

Feedback is published by the Northeast Iowa Radio Amateur Association on a monthly basis.

The **NIRAA** meets the second Saturday of each month (**except August**) in the lower level of the Hawkeye Chapter of the American Red Cross, 2530 University Avenue, Waterloo. Meetings start at 7 p.m.; anyone interested in amateur radio is invited to attend.

Feedback Editor: Joe Hoepfner (N0FHL)

NIRAA OFFICERS, 1998

President: Larry Tisor (KB0SZV)

Vice President: Earl Taggart (K8YWT)

Secretary: Jay Nabholz (KC0AKJ)

Treasurer: Dave Berry (KB0OCI)

Directors: Dennis Orona (N0RWY) ('01),
Curt Wilson (NK0T) ('00)
Chuck Angel (WA0INC) ('99)

Area Repeaters, *indicates 136.5 PL required

Waterloo/Cedar Falls

W0MG: 146.94*, 444.975*

WA0INC: 146.82*, 443.75*, 444.925* (linked SEITS)

N0CF: 444.65*

KM0K: 146.655*

NK0T: 224.90

Independence – NI0L: 145.33*

Oelwein – KF0HA: 147.345

Waverly – N0RJJ: 145.43*

Hamfest Calendar

March 15, Sterling-Rock Falls ARS, Sterling, IL
Talkin on 25/85 repeater.

March 22, Libertiville-Mundelein ARS, Grayslake, IL. Talkin on 7.345/945 repeater and 146.52 simplex.

April 25, Des Moines RAA, Des Moines, IA. Tourism Building, Iowa State Fair Grounds. Talkin on 34/94 repeater.

June 6, St Paul Technical College, Lower Parking Lot, Tailgate Swapfest. Talkin on 16/76 repeater.

Internet Access

The official club web page on the Internet is located at:
<http://w0mg.nexcommtech.com>

If anyone in the club is interested in designing web pages or has information of use to club members, please contact N0CF.

ITEMS FOR SALE:

[Paid members may advertise any radio related items for sale in this newsletter. Contact the Feedback editor with your listings at least two weeks prior to the club meeting. Listings will run for only one month, to re-list an advertisement the editor must be contacted again.]

February Meeting Minutes

February 14, 1998

Meeting called to order at: 7:03 p.m. by vice president Earl Taggart

17 Members and 6 guests present

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Sec Report: Read and approved.

Treas. Report: Read and approved

OLD BUSINESS:

KB0MGH brought in sample of the T-shirts the club had voted on. He was collecting money from those who wished to order at that time. The shirts are the same price with or without a pocket on the front. Cost is: XL \$13.00, XXL \$14.00, XXXL \$15.00. Contact John (KB0MGH) if interested.

Craig (N0PBW) discussed Field Day (Jun 27-28, 98) preparations to date. Looks like we will have a Multi-multi classification along with a Novice/Tech station and Packet. Further details will be upcoming at meetings.

There was once again a discussion on repeater maintenance. There are problems with the 34/94 repeater antenna at Covenant Hospital. A crew will be going to check it out and possibility of requiring new Coax for the antenna to solve some of the troubles.

NEW BUSINESS:

RAGBRAI coming to Cedar Falls. For those of you who don't know what RAGBRAI is, it is the Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa. This event started out as a Des Moines Register sponsored event of a couple of columnists riding bicycles across Iowa. It has grown into a major event. This year on July 23rd, an overnight stop is planned for Cedar Falls. There was discussion of the club setting up a message booth as has been provided before. Just where to set up will have to be determined, as the event will be utilizing four locations in Cedar Falls, as the area around the UNI Dome will not be available this year. The four areas that are under discussion by the RAGBRAI group in Cedar Falls are Overman, Gateway, George Wyth and Pfeiffer Parks as most of these are located on or near the bike paths in Cedar Falls.

It was announced that Curt (NK0T) would be looking for volunteers to assist with the Special Olympics to be held on March 1st.

Storm Watch Classes will be held in Waterloo on March 25th at the Helicopter Facility at the AirPort. Emergency Management may be looking for an alternate location as the room at the AirPort holds a small number of people.

The club will be sponsoring Amateur Radio Licensing Examinations at Satori Hospital in the Cafeteria on April 16th. In response, Earl was asked and agreed to hold morse code practice Monday through Friday at 8:00 p.m. on 146.55. Anybody wishing to learn or improve his or her code is encouraged to listen to these sessions.

Discussion of a Certificate to be given to members of NEIRAA to show membership. If you have any ideas, bring them to the next meeting for possible discussion and voting for a selection.

The business meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. followed by our scheduled program which was a talk by KB0MGK on Radio Controlled Aircraft.

March Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of NIRAA is Saturday March 14th.

On the Lighter Side

I wish to thank friends over the Internet who sent me this and I felt that I'd start a new area in the club newsletter. Just a little humor (Jeff Foxworthy style)

You know you're a Ham when:

The only time you get up at 6 a.m. is for a hamfest.

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You know you can run all your home appliances on your personal back-up power.

You have breakfast with a guy in England every morning.

Your ARES/RACES/MARS bags are always packed.

The cute girl with the "KISS" T-shirt asks you what bands you like and you answer two and twenty meters.

You live in a shack.

A clerk asks you to spell your name and you do so phonetically.

In a conversation, you wait for the courtesy tone before speaking.

You hear a scraping sound when driving through the fast-food restaurant window lane.

A band opening is more important than a grand opening.

Sightseeing amounts to looking at rooftops for antennas.

The radios in the car are worth more than the car.

When you walk out of the house, you not only feel your pant pockets for your keys and your wallet, but also your hip for your handheld.

Your son's schoolteacher calls you on the phone to ask why your son identified countries on the world map as JA, VK, VE, G, UA and XE.

If you refer to your house as "Ohm sweet Ohm".

You answer the phone with your callsign.

You're talking on the phone and end every sentence with "(callsign) for ID".

Your prime criterion for a new car is that it has zero ignition noise.

You and your wife hike to the top of a famous mountain, but rather than enjoy the magnificent sunset and giving her a kiss, you fire up the HT to see how many repeaters you can hit.

You realize that you've been studying code too long because you automatically attempt to translate random clicks and rattles inside your home, car or office.

You look out at the Rocky Mountains and try to figure out how to get an antenna mounted on the highest peak.

You look at the CN Tower in Toronto and develop a plan to get it to resonate on 160 meters.

Your wife, who is still 130 lbs. and tremendously attractive, comes in a hot pink topless teddy and starts nibbling on your shoulder and you tell her to hang on for a minute because you're just about to make the contact with East Molohavnia. You leave the house and forget the XYL, but remember the HT.
