weather and the route selected. There was one bike that went down due to a blown tire, but both riders were scraped up but otherwise OK. Sunday presented more of a challenge

due to the heavy rains throughout the day. There were no problems noted in spite of the less than favorable weather

- Alzheimer's Walk –The Alzheimer's Walk went well. This is fun event with minimal stress.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- EOC TOUR – A tour of the EOC will be given at the September CVARC meeting. Tom Ulrich will give a short introductory talk followed by a question and answer period.

- WITCH WATCH – Scott, N0GUD, is handling the letter to the Sheriff's Office. The letter will request clarification on a couple of specific issues for this year's event. KC0OX will collect the names of the participants and will pass them on to the Sheriff's Office. The goal is to receive the acknowledgement from the Sheriff's Office in time to get an article in the BANDSPREAD and also to get an announcement up on the repeater.

- SET EXERCISE – The SET exercise was discussed. Goal is to host this exercise in the early October time frame. The exact date will depend gaining access to the EOC Radio Room. This exercise will be a communications exercise intended to test pre-positioned antenna/radio systems as well as to test the EOC's ability to communicate on simplex frequencies. Preparation for this exercise will also provide the opportunity to update the instructions for gaining access to the antennas at St Luke's and Mercy Hospitals. Suggestions were made to include the Sheriff's Office, Marion PD and Hiawatha Fire stations in the exercise as well.

- EOC ANTENNAS – A discussion was held about the HF Dipole antenna in preparation of the 20 Sept drill. A temporary HF antenna will be set up to support the drill. In addition it was suggested that a noise survey should be conducted to see if the major sources of noise in the EOC communications room can be determined. It was commented that the State EOC doesn't have 60M capabilities. A short discussion was held on possible VHF and UHF paths to the State EOC. While the 440MHz repeater in Waterloo is linked to the State EOC, it was uncertain if any of the stations in the Cedar Rapids area could hit the repeater.

- 20 SEPTEMBER DRILL – This is last practice drill before the FEMA evaluated exercise. Stations were

asked to check in via the VHF repeater and for a couple of stations to be prepared to provide HF backup in the event the EOC station is not able to work into the State EOC.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Doug, KF0VF, provided some updates on Eastern Iowa Repeaters

- The 147.345MHz repeater in Oelwein is on the air
- The 146.82MHz repeater in Waterloo is up and requires a 136.5Hz tone
- The 146.94MHz repeater in Waterloo is up and requires a 136.5Hz tone

- Information on repeaters can be found on the following sites:

- www.artscipub.com/repeaters
- www.usrepeaters.com
- www.iowarepeater.org (official site)

The meeting was adjourned at 2100 hours by KC0OX.

From the President's Desk

October is now upon us and will bring some of the last communications events for the year. There will be a Duane Arnold Energy Center Drill on the 18th of October. The details of this event are contained in another article in this newsletter. Halloween is also approaching which will mean we will be running our annual Witch Watch event in support of local law enforcement agencies. Details of this event can also be found in an article in this news letter.

In addition to these two events, CVARC will be conducting a Simulated Emergency Test (SET) exercise this month. This exercise is being structured to test the recently installed VHF equipment in the EOC and to provide a very simple communications exercise to get us thinking about situations we might face other than Storm Watch. Details on this event will be presented at the club meeting.

The meeting last month was a very successful event. Those of you who were unable to attend missed a great tour of the new Linn County Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Operations Center and a short presentation on just some of the capabilities of the new facility. I would thank the folks at EMA for hosting the event and giving up their free

time to conduct the tours and the presentation. I think this was the first time in the five years since I have been here that we have had a large gathering of Amateur Radio Operators with the EMA Staff. I hope the event will set the stage for future interactions with the EMA staff.

Look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting on October 12th.

73, W6GFD

Phil Shook, KC0OOF, is recovering from surgery. There will be no communications column this month.
The editors.

K-12 Corner

October always bring the Jamboree of the Air, JOTA. It's a time for Boy and Girl Scouts around the world to tune in and say "Hello" to each other. The ARRL's web page, with recommended HF frequencies, is here:

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/ideas.html>. JOTA runs from 0001 local time Saturday 21 October to 2359 Sunday, a total of 48 hours. You may also hear some JOTA activity on local repeaters that weekend. Be prepared for a friendly exchange of names with some scouts.

The ARRL has updated their Homebrew Challenge. From page 57 of the October 2006 QST, there are now two challenges: the Barebones Homebrew Challenge, with a limit of \$50 in parts (mic, key and speakers don't count towards the limit), and the Digital Homebrew Challenge. For the second challenge, a computer and soundcard can be used but will not count against the price limit.

A tip of the hat to our fellow hams at the Collins ARC. On 23 September they set up a station at the Boy Scout camp near Central City as part of the camp's 75th anniversary celebration. Nearly two hundred people (and a few scout hams) stopped by to learn a little bit about ham radio and try their hand at sending their name in Morse code. Several HF contacts were made with CARC's new radio, using a simple wire antenna strung up in a tree. CARC expects to take this radio to schools and other groups over the coming months.

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 kc0nxn@arrl.net

73, KC0NXN & KC0NXO

DAEC Drill on October 18 – FEMA Evaluated!

This is the big one! Participants are needed for a radiological emergency drill involving Linn County EMA, DAEC and other public service agencies on Wednesday, October 18th. We need to show our best participation, as this will be the drill evaluated by FEMA. The exercise will start at approximately 9AM, and will likely end around 2 to 3 PM, depending on the scenario presented.

Unlike previous drills, Amateurs will likely be requested to have two or three people report to the EOC and physically deliver dosimeters to a few agencies in the county. Please do not report to the EOC unless specifically requested.

As before, we would like as many additional operators as possible to monitor 146.745 and simulate participation in the drill. Net control will provide updates of event status, keep track of the availability of all participants (check-in, check-out), and track delivery of dosimeters (both real and simulated).

If you may be available to physically deliver dosimeters, I would like to hear from you in advance. If you wish to participate from home or at work, you only need to monitor 146.745 and check in with net control when requested.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Ron Breitwisch, KC0OX

kc0ox@arrl.net

Work 295-4604

Home 373-0095

Halloween Witch Watch

Halloween is approaching! Linn County ARES is preparing for "Witch Watch" again this year. Scott Haney, N0GUD, is making final arrangements with the Linn County Sheriff's Department. Although we do not have the detailed arrangements at the time this article is being written, there will likely be some minor changes this year.

Last year, we met in the Sheriff's Department parking lot at 5:30 PM on Oct. 31 in the parking lot under I-380 next to the Sheriff's office. If you cannot

make that time, we can make special arrangements for you to join us later in the evening. Please let me know in advance. Plan to start the evening with a full tank of gas.

We accept individual operators, but we encourage you to pair up with another Amateur or even a person without an Amateur license. It makes the evening more fun, and makes for safer driving if you have a navigator on board.

The higher than normal turnout last year caused some delays. We plan on working with LCSD to make the orientation session run smoother this year. We would like to collect all pertinent information from volunteers in advance. We may also be asked to limit the maximum number of cars and limit participants to a minimum age unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. We will provide information updates on the Linn County ARES web site at <http://ares.rf.org/linn> as we know them.

If you would like to volunteer or would like additional information, please send an email to KC0OX@ARRL.NET, or call me at 373-0095. If you leave a message, please leave an E-mail and telephone number where I can get back to you with the latest information.

Ron Breitwisch, KC0OX

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?

KCØNXN & KCØNXO

CVARC Website Update Coming

The CVARC Website, <http://www.cvarc.rf.org>, is slated for a makeover by the end of the year. We're putting back issues of Bandspread online. We're also planning to make a cleaner collection of pages. Our main goals are clarity, improved organization, faster loading, and better compatibility with a range of browsers.

If you have suggestions of what you would like to see on the Website, please e-mail Mike, KCØNXN at kc0nxn@arrl.net.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

For Sale: 2-Meter Equipment: Larson mag mount 2 meter mobile antenna, NLA-MM \$15; Precision SWR and Power meter from Diamond Antenna, SX-200, Meter scales 0-5,20,200 Watts, 1.8 - 200 Mhz, \$25; Astron 12 volt, 25 amp DC power supply, Model V5-35M, Ser. # 9302009, \$120; Kenwood Mobile TM-241A 144Mhz FM Transceiver, 5/10/50 Watt, includes Kenwood Mic w/remote control and Kenwood 8 ohm mobile speaker, \$115; Yaesu FT-208R Hand-held 2M FM Transceiver with NC-8A AC power supply and quick charger, FBA-2 battery pack adapter and one extra Yaesu-FNB 2 10.8v @ 600 MAH battery, \$75; Individual total for all 5 items - \$350—Will sell all items for \$300 Warren G. Klehfoth, 319 363 6206 or wgk@mchsi.com

For Sale: MFJ-969 300 W Roller Inductor Antenna Tuner - \$119.
Radio Shack 10 amp 13.8 VDC Power Supply - \$29
Small Wonder Labs DSW 30-meter QRP Transceiver - \$125
LDG Z-11 QRP Auto Antenna Tuner - \$110
2005-2006 QST Magazines – Free
All in excellent condition. Contact Dale, K4EQ, at 377-3375 or e-mail dale@k4eq.com.

Wanted: I would like to purchase a Hallicrafters SX-111 receiver that is in good physical and operating condition with manual. If you have a SX-111 to sell, please give me a call or leave a message at 319-366-5947. Thanks. Ron, WA0AJF

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 _____ Name _____ Date _____

Spouse Call _____ Spouse Name _____

Family Members' Call and Name _____

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 ()

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

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: _____ Emergency Director: _____ Comm. Act. Director: _____