

W0GQ

W0WSV



BANDSPREAD



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

CEDAR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday, February 11, 2010, 7:30 PM

“QRP in a QROel World: Life is too short NOT to try QRP”

by Michael Zomlefer, W0MRZ

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

Deadline for February 2010 issue is February 25, 2010

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

FEBRUARY CVARC MEETING PREVIEW

Our special guest speaker this month is our own Michael Zomlefer W0MRZ our meeting will be on 7:30 p.m. Thursday, February 11th, 2010, Kenwood Park United Methodist Church 175 34th St. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA

The title of Michael's talk will be "QRP in a QROel World: Life is too short NOT to try QRP" by Michael Zomlefer, W0MRZ

This talk will provide an introduction and overview of QRP operation and the techniques and practices used by amateur radio operators in the world of low power operation. These points will be highlighted with anecdotal comments taken from one ham's attempt to relive his 'QRP youth' over the past year.

Biography: Michael is a telecommunications/networking consultant who likes to play with radios, young and old.

Next month we are in tentative planning to have a program presentation to review weather net operations and emergency net management. This is to help get the procedures to a number of new hams and brush up on spotting activities. Also remember we are now approaching the "hot" weather. A review of net control functions, spotting and sever weather preparedness will be reviewed.

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.

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.

JANUARY 2010 CVARC BOARD MINUTES

The January 2010 Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club Board of Director's meeting was held 14 January 2010 at the Kenwood United Methodist Church. President WA6GFD called the meeting to order at 6:41 pm. Others in attendance were: W0MRZ, KC0SKM, KC0PON, NA0IA, WA0KHH, N0XZL and AK0R.

Steve Jones discussed a possible scheduling conflict for CVARC vis a vis the ARRL Field Day and the American Diabetes Society Bicycle ride, both of which will be overlapping in June of this year. The club president also indicated that, in response to a request from a local television station, that he had

asked K0PAS to discuss his amateur radio role in supporting SATERN communications for the Haiti relief effort.

The board then held a general review discussion on the CVARC budget and agreed to finalize on its budget recommendation for the membership at the Board meeting in February.

KC0PON stated that the checking account balance was \$2565.90.

WA0KKH summarized the schedule for upcoming ham exams. He also advised the board that the ARRL exam fee would be \$15.00 in 2010 and that the new element 2 question pool [Technician Class Exam] would take effect on July 2 of this year.

The Board Minutes from the December 2009 meeting were accepted by a unanimous vote of the Board.

Steve Sawyers noted that there would be another Technician Ham Class starting on the 25th of February, running for 10 consecutive weeks through the 29th of April.

W0DAT led a general discussion regarding possible formats for new State of Iowa Amateur Radio Vanity License Plates. The Board voted unanimously to have W0DAT represent CVARC in providing information to the State of Iowa regarding this license plate issue.

Steven Jones reminded everyone that elections would be held in the next club meeting. The following positions would become 'open' for the January election:

Vice President
Secretary
Information Director
Emergency Preparedness Director
President

The board meeting was closed at 7:31 pm.

Submitted by W0MRZ, Secretary

JANUARY 2010 CVARC MEETING MINUTES

The January 2010 general membership meeting was held Thursday, 14 January 2009 in the Kenwood United Methodist Church.

The formal meeting was opened at 7:39 pm by President Steve Jones, WA6GFD with all 64 attendees and guests introducing themselves.

Ahead of the business meeting, the evening's presentation was given by Ken Neubeck, WB2AMU and entitled "Six Meter Sporadic E Propagation for

CVARC”.

Steve Sawyers led general elections for club officers with the following results (all unanimous):

- President – Steve Jones, WA6GFD
- Vice President – Rick Olney, NA0IA
- Secretary – Nancy Mortensen, KD0JCX
- Information Director – AK0R
- Emergency Preparedness Director – Scott Haney, N0GUD
- Communications Activity Director – Ken Hamer, W0HKR

The minutes for the December meeting were accepted unanimously, subject to a minor correction, by those present.

KC0PON stated that the checking account balance was \$2565.90.

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The formal meeting was concluded at 9:17 m.

Submitted by W0MRZ, Secretary

ARES PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 2009

Minutes for JANUARY 2009 ARES planning committee

- ◆ Introductions
- ◆ Review of past month's activities

Nothing to report.

- ◆ Review of Emergency Ops Plan
See handouts.

Further text concerning geographical check-ins:

- Concerning the net and taking check-ins by geo areas - when KF0VF ran it on his normal night in December, he used these areas and received these check-in numbers:
 - CR NE-SE = 9
 - CR NW-SW = 3
 - Marion = 9
 - all other Linn Co = 7
 - all other counties = 9.
 - (ECs = 4.)
- Those came out pretty even except for CR NW-SW, which has historically been low. If I divide CR into NW-NE and SW-SE halves, check-in numbers are 7 and 5, respectively. Pro: that evens it out some. Con: there may be good reasons to divide CR by the river.
- No changes made at this point.

- ◆ Benton County Repeater

The Benton repeater is now off the air. The agreement between the Benton ham club and Benton EMA has been terminated.

It's not known when or if the repeater will be brought back up. We can presume it will not be soon.

We need to know what frequency, presumably simplex, Benton Co. would use in case of an incident. Linn and Benton rely on each other quite a bit during weather-related emergencies, so a defined frequency will be needed six weeks or so.

- Iowa County weekly net is 146.43 simplex. Perhaps this could be used for Benton as well.
- Barring that, with the repeater off the air, it is probably acceptable to operate simplex on 145.23 (the repeater output) until we have a clear definition with Benton.
- DEC recommends they use CVARC for coordination, or we select a simplex frequency. DEC will coordinate with the amateurs in Benton.
- N0GUD to talk to KA0WJZ to establish a frequency for DAEC drills. (One of the upcoming drills will be FEMA-evaluated.)

- ◆ Spotter Training

Storm Spotter Training is officially scheduled for 2/20/2010. 12:30 registration. 1:00 start.

Ends at about 3:00. Same place as last year. NWS has the event on the website! No further details from Donna Dubberke at this time. Alan Erickson WB0OAV has definitely taken the lead on this. Thanks!
Publicity assignments (carried over from last meeting).

- Need to make sure that ALL material arrives before registration. The CVARC and general ham material was late getting there.
 - We also need to make sure we have enough for everyone. We ran low last year. WA6GFD and N0GUD to coordinate the materials for CVARC. (WX/ARES materials seemed sufficient, but we need to plan for expansion.)
 - Collins news network/website.
 - ‡ They are no longer accepting this sort of item. If it is not a Collins event, they don't carry it.
 - ‡ Internal buy/sell/trade might still take it.
 - The Collins Radio Club could send it out by email. They can also post fliers in the various buildings.
 - CVARC can advertise via the reflector. ARES can as well. N0GUD
 - CVARC can put this in Bandspread as well. N0GUD to contact KC0NXN.
 - Announcements on the Sunday net – WA6GFD, N0GUD, or ... whom?
 - EMA to be notified. N0GUD.
 - CVARC PIO to contact news organizations.
- ◆ Review action item list
Reviewed, adjustments made.
 - ◆ Other items
Nothing discussed.

Submitted by N0GUD

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As mentioned in previous columns, the annual CVARC elections were held at the January meeting. The results of the elections were:

President	WA6GFD
Vice-President	N0XZL
Secretary	KD0JCX
Information Director	AK0R
Emergency Preparedness Director	N0GUD

In addition, Ken Hamer, W0HKR, volunteered to take the position of Communications Activities Director that had been vacant for a while.

I want to thank Mike Zomlefer, W0MRZ for the outstanding job he did as the Club Secretary over the past two years and to welcome Nancy and Ken to the Board of Directors. I would also like to thank those incumbents who agreed to serve an additional term of office on the Board.

Would like to remind everyone of the upcoming Weather Spotter Training that will be conducted on the 20th of February. Details on the event are located in this edition of the Bandspread. I encourage all members to attend this session, even if you are not planning in participating in the Severe Weather Nets. With Iowa's constantly changing weather, the information presented in this presentation will help you to spot situations where weather may pose a danger to you and your family and to know what steps you should take to keep them safe.

I want to also thank Gregg for all the hard work he has done in arranging for some fantastic presentations for our meetings. If you have ideas or a presentation you would like to see or better yet, if you have a presentation you would like to make to the club, please get with Gregg.

We will also be sponsoring a Technician License Class that will start shortly after the Weather Spotting Class. The students who have attended these classes have had a very high pass rate on their exams and the feedback from all who have attended has been very positive. If you know someone who is or might be interested in joining the Amateur Radio Family, please let them know about this class.

See you all at the February Meeting..

WA6GFD

CVARC TO SPONSOR CLASS

There will be another Technician Ham Class starting on the 25th of February (Thursday evening), running for 10 consecutive weeks through the 29th of April. Please check the CVARC website at cvarc.rf.org for information on time and place.

LOCAL AMATEUR NEWS

Hello everyone we just wanted to let you all know that the Benton County repeater is up and running again. Since the repeater is owned by Benton County Emergency Management we have put the EMA call sign on the repeater, KD0DKS. Remember the repeater requires a 141.3 PL tone to access the system.

At this time we are only using the central receiver located at the county central communications tower, as we get access to those remaining links and get them either moved or reactivated we will add them back on line.

Hope to hear you on the repeater again soon.

Robert Spangler, Benton County EC, KA0WJZ

K-12 CORNER

This month the weather service in the Quad Cities will bring their storm spotter training to our area. This is a very good way to show people that amateur radio -- as it has been doing for years -- can help the community. The presentation is open to all, and we see children of all ages at these presentations.

Parents of younger children should take the time to talk to them about any unusual worries they have about storms before taking to this presentation. A few of the videos can be dramatic.

There will be another offering of the Radio Merit Badge at the upcoming Merit Badge University in Iowa City, on the first Saturday in March.

Just two weeks later the Eastern Iowa Science and Engineering Fair will be held at Lindale Mall in Cedar Rapids. The Collins ARC has already voted to support a special radio and/or electronics award again this year. At the next CVARC meeting we'll be asking CVARC to support this award again as well. Along with the EISEF, which is looking for volunteers to judge the exhibits, we'll be looking for a few hams to help with judging for the radio and/or electronics award. If you're interested, please let us know at kc0nrxn@arrl.net.

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 kc0nrxn@arrl.net

advertisement. Send to:

CVARC
PO BOX 2352
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

Or to kc0nrxn@arrl.net

All advertisements must be renewed monthly!

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR SALE:HP Deskscan 4P with SCSI interface card, \$20; Iomega ZIP250 drive with 44 250mb disks, \$20; Icom IC-25H 2 meter transceiver, \$15; All are in good working condition. Please contact Ron K0QVF; 846-2597

YOUR AD HERE

The rates are right (free for any amateur), and the audience is perfect for your for sale or wanted



National Weather Service
Severe Weather Spotter Training
Saturday, 20 February 2010
In Cedar Rapids, Iowa

BASIC SPOTTER TRAINING

12:30 PM - Registration Begins
1:00 PM - Training Session (2 hours)

- Basic storm feature identification
- Spotter safety
- Reporting procedures/protocol

Training will be conducted by Warning Coordination Meteorologist Donna Dubberke (KC5MDO) from the Quad Cities National Weather Service Office.

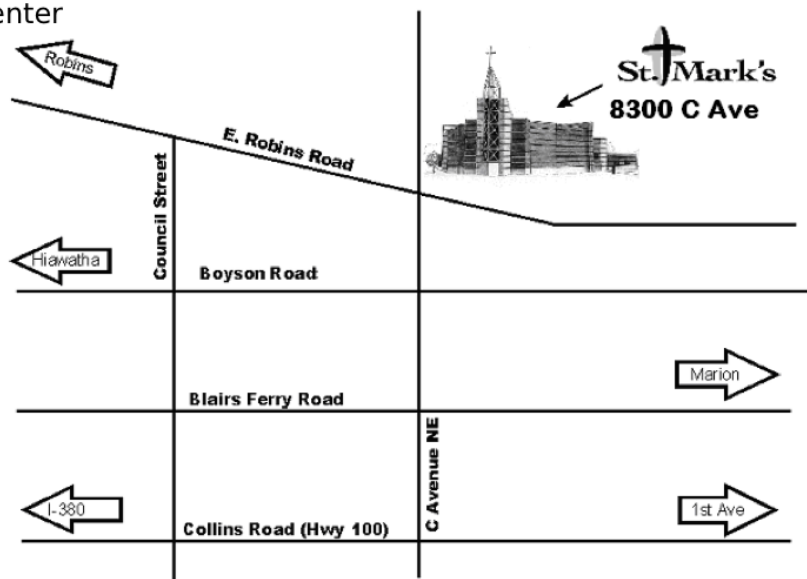
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

There is no charge for this training. You are not required to be part of any organization or agency to participate in this session. However, if you anticipate sending a large group, please let us know so we can arrange for additional handouts.

SAME LOCATION AS LAST YEAR

St. Mark's Faith and Life Center
8300 C Ave. NE
Marion, IA 52302

For further information,
contact the event
coordinator Scott Haney
at 431-9649 (work),
366-1465 (home).



Sponsored by the Linn County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club. "Talk-in" for Amateur Radio operators will be 146.745 MHz (-600kHz, no tone). To find out more about ARES or CVARC, visit <http://ares.rf.org/> or <http://cvarc.rf.org/>.

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: _____