

FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER



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AUGUST 2006

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

Upcoming Events

ARES/RACES Training

The ARES/RACES meeting planned at the State Patrol District 3 HQ has been rescheduled to September 23rd.

The August 28th meeting will be at Jack's Lab. The sole focus of the meeting will be on IS-100 Training. Team members who have not yet passed the IS-100 program should attend. When the session is completed you will have the choice of immediately logging on to the FEMA web site and taking the Final Exam or taking your "hard copy" of the exam home and logging on to the FEMA site from there to take the final exam. The goal is to have everyone IS-100 certified at the end of the session.

If you have already completed the IS-100 program, you do not need to attend this meeting!

New Ham Training

The Club will be sponsoring a training program for people interested in becoming Amateur Radio Operators, in the fall. Doug Schultz is coordinating this program and can use volunteers who have some experience with adult training programs. If you are interested and are willing to spend some time preparing and teaching, please contact Doug.

August Meeting

The August Meeting of the Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club will be held on Monday, August 14th at 7 pm at Moraine Park Technical College Room O-103

County Board PPP Committee

Jack Heil and Steve Smith were invited to make a presentation on Amateur Radio, the Club and ARES/RACES to the Fond du Lac County Board's PPP (Protection of Persons and Property) Committee on Thursday, August 10th. In addition to the Committee, Ellen Sorensen (County Director of Administration), Aaron DeClute (Emergency Manager and 911 Center Manager) and the Sheriff's Chief Deputy, Mick Fink, were present.

The presentation was accompanied with a Powerpoint Slide Show, which covered the main "bullet" points and also included photos of the Club's Communication Van, the "group photo" from Field Day (because we wanted to somehow show that you DO exist), and the Club's 50 Yr. QSL card (we made the point that the Club has been around for a long time).

The prime purpose of the presentation was to make the County Board's PPP Committee members aware of the capabilities of the ARES/RACES Team and to ask for their help in opening a dialog with the County Emergency Manager. We started with an overview of amateur radio ("ham" radio) and the overall organization structure of amateur radio in the United States...FCC Licensing, ARRL, State Section Manger and Local Clubs. Then we talked about the public service aspect of ham radio and moved from there into ARES/RACES. We talked about organization, training, planning, preparation, mutual aid and activation plans. And, of course, the Club's Communications Van.

We were well received. Several of the committee members and Ms. Sorensen asked questions at the end of our presentation (which is always a good sign).

In our "closing remarks" we said that we did not expect the presentation to suddenly change our working relationship with the County, but that we hoped this would signal a start in discussions with the County Emergency Maanger which will lead to a working partnership.

MARAC Picnic



MARAC Picnic



Ray Grenier brought some great gear to demonstrate to the MARAC Group.



The MARAC Picnic was a huge success. Kudos to Gene Olig for “getting us involved” in the first place. Our thanks to Phil Majaris for the use of the Game Park and the warm hospitality show by members of his family to all who attended.

Special mention also has to go to Jack Bremer, K9WC, for his very tasty corn and to Ted Neuburg, W9LUQ, and his ‘garage band’ (well, they played in the garage!) for the great music.

Special recognition to Louis Simon for organizing the troops and to everyone who helped direct traffic, cook, serve, setup, tear down and clean up. Just a great job by everyone!

And the weather was very cooperative...a bright, sunny summer day in Wisconsin!

FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Minutes of July 10, 2006, Meeting

Vice President Louie Simon called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM July 10, 2006 at MPTC. Since we had a visitor Bill Schulze KC9IPU we went around the room and introduced ourselves.

Minutes

The minutes for the June meeting were published in the newsletter. Ed Beltz made a motion to accept them as written and Lloyd Vandervort seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Smith gave the Treasurer's Report:

Truck Fund	(113.57)
Repeater Fund	1064.55
Emergency Services Fund	.559.68
General Use Fund	.822.83
Petty Cash	.25.00
Savings	.25.00
Total Balance	\$2,383.49

Jeff Bechner made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and Ed Beltz seconded the motion. The motion passed on a voice vote. Steve also had some bills from Field Day that he needed approval to pay. Dave Witt submitted a bill for \$40 for gas for the generator and Gene Olig submitted a bill for \$55 for food for Field Day. Ed Beltz made a motion to pay these bills and Dan Vandekolk seconded the motion. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Repeater Association

VP Simon asked about the agreement with Bible Press for use of the repeater site and Steve Smith volunteered to write up an agreement and get it signed by both parties.

ARES/RACES

Steve Smith then reported on the Red Cross where backup battery power is now installed and reminded everyone that ARES/RACES meeting is the 4th Monday in July in Jack's lab at the UW-FDL. Steve also announced that the August ARES/RACES meeting will be held at the District 3 WI State Patrol headquarters building. *NOTE: The meeting at the State Patrol HQ has been put back a month. See separate ARES/RACES article for details.*

Reminder: All ARES/RACES members are required to take the ICS-100 online course at: www.fema.gov website as soon as possible.

Andy Martin reported on several SKYWARN activations in the last couple of weeks. Andy also reported that a new computer has been installed at the Red Cross and they are

looking at a way of getting a backup radar source if the power goes out at the Red Cross building.

MARAC Convention Brat Fry

Vice President Simon then reminded everyone that the MARAC National Convention Brat Fry will be held on July 14th at the game farm. We are in need of help between 2-3PM to setup. This is a club fundraiser and we want to show the MARAC members a great time.

Old Business

There was no report on the status of the telephone line at the Red Cross or elsewhere.

New Business

Steve reported that he and Peter Fox have made some progress on the truck and that was reported in the newsletter. Ed Beltz has a convex mirror for the truck.

Louie Simon reported the club member badges would be available at the Brat Fry for \$3.50 each from Gene Olig. The club hats have been dropped because of the cost.

Wisconsin QSO Party

Randy Gruenewald reported that our club won the WI QSO Party by 173,000 points over the second place club. This is the fourth straight First Place finish for our club in this contest. Randy also reported that in the 2006 Field Day contest our score was down from last year's score.

Adjournment

Ed Beltz made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Lloyd Vandervort seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn passed on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:33PM.

Respectfully submitted
Doug Schultz

