

W0GQ

W0WSV



Since 1949

BANDSPREAD



Associated with Linn County Emergency Management Agency and the ARRL

CEDAR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday, December 11, 2008

6:00 PM

Annual Dinner, Happy Chef Restaurant

33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids

Note time and location change!

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 January 2009 issue is December 26, 2008

BANDSPREAD

The Voice of the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club

Bandspread Staff

Publisher	Cedar Valley ARC	e-mail or Business (PHONE)	HOME
Editor & Word Processor	Mike Miller/Laura Runkle	kcønxo@arrl.net	377-5929
Circulation Manager	Al Groff, KØVM	køvm@arrl.net	393-8134
Mailing	Dave Hallock, WØSS		377-3876
<u>Club Officers</u>			
President	Steve Jones, WA6GFD	wa6gfd@aol.com	377-2219
Vice-President	Rick Olney, NØXZL	rolney@qwest.net	396-8979
Treasurer	Dennis Sutherland, KCØPON	dennis.sutherland@mchsi.com	
Secretary	Michael Zomlefer, WØMRZ	michael_zomlefer@hotmail.com	362-0092
Information Director	VACANT		
Membership/Promotion Director	Steve Sawyers, NAØIA	295-5983	377-2877
Program Director	Jason Hsu, AAØII	ham@jasonhsu.com	
Emergency Preparedness Dir.	Ron Breitwisch, KCØOX	kcøox@arrl.net	373-0095
Communications Activities Dir.	Eric Watson KØECW	køecw.ericwatson@gmail.com	361-7951

Club Appointments

Station Trustee	Al Groff, KØVM	køvm@arrl.net	393-8134
VE Manager	Darrel Peterson, WAØKHH	waøkhk@juno.com	393-8667
Club Historian	Dave Foster, NØCYH		377-8568
Training/Education Committee			
Hamfest Chairman	Rick Olney, NØXZL	rolney@qwest.net	396-8979

ARRL Appointments

Linn County Emer.Coordinator	Scott Haney, NØGUD		366-1465
Ia Section Tech Coordinator	Robert Mason, WØDIA	Bloomfield, IA	
ARRL Midwest Div. Vice Dir.	Cliff Ahrens, KØCA	køca@arrl.org	
Official Observer			
ARRL Midwest Division Dir	Bruce Frahm, KØBJ	købj@arrl.org	
ARRL Iowa Section Manager	James Lasley, NØJL	nøjl@arrl.org	
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

DECEMBER CVARC MEETING PREVIEW

The December CVARC Meeting will consist of our annual dinner at Happy Chef Restaurant on 33rd Ave SW at six pm on Thursday, December 11th.

The cost is \$5.00 for CVARC members and their families.

Come to the meeting and see your fellow Hams and meet their families. Celebrate a year of good service.

BANDSPREAD MOVING TO DEFAULT ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION

In the new year, Bandspread will move to default electronic publication. Because some members will need to receive it by postal mail, it will still be available by post. We hope the change to default electronic publication will save some funds that are currently used for mailing and printing costs. We also hope to have more space to include some technical and educational articles.

Bandspread is now available in PDF format on the CVARC Website, at <http://cvarc.rf.org/Bandspread/>. Back issues for 2007 are in the 2007 subdirectory, and 2008 issues are in the 2008 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.

As we move to default electronic publication, the details of the move will be worked out. The move should be complete before the publication of the January 2009 Bandspread. If you have expertise in running mailing lists, or have the ability to run a mailing list, please contact Laura at kc0nxo@arrl.net

NOVEMBER 2008 CVARC BOARD MINUTES

The November 2008 Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club Board of Director's meeting was held 14 November 2008 at the Kenwood United Methodist Church. President WA6GFD called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Others in attendance were: N0XZL, KC0PON, WA0KHH, KC0OX, NA0IA, K0ECW and W0MRZ.

The Board Minutes from the October 2008 meeting were accepted without modification by a unanimous vote of the Board.

KC0PON reported the balance in the checking account at \$2,155.98.

K0ECW indicated that the last 'event' of the calendar year was the upcoming Turkey Trot scheduled for 27 November; interested volunteers should contact N0THE for details.

Ron Breitwisch reported that two additional people had registered for the CVARC reimbursement program for ARRL Emergency Communication Courses.

WA0KHH provided a summary of scheduled examination schedules for the remainder of the calendar year, including a local exam sitting which will be held in Hiawatha on the 5th of December. This schedule will be updated in the next Bandspread.

Club President Steve Jones advised the Board that Jason Hsu had been presented a certificate commending him for his extra efforts as Program Director. WA6GFD also outlined the various CVARC Board positions that would be considered for the upcoming elections in January. A detailed list of these positions, nomination and voting procedures will be forthcoming in a future Bandspread. N0ZXL and W0MRZ head up the nominating committee for this effort.

Steve also discussed arrangements for the End of Year Dinner at the Happy Chef Restaurant:

6:00 p.m. Thursday, December 11th, 2008

Happy Chef Restaurant

365 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids, IA

Special arrangements have been made for members to renew their CVARC membership at that time. Further details regarding this End of Year Dinner will be provided in the upcoming Bandspread as well as the CVARC web page.

The meeting was adjourned at 07:15 PM

Submitted by W0MRZ, Secretary

OCTOBER 2008 CVARC MEETING MINUTES

The November 2008 general membership meeting was held Thursday, 14 November 2008 in the Kenwood United Methodist Church. The meeting was opened 7:36 PM by President WA6GFD. All attendees and guests introduced themselves with 38 members and guests present.

Following a motion by K0PAL the minutes for the October 2008 meeting were accepted unanimously by

those present.

Club Treasurer KC0PON reported a current checking account balance of \$2155.98. In addition, the Treasurer announced that a CD held by the Club came up for renewal on Sunday and that the associated funds would be rolled over into a similar fund.

NA0IA announced that Jason Hsu had recently been handed a Certificate of Appreciation for his efforts as Program Director. Steve Sawyers also wanted the Club to know that a Technician-level class would be offered in February of this coming year, following the 21 February Weather Spotter class.

WA0KHH provided a summary of scheduled examination schedules for the remainder of the calendar year, including a local exam sitting which will be held in Hiawatha on the 5th of December. This schedule will be updated in the next Bandspread.

KC0OX distributed ARES registration forms for Club members to complete.

K0ECW indicated that the last 'event' of the calendar year was the upcoming Turkey Trot scheduled for 27 November; interested volunteers should contact N0THE for details.

WA6GFD outlined the various CVARC Board positions that would be considered for the upcoming elections in January. A detailed list of these positions, nomination and voting procedures will be forthcoming in a future Bandspread. N0ZXL and W0MRZ head up the nominating committee for this effort.

Steve also discussed arrangements for the End of Year Dinner at the Happy Chef Restaurant:

6:00 p.m. Thursday, December 11th, 2008
Happy Chef Restaurant
365 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids, IA
\$5.00 per CVARC member or family member.

Special arrangements have been made for members to renew their CVARC membership at that time. Further details regarding this End of Year Dinner will be provided in the upcoming Bandspread as well as the CVARC web page.

On behalf of N0GUD, WA6GFD thanked all hams who participated in the Witch Watch program.

The business meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM

An enlightening presentation entitled "Near Strike Lightning—A Personal Perspective" was presented by Dale Svetanoff, WA9ENA.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 PM.

Submitted by W0MRZ, Secretary

ARES PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 6, 2008

Attending: N0GUD, KC0OX, WA6GFD, KD0HF, KF0VF, Francisco (CAP), KC0PON, KC0ONY, AC0HB, N0XZK

- DAEC Drill, Linn county (N0GUD/KC0OX)
 - 21 October – FEMA-evaluated
 - Overall drill seemed to go well. Only minor issues for amateur radio. We requested clarification on a few points of the procedures.
 - Thanks to participating stations K0PAS, KC0VT, KD0DJF, W0MRZ, KF0VF, WA6GFD, K0LYP, and (briefly) KD0HF.
 - KC0OX wrote a nice article for the Bandspread summarizing the drill.
 - SET form has been filed for this drill. KC0OX will file a public service event report.
- DAEC Drill, Buchanan county (N0GUD/WA6GFD)
 - 7 October
 - We exercised connections between Linn and Buchanan Counties on their repeater, our repeater, and simplex. This was attempted from both hospitals and the EOC. All connections were successful.
 - We also had two other stations work HF and try both duplex and simplex operations from their home locations. This was successful, and enables us to use a relay if that becomes necessary.
 - Only issue was access to station location at Mercy.
 - Thanks to participating stations K0ECW, WA6GFD, KD0HF, KF0VF, and N0GUD.
- Flooding Publicity (KC0OX)
 - Flood report was sent to state PIO and the Emergency Preparedness Response Manager at ARRL, and to QST. Article was in the ARES E-Letter last month, which means it probably won't make the print QST.
- Witch Watch (N0GUD)
 - Ten stations participated.
 - Very quiet night – little going on.
 - Were able to run a station from Abbe Center with minimal problem
 - ◆ Only noted issue was severe desense when vehicles were on-site.
 - Received thanks from LCSD.
 - KD0HF suggests filing an activity report to

ARRL and Bandsread.

- Active Project Status (various)
 - Database Update (KC0OX)
 - ◆ Discussion followed on the following items:
 - How do we handle non-Linn County applications?
 - Issue is that some applicants do not live in the county.
 - There are probably not any real issues with ARRL or our SEC on this.
 - There are no useful guidelines on this issue.
 - Some people work in Linn County, so there is no reason we should exclude them.
 - We'll continue to allow it.
 - Do we add HF mobile?
 - Do we eliminate the SSB/CW separation?
 - Some discussion followed on why we would need to know about CW skills.
 - Suggestion is to have a single check block for CW skills, and presume that anyone can use this skill on any band indicated as available on the form.
 - Another suggestion was to have it as "CW traffic net," which smooths out any problems with some CW operators being a bit slow.
 - Ditto for "willing to teach."
 - KC0OX proposes dropping this category. It is seldom used or needed. If we need instructors, we can put out the call, and those interested will respond.
 - ◆ Discussion on changing over to the ARRL's standard ARES registration form.
 - ◆ All categories on the current form were examined and discussed. Some items will be dropped as they convey no useful information.
 - ◆ Do we add a category for those with portable internet capability?
 - May be relevant to specialized equipment category.
 - Will likely add to database.
- Websites/Database
 - ◆ Looking for volunteers to maintain the ARES web sites (Linn, 6 West, state).
- Radios at the hospitals
 - ◆ St Luke's and Mercy have purchased/are purchasing new radios.
 - St Luke's has a Yaesu. Mercy has a Kenwood 710.
 - ◆ St Luke's has a long run of lossy cable. They are purchasing a replacement.
 - ◆ K0ECW will assist St Luke's with programming the Yaesu. KC0OX has offered to help Mercy with programming the Kenwood.
 - ◆ We have offered to help with terminating and laying out the cable at St Luke's.
 - ◆ We are currently discussing where radios will be stored.
 - There is a tentative plan in place for St Luke's. We are still working with Mercy on this.
- HF antenna at EOC
 - ◆ This is being temporarily tabled, as EMA staff are busy right now. We'll pick it up again in 2009.
 - ◆ We may want to make a foray out there to get pictures of the environment when the leaves are off the trees. (WA6GFD/N0GUD, most likely.)
- Brief review of active tasks.
- Winter Weather Nets (KD0HF)
 - Some discussion about when to activate a net
 - ◆ Capturing power outages in areas of interest (special care/special needs facilities, for example)
 - ◆ NWS sent out letters to spotters delineating what they want reported. Anything on that list might be useful.
 - We have a Standard Operating Guide for winter weather.
 - ◆ We need to conduct a review of the guidelines against best practices and served community needs.
 - ◆ This will happen at the next meeting.
- Storm Spotter Training
 - 21 February at St Luke's. Registration at 1200h, things begin at 1300h.
- Task compilation
 - More work done here. List was finally completed.
- Miscellanea
 - KC0PON talked a bit about the use of cell

phones as modems for laptops. This would allow a reasonable internet connection at remote locations (depending on battery power).

- January meeting will be 6 January, first Tuesday.
- News from Jones County via KF0VF
 - ◆ There is some trouble with the 39 repeater. Modulation is low, and there is a lot of noise from somewhere. There will be a repair attempt this weekend (if only to isolate some of the problems). 77 Hz tone will now be on all the time.
 - ◆ They have purchased a small trailer on which they will place a generator and fuel tanks. It will be next spring before it is in operation. Capacity is 5000 VA.
- KC0OX reports that IS-802 is an addendum to IS-800 that covers communications. It is free, as are all FEMA courses.

Submitted by NOGUD

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As the year comes to an end, it is time to look back and reflect on all of the activities and events that impacted our organization this year.

The biggest event of the year was obviously the flooding in June. No one could have ever imagined the ultimate crest height of the Cedar River or the extensive damage that would result to many communities within Linn County. The Amateur Radio Community was ready to step up and provide assistance where they could. From monitoring the river levels to providing communications for the various shelters, the Amateur Radio Community proved once again it was able to provide valuable services to the community. I would like to thank every amateur who volunteered their time, equipment, and talent to help support flood activities.

In the area of Communications Activities, CVARC supported a record number of events this past year. I think each event went very smoothly, with outstanding support being provided to the Host Agency for the event. I think there were two major factors that caused these events to be a success. First I would like to thank Eric Watson, K0ECW, for all of the hours he spent coordinating and planning the support for each of the events. This pre-planning went a long way in ensure our success. Secondly, regardless of how good the planning and preparation for any event is, it is the members of the amateur community, from within the CVARC ranks and from without, who volunteered

their time and energy that actually made the events a resounding success. Again, I would like to thank each and every one of you, members and non-members alike who braved the heat and the cold and rain to support these events. Without your assistance, we could not have made these things happen.

Once again, CVARC hosted a very successful HAMFEST. While many of the other regional HAMFESTS have seen attendance and vendor participation levels drop, CVARC was able to hold the line with only a slight drop in attendance. I want to thank Rick Olney, N0XZL and the other folks who volunteered their time to make the HAMFEST a success. From the VE testing team, to the folks working the kitchen, parking the cars and selling the tickets, all of your efforts were responsible for making the event a success.

I also want to thank Jason Hsu, AA0II for all of his efforts to provide a wide range of programs for our club meetings. For an organization to be successful, it must offer something to its members to hold their interest and participation. Jason's efforts in arranging the programs went a long way in keeping meeting attendance up as well as to intrigue and peak the interests of the membership in many different areas.

As 2008 closes, it is time to start looking to 2009 and all of the events and opportunities for members to gather together and provide support to our community or to just bond with fellow amateurs with whom we share the same interests.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Happy Chef on 11 December for the Annual Christmas Dinner!

73, WA6GFD, Steve

UPCOMING EXAMINATION EVENTS

There are two upcoming examination events in the start of next year. On January 22, at 5:30 pm, the Benton County ARC is sponsoring examinations at the Vinton-Shellsburg High School. If you have questions, you can contact Albert Hammond at (319) 446-7507. Walk-ins are allowed.

The Washington area ARC is sponsoring an examination session on January 31 at the Alliant Energy building at 220 E 3rd St. in Washington, IA at 2:00 pm. If you have questions, you can contact Mark Lukins at (319) 653-6735, or at ab0dx@arrl.net. Pre-registrations are preferred.

For any FCC licensing examination, you need to bring the following items:

- A government-issued ID, such as a driver's

license, that will provide proof of identity. If you are too young to have one, or don't have one, you need to bring other proof of identity, such as people with identities who will attest to your identity.

- Your social security number, or your FRN number. You can apply for an FRN ahead of time on the FCC website, at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>
- The examination fee, in cash. You can take all three exams for one fee, but if you want to retry an exam on the same day, you need to pay another fee. Starting in the new year, the exam fee will be \$15.
- If you are upgrading, you need to bring your original license, and a photocopy.

Remember, all license levels are now no-code. You need only learn the theory and practice to upgrade your license.

Best wishes to all, and a big thank you to the VE teams.

K-12 CORNER

Many of us will get to enjoy a few days off this month. If you can, take a little time to think about how you might interest someone in our hobby. Would someone in your family enjoy a recent issue of QST? A simple science experiment, like dropping a magnet down a copper tube? Helping to build an electronic kit?

The next Kid's Day is Saturday, 3 January 2009. 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: 28.350 to 28.400 MHz, 24.960 to 24.980 MHz, 21.360 to 21.400 MHz, 18.140 to 18.145 MHz, 14.270 to 14.300 MHz, 7.270 to 7.290 MHz, 3.740 to 3.940 MHz, as well as your favorite 2-meter repeater (with permission of the repeater's sponsor). Be sure to observe third-party restrictions when making DX QSOs." Note that the only frequencies in this list available to Technicians are in the 10 meter band (28.300-28.500 MHz SSB upper sideband).

Kid's Day this summer is the 3rd Sunday in June. for 2009 that date will be 21 June 2009. Jamboree of the Air (JOTA) for Scouts is the third full weekend in

October, from 17-18 October in 2009.

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 kc0nxxn@arrl.net

KC0NXXN & 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?

KC0NXXN & KC0NXO

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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 kc0nxxo@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 and License Class _____ Name _____ Date _____

Spouse Call and License Class _____ Spouse Name _____

Family Members' Call, Name, and License Class _____

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: _____