



Printed Circuit



– November/December 2012 Issue –

Published by the Southwest Iowa Amateur Radio Club Inc.

SWIARC meets the 4th 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>

SWIARC on Internet

AT LAST! Ryan KB0TKZ, on hearing of our recurring problem trying to get something going on the Internet, went home from the November meeting and put a site together, just what we wanted: a few pictures; some notices, and a couple of links. You can access it with the same site name as before, SWIARC dot org.

We've used two different names on the Internet, both the club name and callsign. The current name is actually SWIradio dot com, but our former site points to it in case you still have that in your favourites list.

Dec Dinner Meeting 12/27

You're invited to our December meeting which will be at the **GOLDEN CORRAL** near Menards in Council Bluffs **Thursday evening the 27th at 6:30 PM.**

They charge \$10.99 per person for a buffet dinner unless you want to drink something other than water. **All** Amateurs whether or not SWIARC members and their families are **invited**. The room we get seats in excess of 30.



Christmas Dinner 2011

The Action 2012 & '13

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

27 Dec SWIARC Dinner meeting
Thurs GOLDEN CORRAL nr Menards
6:30PM Optional Gift Exchange
All are invited

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 16th St @ 'G' Street

09 Feb QRP & Homebrew meeting
Sat Breakeaux Pizza in ASHLAND
11-2

28 Feb SWIARC mtg @ Red Cross
Thur pgm to be announced
7:30

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

SWIARC dues are \$15 per calendar year payable 01 January. Send check to Box 661, Co/Blfs 51502

Meeting Minutes 10/25

Norm JYD officiated again because Rick YQD's work schedule has changed. Appearing were:

Norm	WA0JYD	Greg	KG0S
Jim	WOATU	Mike	KD0STT
Bill	KD0FJR	Ron	NOUCM
Greg	N0GR	Art	KB0UWR
Mike	KD0HZF	Rich	WA0ZQG
George	KD0NME		
JoDee	KD0RNC	(12)	

This time we didn't even have **Minutes** although ZQG summarized them off his computer screen for us. The Treasurer reported \$5,250, down a couple hundred due to purchasing 45c stamps.

The newsletter was late again, but promised for early next week. Supposed to be a pretty good one full of local content. Captioned pictures etc. Feature article on an AC Watt Meter is our show and tell for tonight.

Repeater

The .82 repeater hasn't been working well and Greg KG0S said he tried a couple of things like extending the hang time, finally setting it to a reduced power level, 10 rather than 50W, to make it work. Possibly a power supply problem. The Yaesu 7000 has a reputation for P/S failures. New 7000s cost around \$1200 plus programming cable, while a Kenwood repeater (25W output) runs \$1175. ICOMs like they have on Omaha's 146.94 are much more expensive. One rejected solution was to limit nets on our machine, which tend to run long, up to an hour, to fifteen minutes. (That was a joke.) The vote was unanimous to spend \$1302 for a new Yaesu. (Greg said it'd simplify cabling to our system.)

When we get the new machine, Greg may put an extra external fan on it. He said other boxes with that kind of power out have larger heat sinks. Besides time at home addressing the problem remotely, Greg made three (3) twenty five mile trips to the site. 50 miles round trip. Someone said 50c/mile is normal compensation but another voice said the IRS allows 55c a mile. We authorized \$82.50 reimbursement for mileage by unanimous vote.

One of our long standing ideas for the repeater is covering more of Pottawattamie County, the largest

of Iowa's 99. Greg KG0S said there's an unused antenna and coax on a 300 ft tower East of Carson IA, and we might see if there's a 2M pair available and put the repaired Yaesu out there. Regarding the fix for the old Yaesu box, a motion to authorize \$275 for it failed. (We'd heard Yaesu has a \$250 flat rate fix.) Another motion for KG0S to use discretion in having it fixed, no fixed amount mentioned, passed.

March Flea Market

The ARRL has been notified and will add our 1st Saturday in March Hamfest to their online list. In a bit of out of order business, we authorized up to a \$1000 budget for expenses, just like last year. (Should have done that before telling the ARRL.) Chairman Greg N0GR took names of volunteers for various duties:

Greg	N0GR	Chairman
Mike	KD0HZF	Help D&L setup
Rich	WA0ZQG	Name tags
Bill	KD0FJR	Carry in
Rhonda	W0RJR	Talk-in stn.
Norm	WA0JYD	Door prizes
Rich	WA0ZQG	Clean up

Website

Mike HZF's friend James has been out-of-town on business, but has also been working on an online presence for us. We've appropriated up to two (\$200) hundred bucks for estimated expense of \$100 the first year. We handed HZF a check for \$200 to disburse as needed for the project.

A Christmas dinner was discussed but no one was put in charge. Godfather's at 30th & B'way or the Int'l Buffet at 46th & L in Omaha. George NME asked if we couldn't have less business and more radio discussion at the meetings.

Greg N0GR said Mark N0VUB has offered us a tour of the KVSS 102.7 radio studio on the West side of Omaha at 137th & A Streets.

Meeting adjourned 9:07PM.
by Club Sec'y

New officers for 2013:		
Ron	NOUCM	Pres
Norm	WA0JYD	VP
Steve	KD0HVV	Sec'y
Greg	N0GR	Treas
Greg	KG0S	Stn. Trustee

Meeting Minutes 11/15

Norm JYD officiated again, introducing himself and then leading pledge to the flag. Also present:

Norm	WA0JYD	JoDee	KD0RNC
Jim	WOATU	Greg	KG0S
Kevin	KD0BWK	Mike	KD0STT
Bill	KD0FJR	Ryan	KB0TKZ
Mitch	WB0GBI	Art	KB0UWR
Greg	N0GR	Jim	KA0WNA
Mike	KD0HZF	Rich	WA0ZQG
Robert	KC0MUX	(16)	
George	KD0NME		

Norm, Art UWR with an atomic wristwatch, Greg N0GR, and ZQG all agreed it was close to 7:30 as we opened the meeting. VP Norm announced he was canceling the December dinner meeting, but that was changed later.

At Norm's direction the Secretary reported a couple of contacts over the month including Brandon KC0USM in Missouri Valley, new to the area from Gering, Nebraska and quite active. Our Treasurer reported \$3,634, soon to be \$3,729 with dues collected at the meeting. (That's down a bunch due to purchase of a new repeater (\$1300) and prepaid expense (up to \$200) of a new Internet site.

Repeater

The old Yaesu 7000 repeater has been working well at a reduced power level of 10W with few complaints except West Omaha locations where it has often been difficult copy anyway. Greg KG0S has programmed the new one for 82/22, but not yet used it himself as a base station because he doesn't have a mike with a RJ-45 plug on the cable. Regarding future use of the old machine when it gets repaired, Greg has been given access to the Sheriff's antennas and feed line on towers across the county including one out by Carson IA, 20 mi East. (Did they go to 800?)

Norm JYD brought up the idea of a new net on our 82 repeater to discuss station construction issues. KG0S and Robert MUX suggested more time devoted to Amateur issues at the club meeting and less to quote, "business."

Newsletter

The October newsletter was printed by Office Max for \$34. Adding a box of envelopes it cost just short

of \$50. We agreed to pay ZQG when he produces the receipt. A motion to approve up to \$100 for a future issue failed. (We usually get it printed for Free by our Editor.)

SWIARC Site

Mike HZF said he hasn't heard from friend James lately, and doesn't know if he's made progress on setting up a site for us. Member Ryan TKZ said he could do something (he's offered before). **Late Note:** Ryan TKZ has an initial effort of a page devoted to SWIARC on his personal site including pictures and links to other popular Amateur sites like QRZ, eHam, and ARL.

December Dinner Meeting

Eight people would go to Golden Corral for dinner and only seven to the Chinese place. Mike HZF looked up the Corral on his phone; called them, and got the news it's \$10.99 plus drink (get water) at the Corral. We're looking at Thursday 27 December at 6:30PM. (Last year the Chinese place made us a deal at \$8 with the drink included. Iced tea or water.)

Art UWR asked about the optional gift exchange. Norm JYD said the 'gift' ought to have a value no more than \$10 and max weight of 25 lbs (in case it's coming from your junkbox).

George NME said he has two (2) of those Chinese made TV antennas with pre-amp and rotor as shown at the meeting a couple of months ago, and that one survived a strong wind upright, but no longer rotates. (The \$18 price has escalated to the mid or upper 20s.)

Meeting adjourned 8:25PM.
by Club Sec'y



**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 10th of each month to kd0hvy@cox.net or *SWIARC PO Box 661 Council Bluffs, Iowa 51502.*

Happy Scanning!

Swap Net 11/10

Swap Net the second Saturday in November had not only an interesting ad or two, but also a riveting disaster unfolding live on the repeater as Bill KD0FJR had a flat tire fixed. Checking in that day (some just listen) were:

WAOZQG	Rich	N/C
KD0FJR	Bill, mobile from Ralston	
KC0QDG	Phil, IC-746 complete stn	
ACOTS	Don, Glenwood IA	
WAOJYD	Norm, Bob W0AEX is SK	
KD0SBC	Mark, Want Quadropod	
NOQEI	Joel, ALINCO H/T & 220	

Bill FJR was in Council Bluffs on the way to visit friends in Des Moines (130 mi) when he hit a curb and damaged the sidewall of a tire. N/C called a tire store, **Lyle's Discount**, and asked if they had a used replacement. Answer was, "Yes.", and out the door for \$44, and back on the road with what looked like a near new tire. Lyle's is under same ownership as **Allstar Tire**, 32nd & B'way, both run by people who believe in good service and fair deals.

FOR SALE: Complete HF Station
ICOM IC-746 HF, 6M, 2M, all @ 100W
incl Narrow SSB filter.
ICOM PS-85 power supply
SM-8 desk mike.
AMERITRON AL-80 HF amp
single 3-500 tube (but with
same p/s as dual tube unit)
ALSTAR AT-1500 tuner
(handles gallon & a half)
\$2000 package price incl manuals
Call Phil KC0QDG, 402) 490.2168

FOR SALE: ALINCO DJ-500T H/T
dual band, batt. shot
R/S has repl. cells \$50
KENWOOD TM-732A dual band mobile
incl box, man'l, & duplexer
KENWOOD 321 mono band 220 Xcvr
Pkg price for 2 Kenwoods \$200
(Will not split out 220 rig)
Call Joel NOQEI, 402) 453.2022
WANTED: Pgm'g software & cable

Scan 462.5625

Novice radio enthusiasts, the kind who don't yet have a license, sometimes start out with one of those little FRS radios you buy at Walmart. They don't have much simplex range, but do have a lot of options including identifying tones and a bunch of channels, 22 or so. However, being computerized much like our own radios, they often come up on channel one, 462.5625, and that is where a lot of people use them. Thus, put that freq in your scanner and attempt to make contact with them to show them how to get into Amateur Radio.

Brilliant

The light behind the LCD display in my Radio Shack scanner went out so I looked around for one of those \$2 White LEDs that I bought a few years ago. Couldn't find them. I did find some red, green, and yellow LEDs, and nearby, a brand new 12V incandescent bulb just like the one that'd burned out, so what the heck, I put that in.

Didn't work. Checked the voltage source on the scanner mother board, and it was 5V not twelve. Back to the LED box to pick the larger yellow one and an appropriate resistor, 330 Ohms. I've done this before and sure enough, the display had one real bright spot right in the middle, and a faint glow over the rest of it. Now here's my brilliant idea, use a metal file to flatten and coarsen the rounded, lens like LED housing. I still have a bright spot in the center of the LCD display, but the scattered yellow light from the flat spot on the LED lens lights up the rest of the LCD. Not like the original bulb, but adequate.

