

W0GQ

W0WSV



## BANDSPREAD



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

## CEDAR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday, March 11, 2010, 7:30 PM  
Net Operations During Severe Weather  
by Scott Haney, N0GUD  
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*

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## **Club Appointments**

Station Trustee	Al Groff, KØVM	k0vm@arrl.net	393-8134
VE Manager	Darrel Peterson, WAØKHH	wa0khh@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	n0loh@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**

First licensed in 1982, Scott Haney, N0GUD, has had a varied career both within and outside of ham radio. He's been a disc jockey, a journalist, a juggler, and (on rare occasions) an actor. He is currently a Senior Software Engineer with Rockwell Collins and a semi-professional musician. At Collins, he's worked with autopilots/flight directors, weather radar, SATCOM, and flight management systems. He is a member of the Cedar Rapids Band Commission, the Advisory Council of the Hawkeye Area Grand Gaelic Isles Society, and an avid biker.

Scott will be sharing with us net operations during severe weather and other emergency management situations. He will also provide a brief overview of Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). He will provide some tips on getting your station in shape for support emergency service activities.

## **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).

## **FEBRUARY 2010 CVARC BOARD MINUTES**

The February 2010 Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club Board of Director's meeting was held 11 February 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, N0YWB and KD0JCX.

Rick Olney discussed the Hamfest to be held August 1 and the need for a chairman or co-chairs to organize it.

KC0PON stated that the checking account balance was \$2,725.90.

Steve Sawyers advised the Board that there will be a Technician Class beginning February 25, continuing for 11 weeks. Bob Klaus will be assisting Steve in teaching the class, which will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 at the church.

WA0KHH indicated that there will be an upcoming examination session on May 8 in Cedar Rapids that will follow the completion of the Technician Class course.

Steve Sawyers presented information about a good price on power pole connectors, and the possibility of having a work session for members to bring in their equipment to get connectors at a nominal cost.

Steve Jones reported that the Weather Spotter Training

will be held on February 20 at St. Mark's Faith and Life Center, doors open at 12:30 and the training session beginning at 1:00

A discussion followed about the proposed budget, which will be voted on at the next board meeting.

The board meeting was closed at 7:17 pm.

Submitted by KD0JCX, Secretary

## **FEBRUARY 2010 CVARC MEETING MINUTES**

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

The formal meeting was opened at 7:31 pm by President Steve Jones, WA6GFD with all 56 attendees and guests introducing themselves.

Ahead of the business meeting, the evening's presentation was given by W0MRZ and entitled "QRP in a QROel World: Life is too short NOT to try QRP".

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

KC0PON stated that the checking account balance was \$2,725.90.

Steve Sawyers advised the Board that there will be a Technician Class beginning February 25, continuing for 11 weeks. Bob Klaus will be assisting Steve in teaching the class, which will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 at the church.

WA0KHH indicated that there will be an upcoming examination session on May 8 in Cedar Rapids that will follow the completion of the Technician Class course. There are additional test sessions coming up in Vinton, Muscatine, Dubuque and Des Moines.

Steve Sawyers presented information about a good price on power pole connectors, and the possibility of having a work session for members to bring in their equipment to get connectors at a nominal cost.

Steve Jones reported the Weather Spotter Training will be held on February 20 at St. Mark's Faith and Life Center, doors open at 12:30 and the training session beginning at 1:00.

W0DAT reported that he's still pursuing new state of Iowa Amateur Radio Vanity license plates and will give an update at the next monthly meeting.

Steve Jones stated that the final budget will be presented at the next general meeting.

The formal meeting was concluded at 9:10 pm.

Submitted by KD0JCX, Secretary

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

Attending: N0GUD, WA6GFD, KD0HF, WA0FBX, N0XZK, KI0OB, W0IM, W0HKR, KF0VF, KC0PON, KC0ZNK

- ◆ Introductions
- ◆ Review of past month's activities
  - DAEC drill
    - 27 January 2010
    - WA6GFD ran drill, first time down as NCS.
    - Went well, but drill was (intentionally) relatively minimal, so not a lot of traffic.
    - One issue pertained to what information is safe for transmit.
    - Two next drills are April and May. April is a full run, and May will be graded by FEMA/DHS.
- ◆ Benton County Repeater
  - It is back on the air as KD0DKS. This is the Benton EMA call sign.
  - Only one receive site is being used; it is a county tower a few miles from the Garrison transmitter site. Frequency and CTCSS tone are the same: 145.23 MHz, 141.3 Hz.
  - Their ARES net will resume, but how soon and at what time has not been determined.
- ◆ Spotter Training
  - Storm Spotter Training is officially scheduled for 2/20/2010. Registration 1230, program from 1300 to 1500.
  - Logistics and Assignments:
    - Volunteers so far are WA0OAV, KB0NRU, AC0OB, N0XZK, WA0FBX, KC0ZNK (need a talk-in person!)
    - WA6GFD will produce fliers for CVARC. N0GUD will produce fliers for ARES.
  - 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. (Arranged.)
    - 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.) (Arranged.)
    - The Collins Radio Club could send it out by email. They can also post fliers in the various buildings. (WA6GFD will do this week.)
    - N0GUD sent info through reflectors.
    - CVARC can put this in Bandspread as well. N0GUD to contact KC0NXN. [contacted by email, but now thinking it may not have arrived, as Mike hasn't mentioned it!]
    - Announcements on the Sunday net – being made.
    - EMA to be notified. N0GUD. DONE!
    - CVARC PIO to contact news organizations – N0GUD contacted AK0R by email, but hasn't received a reply.
- Discussion of preregistration – will not do this year, but next year perhaps.
- ◆ Review action item list
  - Equipment for CRPD has been purchased.
    - They made a substitution on the antenna. Gain is a bit lower than recommended.
- ◆ Other items
  - Third Sunday net control
    - KB0KGGH/WB0CID has returned to CR, and is willing to take his old slot back.
    - Work hours are not known, however, so this is not official. Nonetheless, we will table the search for now.
  - Recap of dual-band radio installation at Collins WX radar lab.
  - Formal Traffic Training
    - We need to write a document (or text for net script) describing better the process by which we pass formal message traffic on the Sunday net. KF0VF says that a good methodology is the one used by the Iowa HF nets. N0GUD will write draft.
  - KF0VF spoke on the formal traffic from Sunday's net. The traffic went to two folks connected with Venture 2000. 146.55 is primary simplex. They also have a repeater operation on 443.000 (192.8).
  - W0IM reports Jones County has two IC706 units in their fire departments. Planning to do simplex testing.

Submitted by N0GUD

### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Spring is just around the corner. While it will begin to signal an end to the cold weather and the snow, it will also begin to bring in the warm moist air and the increasing risks of severe weather. Now is the time to recondition those HT batteries and those emergency power sources as well as take a look your emergency antennas and hardware. In addition to the severe weather threat, the National Weather Service has predicted that there is a possibility of flooding due to the saturated ground and the quantity of snow that remains on the ground. Now is the time to ensure we are ready to support our community.

Spring also signals the start of our Communications Activities. Ken, W0HKR, will be looking for volunteers to support a number of communications activities this year. I encourage you to participate in as many of these events as possible. These activities provide an opportunity to hone the communications skills and to test our equipment that would also be needed in the case of a real emergency. It is also an opportunity to showcase Amateur Radio

for the members of the community.

The Technician Amateur License class started on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February. The class is nicely sized and the students range from the young to the young at heart. They are very interested in joining our ranks and will join us at the March Meeting. Please make them feel welcome.

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

### **TOM VARVA WB8ZRL IS THE NEW ARRL DXCC CARD CHECKER**

Tom, WB8ZRL, will be attending our meeting on March 11th. He will be available 30 minutes before the meeting to check QSL cards for certain ARRL awards. He can check WAS, WAC VUCC and DXCC award applications, either initial or endorsements. Deleted entities or 160 meter QSLs for DXCC may not be checked. Please obtain current application forms from the ARRL web site. Please notify Tom at [wb8zrl@arrl.net](mailto:wb8zrl@arrl.net) if you plan to have cards checked.

### **MIDWEST DIVISION LEADERSHIP CHANGES**

Here's an update on several recent leadership changes in the Midwest Division. At the January ARRL Board meeting, our Midwest Division Director Bruce Frahm K0BJ, of Colby, Kansas, was elected to the position of ARRL Vice President. Congratulations to Bruce on this well-deserved honor and recognition. Bruce has ably represented the Midwest Division for many years as Vice Director and Director and we are thrilled that he will continue on the ARRL Board in his new position as Vice President. For the full story, see:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2010/01/16/11292/?nc=1>.

After serving as Vice Director for the past three years, I'm excited to have the opportunity created by Bruce's election to move up to the position of Director, and to represent you on the ARRL Board. I take seriously the ARRL's mission statement - "Of, by, and for the radio amateur" and will make service to you my highest priority. I hope to visit with many of you at upcoming conventions and hamfests and on the air.

President Craigie has appointed Rod Blocksom, K0DAS, of Robins, Iowa, as Midwest Division Vice Director. Rod has been an active ham for many years, with a diversity of experiences and interests, including Dxing and operating from DX locations, VHF/UHF weak signal operation, classic equipment repair and restoration, and antenna design. Here's a link to the full story:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2010/02/16/11344/?nc=1>.

I'm looking forward to working closely with Bruce, Rod, the Section Managers, and our dedicated ARRL Field Organization volunteers to serve the ARRL members and radio amateurs of the Midwest Division. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of help in any way: [k0ca@arrl.org](mailto:k0ca@arrl.org) or by phone at 573-221-8618.

73, Cliff Ahrens K0CA

### **K-12 CORNER**

The Eastern Iowa Science and Engineering Fair will be held at Lindale Mall in Cedar Rapids on Saturday, 20 March. The Collins ARC and CVARC supporting a special radio and/or electronics award again this year. We need volunteers to help with judging for this special award, as well as a CVARC or CARC member to present the award to the winners on Saturday evening. If you can help, please let us know at [kc0nrxn@arrl.net](mailto:kc0nrxn@arrl.net).

We've just returned from the FIRST Robotics regional competition in Kansas City, and are very pleased to report that the Cedar Falls team was part of the winning alliance. They'll go on to compete at the FIRST Championship in Atlanta next month. Congratulations to team 525!

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)

### **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 Bandsread 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 Bandsread
- 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Bandsread: \_\_\_\_\_