

WOMG FEEDBACK

Since 1929

Feb. 2000

The Feedback is published by the Northeast Iowa Radio Amateur Association on a monthly basis. The NEIRAA meets the second Saturday of each month (except August) in the lower level of the Hawkeye Chapter of the American Red Cross, 2530 University Ave. Waterloo. Meetings start at 7 P.M.; anyone interested in amateur radio is invited to attend. Feedback editor this month: Earl Taggart (K8YWT) E-mail <mailto:k8ywt@staroute.com>

NEIRAA OFFICERS 2000

President: Jerry Jones (KI0IH)
 Vice President: Curt Wilson (NK0T)
 Secretary: Jay Nabholz (KC0AKJ)
 Treasurer: Dave Berry (KB0OCI)
 Directors: Chuck Angel (WA0INC) >2002
 Dennis Orona (N0RWY) > 2001
 Chris Conklin (N0CF) > 2003

Area Repeaters:

* Indicates 136.5 Tone Coded Squelch

Waterloo/ Cedar Falls

WOMG: 14694 *, 444.975 *
 WA0INC: 146.82*, 443.75*,
 444.975* (Linked SEITS)
 NOCF: 444.65*
 KMOK: 146.655*
 NK0T: 224.90 (-1.6)

Independence

NI0L: 145.33*

Oelwein

KF0HA: 147.345
 KF0HA: 443.95

Waverly

N0RJJ: 145.43*

CLUB WEB PAGE

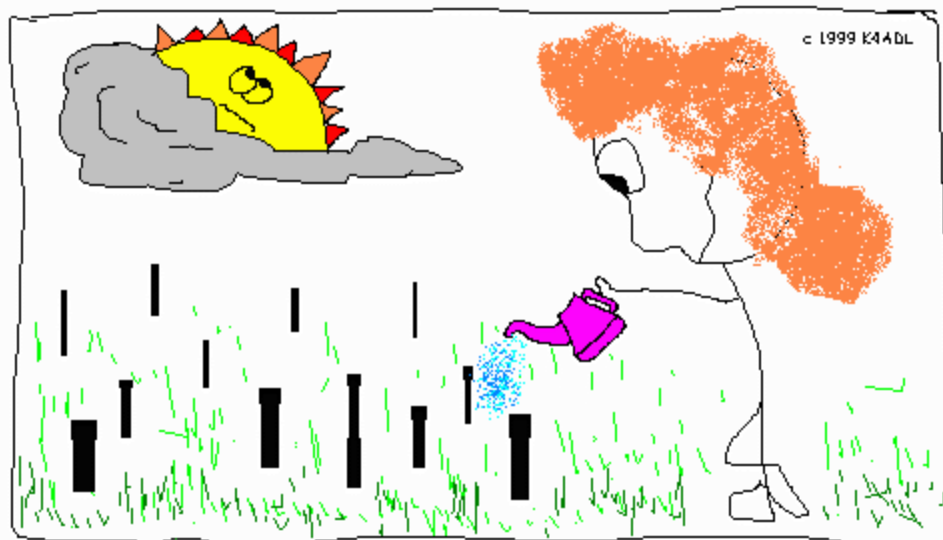
<http://w0mg.cfiowa.net>

NEIRAA TREASURERS REPORT

12-11-99
General Fund: \$349.82
Repeater Fund: \$155.78
Savings: \$25.00
VE Testing: \$37.00

MINUTES of JAN. MEETING

- Dues stay the same for 2000:
 - \$20.00 Members,
 - \$10.00 Full Time Students
 - VE Testing set for 26 Feb. 1 P.M. at Emergency Management on Newell St.
 - Technical presentation for Feb. by Scott Irwin KB0RST – ARPS
 - Future technical presentations to be selected on a quarterly basis
 - Silent Key: WA0LYB Fred Kercheval
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THE RUBBER DUCKIE ANTENNA FARM

<http://www.qsl.net/k4adl>

VEC TESTING, HAMFESTS & OTHER EVENTS

Central Iowa Amateur Radio Update
January 5, 1999

PLEASE always double check (call ahead) to make sure these events are happening before you drive there.....

UPCOMING TESTING SESSIONS

The testing fee for 2000 is \$6.65.

- WATERLOO – Feb 26, 1 PM. Emergency Management Building, Newell Ave.
- AMES - February 5, March 25, September 9, December 2, 9:30 AM, Fire Service Institute Extension Building, Iowa State University. (I-35 to Exit 113 (13th Street); West 4.5 miles to Haber Road, South 1.5 blocks (2nd building on west side of the road). For information, contact Ken Anderson, N0AS, (515)-291-0481. Talk in on Ames Repeater.
- DES MOINES - January 16, March 19, May 21, July 16, September 17, November 19. 1:00 PM. Saylor Township Fire Station, 211 NW 54th Ave (1/2 mile north of I-80/I-35 on 2nd Avenue). For information, contact LeRoy Koder, WD0CZO, (515)262-2390
- WINTERSET - February 18, April 21, June 16, August 18, October 20 7:30 PM, Madison County Extension Office, east side of the courthouse square. For information, contact John Sawhill, WA0O, (515)462-1342.

UPCOMING HAMFESTS/FLEA MARKETS /CONFERENCES

- WINTERSET - January 29th. Madison County Fairgrounds. Begins around 7 AM. Talk in on 147.270+. Contact: John Sawhill, WA0O, (515)462-1342.
- MONTOUR - Tama Amateur Radio Society. February 5th. Montour Community Building. 8 AM to 12 PM. Talk in on Marshalltown repeater (147.135+ 141.3 CTCSS) or 442.500+. Contact: Jerry Morrison, N0LEM, (515)484-6036 or <mailto:monster@pcpartner.com>.

Illinois:

- 19 Mar 2000 Sterling-Rock Falls ARS Contact: Lloyd Sherman, KB9APW 25873 Capp Road Sterling, IL 61081 Phone: 815-336-2434 Email: <mailto:lsherman@essex1.com>
- 26 Mar 2000 North Shore Radio Club <http://www.ns9rc.org/>Contact: Jacob Fishman, KF9ZF PO Box 1066 Highland Park, IL 60035 Phone: 847-291-4160 Email: <mailto:kf9zf@lightwriters.com>

Minnesota:

- 8 Apr 2000 Rochester ARC <http://members.aol.com/rarchams>. Contact: John Scott, N0HZN, 4552 5th Street NW Rochester, MN 55901, Phone: 507-285-6522 Email: <mailto:n0hzn@aol.com>
- 15 Apr 2000 Robbinsdale ARC Contact: Harriet Johanson, KB0UPG 19000 Clearview Drive Minnetonka, MN 55345 Phone: 612-474-7346

Iowa:

- 29 Apr 2000 DES MOINES - DMRAA. Iowa State Fairgrounds, Hall of Law. 8 AM to 1 PM. Talk in : 146.940 or 146.820. Testing. Contact: Duane Bower, WB0UCY, (515)287-6542 or <mailto:duaneab@uswest.net>
- SHELDAHL - June 17th. Sheldahl City Park. Talk in : 147.075+ Contact: Don Towers, N0QFK, (515)685-3410 or <mailto:n0qfk@arrl.net>.
- WINTERSET - July 15th - (See above information).
- AMANA - Cedar Valley ARC. Summerfest 2000. August 13th. 8 AM to 12 PM. Amana Outdoor Exhibition Center. For information, Visit <http://cvarc.rf.org/sumfst00.htm> or email n0uts@rf.org. Testing available.
- DES MOINES - Hamfest Iowa. October 29th. 8 AM to 2 PM. Iowa State Fairgrounds 4H Building. Contact: Jim Wieder, KG0UF, (515)276-0500 or <mailto:wiederj@netscape.net>

CENTRAL IOWA AMATEUR RADIO NETS

- * Sunday - 6:00 PM - Central Iowa Radio Amateur Society Net (Marshalltown), 147.135+ (CTCSS 141.3)-
- * Sunday - 7:00 PM - Story County ARES Net (Ames), 147.240+
- * Sunday - 7:00 PM - Central Iowa Ragchewers Net (Mingo), 146.670-
- * Sunday - 8:00 PM - Central Iowa ARES Net (Des Moines), 146.940- (Simulcast on many other repeaters)

- * Sunday, 8:30 PM (or following ARES Net) - Central Iowa Packet Net (Des Moines)- 146.940- (simulcast on many other repeaters)
- * Sunday - 9:00 PM - Boone County ARES Net (Boone), 146.850-; 443.900+ UHF net follows
- * Sunday - 9:00 PM - Amateur Radio Computer Society Net (Des Moines), 146.820- (simulcast on many other repeaters)
- * Sunday - 5:30 PM - Iowa Traffic & Emergency Net (ITEN), 3.970
- * Sunday - 7:45 AM to 8:30 AM, 3900 Club Slow Speed CW Net, 3.560
- * Sunday, 9:00 AM, 3900 Club Net (Voice), 3.896
- * Monday - Saturday, 12:30 PM & 5:30 PM, Iowa Section Net (Voice), 3.970
- * Monday - Saturday, 6:30 PM & 10:00 PM, Iowa Section Net (Tallcorn Net) (CW), 3.560
- * Monday, 7:00 PM, Southwest Iowa CW Net, 3.691
- * Wednesday, 7:00 PM, Iowa QRP Club Net, 7.113
- * Wednesday, 8:00 PM, Eastern Iowa/Western Illinois 10 Meter net, 28.313
- * Wednesday, 9:00 PM, Cyclone Amateur Radio Club (Iowa State University) net (Ames), 147.375+/443.375+
- * Wednesday (2nd & 3rd of each month) - 9:00 PM, Slow Scan TV Net, 147.075+
- * Thursday, 7:00 PM, Polk County ARES Net (Des Moines), 146.940-

** Story County Amateur Radio Club.

Meets the first Thursday of each month in the IDOT training room. Talk-in on 147.240+. Next meeting January 6th. Program by K0CQ on setting up a VHF/UHF station.

NEW BOARD MEMBER

At the Jan. meeting we elected Chris Conklin N0CF to the board of directors to replace outgoing director Curt Wilson (NK0T)

HAM of the Year:

Congratulations to Curt Wilson NK0T for being selected as Ham of the Year.

WATERLOO HAM ANSWERS SOS:

Long-distance rescue via Morse code: Gene Nailon, K5DLE, reports a ham in the Rockies has a fellow amateur in Oklahoma and the Morse code to thank for helping after he fell ill during a QSO December 17. Larry Watson, W5EIU, in Oklahoma City answered a CQ on 3710 kHz from the Wyoming ham. They had been talking for about 15 minutes when the Wyoming op told Watson: "I think I'm having a heart attack, and I can't get to the phone." After that, his transmission broke off, and Watson was unable to raise him further. About the same time, **Jim Caldwell, WJ0C, of Waterloo, Iowa**, broke in. WJ0C was able to look up the full name and location of the Wyoming ham and relay the information to Watson, who called the police in the Wyoming town to alert them to a potential medical emergency. It turned out they were right. The Wyoming ham--whose name and location were unavailable--was hospitalized, and the prognosis was said to be good. Watson, first licensed at age 13 in 1954, says this was a first for him. (By the way, both Watson and Nailon belong to Central Oklahoma Chapter 63 QCWA.)--Gene Nailon, K5DLE

FCC RESTRUCTURES:

THREE LICENSE CLASSES, ONE CODE SPEED

The FCC has issued its long-awaited Report and Order on amateur licensing restructuring. The bottom line is that starting April 15, 2000, there will be three license classes--Technician, General, and Amateur Extra--and a single Morse code requirement--5 WPM. "We believe that an individual's ability to demonstrate increased Morse code proficiency is not necessarily indicative of that individual's ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art," the FCC said. Besides drastically streamlining the Amateur Radio licensing process, the FCC said its actions would "eliminate unnecessary requirements that may discourage or limit individuals from becoming trained operators, technicians, and electronic experts."

Although no new Novice and Advanced licenses will be issued after the effective date of the Report and Order, the FCC does not plan to automatically upgrade any existing license privileges. The ARRL had proposed a one-time, across-the-

board upgrading of current Novice and Tech Plus licensees to General class, but the FCC declined to adopt the idea. This means that current licensees will retain their current operating privileges, including access to various modes and subbands, and will be able to renew their licenses indefinitely.

Starting April 15, 2000, individuals who qualified for the Technician class license prior to March 21, 1987, will be able to upgrade to General class by providing documentary proof to a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator, paying an application fee, and completing FCC Form 605.

Under the new licensing scheme, there will be four examination elements. Element 1 will be the 5 WPM Morse code exam. Element 2 will be a 35-question Technician exam; Element 3 will be a 35-question General exam; and Element 4 will be a 50-question

Amateur Extra exam. The FCC has left it in the hands of the National Conference of VECs Question Pool Committee to determine the specific mix and makeup of written examination questions.

Elimination of the 13 and 20 WPM Morse requirements means an end to physician certification waivers for applicants claiming an inability to pass the Morse code examination due to physical handicap.

The FCC disagreed with the League's suggestion that it undertake a restructuring of operating privileges along with licensing restructuring. The Commission said it wanted to give the amateur community a chance to "reach a consensus" regarding new technologies before it tried to restructure amateur operating privileges and frequencies.

The FCC's decision not to automatically upgrade Novice and Tech Plus licensees means the current Novice/Tech Plus HF subbands will remain and not be "refarmed" to higher class licensees as the ARRL had proposed. The FCC said it did not refarm these subbands because there was "no consensus" within the amateur community as to what to do with them.

The FCC decided to lump Technician and Tech Plus licensees into a single licensee database, all designated as "Technician" licensees. Those who can document having passed the 5 WPM Morse code examination will continue to have the current Tech Plus HF privileges. The FCC said it might request documentation from a licensee or VEC to verify whether a licensee has passed a telegraphy examination.

The FCC action also authorizes Advanced Class hams to prepare and administer General class examinations, and eliminates Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) station licenses. RACES will remain, however.

QRZ DATABASE FOR PRE 1987 CALLSIGNS

- QRZ.com offers look-up service for pre-1987 Techs: In response to numerous recent requests by amateurs seeking to obtain information regarding licenses that existed before 1987, QRZ has placed a copy of the March 1993 edition of the QRZ Ham Radio CDROM Ver 1 on line for public access. This collection, the oldest available from QRZ, contains listings of more than 195,000 licenses issued between 1983 and 1987. Call sign and name searches are available.
- Visit <http://www.qrz.com/search1993.html> .--QRZ.com/Fred Lloyd,