

FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 6 ISSUE 1

MARCH 2006

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

Wisconsin QSO Party

ATTENTION ALL HAMSTERS...

This is a reminder to all who are interested in operating the Wisconsin QSO Party. The rules are on page four.

As the rules state: You must be within 50 miles of the the club headquarters(meeting place). The Fond du Lac ARC meeting place is MPTI in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

That means the radius is:
Northern boundary is Ashwaubenum, Wisconsin.
Eastern boundary is Sheboygan, Wisconsin.
Southern Boudary is I-94.
Western Boundary is US 51.

I hope that you all have alot of fun and everyone in the country will want to work you in Wisconsin for these 7 hours. Remember to have fun most of all and say hello to your friends, old and new.

The club will be having a little get together for all who participate in the QSO party, so stay tuned for instructions and details.

Thank you all and see you in the contest.
73, Randy Grunewald KB9KEG

March Meeting

The March Meeting of the Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club will be held on Monday, March 13th at 7 pm at Moraine Park Technical College in Room A-103.

Skywarn Training Info

The Skywarn Training session is scheduled for March 21st at 6:30 at the FDL County Government Building, downstairs in the Emergency Communications Center. If you go, bring a copy of your FCC License with you for ID.

WI QSO PARTY AWARDS

WISCONSIN

Awards will be presented to the following:

- Highest single operator score in the QSO Party.
- 10 highest single operator scores in each entry class.
- Highest multi-operator score in each entry class.
- Highest aggregate club score (club member stations to be located within 50 miles of the club, except for mobiles).

NON-WISCONSIN

Awards will be presented to the following:

- Highest single operator score in the QSO Party.
- Highest single operator score in each single operator category in each state/province.

Member Profile

Jason Schneider W9SGT

Born at Elgin Air Force Base, Florida, the oldest of three children, Jason can tell you some stories about growing up with a younger brother and sister. His dad was in the Air Force, but Jason says that he dreamed about becoming a Marine since he was thirteen. The family moved to Fond du Lac when Jason was about six months old. He graduated in 1996 from Goodrich HS in FDL, married Laura and joined the Marines.

He wanted to make the Marines a career, but was wounded while on a recon mission in 1998 and, after recovering, was transferred to the Marine Reserve for the balance of his original four year enlistment, then discharged.

He managed to do a lifetime worth of living in those four years: He was awarded the Navy Cross; Silver Star; Purple Heart; Navy & Marine Corps Medal; two Bronze Stars with a Combat V; a Navy & Marine Corps Commendation Medal; a Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal; a Combat Action Ribbon; a Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation; and many others.

He also earned a Scuba Badge; Gold Jump Wings; a Rifle Sharpshooter Badge; a Pistol Expert Badge and holds the highest qualification in hand-to-hand combat. *(Basically martial arts, but adapted for the military. "You know," says Jason, "the eighteen different ways to kill a man with your bare hands." Remind me to be nice to this guy. —Ed.)*

He achieved E-5 rank (Sergeant -- hence his vanity call) quickly, due to his "commitment, unselfishness and hard work" according to his commanders. Jason says that if there was any way to do it, he would rejoin his Marine unit in a heartbeat. But he cannot pass the physical because of his combat injuries.

Jason's discovery of amateur radio was serendipitous. His wife's grandmother is blind and one of her forms of entertainment is a scanner that she uses to monitor the police, fire and ambulance frequencies. Jason became aware of the scanner and "got hooked" on all the activity. He got a scanner for Christmas in 2001, got the frequency settings from a list that his grandmother kept on a sheet of paper in the cupboard and never looked back.

He eventually found some 'ham' frequencies and listened to them. But he was not impressed by what he heard initially. The more he listened, though, the more convinced he became that there was "some-



Jason Schneider in his "shack"

thing worthwhile there". He turned to Google and found the FDL ARC web site. From there he met Chuck Theisen, who became his mentor.

Jason passed the Technician test on December 7, 2002, and was really excited to be an Amateur Radio operator. His first call was KC9CWG. Chuck loaned him an HT that first got him on the air locally and he joined the FDL ARC. Eventually, Jason says, he wound up at AES and spent \$\$\$ supplying his home and truck with gear. The vanity call that he now holds was issued in February of 2004. He took and passed the code test in May of 2005 and the General test in December.

One of his greatest thrills lately was having his (then nine-year old) son, Calvin pass his Technician test and be licensed as KC9IOK this past year.

Jason works at Quad Graphics, having been hired there after he returned from the Marine Corps.

He says that amateur radio is not his only hobby. His others include being an amateur meteorologist where he watches, forecasts and records weather patterns; he is a storm watcher and chaser; and is a body art enthusiast; and he likes watching MASH in his spare time.

FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Minutes of February 13, 2006, Meeting

The February 13, 2006 meeting was held at Moraine Park Technical College. President Gene Olig called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Sixteen members were present.

Minutes

Gene asked for any additions or corrections to the January 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 Jack Heil and motion passed on voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Smith reported:

Truck Fund	523.18
Repeater Fund	1,164.55
Emergency Service Fund	218.68
General Use Fund	707.83
Petty Cash	25.00
Savings	25.00
Total	\$2,616.24

Motion was made to approve the treasurer's report by Doug Schultz; seconded by Dave Witt. Motion passed on voice vote. Motion to pay the domain website bill of \$27 was made by Ed Beltz, seconded by Dave Witt and passed on a voice vote.

County Hunting

Gene Olig reported that applications for the National MARAC Convention in Appleton are available. Name tags will be made for the convention and special name tags will be made for FDL ARC members. Gene also reported that MARAC has applied for postal bulk mailing status.

Fund Raisers

There will be a brat fry at PDQ in NFDL to benefit the Emergency Service Fund, on Saturday, March 18, starting at 8 a.m. A schedule for working the event will be available at the March meeting.

Repeater

Lloyd reported doing some work on the repeater the past weekend.

ARES/RACES

Dave Witt reported an EC district meeting at Oshkosh this Saturday. Comments were made regarding new emergency management for FDL County. No progress has been made in the SAH radio operation discussion. Doug will work out schedules for the Sunday night net. There were 11 people checking in Sunday night. The next ARES meeting will be at the Red Cross, Monday, February 27.

Red Cross

Mike Miller programmed the 2100. Dennis purchased a wireless keyboard and mouse. A key will be made for the drawers for essentials to be locked up after use.

Testing

Doug Schultz reported the next testing sessions are scheduled for May, 2006. They will be held in North Fond du Lac.

Old Business

FDL ARC telephone line was tabled to the March meeting.

Club e-mail will be directed to kd9zp@fdlhams.org.

Every member can have e-mail at (their call)@fdlhams.org and Louie Simon will set up the "forward to" info to route that e-mail to individual member's regular e-mail addresses as soon as you tell him where you want your mail sent.

Dennis reported that the Club Historians are separating all the information they have into year by year piles.

Wisconsin QSO Party information was passed out. Everyone planning on working the QSO party on the Club's behalf should register with Randy, KB9KEG.

New Business

Gene Olig has the Operation's Manual ready. He passed a sample around for inspection by the members. \$10 is the cost for the manual and Gene promised that more additions to it will be forthcoming.

FDL ARC has a zip code change to 54936-0053.

There was discussion regarding a 6 meter logging program which is now available.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, motion to adjourn was made by Jack Heil, seconded by Lloyd Vandervort. Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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

Breaking News

Dave Witt, WD9W, resigned as ARES/RACES Emergency Coordinator for Fond du Lac County this past week. Stephen Smith, W9GPI, has been appointed to succeed Dave by the ARES/RACES District Emergency Coordinator, Dan Lenz, KB9IME and Bill Niemuth, SEC for the state of Wisconsin.

2006 WISCONSIN QSO PARTY RULES

DATE/TIME: 1800Z Sunday, March 12 - 0100Z Monday, March 13, 2006

MODES: CW and Phone. All stations may be worked once per mode on each band.
In addition, mobiles may be worked once per mode per Wisconsin county that they operate from. Mobiles cannot sit on a county line.

ENTRY CLASSES

Single Operator Fixed Multi Operator Fixed Multi Xmtr/Multi Op Fixed
Single Operator Mobile Multi Operator Mobile Multi Xmtr/Multi Op Mobile
Single Operator Novice Single Operator Tech Multi Operator Tech

POWER LEVEL: High (over 150W), Low (5 to 150 watts), QRP (less than 5 watts).
(Choose only one.)

EXCHANGE: Wisconsin stations send county.
Non-Wisconsin stations send state or province or country.

SUGGESTED FREQUENCIES

CW: 3550, 3705, 7050, 7125, 14050, 15M CW, 10M CW, 6M CW, 2M CW
Phone: 3890, 7230, 14290, 21350, 28400, 6M SSB & FM, 2M SSB & FM
** ALL amateur bands and modes, where contesting is not prohibited, may be used.

SCORING

Phone contacts count 1 QSO Point; CW contacts count 2 QSO Points. No Repeater QSOs.

Multiply CW + Phone points by Power Level multiplier to determine CONTACT POINTS.

WISCONSIN STATIONS: Multiply CONTACT points by the sum of Wisconsin counties (max. 72), plus states (max. 50) plus Canadian provinces (max. 13) worked.

Note: DX countries worked count for QSO points but not as multipliers.

NON-WISCONSIN STATIONS: Multiply CONTACT points by the number of Wisconsin counties worked (max.72). Note: Only Wisconsin contacts count.

BONUS: WISCONSIN MOBILES/PORTABLES: Add 500 bonus points for each county that you operate from, outside your home county, with a minimum of 12 QSOs per county to qualify.

LOGS: Entries must contain a log consisting of: Time (GMT), call, band, state/province, Wisconsin county, mode and a complete Score Summary including YOUR name, address and call. Circle new multipliers as worked. Logs containing more than 200 QSOs must be accompanied by a dupe sheet (separate dupe sheet for each mode). Mobile entries must indicate county changes in log. Entries must be postmarked by April 12, 2006 and sent to:

WISCONSIN QSO PARTY
WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB
P. O. BOX 1072
MILWAUKEE, WI 53201

Information on electronic log format is at http://www.warac.org/wqp/2005/wrc_cab.txt