

W0GQ

W0WSV



## BANDSPREAD



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

## CEDAR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday, January 14, 2010, 7:30 PM  
Sporadic E propagation and six meters, by Ken Neubeck, WB2AMU  
Elections for 2010  
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 [cvarcbrd@rf.org](mailto:cvarcbrd@rf.org)

**Deadline for February 2010 issue is January 28, 2010**

# **BANDSPREAD**

*The Voice of the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club*

## **Bandspread Staff**

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## **Club Appointments**

Station Trustee	Al Groff, KØVM	køvm@arrl.net	393-8134
VE Manager	Darrel Peterson, WAØKHH	waøkhh@juno.com	393-8667
Training/Education Committee			
Hamfest Chairman	Rick Olney, NØXZL	rolney@qwest.net	396-8979
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## **ARRL Appointments**

Linn County Emer.Coordinator	Scott Haney, NØGUD	nogud@arrl.net	366-1465
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ARRL Midwest Division Dir	Bruce Frahm, KØBJ	købj@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 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

## JANUARY CVARC MEETING PREVIEW

Our speaker for next club meeting will be Ken Neubeck, WB2AMU, has an extra class license and has been a ham since 1971. He writes regularly on VHF propagation for CQ VHF. He has written the book, SIX METERS, A GUIDE TO THE MAGIC BAND put out by Worldradio books and it is now in its fourth edition. He is co-author with Gordon West of the book, VHF PROPAGATION, A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR RADIO AMATEURS, put out by CQ Magazine. Come to our club meeting and get ready to use the 6 meter loops that we built this year. Come and learn about sporadic-E propagation.

Elections will also be held for 2010 club offices. Open positions include: president, vice-president, information director, and emergency preparedness director.

I am still looking for presentations for the February and March club meetings if you are willing to present at a club meeting please contact me.

## 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 [kconxo@arrl.net](mailto:kconxo@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).

## DECEMBER 2009 CVARC BOARD MINUTES

The December 2009 Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors meeting was held 10 December 2009 at the Happy Chef Restaurant on 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave SW in Cedar Rapids. President WA6GFD called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM. Others in attendance were: N0XZL, KC0PON, and WA0KHH. Since W0MRZ was unable to attend this meeting, the club Vice President acted as secretary for this meeting.

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

The Club meeting's agenda was to celebrate the annual Club banquet with a total of 60 people attending.

The board meeting was closed at 6:30 P.M.

Submitted by W0MRZ, Secretary [with special thanks to N0XZL!]

## DECEMBER 2009 CVARC MEETING MINUTES

The annual member dinner was held at Happy Chef 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave SW, Cedar Rapids, on December 10, 2009 in lieu

of the general membership meeting, as is the custom of CVARC.

## ARES PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – DECEMBER 2009

Minutes for 12 December 2009 ARES planning committee

Attending: AC0HB, N0XZK, W0IM, WA0FBX, WA6GFD, WA0UIG, KD0HF, N0GUD, KF0VF

### ◆ Introductions

### ◆ Review of past month's activities

- Turkey Trot 21 November
  - Handled by Hawkeye Radio Communications
  - Set new participation record—a bit large.
  - Went well, no further report from KF0VF.
- DAEC Drill 18 November
  - Very light day. Simulation was quiet, and things went well.
  - Some notes:
    - ‡ Were not expected to wait for page. I had a work meeting at any rate. Page never went out.
    - ‡ EOC computers will all be upgraded to Windows 7 in the relatively near future. We may need to adapt for that.
      - Two programs on there licensed to Ron Breitwisch, KC0OX. StormLabs tells me that we'll need to get our own licenses upon reinstallation.
    - ‡ Headphones were GREAT. Thank you, KD0HF.
    - ‡ Question came up on scope of CAP's dosimetry management.
      - CAP manages dosimetry for only Linn County. Benton has their own plan.
      - This does not preclude our having to help each other out.
  - ‡ Can ARES get a club call?
    - Some question on when it is and is not appropriate to use W0GQ.
    - CVARC has formally given permission for this. Not an issue, no special call needed.
  - ‡ Echolink on W0GQ computer in EOC...can it be done?
    - Will not investigate until OS

upgrades are complete.

- Network used to be Kirkwood. Now it's Linn County. Completely different problem to solve.
- Even if the technical issues can be resolved, there is the issue of noise, space, and efficiency in the communications center. A liaison with EchoLink would be a better choice.

‡ Next drills in Jan/Apr/May.

- May drill is evaluated.

‡ State EOC was not active, and station there was not staffed.

#### ◆Review of Emergency Ops Plan

- Notes will be sent to N0GUD, who will work up changes to present at the next meeting.
- KF0VF asked if the Jackson County repeater is still up. (Not under adjacent counties, but might be relevant to the repeater listing on the website.)

#### ◆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.
- Publicity assignments.
  - 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

- Discussed the new HF radio/antenna at St Luke's, including a rundown of the memory programming used. Major traffic nets are stored currently, and listed local HF frequencies.
- SWR measurements are acceptable, but not optimal – less than 2:1 on all programmed frequencies.
- St Luke's is going to get us space on their tower for a ground-plane antenna.
- Pager system is on UHF, so we can expect some interference when that system is in use.
- Radios are stored in the usual cabinet in the communications center. Cables are in the ceiling, though, so we need a ladder to get them safely. They can be accessed by standing on the desk in an emergency, but this is not encouraged.
- They do not use standard PowerPole connectors yet.
- Plan to test on first Monday state EOC net. Would also like to bring it up for 160m Sunday net as well.

#### ◆Other items

- Interwarn computer is back up, but not sending email alerts yet. N0GUD is working this issue.
- Collins WX Radar – WA6GFD will order the new equipment over the Collins holiday break (amp, TV transmitter, etc.) and get some things swapped out.
- WA6GFD, KD0HF, and (when he's not at work) N0GUD will use time during the holiday break to do maintenance at EMA as well.
- KF0VF reports that Jason, KB0KGH, has resigned his position as the 3<sup>rd</sup>-week NCS for the Sunday net. K0ECW may take the spot, but then we'd have to fill the 4<sup>th</sup> week. He requests that this go out on the ARES reflector. N0GUD to do.

Submitted by N0GUD

### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, in spite of the strange winter weather. I hope that any of you that traveled over the holiday had a safe trip out and back.

Just a reminder, the election of Officers will take place at the January meeting. The following offices will be up for election this year: president, vice president, secretary, information director, and emergency preparedness director. Any member is

eligible to serve in any of these offices with the exception of the president. To run for president, a member must have previously served on the board of directors for a one-year period. If you are interesting in serving in one of these positions, please contact a member of the board of directors and let them know of your willingness to serve. In addition, we are looking for someone to fill the positions of communications activities director to fill the remaining term of office. Nominations for these offices will also be taken from the floor the night of the elections. We ask that if you are nominating someone who is unable to attend the meeting, please ensure this individual is willing to fill the position for which they are being nominated.

Look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting.

WA6GFD

### LOCAL AMATEUR NEWS

Thursday December 31 2009 The agreement between the Benton County Amateur Radio Club and the Benton County Iowa Emergency Management over the operation of Amateur Radio Repeater K0KBX has been terminated. The repeater is no longer on the air. The call K0KBX will be in transition. The Trustee of the call will be changed. The further use of the repeater is under review by the Benton County E.M.A. The equipment may or may not be reused. The K0KBX Digi Repeater is still on the air, but is under review. David Lucas President Benton County Amateur Radio Club K0DPL  
k0dpl@iowatelecom.net

### K-12 CORNER

There's a strong streak of do-it-yourself (DIY) in ham radio. Amateur radio is one of the few hobbies where you can build a lot of your own equipment -- antennas, kits, test equipment, even the software to analyze signals.

Nowadays, many things are built to have "no user serviceable parts inside." Young people today don't have as many chances to see examples of do-it-yourselfers at work. There are a few places in popular culture where do-it-yourself shows up -- places like Mythbusters on the Discovery Channel and Make magazine (and our own QST). If you have a favorite DIY example, point it out to some youngsters. It just might catch on.

Here are some dates to keep in mind for 2010:

- Eastern Iowa Science and Engineering Fair Saturday 20 March 2010. More info at [www.eisef.org](http://www.eisef.org).
- Kids' Day Saturday, 19 June 2010
- Field Day 26-27 June 2010. More info at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/>,

not updated for 2010 yet.

- New Technician exam pool takes effect, 1 July 2010
- Jamboree On The Air Saturday, 16 October 2010 (This the Boy Scouts of America's centennial year, look for some special events in 2010.) More info at <http://www.arrl.org/scouts/jota/>.

Please contact us at [kc0nrxn@arrl.net](mailto:kc0nrxn@arrl.net)

KC0NXXN & KC0NXXO

### 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 [kc0nxo@arrl.net](mailto: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](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: \_\_\_\_\_