



FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

QSO'ER



P.O. Box 2346 Appleton, Wisconsin 54912

www.fcarc.us

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Volume 22, Issue 12  
December 2009 Issue

## 2008 "Ham of the Year" Andy Palm N1KSN



### FCARC Holiday Party!

Hi Everyone!

Don't let the snow get you down - get on the radio!

Don't forget, the FCARC Annual Holiday Party is

Monday, December 21 at UW-Fox Valley

(our usual meeting place).

Bring the family and a dish to pass

we'll keep the meeting short so the festivities

can begin right away!

See you there!

73,

Tony, AB9IO



### FCARC Officers

- *President— Tony Mach (AB9IO)*
- *Vice-President— Dave Sprangers (ND9DW)*
- *Treasurer—Karen McDonald (KC9BMH)*
- *Secretary— John Touzinsky (K9KI)*
- *Membership Co-ord—Dan Vanevenhoven (N9LVS)*
- *Technical Director—Andy Palm (N1KSN)*
- **Members At Large—**
- *Rick Kosiorek (W9RIC)*
- *Mike Smith (N9IAT)*
- *Frank Livermore (N9LT)*

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Check out the FCARC **2 Meter Net** Wednesday nights at 8 pm on 145.330 Repeater

# Club Radio Build

We've had enough sign-ups to proceed with our 80m Rockmite group build and slow speed CW net.

Here are some details:

The kit is the Small Wonder Labs Rockmite for 3560 KHz. This can be viewed at [www.smallwonderlabs.com](http://www.smallwonderlabs.com). Scroll down the main page and click on the picture of the Rockmite for details on the rig. It has a crystal controlled direct conversion receiver and transmitter at about a third of a watt. It can transmit on either 3559.5 or 3560 KHz. It has a built in iambic keyer and a PicoKeyer upgrade chip is available that includes many nice features.

This is a great starter kit for beginners, and it is fun for the more experienced kit builder, as well. When at the SWL website, if you click on the Documents button in the left frame you will find the Rockmite-80 instructions and a thorough assembly and troubleshooting guide.

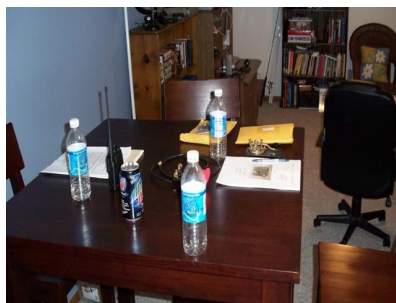
The basic kit is only \$29 (including shipping), but it does not include connectors or a case. SWL offers a separate connector kit for \$14.50 (including shipping) that includes the connectors, the optional volume pot, hookup wire, and wire and plug for the DC power connection. The rig connectors and pot purchased separately from an electronics supply house like Mouser cost about \$7.50, but with the cost of UPS shipping it comes to almost the same as the SWL package.

The kit will fit in an Altoids tin, but I don't recommend that beginners try this, as the metal is quite thin. A custom pre-drilled enclosure called the Mity Box is available from American Morse Equipment at [www.americanmorse.com](http://www.americanmorse.com) but the cost is \$25. This makes for a sweet package if the cost doesn't bother you, but it is also a very tight fit and beginners should probably use something bigger.

Once you've built this radio, what do you do with it? Well, I've had contacts with it on 3560 using a small QRP tuner and my 100 foot inverted vee with the center at 22 feet. In one of these contacts the other ham in northern Ohio was at half a watt, so it was a two-way "QRPP" QSO. Fun!

But what if you are new to Morse code or are rusty? Well, we propose to have a slow speed CW net on 3559.5 at 3 PM local time on Saturdays. Eighty meters is perfect for local contacts during daytime, and Tony AB9IO and I have run a successful test to check this out. For those of you new to Morse, I will be happy to conduct classes for you once the group build has begun. More on the slow speed net will be published once the group build is underway. The net will be open to all hams in the area.

Best regards,  
Andy Palm N1KSN



## Board of Directors FCARC

President: Tony AB9IO; Vice-President: Dave ND9DW; Treasurer: Karen KC9BMH  
 Secretary: John K9KI; Membership Coordinator: Dan N9LVS; Technical Director: Andy N1KSN  
 Members at Large: Mike N9IAT, Frank N9LT, Rick W9RIC

“Andy Palm N1KSN is our 2008 “Ham of the Year””

**Presiding Official:** President, Anthony L. Mach, AB9IO

**Call to Order and Opening Remarks:** President, Anthony L. Mach, AB9IO

**Quorum count:** Vice President, Dave Sprangers ND9DW

**Call to Order: 7: 00 PM**

**Introduction of Members**

**Welcome to Our New Members and Renewed Members!**

**Old Business:**

- A.) Relocation of the 146.760 repeater update – W9RIC
- B.) EAA Special Event Station update – AB9AH
- C.) Hamfest update – AB9IO

**New Business:**

- A.) Clyde Stephenson Vintage Radio Collection at UW Fox – Dave Hager
- B.) Open Mic Night This Wednesday for the Net!
- C.) New membership renewal idea – AB9IO

**Committee/Coordinator Reports:**

**St. Joe’s Walk – KG8RF**

**Hamfest report – AB9IO**

**Treasurer’s report – KC9BMH**

**Hal Report:**

HF Propagation and W6EL Prop.Something – N1KSN

**Show and Tell:**

None

**Announcements: December Membership Meeting and Holiday Party – December 21<sup>st</sup>.**

**Adjourn:** (Accepting a motion to adjourn)

## • Membership Renewal Reminders

As a reminder only—following is a list of the membership renewals coming up this month and the following few months. **If you have already renewed—thank you.** If not, you can renew with Karen (KC9BMH) at the next club meeting.

9/1/2009	KC9GVM
9/1/2009	KG8RF
10/1/2009	KC9DEE
10/1/2009	KB9ENO
10/1/2009	KC9MDZ
11/1/2009	W9MDP
11/1/2009	KF9S
11/1/2009	KB9BYP
11/1/2009	W9OP
11/1/2009	N9SGG
12/1/2009	W9HM
12/1/2009	N9BPO
1/1/2010	K9RFI
1/1/2010	N9UY
1/1/2010	AB9IO
1/1/2010	ND0L
1/1/2010	WB2LBE

### 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 #
N1KSN— Andy	CW	720-0617
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



*Do you have something to sell?*  
*Contact the Newsletter Team to get it listed here!*

**From the website:**  
Ameritron AL-811 600 W amplifier \$595 see website

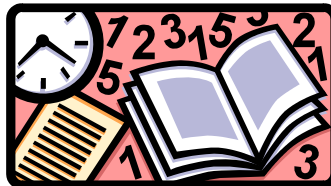
Have something Ham related to sell? If so, contact the [Newsletter Team](#) via our website to arrange for it's insertion in the next issue of this newsletter. We will run it in the newsletter and on-line at [www.fcarc.us](http://www.fcarc.us)

## •Upcoming Events

# 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 \$15.00.



Here are the tentative dates for 2010:

February 13th

April 10th

June 19th

August 14th

## •Upcoming Events

Dec 21 Christmas Party

Dec 31 December 31st will be the 2nd full moon of the month, a partial lunar eclipse, and New Years Eve.

In the New Year Progress is being made rapidly at the .76 tower site and we are hoping that the weather holds out and we can get the .76 put back together and on the air sometime in January. Keep an eye on the website for more articles and news coming in the new year.

### Meeting information & location

We meet at [UW-Fox Valley](#)  
1478 Midway Road  
Menasha, WI 54952.  
Room 1346  
Meetings start at 7:00 PM every  
third Monday of the month.

### Wednesday 2 Meter Net Net Control Operator schedule

Dec 16	W9HAN
Dec 23	AB9IO
Dec 30	KG8RF
Jan 6	To be announced
Jan 13	To be announced

Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club invites everyone to tune in on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 PM on 145.33/R PL 100 This is temporary while the 146.76 is refitted and moved to the new tower.

This is an open forum net and anything can be discussed, including; technical questions, equipment review and swap

### Thursday 6 Meter Net

Day: **Thursday**  
Time: **8:00 pm**  
Frequency: **52.570 FM**

If you would like to be a net control please contact Mike N9IAT

**Join me in welcoming the following new members and thank the renewing members**

**K9GAD, KB9AIT, KB9WAF, KC9HYC, KC9KZN, KC9LWD, KC9NLL, N9AOT,  
N9LDA, N9QLP, N9XCQ, WA8HBE, WB9OJE, WB9QFX**

## Articles You May Have Missed on the Website

From 11/13/09

### [UWFox Opens Unique Vintage Radio Collection Exhibit](#) Author : N9LT

Menasha, WI – One of the most unique artistic and museum-quality exhibits will be on display in the Aylward Gallery at the University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley. The antique and vintage radio collection of Clyde Stephenson will be available for viewing at UWFox from November 2 through December 4. Max Schultz, director of the campus' Aylward Gallery, and Dr. Joanne Kluessendorf, director of the Weis Earth Science Museum – the state's official mineralogical museum located on the UWFox campus - have creatively collaborated to plan, shape and produce this exhibit. With approximately 24 of Stephenson's radios on display, as well as reproductions of vintage graphics and historic sound recordings to compliment the radios, the exhibit promises to be one of the most fascinating art shows to be held in northeast Wisconsin.

From 11/4/09

### [FCARC Foxhunt](#) Author : KC9FSH

The FCARC will be hosting a fox hunt at Noon on Saturday November 7th at Telulah Park in Appleton. We will meet in the west parking lot around noon then start the fox hunt. You do not need to be a member of the FCARC to participate, we encourage everyone to come and check it out. If you haven't done a fox hunt in the past come on out and there will be a couple of us who will be able to help and teach you tricks on how to find the fox. The fox will be located on 147.555mhz.

I do ask that if you are going to attend please e-mail me at [KC9FSH@gmail.com](mailto:KC9FSH@gmail.com) so I know how many people to expect.

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The FCARC held a fox hunt on Saturday November 7th and the turn out was great. Overall we had 9 hams come to the fox hunt. We started at roughly noon with two test hunts, using N1KSN's fox. Andy placed the fox in middle of a field and we used this as a way to help teach the new comers how to find a transmitter. At roughly 12:25 we started the first actual fox hunt. This transmitter was hidden fairly easy and it was found within 15 minutes.

The group then decided to hold another fox hunt, so KC9FSH sent everyone back up to the parking lot while he hid the transmitter again. This time proved to be much more difficult as it was hidden near the brush from a fallen tree. At first everyone went the opposite way of the transmitter by going off of a reflection and everyone was thrown off by various reflections of the signal. It took roughly 45 minutes for most people to make it within a couple hundred feet of the transmitter and about 50 minutes for the first person to find it. Everyone found it within a few minutes of the first person.

Overall I was very impressed with the turnout, we even had two hams come down from Green Bay. Due to the apparent interest in fox hunting the club will plan another fox hunt sometime in January, but this time it will be a city wide fox hunt.

Here are the top 4 people who found the fox.

Round 1	Round 2
1. KS9WI	1. KC9IZF
2. N1KSN	2. KS9WI
3. KC9MLD	3. K9KI
4. KC9IZF	4. KC9MLD

Tim Hale  
KC9FSH