

FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 7 ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2007

Join Us On Sunday Evenings For Our Weekly Net – 1930 hrs 145.430 MHz – Tone 107.2

Upcoming Events

Testing Session

An amateur radio testing session will be held Saturday, December 8th, from 9 a.m. to noon at Community United Methodist Church, 701 Minnesota Avenue in North Fond du Lac. Reservations are not required, but will be appreciated. Call Doug at 929-6274.

Holiday Parade

Cancelled last Saturday due to inclement weather (*that's an understatement*), the FDL Holiday Parade has been rescheduled for Saturday, December 8th. The Club is the parade marshal and our performance here speaks volumes to the community about our dedication and ability to organize and communicate in adverse conditions. As usual, we need all the help we can get. If you are available to help, please notify Steve Smith.

Christmas Party

The Club's Annual Christmas Party (*always a lot of fun!*) will be held Sunday, December 9th at Pier One. Contact Louie Simon if you want to attend. Cocktails at 5:30, dinner at 6 p.m. Dinner is \$15 per person. Bring a wrapped gift with a value of not more than \$10 for the 'Give and Take Gift Giving' event. There will be door prizes from AES.

December Meeting

The next meeting of the Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club will be held on Monday, December 10th at 7 pm at Moraine Park Technical College Room O-103.

From the President - KD9ZP

As I am writing this article, I am suddenly aware that this will be my last one as President of the Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club. It has been an enlightening 2 years. We grew from about 35 members to 69 members (at last count).

Several things helped this growth:

1. We put on 3 Technician weekend classes with outstanding results. (*Who'd ever thought we would have such a fantastic results in a 2 day class?*)
2. We put on 2 General classes thanks to the efforts of Jack Heil, who not only did the slides for the old question pool (right after the code was dropped), but also did the slides for the new question pool.
3. The brat fry's continue to get better and easier thanks to Louie Simon. (Louie also coordinates the annual Christmas Party.)
4. Dave Witt and I painted the brat fry stand and in the process had to replace 2 corner boards. It sure looks better now.
5. Several new VEs have stepped up to help with the license testing coordinated by Doug Schultz.
6. The Club took 1st place in the annual Field Day contest for the 5th time. Thanks to Dennis Paulin and all who helped!
7. Although the Club came in 2nd in this year's Wisconsin QSO Party, we had a streak of 1st places for 4 years running before that. (*Let's try to get back 1st place next year.*)
8. In my second year as President, I decided to change the format of the monthly meetings to half hour meetings followed by an informative program. (*I am not sure if you liked this format, but, you can pass your comments – good or bad on to Steve Smith for next year.*)
9. In going thru the list of individuals who helped in this growth, I have to give a lot of 'Atta Boys' to Steve Smith. He has a tendency to 'think outside the box' and:
 - a. Set up a phone number for the Club.
 - b. Spent countless hours working on the van (Yellow Banana) and installing radios.
 - c. Sends out newsletters to all non-Club members.
 - d. Does a fantastic job on the Club newsletter even though it is done on an Apple Computer (Hi Hi).
 - e. Developed QSL and 'business' cards to promote the Club.
 - f. Took on the ARES EC job. (*What a 'laundry list'! – Hi Hi.*)

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FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, Inc.

Minutes of November 12, 2007, Meeting

The November 12, 2007 meeting was held at Moraine Park Technical College. President Gene Olig called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Gene asked for any additions or corrections to the October minutes as published in the club newsletter Ed Beltz made a motion to approve the minutes; second was made by Doug Schultz and motion passed on voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Steve Smith reported the following balances:

Truck Fund	\$-194.42
Repeater Fund	\$546.55
Emergency Services Fund	\$309.68
General Use Fund	\$599.33
Certificate of Deposit	\$1,500.00
Petty Cash	\$25.00
Savings	\$25.00
Total Net Worth	\$2,814.04

Bills needing approval to pay – Funeral flowers for Bruce Lawrence, \$52.50. Motion made to approve payment by Louie Simon, seconded by Jack Heil. Motion passed on voice vote.

New Members

Motion to approve new members was made by Louie Simon, seconded by Ed Beltz. Motion passed on voice vote. New members are: Robert Von Rotz, Jr. KC9MEJ, Paul M. Bleuel, Robert L. Pendergast N5JYW, John P. Whelen AB9NR, Joseph Lauber KC9MDY, Jim Loehr KC9LFL, Les Sanderson KC9LWI, Dustin Kick KC9MEL and David Kick KC9MEK.

Education/Testing

The next testing will be held December 8 at NFDL Community Methodist Church, which will be the last in 2007. Volunteers needed. Next test in February 2008.

Old Business

Past member and president Joe Streeter has been invited to the Christmas party and also will be speaker for the December program.

Christmas Party

The Christmas party will be at Pier 15, Sunday, December 9. 5:30 pm cocktails and 6 pm dinner. Bring a gift (around \$5 - \$10) and numbers will be picked and you get to choose the gift you desire. This is a FUN evening!!! There will be gift certificates from AES also. A motion was made by Ed Beltz to increase the Christmas money for certificates from \$200 to \$250, seconded by Doug Schultz. Motion passed on voice vote.

New Business

Steve Smith announced that the Christmas Parade starts at 5 pm and everyone should be there at 2 pm. Changes have been made to improve traffic, floats will enter before 3:30 and kids will be dropped off later.

Election of Officers for 2008

President Gene Olig talked about the election process and the new officer binders which contain information pertinent to each office. Ballots were passed out and collected for count. The following members were elected: President, Steve Smith W9GPI; Vice President, Doug Schultz N9EZF; Treasurer, Don Kroes W9VAK; Sergeant of Arms, Andy Martin, KB9ZLL; Board of Directors, Peter Fox KB9WZD. Thanks and congratulations to all 2008 officers!

ARRL

Louie Simon gave a promotional presentation for membership in the ARRL noting the good information you can obtain, a monthly e-mail newsletter, the generosity of supporting volunteer examiners, etc.

Board Meeting

Σ Gene Olig announced that there will be a board meeting in December.

Donations

Σ Steve Smith relayed that Mike Meinke's wife has equipment donations to make to the club. She insists that all sale proceeds from any of the equipment the club sells is a donation to the club.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Louie Simon made a motion to adjourn, motion seconded by Jack Heil. Meeting adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted by
Dottie Olig, K9FDL
Secretary*

Equipment For Sale or Wanted to Buy

—A reminder to all that the Club Web Site includes a "For Sale" section, where members can post items they want to sell, with full descriptions and prices. If you have an item you want to sell, contact Louie Simon to have it included on the site. Louie has also added a *new section* to the web site: "*Wanted to Buy*". Here you can post a notice saying that you are looking for a specific item or type of item. If someone has what you're looking for, they can call you and arrange a deal.

From the President - Continued from page one...

For years, Doug Schultz and I have tried to recruit different members willing to serve as officers for the Club with little or no success. This year, we have four Club members willing to serve as officers who have never served before – namely:

Don Kroes W9VAK – Treasurer

Peter Fox KB9WZD – BOD

Andy Martin KB9ZLL – Sergeant at Arms

Joyce Keyes KC9KIJ – Secretary

My thanks and ‘hats off’ to each of you

73's de KD9ZP

Sunday Night Club Net

If you are interested in serving as Net Control Operator for the Sunday Night net, please let Doug Schultz know. Serving as Net Control Operator is good practice for everyone and helps develop skills that would be useful in a disaster in Fond du Lac County.

Interactive Web Group

Dustin Kick has set up an interactive web site for local hams on .mac. You are welcome to join this group, but need to set up a .mac account to do so. Contact Dustin for more info. His e-mail is: mac_vieuxnez@mac.com

New Hams Nationwide

For those of you who are keeping track...the number of new hams licensed in 2007 from January 1st to November 1st has doubled (!) over the same period in 2006, according to ARRL VEC reports.

The 36th Annual Midwinter SWAPFEST

The West Allis Amateur Radio Club will hold it's annual swapfest on Saturday, January 5th, 2008 at the Waukesha County Expo Center, 1000 Northview Road (County Trunk FT) in Waukesha, Wisconsin. The swapfest is scheduled to run from 8 AM to 2 PM. Admission is \$4 in advance, or \$5 at the door. More info: www.warac.org

ARES/RACES Meeting

A reminder that there will NOT be an ARES/RACES meeting in December.

ARRL

CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Level 1 Amateur Radio Emergency Communications

Course EC-001

Senior Hams are encouraged to participate!

Description

Introduction to Amateur Radio Emergency Communications. A basic course to raise awareness and provide additional knowledge and tools for any emergency communications volunteer. This course has 23 lesson units, is expected to take approximately 25 hours to complete over an 8-week period, and earns 1.5 CEUs.

The Program Fee is \$45.

Happy Holidays to all!