



# 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/KC0RFL  
*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*

- ◆ February 1: 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 Friends,

**Thank you to so many who turned out for the January 4<sup>th</sup> meeting!** I take this as a sign that many, many TRARC members care about the club and its continuation as we all go through the transitions of "passing of the baton". I was truly heartened by this manifestation of care.

For those who did not attend, I accepted another year as your President. I hope I can do a better job this next year! I didn't find it easy "learning the ropes" and I still feel "green as grass. I recently attended Ken Muggli's K0HL "Radio for the Sake of Radio" breakfast in Glenn Ullin along with other Dickinson, Mott, and SW ND hams and came away positively enthused about TRARC and amateur radio. We have a good club! We need to grow our club and amateur radio in SW ND also....meet the interests and needs of SW ND hams.....and have some fun along the way!

I want to *especially* thank and commend **Mike Schaper, KB0OXY**, our new *Vice President*, and **Dave Sheppard, N0CI**, our new *Secretary/Treasurer* for stepping up to leadership positions. **Most especial hearty thanks go to Laurie Heick, KC0NHW, for her many years of service as Secretary/Treasurer and to Margaret Wieglanda, KB7ITR, for her many,many years of service as club Historian!** While Dave Sheppard has assumed the Secretary/Treasurer office.....*we have a void left by Margaret retirement!* I repeat Glenn Nickel's call: Please submit something for the newsletter! For entertainment or edification! You can email me: [dmshep47@hotmail.com](mailto:dmshep47@hotmail.com) or Mick Lewton, editor, [mlewtan@ndsupernet.com](mailto:mlewtan@ndsupernet.com) , or by snailmail and we'll re-format it!

**After discussion**, it was the decision of club members present to keep to our present monthly meeting schedule vs. reducing the number. No changes were made presently to our various community outreach and social calendar either.

**As to the annual winter/spring Technician Licensing Course**, the membership present decided to try another method. The club will advertize and hold an orientation for interested students, help them obtain texts, point them toward on-line and pod-cast study sources, and let them self-study. We will provide a list of mentor hams willing to answer questions additionally. Please refer them to any club official and mentor them yourself anyone you meet who is interested as we try this less structured teaching system!

**Lastly**, dear friends, it has been suggested by a few friends that I try and make the business portion of the club meeting *more efficient* so that we can incorporate *some fun* afterwards: games, food, "hammy" topics, etc. *We want people to want to come to our meetings!* Let me know what you think.

Fraternally, 73,  
Melissa Sheppard KD0AAK

**Theodore Roosevelt Amateur Radio Club**  
Meeting Minutes  
January 4, 2010

Melissa, KD0AAK, President called the meeting to order.

Introductions of members and guests followed.

Minutes submitted by Laurie, KC0NHW, Secretary/Treasurer.

Minutes of last meeting were approved on a motion by Bill, K0UB and seconded by Emil, N0DK. Motion carried.

Laurie, KC0NHW, gave the treasurer's report. Motion to approve treasurer's report made by Evelyn, KC0HKR and seconded by Dave, N0CI. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

- A. Antenna – Bill, K0UB purchased a new dual band antenna to put up at the LEC.

**New Business**

- A. Tech Class – Discussion of having mentors to assist with the Introduction to tech class. An orientation day will be set up and see how many people we have interested in the class. They will discuss on that day if they would be interested in using mentors instead of having classes every Saturday. Melissa will put out a community announcement with the date and her as the contact person. Jim, N0SJ, Gerry, KD0DDH volunteered to assist. Those who volunteered as mentors are Jim, N0SJ, Mike, AC0PR, Gerry, KD0DDH, Bernie, KC0RRJ and Ken, K0HL.
- B. Election of Officer's – Any nominations for President? Melissa, KD0AAK was nominated for President on a motion by Dave, N0CI and seconded by Emil, N0DK. Any other nominations for President? Motion made that nominations cease for President and we cast a unanimous ballot. Motion carried. Any nominations for Vice President? There were no nominations for Vice President. Suggestion from a member that if anyone would like to volunteer for the position do so. Mike, KB0OXY came forward. Any other nominations for Vice President? Motion made that nominations cease for Vice President and we cast a unanimous ballot made by Stan, WD0DAJ. Motion carried. There were no nominations for Secretary/Treasurer. Would anyone like to volunteer for the position of Secretary/Treasurer? Dave, N0CI came forward and volunteered. Any other nominations for Secretary/Treasurer? Motion made that nominations cease for Secretary/Treasurer and we cast a unanimous ballot made by Bill, K0UB and seconded by Betty, KB0NVT. Motion carried.

Winner of the meeting drawing is Margaret, KB7ITR. Congratulations!

Meeting adjourned.

# February Birthdays

Michael	Hastings	N0UDG	2/13
David	Sheppard	N0CI	2/13
Warren	Pierce	K7UPS	2/17
Emil	Wieglanda	N0DK	2/20
Faye	Nelson	K0TUP	2/25

### “HAM SNIPS AND TIPS”

Here is our inaugural column by and for TRARC members and other interested North Dakota Hams. Ken Muggli K0HL has submitted our first article. Thank you Ken!

I'm looking for more submissions! They can be about anything you think we hams might enjoy! Stories of hams here in ND, reminisces, histories about the club and how we grew...setting up repeaters (who all did that and when?), tech tips, ham humor and fun! Just email or snail me. Handwritten notes are fine too!

#### General Information - Baluns:

Balun is an acronym for BALANCED to UNbalanced, which describes certain circuit behavior in a transmission line, source or load. Most communications applications deal with two-terminal sources, transmission lines, and loads. This includes coaxial cables, open wire lines and systems working against earth or ground plane as the "second conductor". There are two types of baluns: Current Baluns and Voltage Baluns.

#### Current Baluns

Current baluns allow the output voltage, with respect to "ground" or outside world, to float to any value required to provide equal currents to each feedline conductor. In essence, current baluns are a universal device that could be used to drive either balanced or unbalanced lines equally well. Current baluns isolate the device connected at one end from the device connected at the other end, so the balanced terminals can be used to feed unbalanced phase-invertors, baluns or un-uns.

#### Voltage Baluns

Voltage baluns always try to force the output to equal voltages, which means currents can be far from even. A voltage balun almost certainly guarantees some feedline radiation (or reception), because there are very few "perfectly balanced" loads.

#### Summary

Use current baluns rather than voltage baluns whenever possible. Current baluns provide better balance, often have lower loss and tolerate load impedance and balance variations much better than voltage baluns. AR

K0HL Ken Muggli

### Welcome to the North Dakota ARRL Section News for December 2009

It is already the New Year and spring will be coming soon. With warmer weather comes our first hamfest of the year at Bismarck on February 27th, and then on April 17th the West Fargo Hamfest.

The Boat Anchor Net on Saturday's after the 12:30 PM WX Net is active and has been a real success! Listen in and you will hear some real vintage radio!

\*\*\*\* Upcoming Events \*\*\*\* The Bismarck Hamfest will be held on February 27, 2010 from 7 AM until 3 PM at St. Mary's Grade School in Bismarck. The Red River Radio Amateurs will host the West Fargo Hamfest in April with more details to come. There will be a North Dakota Net Control's meeting and an ARRL Forum at both the Bismarck and West Fargo Hamfest. The North Dakota QSO Party will be held on March 20th & 21st, 2010 and it will be a full 24 hour contest this year. Go to [www.w0cq.com](http://www.w0cq.com) for both the upcoming Hamfest listings, the ND QSO party rules and much more.

\*\*\*\* December Net Report \*\*\*\* The Goose River Net on 160 Meters- 1.895 MHz, Sundays at 8:30 AM CST reported 4 Sessions, 62 Check-ins & 1 Message passed.

The ND CDO/WX Road Net on 75 Meters- 3.937 MHz, 8:30 AM CST & 12:30 PM CST, Monday thru Sat reported 53 Sessions, 1097 Check-ins & 16 Messages passed, and the DataNet on 75 Meters- 3.397 MHz, 5:00 PM CST, Daily reported 30 Sessions, 706 Check-ins & 55 Messages passed. A special thanks to our Net Controls in December- AI0Q for the Goose River Net, KA0ETO, KR0W, W0HS, K8BBM, K0MAD, W0KRC, K0HDA, KD0YX, W0CQ, for the WX/Road Net and W0TF, N0CKB, K8BBM, W0OSP, W0FC, K0MAD, W0KRC, KD0YX, K0TLW for the DataNet. As many of you have noticed, we have been experiencing QRM on 3937 kHz due to the band conditions at sunrise and sunset and the frequency of 3935 KHz has been excellent solution. Our plans are to stay on the 3935 KHz for the month of January, then determine if we should move back or permanently stay on 3935 KHz.

\*\*\*\* Section Managers Notes \*\*\*\* You can now print out the Latest North Dakota Operators List, the "New" Dakota Amateur Traffic Net Preamble, the "New" North Dakota Weather Net Preamble, the North Dakota Amateur's Email Address List and the Upcoming 2010 North Dakota QSO Party Rules at [www.w0cq.com](http://www.w0cq.com) website.

We just got in some new numbers for licensed hams in 2009 and there were 30,000 (yes, that's THOUSAND) new hams in 2009.

Thanks to clubs, mentors, Elmers, teachers, VEs, and all the other people who are out there working and promoting the Amateur Radio Service. With over 30,000 new hams in 2009, there are now over 670,000 hams in the USA.

MAKE SURE YOU CHECK THE NORTH DAKOTA SECTION NEWS FOR THE LATEST NORTH DAKOTA ACTIVITIES & NEWS AT [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org). This site has an Alert Section that allows me to put out quick alerts. If you have any special announcements, feel free to email me [w0cq@arrl.org](mailto:w0cq@arrl.org). Until next month... 73's Lynn - W0CQ

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><b>Mail this form to:</b></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.*