



STATIC

A Publication of the Starved Rock Radio Club

November 2008

Meeting Notes....

Meeting starts at 7:07pm with 26 members and guests present.

Minutes and Treasurer's Report passed around the group. Kurt, KB9RKU motions to accept minutes with Gary, WK9G's second. Ayes carry. Mark, K9ZQ has question about Treasurer's Report over gas bill being \$159. Frank KF9NZ says he put club on payment plan months ago. Frank motions to accept report with Gary's second. Ayes carry.

Activities: Tom, K9ML mentions hamfests coming up. John, AA9VT mentions ARRL Sweepstakes next weekend. Tom reads club calendar to group.

Building and Grounds: Eldon, KB9PZA continued to seal gaps around foundation. He says one corner of building needs concrete work to seal gaps. Gary mentions insulating attic. We have to clean junk out of attic to do job properly.

Equipment: Kurt went up to UW Verona for equipment sale and brought back an overhead projector for club use. Tom has laserjet transparency sheets that work with projector. Kurt brought angle iron for next years antenna projects. Club thanks John for donation of Xcvr to put APRS back on air.

Repeater: Frank tried to adjust time from remote location, but it didn't take. He reset time before meeting. Frank finished the voltage diagram so we have guide for troubleshooting.

Bill, KA9FER donated complete set of MSR2000 update info to club. Repeater can be accessed by crossbanding 434.350MHz to 147.120MHz.

Repeater Monitor; Rich, N9OUW says its okay now time is updated so don't fix it.

Hamfest: Jim, KC9FGU says not much happening. Gene, N9MRG made billboards to wear when walking around hamfests to sell tickets. He did that at Peoria and sold some tickets.

Cecil, KB9LNK thanks Joe, KB9EZZ, Kim, KC9EMO and Frank for bringing food.

Field Day: Joe talks about JOTA.

Training: Joe tells group about ground search and rescue training on November 15-16. Course costs \$25, \$20 CERT members. Interested persons must register by November 7. Skywarn Appreciation Day is December 5-6 at Romeoville. Britt Fidler, KC9OOP upgrades to general at VE session before meeting.

Old Business: Group discusses attic insulation.

New Business: Nomination of 2009 officers starts with President. Gary nominates Frank. Rich and Kurt nominate Cecil. Franks motions to close with Gary's second.

Tom nominates Eldon for Vice President. Kim nominates Rich for VP. Frank nominates Bill for VP. Kurt throws his hat in for VP. Tom motions to close with Gary's second.

Gary nominates Tom for Secretary. Gary motions to close with Rich's second.

Frank nominates Mark for Treasurer. Sam, KC9OJF throws his hat in for treasurer. Eldon points out that Sam is under legal age to sign checks. Tom says he will call bank to see what can be done or not. Tom motions to close with Gary's second.

Gary nominates Rick, KO5HKO for Static Editor. Gary motions to close with Tom's second.

Frank nominates Gary for one of three Directors. Dennis, KC9EXG throws his hat in for Director. Jim nominates John for Director. John nominates Jim for Director. Tom motions to close with Gary's second.

Eldon asks about paper ballot or pulling names from can to elect officers. Tom motions for paper ballot with write-ins. Dennis seconds the motion. Eldon says that write-ins not allowed under club constitution. Tom disagrees, but important thing is a paper ballot.

Ayes carry.

Rick motions to adjourn with Gary's second. Ayes carry. Meeting ends at 8:09pm.

Recorded by Tom Chromzack, K9ML

2009 Elections...

The elections for 2009 officers will be held during the December meeting. The nominations are as follows:

President: Frank, KF9NZ & Cecil, KB9LNK

Vice President: Kurt, KB9RKU / Eldon, KB9PZA / Rich, N9OUW / Bill, KA9FER

Secretary: Tom, K9ML

Treasurer: Mark, K9ZQ

SKYWARN Appreciation Day

The annual SKYWARN appreciation day will be held on Saturday, December 6, 2008 beginning at 00:00 UTC. The NWS Chicago Forecast Office will welcome hams to stop by and operate.

This year, the NWS will also be using area repeaters based upon a fixed schedule to make contacts. The schedule is to be posted to their website. **NO OPEN HOUSE THIS YEAR.**

VE News

The following individuals upgraded or earned their "tickets" during SRRC sponsored VE sessions in November.

Britt Fiddler, KC9DRH, Hopewell, IL – Upgraded to general class. New callsign of KC9OOP.

Tom Vagasky, W9TLV, Streator, IL – Earned VE Credentials.

Effective Jan 1, 2009 VE testing fees will go up by \$1 from \$14 to \$15. This change was announced in a press release issued by the ARRL on Nov. 6, 2008.

GSAR Training

On Saturday, November 15 2008, the LaSalle County EMA hosted a ground search and rescue class held at Cailan Park near Ottawa, Illinois. The following area hams attended the 12hr class: Laurie Bradach – W9CAV, Keith Risley – KB9VFX, Joe Tokarz, KB9EZZ, Mark Gebhardt, K9ZQ.

Kurt, KB9RKU made maps of the course for APRS use and Jim, KC9FGU allowed use of the digipeater. Here is a photo of the map tracking Joe, KB9EZZ:



CQ purchases WorldRadio Magazine

Printed from CQ website: <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/WorldRadioConver.html>

How Your WorldRadio Subscription Will Be Honored By CQ

Choices, choices, choices!

CQ Communications, Inc., publisher of CQ Amateur Radio, Popular Communications, and CQ VHF magazine, has acquired WorldRadio magazine. As part of our responsibility of that acquisition, we will be fulfilling WorldRadio subscriptions with publications from the CQ Group.

WorldRadio will continue to be published as an online-only magazine, but our current plan is to make it open-access, without charging for subscriptions.

Since there are several different possible subscription situations with our new friends from WorldRadio, we have several different solutions designed to fit everyone's needs. We are confident that one of the solutions will fit your personal situation, and we pledge to work with you to the best of our

ability to make the transition as smooth and pleasant as possible. However, you have choices to make!

Here are the situations that we're anticipating:

Regular (Non-Life) WorldRadio Subscribers

Current subscribers to WorldRadio will receive one issue of CQ for each issue of WorldRadio they are currently scheduled to receive. For instance, if you have 18 issues of WorldRadio still due, you will receive 18 issues of CQ instead.

If you are already a subscriber to CQ, we will add the WorldRadio issues to your existing CQ subscription.

You will also have the option of having your WorldRadio subscription fulfilled with either Popular Communications magazine, or CQ VHF magazine on a year for year basis. That is, if you have 12 issues remaining on your WorldRadio subscription and decide that you'd rather receive CQ VHF instead of adding on to your CQ sub, we'd set you up with a year's worth of CQ VHF, which means you'd receive the next 4 issues of CQ VHF, which is a quarterly publication.

Life Subscribers to WorldRadio

Here's where things get more complicated!

Many subscribers to WorldRadio have signed up for a very deeply discounted lifetime subscription. None of the subscription price you paid for that Life Subscription has come to CQ, making it economically impossible for CQ to continue to honor your old WorldRadio Life Subscription. But, you're not going to be left out in the cold. Instead, we will honor the full amount you paid for your WorldRadio Life Subscription, and apply that full amount to: A) A new subscription to CQ if you don't already subscribe, at the regular CQ subscription rate of \$36.95 per year, or B) Apply the amount you paid to a subscription to one of CQ's sister publications, CQ VHF, or Popular Communications.

For example, if you paid \$100 for a WorldRadio life subscription way back in 1987, and have received issues ever since, we'll credit the entire \$100 towards a new CQ subscription, which will have CQ coming your way for the next 33 months ($\$100 \text{ divided by } \$36.95 = 2.71 \text{ years}$ which we'll round up to 2-3/4 years or 33 months).

What if you also have a life subscription to CQ? You have to option of transferring your "Lifetime Value" to another of the CQ Publications: Popular Communications, or CQ VHF, using the same calculations as described above. For instance, if you have a \$100 "Lifetime Value" to your credit and decide that you'd like to receive Popular Communications, the subscription you'd receive would be 37 issues ($\$100 \text{ divided by the Popular$

Communications rate of \$32.95 = 3.03 years, which we will round up to 37 issues).

If none of the above life subscription solutions fits your interests, there's still another option available to you: Use your "Lifetime Value" to purchase items of equal value from the CQ Bookstore. That includes books, CDs, calendars and apparel, and that value may also be applied towards any shipping charges.

We want to make you as happy as possible during this transition. Think about how you'd like us to handle your personal situation. If your choice is to receive CQ (or extend your current CQ subscription) no action is necessary – your subscription will begin with the February issue (or extended appropriately). If you'd like to receive one of our other publications, please notify us in writing by mail or fax by January 5th. Simply jot down your complete World Radio address label information and note your magazine choice below it. Mail/fax this information to us at CQ Communications, Inc. 25 Newbridge Road, Hicksville NY 11801, fax 516-681-2926.

And remember, WorldRadio will continue to be published as an online-only magazine, with open-access through the CQ web page <www.cq-amateur-radio.com>, without charge.

Choices, choices, choices!

CORRESPONDENCE

With my apologies, the following letter was submitted to me by Tom, K9ML for printing in STATIC. As I have not had the time to devote to STATIC, it became lost in the accumulating papers on my desk. Here is it printed as received:

Starved Rock Radio Club
PO Box 198
Leonore, IL 61332

Sept 24, 2007

Tom Chromzack, K9ML

Enclosed is a donated copy of QST of September, 1938. See Silent Keys, page 98, also ARRL National Convention, page 44.

Thank you for the tickets to next year's hamfest. I am glad to see the Starved Rock Radio Club is still active after nearly 75 years.

Bear with me a bit as I reminisce about my ham experiences. I grew up on a farm near Rochelle. We did not have electricity, phone, or indoor plumbing. All water had to be hand carried in from the windmill pump. We used kerosene lamps, corn cob cooking stove, Saturday night bath in washtub. I attended a one room country school with 15 students in 8 grades.

We had an AM radio that ran off a 6 volt car battery that Dad took to town for recharging. Later we upgraded to a radio that used dry cells. I was allowed to listen to "The Lone Ranger" and "Jack Armstrong". Dry cells were expensive.

When I was in 8th grade, we had our house wired and finally got electricity. I resurrected an old Philco from my uncle's junk pile and got it working. Dad remembered some people who were "radio hams" when he was growing up in Mendota and suggested I might find it interesting. I discovered the newsstand in Rochelle had a magazine called "QST". This introduced the world of ham radio.

I never could find any real hams in our area so finally took some money from doing farm chores (which included hand milking 4 cows) and ordered a Hallicrafters S-38 from Allied Radio for \$39.95. I rented an Instructograph to learn the code and finally got up the nerve to take the bus to Chicago to take the novice exam. Passed and got the call WN9BDD in Sept. 1953. With some more farm chore money, I ordered an Eldico TR-75TV CW transmitter kit for \$64.95 plus 2 crystals. I installed an 80 meter dipole from the barn to the windmill and on Oct 21 made had my first QSO with WN9ZDO in Milwaukee. Exciting!

Then began hamming in earnest and made dozens of CW contacts in the 80 meter novice band. Kept getting better at CW, went again to Chicago over Christmas vacation and passed the general exam, now W9BDD. My first QSO was with W9EPD also in Milwaukee.

I built a cathode modulator for the 60 watt CW transmitter and now had a rousing 30 watts on AM. After a number of very nervous CQ calls, finally had my first phone QSO with W9HPC in Two Rivers, Wis on January 30, 1954. After that the log filled up fast with 75 meter AM Phone contacts.

Even had a QSO with a farmer about 5 miles away, Bud, W9BKW, so finally was able to met a real live ham in person.

Dad financed a receiver upgrade to a National NC-57 as a bonus for taking care of the chickens while my Mom was expecting my little sister. I never did like chickens; the hens get so grouchy when you reach in the nest to the collect the eggs.

Bud suggested we take in the Princeton Hamfest in June, 1954. This was a very memorable experience; I got to meet dozens of hams and a lot of displays. I spent \$99.95 for a brand new assembled Globe Scout of my precious farm chore fund (I once worked for a farmer 3 days behind a hay baler, hot, dirty, hard work for 20 dollars). This Hamfest in fact changed the whole direction of my life.

I spent the summer of 1954 in daily QSO's with my new found friends in northern Illinois on 75 meters. While cultivating corn with the Allis WD, I would keep a noon time sked with my friends and try to work DX at night with the nifty Globe Scout.

In September 1954, I enrolled in the Electrical Engineering School of Purdue University. It was a real thrill to operate from the Purdue Amateur Radio club station, W9YB. After graduation with a BSEE, I served in the Army for two years with tough duty as a KH6 at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii, followed by 2 years in the Research Department of Automatic Electric Labs in Northlake, Illinois. Then came the chance for the dream job for a ham EE.

I was hired by the E.F. Johnson Company in Waseca, Minn. as a design engineer. Everybody from Edgar on down was a ham. My home shack was now a Drake 2B receiver with a Johnsons invader 2000 running 2000 watts PEP SSB into a full size Johnson 20 meter beams, a long ways from the Eldico with 30 watts AM.

After 6 years a Johnson, the company decided to exit the ham business. Carerr wise, the computer business looked like the way to go, so I reluctantly left Johnson for a position with a large computer company in Minneapolis. This was really cool and challenging, involving some world wide travel. Once I was sent to Japan and picked up a Yaesu transceiver at the local Tokyo electronic bazaar.

After 31 ears in various engineering positions within the computer industry, I retired, now with time to ham. Too bad the sunspots are so few.

One final point, it demonstrates how one event like the Princeton hamfest in 1954 can have a lifetime impace.

73

Ken Larabee, W0AP

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1, 2008

7pm

Monthly Club Meeting

SRRC Clubhouse, Leonore, Illinois

December 6, 2008

00:00 UTC (12/5/08 6pm)

SKYWARN Recognition Day

NWS Chicago Forecast Office

Romeoville, Illinois

Nets

Every Wed at 7pm - SRRC Net

Every Sun at 7pm - ARES Net

Held on the W9MKS Repeater

147.120 (+) 103.5 PL

ARES Breakfast

Every Sat at 8am

Ottawa Burger King

Contact Joe, KB9EZZ if any questions