

FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 7 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2007

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

Upcoming Events

Membership Dues

A reminder that 2007 Annual Membership dues are due! \$15 per year Regular; \$20 for a Family membership; \$7 for a Student membership. You may pay at a meeting, or mail a check to the Club at PO Box 53, Fond du Lac, WI 54936-0053. Your continued support is appreciated.

Program at FDL Library

On Saturday, April 14th, we will have a table at the Library's "Hobby Expo" program. We have also been asked to put on a demonstration and have suggested that we would do a talk and short video in their meeting room, combined with actual on-air contacts using our Communications Van in the parking lot. We will need to man the table and Van from 10 to 3 and will need four or five volunteers to make this happen. If you want to help, talk to Gene Olig or Steve Smith. This is a great opportunity to share the story of ham radio with our neighbors.

Visitors & Convention Bureau

The Club is now listed on the Fond du Lac Visitors and Convention Bureau web site. Check out this link: www.fdl.com/civic_info.iml and scroll down to 'organizations.'

February Meeting

The February Meeting of the Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club will be held on Monday, February 12th at 7 pm at Moraine Park Technical College Room O-103.

More Upcoming Events

Amateur Radio Exams

Doug Schultz has scheduled a Test Session for Saturday, February 24th...the day after the Morse Code requirement for General and Extra Class operators expires. Tests will be administered for Technician, General and Extra Class. Those of you who have CSCEs (which are 365 days or less old) showing you have passed the General or Extra Class exam may now apply for your General or Extra Class license without needing to pass any code test. As always, bring your driver's license (or other official photo ID), a copy of any existing license, the original of any valid CSCE, and \$14 in cash or check.

New Ham Training -- Revised Dates

Doug Schultz, Jack Heil, Gene Olig and Steve Smith are working on another Technician Training Program for people interested in becoming hams. The program will be on Saturday, March 17th and Sunday, March 18th with the test being administered after the program concludes on Sunday afternoon. Tell your friends. If you know people who are interested, start encouraging them to sign up. Students must purchase and read a copy of the ARRL Technician License Manual before they come to this program. The manual is available through the Club for \$24.95. As you know, no code knowledge is required.

A General Class Training program has been scheduled for March 24th and 25th, with the test following at 3 p.m. Sunday. Students must purchase the ARRL General Class Training manual (from ARRL, AES or any other source) and read through it before taking this class.

Times for both classes will be announced next month.

Superfest at AES in Milwaukee

Friday, March 30 & Saturday, March 31st. The Club has again signed up for a table at Superfest and we will need a few volunteers to man the table on both Friday and Saturday. Let Gene or Steve know if you can help!

FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Minutes of January 8, 2007, Meeting

The January 8, 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 December minutes as published in the club newsletter. There were no corrections or additions voiced. Doug Schultz made a motion to approve; second was made by Dave Witt and motion passed on voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Steve Smith reported the following balances:

Truck Fund590.21
Repeater Fund	1,064.55
Emergency Services Fund309.68
General Use Fund898.03
Petty Cash25.00
Savings25.00
Total Net Worth	\$2,862.47

Steve Smith gave treasurer's report. \$40 was requested for licensing functions for call W9EBV. Motion was made to approve treasurer's report by Doug Schultz, seconded by Lloyd Vandervort. Motion passed on voice vote

Education

Jack Heil – It is anticipated that no code will be required by the end of February. Tech classes will be held March 17 and 18, a 2-day intensive class, with exam the second day. General classes will take place the following weekend, March 24 and 25, with exam the second day.

Testing

The next testing will be February 24, as reported by Doug Schultz

ARES/RACES

There will be a meeting January 22, Rm. 103.

New Business

Dayton

Anyone who is interested in going to Dayton, May 18,19, 20, talk to Dave Witt who is driving his van. Also club members have been invited to ride the Bozo Bus. Please contact W9OP@athenet.net. Louie will post on the club web site.

Club QSL Cards

Steve Smith reported that the club will have two QSL cards, one of the lighthouse for the Lighthouse QSO Party and another (featuring our Communications Van) for "everyday use." The 50th anniversary card will be retired.

Donation

Jack Heil thanked the club for the donation to the UW Foundation for the scholarship fund.

Program

Immediately following the meeting, Steve Smith will present a DVD on GPS – Your Place on Earth.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, motion to adjourn was made by Jack Heil, seconded by Doug Schultz.. Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Dottie Olig, Secretary – K9FDL,
FDL Amateur Radio Club*

ARES/RACES Red Cross Equipment Upgraded



Stephen Smith W9GPI, ARES/RACES FDL County EC, and Peter Sensenbrenner, FDL Red Cross Executive Director, are shown with Joyce Keyes KC9KIJ, Red Cross Disaster Coordinator, at the refurbished and relocated Red Cross amateur radio station. (By the way, Peter's son is KC9FEO.)

As most of you know, the Red Cross ham station was moved this past year. New computers, new software and new radios have been added. A UHF-HDTV card was added to the main computer to monitor Green Bay weather radar in case our Internet link should fail. A Yaesu FT-8800R transceiver was added to give us additional 2 meter capability, as well as providing 440 MHz access. Battery backup has also been added. Thanks to all who donated time, equipment or materials to this effort!

WRITE YOUR LEGISLATOR

John Townsend, State Representative to the WI Legislature from Fond du Lac, is working on a Bill, to create 341.26 (2) (p) of the statutes; that would change the Motor Vehicle License (registration) plate fee from \$55 or more per year to \$5 for five years for "a motor vehicle that is equipped with mobile emergency communication equipment, that is owned by an amateur radio organization and that is operated by a person who holds an un-expired amateur radio license issued by the Federal Communications Commission."

The plates on the Club's Communications Van cost us over \$120 per year. If this change is made, they will only cost us \$5 per year. The difference will help pay our Insurance.

If you live in the 52nd Assembly District (the City of Fond du Lac) please send a note to John in support of this effort. This needs to be done by mid-February. His address is: Rep. John Townsend, Room 22 West, State Capitol, P.O. Box 8953, Madison, WI 53708-8953.

If you live in the 53rd Assembly District (the Town of Fond du Lac) then write to Rep. Carol Owens, Room 315 North, State Capitol, P.O. Box 8953, Madison, WI 53708-8953 and ask her to Co-Sponsor John's Bill. #LRB-0410/1.

If you live in Districts other than those above, then ditto...ask your Representative to Co-Sponsor and support John's Bill.

CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOL PICTURE DAY



Editor's Note: This was just too good to pass up! Unfortunately don't have a "photo credit". This came via the internet.

Welcome to the Wonderful World of HF Radio...

A Series of Articles by Randy Grunewald, KB9KEG

Welcome to you all. Newcomers via Technician Class Ops upgrading to Tech Plus Class Ops. (Automatic upgrade on February 23rd!), or Technicians upgrading to General and/or Extra now that the code requirement has been eliminated.

You have acquired new frequencies in which to ply your arts and crafts.

I hope to open your eyes and ears to the Wonderful World of HF Radio, and in doing so instill in you a lifelong hobby in which to grow and prosper from. So follow me into the depths of HF Radio.

Old timers who know the HF bands already may pick up a few tips and tricks from these articles.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. You can reach me at KB9KEG@charter.net

This Month's Articles:

Incoming and Outgoing QSL Bureaus

Editor's Note: Both these Articles are "Word" Documents and are attached as separate documents to the e-mail that contains this newsletter.

Please let me know if you have any trouble opening the articles. -- w9gpi@charter.net

Summer Bike Races Need Communications Support

There are several bicycle races planned for this summer and all will require amateur radio communications support. Scott Winter KB9PVI has asked the Club to provide as many operators as possible for events this summer and, if we are interested, to provide our Communications Van as a "Command Station" for some of the events.

Consider yourself notified and 'asked to help.' We will be discussing the races at the February and March meetings, with more details to follow as they are available.

Meanwhile if you would like to learn more about the races and the dates of these events, please go to www.bikewisconsin.com.

If you would like to volunteer for any or all of these events right now, just e-mail Scott at: kb9pvi@arrl.net