



FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

QSO'ER



P.O. Box 5233 Appleton, Wisconsin 54912 www.fcarc.us Executive Board e-mail: board@fcarc.us

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September 2004

National Preparedness Month

Throughout September 2004, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, American Red Cross, American Prepared Campaign, the National Association of Broadcasters, the US Department of Education, and other partners will host a series of events to highlight the importance of citizen emergency preparedness.

During National Preparedness Month, coalition partners will promote the basic steps all Americans can take to prepare for emergencies. A variety of activities will encourage citizens to heighten their awareness and preparedness. For a good resource on personal and family readiness, visit www.Ready.gov, or www.OPM.gov. Great information is available and should be accessed to [Get a Kit](#), then [Make a Plan](#) and [Be Informed](#).

For questions about personal preparedness and also what GSA is doing to help this agency be prepared, contact a Regional Emergency Coordinator or the Office of Emergency Management at (202) 501-0012.

For more information on what *you* can do, see the article on Emergency Preparedness by guest columnist Bill Niemuth, (KB9ENO) on page 5.

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Inside this issue:

Upcoming events in our area

Here is a list of upcoming events and meetings involving FCARC:

Sat Oct 16	JOTA	<i>A message from the Pres.</i>	2
Mon Oct 18	FCARC meeting	<i>Membership renewals, ISS</i>	3
Mon Sept 20	FCARC meeting	<i>JOTA , Elmers contact list</i>	4
Sun Sept 26	Fox Cities Marathon	<i>Are you prepared?</i>	5
Mon Sept 27	FCARC Exec Board Mtg	<i>Advertisers</i>	6/9
Sun Oct. 10	Green Bay Dualthon	<i>Puzzle solution</i>	7
Sun Oct 10	Appleton CROP walk	<i>Corn Roast Pictures</i>	8
		<i>Net sched., N9ECS on the air</i>	10

A Message from the President

Summer is over and fall is here with winter to follow. For most of us at the FCARC we had a good break with not having a general meeting or an executive board meeting in August. With fall here we still have a few items and events to complete before we start a new year.

As we progress into the next year we'll be bringing many new and proven technologies to continually increase the efficiencies of our organization.

The web site has been a great location to store our digital archives in the "Download section". We currently store digital copies of several years of the "QSO'er". The By-Laws, Robert's rule of Order and a membership application are also available in PDF format for all members to download or print at anytime the need for these documents may arise.

The web site has also been a great source to share technical and political information with all its members in the "Article section". Each article is identified with an image of the subject the author is writing about. As each of the member's access an article a counter is tripped and we can then track and determine which subject is more important and where each of you likes to go on the web site.

You can also make suggestions, send comments or correspond with the author of each article via the "Comments" option. Each author can even direct you to alternate web sites for more related detailed information or additional author's articles.

The web site is used for the posting of "4 sale items", "wanted to buy" and event specific related items in the "Forum section". To help pass more information members have the ability to add information, helpful hints and suggestions via the "Reply Post" option. We also have the ability to add new categories of interest for members by posting "New Categories".

The Web site has many other features we all can use with the "Blocks" on the left and right side of the main pages we view. This truly has given all of us the opportunity for all of to go to one place and find any information, special event requirements, or documents related to the FCARC 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The web site has so much more information to access on our web site than ever before. In just over 14 months our web site has had over 62,000 THOUSAND hits from computers all over the world looking at our site. Over 75 members have registered and hundreds of Amateur Radio articles have been submitted for your viewing.

Just check it out.....

Our list server has been delivering hundreds of emails containing important club and event information. This mail server has allowed our Administrators to coordinate information and events to hundreds of club members and non-members in a fraction of a second. The list server has also been the freight truck of information highway passing some very large PDF files and links to many other bits of information residing on the internet.

Our renowned and renovated QSO'er has been informing and entertaining us with many new features and implementing new technologies to bring us one of the best amateur radio newsletters in the 9 region. With many authors, co-authors and sponsors we are truly setting new standards for the other to follow.

Our Wednesday night net brings us together with current political, technical and informative discussions. This format enables us to interact, debate and educate ourselves in a real time environment.

All this is being able to work together seamlessly and efficiently to keep us all informed. We have a great team assembled and a great team spirit that's working exceptionally well for all of us.

Thank you for all of your hard work, ideas and resources.

You really do make a difference!

Sincerely,

Brian J. Long KB9LRD

VE Testing Dates

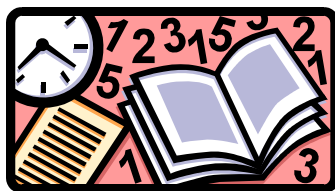
Interested in Amateur (HAM) Radio? Need to upgrade your license? The FCARC can help you with both of these.

With the exception of the November test date, all testing is done at the Red Cross Building at 1302 E. Wisconsin Ave. in Appleton. Test check in is from 8:00 am until 8:30 am. The cost is \$12.00.

Here are the dates:

Sunday November 7 (at Hamfest location)

Saturday February 5, 2005



New Members

Join me in welcoming the following new members to the club!

K.B.– KB3DRD,
John-K9IY, Dale-N9YAM,
and Jared- NØZKC.

Membership renewal reminders

As a regular column, we will list the calls of those whose membership is up for renewal.

Did you remember to renew?

Those up for renewal in September include: KG8RF, K9OSH, N9SGG, N1KSN and KC9BVQ.

Here are the folks that have renewal due in October: N9BPO, K9OQO,

NQ9F, KC9EKV and KC9DEE.



November renewals include: KF9CS, N9JLQ, K9DID, W9RIC, KB9BZR, AB9AH, KF6HCG, KE6IFC, W9UVZ, N9RJZ, KA9NMK, WB9OWA, KC9EYA, KB9AIT, N9WAM, N9QZD, and KB9WAF.

HAMFEST

FCARC Hamfest—Mark your calendar for Sunday November 7, 2004 at Waverly Beach in Menasha.

Contact John (N9RJZ) at 729-0797 or by email at N9RJZ@tponet.com for more information.

International Space Station

New 2m repeater on space station

A new 2m repeater is now operating on the International Space Station 24 x 7. The uplink is on UHF 437.800 and the downlink is on VHF 145.800. No tone burst or CTCSS is required.

It just retransmits on VHF what it hears on UHF.

So if you are getting through you can hear yourself on the downlink.



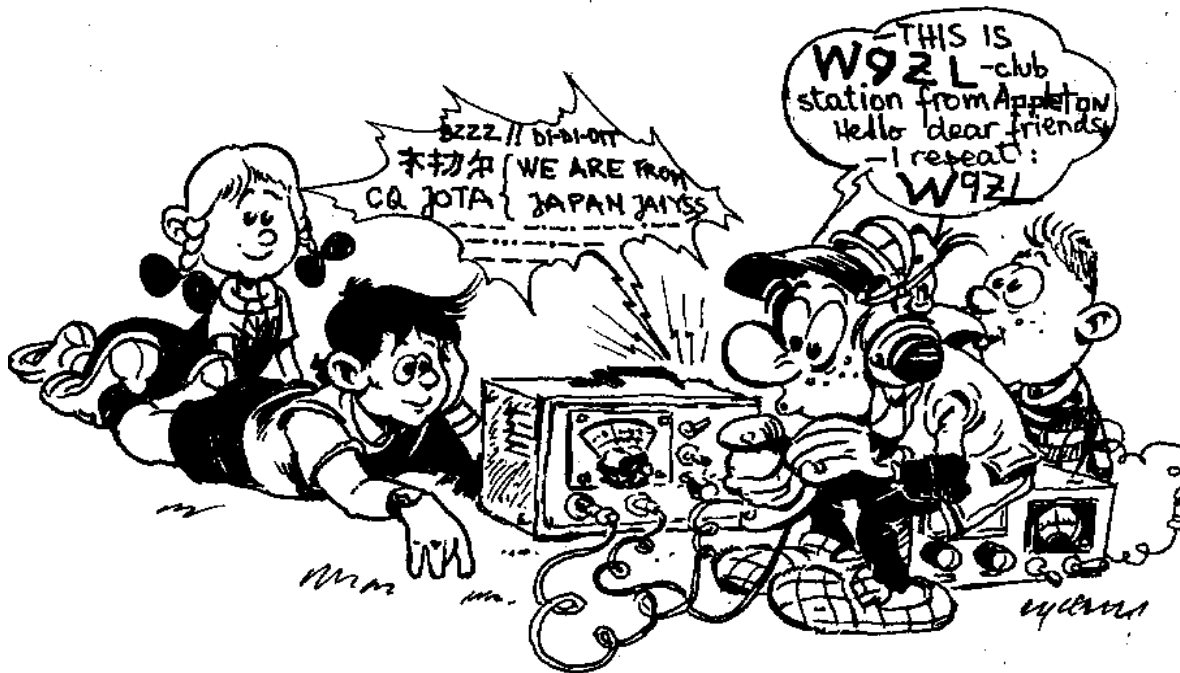
Anyone can work it using a co-linear.

Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club (W9ZL) invites everyone to tune in on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 PM on 146.76/R 100hz PL to hear the *Newsline* broadcast.

Then stick around to check into the net immediately afterwards. This is an open forum net and anything can be discussed, including; technical questions, equipment review and for swap and for sale items.

JOTA

Plans are underway for our club's participation in JOTA this year. JOTA will be Saturday October 16 with hams and scouts from all over the world participating. Kevin, KC9EYA will be looking for club volunteers at the September 20 meeting. If you can help with JOTA, contact Kevin at 738-7466, 450-4605 or by email at: it1usnr@new.rr.com

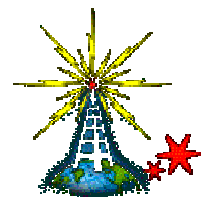


Elmer's Contact List

This is a listing of HAMS who are willing to help other HAMS out in special areas. Feel free to contact these fellow HAMS with any questions:

Call / Name	Specialty Area	Phone number
W9OVK- Don	CW	725-2524
W9ZC- Bob	Tech. Code	725-7974
N9OEQ- Chuck	HF & VHF Digital Modes	788-5497
N9TNW- Bill	HF & Satellite	739-6827
N9LVS- Dan	FCC Personal Data Changes	205-4899

If you would like to be included on this list, contact any board member to offer your skill.



Are you prepared for an Emergency or Disaster?



By Bill Niemuth, KB9ENO, ARRL / ARES SEC, www.wi-aresraces.org

In 2004, life in the United States is pretty easy, especially for those of us who live in Wisconsin. Generally, we have heat, power, telephone, television and Internet communications. Envision what would happen if we lost power for an extended period like the residents of the northeast U.S. last year. The power grid is robust, but not immune from failure. If the power grid would fail during a January cold spell, many of us would be in trouble.

So what does this mean for you as a ham radio operator? First, you need to decide if you will volunteer your services and resources to help the general public if the lights go out. This assistance will be done through the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) or the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES). It is safe to say if the lights go out, the hobby part of ham radio will go out with them. The ham bands will be used almost exclusively to deal with the problem until it is resolved.

So, what can you do to be prepared? First, get involved with ARES/RACES. In Wisconsin ARES and RACES enjoy a close relationship and all ARES members are RACES members and visa versa. Training is critical to successful service during emergencies and disasters; ARES/RACES requires its members to train and be involved with the organizations. Training will be your best ally during a crisis.

Next, ensure you and your family can sustain yourselves for at least 72 hours. This means water, nonperishable food and an alternative heat source and power. If you have these alternative resources, ensure they are safely done so you will not create another problem by using them.

Once your family is taken care of, you are in a better position to help others who have not prepared as thoroughly. Ensure you have a go-kit with food, water, communication supplies, cash, prescriptions, battery power, warm clothes, various types of radios, connectors and anything else you will need to sustain operations. Depending upon your assignment, you will need to sustain yourself between 10 and 72 hours.


If you will assist from home, ensure your equipment is in good working order and be familiar with the procedures of your ARES/RACES group and net operations. Emergency power is essential for emergency communications. Deep cycle batteries are good, but will only last for so long. If you have a generator, remember it runs on gasoline. If power is out, you may not be able to get gasoline. Keep a few gallons on hand.

Above all, stay calm. Easier said than done, but it is critical. Staying calm is much easier if you have thought about these situations and practiced for them. One great way to learn more is to take the ARRL's EmComm Level I course. If you are an ARRL member, the \$45 registration fee will be reimbursed to you once you have successfully completed the course. Give it a try! More information can be found here

<http://www.arrl.org/cce/>

— John Skotzke —
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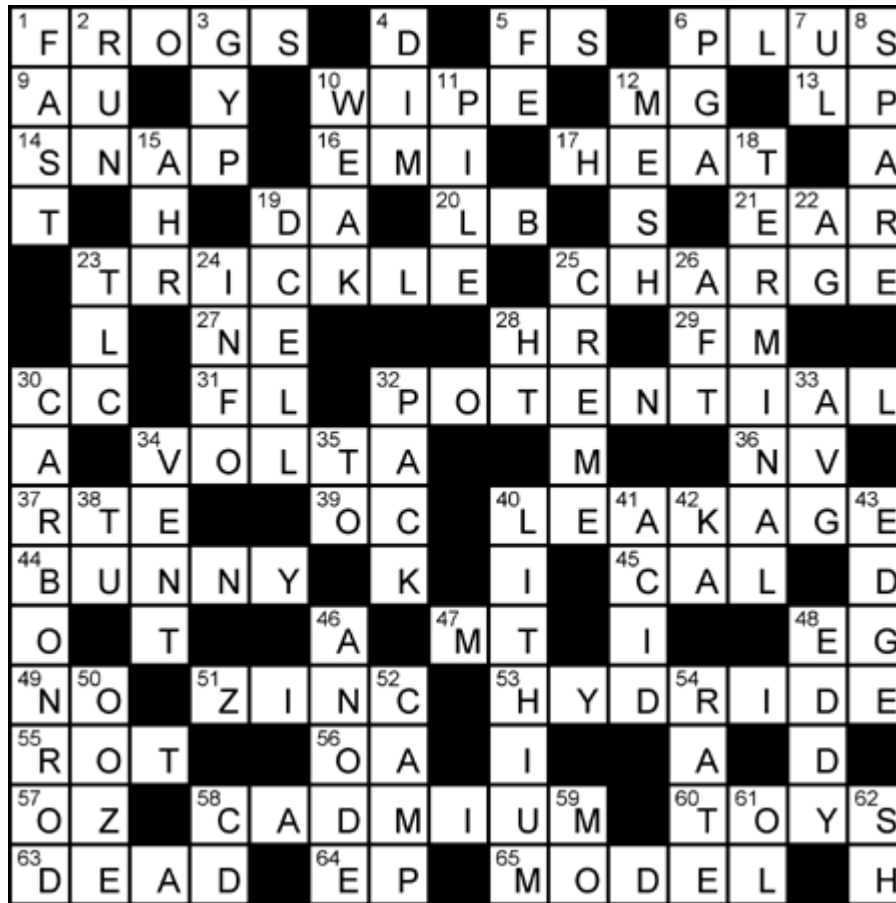
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Solution from August crossword puzzle



Satellite corner—AO-51 Operating Frequencies

Analog Uplink: 145.920 FM (PL=67) or 1268.700 FM (PL=67)

Analog Downlink: 435.300 FM

Digital Uplink: 145.860, 9600 bps, AX .25

Digital Downlink: 435.150, 9600 bps, AX .25 or 2401.200, 38,400 bps, AX .25

Broadcast Callsign: PACB-11

BBS Callsign: PACB-12



SatScape is a nice freeware satellite tracking program for those interested in monitoring the location of *any* satellite. It is available for download at www.satscape.co.uk After you install it, just go back and run an update so the program will add the info on all the new satellites, including AO-51. *cheers*

Corn Roast pictures



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FCARC weekly 2 Meter Net

The Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club runs a weekly 2 Meter net on the 146.760 / R (PL 100.0 Hz). It is an informal net and we welcome all amateurs, club members or not, to check in and participate.

Each week the net starts with the Newsline® report hosted by Steve, N9SGG with the formatted portion of the net immediately following.

Here is the list of the Net Control operators for the remainder of September and all of October:

Sept 22 Andy- N1KSN (Andy and Bernie swapped weeks)
 Sept 29 Bernie- N9YMC
 Oct 6 Steve- N9SGG
 Oct 13 Eric- KG8RF (Eric is taking his “old slot” back for this week)
 Oct 20 Jon- AB9AH
 Oct 27 Bernie- N9YMC

If you would like to be a Net Control Operator, please contact a board member or any of the operators listed above and mention that you would like to “give it a go”.

N9ECS on the air ...again

It was almost 1 year ago that Ralph Ballinger (N9ECS) and his wife moved into the Touchmark Living Center in Appleton. Ralph took great care in making sure that his radio equipment and antenna systems were moved along with his household goods. Due to changes in the management of the Center, his window of opportunity in mounting his antenna system opened, closed and then opened again.

On Saturday, August 28, Dan- N9LVS, Brian- KB9LRD and Bernie- N9YMC descended upon Touchmark to install Ralph's HF vertical. The centers manager had already approved the site and the local utilities had been marked- to ensure that we did not pound a pipe into an electric or gas line!

As the antenna had previously been assembled as a tower mount antenna, we had to change the spacing of the traps in order to mount it close to the ground, replace several rusty fasteners and attach new connectors to the coax. After it was installed, we ran the coax into Ralph's window, hooked it up to his Drake HF rig and he was on the air!

