

W0GQ

W0WSV



Since 1949

BANDSPREAD



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

CEDAR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday, January 11, 2007

7:30 p.m.

Annual Elections

Kenwood Park United Methodist Church

*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 February issue is January 25, 2007

BANDSPREAD

The Voice of the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club

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Training/Education Committee			
Hamfest Chairman			

ARRL Appointments

Linn County Emer.Coordinator	Scott Haney, NØGUD		366-1465
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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

January CVARC Meeting Preview

The January CVARC meeting will be the annual election. It will be held at our usual location of Kenwood Park United Methodist Church, 175 34th St. NE, at 7:30 p.m. The main focus for the meeting will be the report of the nominations committee, chaired by AI, K0AL, and the election of club officers.

Offices for which elections will be held at the January meeting are: President, Treasurer, Membership and Promotion Director, Program Director and Activities Director.

CARC invites guests for special meeting

Dr. Albert Helfrick, P.E., K2BLA, is the guest presenter for a special meeting of the Collins Amateur Radio Club. All Amateurs and interested listeners would be welcome for his presentation on "Fifty Years of Amateur Radio." The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23 in the Auditorium in the Annex to St Lukes Hospital

A short synopsis of Dr. Helfrick's presentation follows:

It's hard to believe fifty years have gone since, with cold sweaty hands, I copied the perfect one minute of the Morse code message and then took the official written test. My volunteer examiner declared that I had passed and now I had to endure the unbearable six to eight week wait until the Federal Communications Commission issued my amateur radio license. But when I think of the technology that I learned and used back then it is not so hard to believe fifty years have passed. In fact, the technology has changed so much it is hard to believe that ONLY 50 years have passed!

I made this presentation to mark my 50th anniversary. It is not so much about me; not all about amateur radio but more of a history of electronics by someone who was there for at least half of time.

My amateur radio beginnings led to my becoming a professional radio operator, a researcher, an army signal corpsman, pilot, teacher, author, consultant, engineering manager, all of which involved electronics in some way or another.

This presentation will show schematics, pictures, specifications and is intended for the technically inclined. I will describe some of my stations such as the early stations made with WWII surplus and incredible home made contraptions. Not all is technical and some stories are just downright funny.

Receive Notice of Bandspread by E-mail

Bandspread is now available in PDF format on the CVARC Website, at <http://cvarc.rf.org/Bandspread/2007/>. Back issues are at: <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.

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 AI, K0VM, at k0vm@arrl.net.

DECEMBER 2006 CVARC BOARD MINUTES

Because this was the annual dinner, there was no December CVARC board meeting.

DECEMBER 2006 CVARC MEETING MINUTES

The December CVARC meeting was held on 14 December at the Happy Chef Restaurant. The meeting was called to order by WA6GFD. Because this was our annual Christmas Party, there was no business conducted.

A couple of announcements were made concerning the upcoming elections in January and a request to get articles into Mike KC0NXN or Laura KC0NXO for inclusion in the January Bandspread. The official portion of the meeting was adjourned and the Holiday Feast began

Submitted by Steve, WA6GFD

Ed: Note: There was no ARES meeting in December.

From the President's Desk

Welcome to 2007! I hope that each and every one of you had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Hopefully you were all able to gather with family and friends and celebrate the Holiday Season.

January is the month the club holds its annual elections. The following offices are up for election this year: President, Treasurer, Program Director, Membership Promotion Director and Communications Activities Director. If you are interested in holding one of these offices or know someone who is interested in holding one of these offices, please contact AI, K0AL or myself.

Nominations will also be taken from the floor the night of the elections as well. If you are nominating someone else, please be sure they agree to fill the office if elected. Any current member can fill any of the club offices except President. Members wishing to

serve in the office of President much have served on the Board of Directors for at least one year prior to assuming the office of President.

The elections will take place on January 11th at our regular club meeting. Please turn out and show your support of the club and let your voice be heard.

73, W6GFD

From Phil Shook, Communications Activities Director

There really isn't much to report for December. My term has expired, and I wish everyone well.

Phil Shook, KC0OOF.

The FCC's Morse Code Report and Order

The FCC's 05-235 R&O on the Commission's proposal to eliminate the Morse code requirement for all license classes was issued on 12/19/2006.

However, it does NOT go into effect until 30 days from the time it is printed in the "Federal Register." The Federal Register Publication Date and the Effective Date are NOT yet known. As soon as the R&O is published in the Federal Register the ARRL will verify the effective date and publicize it on the ARRL Web and in QST.

The FCC has clarified that there will be no changes in the administration of Amateur Radio examination elements or upgrades and in granting a Certificate for Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE). CSCEs are only valid for examination credit for 365 days from date of issuance per FCC Rule 97.505(a)(6); applicants cannot use CSCEs older than that to upgrade. Amateurs possessing CSCEs that have gone beyond the 365 day window must retest.

The FCC will not make any exceptions to this rule. Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs) will handle all upgrades through volunteer examiner teams.

Candidates for General or Amateur Extra testing between now and the effective date of the new rules will still have to pass Element 1 (5 WPM Morse code) to obtain new privileges. Those earning Element 3 or Element 4 credit between now and the effective date of the new rules will receive a CSCE from the VE team. Once the new rules are in place, anyone holding a valid CSCE may apply for an upgrade at a VE examination session. As with any candidate who

attends a test session, the candidate must present a photo ID, their current license and CSCE document, pay the \$14 test session fee and fill out a NCVEC form 605 to have the upgrade paperwork processed. The upgrade may NOT be sent directly to the FCC or the VEC. (ed. Note: The test question pool for the General license changes this summer – if you've been studying on the current pool, you probably want to take your exam this winter or spring.)

Please visit the ARRL web (www.arrl.org) for complete information on the 05-235 R&O and check back frequently for updates.

Since the effective date of the rules changes is not yet known as this note is being written (December 26), your CVARC VE Team will be closely monitoring developments. I anticipate that there will be significant interest in the Cedar Rapids area for exam sessions, perhaps before, and definitely after the rules changes take effect. As these exam date(s) are finalized, I will make every effort to publicize the information at club meetings, in the Bandsread, and on the Sunday night ARES 2 meter net.

73, Darrel, WA0KHH and your CVARC VE team.

K-12 Corner

The New Year gets off to a great start with Kid's Day on 7 January. From ARRL's web site, at <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kd-rules.html>, the purpose of Kid's Day in January and June is "...intended to encourage young people (licensed or not) to enjoy Amateur Radio. It can give young people hands-on on-the-air experience so they might develop an interest in pursuing a license in the future...."

The time is noon CST to 1800 (1800Z to 2400Z). They add "suggested frequencies: 28350 to 28400 kHz, 21380 to 21400, 14270 to 14300 kHz and 2-meter repeater frequencies with permission from your area repeater sponsor."

Kid's Day this month comes in the middle of the Scouts Australia Jamboree, running until 13 January. Special event station VI3JAM will be on the air. As we go to press, no word on their website <http://www.vi3jam.com/online/> as to what frequencies or modes they will be using. As a reminder, eastern Australia is 15 hours ahead of us. In more Scouting news, announced on the ARRL's web site:

"The World Scout Bureau is sponsoring the 'Scouting 100 Radio Award' for contacting Scout stations via Amateur Radio during 2007 -- the centenary of Scouting. This international award is also available to short-wave listeners (SWLs)...Award activity will focus around the

international Scout frequencies (in the Americas, use 7270 kHz as the 40-meter SSB frequency; on 80 meters, avoid RTTY/digital DX on 3590 kHz)...Complete details are on the Scouting 100 Radio Award Web site."

The big news this month is that the FCC will shortly eliminate the Morse code requirement for General and Extra licenses. This means that when the new rules take effect, all current Techs will get privileges in the CW bands on 80, 40 and 15 meters, as well as CW and phone privileges in the 10 m band. There are a lot of simple kits that will let you work CW on these bands, like the venerable Pixie-II. This is a great way to introduce young people to building simple electronics gear -- the Pixie-II is small enough to be built into an Altoids tin, including the battery and connectors. For the more advanced kit builder, software-defined radio kits like the Softrock-40 are being improved with transmit as well as receive capability.

Finally, the Eastern Iowa Science and Engineering Fair is coming up on 17 March. CVARC, along with the Collins ARC, has sponsored an award at the EISEF for several years now, and we'll be looking for judges to help select an award winner on that day.

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

KC0NXN & KC0NXO

ARES Establishes First Call List

Linn County ARES is soliciting Amateurs that are willing to be on the "First Call" list. The purpose of this list is to have a smaller subset of Amateurs that might be willing to help out in situations that are of less than disaster proportions.

In a true disaster situation, it is likely many Amateurs would be needed for an extended period of time. Many businesses would be closed, and several Amateurs may be unavailable due to the nature of the disaster. This is the reason ARES has created the database of all Amateurs willing to fill out the Member Survey.

However, there are situations where Amateurs may be needed to help out adjacent counties or assist in unique situations that are not disruptive to the general population. Most people's commitments to work and family continue unaffected. Examples of these situations occur quite often. Several Linn County Amateurs helped provide relief operators during the flooding in Jones County. Linn County was on stand-by to provide relief operators for the Johnson County Tornado recovery. Even the all too frequent Indian Creek floods may require back-up operators if they occur overnight or during working hours.

By volunteering to be on the Linn County ARES First Call list, you indicate your willingness to be called at work or in the middle of the night and be **asked** if you are available to assist. It is not a commitment that you are always going to be available to assist.

All Amateurs are encouraged to fill out an ARES Member Survey. It may be downloaded from the Linn County ARES web site at <http://ares.rf.org/linn>. When you complete the form, please consider also checking the "First Call List" box.

If you have previously filled out an ARES form and wish to be added to the First Call list, simply send an E-mail to the database administrator at kc0ox@arrl.net.

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

For Sale: A Glenn Martin 9' roof mounted tower with thrust bearing, rotor base support and a 10' 1/8" side wall steel mast. Included the feet. This was owned by WA3AFS Also a Radio Shack 25Watt switching power supply and a surplus Radio Shack Pro-2066 150 channel analog Trunking Scanner. In original box, has lots of local and area Frequencies including air craft. Give me a call, 393-7099 we'll discuss price. KC0OOF

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: _____