Volume 6, Issue 4 OVARC E-Mail

April 2014

Just a Reminder...

CLUB MEETINGS

First Thursday each month at 7:30 PM KC Greenville Learning Center (Kaskaskia College) 209 N. Third St. Greenville, IL 62246 **CLUB NET**

Sun. 9:00 PM - 147.165 Linked Repeater System

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Club Repeaters

W9KXQ/R (PL 103.5) 147.165+ 224.440-KB9EGI (PL 103.5) 442.925+



The Monthly Publication of the Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club

"Show & Tell" Members & Friends are invited to bring in a piece of software that works for you! <u>Program Moderated by Tim K9XWX</u>

The April meeting will be a chance to show off that special piece of software that you are using in your shack. You may have a project attached to the software, so come prepared to share with all of us. We will have Internet available and a projector, so get it working on your laptop and bring it along. You can just bring the program on a USB memory stick our Moderator will display and share it with the group.

> Next Meeting April 3, 2014 7:30 PM

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MEETINGS TO PLAN FOR

May Meeting May 1, 2014

"Micro-Controllers in the Shack"

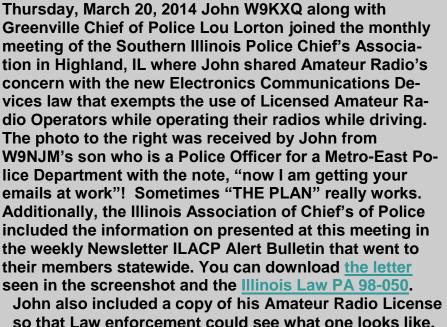
June Meeting

Field Day 2014

The Plan

The word is getting out!







Linked repeater system is operational

REPEATER UPDATES

W9KXQ 147.165 & 224.44 Repeater



KB9EGI 442.925 Repeater site

APRS Digipeaters <u>W9KXQ-15</u> & <u>W9KXQ-8</u> are on line. W9KXQ-8 antenna was damaged in storm on Thursday 02/20/14. <u>Photos before</u> and after. This antenna is at 180 Ft.



Regular Meeting location: *Kaskaskia College* Greenville Education Center 209 N. Third St. Greenville, IL 62246 rear entrance

Future Dates:				
April	3	2014		
Мау	1	2014		
June	5	2014		
No July Meeting				
August	7	2014		



March Meeting Highlights



The March Program provided us with an overview of the basics of "how to work the Amateur Radio Satellites." The presentation included a review of the key components required to make these Amateur Radio contacts. Ken KK9N provided a list of the Amateur Radio Satellites that are still operational. The program wrapped

JAPAN'S FUJI SATELLITE

up with a "birds eye view" of EME (Earth-Moon-Earth) operation.

It's time for the <u>W5KUB.COM</u> live webcast of Gigaparts' Ham Radio

Join W5KUB.com for a live, online webcast of the Gigaparts Ham Radio Day on Saturday, March 29th in Huntsville, Alabama. To join the broadcast go to <u>http://W5KUB.com</u> where the fun begins! W5KUB will feature interviews of vendors and attendees.







Minutes Highlights for March 6, 2014

President Ken Norris KK9N called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday, March 6, 2014 in Room 107 of the Kaskaskia College Education Center on Third Street in Greenville. There were 12 people present.

The minutes of the February 6, 2014 meeting were approved. Ken presented a treasurer's report that as of February 25 our balance was

John W9KXQ reported that he and Marc N9LIS cleaned connections on our 2 meter repeater. That has cleared up the audio on the repeater. John recommends replacing

those connections with power poles.

Dennis W9DAW reported that the next VE testing will be this coming Saturday in Highland. No one showed up to be tested in February. March 22 the Mormons will test in O'Fallon at their church.

Ken again reminded us to pay our 2014 dues. The Dayton Hamvention is coming up May 15-18. Several OVARC members will attend Contest University on May 15. Twelve are planning to eat steak together on Friday night, the 16th. We have reserved a suite with a king size bed, a couch, and a roll-away bed.

Tim K9XWX will lead the next meeting. We will have a computer programs round table. Everyone should bring a list of programs that they like to use.

The St. Louis Suburban RC will hold an event March 28. Several ARRL officials will attend. Has anyone been operating any of the ARRL 100th anniversary stations? Several have heard them, but no one present has worked them. The ARRL website has information.

Field Day is coming up. Plans are beginning. We need a GOTA control operator. John has done it for the last 6-7 years and would like some relief. Dennis W9DAW agreed to do that. The main pavilion is reserved, but we may be able to use a new enclosed building. Jim KF4NBG has a 6500-watt generator we can use.

Ken showed samples of name tags that a fellow at the Lebanon hamfest made. The fellow who makes them offered to give us a group rate.

Ken asked the trivia corner question: What is an LEO Satellite and what is their orbital distance from earth? Jim knew that the answer is low earth orbit, 99-1,200 miles from earth.

What is the mystery antenna that was pictured in this month's OVARC newsletter? It is a log parabolic antenna. The photo is of an antenna on an apartment building in Kuwait.

Ken presented a program about working satellites. OSCARs—Orbiting Satellite Carrying Amateur Radio have been up since 1972. Most have fallen. OSCARS have been launched from the ISS. Those satellites orbit about a month. Ken passed around a list of the 15 most popular OSCARs that are currently operational. You will need a circularly polarized receiving antenna to work them. Any dual band radio can be used (to receive on one band and transmit on another band). Software is used to track the orbit of the satellite and adjust the receiving frequency to account for Doppler shift. Several different types of antennas can be used.

Amateurs can also work EME—Earth à Moon à Earth. Amateurs send their call sign beamed at the moon and listen for their signal to bounce back—a successful EME (moon bounce) transmission. It takes 2.7 seconds for a signal sent from earth to bounce off the moon and return to earth. There is so much loss that it takes a powerful amplifier and very high gain antenna to work EME.

Cary Holman W4GRN, Secretary

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OVARC Information

Repeaters 147.165, 224.440, 442.925

2014 Officers

President Ken Norris KK9N KK9N@ovarc.net

Vice-President Tim Rapp K9XWX K9XWX@ovarc.net

Secretary Cary Holman W4GRN W4GRN@ovarc.net

Treasurer Howard Wise N9GEQ <u>N9GEQ@ovarc.net</u>

Repeater Trustees John King W9KXQ Don Stover KB9EGI KB9EGI@ovarc.net

V.E. Team Coordinator Dennis W9DAW VEteam@ovarc.net

Net Manager Clareen Dunn KB9BEB KB9BEB@ovarc.net

Webmaster John King W9KXQ webmaster@ovarc.net

> Website http://ovarc.net

2014 OVARC Officers



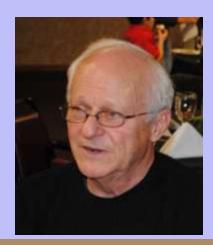
Ken KK9N, President



Tim K9XWX, VP



Cary W4GRN, Sec.



Howard N9GEQ, Tres.

CONTEST CORNER

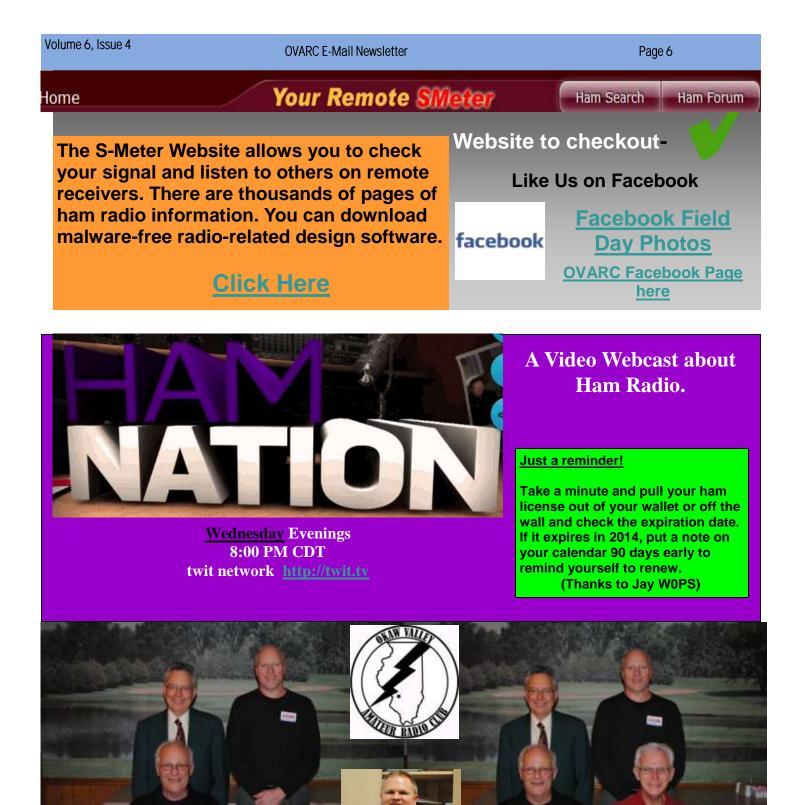
Contest Website

CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB

0000Z, Mar 29 to 2359Z, Mar 30

Rules found here

DX Code of Conduct



Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club Inc. Board of Officers 2014

Front Row: Howard N9GEQ-Treasurer Back Row: Cary W4GRN-Sec. Ken KK9N Pres. Tim K9XWX serves as VP and a Director Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club Inc. Board of Directors 2014

Front Row: Howard N9GEQ, John W9KXQ Back Row: Cary W4GRN, Ken KK9N ARES

ILLINOIS ARES SSB HF NET 3.905 MHZ LSB

The net is called at 1630 local time on the first and third Sunday of every month. They are called by Sections and Bond County is in Section or

Region 8

Bond County will be called and someone who is an ARES member, or ARES volunteer can check into the net. Every HF station in Bond County is invited if they would like to come onboard. Multiple pathways into your county with information is the goal.

WINLINK 2000



OFFICIAL DIGITAL MODE OF ILLINOIS ARES

Sometime during the week prior to the weekend of the 2nd Sunday Tim will post a message to the Illinois ARES Digital Working Group list with information specific to that month's test. subscribe here:

Illinois ARES Digital Mailing List

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IL_ARES_DWG

Tim McDonough, N9PUZ IL ARES Assistant SEC - Digital Operations Sangamon County, Springfield, IL

<u>If the Weather Net is</u>

<u>Active</u> <u>Regular Net will not be held!</u>

Net Control Schedule



Clareen, KB9BEB Api is our Net Manager. Api The Okaw Valley Api ARC holds a Api weekly net at 9:00 Ma PM on Sunday eve-

nings. The net control stations are on a rotating schedule.

April	6—W9KXQ—John
April	13—KB9BEB-Clareen
April	20—NO NET—Easter
April	27—K9XWX—Tim
May	4—WB9SLM—Kris
May	11—KK9N—Ken
May	18—W9KXQ—John
May	25—NO NET-Memorial Day

Download 2014 Schedule here



Regular Events

Club Meetings

First Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM, KC Greenville Learning Center (Kaskaskia College)



OVARC Website

http://ovarc.net

Linked Repeater System

OVARC Inc.

P.O. Box 3 Greenville, IL 62246 Club Information, Dues, Event Notices, Ideas for Programs, etc.

E-Mail Newsletter

John King W9KXQ, Editor Email: W9KXQ@ovarc.net

> Articles, New Items, Corrections, etc.

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OVARC E-Mail Newsletter



GES NASA EXPLORER SCHOOL

W9KXQ-8 APRS Digipeater Antenna

2014 Activities

Photo by W9KXQ-Nov. 2013

Photo by KC9BOZ-Feb. 2014





My View from Here! John W9KXQ

Spring is here! At least that is what the calendar says. It is time to turn our focus to repairing, or upgrading our antenna systems. Before you tackle one of these projects, I would suggest that you get a container of your favorite drink, a pencil and paper, and set down to plan out your project. Things to consider; can I afford it; can I do with out it; can I get everything required for the project; and can I get enough help to safely imple-

ment my plan? I am sure that there are many other things to consider, however, just having a plan is the first step, whether it is your antenna or some other project. Spring brings with it its own kind of weather related activities including Field Day and storms. If you haven't already, it is time to get your hand held radios charged and ready for the spring storms. Your repeater team will do its best to keep our club repeaters up and operational. Our UHF (KB9EGI) repeater gets very little use, but it is a first class repeater with good range and backup power. We are fortunate in that this repeater shares its site with the Bond County 911 Starcom Radio System complete with a backup generator.

As a reminder, when the storms start coming our way, the National Weather Service station WX0STL in St. Charles, MO will activate the weather net utilizing our <u>Linked Repeater System</u>. When this occurs, it is a good time to also monitor our 442.925 MHz UHF Repeater. Local reports can be handled on this repeater and then forwarded to the NWS on the Linked Repeater System. This keep our 2 meter repeater system available for use by all. In the past, we have sometimes forgot about this UHF repeater, but I encourage you to start monitoring it. With the price of the Chinese radios dropping to below \$39, it would be a worthwhile investment to have one as a backup to our "older" radios. If your current radio does not monitor 2 frequencies at the same time, the Chinese radio is a inexpensive means to monitor our systems.

April's meeting is our first attempt at getting more of you involved in the meeting programs. It will be more fun if more of you participate. Our next meeting is Thursday April 3rd and on Sat. April 5th, Dennis W9DAW will be testing in Greenville. For Now— from up here! 73!

Then & Now

The Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club begin helping young kids obtain their ham radio license in 2008. Recently, a photo was posted on Facebook that caught the attention of our editor. A search of our photo achieves provides this look of "Then & Now"



W9KXQ & Meghan KC9PAG 2008





Hannah KC9OYJ 2014





Meghan KC9PAG & Lindsey KC9OYI 2014

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LEWIS & CLARK RADIO CLUB HAMFEST 2014

SATURDAY - APRIL 26, 2014 - 07:00 to NOON

LOCATION: "RIVER BEND ARENA" LEWIS & CLARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE GODFREY, ILLINOIS

LARGE INDOOR FACILITIES COMMERCIAL VENDORS FLEA MARKET TABLES \$12.00 EACH Early vendor access Friday 6-9PM and Saturday 5:30AM



FOR RESERVATIONS & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT LEWIS AND CLARK RADIO CLUB HAMFEST COMMITTEE email: <u>hamfest@k9ham.org</u> Jacques KN9O at 618-401-5558

LEWIS & CLARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 25 MILES NORTH OF DOWNTOWN ST. LOUIS ON U.S. ROUTE 67, JUST NORTH OF ALTON, ILLINOIS.

AREA MAP DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Once you are on campus just look for the signs directing you to the Lewis & Clark Radio Club Hamfest.

TALK-IN WILL BE ON K9HAM REPEATER 145.230(-) PL 79.7







Ken's Trivia Corner (KK9N)

"What BASIC stand for? Who Invented it and in what year was it written?"

The answer and a prize for the winner will be given at the April 3, 2014 meeting

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FORGET!

Dues for 2014 due January 1, 2014

Dues for 2014 are \$25.00 per member per year, second family member is \$10. Student dues \$5 per year

You can pay Howard N9GEQ at club meetings or send a check made payable to Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club P.O. Box 3 Greenville, IL



World Radiosport Team Championship 2014 July 8-14, 2014

The World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) is held every four years and consists of approximately 50 twoperson teams of amateur radio operators competing in a test of operating skill. Unlike most on-the-air competitions, all stations are required to use identical antennas from the same geographic region, eliminating all variables except operating ability.

WRTC2014 will include 59 competing teams from 29 qualifying regions around the world. This will be the largest and most competitive WRTC ever!

http://www.wrtc2014.org/



Testing Opportunities

Dennis Warren W9DAW OVARC VE Team Manager

April 5, 2014

Contact Dennis W9DAW (618)-292-9638 VETeam@ovarc.net

Kaskaskia College Greenville Education Center 209 N. Third St. Greenville, IL 62246

Courtesy call or e-mail appreciated. Two forms of ID required (one with photo). If upgrading, original, plus copy of both license and any Certificates of Successful Completion (CSCE's) are required.

New Hams

<u>None</u>

A Note from Tom Ciciora KA9QPN "There were no challenging nomination petitions received at HQ for the next SM term. Consequently, I was declared 'reelected' for a new two year term starting on 1 July, 2014".

Hamfests AES Superfest April 5, 2014



IL Section Manager Thomas Ciciora, <u>KA9QPN@arrl.org</u>

Central Division Director George "Dick" Isely, <u>W9GIG@arrl.org</u>

Central Div. Vice Director Kermit Carlson, <u>W9XA@arrl.org</u>



"In December of 1968, the crew of Apollo 8 became the first people to leave our home planet and travel to another body in space. But as crew members Frank Borman, James Lovell, and William Anders all later recalled, the most important thing they discovered was Earth.

Using photo mosaics and elevation data from Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO), this video commemorates the 45th anniversary of Apollo 8's historic flight by recreating the moment when the crew first saw and photographed the Earth rising from behind the Moon. Narrator Andrew Chaikin, author of A Man on the Moon, sets the scene for a three-minute visualization of the view from both inside and outside the spacecraft accompanied by the onboard audio of the astronauts." (from YouTube website)

Thanks to Jay W0PS for Sharing this 7 minute video. You can watch it <u>here</u>, or <u>download the video here</u>. The video is in the public domain.

Want to become a Ham Radio Operator??? Contact us at OVARC@ovarc.net	 Amateur Radio Is Community Service Emergency Communications Learn new technologies for fun 	April 2014 Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 3 Greenville, IL 62246	 Worldwide Friendships A Hobby without borders! 	