

W0GQ

W0WSV



## BANDSPREAD



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

## CEDAR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday, April 8, 2010, 7:30 PM  
Power supply designs and homebrew printed circuit boards  
by Michael Dzado, AC0HB  
Kenwood Park United Methodist Church  
175 34th St. NE, Cedar Rapids

*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 [cvarebrd@rf.org](mailto:cvarebrd@rf.org)

**Deadline for April 2010 issue is March 25, 2010**

# **BANDSPREAD**

*The Voice of the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club*

## **Bandspread Staff**

Publisher	Cedar Valley ARC	e-mail or Business (PHONE)	HOME
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## **Club Officers**

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	Nancy Mortensen, KDØJCX	nancy.mortensen@hotmail.com	
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Emergency Preparedness Dir.	Scott Haney, NØGUD	nogud@arrl.net	366-1465
Communications Activities Dir.	Kenneth Hamer WØHKR	WØHKR@imonmail.com	364-2984

## **Club Appointments**

Station Trustee	Al Groff, KØVM	køvm@arrl.net	393-8134
VE Manager	Darrel Peterson, WAØKHH	waøkh@juno.com	393-8667
Training/Education Committee			
Hamfest Chairman	Rick Olney, NØXZL	rolney@qwest.net	396-8979
Dist 6 West Emergency Coordinator	Steve Jones	wa6gfd@aol.com	377-2219

## **ARRL Appointments**

Linn County Emer.Coordinator	Scott Haney, NØGUD	nogud@arrl.net	366-1465
ARRL Ia Section Tech Coordinator	Don R Davison KBØCAQ	davison46@mchsi.com	
ARRL Midwest Div. Vice Dir.	Rod Blocksome, KØDAS	k0das@arrl.org	
ARRL Midwest Division Dir	Cliff Ahrens, KØCA	k0ca@arrl.org	
ARRL Iowa Section Manager	Tom Brehmer, NØLOH	nøloh@arrl.net	
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 kc0nxa@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

## **MARCH CVARC MEETING PREVIEW**

Michael Dzado, AC0HB, got his Extra license 3 years ago with his son to participate in emergency communications and weather spotting. Michael also participates on the ARES planning committee. His experience includes weather equipment support as an Electronic Technician in the Air Force, power supply and high speed amplifier design as an Electrical Engineer, and Software Defined Radios as a Software Developer. Michael's interests include weather observation and reporting, APRS and electronics.

Come early and take part in the Powerpole connector workshop. Please bring your radios and cabling for installation of the standardized Powerpole connectors, available for \$1 per black and red pair. Members are asked to bring Powerpole crimpers and wire strippers if you have them. The workshop starts at 6:30 p.m.

## **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, KC0NXO at [kc0nxo@arrl.net](mailto: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](mailto:k0vm@arrl.net).

## **MARCH 2010 CVARC BOARD MINUTES**

The March 2010 Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors' meeting was held March 11, 2010 at the Kenwood United Methodist Church. President WA6GFD called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Others in attendance were: N0XZL, KC0PON, NA0IA, W0HKR, WA0KHH, N0GUD, KC0SKM and KD0JCX.

N0XZL moved to approve the corrected minutes for the January Board meeting. KC0SKM seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously by the Board.

N0XZL moved to approve the minutes for the February Board meeting. KC0SKM seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously by the Board.

KC0PON stated that the checking account balance was \$2,855.90.

A discussion followed on club membership renewals and how to encourage those who haven't renewed to pay their dues by March 31. Those who have not paid by March 31 will be removed from the membership roster and the CVARC Reflector list.

NOGUD discussed the need to obtain software licenses for the systems that monitor the National Weather

Service. KC0SKM moved and NA0IA seconded a motion for the club to purchase 2 licenses. The motion was passed unanimously by the Board.

Steve Sawyers advised the Board that the Technician Class is going well, with 14 participants.

Rick Olney will file for approval with the ARRL to have the Hamfest and is working on the mailing list.

WA0KHH listed the schedule of upcoming examination sessions around the area, and the session on May 8 in Cedar Rapids.

W0HKR listed the upcoming public services events, and the possible conflict with Field Day and the Diabetes ride occurring on June 26.

KC0SKM reviewed upcoming speakers for the monthly club meetings.

NA0IA stated that he has purchased 100 pairs of power poles to be sold for \$1 a pair to club members. A work session will be held at the April club meeting for members who want to get connectors on their equipment.

Steve Jones presented a list of equipment for sale from a silent key.

A discussion followed about the proposed budget. NA0IA moved and N0GUD seconded a motion to approve the budget as presented. The motion was passed unanimously by the Board.

N0GUD moved, KC0SKM seconded and the Board unanimously approved a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm.

Submitted by KD0JCX, Secretary

## **MARCH 2010 CVARC MEETING MINUTES**

The March 2010 general membership meeting was held Thursday, March 11, 2010 in the Kenwood United Methodist Church.

The formal meeting was opened at 7:30 pm by President Steve Jones, WA6GFD with all 68 attendees and guests introducing themselves.

Ahead of the business meeting, the evening's presentation was given by Scott Haney, N0GUD, entitled "Net Operations During Severe Weather".

W0HKR moved to approve the minutes for the February meeting. W0MRZ seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously by those present.

The budget was presented by Steve Jones and Dennis Sutherland. Members are encouraged to pay their dues by March 31. Membership dues and the Hamfest are two important sources of income for the club. KD0HGA moved to accept the budget. W0HKR seconded the motion and the budget was approved unanimously by those present.

Steve Sawyers advised the Board that the Technician Class is going well, with 14 participants.

Gregg Lind reviewed upcoming speakers for the monthly club meetings.

KC0PON stated that the checking account balance was \$2,855.90.

WA0KHH listed the schedule of upcoming examination sessions around the area, and the session on May 8 in Cedar Rapids.

W0HKR listed the upcoming public services events, and the possible conflict with Field Day and the Diabetes ride occurring on June 26.

NA0IA stated that he has purchased 100 pairs of power poles to be sold for \$1 a pair to club members. A work session will be held at the April club meeting for members who want to get connectors on their equipment.

Steve Jones presented a list of equipment for sale from a silent key.

Rob Blocksom, K0DAS, is the new Vice Director in the Midwest Region of the ARRL.

Tom Vavra, WB8ZRL, is the new ARRL DXCC card checker for our area.

NA0IA moved, K0ECW seconded and those present unanimously approved a motion to adjourn the formal meeting at 9:35 pm

Submitted by KD0JCX, Secretary

## **ARES PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 4 2010**

Attending: N0GUD, KD0HF, WA6GFD, N0XZK, WA0FBX, AC0HB, KB0KW, KC0PON, W0HKR, KF0VF, WA0UIG

- Introductions
- Review of past month's activities
  - Spotter Training
    - 213 people on the official register (sent to NWS).
      - Pretty good mix of hams, students, public service and others.
    - Event was as close to perfect as anyone could expect!
      - Materials were popular, and having the PowerPoints on all the monitors was great.
        - Perhaps have fewer bullets on each slide, or allow more time per slide.
      - NWS presentation was very good as well.
    - Lots of thanks to WB0OAV, KB0NRU, AC0HB, N0XZK, WA0FBX, KC0ZNK, KD0HF, WA6GFD, KC0NXN, KC0PON, and all others who stepped up and got the job done.

- May need to hit the public media earlier. Items were submitted to newspapers and TV stations, and it didn't run.
- Twenty or so came to the license class the Thursday after.
- Need to look at dates on the materials from CVARC to make sure everything is up to date.
- Review action item list
  - CRPD station
    - Antenna is installed, but we're not sure which one yet.
    - The equipment should be ready for installation in March.
    - We will need to talk to someone in CRPD to find out what the screening criteria are for access, and concepts of operation in the station.
    - KOPAS is our liaison to CRPD.  
Thanks, Phil!
  - Action item list reviewed
    - Checking all radios (especially the one at the Sheriff's facility) added.
    - We need to use 443.8 repeater on radar radio.
- Other items
  - Third Sunday net control
    - KB0KGH/WB0CID is the NCS for the third Sunday of each month, starting in March. Regular schedule is not otherwise changed right now.
    - KA0IES is now one of the official backup net controls. Web site to be changed shortly to reflect both these changes.
    - N0GUD suggests that we might informally arrange for some of the backup stations to take a fifth Sunday during the fall/winter months to give them "live" net experience.
      - They should be practicing at least once a month by "ghosting" the NCS.
      - Net controls N0GUD and KB0NRU are usually not available on their normal nights during the summer, so we'll be making arrangements for those months in any case.
  - Formal Traffic Training (left from February)

- N0GUD still needs to work this up. Report again next month.
- Radar service requests for surrounding counties
  - WA9ENA from Jones talked to WA6GFD. There is interest in having radar support for surrounding counties.
  - For counties to the west, we need to bring it up earlier. For counties to the east, we need to keep radar up somewhat longer.
  - Idea: work two shifts at radar so no one operator is there for three straight hours.
  - Idea: train more radar operators! (Always a good idea.)
  - Need to set up a protocol for contact from EC to EC, then coordinate the frequency to use from there.
  - This should work two ways: we can get requests for help, or we can push data to them if we see something that seems significant.
  - We need to work with Benton County to get some folks on the west side a bit more active to provide better early warning.
  - W0HKR reports that work on the Benton repeater continues. It's operational, but more improvements are on the way.
- WA6GFD suggests that the Sheriff's office work be separate from the general radio check, in case the former requires a bit more work than we anticipate.
- The request to "formalize" the 160m net has gone through, waiting for a response.
- Questions on DAEC drills here.
- Net script check-in ordering
  - Discussed KF0VF's research numbers. Default state will be CR west, CR east, Marion, Toddville/Hiawatha/Robins, Linn, then the all-call. Any NCS is free to do anything that makes sense under actual circumstances.
  - KC0PON asked if we need to set up a protocol to try to reduce doubles. Discussion followed on techniques, but the best seems to be the key/unkey/key sequence (KB4SBY does this, and it seems to work). N0GUD to put into next week's presentation to CVARC.

Submitted by N0GUD

### **FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**

On 24 March, the Federal Communications Commission has released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making concerning "Amateur Radio operations during government-sponsored emergency preparedness and disaster readiness drills and tests." The FCC is seeking comments on amending the existing Part 97 rules to permit employees of public safety and other emergency entities to be allowed to operate an amateur radio station during emergency preparedness drills and exercises. If the rules are changed it would eliminate the need for an entity to obtain a waiver to cover communications operations during a drill or exercise. I urge each of you to take a look at the proposal (located on the ARRL Web site) and if you agree to the proposal, to submit comments to the FCC in support of the change.

Just a reminder that membership dues are due. If you haven't paid your dues for 2010, please do so at the next meeting or send them to the club post office box.

Look forward to seeing you all at the April Meeting. - WA6GFD

### **DUANE ARNOLD DRILLS IN APRIL, MAY**

There are two upcoming Duane Arnold Energy Center drills coming soon. The dates are

7 April and 19 May

The May drill will be graded by FEMA. The April drill is the "dress rehearsal" for the May drill. As such, we'd like to have as much support for the drills as we can manage.

Unfortunately, the drills typically run from 08:00 to 15:00, right in the middle of the work day. I realize that most of us cannot get the time off for full support -- that's fine, partial support works as well!

The amateur community is written into the plan as dosimetry delivery, plus other tasks as assigned. A typical drill involves simulating said delivery, and requires only that you be near a radio for the most part to respond to the check-ins we do every half hour. Thus, if your work situation allows you to keep a handheld nearby during the day, that should work for most of the drill.

As this is a graded drill, there's a good chance that we'll be asked to deliver at least one physical kit to a specified location. Therefore, we'd like at least one volunteer to be available to report to the EOC at

Kirkwood when requested by net control, then deliver the kit as instructed.

If you can be available for either drill, fire me a quick note and let me know. If you CANNOT support either drill, you do not need to reply -- I will expect only those who indicate they will be there.

This is a fairly light-duty drill for us most years, but an important one. Please participate if you can. If you cannot support the entire drill, that's fine -- support what you can, checking in and out as needed.

Questions welcome, as always.

Scott Haney, N0GUD

## **K-12 CORNER**

The Eastern Iowa Science and Engineering Fair was held at Lindale Mall in Cedar Rapids on Saturday, 20 March; 223 students brought 180 exhibits. The special award for the best use of radio or radio-electronics in the Junior division went to Wesley Weirather for his project "Error Correction: Reading the Unreadable." His prize was a copy of the ARRL Ham Radio License Manual and a \$25 gift card from Radio Shack.

In the senior division, the award went to Paul Gregory for his project "Solar Wind Vs. Shortwave." His prize was a copy of the ARRL Handbook and a \$25 gift card from Radio Shack.

Jon Klinkefus W0JMK, Justin Davis KI0OB and Scott Haney N0GUD were the judges for this award. Jon W0JMK presented the awards that evening. You can see pictures of the winners at [http://www.eisef.org/photos\\_2010.htm](http://www.eisef.org/photos_2010.htm), look for "Collins Amateur Radio Club / Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club" in the scrolling list.

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](mailto:kc0nxn@arrl.net)

## **CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING**

**FOR SALE:** Yaesu FT-101E 10-160m HF transceiver, hybrid solid-state with tube finals, SSB/AM/CW modes, in working condition and used over a 5-year period without problems. Also includes: Stock Yaesu hand mic, A/C cord, Original manual/schematic diagrams, Original shipping box. Asking \$275.00

Contact: Doug Slauson – KCØZNK 319-929-5696

### **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](mailto:kc0nxo@arrl.net)

All advertisements must be renewed monthly!

## 2010 CVARC BUDGET

Categories	BUDGET 2008	ACTUAL 2008	BUDGET 2009 2057.81	ACTUAL 2009 2057.81	BUDGET 2010 2565.90	Description
<b>INCOME</b>						
Dues	1000.00	1020.00	1180.00	1010.00	1200.00	Member Dues
Interest	600.00	617.91	600.00	0.00	0.00	Interest on CD
MISC.DEPOSIT	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	Book Sales
Sales	0.00	15.00	0.00	130.00	0.00	Sales of club owned or donated equip.
Summerfest Income	4100.00	4628.22	4210.00	3917.30	4000.00	All sources of income for Summerfest
=====						
Total Income	5700.00	6281.13	5990.00	5357.30	5200.00	
<b>Expense</b>						
Bandspread	600.00	513.14	600.00	213.94	200.00	Mailing and printing costs for Bandspread
Bank Charges	5.00	19.25	5.00	0.00	0.00	Checks and other charges
Education	50	55.28	50.00	50.00	50.00	Science Fair
Field Day	400.00	145.00	400.00	249.08	400.00	Porta Potti, etc.
Food at Meeting	100.00	0.00	170.00	133.16	175.00	Coffee, cookies, etc. (was included in Social in 2008)
Hall Donation	275.00	275.00	275.00	375.00	375.00	Donation for use of meeting place (Board Meeting, Regular Meetings, and Classes)
INSURANCE	350.00	334.00	350.00	331.00	350.00	Liability and Property insurance
Membership Promotion	500.00	599.13	500.00	646.29	500.00	Door prizes at Meetings
Miscellaneous	200.00	220.00	200.00	0.00	200.00	Miscellaneous
Public Service Activity	200.00	110.00	200.00	91.30	200.00	Public Service Activity
Repeater	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Repeater Repair
Social	600.00	848.63	600.00	448.98	600.00	Christmas Party
Special Events	200.00	209.07	200.00	0.00	200.00	Special Events
Station Emergency Prep	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00	Station Emergency Preparedness
Summerfest Expense	2700.00	3057.76	2673.00	2272.46	2673.00	All sources of expense for Sumerfest including directly related postage.
Po Box Stamps	200.00	0.00	200.00	38.00	200.00	Non Bandspread or Summerfest related postage
Training	50.00	90.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	Training Classes
New capital (projector)	0.00	944.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	New capital (projector)
=====						
Total Expense	6630.00	7421.24	6673.00	4849.21	6373.00	
Difference	-930.00	-1140.11	-683.00	508.09	-1173.00	
Ending Balance		2057.81	1374.81	2565.90	1392.90	

**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](http://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: \_\_\_\_\_