



INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

Q Codes	1
President's Comments	2
Swapfest	3
Nuggets	4
Buy, Sell, Trade, ISO	4
Club Info	5

Q Codes...

Q Codes. What are they and what are they good for? I don't pro-
port to be and expert on the subject of Q Codes, far from it, I'm not an expert on much of anything. In fact I don't even like the term "expert." I think that we can all agree that to be "ex" of anything is to say that one is extinct or rather passe. Not a very laudable fate for anyone, and a "spert" can be defined as "a drip under pressure," also not a terribly complimentary term. So let's just say that I am an interested party with a somewhat acceptable level of knowledge on some subjects. Anyway, I'm getting away from the point that I was trying to make, I'm not even sure what that was. Oh yes...Q Codes. Q Codes, as I understand them, were a sort of short hand used by telegraphers to save time and space while communicating via telegraph. They have since been adopted by amateur radio operators for much the same reason. An added bonus for the use of Q Codes is that their meaning is universal. If you make a contact with someone who does not understand or is not able to communicate using a language common to one of those trying to communicate but not the other, Q Codes enable them to still get their message across.

(continued next page)

UPCOMING Events for April 2025

- ♦ RARC Sunday Night 2 Meter Net is held on the 146.970 repeater at 8:00 PM. Net control operators for January are:

April 6, 2025	David KD9EPN
April 13, 2025	Wayne K0WLO
April 20, 2025	Rick KD9GVS
April 27, 2025	Greg KA9FOZ
- ♦ **Saturday** morning Rag chew, weekly on the 146.970 repeater, 8:00-9:00 AM.
- ♦ **April 1...**Monthly meeting at UU La Crosse, 401 West Ave
- ♦ **April 12...**Hams in the Park, at Veteran's Park, West Salem
- ♦ **April 15...**Trustee Meeting, Time: 5:30 PM, Las Margaritas. All members are welcome to attend.

Q Codes... (Continued)

All amateur radio operators know what various Q Codes mean. Examples include: QTH is your location. QRP means low power. QSO means a radio contact. QN means too much noise. QST is a message to everyone listening. QSY I'm going to another frequency, QED understood, or QRZ this QSO is ended. The list goes on. There are also other non Q codes used such as DX for distant contact, XYL for young lady operator, SWL for short wave listener. Even "Ham" is short for an amateur radio operator. Its origins are a matter of debate. Some say it is from the early days of amateur radio when one of the most often used transceivers was a brand called Hammarlund. Thus a user of such equipment was referred to as a "Ham." Also another possibly is it was used as a derogatory term used for operators who weren't very adapt at sending code. They were said to be "Ham fisted." Meaning that they were clumsy and not too clearly understood.

There are literally hundreds of Q Codes in use by Amateur Radio Operators, far too many to list here. For a more complete listing of Q Codes, simply Google Q Codes and you will see the diversity of Q Codes in use, their origins and how they make communicating via radio so much more understandable and easy when you have learned the Q Codes commonly in use.

So when you want to make yourself understood, even to someone who doesn't speak your language, Q Codes are a handy way of getting through to those who are not conversant with your language. So, if you want to be understood by all, it would be good if you learned a few of the most often used Q Codes. In the meantime, I'll be saying QRZ and 73 Carl kc9hds



PRESIDENTS COMMENTS

Hello from the President

first of all I want to say how proud I am of the club keeping events active such as the Wisconsin Qso PARTY I understand that there was a great turn out and that we scored well! Great Job.

Unfortunately I missed out on that event and I also missed out on the St.Patricks day parade due to my heath and I apologize to the club for not being there as well as not being at the March program night I am doing much better now and my transportation situation is also looking much better except I am still

somewhat limited while I waiting on my new power wheelchair which I expect to recieve some time around June I should be at the April program night and it sounds like Scott has a great program for us I am looking forward to getting back active again now that I am feeling better and look forward to seeing everyone at upcoming meetings and events David KB9EWG





RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB SWAPFEST

JUNE 21, 2025

8:00 AM to 1:00 PM



- Door Prizes
- Flea Market
- Buy—Sell—Trade
- Food Vendor
- Handicap Accessible
- Talk in 146.97



VE Test Session at 9:00 AM



Advanced Table Reserve And Entrance Form

Entrance Fee _____ x \$5.00 = _____

Table Reserve _____ x \$10.00 = _____ [Does not include Entrance Fee]

Limited electrical hook-up available on a 1st come 1st serve. Indicate here if you are requesting electrical hook-up (Checking box does not guarantee availability of an electrical receptacle)

Advanced form will be held at the entrance table for you. No pre-fest mailings.

Mail form and fee to:
RARC
Box 621
Onalaska, WI 54650

Name _____ Call _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Nuggets

Save the date

Saturday, June 21, 2025: Swapfest

Saturday, June 28 to Sunday June 29: Field Day



BUY-SELL-TRADE-ISO



Wanted: Articles for The Key

Please submit your Article by the 26th of the month and include "The Key" in the subject line.

Send your Amateur related classified ad(s) to Scott, NLT noon the 26th of each month to kb3mkd@arrl.net. Please Include "The Key" in the subject line.

Looking for items for this space

CLUB INFORMATION



Riverland Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 621

Onalaska, WI 54650

- * The Key is published monthly and e-mailed to members and friends of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club by the 28th of each month. The newsletter focuses on news, announcements and activities of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club. It may also consist of news and information of interest to the Amateur Radio community as a whole. Guest editorials and articles related to Amateur Radio are welcome. Contribution articles should be submitted NLT the 26th of the month. Address any correspondence or anything that should be included in the newsletter to: Scott Cross KB3MKD@arrl.net. Please include the word "Key" in the subject line of your submission.
- * The Riverland Amateur Radio Club maintains a website at rarc.qth.com. More information about the club can be found there as well as past copies of The Key.
- * RARC also maintains a Facebook page where members add information and share their Amateur Radio adventures. Please friend us at Riverland Amateur Radio Club—RARC.
- * RARC maintains a repeater that is located on the WXOW television tower above La Cresent, MN. 146.970 pl 131.8.
- * RARC holds a weekly 2meter net on Sundays at 8:00 PM on the 146.970 repeater.
- * Trustee Meeting is held the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Las Margaritas at 5:30 PM, all club members are welcome.
- * Program evening is held the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM, elmer session at 6:30 PM at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 401 West Avenue in La Crosse.
- * Weekly "Breakfast Club" Ragchew on the 146.970 repeater on Saturdays from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM. Stop by to say "hi".

Below are listed your RARC 2025 Board of Trustees and contact information.

President.....David Peters, KB9EWG Email... kb9ewg@gmail.com

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