

THE KEY

Official Journal of The Riverland Amateur Radio Club WR9ARC



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.

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

Repeater
146.970 PL 131.8

RARC Net
8:00 PM Sunday on
the 146.970
Repeater

Club Meetings:

Trustee Meeting
3rd Tuesday of the
month at Perkins
Restaurant, 9428
State Road 16,
Onalaska, WI
54650 at 5:30 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.

Electric Cars...By Carl Thurston, KC9HDS

At the RARC, we are always looking for new ideas and to experience new technologies. So when Jeff Springer from Dairyland Energy Co-operative agreed to come to our March meeting and do a presentation on Electric Cars, we were happy to have him.

For some time various members of RARC have talked about this subject in a general way, not knowing much about the subject, but interested none the less.

Mr. Springer comes to us with a vast knowledge and experience in many things dealing with electric power and its uses. He has done a presentation on Home Automation prior to this, and it was interesting, but many felt that, although well laid out and presented with lots of personal experience, there were few members who felt a pressing need to do many of the things that he showed us. There just wasn't a need for many of these devices. Their novelty was interesting, but not necessarily vital to the future plans of many.

The presentation on Electric Cars was a different story. The interest was there, but alas, all of the currently available vehicles are still beyond the doable price range of most. Having said that, Mr. Springer did dangle some very interesting examples of this burgeoning technology before us in a very knowledgeable and convincing way. His videos were informative, engaging, and fun.

Continued on page 3



CLUB PATCHES AVAILABLE

The Riverland ARC has commissioned Patches-4-Pennies to produce new patches for the club. These will be arriving soon and will be available for purchase. These are 3" diameter stitched on a cloth and plastic backing for stiffness. Some improvements have been made over our last order and should stand out well in a crowd. They can be purchased for \$3.00 each from Rick, KD9GVS, 608-397-5386 or see him at a club meeting. They can also be purchased for \$3.50 each by mail, just send in the form on page 6.



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.

Address any correspondence or anything that should be included in the newsletter to: Greg Miller at KA9FOZ@gmail.com.

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 LaCrescent, MN. 146.970 pl 131.8.

Below are listed your RARC 2019 Board of Trustees and contact information.

President.....Dan Abts, AB9TS
Email...ab9ts@yahoo.com

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

Secretary.....Rick Kolter, KD9GVS
Email...rckolter@gmail.com

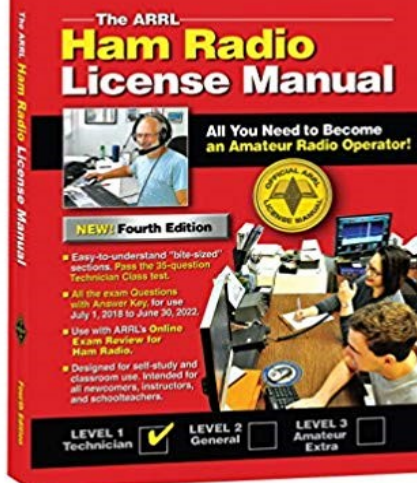
Treasurer.....Drew Neve, AB9NE
Email...ab9ne@yahoo.com

Trustee.....Carl Thurston, KC9HDS
Email...kc9hds@gmail.com

Trustee.....Bill Wood, KE9XQ
Email...ke9xq@charter.net

Repeater Trustee...Shawn Hicks, KD9KGQ
Email...eistim68@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor.....Greg Miller, K9LEC
Email...ka9foz@gmail.com



TEST SESSIONS

Test dates for 2019 for any new licenses or upgrades are:

May 4

August 10

September 7



What's in your Easter Egg?

Electric Cars

Continued from page 1

It looks like Electric Cars are going to be a large part of future personal and commercial travel. With so many different companies getting involved with research and development of cars, pick up trucks, big truck, and buses, it can be seen that this new technology will have a far reaching impact on our climate, economy, and industry.

The carbon foot print of these types of vehicles is getting better all of the time and the prices, although out of the range of most budgets, are coming down with the continued development and sales. Their impact on world transportation is enormous and growing bigger every day. There are several countries in Europe and Asia that are converting over to Electric Cars, trucks and buses. The big drawback to them besides price has been the limit of the range of their batteries. Until more advances are made in the technology of rechargeable batteries, recharging times and capacities improve, the maximum range of 250 miles seems to be a barrier that is difficult to exceed.

Some of these vehicles can charge up in a fairly short time and with charging stations being built along most major interstate highways, it is now possible to travel great distances with little inconvenience. With many models it is possible to travel over 200 miles, stop to recharge, have a meal and go another 200 miles, thus leap frogging across the country.

Beyond those considerations there are some interesting pluses with these vehicles. In addition to the considerable advantage of their fuel economy, performance and power, there is also the fact that they need very little maintenance, as they are extremely simple mechanically compared to the average car or truck. Many of the things that need maintenance on gas or diesel powered vehicles are absent on electric cars, thus resulting in much less cost for maintenance. Electric cars do not need exhaust systems, alternators, radiators, transmissions, or oil changes. The auto industry will have to "shift gears" to keep up with the changes that are coming with Electric Cars and trucks. We can look forward to a more electrifying future with these cleaner and more economical means of transportation. Not yet able to transport like in StarTrek, but getting closer all of the time.



The Real Koltermobile



Working the world with an HT ...By Bob Seaquist, W9LSE

Nothing is rotten in Denmark according to my friend, Kim Wind, OZ1JUX, who contradicted Shakespeare's "Hamlet" while giving me a good signal report recently. Making the several thousand mile hop from southwestern US to Denmark were two Yaesu FT2D handhelds, his connecting to a Yaesu Fusion repeater near him, mine connecting to my laptop. Yaesu's powerful System Fusion then helped are little radios make the leap.

Most Hams have heard of Yaesu's Fusion repeaters which were heavily promoted when the company practically gave them away to get things going for its C4FM digital radios. The repeaters, two of which are in Winona, will work in the C4FM digital mode or in analogue FM depending on if you're calling them in digital or analogue.

Now the company is enhancing the system adding to its power and flexibility. From the beginning the repeaters and the so-called WIRES (Wide-coverage Internet Repeater Enhancement System) could link Hams across the world. The latest offers "PDN" node (Portable Digital Node) where a Yaesu radio and a laptop computer linked to the Internet could be stand-alone stations.



Where I vacation in Southern Utah there are no Fusion repeaters but I still can access the system because my radio, combined with my laptop, hook right up! If I wished I could turn that radio and computer combo into a node that other Hams with Yaesu Fusion radios may connect when they are in range.

The Yaesu radios with the ability to be a PDN include the FTM400, FTM100, FTM3200 and the FT2D.

Fire up the computer, click on the WIRES X button and in seconds two scrolling lists of "rooms" and "nodes" appear on the screen. Click on one and you're connected. The screen shows callsigns of everyone, including you, who is in the "room" or "node."

If you're on your Sunday stroll and within range of an RF node you click the "X" on the radio and the scrolling list of rooms and nodes appears ready for you to make some choices of who to talk with.

A less sophisticated and less powerful way of working the world with your HT is IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project, <http://irlp.net>) which is still available on the NOEXE repeater located in downtown La Crosse at 444.7500+ PL 131.8.

Either way, WIRES X or IRLP, your HT can leap miles for you.

A>User ID	DTM...	CallSign	City	+State	Cou...	Freq(MHz)	SQL	Lat	Lon
JSGTND-ND	32018	JSGTND	Shimajiri-gun	Okinawa	Japan	144.520M...	DG-ID:00-00		
JRSYTR-ND	32306	JRSYTR	Ginowan-city	Okinawa	Japan	144.550M...	DG-ID:00-00	N2...	E:127...
JSGDEW-ND	32323	JSGDEW/6	Naha-city	Okinawa	Japan	430.760M...	DG-ID:00-00	N2...	E:127...
WSMEL-RPT	11401	WSMEL	Oklahoma City	Oklahoma	USA	443.275M...	DG-ID:00-00	N3...	W:09...
WXSRC-RPT	11733	WXSRC	Claremore	Oklahoma	USA	444.350M...	DG-ID:00-00		
WXSOU-400	11891	WXSOU	Broken Arrow	Oklahoma	USA	446.900M...	DG-ID:00-00	N3...	W:09...
NSXQK-RPT	18030	NSXQK	Bartlesville	Oklahoma	USA	145.270M...	DG-ID:00-00	N3...	W:09...
AESME-ND	18292	AESME	Broken Arrow	Oklahoma	USA	445.800M...	DG-ID:00-00		
AFSXC-ND	30332	AFSXC	Owasso	Oklahoma	USA	446.075M...	DG-ID:00-00	N3...	E:095...
VE3PD-ND	11534	VE3PD	Ottawa	Ontario	Can...	146.400M...	DG-ID:00-00	N4...	W:07...
VA5EMC-RPT	11578	VE3JJA	Sioux Narrows	Ontario	Can...	147.330M...	DG-ID:00-00		

+Room ID	DTM...	Act	Room name	City	State	Cou...	Comment
-----A0	27472	000	Bedfordshire Gateway	Dunton	Bedford...	UK	Covers most o
-----C4FM	24423	000	www.C4FM.xyz	Rostov on Don	Rostov	Rus...	http://c4fm.y
-----NERV	22945	000	NERV-"-IzI-B"	Nagoya-city	Aichi	Japan	U.N.NERV@Z3
-----CQ-UK	27793	039	CQ-UK	Pudsey	West Yo...	UK	XLX925A ALL I
-----WI-LINK	21667	002	WISCONSIN LINK	Baldwin	Wisconsin	USA	Open to any u
-----XLX389D	24117	002	XLX389D	Laidley Heights	Queensl...	Aus...	Bridge to CQ-I
-----2LO-LONDON	28846	000	TRANS-ATLANTIC N...	Surbiton	Surrey	UK	C4FM - LONDI
-----UK-NET-HUB	27721	002	English Speaking UK	Middlesbrough	North Y...	UK	UK WIDE REPE



St. Patrick's Day Parade



St. Patrick's Day Parade volunteers: L to R, Drew Neve, AB9NE, David Ruscher, KD9EPN, Scott Cross, KB3MKD, Rick Kolter, KD9GVS, Carl Thurston, KC9HDS, Dan Abts, AB9TS, Bill Wood, KE9XQ, David Abts, KD9MLS, Shawn Hicks, KD9KGQ, David Peters, KB9EWG.



Rick, KD9GVS, keeping all parade participants in line at the event.



Even the horse and carriage were decorated for the parade.



CLUB ACTIVITIES FOR APRIL

March 31...Sunday Night net on the 146.97 repeater at 8:00 PM. Net control is Greg, K9LEC.
April 2...Program Night at Gunderson Lutheran. Bob Seaquist, W9LSE, talk on portable operation.
April 7...Sunday Night net on the 146.97 repeater at 8:00 PM. Net control is Carl, KC9HDS.
April 14...Sunday Night net on the 146.97 repeater at 8:00 PM. Net control is Rick, KD9GVS.
April 21...Sunday Night net on the 146.97 repeater at 8:00 PM. Net control is Kevin, KC9ZGD.
April 27...MS Walk. (Club members handle communications along the walk route)
April 28...Sunday Night net on the 146.97 repeater at 8:00 PM. Net control is Mark, KB9OFK.
May 5...Sunday Night net on the 146.97 repeater at 8:00 PM. Net control is David, KD9EPN.

RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB SWAPFEST

AUGUST 10, 2019 8:00 AM to

**Located in the Onalaska American Legion
731 Sand Lake Rd. Onalaska, WI 54650**

RARC CLUB PATCH ORDER FORM

Please send me _____ club patches to the address below. I have enclosed \$3.50 for each patch ordered.

Send patches to:

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send form and check to: RARC Box 621 Onalaska, WI. 54650



RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Tuesday March 19, 2019 Executive Meeting

MINUTES

Call to order: 5:38pm

Members Present : Dan Abts AB9TS, David Peters KB9EWG, Carl Thurston KC9HDS, Rick Kolter KD9GVS, Drew Neve AB9NE, Shawn Hicks KD9KGQ, Greg Miller K9LEC

Approval of Minutes: Feb minutes approved as written

Treasurer's Report: Available upon request

Committee Reports:

+St. Pat's Parade event went well after some initial confusion on what intersections to cover. Suggestion made to use the 444.750 repeater next year, due to some communications issues using a simplex frequency, as well as some "shadows" to the 146.97 repeater.

+Rick will be coordinating the MS Walk event on April 27th, circulate sign-up at April meeting night. The club 2M radio set-up we have been using needs work, so Rick will bring his own radio, power supply and antenna for net control duties that day.

+Shawn will take over WAR registration from Roger.

Old Business:

- +Shawn will pick up Rotary Lights check at their monthly meeting.
- +Ball Park Shelter on Quincy St. in Onalaska reserved for picnic on June 15th. Carl will contact Tom O'Brien regarding picking up the steaks for the picnic.
- +Vests and Patches – Scott has them currently for sewing the patches onto the vests.

New Business:

- +Suggestion made by a club member to send out monthly meeting announcements via e-mail.
- +Dan will get hold of Bill KE9XQ regarding contacting Jostad's for Field Day venue.
- +Name tags were discussed, Drew suggested 5th Ave awards as a possible vendor. He will check into this.
- +Creating a listening schedule for the 146.97 repeater was discussed. Dan will contact Van regarding control operators for the repeater.
- +Suggestion made by Greg to mount the Club's Yaesu 857 and a screwdriver antenna permanently in the Club trailer with a solar panel and deep cycle battery, so it is ready to go if and when needed. Dave motioned to purchase the solar panel and battery, Shawn seconded. Carl and Greg will look into it.
- + Monthly Executive Board meetings will likely be moved to the 3rd Monday at 5:30pm starting in April.

- + Upcoming program night topics:
 - April: Bob Seaquist W9LSE on portable operating
 - May & June: setting up and using the N3FJP logging software and the Clubs' 3 HF radios
 - July: Pontoon cruise

Motion to Adjourn : 7:50pm