

INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

In Memoriam	1
President's Comments	2
Swapfest Flyer	3
Events & Buy, Sell, Trade,	4
MS Walk	5
Club Info	6

In Memorium

There is much that we all can be thankful for. The list is endless. One of the most important things is the result of the sacrifices that many have made so that we can live the way that we do. Not everyone has the same feelings about Memorial Day. If you were not in military service, you may only think of Memorial Day as just another holiday that we can look forward to to break the monotony of our daily lives. It is so easy to not think about why we have Memorial Day, but it is important that we all recognize why it is celebrated.

Even if you have not served in the military of our country, you should at least think about those who have. Many have served voluntarily and there are also many who had no say in their call to service. Regardless of the situation that led to the service that our veterans have done, it is good that they did what they did. It is just too bad that their sacrifices so often go unnoticed.

Oh yes, we all have said upon hearing of an individual's service, "Thank you for your service..." Perhaps that sentiment is being expressed honestly and respectfully, but it seems just too easy to say those words to someone who has served. When I hear those words spoken to me, I feel a bit of resentment as I can't help but wonder what and how seriously those words were spoken and I immediately wonder about what that individual thinks that I did to deserve that salutation.

Continued on page 4

UPCOMING Events for June 2023

- ♦ **Saturday** morning Rag chew, weekly on the 146.970 repeater, 8:00-9:00 AM.
- ♦ **June 6...**Program Night: Field Day Prep
- ♦ **June 19...**Trustee Meeting, Time: 5:30 PM, Fork and Fable. All members are welcome to attend.
- ♦ **June 3...** Hams in the Park, Glen Fox Park, Onalaska
- ♦ **June 24-25...** Field day. Glen Fox Park

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

June 4, 2023
June 11, 2023
June 18, 2023
June 25, 2023

Mark kb9ofk
David kd9epn
Rick kd9gvs
Wayne k0wlo

PRESIDENTS COMMENTS

Hello, RARC Members and Friends!

I've got a few things to bring up, so I'll enumerate them to make it clearer to follow from topic to topic:

1. We've got a new site for Field Day this year. We'll set up at Glen Fox Park in Onalaska. Glen Fox Park is a lovely place. There is a pavilion and bathrooms there with plenty of picnic tables. The reason for the change is so that it is more accessible for guests. Please encourage people to come and visit us. You never know when you might spark interest and either encourage a new member, or encourage a new contact in the community. Inviting people includes not only friends and family, but elected officials. Send an invitation to the Councilmember from your district, or even the Fire Chief for your community.

a. Along with the exposure to the community comes an increased awareness for the safety of our guests. Keep that in mind at all times while at the Field Day site. It will be critical to mark guy wires and antenna lines near the ground. Please act if you see something that might pose a hazard. Address it yourself if you can; otherwise, be sure to point it out. I expect to be at the Field Day site throughout the event and will want to hear about something that might be done more safely.

b. One drawback to Glen Fox Park is that it is fairly close to the highway exit, and there is vehicular noise. Bring headphones if you have them. I picked up a couple of splitters that allow two headphones to be used. I've been to Glen Fox Park the last couple of weekends and set up a station. My guess is that it won't be so busy throughout the night as the traffic is at a reduced level.

2. Get involved in club activities! We had a really good session at our first Hams in the Park exercise. We'll continue to do that. Let's do the next one on June 3 at Glen Fox Park in Onalaska. That will allow folks to have a closer look at the Field Day site. The Army taught me years ago that rehearsal is the key to suc-

cess. 9:00 AM worked well last time, let's go with that again.

a. Another club activity that you can get involved with is to volunteer to control the Sunday Night Net. We're particularly looking at new hams that have not before acted as a Net Control Station. It can appear daunting at first, but it is a great exercise and confidence booster. Those of us who have participated in nets for a number of years can see the growth that a new NCS operator displays. Ask any of the "old timers" at the meetings. It also helps you to get acquainted with members you might not see at all the meetings. Contact Greg Miller, K9LEC to get started. Ask me or any other member if you're not familiar with Greg.

b. AB9TS, KD9GVS and I all got new wallpaper last week, too. We participated in the Wisconsin QSO Party (WIQP) back in March and earned a 2nd Place Certificate in our category. We had a good time with it, and encourage more folks to get involved.

3. The club has also purchased a new gazebo for use at events like Field Day, and WIQP. It will provide shade, bug protection and shelter from rain. It has mesh sides and removable side panels for protection from driving rain. It should be more welcoming to guests than the trailer. It is also big enough that we should be able to fit an operating position and another table for information, or even GOTA within it.

Tnx es 73,

Drew Neve

AB9NE





RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SWAPFEST

AUGUST 5, 2023

8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Located at Bethany Church La Crosse

3936 County Rd B, La Crosse, WI 54601

Talk in: 146.970 PL 131.8

Door Prizes
Flea Market
Buy—Sell—Trade
Tailgating Locations Available
Food Vendor
Handicap Accessible



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.

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

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

For further info call Scott Cross at 319 432 1070 or email kb3mkd@arrrl.net

In Memorium (Continued)

It seems to be automatic for some people to say them to anyone who they know served. But is it enough, or is it too much? It is hard to tell and I tend to give the speaker the benefit of the doubt and let it go at that. I can't help but think of my limited military service and wonder to myself do I deserve this accolade, no matter what the intent of it might be, I still feel a bit uneasy about it.

There are so many who have served so much more than I and there are many of them who are no longer with us. I feel sad when I think of those who I personally knew who are remembered as one "of our fallen servicemen." There are some who love to wave the flag and extoll the virtues of military service. Often times those who express support for our military are those who have not served at all.

It makes me uneasy to see people who push for military involvement, not knowing what that might entail. Still I feel a respect for those who do serve, no matter what their motivation was to do so. Life is a very precious thing. It is often said that someone gave their life for their country. I'm sure that there are some who really did give their lives for their country, but I'm also fairly sure that those who did make the ultimate sacrifice, didn't do it intentionally. Their lives were taken from them, not necessarily given freely. In any case, the events that lead to our celebration of Memorial Day should be a solemn and the respect that is give should be too.

If you have a friend, loved one, or relative who should be remembered on Memorial Day, please think a moment about them and what they were called to do to gain our respect on this day. Try to do what would have made them proud to say "Yes I served." There are many ways to serve. We can all do so if we try. Meanwhile, as you celebrate this Memorial Day remember what it was intended to be and why we do it.

73 Carl

KC9HDS



Please feel free to copy the swapfest flyer and share it with other ham radio groups in the upper midwest. You never know!

Scott, KB3MKD



- *Send your Amateur related classified ad(s) to Scott, NLT noon the 26th of each month to kb3mkd@arrl.net*
- *Include "The Key" in the subject line*
- *Please send some classifieds*
- *We need some classifieds*
- *We also accept article submissions.*

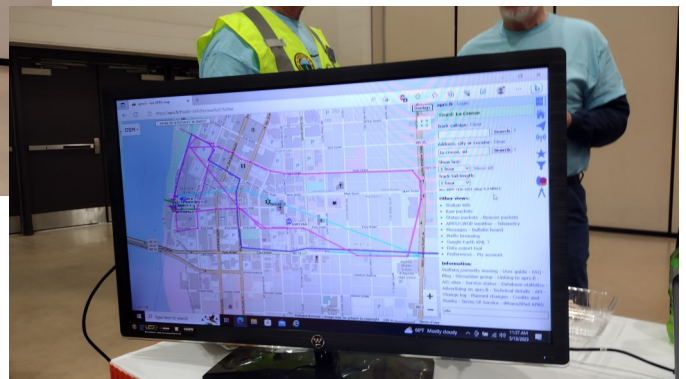
BUY-SELL-TRADE-ISO

MS Walk

The Riverland Amateur Radio Club participated in the annual M.S. Walk as we have in the past years the walker turn out was way down from what it has been in the past years and the was less support from the organizers as we have received in the past years we did make use of APRS which worked well and the weather was cooperative and there were no injuries or other issues and we had a nice lunch after the event so all in all it was a good event

than you to the participants

David KB9EWG
 Dan AB9TS
 Dave KD9EPN
 Jon KD9WPD
 Ken W9GM
 Rick KD9GVS
 Roger KA9BKK
 Shawn KD9KGQ



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 consists 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
- * 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 there 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 Crescent, 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 Monday of the month at Fork and Fable Restaurant, Jackson and 16th streets, La Crosse 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 Saturday's from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM. Stop by to say "hi".

Below are listed your RARC 2022 Board of Trustees and contact information.

President.....Drew Neve, AB9NE Email...ab9ne@yahoo.com

Vice-President.....Carl Thurston, KC9HDS Email...kc9hds@gmail.com

Secretary.....Shawn Hicks, KD9KGQ Email...eistim68@gmail.com

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