



Theodore Roosevelt Amateur Radio Club

Serving Southwestern North Dakota

Website– <http://www.qsl.net/k0alv>

OFFICE HOLDERS OF TRARC

President.....Melissa Sheppard/KD0AAK
Vice President.....Mike Schaper/KB0OXY
Secretary/Treasurer.....Dave Sheppard/N0CI
Emergency Coordinator.....Gerry Krebs/N0JE
Newsletter Editor.....Mick Lewton/KC0RLF
Public Information Officer.....Melissa Sheppard/KD0AAK

TEST SESSIONS

If you are in need of a test session, contact either Jim Fahy N0JS or Emil Wieglanda/N0DK. Jim is associated with ARRL VEC and Emil is with W5YI VEC. They will let you know when the next test session will be held.

Jim: 701-483-6548

Emil: 701-483-4953

- ◆ August 2: TRARC meeting, 7 pm @ LEC.
- ◆ Remember that everyone is welcome to join fellow hams for morning coffee at Arby's 10:00 am, Monday thru Friday; Friday at 5:30 pm pizza at Happy Joes; Saturday morning breakfast at the Dairy Barn 9:00 am.
- ◆ Western North Dakota ARES Net: 8:30 pm every Tuesday.

The President's Thoughts

Dear TRARC Hams and Friends,

Field Day 2010 was the best I as short-timer have experienced!

We got the station up in an hour(?) and down much quicker in less than an hour! We had lots of operators. Better than I remember last year. Despite threatening weather I think we made lots of contacts. WE also had some antenna problems but they were solved!

New this year was Satellite contacts and CW contacts! Our lady hams as always provided excellent meals.... and many other hams provided snacks and beverages as well. The relationship with the Trap Club was excellent! I apologize that I do not have the Field Day statistics of yet.

I thank everyone who turned out help with the Roughrider Parade.

I have been overcome with other obligations: family matters, Red Cross, and FEMA Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT). The local Red Cross has become a branch of the Bismarck office and we have set up a local Disaster Action Team that will respond to single family disasters (mostly fires). My CERT o-coordinator Doug Walker and I have been organizing for and are putting on a CERT 2 day course July 21-22.

I look forward to our Picnic August 14-16!! All is again set with the Trap Club.

Fraternally, 73,

Melissa Sheppard KD0AAK

**Theodore Roosevelt Amateur Radio Club
Meeting Minutes
June 7, 2010**

Melissa, KD0AAK, President called meeting to order.

Introduction of members and guests followed.

Minutes of last meeting submitted by Dave, N0CI. Motion to approve minutes made by Emil, N0DK and seconded by Mike, AC0PR. Motion carried.

Dave, N0CI gave treasurer's report. Motion to approve treasurer's report made by Stan, WD0DAJ and seconded by Betty, KB0NVT. Motion carried.

Old Business

- A. Repeater Maintenance. Stan, WD0DAJ, Jason, KD0HCR, and Bill, K0UB have made repairs to the 82 site with some work still to do. Dan Walz, K0DLW will put up the temporary repeater at the 73 site and send the permanent unit in for repairs.
- B. Club Computer. A new club computer was purchased by Mike, AC0PR and Emil, N0DK. Mike, KB0OXY will transfer club data from old computer to new computer.
- C. Field Day. Melissa, KD0AAK reports that the trap club has made improvements to their club. A motion was made to pay the Trap Club \$50.00 a year for use of the club for Field Day and for the Irene, WD0DAW and seconded by Evelyn, KC0HKR. Motion carried.

New Business

- A. Roughrider Days. Bill, K0UB to discuss with Roughrider Commission about the club assisting with the Parade. Motion made by Stan, WD0DAJ and seconded by Irene, WD0DAW. Motion carried.
- B. Taylor Horsefest. Mick, KC0RLF to contact Horsefest commission about the club assisting with their parade. Motion made by Melissa, KD0AAK and seconded by Chuck, KD0DDJ. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn made by Irene, WD0DAW and seconded by Stan, WD0DAJ. Motion carried.
Winner of meeting drawing was Margaret, KB7ITR. Congratulations!

July, August Birthdays

Joe	Michels	KB0VSC	7/12
Ed	Schaper	KA0SXP	7/12
Stanley	Kittelson	WD0DAJ	7/15
Bill	Bosch	K0UB	7/16
Dick	Hansen	KC0HXG	8/3
David	Williams	K1HKY	8/18
Carol	Hanrahan	KB7WTK	8/19
Gene	Huskinson	K7CDN	8/20
Kim	Callahan	N0QAV	8/25
Marjorie	Aman	KA7LQB	8/30

History of Morse Code (Reprinted from ARRL.ORG)

Samuel F. B. Morse (1791-1872) was a painter and founder of the National Academy of Design. In 1832, while on a ship returning from Europe, he conceived the basic idea of an electromagnetic telegraph. Experiments with various kinds of electrical instruments and codes resulted in a demonstration of a working telegraph set in 1836, and introduction of the circuit relay. This made transmission possible for any distance. With his creation of the American Morse code, the historic message, "*What hath God wrought?*" was successfully sent from Washington to Baltimore.

The Morse code used in those days differed greatly from that which is used today. Morse code originated on telegraph lines and the original users did not listen to tones but instead to the clicking sounds created by sounders. They used the American Morse code as opposed to today's International Morse. When sending dahs (Morse code is composed of dits or short key closures, and dahs or longer key closures) the user simply sent two close-together dits. This was created by using a conventional code key.

With the advent of radio communications, the international Morse became more widespread. Users of the international Morse created dahs with a longer key closure, instead of two close-spaced dits. In order to increase transmission speed on early landline circuits and later on radio circuits, semi-automatic "bug" keys were invented in 1902 and were widely adopted. Bug keys used a vibrating pendulum to create dits and the user still manually creates the dahs.

In more recent times, the user can employ keyers that electronically create dits and dahs. Lambic keyers have a memory so that the user can operate a mechanical "paddle" quicker than the keying rate of the keyer. This makes for very comfortable and nearly effortless keying.

Today experienced operators copy received text without the need to write as they receive, and when transmitting, can easily converse at 20 to 30 words per minute. Morse code will always remain a viable means of providing highly reliable communications during difficult communications conditions.

Tips for learning Morse Code (CW) from Chuck Adams K7QO and Rod Dinkins AC6V (Reprinted from ARRL.ORG)

- Start! Whether you use audio cassettes, CDs, computer software, or a partner to send and receive, you won't get anywhere until you get started.
- As a small child learns first to crawl, then to walk, and finally, to run, you, too, must learn in steps. Learning Morse code (CW) properly requires both self-study, and the help of someone sending CW to you.
- Learn each character as a sound. Morse code is a language of sounds. Never write dots and dashes.
- Repetition is the key to remembering anything, including Morse characters. Some folks master it in days, others in months. All who kept at it got it.
- The Farnsworth Method is recommended. With the Farnsworth Method, you learn each character at 15 words per minute with large spacing in between characters. This has been proven to be the best method for long-range development. Once the characters are learned, copying speed is easily increased by decreasing the spacing between each character.
- Practice, practice, practice. No matter if you learn quickly, or slowly, the key to learning is practice. With enough practice, just about anyone can learn Morse code. Sometimes, skipping a day or two of practice is helpful, and can get you back on track.
- Take advantage of all available practice. Your local area may offer Morse code practice through a 2 Meter Repeater, which you can copy with a scanner. If you have a rig or shortwave receiver, you'll benefit from any CW you hear. Just listen and copy as many characters as you possibly can. Once again, practice will pay off. The more you listen, the more you'll be able to copy and understand. After a while, you'll be copying more characters than you are missing. While driving down the road, I would translate road signs to Morse code in my head - the faster the better.
- One of the best ways to practice, is to use the "Buddy System." Get a friend, spouse, relative, or anyone willing to share their time, to learn along with you. Enlist the aid of an experienced CW operator for answering questions, and making sure you don't develop any bad habits.

TRARC Newsletter Editor
 Mick Lewton / KCØRLF
 11121 31P St SW
 Dickinson, ND 58601

TRARC Membership / Renewal Application


<u>Name</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>License Class</u>	<u>B-Day</u>	<u>ARRL</u>	<u>VE</u>
1 _____	_____	_____	Mo() Day()	Y N	Y N
2 _____	_____	_____	Mo() Day()	Y N	Y N
3 _____	_____	_____	Mo() Day()	Y N	Y N
4 _____	_____	_____	Mo() Day()	Y N	Y N
5 _____	_____	_____	Mo() Day()	Y N	Y N

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

- Membership Type**
- Family \$30
 - Regular \$25
 - Digital User \$10
 - Under 16 \$10
 - Over 65 \$10
 - Newsletter Only \$8

Home Phone Number () _____ - _____

E-mail Address _____

<p>Mail this form to:</p> 	<p>TRARC PO Box 1854 Dickinson, ND 58602-1854</p>
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*Note: The information on this form will not be given out. It is only used to maintain a database of information for all club members. If you do not feel comfortable giving out this information, you are **not** required to do so.*