

W0GQ

W0WSV



Since 1949

BANDSPREAD



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

CEDAR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday, August 9, 2007

7:30 p.m.

Software Defined Radio by Al Groff, K0VM.

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 September issue is August 30, 2007

BANDSPREAD

The Voice of the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club

Bandspread Staff

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Club Appointments

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------|
| Station Trustee | Al Groff, KØVM | køvm@arrl.net | 393-8134 |
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| Training/Education Committee | | | |
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| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------|
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| ARRL Volunteer Consulting Eng | Steve Sawyers, NAØIA | 295-5983 | 377-2877 |

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

AUGUST CVARC MEETING PREVIEW

The August CVARC meeting will be held at the Kenwood Park United Methodist Church, 175 34th St. NE, Cedar Rapids, at 7:30 p.m on Thursday, August 9th.

The meeting will involve a presentation by Al Groff, K0VM, on software defined radio. According to Wikipedia, "In the long run, software-defined radio is expected by its proponents to become the dominant technology in radio communications." Come hear about software defined radio, and learn about the results of Summerfest at the August meeting.

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 for 2006 are in the 2006 subdirectory, and 2007 issues are in the 2007 subdirectory.

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.

JULY 2007 CVARC BOARD MINUTES

The July 2007 Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club Board of Director's meeting was held July 12, 2007 at the Kenwood United Methodist Church. In the absence of President WA6GFD, the meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Vice President WT0D. Others in attendance were: K0AL, N0XZL, NA0IA, K0ECW, AA0II, WA0ZZG, KC0PON and WA0KHH.

WT0D announced the resignation of K0PAS (ex KC0OOF) as Membership and Promotion Director.

KC0PON announced the club insurance policy was due for renewal and discussion was held concerning provisions of the policy.

KC0PON announced that he had received the Iowa Gaming license for Summerfest.

KC0PON reported the balance in the checking account at \$661.10.

AA0II reported an error in the minutes as published in the July Bandspread. The error being that

the Program listed as being for August (Atomic Energy Detection System) is in fact to be the September program. On a motion by AA0II and seconded by K0ECW the minutes as amended were approved by voice vote.

K0ECW presented a new Public Service opportunity, that of providing communications for a 5K/15K cross country run called The Devil's Dash to be held October 28 at Seminole Valley Park. On a voice vote a motion by K0ECW and seconded by WA0ZZG approving taking this event before the general membership was approved.

K0ECW reported that he had received a plea from KC0VTT of Fairbank, Iowa for assistance during RAGBRAI on Thursday, July 26.

N0XZL gave a brief report of preparations for Summerfest including the fact that the bulk mailing had been made, an ARRL representative will be holding a forum session at 10 AM and that a VE session is scheduled for 9:30 AM.

A voice vote approved the motion of KC0PON and seconded by K0AL that the portion of the admission fee designated for prizes is hereby set at \$1.00 per ticket.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM

Submitted by K0AL, Secretary

JULY 2007 CVARC MEETING MINUTES

The July 2007 general membership meeting was held Thursday, July 12, 2007 in the Kenwood United Methodist Church. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Vice President WT0D. All attendees and guests introduced themselves with 38 members and guests present.

AA0II noted the program error as published in the July Bandspread which reported the August program to be on Atomic Detection, when in fact that is the September program. With that correction, the June minutes were approved by a voice vote on a motion by N0XZL and seconded by N0XZK.

K0ECW reported that he will be seeking volunteers for providing communications for the Pigman event at Pleasant Creek Part on Sunday, August 19, 2007.

K0ECW outlined to the members present a new Public Service event, a 5K/15K cross country run titled "The Devil's Dash" which will be held Sunday, October 28, 2007 at Seminole Valley Park. Approval

for the club to participate was approved on a voice vote of a motion made by K0AL and seconded by NA0IA.

K0ECW reported that KC0VTT at Fairbank, Iowa is asking for volunteers to assist during RAGBRAI 9 AM – 4 PM on Thursday, July 26, 2007.

K0ECW also reminded members that Public Service events are now listed on the club web site.

WA0KHH reported on upcoming VE opportunities: Des Moines on Sunday, July 15, Quad Cities on Sunday, July 22 and Summerfest on August 5, VE fees remain at \$14.

KC0PON reported a current checking account balance of \$661.10.

WT0D reported that he had received the resignation of K0PAS (ex KC00OF) as Membership and Promotion Director. K0AL read the appropriate section of the Articles of Incorporation dealing with a vacancy. WT0D asked that anyone interested in serving the remaining term of K0PAS to contact any officer or Board member.

N0UUS suggested CVARC consider following a policy where MAJOR agreements or policy changes be discussed for more than one meeting to give members an opportunity to weigh in on discussion, a policy similar to local governments where they have “three readings” of ordinance changes.

On a motion by N0UUS and seconded by NA0IA a voice vote approved purchasing two (2) shelters for use at Summerfest, Public Service events, etc. at a cost not to exceed \$120. I wish to note there was one (1) “NAY” vote cast, by N0KVV.

The business portion was concluded at 8:05 PM.

After the social break, N0XZL led a discussion of Summerfest preparations and manpower needs.

WA0KHH won the door prize, a new ARRL Handbook.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Submitted by K0AL, Secretary

ARES PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – 5 JULY 2007

Attending: KD0HF, KC0OX, N0GUD, KF0VF, KB0KW, KC0RFN

- Past activities
- ★ Stormwatch

- ◆ Had one event the day of the MS bike ride

(16 June). No real activity – radar was powered up, but the system mainly missed Linn County.

- ◆ There was another event where Jones County wound up under a warning.
- ◆ All events went smoothly.
- ◆ Radar seemed to work well enough. There was still some work to do on the power amplifier.

★ Independence Day net

- ◆ Very quiet evening, no lost children or other serious events. Had one call for fireworks of a nasty nature – we handled that report, but it also came in other channels.
- ◆ KB0KW suggested that we have check-ins on one frequency, but traffic on the other frequency. This will give us a record of how many people we have, and possibly where they are.

★ Field Day

- ◆ Not much to report. Seemed to go well, although weather was a factor.

★ Dragon Boat

- ◆ Not much to report from those present at the meeting.

★ MS Bike Ride

- ◆ No lost bikers, pretty good event. Ham radio segment went very well.
- ◆ Having a station at LCSD was a great idea.
- ◆ A few bikers left before the official start time. Not a lot to be done about that, though.

★ Foreign animal disease exercise

- ◆ We chose not to participate, but it turns out they had amateur radio listed in the scenario.
- ◆ The scenario was to isolate a two-mile radius around the event, so they planned to have hams along with officers around the perimeter.

◎ Upcoming Activities

★ RAGBRAI activity in Independence

- ◆ Staying overnight in Independence on 26 July.
- ◆ Plan is to include a setup in Fairbank and cover into Independence.
- ◆ They will monitor the repeater as bikers roll in.

- ◆ Deploying 100 handhelds that day.
- ◆ Still looking for volunteers to staff the amateur stations.
- ◆ Will have battery station, 'gator, and other equipment. Will have ability to monitor radar.
- ◆ MAIN NEED IS FOR VOLUNTEERS! Plan is to open up from 1600 to midnight for most amateurs. Other hours are probably covered.
- ◆ e-mail cliffy@indytel.com if interested.
- ★ NDMS drill 21 July
 - ◆ Notes from WA6GFD on the status were read and discussed. There was some follow-up later on getting HF set up for the hospitals. Best plan for right now is to have an outside station for HF to Des Moines.
 - ◆ AA0XJ is set up to handle the station at St Luke's.
 - ◆ We are not aware of a contact for participation at Mercy.
 - ◆ We have a radio available for St Luke's. It does not currently have PL.
 - ◆ Johnson County – WW0Q has been in contact with Des Moines about participation. WA6GFD had not heard from them directly. We are working to get connected.
- ★ In case of severe weather over the weekend, be aware that EMA is a bit short handed. We'll need to make sure we get communications there covered.
 - ◆ If we do have to come in to EOC over the weekend, be aware that they are resurfacing the lot next to the building, so park across the street in the bigger lot.
- ⊙ LC EMA volunteer requirements
 - ★ These are suggested requirements for amateur radio staff at EMA, not in general
 - ★ EMA is considering setting up an amateur radio volunteer position. This will be by application. There are training criteria that should be met for this. We are asked to determine what those criteria are.
 - ★ This is not intended to eliminate any participation we have now. It is to set a minimum standard for stations that operate at EOC in close contact with EMA staff.
 - ★ Some discussion followed on the notes and revisions to the proposal sent to Rich Mahaney at EMA.
- ★ The question for this group: what do we recommend as the minimum training requirement?
 - ◆ NIMS 100, 200, 700 are fairly much a given.
 - ◆ ARECC courses: which are worthwhile for this position? We agree that level 1 should be required. We also agree that level 3 was more worthwhile than level 2, but we do not feel that we want to push this all the way to level 3. It would be nice if 3 could be taken without 2 (content-wise).
 - ◆ The level needs to be set carefully. Too high, and we get no volunteers. Too low, and there's not much of a point.
 - ◆ There has been some discussion of folding CERT into this, but our feeling is that CERT should be independent of this. EMA agrees.
 - ◆ Consensus of group is to require ARECC 1.
 - ◆ Some type of continuing education would be good. We'll wait about 6 months and see how it plays out.
- ⊙ Updates on open action items/projects
 - ★ Dubuque repeater – 146.895, 114.8 tone. Try it out! Location is 1200 feet over sea level. Very good coverage.
 - ⊙ EAS system is going to be changing. The FCC has adopted a proposal to “strengthen EAS.” (via KF0VF)
 - ★ We got a response from Rebecca Palmer from Duane Arnold. They can provide dosimeter training any weekday from 0700 to 2000. We will get something set up for CVARC. It may not happen until next year.

Submitted by Ron, KC0OX

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Steve Jones, WA6GFD, was unavailable to write his usual column. Please look for it next month.

FROM ERIC WATSON, COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

Thanks to all the stations that worked the Linn County Fair Parade on Saturday July 7. Amateurs

worked in the staging areas and along the parade route. The amateurs that participated in this new event are invited to send me an email with their comments and suggestions.



Volunteers for the Linn County Fair Parade: WA0KHH, Darrell; K0ECW, Eric; KF0VF, Doug; AA0II, Jason; KB0NRY, Angela; and NA0IA, Steve. Photo courtesy of WA0ZZG, Dave.

The Pigman Long course will be Sunday August 19. Many volunteers will be needed to work this big event. We will have stations in the safety boat, at the Linn County Sheriff's Department, at water stops along the bike and run courses and mobile stations all along the route. Split shifts are possible. All hams are welcome to participate. Please see the CVARC webpage for course maps and the Pigman webpage. If you would like to volunteer please contact me, K0ECW at 319-361-7951 or by email at k0ecw.ericwatson@gmail.com.

As of this writing the confirmed calendar of events is:

- August 19, Sunday, Pigman Long Course
- September 22, Saturday, Alzheimer's Memory Walk
- October 28, Sunday, Devil's Dash 5K & 15K cross country run *New Event*

Watch the Bandspread for more events.

Communications Activities are open to all Amateurs regardless of experience.

If you would like to volunteer or have questions about any event please contact me

Eric Watson, K0ECW,
k0ecw.ericwatson@gmail.com 319-361-7951

DAEC DRILL ON WED., AUGUST 8, 2007

Participants are needed for a radiological emergency drill involving Linn County EMA, DAEC and other public service agencies on Wednesday, August 8th. The exercise will start at approximately 9AM, and will likely end around 2 PM, depending on the scenario presented.

We would like as many operators as possible to monitor 146.745 and simulate participation in the drill while remaining at home or at work. Please do not report to the EOC unless specifically requested. 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 have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Ron Breitwisch, KC0OX

kc0ox@arrl.net

Work 295-4604, Home 373-0095

K-12 CORNER

Recently the Grant Wood Area Education Agency in Cedar Rapids received a \$200,000 grant to "improve student learning in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) in the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Corridor." (See news release at <http://www.aea10.k12.ia.us/newsreleases/2007-2008/csigrant.html>.) This shows that the state of Iowa and local businesses, like Alliant Energy and Rockwell Collins, are serious about getting more students to study these courses.

What can we do? Remember that Amateur Radio brings together physics, electrical engineering, mathematics, geography and history into a fun hobby. Are you willing to give a talk about or a demonstration of ham radio to a school or scout group? Many school districts have full time staff whose job is to match up tutors and students. Find out who these people are in your school district and let them know that you are available if a student is interested in studying ham radio.

Finally, it's important to remember that middle school is when many girls lose interest in math and science. Danica McKellar, a Summa Cum Laude graduate in math from UCLA, and actress in the TV shows *The West Wing* and *The Wonder Years*, has written a book entitled *Math Doesn't Suck: How to Survive Middle-School Math Without Losing Your Mind or Breaking a Nail*. It does an excellent job in providing the skills needed for middle-school level

math, and is formatted to look like a teen magazine. It reminds girls that being smart in science and math is compatible with being girly, if they want it to be. If you know a girl in grades 4-8, you may want to look at this book.

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 WorkedAll States, we'd like to share that good news. Please contact us at kc0nrxn@arrl.net

KC0NXXN & KC0NXXO

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?

KC0NXXN & KC0NXXO

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

For Sale: I'm adding new equipment to my shack, and the following are available for best offer: HyGain TH5DX with new upgrade kit; Butternut 6 band vertical; Icom 737A with power supply, mic and manual. Arlo Meyer W0LBK 393-7461

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 ()

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: _____