



## BANDSPREAD



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

## CEDAR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday, June 10, 2010 @ 7:30 PM

Kenwood Park United Methodist Church

175 34th St. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA

**Dave Huff, W0IM, and Robert Klaus, N0YWB will be have a presentation on Fox Hunting  
&**

**Steve Jones will lead a planning discussion on Field Day 2010**

*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:**

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### **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 July 2010 issue is June 24, 2010**

# **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	kc0nxo@arrl.net	377-5929
Circulation Manager	Al Groff, KØVM	køvm@arrl.net	393-8134
Mailing	Dave Hallock, WØSS		377-3876

## **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	
Information Director	Bill Clark, AKØR	ak0r@arrl.net	
Membership/Promotion Director	Steve Sawyers, NAØIA	295-5983	377-2877
Program Director	Gregg Lind, KCØSKM	kc0skm@arrl.net	
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	waøkhh@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 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
146.43Ø MHz	Iowa County Amateur Net (ICAN)	6:30 pm. 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: \$10Regular or Family, \$5 under 18yrs of age,  
After July 1: \$5 for all

## **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 [kcønxo@arrrl.net](mailto:kcønxo@arrrl.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 [køvm@arrrl.net](mailto:køvm@arrrl.net)

## **MAY 2010 CVARC BOARD MINUTES**

The March 2010 Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors' meeting was held May 13, 2010 at the Kenwood United Methodist Church. President WA6GFD called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm. Others in attendance were: N0XZL, W0HKR, N0GUD and KD0JCX.

In the treasurer's absence, WA6GFD stated that the checking account balance was \$2,840.23.

The Midwest division of ARRL expressed interest in holding their convention in conjunction with our Hamfest. There is not enough lead time for this year, but may be a possibility for next year.

W0HKR moved to approve the minutes for the March Board meeting. N0XZL seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously by the Board.

N0XZL moved to approve the minutes for the April Board work session. W0HKR seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously by the Board.

W0HKR discussed upcoming events. The first event is the Marion Arts Festival 5K run on May 15. Next is the Pigman Sprint on June 6 at Pleasant Creek Park in Palo. The Diabetes bike ride is on June 26. Field Day is June 26 and 27, so volunteers will be needed to cover both events. For Field Day, W0MRZ is heading

up the GOTA station and KI0OB is leading the voice station. A lead person is needed for the CW station. After setup on Friday, there will be a picnic. At next month's meeting, plans will be finalized for Field Day and the Diabetes ride. W0HKR is sponsoring Lawrence Robinson and Alex Hernandez for the Diabetes ride. Members are invited to pledge, if they're so inclined.

KD0JCX reported that the required Form 990-N has been filed with the IRS and the registered agent for the club has been updated with the state of Iowa.

N0GUD gave a brief report on the weather net for the storms on April 6. He also has obtained 2 software licenses for Interwarn, and reported that there will be another Duane Arnold drill on May 19.

WA6GFD reported that there will be a kit building meeting, possibly in July, and a fox hunt at a later date.

N0GUD moved, W0HKR seconded and the Board unanimously approved a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm.

Submitted by KD0JCX, Secretary

## **MAY 2010 CVARC MEETING MINUTES**

The May 2010 general membership meeting was held Thursday, May 13, 2010 in the Kenwood United Methodist Church.

The formal meeting was opened at 7:30 pm by President Steve Jones, WA6GFD with all 46 members and guests introducing themselves.

The evening's presentation was given by Albert Helfrick, W2BLA on EME (Moon bounce).

WA6GFD announced that the new Bandspread editor is W0MRZ.

Scott, N0GUD moved to approve the minutes for the April meeting. W0JMK seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously by those present.

In the treasurer's absence, WA6GFD stated that the checking account balance was \$2,840.23.

NOGUD reported that there will be another Duane Arnold drill on May 19.

Rick, N0XZL has fliers for the Hamfest to be distributed.

WA6GFD reported that the club had been approached to sponsor the state ARRL convention, but we are committed to the Teamsters Hall this year, and the facility is not large enough to accommodate both events. This year the ARRL convention will be held at the fairgrounds in conjunction with the West Liberty Hamfest. Maybe next year we will consider sponsoring the ARRL because we would benefit by sharing mailing costs and have better coverage, and would not be committed to the Teamsters Hall.

Nancy, KD0JCX reported that the required Form 990-N has been filed with the IRS.

Ken, W0HKR reported on upcoming public service events. The Marion Arts 5K run is May 15 and new hams are welcome to participate. The Pigman Sprint is on June 6 and volunteers are still needed.

WA6GFD noted that Field Day is June 26 and 27. Come Friday afternoon to set up everything except the radios. A point of contact person is still needed for the CW station.

WA6GFD reported that the Technician Class was successful, and that all but one participant passed the technician element. A General class may be held this fall.

WA6GFD said that there will be a kit building meeting, possibly in July, and a fox hunt at a later date.

W0HKR stated that there will not be any dragon boat events in the foreseeable future due to the associated expenses and the lack of sponsors.

AK0R moved, W0HKR seconded and those present unanimously approved a motion to adjourn the formal meeting at 9:23 pm.

Submitted by KD0JCX, Secretary

## **PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Our presentation this month will be a 2 fold meeting: led by Steve Jones, we will be discussing Field Day and preparation for the event. Dave Huff, W0IM, and Robert Klaus, N0YWB will be have a presentation on fox hunting. At the end of he presentation we will take order for purchase of fox hunting kits for a future meeting, most likely the Aug meeting, for a build session.

## **ARES PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – 6 MAY 2010**

- Introductions
  - Attending are AC0HB, WA6GFD, W0HKR, KD0JCX (and spouse Dave), KD0IOL, KD0HF, KF0VF, KC0SKM, and WA0FBX
- Review of past month's activities
  - DAEC Drill 7 April
    - This went reasonably well. Only major issue for our portion was that the paging system didn't get the entire list. This has been fixed.
    - Tried to maintain contact with state EOC via HF and VHF linked repeaters. We were only able to maintain contact for a short time on HF, and never made contact on VHF. We will work this before the 19 May drill.
  - Storm event 6 April
    - This was a significant storm, but we had a lot of people out that evening.
    - The big item that evening was a tornado (per spotter reports) near Alburnett. It was confirmed as a strong wall cloud or funnel by two spotters, and a third reported debris. On this, the siren was activated, generating discussion of the siren system.
    - This was one of the better storm nets we've run...we should use it as an example for others.
- Review action item list
  - CRPD station
    - The equipment is available and ready to be programmed.
    - Our area at CRPD is very nice, but not so close that we and the dispatchers will talk over each other.
    - When we get the radios up to CRPD, we should conduct a general radio check of all installations:
      - CRPD
      - Sheriff's office
      - EOC
      - St Luke's
      - Mercy
      - Radar at Collins (known to be working, but want to check simplex to others)

- Independence Day activities
  - Fireworks on Mays Island
    - NOGUD will contact EMA about the mobile command post and arrange for a liaison there if possible.
    - We will run a net on site on 146.505 simplex, as in years past.
    - As the command post antennas are fairly close to each other, it may be better to have net control at another location to avoid desense and noise to the other radios and operators. If the CRPD station is complete, and we have access, that would be the ideal location!
    - We will run the usual Sunday ARES net on 146.745 at the usual time, for those who are not downtown or who care to try it from there.
      - Some discussion followed on the condition of the south receive site, which is having some problems. WA6GFD will contact the repeater trustee.
    - Please note that the downtown area, while recovering, still has many problems relating to the flood. Some are:
      - The parking garage by the river is closed.
      - A good portion of the east bank and parking therefore is closed for federal courthouse construction.
      - The grassy plaza on the island is not known to be able to support the weight of thousands of spectators, stages, equipment. Also, the fireworks, at last news, would be launched from that plaza.
      - Because of that, the bridges will be closed during the fireworks as well, which possibly means moving people from the bridge just before.
      - As such, we need to be aware of the logistics, and perhaps to lend a hand if needed.
  - Siren Criteria
    - Donna Dubberke from NWS in Davenport presented at the April EM Commission meeting about alerts.
    - In Illinois, as a result of siren issues (people ignoring them, etc), the hazardous weather outlook (HWO) and warning texts will have tagged information at the bottom with maximum wind and hail data. Straight-line winds over 70 mph and hail over one inch diameter will get sirens now along with the more tradition situations.
      - ARES/CVARC will investigate getting handheld anemometers for spotters in the field.
      - Ms Dubberke and the Commission stated that businesses need to establish policies for what to do when the sirens are sounded.
  - Net Schedule
    - We discussed the current Sunday net schedule, especially as it pertains to absences during the summer (particularly NOGUD and KB0NRU, who work Sunday evenings during that time). Things are worked out.
  - Spur on CVARC repeater
    - An operator near Central City reported hearing the 146.745 repeater in CR on 146.940 (output of another repeater in a northern county). Some time back, KC0OX (SK) investigated a similar issue and found that it happens only when the CVARC repeater and another area repeater were keyed up. Several of us have been monitoring since, but have not caught the interference. If anyone hears anything, take notes and report to WA6GFD.
  - Jones County repeater tower
    - Our compatriots in Jones County will lose their repeater's receive site tower soon.
    - The tower is not in great condition, and the owner is not renewing the lease as a result.
    - Three hams have offered space for a tower.
    - They might also be able to get space on a county tower.
    - Since the system is being redone, the transmit site may change as well. (This might be required, given the unique relationship of 2m repeaters with WMT

AM.)

- The next few months will involve some experimentation to determine the best locations.
- They must be off the tower no later than September, but they're thinking it will happen before August.
- Other items
  - Formal Traffic Training (left from February)
    - NOGUD still working this.
  - WX alerts to our pagers/phones active again!
    - Pagers/cell phones will get t-storm and tornado watches and warnings.
    - System originally had special statements as well, but this is of limited use and pinged the phones too often.
    - Linn and all contiguous counties are currently on the list. This does mean we get a number of alerts of no relevance (WX in Black Hawk or Cedar Counties that is moving away from us, for example), but since WX does sometimes come from there, we'll leave them up for now.
  - Radar instructions (AC0HB)
    - Micheal did a nice job on this.
    - Clean copies will be left at the radar. WA6GFD, NOGUD, and AC0HB will go to radar for a training session and talk about what to put on a "nifty-card" menu at the radar.
  - Frequencies
    - NOGUD and others will go over the frequency lists on the website and update as necessary.

Submitted by NOGUD

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

June is now upon us and the Summer Amateur Radio Activities are about to begin. One of the biggest amateur radio activities is the annual Field Day. Field Day represents many different things to many people. I think for most it is an opportunity to 'showcase' the hobby to local officials and the general public. For others it is an opportunity to set up an amateur radio station under field conditions, allowing them to experiment with different antennas, power sources and

radios. Lastly, for many it has become a chance to test your operational skill and endurance as you attempt to work as many different stations in the allotted time period.

I think the CVARC Activity is a combination of all of these aspects, but most importantly, we have used this event as a gateway to invite others to join us in the hobby. I believe that many of the students in our recent classes were recruited as a result of a visit to the Field Day site. I am hoping we can once again provide non-hams a chance to experience one of the many aspects of amateur radio, while still having fun of course!

We are however, faced with something of a challenge this year due to the conflict between the Field Day Activity and the obligation to support the Diabetes Bike ride also scheduled on Saturday, 26 June. While the Diabetes Bike ride starts much earlier in the day, there will be some overlap between the two events. Please look at your schedule, and if possible please come out and help support one or the other of these events. If you can only come out for a couple of hours that would be great too!

For those who signed up to make the HANDI-FINDER kit and were not able to pay for your kit at the meeting, please get with me so we can get the order together and get the kits ordered. This looks to be a nice simple project and will be a lot of fun to test and experiment with.

Look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting on 10 June.

### **K-12 CORNER**

School should be out almost everywhere now. Is there a student you know who would enjoy a summer study project, say, studying for the Tech exam? Someone who needs a little encouragement to upgrade? Any kits lying around that need just a little advice on how to be assembled?

Don't forget, just before Field Day weekend we have Kid's Day, on Saturday, June 19, 2010, 1800 UTC – 2400 UTC. Details here: <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>. There are suggested frequencies for most HF phone bands, plus 2-meter repeaters.

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](mailto:kc0nrxn@arrl.net)

KC0NXXN & KC0NXO

## **COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITY DIRECTOR REPORT**

First, I want to thank all who participated in the Marion Arts Festival event; we received many complaints from the event organizers on CVARC support. The CVARC-supported Pigman event was also an unqualified success and I again thank all who gave their time and effort to this cause.

**SPECIAL REMINDER:** CVARC's participation in the ARRL FIELD DAY will begin with station setup starting at 4pm Friday, 25th June, at Regis Middle School with hamburgers and hot dogs after setup. Talk-in and last minute instructions will be provide on the 146.745 CVARC repeater.

I also remind all members that we continue to look for more volunteers for the March 26<sup>th</sup> Diabetes Bike Ride

**Ken, W0HKR**

### **CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING**

Yaesu VX-170 2-meter hand-held transceiver, 5w, rechargeable 1400 mAh  
Ni-MH Battery Pack, 200 memory channels, WX channels, SMA-BNC adapter,  
base-loaded BNC flexible whip antenna, stock rubber duck SMA antenna,  
wall charger, manual, original container. Excellent condition. \$95.

Contact Doug KC0ZNK at [kc0znk@arrl.net](mailto:kc0znk@arrl.net) or 319-929-5696.

**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: \_\_\_\_\_