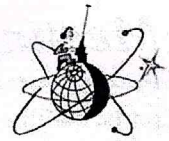


# Printed Circuit



– June/July 2012 Blockbuster Issue –

Published by the Southwest Iowa Amateur Radio Club Inc.

SWIARC meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month at the Loess Hills Red Cross Chapter

Charles E. Lakin Human Services Campus

705 N. 16th Street Council Bluffs, IA 51501

<http://www.swiarc.org>

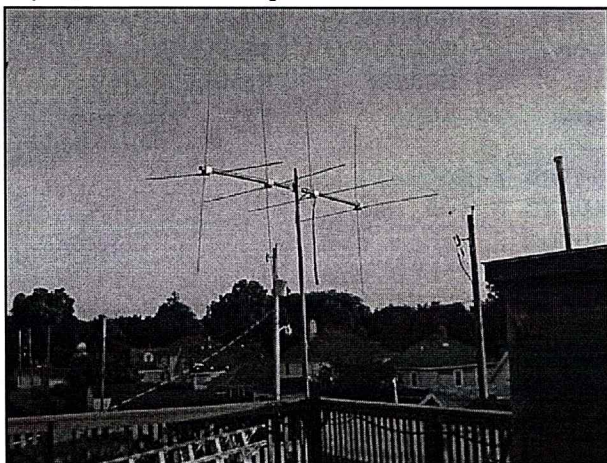
## 6M Quad

Russ K0LUW makes a lot of his own antennae and the latest is a 4 element 6M quad. This is possibly in response to the local Tuesday night 6M net on 50.200 at 8PM.

The boom is made from those surplus fiberglass tubes that fit together to make temporary antenna supports, in this case 9 – 10 feet in a horizontal plane. The spreaders are also fiberglass, but are sold by TSC stores as electric fence posts. Russ had a big spool of #16 wire that he used for the elements.

Fed at the bottom of element 2 counting from the back (reflector) Russ put a bunch of ferrite cores over the LMR 400 coax at the feed point to keep the RF on the antenna and not the coax shield. It's horizontally polarized, and Russ says the gain is similar to a 5 element yagi. (One local guy said he found his 'S' meter needle 15 inches away on the right side of his radio after a first contact with Russ.)

One of his first contacts on 6M was to Puerto Rico, and yes, the band was open.



4 el. 6M Quad antenna by K0LUW

## The Action 2012

July 26 SWIARC mtg @ Red Cross  
Thur No. 16<sup>th</sup> St. @ 'G' Street  
7:30PM

July 28 Central States VHF Conf.  
Sat Cedar Rapids IA

Aug 04 CEDAR RAPIDS IA Hamfest  
Sat Teamsters Hall, J Street

Aug 05 MSL 'Curiosity' lands on  
Sun Mars after midnight  
(early Mon morning)

Aug 11 HOMEBREW & QRP meeting  
Sat Ashland NE, Bredeaux Pza  
11-2

Aug 19 SALINA KS Hamfest  
Sun ARRL convention

Aug 23 SWIARC mtg in Co/Bluffs  
Thur 7:30PM at Red Cross

Sep 08 OMAHA (Ak) club Hamfest  
Sat Springfield NE @ Fairgnds  
8-1PM \$4admit, tables \$8adv  
Pat KOCTU 402) 492.9156

Sep 27 SWIARC meeting @ Red Cross  
Thur Get there before 7:30PM

Sep 29 EMERSON IA Hamfest  
Sat (Heartland Hams)  
Orig scheduled for 09/08  
\$3 Talk-in 145.29 R-

Oct 13 SERGEANT BLUFF IA  
Sat Same (new) place as last yr

SWIARC Membership is \$15 per year  
It's \$22 thru end December 2013  
Send ck to Box 661, Co/Blfs 51502  
We accept repeater donations.

# Meeting Minutes 05/24

Present for our May meeting, and to discuss our participation in Amateur Radio Field Day were:

Rick	KE4YQD	George	KDONME
Jim	W0ATU	Greg	KG0S
Greg	N0GR	Ron	N0UCM
Mike	KD0HZF	Art	KB0UWR
& LaVone		Rich	WA0ZQG
Norm	WA0JYD	(11)	

George NME made a motion to adopt Minutes of previous meeting as printed in the newsletter which was agreed to, but the Treasurer didn't have a report. (He lives in Omaha and it's a hassle getting to the P. O. over here in Council

Bluffs for the bank statement.) We did have a new deposit for him, a renewal from Mike HZF whose XYL is also a fully paid member.

Secretary had several reports, one from Greg GR who tried to contact AK6E on .52 as he passed his car on I-80. AK6E replied back that we have a nice newsletter, but that the widow of previous holder of AK6E still runs that license plate. Also, husband and wife AE4IO & AE4IV went through here and stopped for gas. We sent 'em a newsletter. And recall the estate sale at WA0VEE's house reported in Oct 2011 Ptd Ckt? Son Jon N0BBV sent us a letter saying his father is now a Silent Key.

## Newsletter

George NME suggested we list the meetings more prominently in the newsletter. (Tiny print top of page 1, and listing in the Action column aren't enough.) Editor Steve KD0HVY made a special delivery effort to get the newsletter to us by Thursday this month. Greg KG0S suggested we send a sample copy to all the new licensees in our area.

## Repeater

Greg also said the .82 repeater is working and an issue with YQD's Echo-Link to it is resolved.

## Membership

ZQG handed over three (3) dues items to our Treasurer. We're about up to the 70 members we had last year.

## Field Day

This is our biggest and most interesting activity for the year and five (5) hands showed when asked who might come to Hitchcock Nature Preserve to

Page 2 of 7

participate. Rick YQD is Chmn. for the event and has it arranged so Hams need not pay to get into the park. Everyone's welcome no matter if you're a member or not.

Rich ZQG asked about club insurance and made sure we would cancel if a policy was not in place before the event. **Late Note:** It is, and the price is significantly lower than previous agency, \$200 rather than \$320.

The Treasurer looked at a previous statement and said we had \$5,866 in the bank.

Ron UCM said Sioux City has a date for their event at the new facility in Sergeant Bluff IA. Saturday 13 October this year.

We adjourned at 8:08PM, 38 minutes.  
Minutes by club Secretary

## Program

The program was another Ten-Tec video on the Orion \$4 kilobuck transceiver brought in by Ron N0UCM. While it was playing, Greg N0GR & Greg KG0S helped fold, stamp, and address the newsletter (which was only recently received from printer). Regarding Ten-Tec, Rick YQD says they sell a great Antenna Analyzer for \$249.

## Printed Circuit

newsletter is published by SWIARC Inc. in Council Bluffs IA. The club meets 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays (except 3<sup>rd</sup> in November) usually 7:30PM at the Red Cross on No. 16<sup>th</sup> St. at 'G' St. in Council Bluffs. Officers for 2012 are:

Rick	KE4YQD	Pres.
Norm	WA0JYD	V.P.
Rich	WA0ZQG	Sec'y
Jim	W0ATU	Treas.
Greg	KG0S	Stn. Trustee

KE4YQD	@	Hotmail.com
WA0JYD	@	Cox.net
WA0ZQG	@	Yahoo.com
W0ATU	@	Yahoo.com
KG0S	@	Hotmail.com

SWIARC runs a 2M repeater on 146.82 R- and welcomes all users. A club net occurs every Wednesday night at 9PM. There's also a Swap Net at Noon on Saturdays. Dues are \$15 per calendar year and should be sent to the club at Box 661, Council Bluffs IA 51502.



## Meeting Minutes 06/28

This was our post-Field Day meeting and both that and a program on PSK had been previewed on several nets. Present were:

Rick	KE4YQD	Mike	KDORTE
Ed	KD0CVG	(ex KE0QQ)	
Bill	KD0FJR	Jim	KD0SDN
Greg	NOGR	(ex KA0EZC)	
Mike	KD0HZF	Ryan	KB0TKZ
Norm	WA0JYD	Art	KB0UWR
Russ	K0LUW	Rich	WA0ZQG
George	KD0NME		
& JoDee	KD0RNC	(14)	

Minutes of the previous meeting had been mailed to everyone (whose E-Mail addr is known) but no one including the Sec'y had a printed copy handy so we didn't vote on them. In addition, our Treasurer wasn't present but he had given a summary to the President, two deposits (\$115) and \$300 paid for insurance leaves \$5,581 and that report was 'accepted for audit.'

Secretary reported several correspondences with passers by, half a dozen or so over the month, and all sent either paper or pdf copies of Ptd/Ckt. Greg KG0S, Trustee and repeater guy didn't show, but again, the .82 works and our Pres says Greg has all necessary parts to shift the remote receiver link to 440. Antennas, rigs, etc. We've had the freq allocated for some time. The 220 link will remain useful as a control freq.

### Membership

Sean KD0RMX joined by sending in a check bringing our total to 70 so far this year. The Pres reminded us that we vote in new officers at the September meeting (on occasion delayed to October) and that we should form a committee to nominate candidates. Currently, both the Pres and Treasurer are ineligible for another term because they've served twice in a row. VP Norm JYD, Sec'y Rich ZQG, and Trustee Greg KG0S (whose office isn't subject to the 2 yr rule) are eligible to serve again.

### Newsletter

We didn't have one this month. Expect a larger (more pages) issue next month.

### Field Day

Several of us heard W3AO running 27A MDC on  
Page 3 of 7

Field Day. (27 stations from Maryland/DC) and surprisingly there were other 27A stations, KE3Q for one. SWIARC ran Class 5A from IA but with both 6 and 10M dead, didn't do too well. Mike HZF showed up with his 10M stuff, set it up, and then took it down and went home. No signals. By rough count, approximately nine (9) people attended.

Russ LUW ran Class 1D and made 136 QSOs in 5 hours. Rich ZQG, with help from neighbor N0OYS and SWIARC member Rob N0SNW, ran 2A but only made 83 QSOs in 24 hours but did get in 8 hours sleep and several naps.

### SWIARC Website

Our online presence could be a lot better. Pres Rick YQD has put in notices every month or so, but the front page also sports a notice that says, 'Last updated in 2010' which is confusing. Ryan KB0TKZ offered suggestions including a cost estimate of \$5 per month and said he'd help with setting up a site and showing various members how to input material, but first we need to get info on our current account from Jeff KB0MSS. Rick YQD will contact Jeff.

We discussed having a picnic at Narrows Park again this year (North end of 25<sup>th</sup> Street in Council Bluffs right on the river) and everyone seemed interested. Date selection is critical. Not so late as last year when it was cold in October.

We adjourned at 8:28PM, 58 minutes.

Minutes by club Secretary

### Program

The program was two show and tells, a couple 7 Watt solar panels that Art UWR brought along, and a 'Waterfall' demo by Rich ZQG. Using speaker output from a Kenwood 440 tuned to 14.070 acoustically coupled to an Apple laptop running the Cocoa Modem program, he successfully copied several PSK31 QSOs using a 35 ft. long wire antenna looped over window blinds indoors.



## ***Climbing Accident***

*The following is the response to a request for additional information sent to an insurance company:*

I am writing in response to your request for additional information regarding my claim for coverage of my accident on August 25, 2011. On the form, I indicated that the cause of the accident was "poor planning" and you said in your letter that I should explain more fully. I trust that the following information will be sufficient.

I own a house on a hill and have qualified for an Amateur Radio license. My dream has been to put up an 80 foot tall self supporting tower, and after saving several years I have constructed it and on the day of the accident put up several antennas at the top. When finished, I found that I had over the course of trips up and down the tower left some 300 pounds of tools and miscellaneous parts near the top that needed to be brought down. Not wanting to make multiple trips or to drop the items for fear that they would be broken or break something, I decided to lower them down in a barrel using a rope and pulley. I raised the barrel and secured the rope to the base of the tower, and then climbed up and loaded the tools and such into the barrel. Then I climbed back down to the ground and untied the rope, holding it so that the 300 pound barrel would not come down too quickly.

You will note in the attached medical record that I weigh 165 pounds. Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground, I neglected to let go of the rope until I was so high off the ground that I feared injury if I fell. I was pulled up the side of the tower at a great rate of speed, and a little before the forty foot point, met the bottom of the barrel that was coming down. The result was the fractured skull and broken collarbone noted on my medical record.

The impact slowed me only momentarily, and I did not stop moving until two fingers of my hand were jammed knuckle deep into the pulley. This explains the broken fingers and abrasions.

I was able to hold onto the rope despite the pain, but this did no good because at approximately the same time I was jamming my fingers into the pulley, the barrel struck the ground and its bottom split wide open, spilling all my tools and parts on the ground. Without the weight of the tools, the barrel weighed

only 20 pounds giving me an edge of some 145 pounds.

Still clutching the rope to no avail, I began to fall back down the side of the tower. My descent was slowed somewhat when I met the empty barrel coming up, the result of which was my fractured ankles and lacerations to my lower body, as well as significant abrasions when my jeans caught on the hook holding the barrel and were ripped off. I landed atop the pile of tools which explains my three cracked vertebrae and the unfortunate lodging of the hammer, as described in the medical record.

Unfortunately, at that point my pain was such that without thinking I let go of the rope, and was therefore left lying on the pile of tools looking up as the barrel began its fall toward me from 80 feet up the tower. The impact of the barrel this third time was less than it might have been but the lower steel rim did cause the four broken ribs and upper body contusions. Bouncing off me, it also tipped the twelve foot tall thick wall Durasteel gin pole which had been on the ground leaning against the tower toward the house, thirteen feet from the tower. At that point there was no damage to the house, but as it fell, the tip of the gin pole struck the edge of the natural gas meter on the side of my house with enough force to cause a major leak. In my weakened condition I did not notice the hissing sound of escaping gas and thus did not remove the lit cigar which I had somehow managed to keep clenched between my teeth. It was when the gas met the lit cigar with predictable result that I received the stated third degree burns over 90% of my body. Thankfully, firemen called to the house fire, discovered me and called the emergency medical personnel.

signed by proxy, Your Customer



***Would you like to submit an  
article to the SWIARC  
Newsletter?***

We encourage your involvement. Share your stories, wit, knowledge, experience, and upcoming events here. Submit your articles at a SWIARC Meeting, or by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month to [steve.a.thomas@hp.com](mailto:steve.a.thomas@hp.com) or SWIARC PO Box 661 Council Bluffs, Iowa 51502.

***Happy Scanning!***



## *TSA is On Duty*

Hey folks, Ron KCOMXX here, letting you know about something that Hams might take a real interest in. I am also known as Master Coordination Center Officer VanDyne of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), a part of the Department of Homeland Security, working out of Omaha's Eppley Airfield. I am the only licensed Ham operator that the TSA has in the state of Nebraska, but that is changing.

TSA has a program that runs in conjunction with Army MARS for contingency communication across the country and in many of the US territories. In July Omaha will be joining the ranks of MARS capable TSA offices around the world. We have purchased nearly all of the equipment necessary to get the station up and running, but all of the staff members in my office need to get their Ham license for the station to actually go active. Our program coordinator for MARS is a VE Certified General Class Ham and will be here teaching classes for my co-workers in mid July. With a little luck and a scheduling coup I am hoping that we can get a couple of VEs from the area to join him in providing us with our own VE testing session. Anyone care to volunteer? I plan to upgrade to General at the same session and am putting in a great deal of time studying.

For our station we have purchased an **ICOM 718** HF rig, which will be modified by TSA's project coordinator to gain access to the MARS frequencies; a **Comet CHA250B** broadband vertical antenna; an **MFJ-4403** Voltage Conditioner; an **LDG IT-100** automatic antenna tuner, and a **PTC PACTOR Mode Modem**. To this we are going to be adding a laptop using "AirMail" communications software, and of course a battery and charger.

Volunteers for our VE session can contact me at the E-mail address listed below. Hope to be talking with you folks soon, if I ever get a break from studying that is...

Ron [KCOMXX @ Cox dot net]

## *Want Ads & Swap Net*

**FOR SALE: KENWOOD TS-450 SAT HF rig** with internal auto-tuner plus MC60 Kenwood desk mike, and SP-430 spkr Transmits 160-10M and gen'l cov'g receiver. 100 memories. Dual VFOs Incl box & manuel (prt in Spanish) All for \$450 firm  
Call Warren NOWF, 402) 455.9342

**FOR SALE: ALINCO DJ-V5T dual-band H/T covers 2M and 420-450.**  
Incl after-market PRYME d/b whip and 2 more RD-9 d/b SMA whips \$75  
**YAESU FT-727R dual-band H/T.**  
2M & 440-450. This one is a real 'brick' (tall w/big battery) Needs work. Squelch inop.  
Incl man'l, Lthr case, and PA-3 car adapter/charger. \$50  
**ICOM IC-T2A 2M H/T w/charger**  
Incl manual, xtra battery case & cloning software. \$60  
**ICOM R-10 hand-held receiver** and AC charger. 0.5 to 1300 Mc (less cell freqs) Incl man'l \$50  
2M antenna. Quarter wave G/P w/mtg hardware & RG-6 connector Looks prof. made. \$25  
**HEATHKIT headphones.** These are really deluxe with gen. Leather earmuffs & headband. Not only semi-collectible, but also made before they had fake leather. Make offer.  
All above from WA0VEE estate.  
Prices negotiable.  
Call Jon Minks (VEE's harmonic) 402) 630.3936  
AJRMinks @ Cox dot net

**FOR SALE: KENWOOD TS-520.**  
The original one. Five band HF. S-2001 finals (6146s) \$175  
Call Joel KQ0J [KQ0J @ ARRL.net]



## North Bend Hamfest

They had another real good one in North Bend this year. Yes, it's a couple of miles out of town and some guys don't want to spend any extra gas these days, but these people put it together with a combination of features that work out well. One North Bend feature, a kitchen run by a couple XYLs, was highlighted this year with two (2) food related door prizes, a tray of garden veggies and a dozen kolackys (ko - la - chees). I can't say which SWIARC member won both of those, but he's the one who took these pictures.

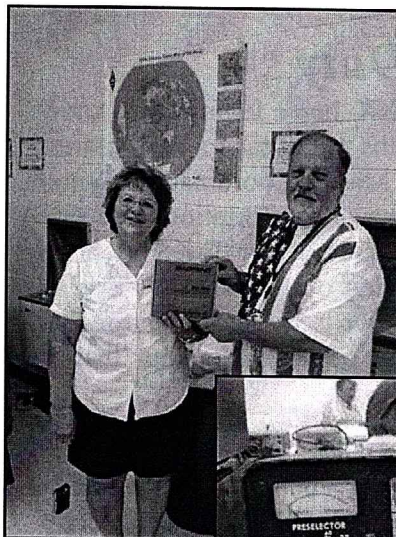
Lance WN0L's XYL Darlene N0LOP not only volunteers in the kitchen, but this year also bought some door prize tickets and wound up with the dual band (Chinese) H/T.



**KENWOOD 930 marked \$550**

An unusual coincidence put two Kenwood 930 HF rigs on W0UJI's table. They were the first of the 930/940/950 series, beginning to get a little old for the \$550 price tags. They didn't sell. Another radio that didn't sell was the Drake 2A receiver marked \$350. Great radio; sensitive receiver, but could I interest you in a R/Shack DX160 or Grundig 350 for \$25, your choice. The R/S 160 is the last of the 140/150/160 series and came with a (non-matching) and required external speaker. Coincidentally, a nearby table had a matching DX-150 speaker. SWIARC member Dennis WA0VJM sat the whole fest to finally get the full \$25 asking price for a Grundig SW receiver. (He properly rejected my offers of, first \$20, then \$21.50. It's a hundred dollar radio that ought to bring near \$50.)

The Vibroplex was another nice item marked with a price (\$250) indicating the owner wanted to keep it. He did. That's the fun of these events, seeing the good stuff and finding bargains like the two receivers mentioned.



**N0LOP with Steve  
KF0MS**

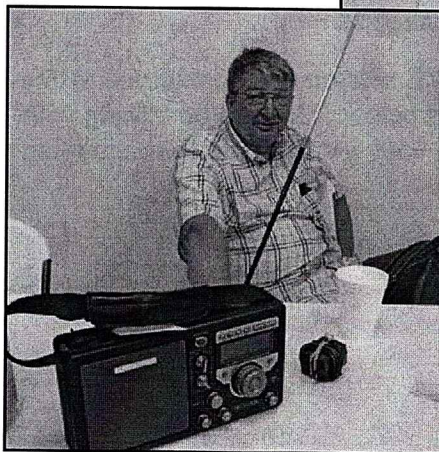
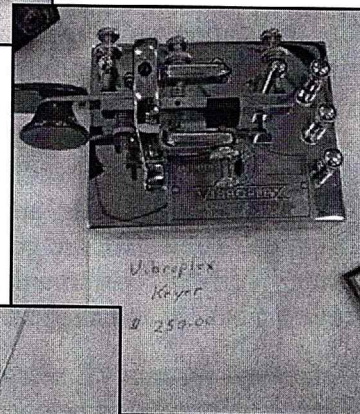


**DRAKE 2A receiver \$350**



**RADIO SHACK DX-  
160 gen'l cov'g  
Rx**

**Chrome VIBROPLEX**



**Dennis  
WA0VJM &  
GRUNDIG 350**

# *Name That Antenna*

Hwy 92 East side of I-29



George KD0NME was asking what this antenna was and no one could figure it out. You should start by noticing the top loop and (squint to see) ground plane things at the top. Note: They don't call it a ground plane

when it's up there, instead a 'capacity hat' to make the thing resonant at lower frequencies like on a 5 band HF vertical for 80M. Do you need more hints? You could get out of the car and go over to it, or notice that your car AM radio picks up interference when nearby, and actually picks up something at 770kc. Do you recall how to figure image freqs? That's what 770 is, an image. (Twice the IF from the original.) Now you're getting it right? It's a low power AM put up by Iowa Transportation so you can listen to traffic info. If you still want to know where to tune, add twice the IF (455) to the image freq. Their audio is distorted.

problem solved by John KB0QKH