

W0GQ

W0WSV



BANDSPREAD



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

CEDAR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday, June 11, 2009, 7:30 PM
Doug Vernier, K0DV, Frequency Allocation
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 July 2009 Issue is June 25, 2009

BANDSPREAD

The Voice of the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club

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ARRL Volunteer Consulting En	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
146.43Ø MHz	Iowa County Amateur Net (ICAN)	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 kc0nxo@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

APRIL CVARC MEETING PREVIEW

Come early and get a good seat - we are in for a real treat... We will be having the program before the business meeting starting at 7:30 sharp -We will be discussing field day operations during the business meeting.

Doug Vernier, President and Senior Engineering Consultant of Cedar Falls, based V-Soft Communications, LLC will explain how his company provides FCC frequency allocation services to radio and TV stations within the U.S. and how it provides allocation software to the Federal Communications Commission and to broadcast engineering consultants and engineers throughout the U.S., Canada and Mexico. He will demonstrate some of the software his company has developed that identifies available broadcast frequencies, calculates interference levels and prepares atlas-like maps depicting how various broadcast communication signals propagate over land and water.

Presenter Doug Vernier retired in 2002 as the longtime Director of Broadcasting Services at the University of Northern Iowa where he managed the University's group of public radio stations including KUNI and KHKE. He has served two terms on the Board of Directors of National Public Radio and he currently serves the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's as its chief technical consultant for radio with an emphasis on the HD radio conversion program. Doug has authored numerous technical articles including the chapter on radio propagation found in the National Association of Broadcasters Engineering Handbook. He has received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Michigan. Doug is an amateur radio operator with call sign K0DV and he resides in Cedar Falls.

Gregg Lind KC0SKM

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 are organized in annual subdirectories.

If you would like to get an e-mail notice of when the latest Bandspread is on the Website, please email Laura, KCONXO 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 kovm@arrl.net.

MAY 2009 CVARC BOARD MINUTES

The May 2009 Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club Board of Director's meeting was held 14 May 2009 at the Kenwood United Methodist Church. President WA6GFD called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm. Others in attendance were: N0XZL, AK0R, W0MRZ, N0GUD. WA0KHH was unable to attend the meeting and had previously designated W0MRZ to forward ham examination information to the Board and general membership.

The Board Minutes from the April 2009 meeting were accepted without modification by a unanimous vote of the Board.

N0XZL reminded the Board that this would be his final year as organizer/lead for Summerfest. The club VP offered to assist his replacement in organizing the 2010 Summerfest event.

On behalf of WA0KHH, W0MRZ discussed the results of the recent ham examinations in Cedar Rapids: thirteen (13) applicants were successful in obtaining new and/or upgraded licenses. One examinee passed ALL three exams [Tech, General, & Extra] in one sitting. Details of other regional exam sessions will be updated in the next Bandspread.

N0GUD reviewed recent storm watch and storm warning-related activities and reminded those present that the three EC-00X [ARRL Emergency Communication Course(s)] stipends were still available to qualified club members.

WA6GFD highlighted upcoming events that CVARC will support in 2009, with full details to be provided in upcoming Bandspreads, including ARRL Field Day and the two-day MS Bicycle Ride.

The board meeting was closed at 6:59 pm.

Submitted by W0MRZ, Secretary

LINN COUNTY ARES WINS GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR SERVICE

All,

I am VERY pleased to inform you that Linn County ARES has been selected for a 2009 Governor's Volunteer Award "for outstanding volunteer service to your community." We were nominated by staff at the Emergency Management Agency for our work during the flood in June 2008.

I will be accepting the award at a ceremony on 19

June. I am not accepting it for myself, however -- this is YOUR award! I am very proud of the response of the ham community during the flood disaster. You have served Linn County well, and I hope you will continue to do so in the future.

Congratulations to you all, and THANK YOU!

Scott, N0GUD

MAY 2009 CVARC MEETING MINUTES

The May 2009 general membership meeting was held Thursday, 14 May 2009 in the Kenwood United Methodist Church.

The formal meeting was opened at 7:32 PM by President WA6GFD with all attendees and guests introduced themselves with 21 members and guests present, including students from the ongoing general and technician classes.

The minutes for the April 2009 meeting were accepted unanimously by those present.

Club Treasurer KC0PON reported that the club had a balance of \$1874.74.

N0XZL reminded the Board that this would be his final year as organizer/lead for Summerfest. The club VP offered to assist his replacement in organizing the 2010 Summerfest event.

AK0R indicated that press releases were being prepared for the Pigman and upcoming Field Day events.

Club President Steve Jones updated members on upcoming events that will be supported by CVARC with full details to be spelled out in upcoming Bandspreads.

Steve Jones presented a slide-show entitled "Continuous Tone-Coded Squelch System: What is it and what does it do". This was followed by a brief narrative by KI0OB on the Yaesu WIRES system and the tone encoding system that it uses.

The meeting was closed at 8:59 pm

Submitted by W0MRZ, Secretary

ARES PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – MAY 2009

Minutes for 7 May 2009 ARES planning committee

Attending: WA6GFD, KD0HF, N0GUD, KF0VF, KI0OB, KC0GFO, WA0FBX, N0XZK

◆Introductions

◆Review of past month's activities

□MS Walk 25 April

- Went very well per WA6GFD.
- Had a few more volunteers than expected.
- The course was very congested, with a lot of car traffic, so the extra volunteers were most welcome.
- Some participants walked part of the course backwards, which caused some problems.
- Several new hams participated.

□Weather event 26 April

- This one included a tornado (EF1).
- Nothing was really projected at the time it kicked off – rather unexpected.
- Hams initially spotted suspicious clouds ("V-shaped"). Net was deployed.
- Calls were good, discipline was good.
- Tracked from just west of Alburnett into Pinicon Ridge.
- Radar was not functional.
 - + Alternate 400 Hz power was tried.
 - + Changed DC power connection.
 - + Put in request to Collins tech to look into it.

◆NDMS drill this summer, 11 July

□WA6GFD in contact with hospitals.

- Hospitals will be participating in the drill.
- We should run a communications test from each hospital prior to the event.
- Mercy is moving their comm center to a new building. The current coax is not long enough to reach that far. WA6GFD to check with KC0WQD on status.
- Because of the move, we may have to either remote the radio (500 feet, highly unlikely) or put up a temporary antenna where we can reach it.
- Should be the same as the drill in 2007.
- St Luke's has its own radio, but will be 2m only.

□KF0VF asked about message formats.

N0GUD to check on this.

- No official forms were used, but there was a structure to the messages.
- Big thing is that receipt of message by comm center staff must be acknowledged back to sender eventually.

- ◆MS Bike Ride (August)
 - Idea: let's use this as our SET for the year. The event is sufficiently large and complex for this.
 - KC0VTT will have a camper overnight at their relay position from last year – think this was in Vining.
 - ◆Iowa has a new Section Emergency Coordinator
 - AC00F Dan Miller now holds this position. Jim Snapp NA0R has stepped down after more than 10 years in the position.
 - ◆Review action item list
 - Reviewed.
 - ◆Collins Radar
 - Radar was not functional for last storm event.
 - Graphics processor was out in the RT.
 - There was also a problem in the interfacing in the blue cabinet.
 - Short version is that radar is currently crippled. It is functional, but it's not controlled by the PC. There is a dedicated controller.
 - We believe that the video does go to the ATV transmitter, but we have not verified this as yet.
 - ◆NWS QC: new report on Parkersburg tornado
 - Amateur Radio mentioned as first line under “best practices.”
 - WB0OAV suggests we send this to Representative Loeb sack and ask him to support HR2160, the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009.
 - Quote from ARRL news: This bill, if passed, would "promote and encourage the valuable public service, disaster relief, and emergency communications provided on a volunteer basis by licensees of the Federal Communications Commission in the Amateur Radio Service, by undertaking a study of the uses of Amateur Radio for emergency and disaster relief communications, by identifying unnecessary or unreasonable impediments to the deployment of Amateur Radio emergency and disaster relief communications, and by making recommendations for relief of such unreasonable restrictions so as to expand the uses of Amateur Radio communications in Homeland Security planning and response."
 - ◆Military Vehicle Preservation Association convoy
 - 21-23 June. Convoy will cross all of Iowa.
 - Might be better sponsored by CVARC or another club rather than ARES.
 - ◆Take Back Our Neighborhood Walk
 - 21 May
 - CRPD has requested amateur involvement.
 - We'll get this set up. It's been done – will consult with KOPAS or KD0BIG.
 - ◆Discussion on “tone burst”
 - Some Yaesu radios apparently have tone burst on by default.
 - This causes the repeater to shut off for three seconds as it interprets the burst as a control code.
 - KI0OB will explain at CVARC meeting how to work around this.
 - ◆Jones County club still looking for new receive site
 - No action required here, just FYI.
 - Current location is good, but the tower is not very sturdy.
- Submitted by N0GUD

FROM THE PRESIDENT’S DESK

I want to start off by congratulating all of the newly licensed Amateurs who have tested this spring. We have had several of the students in licensing class pass their General and at least one that passed the Extra class exam. Congratulations to the students and the instructors as well.

Field Day 2009 is scheduled for the weekend of the 27th and 28th of June. We are starting to plan in motion for CVARC participation in the Field Day event. We need some volunteers who would be willing to take responsibility for one aspect of the operation and be responsible for making it happen. Have a CW, Phone and GOTA station manager would be a big help in making this event happen. If you are interested in taking on one of these tasks, please let me know. More information on Field Day will be discussed at the next meeting.

I would like to thank all of the folks who participated in the Walk for the Community Event on 21 May. As we do in many of the events we provide communications support for, we placed fixed stations in key locations and had three members who were a part of the group that walked the route. Progress of the walk was radioed back to the Net Control Station, and in many cases, we reported the progress before the information was received via public service communications. It was a very successful event and feedback from the Cedar Rapids Police Department has been very favorable.

Look forward to seeing you all at the meeting on 11 June.

73, WA6GFD, Steve

What has WIRES done for you lately?

This was the title of my portion of the presentation at the last CVARC club meeting. Below is the important part of the information I presented, portions courtesy of KB6OT, KD0EFL, and those folks in Japan who wrote the manuals.

The Yaesu WIRES™ (Wide-coverage Internet Repeater Enhancement System) proprietary Internet Connection feature operates by transmitting a short (~0.1 second) DTMF (Dual Tone Multi Frequency) tone burst each time the Push-to-Talk button is pressed. Each time the WIRES DTMF tone is transmitted, the repeater mutes for several seconds and the first few words of the user's transmission are lost.

The WIRES function is turned ON or OFF by momentary pressing the 0 key on a FT-60, VX-170 or VX177 handheld or left VOL knob on a FT-8800 or 8900 mobile radio. The WIRES function can be disabled so that it can not accidentally be turned on using the following steps:

FT-60 – See manual page 49

1. Press the F/M key then immediately press the 0 key to enter the menu mode.
2. Rotate the Dial knob to menu 23 – INT MR.
3. Press the F/M key then rotate the Dial knob to select a memory (d1 through d9) that is empty, i.e. it contains (six dots) = no tone.
4. Press the F/M key to store the setting.
5. Rotate the Dial knob to menu 21 – I NET.
6. Press the F/M key then rotate the Dial knob to select INT.MEM.
7. Press the F/M key to store the setting.
8. Press the PTT button to exit the menu mode.

To re-enable the WIRES mode, select INT.COD in menu 21.

VX-170 & VX-177 - See manual page 48

1. Press the F/M key then immediately press the 0 key to enter the menu mode.
2. Rotate the Dial knob to menu 24 – INT MR.
3. Press the F/M key then rotate the Dial knob to select a memory (d1 through d9) that is empty, i.e. it contains (six dots) = no tone.
4. Press the F/M key to store the setting.
5. Rotate the Dial knob to menu 22 – I NET.
6. Press the F/M key then rotate the Dial knob to select INT.MEM.
7. Press the F/M key to store the setting.
8. Press the PTT button to exit the menu mode.

To re-enable the WIRES mode, select INT.COD in menu 22.

FT-8800 / FT-8900 – See manual page 50 or 48

1. Press the SET key momentarily to enter the set mode.
2. Rotate the Main band Dial knob to select menu 15 – DTMF W.
3. Press the Main band Dial knob momentarily then rotate the Main band Dial knob to select a memory (d1 through d16) that is empty, i.e. it contains (six dots) = no tone.
4. Press the Main band Dial knob momentarily to store the setting.
5. Rotate the Main band Dial knob to select menu 17 – INET.
6. Press the Main band Dial knob momentarily then rotate the Main band Dial knob to select INT.MEM.
7. Press the Main band Dial knob for ½ second to store the setting and exit the menu mode.
8. Rotate the Main band Dial while pressing and holding the left VOL knob to select the same memory selected in step 3 above.

To re-enable the WIRES mode, select INT.COD in menu 17.

FT-1802M – See manual page 54, (but the trick below doesn't appear to be documented)

1. Turn your radio off from the front of the radio
2. Hold the wires key down while you turn the radio back on
3. When the frequency display comes back on the button is transformed into a programmable soft key like the ones on the Mic. By default pressing it will display the internal voltmeter. If you go into SET mode pressing the wires key for 2 seconds will program it to whatever menu function is currently selected.

To re-enable WIRES, repeat the process

Justin Davis, KI0OB

K-12 CORNER

Summer's here! Do you know any student who could use some encouragement to study for their licensing exam? The next VE session in Cedar Rapids is at the Summerfest in early August.

Kid's Day is just around the corner. The ARRL has details here:

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kd-rules.html>

As the ARRL says, it's meant to give kids a chance to get on the air, and for us hams to share our hobby with the kids.

Kid's Day is on Saturday, 20 June, 1800 UTC – 2400 UTC, or 1200 CDT – 1800 CDT.

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,

plus 2 meters

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

AN UPDATE ON COMMUNICATIONS EVENTS

- ◆ June 27-28, Saturday and Sunday: Field Day
- ◆ August 16, Sunday: Pigman Long Triathlon at Pleasant Creek State Park and surrounding communities.
- ◆ August 29-30, Saturday and Sunday: Multiple Sclerosis Cycle for the Cure 150 mile bike ride. Cedar Rapids to Marshalltown on Saturday. Marshalltown to Cedar Rapids on Sunday.
- ◆ September 26, Saturday: Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk at Noelridge Park.
- ◆ October 25, Sunday: Muddy Monster Cross Country Run.

IN The Section

Excerpted from the Iowa ARRL Section Newsletter, courtesy of Tom Bremer, N0LOH:

Even though we have over 70 hams volunteering in various appointments, there are many opportunities still available. Especially needed are the following:

State Government Liaison. For information, visit <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/sgl.html>

Local Government Liaison. For information, visit <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/lgl.html>

(Ed note: the ARRL description of Local Government Liaison includes but is not limited to:

1. Monitor proposals and actions of town/city councils, zoning boards, zoning appeals boards, and any other legislative or regulatory agencies or officials below the state level whose actions can directly or indirectly affect Amateur Radio.

...

8. Work with the PIO and local clubs to build and/or maintain good relations between Amateur Radio and local officials. (for example, invite the mayor to a club dinner or council members to Field Day.)

Recruitment of new hams and League members is an integral part of the job of every League appointee. Appointees should take advantage of every opportunity to recruit a new ham or member to foster growth of Field Organization programs, and our abilities to serve the public.)

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

WANTED: Information leading to recovery of the following amateur radio equipment stolen from my car in front of my residence in early February 2009: Kenwood Dual Band Mobile UHF/VHF TM-V71A, Serial Number 90200023; Kenwood Tri-Band Hand Held TH-F6A Serial Number 70600081. Dave, KB0KW, krk9840@msn.com

FREE: Two stacked 11-element 2-meter yagis. Includes support beam and clamp. All SS hardware. New elements on one bay. Owner prefers that it go to a newer ham. Doug, KF0VF, 854-6312.

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 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: _____