

FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 6 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2006

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

Why 'W9GPI'?

by Steve Smith

Several members have asked me why I choose W9GPI as my vanity call, so I thought I would "share the story" with you.

John G. (Jack) Doyle, W9GPI, was ARRL Central Division Director in the mid 50's to sometime in the 60's. Jack had a home in Shorewood, WI, just north of Milwaukee. He owned Jack Doyle Motors at the time.

I first met Jack when he visited the Fond du Lac ARC in the late 50's and was impressed with his dedication to helping our Club (and other clubs in his division) succeed. (Jack was as old then as I am now, by the way.)

When I was a student at the Milwaukee School of Engineering in 1961, 62 and 63, and a member of the school club, W9HHX, I found myself again working with Jack. I was constantly impressed with how selflessly he worked to improve our hobby and to encourage club members to grow and try new things. From time to time I was able to travel with Jack to other clubs and see, first hand, how he related to other amateurs; and how he fostered their development. During our brief time together he was a mentor to me and helped me grow as a person.

When I began thinking about choosing a vanity call (my original call back then was K9GBK...and I just couldn't get used to my new call—'KC9IGE'. It just did not 'feel' right) I thought about Jack and checked...and was pleasantly surprised to find that his call was available. So I asked for and was awarded his old call. I honor his memory and service to amateur radio every time I use it. And it "feels" right!

Wisconsin QSO Party

Randy Grunwald, KB9KEG, reports that the results are in from the Wisconsin QSO Party and we did "fairly well" this year. He remarks that "conditions were not that great this year; but, having said that, we always have a lot of fun."

This year's goal was to gather more operators to provide a great effort from the Fond du Lac ARC. Last year we had only eight participants. This year we had a total of twenty! There could have been seven more, but their schedules were not favorable to the contest date/times.

Our (usually) mainstay mobiles had some atmospheric condition problems this year, thus the scores were down compared with last year.

All in all, a great effort but no 'barn burner' with the final results.

1996	110,488	2001	479,903
1997	134,930	2002	593,535
1998	217,403	2003	678,523
1999	446,877	2004	469,244
2000	523,499	2005	497,489
		2006	438,342

Editor's Note

Your Newsletter is late this month, and I apologize for that. As you know, I have a new job as your EC and that took more time 'getting started' than I anticipated. Then a week in Kansas City set me back again. Next month should see me back on track. Thanks for your patience and understanding!

—Steve Smith

April Meeting

The March Meeting of the Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club will be held on Monday, April 8th at 7 pm at Moraine Park Technical College in Room O-103.

**Congratulations to every member of the Club...
Your combined efforts made this recognition possible!**



AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE
225 Main Street
Newington, Connecticut 06111

April 5, 2006

Eugene Olig, KD9ZP
W 4325 4th Street Road
Fond Du Lac, WI 54935

Dear Eugene:

We are pleased to report that the Fond Du Lac Amateur Radio Club has been officially designated a Special Service Club. The next renewal for the club will be in two years. Through the work of its members, this club is recognized for its extended efforts on behalf of Amateur Radio and service to its community.

You are to be commended for your work with the club in helping it realize its potential. By copy of this letter, we are informing the club of its success. From time to time, you may want to visit our club web pages where new ideas are periodically shared at www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/. We also welcome your stories to share with other clubs, which can be sent to Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, nfusaro@arrl.org.

Congratulations, and thanks again for your good work. If we can be of further assistance, just let us know.

73,

Gail Iannone
ARRL Affiliated Clubs

cc: Director
Section Manager
ACC

112 Foot All Band Dipole for the Christmas Lights QSO Party

by Dennis Paulin, KB9OFM

So how did I come up with this?

Well lets start at the beginning. Every year the Christmas Lights QSO Party comes our way. It starts one week before Christmas and ends at the new year. That's 2 weeks of fun.

When Randy (KB9KEG) and I went to Lakeside Park to see where to put up an antenna, my thinking was what size of an antenna to put up? I knew that I needed one to work on 75/80 and I knew that a G5RV would work, but I did not think the G5RV works that great on 80 meters. I have used that type of antenna before, it's a nice antenna but I wanted something different—and better.

We were planning to utilize 40, 20 and 15 meters in addition to the 75/80 band, of course, so the antenna would have to function on those bands as well. Once installed we found that a tuner was required on 40, but all other bands could be worked without requiring any external tuner.

After we found a tree that we could use, I knew that I could not put up a full size 75/80 antenna and have the ends up high enough for safety reasons—since people do visit the park and go walking all through the area—and while looking around I determined that I could go bigger than a 102 foot antenna. So, bang, lets go with a 112 foot antenna.

I had 17 feet of 300 ladder line at home, 10 feet of 72 ohm coax for a choke, and 12 gauge wire from Jack (KG9IN). So we cut the pieces and assembled a 112 foot, center fed dipole. We fed the two legs with the ladder line, and terminated the ladder line in a SO239 connector. Then we wound an eight inch diameter balun using the 10 feet of 72 ohm coax and fed the whole thing with coax to the rig in the bandstand.

After assembling the antenna, Randy and I went to back to the park to put it up. After getting the apex up about 25 or 30 feet, the ends had to go east and west, and it was the east side that I was thinking about. Well, what luck, we had just enough room to get the east and west ends up about 20 feet. The 112 foot dipole just fit. That Friday night we were tuning around on 75 meters when we heard Canada come in like crazy, found out they were having a contest, and said, "Well lets have some fun." Boy did we get out, and then for two weeks of the Christmas Lights QSO Party, we logged over 1,000 total contacts.



So what does this have to do with a 112 foot antenna? Well, simply put, I put up as big an antenna as I could to do what we wanted to do. A 112 foot antenna plus 17 feet of ladder line equals 129 feet of electrical length, and that's 75/80 meters. We were constantly surprised at how many people would ask us, "What the heck are you people using, you're 5/9+10 or 5/9+20" all the time. Remember, when building dipole antennas, try to make it long enough for the lowest frequency, and if you cannot make the antenna long enough, use ladder line to make up the difference in electrical length. For more info, contact KB9KEG—he has been using the 112 foot antenna since the Christmas Lights QSO party was over. Next year, who knows what I will come up with?

73-de-KB9OFM

Ed Note: This is the first in a series of Antenna Articles by Dennis. You will see more, but there is no fixed timetable for when future articles will appear.

FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Minutes of March 13, 2006, Meeting

The March 13, 2006 meeting was held at Moraine Park Technical College. President Gene Olig called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Gene asked for any additions or corrections to the February minutes as published in the Club Newsletter. There were no corrections or additions voiced. Ed Beltz made a motion to approve; second was made by Lloyd Vandervort and motion passed on voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Steve Smith reported:

Truck Fund	523.18
Repeater Fund	1,164.55
Emergency Service Fund	429.93
General Use Fund	803.83
Petty Cash	25.00
Savings	25.00
Total	\$2,917.49

Motion was made to approve treasurer's report by Jeff Bechner, seconded by Doug Schultz. Motion passed on voice vote.

County Hunting

Gene Olig presented last county awards to Jeff Bechner.

Fund Raisers

There will be a brat fry at PDQ in NFDL for the Emergency Service Fund, March 18, starting at 8 a.m.

Repeater

Jack Heil will continue to pursue the Bible Press agreement. There was a motion and discussion regarding a donation to the Bible Press. Previously, a \$100 donation was made to St. Mary Springs where the repeater was located. Discussion ensued and motion made to pay the Bible Press \$100 donation carried and passed on a voice vote.

ARES/RACES

The next meeting will be held March 27th at 7 p.m., at Jack's lab. Steve Smith will be working on communications with the County Emergency Services people and reporting next month. The weather spotting meeting will be held March 21st at the County Government Building downstairs. If you go, please make sure you bring a copy of your Amateur Radio license.

Red Cross

Mike Miller will clone the second 2100. Lloyd Vandervort will arrange for the antenna rotor. Jack Heil reported that the internet is connected but remains to be checked out. Lloyd will check out the AH-4 tuner and Dennis Paulin will check dual monitors.

Testing

Doug Schultz reported the next testing will be May 13, 2006 at the usual North Fond du Lac testing location.

New Business

The Red Cross will be presenting a training class for Disaster Assessment on Saturday, April 8. Sign up by March 24th.

Dennis Paulin discussed Field Day operations and possible renovations for the trailers. He would like to work on this on a day in May.

Gene Olig reported that the Bill presented by Mr. Townsend to the State of Wisconsin (which includes business regarding special license plates) has gone to committee in Madison.

There will be a Skywarn meeting the third Monday in April.

Jefferson County has their Ham Fest coming up.

Old Business

Steve Smith reported on a phone line for FDLARC. He will check into the possibility for multiple listings for an established line.

Dennis Paulin gave an update on his plans to organize the clubs historical artifacts.

Steve Smith will e-mail Randy regarding placement of an article on the club's 50th anniversary in QST magazine, which has to be submitted this month.

Super Fest will be held 3/31 - 4/1 at AES. Motion to acquire a table for FDLARC at Super Fest was made by Ed Beltz, seconded by Jack Heil, and passed on a voice vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, motion to adjourn was made by Louie Simon, seconded by Jack Heil. Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectively submitted by Dottie Olig K9FDL
Secretary - FDL Amateur Radio Club

WI ARES/RACES Issues Training Requirements

National Incident Management System (NIMS) Required Training for WI ARES/RACES Personnel Issued March 25, 2006

The table (*on the next page*) is the training required by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) for all personnel responding to emergencies or disasters, including paid personnel and volunteers.

ARES/RACES members and leadership must complete the appropriate training by December 31, 2006.

This training is generally free and easily achieved. It provides an overview of the Incident Command System and National Incident Management System, which all responders must use.

The following resources will help you be familiar with NIMS:

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute web site:

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/>

Wisconsin Emergency Management training web site:

<http://emergencymanagement.wi.gov/sublink.asp?linksubcat2id=25&linksubcatid=53&linkcatid=79&linkid=30>

If you choose to have your EC put on the basic training, it can be done in a two-hour ARES/RACES meetings. FEMA's online courses are free and generally well done. WEM courses are free, less mileage and meals, if you have to travel. Although this training is required, it can be fun to achieve and will make us better emergency and disaster communicators. If you have not used the ICS for public service communications events, doing so will make them function better and be more efficient.



ARRL CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Level 1 Amateur Radio Emergency Communications

Course EC-001

Senior Hams are encouraged to participate!

Description

Introduction to Amateur Radio Emergency Communications. A basic course to raise awareness and provide additional knowledge and tools for any emergency communications volunteer. This course has 23 lesson units, is expected to take approximately 25 hours to complete over an 8-week period, and earns 1.5 CEUs.

The Program Fee is \$45.

NOTE: While the EC-001 Course (right) is not a requirement of ARES/RACES, your EC highly recommends the program to all ARES/RACES members.

Audience	Required Training	ARES/RACES Audience
<p>Federal/State/Local/Tribal/Private Sector & Non-governmental personnel to include: <i>Entry level first responders & disaster workers</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Medical Service personnel • Public Works/Utility personnel • Other emergency management response, support, volunteer personnel at all levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA IS-700: NIMS, An Introduction • ICS-100: Introduction to ICS or equivalent 	<p>All members and leadership personnel</p>
<p>Federal/State/Local/Tribal/Private Sector & Non-governmental personnel to include: <i>First line supervisors, single resource leaders, field supervisors and other emergency management/response personnel that require a higher level of ICS/NIMS Training.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA IS-700: NIMS, An Introduction • ICS-100: Introduction to ICS or equivalent • ICS-200: Basic ICS or equivalent 	<p>First level leadership personnel, including ECs and equivalent</p>
<p>Federal/State/Local/Tribal/Private Sector & Non-governmental personnel to include: <i>Middle management</i> including strike team leaders, taskforce leaders, unit leaders, division/group supervisors, branch directors and multi-agency coordination system/emergency operations center staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA IS-700: NIMS, An Introduction FEMA • IS-800: National Response Plan (NRP), An Introduction* • ICS-100: Introduction to ICS or equivalent • ICS-200: Basic ICS or equivalent • ICS-300: Intermediate ICS or equivalent (FY07 Requirement) 	<p>Senior leadership to include ASECs and DECAs and equivalent</p>
<p>Federal/State/Local/Tribal/Private Sector & Non-governmental personnel to include: <i>Command and general staff, select department heads with multi-agency coordination system responsibilities, area commanders, emergency managers and multi-agency coordination system/emergency operations center managers.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA IS-700: NIMS, An Introduction • FEMA IS-800: National Response Plan (NRP), An Introduction* • ICS-100: Introduction to ICS or equivalent • ICS-200: Basic ICS or equivalent • ICS-300: Intermediate ICS or equivalent (FY07 Requirement) • ICS-400: Advanced ICS or equivalent (FY07 Requirement) 	<p>Section Emergency Coordinator</p>