



The Feedline

March 1999

Vol. 20, No. 3

Calendar of Club Events

MEETINGS

Club meetings are usually at the Red Cross building, 4860 Sheboygan Avenue, Madison. Regular meetings start with business matters at 7:30 PM, followed by the program unless otherwise noted. Programs are subject to change. Updates are posted on the FLARC2 packet station at 147.555 (1200/9600 Baud) and 446.100 (1200/9600 Baud).

MEETING DATES AND PROGRAMS

- | | |
|------|---|
| 3/2 | Video of Father Moran 9N1MM at the Clinton, Iowa, ARC |
| 3/16 | Handheld Antenna Analyzers – Ted Gisske K9IMM |
| 4/6 | Rescue at Sea (video courtesy of Pete Byfield K9VAL) |
| 4/20 | TBA |
| 5/4 | County Hunting – Gari Berliot NG9V |
| 5/18 | Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network – Pat McPherson WW9E |
| 6/8 | Field Day preparations |
| 6/22 | Field Day preparations |
| 7/6 | no meeting |
| 7/20 | HDTV by Ken Dixon W9XM |
| 8/3 | no meeting |
| 8/17 | Fox Hunt with Don Michalski W9IXG, Jim Lattis KB9REO, and Tony Rick AA9OC as foxes. |

BUCK NIGHT WINNERS

The winner on February 2 was Kevin Graniero KF9AQ. Absent were Dan Egan N9HFR, Keith Hester KS9C, and Ray Bade, W9NJH. The winner on February 16 was Larry Seidl KG9OX. Absent were Jennifer Lattis W9JEN and Donna Gehl KG9LA.

Prez Sez

Hello, Everyone!

Get ready for March 14, 1999, and this year's Wisconsin QSO Party. It's our chance to take back our number one status. With a little effort we can do it again! Start time is 12 noon CST (1800Z).

There's an operating category for everyone: fixed station, mobile, cw, or phone. Choose the mode that best uses your skills. It's easy to rack up points: One point for a phone contact, two points for a cw contact. There are multipliers for working other counties and/or Canadian provinces. There are also extra points for operating mobile and contacting /working from counties other than your own. Complete details are available in the March edition of *Badger State Smoke Signals*.

George Shands W9WUU and Steve Franzen N9CK will be coordinating FLARC's efforts this year. At our first meeting in March, George will provide an overview of the contest and answer your questions. Steve will distribute some copies of the contest-logging program. (This program and contest particulars are also available from the QSO Party Website: www.execpc.com/WARAC.) Steve will be tabulating our club's entries so they can be submitted as a group. So be sure to get your log to him as soon as possible after the contest!

Entries must be postmarked no later than **March 31, 1999**. Good luck in the contest!

73 de *Dave*

FLARC NETS

Sunday morning on 28.350 MHz at 9:30 AM. Warm up on 3.985 between 9-9:30 AM.

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SATURDAY MORNING "ZILCH" LOCATIONS

The eastside Zilch (ham breakfast) is at 8:00 AM at the Green Lantern in McFarland. The westside Zilch is at 10:30 AM at Fitzgerald's on the Beltline in Middleton. Come join us!

MADISON AREA INFO NET

Thursday evenings on 147.15 at 8 PM. Backup frequency is 146.76. Traffic/check-ins are welcome.

MADISON WEB PAGE

Visit this address: <http://members.aol.com/staskc2ak> and link to the new site. Keep checking the links page for new goodies!

These club members are celebrating birthdays:



WD9FLI	Steve Wiswell	3/2
WB9ELB	Sanford Rotter	3/3
WB9UKU	Paul Davig	3/3
N9HNN	John Pellett	3/4
KF9AF	Mike Sonn	3/6
N9PHR	Steve Andrusz	3/6
N9RZL	Gale Urbainzick	3/10
K9MA	Scott Ellington	3/16
KB9LIE	Peg Haese	3/24
KF9AQ	Kevin Graniero	3/27
K9SFI	Duane Brummel	3/29
WB9NOV	Frank Holliday	3/30
WB9BRF	Al Jeardeau	4/2
WB9VHF	Paulette Quick	4/4
W9RNF	Sharon Toal	4/4
KA9BDY	Corky Holmquist	4/7

WISCONSIN QSO PARTY UPDATE

News flash: Mobiles can post their planned or tentative routes and frequencies on the County Hunters' web page: www.execpc.com/WARAC/wqp.html (the QSO Party home page) Follow the link. Be sure WARAC is in all caps. Help activate those rare

counties! This will help increase scores for mobiles as well as fixed stations.

If you need copies of the rules, a list of multiplier abbreviations, or summary sheets, you can find them in the January *Feedline*. You can also get them from the editor (address in this newsletter).

CALLSIGN CHANGES

Jennifer Lattis is now W9JEN (ex-KB9UAP).

Member of the Month

by Jack Johnson KC9A

My ham career began when I was living near Chippewa Falls. I received my Novice license in March of 1976. My call was WD9AXF. I had a rig and an antenna, and the day the license arrived, I went on the air and called CQ on 15 meters and worked California. What a hoot!

I worked hard that spring and summer and by mid-August had worked all states as a Novice. I then went to Saint Paul, MN, and took the test for General and passed. Soon after receiving my General license, I began to work counties on the county-hunter nets. I traveled a lot and operated a lot of mobile while working in the northern part of Wisconsin. I would even take the rig into my motel room and add a 50"-piece of coax and operate from the motel room at night. The county hunting kept me busy for a couple of years, and I received the USACA Award number 226 for all counties USA in 1979.

After working all counties, I began to work DX in earnest. I built a big quad (4 elements on 10 and 15 and 3 elements on 20 on a 20-foot boom) and put it on an 80-foot tower. It sure did play well! I was still traveling a lot and began to work mobile cw to pass the time. I managed to work 62 countries from the car and really improved my cw. One evening I was working a "4 lander" who had a computer and was able to clock my speed. We were going back and forth at 35 words per minute, and this was while I was driving at night! That prompted me to acquire my Extra class license, and I changed my call to KC9A.

In about 1983 we were heading into a sunspot low. I wanted a directional antenna for those conditions, so I built a bigger quad. The boom was 2 tower sections and had 4 elements on 10, 15, and 20 plus 2 elements on 30 and 40. It was fun while it lasted, but it went the way of all big quads and broke in a windstorm. I didn't have the energy to start over, so I picked a

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small triband yagi, and that was my system until I moved to the Madison area in 1991. I've had antenna restrictions since then so I've sold all of my hf gear and operate 2 meters while in the car and really not much of that. I have managed to work about 277 countries and have 227 confirmed. I feel my DX career is over as I have no desire to get into that mode again.

Just think—in 2 years I can join QCWA!

W9B Special Event Station

by Paul Goemans WA9PWP

A ham radio special operating event was held December 19, 1998, in the Capital Brewery beer "garten." Ops racked up a total of 129 contacts with other ham operators around the United States coast-to-coast (32 states) and Canada, France, Europe, Asiatic Russia, England, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Argentina, and Australia! Not bad for temporary setups! I could not have done it without the planning, setting up, and other help given by Capital Brewery (they supplied food and a nice, warm bonfire!)

Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club also provided supplies. Ops were Paul Goemans (hey, that's me!), Peg Haese, Dan Tracy, Kevin Graniero, Steve Ensley, Don Faith, Karl Wigdal, Sue Wigdal, Dave Schaefer, and Ted Gisske. I hope I didn't forget anybody!

The QSL cards have started arriving. We are sending out the QSL card below (in color, for those who get the "e-letter") that was designed by Carol Hoke NS9L. We hope the hams who worked us will enjoy putting it on their wall and displaying it.



SALVATION ARMY ASSISTS WITH COLOMBIAN EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY

By Mike Gelski, KBØPVD/SATERN

Three Salvation Army disaster relief teams are helping residents of Armenia and Pereira, Colombia, to recover from the massive earthquake that shook the area last month. According to the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN), immediate aid, including meals, vaccinations, and clothing, has been provided through a Salvation Army base camp. Salvation Army personnel are networking with other agencies in the region. At the latest count, almost 17,000 people have received assistance from the Salvation Army. A SATERN net on 14.265 MHz has been fielding inquiries about victims.

Casualty figures indicate that the number of dead has risen to 950, and the number of injured has increased to nearly 4,000. Up to 95% of homes were damaged in the city of Armenia, 80% in the municipalities of Barcelona, Calarc, and la Tebaida, and 50% in the center of the city of Pereira. The nearest Salvation Army facility is in the town of Ibaguë, which has suffered less damage.

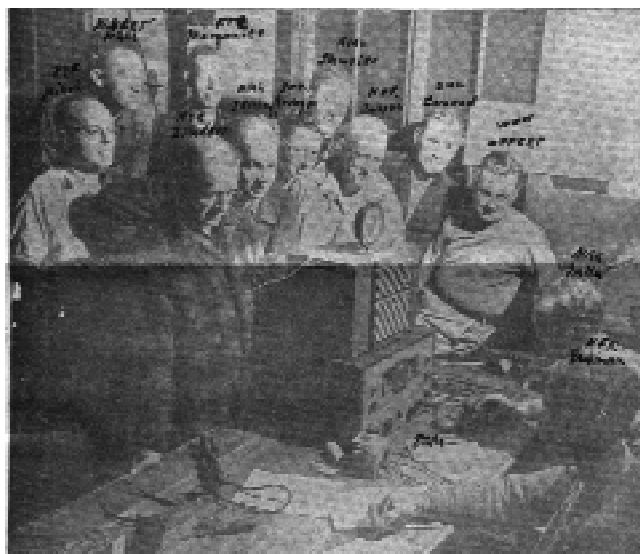
According to UN and U.S. reports, the security situation is now under control, and the rescue phase has officially ended. An estimated 65% of Armenia's population now has normal access to water supply, and 80% have electricity. The Salvation Army and several other relief groups will assist with census work to ascertain the most pressing needs.

Food distribution will continue. Reconstruction, sanitation, and health and water needs persist and will particularly affect the most vulnerable. Psychosocial recovery, especially for children, is of great concern.

(Editor's Note: This article was supplied by Pat McPherson WW9E of the Chicago area. He is giving a program on SATERN at the May 18 FLARC meeting.)

by Carol Hoke NS9L

Just looking at it quick, you'd say it didn't make much sense. There they were, a score or more of Madison's radio "hams," sitting out there in the cold cabins of Camp Wakanda on the other side of Lake Mendota, trying to find out how many other amateur stations they could raise. Over the steady racket of the gasoline-driven generators came the voice of a "ham" down in the flood-stricken South, ". . . set up on a hill, the highest place in town," said the voice. "I think we'll be able to ride it out up here, all right, unless it gets worse than it ever has before."



FLARC members gathered around one of their stations at the 1947 Field Day exercise. Members' surnames and callsign suffixes are penciled in. Third from left is Elmer Zindars.

State Journal caption: “At the left, Bob Peterson is logging the stations received while Elmer Zindars is bringing them in via voice on the microphone.”

three both voice and telegraph and two telegraph only. The Madison club has some 47 members, about half of whom have had army experience with radio. They have their sets in their homes, and they sit up half or more of the nights when reception is good, and they cuss a bit and keep on working at it when the reception is poor. "We are all of us a little crazy," they will admit, but they claim that it is far superior to other ways of putting in your spare time. "At least you don't get a hangover out of it," they say.

They've got a record to shoot at. Last year [1946] the group put four stations on the air and copped first place in the nation in that group. The voice from down South came back in: "We got our shoulders to the top sandbag," he said. "It'll be here in another hour or so. The crest is only a couple miles up the river. She's going over the levee for sure. We're going to need plenty of help. Stand by . . . and I'll be here getting my feet wet." The members of the Madison club went on working their stations, not paying any more attention to the man on the hilltop, who was working with his own ring of stations in that part of the country and—unless he should need help from farther off—there was no use bothering him. Besides—they were on their way to picking up 609 stations in the country in their preparation for a day when Madison [might] need their help.

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ARRL/VEC EXAMS

Exams are held in Madison on the second Saturday of the month. Location is the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District Operations building at 1610 Moorland Rd. (the white building with the big tower). Exit the South Beltline Highway at South Towne Dr. Go south 3/4 mile and enter the gate to the right. Bring two forms of identification, one with a photo.

Exams start at 8:00 A.M. sharp!
Walk-ins welcome until 9:00 A.M.

The Feedline is the monthly publication of the Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club (FLARC) and is published to inform members of club meetings and other events as well as local and worldwide news affecting amateur radio. Articles in the *Feedline* may be reprinted without permission, but please give the author and the source credit.

Deadline The 20th of every month

Where to send it If you have an article you would like to publish in the *Feedline*, send it to:

Peg Haese KB9LIE
2637 Ninth Avenue
Monroe WI 53566
(608) 325-6452

TOM'S AUTO CLINIC

2652 East Washington Avenue
MADISON WI
(608) 241-3391

CWRA SWAPNET

146.88 Baraboo Repeater

10:00 A.M. Sunday mornings
(unless there is a hamfest
in the area)

Queries and announcements
are also welcome.

**Ham- and computer-related
items only, please!**

FLARC Supplies

RG-213 is 42 cents a foot; teflon
PL-259 connectors are \$1.25.
Contact Peg KB9LIE days at (608)
266-2233.

FLARC Nametags – \$7.50

New ham? New member? New
call? Contact Marylynn K9SAM to
order your personal
FLARC nametag!
(608) 241-3391 Daytime

Superior Electronics Parts

(608) 257-1477
John Klang, Owner
Electronics, Audio, Video,
Computers, & Telephones
1433 E. Main St., Madison WI
53703

Ham It Up Every Spring!

Madison Swapfest

April 11, 1999

Middleton Conference Center
MARA InfoLine: (608) 245-8890
Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY

BUY — SELL — TRADE

Attention, FLARC Members: To
buy, sell, or trade amateur radio or
computer items, you can list your
ad in the *Feedline*. There is no
charge for noncommercial adver-
tising.

Got E-Mail? Then Get the E-Letter!

If you've got e-mail, you can now get the *Feedline* delivered right to your e-mailbox. You'll get it "hot off the press" — in color — several days before the hardcopy is distributed. Also, FLARC saves nearly \$6/year for every member who takes the e-letter. How's that for an inflation buster?

To sign up, just send a note to Carol NS9L at cehoke@offex.com. She'll add your name to the subscription list for the very next issue. No, Ed McMahan won't be knocking on your door with a big check, but we still bet you'll be glad you subscribed.

Read what one FLARC member says about the "e-letter":

"The PDF format is just plain beautiful. Beats the hardcopy version." *Duane Brummel, K9SFI*

Convinced? Want your very own e-letter? Simply email your request today and — get ready for the next issue. *The trees of the world thank you!*

FLARC Membership

Please start/renew my FLARC membership. Enclosed is my check/money order payable to the Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club.

Check one: New Member ☐ Renewal ☐

Check one: Regular \$20 ☐ Student (under 18) \$10 ☐ Senior (65+) \$17 ☐

Additional Family Members \$14 each (one newsletter per family) ☐

Name _____

Callsign _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ + _____

Birthdate _____

Telephone _____

ARRL member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

E-mail address (optional) _____

Return this form and your check to **Marylynn Franzen K9SAM, FLARC Treasurer, 2652 East Washington Avenue, Madison WI 53704.**

Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club

c/o Peg Haese KB9LIE, Editor
2637 Ninth Avenue
Monroe WI 53566-3536

First Class Postage



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