

FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



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MAY 2005

Come Join Us On Sunday Evenings For Our Weekly Net 1930 hrs 145.430 – 107.2

APRIL MEETING

The May meeting of the Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club will be held on Monday, May 9th at 7:00 pm at Moraine Park Technical College in a room O-103. The topic of discussion will be Field Day 2005

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What's the Direction?

JUNE BRAT FRY

We will be having a brat fry on June 3rd, 4th, and 5th at the Truck stop in Lomira, on the corner of Hy41 and Hy67. This brat fry has been very successful in the past and should be again this year. The proceeds from this event will help fund much needed work on the Communications Truck, and Club functions. I will have a sign-up sheet at the next two club meetings for workers. We have found in the past that at least 5-6 people at all times are needed to make this happen. If anyone would like to donate a 12 pack of any Coke product, it would be appreciated. Please contact Louie Simon at 926-9789 if you can help in anyway

APRIL MEETING MINUTES

President Ed Beltz called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. in Room O-104 at Moraine Park Technical College. Ed asked if everyone had read the March minutes that were published in the club newsletter and if there were any corrections or additions. There were no corrections or additions and Ed then asked for a motion to approve the minutes as published. Gene Olig made a motion to accept the minutes as published and Lloyd Vandervort seconded the motion. The motion to accept the March minutes passed on a voice vote.

Ed then asked for the Treasurer's report. Jeff Bechner reported that the balance at the March meeting was \$1842.54 and we had an income of \$63.50 and expenses of \$44.88 for the month. The new balance for this meeting is \$1861.16. The balance is made up of the truck fund at \$375.18, repeater fund of \$430.68, Emergency services fund of \$250.35 and general use fund of \$804.95.

Upcoming bills include 28.66 for parts for Dave Witt and truck insurance of 177.25. Motion was made by Dave Witt to repay Jack Heil \$104.45 from the truck fund, seconded by Dennis Paulin. Motion passed by voice vote. Motion was made to approve treasurer's report by Gene Olig, seconded by Doug Schultz. Motion passed on voice vote.

Ed reported on correspondence regarding the downtown partners brat fry for FDL Fall Festival. He reported that the corporate name of the insurance company changed to Milwaukee Insurance out of Dallas, Texas.

Louie Simon reported on fundraisers. The brat fry in Lomira will be the first weekend in June. Hours will be Friday 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday hours will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 8 a.m. to 3 or 4 p.m. A sign-up sheet for working hours will be available at the next club meeting. The second brat fry will be the third week in August at Lomira.

Repeater report: The new chip and repeater code will be available soon and Lloyd will install the new chip. Lloyd will be checking the antenna. There are no new plans for continuing ham classes at this time. Doug Schultz announced the next testing date for May 7, 2005.

Jeff Bechner was presented an award for 144 last counties. Gene announced that at the last MARAC board meeting, it was approved to rename county hunting awards. There was no report for contests or public relations.

Dennis reported that there would be Field Day equipment checks on May 14th at 3 p.m. at the UW campus. Generators and trailers will be checked.

ARES-RACES report: There will be a simulated emergency training day coming up. Volunteers can check in with Dave Witt at the Red Cross. Volunteers are asked to wear ID badges. On April 17, there will be a MS Walk and volunteers are needed to help with the walk. Registration is at 9 a.m., the walk at 10 a.m., lasting to approximately 2 p.m.

There was no Old Business or New Business to discuss. There was no further business; the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectively submitted by Dottie Olig, Secretary – K9FDL, FDL Amateur Radio Club

DATELINE CW

By Ed, KN4Y

Fate cannot harm me; I am a CW county hunter.

I was busy preparing the mobile for the MARAC CW contest coming up fast. I downloaded a copy of the new State-County abbreviations and marked out a route. The rig checks out and the resonators are resonant. I was getting ready to tackle my Florida and Georgia QSO party logs when I hear the barking of a non-muffled internal combustion engine growing ever louder. Gator is on his way and he believes noise is power. The more noise the more power, like a chainsaw. I was glad I stopped

and refilled the cooler; it might be a long day. I hear him slide to a stop slightly bumping the recycled railroad tie. Gator comes into the shack.

“What’s up Gator,” I point to the cooler. He gets two cool 807’s and hands me one. I had breakfast with the shack on the belt boys and Fatso said this years 3M mini at Murphysboro is cancelled. Is that true?” Gator has the same look he had when someone told him the best thing to come out of Arkansas was Interstate 40. I motioned for him to sit down before he blows an artery. “Yes Gator, Bill, KM4W, after many years of hosting a great mini convention has thrown in the towel.” “Dang, and this year I was going to go to the mini and give the Dude a hug.” “He might have got wind of your plans and got out while the getting is good.” Gator ignores me, “What you going to do Dude, the only good thing in October is Halloween.” I do not try to understand Gator’s logic. I take a swig of the cool 807.

I try to look serious, “Bill, KM4W, Gene, N4ANV, Herb, W9GBH, and others produced many successful mini conventions. It is now time to turn the reins over to new blood. I think Bill’s wife did most of the work while Bill played golf. I, however, could not confirm this fact. “I heard the Gene Dude had some heart by-passes.” “Sure did Gator, he is embarking on a new mobile adventure and before he left he had the engine rebuilt. But have no fear there will still be a Southeast Mini convention.” Gator smiles, “Clue me in Dude.” I motion towards the cooler, time for a new 807, Gator gets a couple, lets the water drip off and gives me one.

“Two county hunters, Jeffrey, AF3X, and John, W5UGD, are turning the wheels towards another Southeast Mini convention but in a different location.” “Great Dude, is it in the Caribbean?” “No Gator, it will be in Chattanooga, Tennessee.” “Is that in the United States?” I give Gator the evil eye, “You know dang well where Chattanooga is, and the dates are October 6-8, 2005.” “That is the weekend of the Pennsylvania QSO party.” “So what?” “No reason” Gator gets two more 807’s. I think to myself, the top and bottom of these 807’s are too close, Gator hands me another 807, “You going to the Mini?” “Yes, I plan to attend” “Will there be a CW meeting?” “Would not be a county hunters convention without a CW meeting.” Gator gives me thumbs up. “How about a hospitality room for AL?” “Same goes for the hospitality room.”

Gator's pager activates, "Gotta go Dude, have customers waiting. Gator is out the door and roaring off into his own little world.

Going to be a busy month. The CQ World Wide CW WPX contest is May 28. That is a biggie contest. But first it is time to take a nap, and then tackle the world's problems. I jot down the web site for the Southeast Mini. <http://semini.superhosts.net>

WHAT'S THE DIRECTION?



It was commented to me the other day as to what direction the club is heading. I thought about it for a bit and said that the club seems to focus on one main purpose, and that was contesting. The person I was talking with kind of agreed with me, and that is when I said that is a dangerous thing to do. We have members in this club that are interested in other facets of Amateur Radio other than contesting. We have members that are into ARES/RACES and weather spotting. Others members like to DX, and others are into building and testing Antennas. Some are into Satellites. Then there are the members that are Technicians and enjoy being as such. There is nothing wrong with any of these things that make-up Amateur Radio. It would be great to focus on all the aspects of this Hobby, but here in lays the problem. If you are interested in some special project, and would like the club to investigate the project, feel free to step forward. Don't be shy to assume responsibility to run a project, or event. There are those that will step forward and take on a project, and then there are those that will assist. Then there are those that don't feel they have the capability to handle a project. There will always be someone there to help you. We encourage people to step up to the plate and take charge. I am sure that the direction this club takes in the future will be for the good of all the members. But we must never loose sight of what and who we are. We are Amateur radio Operators who enjoy all facets of this hobby. We have to respect everyone's opinion, no matter how minuscule it may be. Even though I am not a tester, I will still help and make every effort to ensure that this club meets it goal. As I would expect people to help me in any project that I have that would have. This is YOUR club; you make it what it is today. OK, I have said my peace, and I hope that I did not offend anyone with my comments. Thank You for your time and consideration.....KB9VQM

