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The Real Tesla...

When asked about Tesla, most people might refer to the EV made by Tesla Motors. Few would respond with something about Nicola Tesla. This is a shame, as Nicola Tesla was arguably the premier Electrical Engineer, Inventor, and Visionary of this century. The list of his inventions is long and mostly unremembered. If he had done nothing else, his contributions to the development and instillation of AC as the standard for power transmission should be enough to establish him in a place of honor in high tech circles.

So why isn't that the case? Most people, when they think about the pioneers of electricity, they would rank Thomas A. Edison as foremost in that field. A similar thing will result when thinking about the pioneers of radio, Guglielmo Marconi is the one remembered by most. The list of people who were influential in those areas rarely mention Tesla in more than a passing note. Why is that? Unlike most of the people who were prominent in Electrical Engineering, Nicola Tesla wasn't much interested in fame or fortune, his goal was to expand the reaches of science and to give humanity an everlasting gift of useable electric power. Continued next page

Nikola Tesla Describing a Cell Phone in 1926

"When wireless is perfectly applied the whole earth will be converted into a huge brain, which in fact it is, all things being particles of a real and rhythmic whole. We shall be able to communicate with one another instantly, irrespective of distance. Not only this, but through television and telephony we shall see and hear one another as perfectly as though we were face to face, despite intervening distances of thousands of miles, and the instruments through which we shall be able to do all of this, will fit in our vest pockets."

Nikola Tesla, 1926



UPCOMING Events for September 2025

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

September 7, 2025	Wayne K0WLO
September 14, 2025	Rick KD9GVS
September 21, 2025	Jon KD9WPD
September 28, 2025	Mark KB9OFK
- ♦ **Saturday** morning Rag chew, weekly on the 146.970 repeater, 8:00-9:00 AM.
- ♦ **September 2...**Monthly meeting at UU La Crosse, 401 West Ave
- ♦ **September 13...** Stepping out in Pink
- ♦ **September 16...** Trustee Meeting, Time: 5:30 PM, Las Margaritas. All members are welcome to attend.
- ♦ **September 20...**Hams in the Park

The Real Tesla

Among his triumphs are: the Power Station at Niagara Falls that powers part of the state of New York, The design and setting up of the electrical system that illuminated the Columbia Exposition in Chicago, and the establishment of many of the services that we depend on today. He isn't known for many of the things that he perfected, mainly because he was a very private man with unusual traits who wasn't interested in anything other than the pursuit his goal of making things better for all.

Since he was not driven by the desire to succeed in business, he became an easy target of those who were. Some of them cheated him out of what was due to him, some cheated him out of the recognition for his inventions, some even tried to revile him because he was so brilliant. Granted, his personal habits were strange and misunderstood. He had little regard for what most people's expectations were of who or what he should be.

He was driven by a different desire than what many would consider the norm. He just felt the need to in-

vent things that he felt would be useful. He cared little about the possible personal benefit that could result from his labors. In fact he even helped out friends who were in financial trouble. Often to his personal detriment. This is why in spite of his technical brilliance he died alone and a pauper. It wasn't until years after his death that many of his contributions gained the recognition that he should have realized in life. Like Edison, he never received a Noble Prize for his achievements. Others were to realize that goal in spite of the fact that many of his patents were used in their achievements without his permission.

Belatedly, he was recognized by the courts as the inventor of radio years after his death. Alas, it was too little and too late for Nicola Tesla. However, he did achieve many of his goals in life, even if he didn't live to see them. We are far richer as a result of his labors and his generosity. All that can be said is this: Thank you Nicola Tesla for everything!

73 Carl kc9hds



PRESIDENTS COMMENTS

Hello everyone, and welcome to the President's Corner.

It's hard to believe how fast the year is going. It was great being in Riverside Park for the Great River Folk Fest . We had a nice display with Drew operating HF Digital and I was demonstrating DMR. A big thank you to Drew as well s both Mike and Lisa McCarty for helping with the event.

I am looking forward to helping with the Steppin Out in Pink in couple of weeks. I even have Kole's pink shirt ready to go. I just hope we don't get rained on like last year.

I am also looking forward in helping with the next Ham Radio classes coming up in October. Well, I will be seeing everyone at the next Club Meeting and upcoming events

73 from Your 2025 Club President, David KB9EWG



Nuggets



Folk Fest 2025



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 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. 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 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 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.

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