

THE KEY

Official Journal of The Riverland Amateur Radio Club



The Riverland Amateur Radio Club is a Special Service Club affiliated with the American Radio Relay League. The club is active in community service as well as actively promoting Amateur Radio in the Coulee Region. The Club is open to all who are interested in Amateur Radio and will help unlicensed persons become licenses thru the FCC.

SWAP FEST 2017

**Riverland
Amateur Radio
Club**
P.O. Box 621
Onalaska, WI.
54636

Repeater
146.970 PL 131.8

RARC Net
8:00 PM Sunday
night on the
146.970 Repeater

Club Meetings
Trustee Meeting
3rd Monday of the
month at King
Street Kitchen at
5:00 PM, all club
members are
welcome.

Program evening is
1st Tuesday of the
month at 7:00 PM,
Gunderson Clinic
conference room 1
in the lower level.



The 2017 RARC Swap Fest was another big success again as we saw a slightly larger attendance as people looked thru the goodies to take home. And take home they did as was evidence by the item that went walking out with there new owners. All seemed to have a good time visiting with old and new friends.





Well another Swap Fest has come and gone, RARC 2017 Swap Fest was a success as it has been in past years. Although only a slight increase in attendance it still resulted in good comradery among all. Old friends met for some rag chew and some good buys. That has always been the goal of the RARC Swapfest, a gathering of good friends, both old and new. As the club continues to forge ahead with the annual Swap Fest we will always keep that goal in mind and work towards continuous improvement. Already there has been some work towards some upgrades for next year so I hope all who attended this year will look forward to next year and spread the word to other Hams that may want to attend. 73

**Riverland Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 621
Onalaska, WI 54650**

President.....Kevin Holcomb, KC9ZGD
Vice-President.....Dan Abts, AB9TS
Secretary.....Rick Kolter, KD9GVS
Treasurer.....Greg Miller, K9LEC
Trustee.....Carl Thurston, KC9HDS
Trustee.....Roger Reader, KA9BKK
Trustee.....Bill Wood, KE9XQ
Newsletter Editor.....Greg Miller, K9LEC

The Key is published monthly and e-mailed to members and friends of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club. Address any correspondence to: Greg Miller at k9lec@arrl.net.

Visit our website at rarc.qth.com



Testing for new Ham's or upgrades for 2017 will be on the following dates:

September 9
November 11

Register 5 days in advance with Roger Reader, KA9BKK, 608-783-0723 or readers@centurtytel.net.

September 2017

5th....Program night

9th....VE Testing

18th....Trustee Meeting



SEPTEMBER

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to travel down under, Australia that is. At the September program night you will get an idea of what it would be like as Carl Thurston, KC9HDS takes us thru the good and the bad experiences of his recent travels to attend his daughters wedding in Australia. This will be a fun night as Carl puts some humor to all that went wrong as only Carl can.

The Swap Fest had a tailgating section for those who wanted to sell from their cars in the parking lot.



Great weather for the tailgaters



The ARRL was well represented as seen here with our Section Manager, Patrick Moretti, KA1RB

RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Monday Aug 21 , 2017 Executive Meeting

MINUTES

Call to order: 5:01 pm

Members Present : Kevin Holcomb KC9ZGD, Greg Miller K9LEC, Roger Reader KA9BKK, Dan Abts AB9TS, Carl Thurston KC9HDS, Rick Kolter KD9GVS, Bill Wood KE9XQ

Approval of Minutes: July minutes approved without comment.

Treasurer's Report: Monthly report available upon request from Greg, K9LEC.

Committee Reports:

Greg, K9LEC has swapfest results upon request. Discussion of possibly moving date of swap fest next year, due to another event the club would like to participate in that week-end. Changing the date probably not an issue, but no final decision made. Also may use section of main floor of Omni Center next year for the swap fest. Five VEC tests were administered, one Extra, one Technician+ General, two Technician, and one failed. Rick, KD9GVS, to prepare complimentary club membership letters.

Old Business:

Carl KC9HDS: 4 pair of headphones that were ordered are now located in the trailer for club use.

Kevin KC9ZGD will contact Van regarding changing voice on repeater.

New Business:

Carl mentioned that Tom, WB9BJQ, has a Dell main frame computer to part out or sell. It was formerly used as a main server at Western College.

Kevin will reserve Jan. 2nd 2018 for the Holiday Party at Schmidty's. Designated \$150 to spend on party door prizes. Membership renewal notices and party invites will be sent out jointly this year, to go out beginning of December. Membership rates to be discussed at December meeting as well.

Club will make donation to Scott Neader family for recent death in the family.

It was decided that each executive board member compile a list of critical tasks each does throughout the year, and send to Dan, AB9TS, for compilation. This in an attempt to make sure these critical tasks do not get forgotten along the way.

Sept program nite will be Carl with Australia trip presentation, October will be ARES/RACES with Keith Butler, November will be Kevin with an analog vs. digital scanner presentation, along with nominations for club officers for upcoming year.

Year end awards to be discussed at December meeting.

Motion to Adjourn : 6:22 pm

A Visit to the La Crosse Media Group

Carl Thurston, kc9hds

Radio is so wide spread that you just can't do much of anything without encountering a station that you hadn't either heard of or listened to. But it isn't often that you actually visit a commercial radio station studio, so when you get the chance to visit one, you should do it. When you have the opportunity to visit FIVE studios in one facility, you just must go and see it. That was the situation recently when the members of the RARC were invited to tour the La Crosse Media Group (previously called the La Crosse Radio Group).

Being entertained by a member of that group and having him give a guided tour of the studios there was a real treat. As a Ham you might think that you know your way around a radio station, but until you actually tour a commercial one, you haven't seen it all. The tour that Dave Kennedy Program Director and DJ for Eagle 102.7 FM, presented was very enjoyable. His knowledge of everything there was very complete and his presentation was both informative and entertaining.

As previously stated, there are 5 different radio stations housed there, each with its own individual studio. The list of stations include: Classic Rock 100.1 FM, The Eagle 102.7 FM, Magic 105 104.9 FM, KICKS 106.3, Today's Talk 1490 AM featuring a wide variety of music and talk radio serving the tri-state region. Everything from classic rock to country and even a religious station operates there.

The equipment is state of the art with most programming being computer controlled including dish fed programming and local business commercials and even some live talk/call in programming from time to time. It is nearly totally automated with little need for human operators.

A good time was had by all!

