

AMATEUR RADIO A NATIONAL RESOURCE

FC-ARC QSO'ER

JAN. 21, 1991

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FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
(SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB)

CLUB STATION "W9ZL"*****

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318 EAST BREWSTER STREET
APPLETON, WISCONSIN 54911
ARRL CLUB NO. 2132

NEXT MEETING WILL BE FEB. 18, 1991

PRESIDENT:	MIKE JACKSON	WB9BBI	739-9680
VICE PRESIDENT:	MARTHA SCHMEICHEL	N9JAD	731-7338
SECRETARY:	HELENE BORREE	WD9CYW	725-1331
TREASURER:	LES PARDEE	KA9MPP	766-1750
MEMBERSHIP CORD:	JIM SHEETS	K9OQO	739-7695

The Jan. 21st meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Myron Jackson WB9BBI. The meeting was held at Roosevelt Jr. High School.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED.

TREASURER'S REPORT: (BALANCE) 2,407.68 as of Jan. 21, 1991 PLUS \$600.00 in Hamfest Fund.

*****NEXT MEETING WILL BE FEB. 18, 1991*****

INFORMAL ITEMS

VOLUNTEER EXAM: Next testing session will be held March 16th.

HAMFEST: IS IN THE WORKS.

EMERGENCY COMM: Wayne WD9FLJ said ARES E.C.s Mike and Don took part in a chemical Diaster. Had part of evacuation and traffic. More planning sessions are coming up in the future. Let Wayne know if interested. ARES needs Three ICOM O2AT Handhelds at a good price.

NON EMERGENCY: Martha N9JAD reported about the Banquet. It was very good and so was the food. We'll be having it there next year. Congradulations to MIKE JACKSON WB9BBI on HAM OF THE YEAR. YOUR ONE GREAT GUY.

E.A.A. Wayne WD9FLJ has plans in the works for that. Everyone give him all the help he needs.

FIELD DAY: Wayne WD9FLJ has asked if anyone is interested in helping with Field Day to get in touch with Rick, Mike or Wayne.

CONTEST AWARENESS: Jack KA9JOL made out the Freq. for the short wave radio. If you didn't get a list there will be some at the next meeting.

The Nominating Comm; will be Rick, Hub, and Jack. The two offices open will be President and Secretary. Please give them a call with the names you want.

PROGRAM FOR THE FEBRUARY MEETING:

THE PROGRAM WILL BE SOME ONE FROM F.V.T.C. PRESENTING A PROGRAM ON ELECTRONICS.

The Budget Review Board had a meeting on Feb. 4th and will be presenting it at the Feb. 18th meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT AT THE JAN. 21st MEETING WERE:

HELEN BORREE	WD9CYW	MIKE JACKSON	WB9BBI
MARTHA SCHMEICHEL	N9JAD	LES PARDEE	KA9MPP
DON DEAN	N8IOJ	BOB GILLETTE	W9EYT
RUSS COOK	N4PPZ	JAMES DEAN	W9GIU
WES KOEFFLER	W9PKT	BOB CLEVELAND	WD9HID
DAVE BOLAND	W9NWX	RON BRUMBAUSH	K6JDE
BILL GEREND	KA9TGR	JACK BIGELOW	KA9JOL
JAMES WIERZ BA	WB9OJE	JEFF STRONG	KA9YYQ
DAN BAYER	WB9QFX	KAREN THORNE	WB9ZNA
CATHY KEATING	N9FZL	GARY KEATING	ND9Z
HAL SIETH	NQ9F	AL WEINGARTNER	KA9RKV
GERRY RADTKE	WA9GON	JEFF SCHMEICHEL	KB9BYP
JERRY CLUSEN	N9AYN	ERIC KIRCHNER	KB9DYG
WAYNE PENNINGS	WD9FLJ	RICK KOSIOREK	WX9C
RYAN KOSIOREK	GUEST		

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
HELEN BORREE WD9CYW
SECRETARY

WANTED: VINTAGE TELETYPE EQ UIPMENT. WILL ACCEPT ALL MODELS,
URGENT NEED- A MODEL 14 REPERSEATOR.

HAL NQ9F PHONE: 984-3557

CASH: REWARD FOR INFORMATION ON STOLDEN KENWOOD 721 DUAL BANDER 2METER.
CALL: MIKE KNIP----853-7073

MIKES MIC..FEB 91

Check the crossword in this months newsletter and win yourself a J-pole antenna. The clues are varied and some quite subtle. Some you may associate with club meeting activities.. Give it a shot.You may want to design one for a future newsletter. Then again you may not.

So what has been happening in your ham radio world this month. I've heard that a number of you are in the process of acquiring your MARS certification. Sounds like a great idea when we consider our unique capabilities and the need for communications in our present world situation. As things develop in your station and with your activity, please make a presentation at a club meeting or write an article for the newsletter. Many of us havn't been involved in MARS activities and just possibly don't know just how we might made a contribution such as this.

GLOBAL AWARENESS week in the public schools this past week has been interesting for many students, and others. We have been able to spend some time each day this week and talk to people around the world. Conditions have been good and we've made many fine contacts. Thanks also to you local packet hounds out there with whom we've been in contact. On a similar note, the annual tour of elementary schools presenting ham radio has started. If you have an acquaintance who teaches in the Appleton schools and would like a demo have her give me a call. I am limited to the Appleton schools since I receive release time from the system to make these two hour presentations. Pretty nice way to spend part of the work day, huh?

Who among all of you creative hams out there has a favorite antenna design. One that is simple, effective, and can be easily built by any ham worth his or her solder flux? Bring a prototype or the drawings/directions, maybe a list of materials etc. to the club meetings. It would be interesting and maybe fun to develop more fully the folder of antenna designs in our library. For all members who contribute to this project, up to and including our May meeting, you may receive, if you like, a picture of me suitable for framing to be hung in your shack. Now I am sure that most of you will want to run out and search the publications for a new design. If you don't care for the picture thats ok, I'll understand. Maybe just the satisfaction of contributing to the library will be enough of a reward. Share your inventiveness.

Well the budget review committee and the board met on Feb. 4th and came up with some interesting ideas. The details will be presented to the membership at the May meeting. For now its sufficient to say that the club finances are in good shape and prospects for the future seem

pretty good also. Thanks to those who helped, WX9C, NB9J, KA9JOL, W9NWY, W9DKY. The hamfest is the club activity that allows us to do some extra things so please continue to support it. As for the club meetings, we never have 100% attendance, but we have a good core group that keeps us functioning. Almost 50% in fact, thats not too bad.

Thank you to all of you who contributed to the discussion about club activities at the last meeting. As a program it may not have been real stimulating but maybe the programs in the future will be more varied because of the discussion. Feel free to make suggestions when you think they will help the club, in what ever phase. Thanks also for the letters I received regarding club funtions. You shared many good ideas. I would expect greater membership involvement if we have greater input from club members, keep inputing.

Don't forget about elections coming up in May. The nominating committee is looking for a few good individuals who will assume some responsible positions. If you are interested please contact the committee. Their names will be posted on the bulletin board at the meeting. The offices that are up for reelection are president and secretary. Fresh ideas and a change in leadership helps to make for rejuvenation. Also if you are concerned about any by-law changes, the May meeting will be the date. Check the by-laws as to any questions or concerns.

Well thats all folks. have a good week. see you Monday evening... 73

de Mike WB9BBI

FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
VOLUNTEER EXAMINER TEAM
ANNUAL REPORT 1990

VOLUNTEER AMATEUR RADIO TESTING

BACKGROUND: The volunteer examiner program was born in late 1982 when Public Law 97-259, amended the Communications Act of 1934, permitting the FCC to accept the voluntary and uncompensated services of licensed radio amateurs to serve in preparing and administering examinations. This Public Law also gave birth to the Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) program.

In 1984 the FCC began certifying organizations (VEC's) to coordinate the efforts of volunteer examiners. In September 1984 the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) began coordinating exams. A VEC is an organization which has entered into agreement with the FCC to coordinate the efforts of volunteer examiners in preparing and administering examinations for Amateur Radio licenses. The Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club is affiliated with the ARRL - VEC program. The ARRL supplies the FC-ARC with all testing materials.

The Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club volunteer examining program was established through the efforts of Larry Siebers, KD9IA. Larry took it upon himself to gather information on how to establish testing in the Fox Valley area so to be of service to those who wished to up-grade or to obtain their first amateur radio license.

Larry continued to encourage fellow amateurs to assist in this valuable service to the amateur radio community and the public. Eventually a cadre of amateur's obtained their examiner certification through the ARRL - VEC and the first testing session sponsored by the FC-ARC was administered December 14, 1985 at Roosevelt Jr. High School in Appleton under the direction of KD9IA. The first group of amateurs assisting Larry at that session were: KN9P, W9TA, ND9Z, N9ER, and W9MDP, four of the original team of six are still team members. Twenty one candidates tested on that date and the pass rate was 62%. Exams passed on that date were: 1 technician, 4 general, 6 advanced, and 2 extra class. The Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club volunteering examining team was off and running.

Larry continued to refine the program, and convinced more amateur's to become certified volunteer examiners until there eventually became a cadre of examiners numbering 21! Larry and his team provided exam service to Manitowoc, Marinette/Menominee, Green Bay and of course, around the Fox Valley area. Volunteer exam team members are not compensated in any way, this is "voluntary" time donated back to the hobby. Trips taken out of town to assist other clubs were done at team member expense. After four and one half years Larry turned the club examining program over to W9MDP. During that four and one half years Larry established testing demeanor and record keeping that are still used to this day. He was the founder and the pace setter for the Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club volunteer examiner program! Larry still continues to assist as time permits.

The FC-ARC appreciates the efforts of KD9IA because without his vision and persistence volunteer examining in this area may not have evolved to where it is today. The FC-ARC team is the only fully functional team in the area. It is the only field stocked team in the surrounding area, because of Larry's team doing such an outstanding job, the ARRL no longer requires test materials be ordered as needed, we have a fully stocked local supply, therefore, saving time and enabling us to provide a better service to those wishing to upgrade or to obtain their first amateur radio license.

FC-ARC EXAM TEAM HISTORICAL INFORMATION: The first exam session was December 14, 1985 and including that date TWENTY-EIGHT total sessions have been conducted. The total number of candidates served at those 28 sessions totals 510, averaging 18 candidates per session. Five hundred and ten candidates interested in our hobby were served at a location more convenient to them. An editorial comment at this point would be "If we were doing it like the good ole days, that is prior to, 1984 when you had to travel to Milwaukee or Chicago (and undergo the less than cooperative testing of the FCC) I would guess that 510 candidates would NOT have attempted to become licensed or to upgrade. Local volunteer testing does assist us in obtaining new members and does help licensed amateurs to upgrade! Without a doubt!

With the assistance of the FC-ARC team the following "license class earned" have been obtained during the past five years and twenty-eight sessions:

30 NOVICE
122 TECHNICIAN
48 GENERAL
40 ADVANCED
29 EXTRA

TOTAL = 269

A total of 269 license's were granted via the testing efforts of the FC-ARC team. The majority of those were also from the Northeastern Wisconsin area! Volunteer examining does provide a valuable service.

The busiest session was FC-ARC swap-fest - February 24, 1990 when 46 candidates were served and 63 different exam elements were administered without a flaw during a four hour period of time.

**FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT
JANUARY 1990 - DECEMBER 1990**

Six testing sessions were held. They were: February 24, May 12, June 9, September 15, October 6, and November 4. Testing sites were: Appleton, Manitowoc, Menasha, Kaukauna, and Green Bay.

A total of 107 candidates were served during those six testing sessions, averaging 17.8 candidates per session. License class earned at the six sessions: 9 Novice, 27 Technician, 10 General, 6 Advance, and 2 Extra for a total of 54.

The average pass rate is around 62% to 65% which follows the national average rate. Data indicates that the most frequent exam given is the technician class license. The least frequent exam given is the extra class.

The FC-ARC exam team will conduct TESTING in 1991 on the following dates:

March 16, 1991 (Madison Jr. High, Appleton at 8:00am)
May (?) 1991 (Manitowoc Hamfest at 8:00am)
June 8, 1991 (Madison Jr. High, Appleton at 8:00am)
August 10, 1991 (Madison Jr. High; Appleton at 8:00am)
October (?) Green Bay Hamfest, Green Bay at 8:00am)
November (?) FC-ARC Swapfest at 8:00am)

Specific future testing dates will be firmly set when we are sure of the (?) dates listed and if the team is requested to assist. Larry Siebers, KD9IA is the FC-ARC volunteer examiner "contact person". His phone is: 788-3823.

Those wishing to have the FC-ARC team possibly visit their community for a test session may contact the volunteer liaison W9MDP at 414-832-6279 - Monday thru Friday between 8 and 4.

THE FOLLOWING ARE MEMBERS OF THE FC-ARC EXAM TEAM

DAVE ARNOLD - KA9NMK
DON BAKER - NB9J
JACK BIGELOW - KA9JOL
JERRY CLUSEN - N9AYN
GEORGE CROY - W9MDP
HUB GEREND - W9OUT
GARY KEATING - ND9Z

MYRON JACKSON - WB9BBI
MIKE ORTLIEB - KN9P
LES PARDEE - KA9MPP
BOB RONK - KB9IE
LARRY SIEBERS - KD9IA
HAL SEITH - NQ9F
ADE VANDERBURGT - K9DHR

JAY VANDERBURGT - KA9MSR

EXAM TEAM MEMBERSHIP - WE NEED YOU

If you hold an extra or advance class amateur license.
Send a copy of your license to the ARRL-VEC and request a self study booklet.
Mail to: ARRL-VEC, 225 Main St., Newington, CT. 06111

You do not have to be an ARRL member to be an examiner.

Complete the self study and mail your materials back to the ARRL. They will send you a volunteer examiner badge which must be worn at all testing sessions.

As a certified examiner you can assist at all sessions. You will also periodically receive from the ARRL-VEC their up-date bulletin entitled "VE EXPRESS" this bulletin provides the latest information regarding volunteer testing.

VOLUNTEER EXAM COORDINATOR STATISTICS (01/01/90 to 08/31/90 as provided by ARRL)

Total candidates served: 20,135
Total testing sessions: 1,750
Average number of candidates per session: 12
Total up-grades: 10,809
Overall pass rate: 61%

--- TYPICAL TEST SESSION ---

Test sessions are held on Saturdays from 8 to 12. Check-in is from 8 to 8:45 - check 610, I.D. collect fees, and answer questions (the team has 610 forms). The fee for 1991 will be \$5.25. The fee collected is sent to the ARRL-VEC to cover expenses of: preparing all code tapes, all written testing materials, answer sheets, volunteer manuals, and the expense of mailing all materials. \$5.25 is not very expensive! (Actual cost is determined by the FCC)

If you are a candidate at a session bring your original license and/or CSCE, photo I.D., appropriate fee, and at least one copy of your license that may be left with the team. Test sessions are normally very busy. There is a tremendous amount of papers to be processed and records to be kept. When a session is finished, an additional several hours are necessary to prepare all candidates 610's and exams to be mailed to the ARRL-VEC.

When the materials arrive at the ARRL they review all 610 forms, exams, answer sheets, and local team test session records which are provided by the team. They then forward all successful candidate information to the FCC who actually issues the license, this process takes anywhere from 4 to 6 weeks depending upon the time of the year and how busy these organizations happen to be.

THE FUTURE OF VOLUNTEER EXAM TESTING

Recently new regulations came down from the FCC regarding testing of handicapped persons. These new regulations will allow handicapped persons to enjoy the hobby of amateur radio. The ARRL-VEC is considering development of re-usable written exam booklets (which would save money). The FCC recently has indicated a "no-code" technician class license will be forth coming as of February 14, 1991! We have not received the latest information but we believe that the candidate will take the standard technician written exam (55 questions), if the candidate passes (and does not wish to take the 5WPM code test) the candidate may, when the license arrives be able to operate above 30Mhz. This would obviously enhance activity on 144 and 220 Mhz.

Volunteer exam testing is here to stay and over the past five years many changes have taken place. Amateur radio operators can be proud that they have assumed this challenge and have been so successful!

Public service is one of the most important aspects of Amateur Radio! Ham's serve the public in many ways, ARES, RACES, Red Cross Teams, providing communications at parades, and various other types of public events. Ham's teach classes, provide demonstrations, and assist in testing. Whatever your desire, contribute in some way to the hobby - give something back to the hobby that has given you so much! Be a volunteer in some way!

FC-ARC VOLUNTEER EXAM TEAM NEEDS

Team records are presently kept in cardboard file boxes. A need does exist for : plastic type file boxes to store test session records, and there is a need for plastic type boxes to transport testing materials to test sites. Estimated costs of these items would be \$55.00.

Presently we have 15 certified examiners. Anyone who wishes to assist as a volunteer examiner should contact W9MDP. Your assistance is welcome. We need you!!!

THIS ANNUAL REPORT IS RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

George R. Croy, W9MDP
FC-ARC Volunteer Examining Team Liaison
January 20, 1991