



BANDSPREAD



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

CEDAR VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday, May 13, 2010 @ 7:30 PM
Antennas: Practical and Tactical
by Steve Jones, WA6GFD, wa6gfd@aol.com
Kenwood Park United Methodist Church
175 34th St. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA

*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

Deadline for June 2010 issue is May 27, 2010

BANDSPREAD

The Voice of the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club

Bandspread Staff

	Cedar Valley ARC	e-mail or Business (PHONE)	HOME
Publisher	Mike Miller/Laura Runkle	kc0nxo@arrl.net	377-5929
Editor & Word Processor	Al Groff, KØVM	køvm@arrl.net	393-8134
Circulation Manager	Dave Hallock, WØSS		377-3876
Mailing			

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	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 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 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: \$10Regular or Family, \$5 under 18yrs of age,
After July 1: \$5 for all

MAY CVARC MEETING PREVIEW

Steve Jones, WA6GFD will present

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.

APRIL 2010 CVARC BOARD MINUTES

The April 2010 Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors held a work session on April 8, 2010 at the Kenwood United Methodist Church. There was not a quorum, so there was no formal business and no motions were made. In attendance were: WA6GFD, KC0PON, W0HKR, WA0KHH, and KD0JCX.

Submitted by KD0JCX, Secretary

April 2010 CVARC MEETING MINUTES

The April 2010 general membership meeting was held Thursday, April 8, 2010 in the Kenwood United Methodist Church.

The formal meeting was opened at 7:30 pm by President Steve Jones, WA6GFD with all 57 attendees and guests introducing themselves.

KC0AKZ moved to approve the minutes for the March meeting. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously by those present.

KC0PON stated that the checking account balance was \$2,825.55. Members were reminded to pay their dues if they haven't already done so.

Upcoming events of interest include the Hamvention at AES in Milwaukee, the Rookie Roundup contest and the Sunday evening new ham net at 6:00. Joe and Joey are presenting as part of the youth forum at the Dayton Hamfest on Saturday. Junk in the truck will be held on May 8 in the Collins main plant parking lot.

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

Bob N0YWB and Dave W0IM reported that the

Technician Class is going well.

W0HKR reviewed the list of the nine upcoming public services events, beginning with the Marion Arts Festival on May 15. Ken will sponsor 2 bike riders for the Diabetes bike ride. Nothing has been heard on the dragon boat event.

WA6GFD informed the group that the church requires the doors to remain locked during CVARC meetings and classes. A wireless doorbell will be installed for late comers to ring to be let in.

N0GUD reported that the Duane Arnold drill went OK. He also reported that the Skywarn net went well, with stations giving concise reports.

The evening's presentation was given by Michael Dzado, AC0HB, entitled "Power supply designs and homebrew printed circuit boards."

A round of applause was given to NA0IA for bringing power poles and installing them for many members.

WA0FBX moved, KB3MKD seconded and those present unanimously approved a motion to adjourn the formal meeting at 9:15 pm

Submitted by KD0JCX, Secretary

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

During the June meeting we will be building the HANDI-Finder® kit during the June meeting. If you want a kit you will need to pay at the May meeting. Everyone who is interested in participating in the project will need to purchase the kit. The exact cost of the kit is dependant on the number of people wanting to build, we expect it to be around \$27 depending on the number of people willing to sign up for the project. We will be ordering the kits at the end of May. This is great project for kids and adults so please pass along to anyone that you think maybe interested in building.

HANDI-Finder® is radio directional finder that appeared in May 1993 QST and has been shown at the last club meeting. For more information you can go the website <http://www.handi-finder.com>. **So if you want to be part of the build you will need to pay the club and we will do a group order. Please make payment at the next club meeting May 13th please make payment of cash to Steve Jones \$27 to cover the cost of the kit and shipping. Please also email me gregg@thelinds.net when you read this email telling me your interest so I can make an initial call to the company to make sure they have the number of kits available.**

ARES PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – 4 MARCH 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

'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.

We'll see you all at the next meeting.

K-12 CORNER

As part of the observances for the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America, they are reviving four retired merit badges, including Signaling. First offered in 1911 and retired in 1992, Signaling is only offered in 2010. Scouts working toward this merit badge have until 31 December to complete the requirements. In order to earn this merit badge, a scout must "Make an electric buzzer outfit, wireless, blinker, or other signaling device," "Send and receive in the International Morse Code," "Send and receive by Semaphore Code" and "Know the proper application of the International Morse and Semaphore Codes."

The messages must be sent and received at up 35 letters per minute, a little faster than the old 5 wpm Element 1 tests. If you have code skills and would like to be a counselor for this merit badge, you can work with a nearby Boy Scout troop or contact the Hawkeye Area Council using this link: <http://www.hawkeyebsa.org/contact/>. Counselors are asked to fill out a short information form.

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

On 24 March, the Federal Communications Commission has release 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.**

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

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 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: _____

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