

W0GQ

W0WSV



Since 1949

BANDSPREAD



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

CEDAR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday, October 11th, 2007

7:30 p.m.

Antarctica

by Charles Snodgrass, KC0CD

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 November issue is October 25, 2007

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, Cedar Rapids, at 7:30 p.m on Thursday, October 11th.

The evening's program is on Antarctica by Charles Snodgrass, KCØCD. Come hear and see how radio helps in the exploration and scientific mission of the coldest continent. See you at the 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.

SEPTEMBER 2007 CVARC BOARD MINUTES

The September 2007 Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club Board meeting was held Sept 13, 2007 at the Kenwood United Methodist Church. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President WA6GFD. Others in attendance were: WT0D, KC0ECW, NA0IA, KC0OX, AA0II, WA0ZZG, N0XZL, WA0KHH, KC0PON.

It was noted that K0AL will be absent tonight and NA0IA will be taking the minutes.

A motion made by KC0OX and seconded by KC0ECW approving the August 2007 Board Meeting minutes was carried by a voice vote.

WA6GFD lead a discussion of the request from N0UUS for a clarification of the minutes from the last club meeting relative to the ARES Forum Discussion at Summerfest. The board will present a corrective motion to the club at tonight's meeting.

KC0PON reported the club treasury had \$4173.48. KC0PON will pay the sales tax due from Summerfest, and he requested information on the timing and content of the biennial non-profit report to the State of Iowa. He will poll past officers for guidance. A motion made by WA6GFD, and seconded by WA0ZZG was approved by voice vote to pay the PortaPotty bill of \$85 which was used at Field Day.

The board discussed the need for a nominating

committee for offices for our next election. WA6GFD will ask for volunteers from the club at tonight's meeting.

KC0PON reported that he had received a letter of apology and a donation from the group that refused to provide tax compliance information at Summerfest. A discussion followed. A motion was made by KC0PON and seconded by NA0IA, to accept the apology, but to return the check. The motion was approved by a voice vote and the check was returned to the group.

The board discussed the signal reception from the repeater and concern was voiced on the voter characteristics used to select the signals from our two receive sites. Our repeater architecture may be a topic for a future meeting program.

KC0ECW reported that we have three upcoming communications events: the Alzheimer Walk on Sept 22nd, the MS Walk on Sept 23, and the Devil's Dash on Oct 28th. The MS Walk is a new event and KC0ECW will request club approval at tonight's club meeting.

NA0IA lead a discussion of sending extra Bandspreads to potential members to aid in recruitment. NA0IA will research the ways and means of this effort and report at a later meeting.

WA0ZZG reported that there is some problems with the new High Definition WMT-AM signals that is causing interference to weak signal AM broadcasts, The issue is being worked with the Iowa Broadcaster Association, and he hopes the FCC will not have to be contacted.

WA0KHH presented the fall VE testing schedule and noted that the Vinton VE testing has changed the date and location for their monthly test sessions.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:30PM.

Submitted by NA0IA acting Secretary.

SEPTEMBER 2007 CVARC MEETING MINUTES

The September 2007 Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club general membership meeting was held Sept 13, 2007 at the Kenwood United Methodist Church. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by President WA6GFD. All attendees introduced themselves with 38 members and guests present.

KC0OX offered a correction to the August Club meeting minutes to change "N0UUS inquired if KC0OX was going to provide any feedback from the ARES forum at the hamfest? KC0OX replied that he was preparing something for the Bandspread." to "N0UUS inquired if KC0OX was going to provide any feedback from the ARES forum at the hamfest? KC0OX declined any further comments." A motion made by W0WLL and seconded by N0KVV, to approve the August Club meeting minutes as corrected, was approved by a voice vote.

KC0PON reported a current checking account balance of \$4173.48.

NA0IA reported that we will be having classes in the spring. The classes will start after the Weather Spotter Training. He requested that all members look for future hams for the class. He also mentioned to the membership that he is investigating the ways and means of sending additional Bandsreads to hams in the area to aid in recruitment.

KC0OX reported that he DAEC Drill will be Dec 19th from 9Am to 1PM. He has submitted questions to Linn County EMA and to the DAEC about the dosimeter distribution procedures. He also reported that ARES has started planning our Witch Watch efforts and requested that interested Amateurs contact him or any club or ARES member for pre registration. The Sheriff's Office requires pre-registration to avoid confusion.

AA0II reported that the program tonight will be by Jim Jones W0NKN.

KC0ECW reported on the upcoming communications events and asked for volunteers to support them: Alzheimer's Walk on Sep 22, the MS Walk on Sep 23, and the Devil's Dash at Seminole Valley Park on Oct 28. The MS Walk is a new event for the club, so a motion by KC0ECW and seconded by N0LNO, to officially sanction club participation was approved by voice vote. KC0ECW also mentioned the Sept 22 Washington Club Potluck in the park, that was published in the September Bandsread.

WA0KHH reported on the upcoming exam sessions. He noted that the Vinton VE sessions will on the FOURTH Thursday of the month at the new high school in Vinton. Vinton Sessions start about 5PM. He will be announcing future testing in Cedar Rapids at a later date.

WA0ZZG reported that there is a new FCC ruling allowing the High Definition carriers to be left on. The WMT-AM transition to High Definition has been causing some interference. Please report any interference issues to WA0ZZG.

WA6GFD asked for Club input on the location of the Christmas party. General agreement was reached to do the same as last year. The Officers will contact the Happy Chef on 33 rd Avenue to make the reservation. This will be a family event with each person paying \$5 and the club picking up the balance.

WA6GFD asked for volunteers for the nominating committee for our upcoming elections and asked everyone to consider running for an office. The offices up for election this year are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Information Director, and Emergency Preparedness Director.

The business portion of the meeting was concluded at 8:20 PM and adjourned per a motion by NA0IA and seconded by W0SS.

After the social break, the door prize drawing was conducted and W0JMK won the copy of the 2007 ARRL Handbook.

The program was a Power Point presentation by Jim Jones W0NKN on "History and operation of the United States Atomic Energy Detection System."

Meeting concluded at 9:35 PM

Submitted by NA0IA acting Secretary

ARES PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – 6 SEPTEMBER 2007

Present: N0GUD (recording), KC0OX, KD0HF, WA6GFD, KF0VF, KC0PON, K0ECW

➤ Past Events

- ◆ Pigman was held. Things seemed to go well, but for the rain.
- ◆ Communications worked very well. Some thoughts for next year:
 - We had one NCS for both frequencies. We should separate them with a UHF link for them to communicate. This is an audio problem rather than an RF problem.
 - Bicycle coverage should have its own net.
 - The gazebo worked very well. The ambulance stages there after the swim.
 - Radio discipline was very good this year.
 - Simplex antenna could be higher.
 - NCS could be moved anywhere, as we are using generators.
- ◆ Linn County Fair Parade

➤ Upcoming Events

- ◆ Witch Watch
 - Should do the same way we did it last year.
 - KC0OX will organize, N0GUD will contact LCSO.
 - K0ECW has a list of people who want to be approved for LCSO operations. He will supply that to us.
- ◆ DAEC Drill
 - 19 September.
 - KC0OX will be out of town (most likely). Volunteers are KC0HF, N0GUD, and WA6GFD. We really only need two, so we may work shifts.
 - State EOC will not have an active ham station. The SEOC will not be activated, but someone will be monitoring the Big Red Phone there. NA0R said that he's willing to be there if we really want him to, but it will not likely be necessary.
 - We will need stations locally to generate traffic and (pretend to) deliver dosimeters.

➤ New Items

◆ DAEC SOP Review

- Discussion of draft dosimeter procedures for ham radio
 - Dosimeter handling is not usually well-exercised during drills.
 - To address our end of this, KC0OX has a proposed dosimeter delivery SOP.
 - It's hard to know how many hams would be needed.
 - Dosimeters need to be retrieved after the event. There is no procedure for this. We don't have a timetable.
 - Dosimeters are assigned to individuals. One option is to have the Ham operator get the name of the person who accepted delivery.
- Discussion of general SOP
 - Primarily intended for the people at the EOC. It is not a general-purpose plan for people in the field.
 - Discussion followed. SOP overall looks good, and represents what would be required of us during an event. There are a few TBD items that need to be resolved by EMA for us.
 - A few suggestions were made. They will be included in future versions.

➤ Project Updates

◆ EOC Improvements

- HF Dipole
 - There was discussion just before the official meeting concerning how to mount the antenna in an efficient and easy-to-maintain manner.
 - A number of constraints (aesthetics, physical, financial) exist.
 - Current suggestions include ways of expanding to multi-band abilities.
 - A temporary solution is an inverted L behind the building, out of sight. Tuner will negate the need for the antenna to be resonant. Counterpoise will make it NVIS-ready.

◆ Weather Spotter database

- General geographic location
- We have some data. Some of our spots are being altered by construction. Thus, this will be a dynamic list.

◆ Diesel Database

- WA6GFD has inputs from a few people, but much remains to be done. We don't have a lot of volunteers working on this.
- We may try an article in the Bandspread.
- We are fairly certain that the fuel stations in

the area do not have emergency power. Two or three might.

- Question: what type of diesel does EOC require?
- Idea: we can talk to local construction companies, as they may have their own supply of diesel.
- KC0OX has some further data for the database.
- KC0PON suggested that we make sure the database isn't already available somewhere. Also, only those stations that list a price for diesel will have it.

➤ Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) NIMS requirements

- ◆ The official word from FEMA is that amateur radio is considered a NGO rather than a first responder organization.
- ◆ NGOs are not required to have NIMS training.
- ◆ This is not to be construed that NIMS training isn't a good idea. All learning is good learning, and individuals are encouraged to take the NIMS and ARECC classes.
- ◆ KC0OX provided the e-mail trail and the FEMA fact sheet. These were distributed via the reflector. The decision came from a high-ranking Iowa EMA representative.
- ◆ In short, items are recommended rather than required.

➤ Review of Action Items

- ◆ List of NCS stations for LCARES nets (KF0VF)
 - He has been keeping track of who has been NCS for about 18 months.
 - Question is, "Why are we collecting this information?" The reason is shrouded in the dark of history.
 - Basically, to be an NCS, we had discussed having to run at least two nets per year. Thus, we are tracking the data. We have no official criteria at this point, but may have in the future.

➤ SET

- ◆ Discussion of the official SET occurred.
- ◆ NDMS was conducted this summer. St. Luke's is interested in working with us more.
- ◆ DAEC drill might also qualify. They are a primary served agency.
- ◆ Thus, we certainly know what might happen, and can easily set up a drill based on these scenarios.
- ◆ We might consider staffing LCSO as part of the drill as well.
- ◆ It's probably too late to set up a drill with LCSO or St. Luke's for this year, but we can certainly start now to set up for next year.

Submitted by Ron, KC0OX

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Looks like fall is upon us once again and it is time to finish up any of those antenna projects before the cold weather sets in. It is also time to start thinking about the end of the year activities as well. In November, we will need to select a nominating committee to put together a slate of officers for the January elections. This is an even numbered year and so we will be electing, in addition to the President (elected annually), a Vice-President, Secretary, Information Director and Emergency Preparedness Director. Please contact me or one of the members of the board, if you would like to serve on the nominating committee or if you are interested in running for any of these offices.

In addition to elections, we need to begin finalizing plans for the Christmas Party/Dinner. We have held the event in the Happy Chef Restaurant on 33rd Ave for the past couple of years and they have done an outstanding job on the meal. Please let me or one of the Board members know if you would like to hold the event there again this year or if you would like to try someplace else.

Lastly, please don't forget the last two operating events coming up this year, the Devils Dash and the annual Witch Watch. Details on both events can be found in this edition of the Bandspread or will be provided at the October meeting.

73, WAGGFD, Steve

FROM ERIC WATSON, COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

The Alzheimer's Walk was held Saturday 22 September at Noelridge Park in Cedar Rapids. The Walk was short and uneventful and a good experience for some new hams. I would like to thank the following stations for participating in the Alzheimer's Walk: KC0ZJO, AC0HB, AA0II, KC0WUZ, K0ECW, K0YLU, WA6GFD, KC0VJI and AC0HC.

The Multiple Sclerosis Walk was held Sunday 23 September around Washington High School in Cedar Rapids. This was another short, easygoing event. I was glad to see more new hams participating. I would like to thank the following stations for participating in the MS Walk: WA6GFD, N0KVV, KC0VDR, KF0VF, KC0WUZ, K0ECW, KC0NXN, KC9ISC, N0SFH and KD0BIC.

Hams that participated in the the Walks are invited to send comments and suggestions to me via email.

The Devil's Dash 5k Walk/Run and 15k Run will be Sunday 28 October at Seminole Valley Park/Usher's Ferry Historic Village. The course will be through the village and cross country around the park. Volunteers are needed for this event. Please contact me if you would like to volunteer.

Witch Watch will be on Halloween, Wednesday 31 October. Hams will supplement the Linn County Sheriff's



CVARC Volunteers at the Multiple Sclerosis Walk.
Photo Courtesy of Mike, KC0NXN

Department acting as extra eyes and ears. Contact Scott Haney, N0GUD at n0gud@arrl.net if you have questions or would like to volunteer.

Don't let not having equipment or radios keep you from volunteering. Loaner radios are available during events.

Don't let inexperience keep you from volunteering. Public Service events are a way to practice radio communication skills and are a learning experience for everyone. 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:

- October 28, Sunday, Devil's Dash 5K & 15K cross country run *New Event*
- October 31, Wednesday, Witch Watch. Organized by Linn County ARES.

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

WITCH WATCH

"Witch Watch" is a nickname of a cooperative program between Linn County Amateur Radio operators and the Linn County Sheriff's Department (LCSD). Many years ago, Amateurs used their vehicles and radios as a method to place extra sheriff's Deputies in the field for Halloween. As Halloween became quieter over the years,

extra deputies were no longer used, but Amateurs have continued as extra eyes and ears for LCSD.

We enjoyed another great turnout last year. Unfortunately, we had to decline participation by a few people. We would like to again limit participation to 7 cars. As a result, we are asking all participants to register in advance. Notify Ron Breitwisch, KC0OX prior to Friday, October 26th, if you are interested in participating.

We recommend at least two people per car: one person to drive and one person to navigate, log events, and support radio traffic. We would rather have you register in advance and have you decline at the last moment due to unforeseen circumstances, then to not volunteer. We will be taking a list of stand-by participants.

We plan to meet at the Linn County Sheriff's Department at 5:30 on October 31. If you are unable to participate until later in the evening, we can still accommodate you, but please notify us of this situation in advance.

When you volunteer, please provide the following information for your team:

- Name and Call Sign of Driver
- Vehicle description: License Plate, Year, Make, Model, Color
- Name(s) of Riders and Call Signs (if any)

Submitted by Ron, KC0OX.

K-12 CORNER

Last month we mentioned the 50th anniversary of the Scouting Movement's annual Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA). This month we have another 50th anniversary to remember -- the first satellite launch. Several anniversary stories have mentioned how hams were involved in listening for signals from Sputnik.

This is the first part of a great story that connects the history of technology to current ham practices today. Most students take it for granted today that you can dial a number and talk to someone on the other side of the planet, or can send an email in an instant to friends on every continent. We can offer something unique -- the ability to transmit your voice directly to a satellite in space.

OSCAR, the first amateur radio satellite, was launched a little more than four years after Sputnik-1. A few years later, the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT) was formed to "foster Amateur Radio's participation in space research and communication." Today, more than a dozen working amateur radio satellites are in orbit. As we go to press, AMSAT is using one of those satellites -- AO-51 "Echo" -- to commemorate the Sputnik launch. During

passes over North America on 3 and 4 October, AO-51 broadcast a recording of the Sputnik beeps and a congratulatory message. The fact that we could copy some of this message using only a handheld with a rubber duck antenna shows that it's not that hard to start to work with amateur radio satellites.

On their web site, www.amsat.org, has links to their current projects and articles on how to make contacts using these satellites. The ARRL has a variety of information as well, starting with "An Amateur Satellite Primer" at <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/0004036.pdf>. They also publish books like the "Radio Amateur Satellite's Handbook."

There are special days coming up over the next few months, like the JOTA and Kid's Day in January. Let's think about how we can make them extra-special with a round trip into space.

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

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?

KC0NXN & KC0NXO

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR SALE SGC 500 Watt Power Cube Amp, \$800. HY-Gain TH5DX with update kit, \$89. Complete mounting kit for mounting antennas on rear ladder of an RV, \$39. 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 CVARCE-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: _____