

# Printed Circuit



– October 2012 –

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>

## October Picnic 10/06

Sunday 10/07 was a beautiful day, nearly warm with a gentle breeze, but our picnic was on Saturday, windy and cold with a last minute change of venue to Big Lake from The Narrows park. Fortunately, we all have radios and E/Mail so no one got lost. Attending were:

|              |          |       |        |
|--------------|----------|-------|--------|
| Rick         | KE4YQD   | (16)  |        |
| Roy & Diane  | N9AGT    | Shaun | NB0R   |
| Bill         | KD0FJR   | Rob   | N0SNW  |
| Joel & Sue   | KQ0J     | Ron   | N0UCM  |
| Art          | KB0UWR   | Nick  | K0NHV  |
| Rich & Patsy | WA0ZQG   | Norm  | WA0JYD |
| George       | KDONME & | JoDee | KD0RNC |

Three weeks earlier it would have been unbearably hot and humid. Let's have it either in the spring or indoors next year.

Rick YQD arrived first with hot dogs, buns, and charcoal briquets to get the grill going. There was quite a variety of good food from hot dog flavor potatoe chips to home made chili, and a large pizza brought from a local restaurant. Another group commandeered the single shelter and most of the tables so we stood around our table and grill, eating standing up and talking about both the weather and radios.

Out in the parking lot, only Bill FJR and Rich ZQG brought stuff in their trunks, Bill a bunch of surplus telephone equipment and Rich various windup AM/FM radios and some antenna and tower hardware. He had a pair of garage door springs labeled **Antenna Springs** and suggested they could be used to adjust dipole tension. They didn't sell.

Shaun NB0R bought a brand new in plastic bubble pack HD radio from FJR for \$10. (It's a commercial radio receiver, not for our bands.)

## The Action 2012 & '13

10 Nov RAYTOWN MO Hamfest  
Sat in KCMO (info K0GQ dot com)

- altered schedule -

15 Nov SWIARC mtg at Red X  
Thurs 7:30PM, 16<sup>th</sup> St @ 'G' Street  
(Nov is third Thurs.)  
<< note the date >>

25 Dec XMAS, buy the XYL something  
Tues (pays big dividends)

xx Dec SWIARC Dinner meeting  
?? To be announced

31 Dec ARRL Straight Key Night  
Mon use CW on HF, ragchew

19 Jan NORTH KC EMERG. CLUB Fest  
Sat KCMO

24 Jan SWIARC meeting  
Thurs Red X again  
7:30 North 16<sup>th</sup> St @ 'G' Street

02 Mar McCLELLAND IA HAMFEST  
Sat SWIARC annual Flea Mkt  
8-12 \$4 admitt. \$6 tables  
(10 mi NE of Co/Bluffs)

16 Mar LINCOLN NE HAMFEST  
Sat LARC in Lincoln

## Saturday Noon Swap Net

FOR SALE: ICOM 03AT H/T for 220 Mc  
incl BC-35 desk charger and  
half wave telescopic antenna  
Battery is bad. \$90  
HUSTLER G7 220 vertical ant.  
Heavy duty repeater quality, \$75  
(Continued on page 2)



# Meeting Minutes 09/27

Norm JYD took the reins because Rick YQD was out sick, running the meeting as if he'd actually done it before. Present were:

|         |        |       |        |
|---------|--------|-------|--------|
| Norm    | WAOJYD |       |        |
| Jim     | WOATU  | JoDee | KDORNC |
| Greg    | NOGR   | Greg  | KGOS   |
| Paul    | WBOGXD | Mike  | KDOSTT |
| Mike    | KDOHZF | Ron   | NOUCM  |
| & James |        | Art   | KBOUWR |
| KDONME  | George | Rich  | WAOZQG |

As several times before we had **Minutes** without a newsletter and approved them by voice vote. The unchanged Treasurer's report was similarly accepted, \$5,462 with eight bucks in cash still to be deposited.

Secretary reported several contacts during the month including a guy from MO who checked into one of the nets and sent a nice E/M reply. All were sent either *pdf* or paper newsletters.

## Repeater

Greg KGOS said he'd like to retune our **TxRx cans**, but needs either a fancy tracking generator, or to disconnect and take them off site to do it. (Seems they've been tuned previously but possibly not as recommended by factory.) The \$250 transaction to buy a like new DCI brand 2M bandpass filter has been put on hold.

## Newsletter

No newsletter so far, but we did have copies of page 2, the Minutes to review. Late Note: A three page newsletter was sent out via E/M Friday night. Better one next month. By request and voted on, the Treasurer cut a \$225 check for stamps. Also, we'd received (again via E/M) a list of the 75 current members. See 'Election.'

Further discussion of the repeater and how to encourage and compensate for maintenance, we voted 5 to 3 for **mileage** versus a flat fee for expenses. Some wanted to limit the number of reimbursements allowable per month.

A SWIARC member won a \$25 certificate from a local computer store, a random drawing of those calling the 7AM Sunday radio program. Offered at the meeting, only Greg NOGR was interested and donated \$5 to use the cert. (Greg works on West

Dodge and the store is out at 168<sup>th</sup> & Dodge. (\$5 to Treasury.)

Initially not, Greg NOGR did finally volunteer to chair the March Flea Market if others participate. He will delegate various responsibilities. We did mention again the 2012 door prize winner.

Mike HZF's friend James, who has visited our meetings previously, said he'd work on a new and revised website for us.

## Election

You'd be forgiven for thinking we couldn't get enough volunteers to staff the club offices with fewer than a dozen guys showing up, but it worked out pretty well. Other than Presidency, there was only one nomination for each post, but we still took a vote. Those were all unanimous. President was between Art UWR and Ron UCM. Here are the results:

|         |       |        |
|---------|-------|--------|
| Pres    | Ron   | NOUCM  |
| VP      | Norm  | WAOJYD |
| Sec'y   | Steve | KDOHVV |
| Treas   | Greg  | NOGR   |
| Trustee | Greg  | KGOS   |

These take effect 01 Jan 2013.

We adjourned at 8:32PM, just over an hour.  
Minutes by club Secretary

## Saturday Noon Swap Net

(Continued)

ICOM UT-67 tone board for older mobiles. 2330, 2410, etc. \$20  
Call Joel N0QEI, 402) 301.4399

FOR SALE: ICOM 735 HF transceiver including box, manual, and 500cy CW filter. Also incl. ICOM desk mike w/Heil element  
This one has an intact door over the adjustable pots.  
All items incl for \$400

ALINCO DRM03SX 10M transceiver 10W out. FM only. 100 memories Rptr offsets. Tones.

Incl box & manual. \$50

KANTRONICS KAM Plus packet TNC (all mode interface, CW etc.) \$25

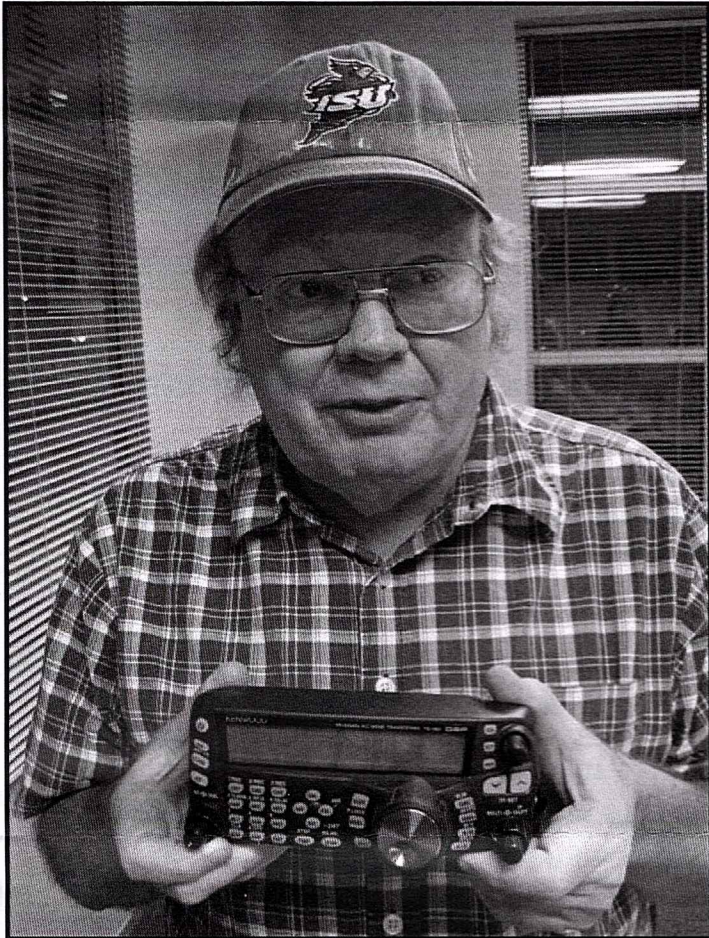
Call Rob N0SNW, 712) 366.0401  
or Callsign @ Yahoo



## Sept. Program Review

Art KB0UWR brought in the Repeater Directory he bought at Omaha's (Springfield) Hamfest. It's the large print edition. Mike KD0STT brought in his also, the regular size he got from ARRL for signing up (\$39). The picture is on the previous page (2).

Though the two books are full of same info, the pages don't correlate exactly. (Page 370 of one doesn't have the same info as 370 of the other.) Greg KG0S looked up his 443.925 repeater in Omaha and noticed they failed to print the 103 PL tone that is required. (The IDer announces the PL tone every hour.)

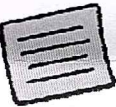


Mike KD0STT (ex KE0QQ, ex KD0RTE) brought in his 'new' Kenwood 480. It has the built-in antenna tuner rather than the double power 200W finals. 100W out.

He bought it online for \$800 versus \$1200 new. It runs HF thru 6M; 100W out on both, and has 100 memories. The front panel is detachable. It's fairly small, but the knob is full size so the panel measures 3 1/2 inches deep.

Art UWR also brought in his Chinese H/T, the one that's pronounced one way, spelled another, and everyone calls 'Woxon.' It's a dual band with coverage from 76 M on up to 174, and then 400 to 500. It has 128 memories and Art's has about 20 filled including both .82 and 147.495 simplex, used in Pott. Co.

Greg KG0S has one also and notes that with all memories full, the scan is really slow. He's cut his list to about 20 like Art's.

 **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!*

### **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:

|             |               |                     |
|-------------|---------------|---------------------|
| <b>Rick</b> | <b>KE4YQD</b> | <b>Pres.</b>        |
| <b>Norm</b> | <b>WA0JYD</b> | <b>V.P.</b>         |
| <b>Rich</b> | <b>WA0ZQG</b> | <b>Sec'y</b>        |
| <b>Jim</b>  | <b>W0ATU</b>  | <b>Treas.</b>       |
| <b>Greg</b> | <b>KG0S</b>   | <b>Stn. Trustee</b> |

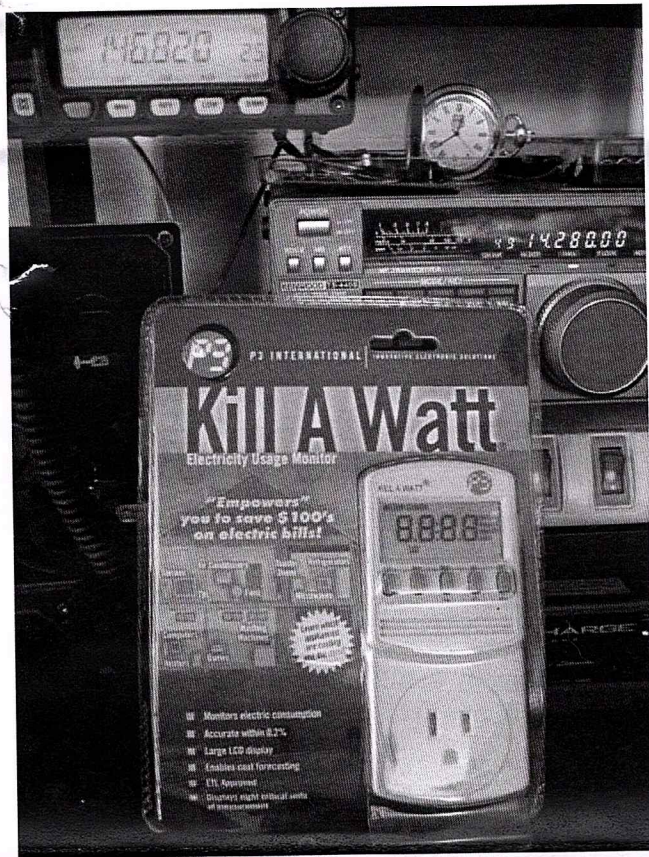
**KE4YQD @ Hotmail.com**  
**WA0JYD @ Cox.net**  
**WA0ZQG @ Yahoo.com**  
**W0ATU @ Yahoo.com**  
**KG0S @ Hotmail.com**

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.



# Guess Watt

Back in the late 1960s a neighbor had a 25 in color TV with **Instant On**. It was a tube model and the way it worked was a reduced filament voltage (all 25 tubes) running 24 hours a day. (8000 hours a year.) Then, every year or two, we'd go through the tubes, test them, and replace the weak ones. We had to unplug the set for a couple hours to let it cool down enough to touch the tubes. Tube life was typically a few thousand hours, but in continuous service could last tens of thousands of hours – two to three years. It ran 400W “on”, and about half of that when “off.”



**KW Meter measures Watts  
(VA multiplied by Power Factor)**

Menards had a sale on **Kill A Watt** and, wanting to know what all my various radios draw, I bought one. The first measurement I did was Watts consumed by my unloaded cell phone charger. Zero indication. (0.0 Watts) Next was a couple of remote controlled TV sets with the power off. Zero point three Watts. (Just the IR remote receiver running.)

What I really wanted to know was idle current for things like my Astron power supply versus the MFJ 25A switcher. Obviously, the Astron with it's 23V source regulated down to 14 is much less efficient. Might make a difference if you're using one to run a repeater 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Below are some of my results in “guess the answer format.” Hint: There's a pattern here if you can find it. Start guessing.

**Insert a letter corresponding to a power level for each item below.**

- \_\_\_ ASTRON 35 w/5A headlight load
- \_\_\_ VIZIO 47 in LCD TV
- \_\_\_ ASTRON 35 at idle - unloaded
- \_\_\_ Pwr strip w/modem & router
- \_\_\_ MFJ 25A switcher w/5A load
- \_\_\_ MFJ 25A switcher unloaded

**Choose a power level and insert corresponding letter in space provided above.**

|   |         |   |       |
|---|---------|---|-------|
| A | 7 Watts | M | 51 W  |
| B | 9 W     | N | 64 W  |
| C | 11 W    | Q | 80 W  |
| I | 17 W    | R | 99 W  |
| J | 23 W    | S | 133 W |
| K | 40 W    | W | 206 W |

The Kill-A-Watt measures Volts, Amps, Freq, and calculates Watts including the compensation for Power Factor. My house current shows 121.3V @ 60cps.

As it turns out, electricity at 10c / kWh is a real bargain. (incremental cost in Co/Bluffs is 8.6c)

P. S. The 17 in H/P laptop computer I'm using to write this has a power supply rated 65W. In use, it typically draws 40W.