



NEWS

March 2010

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar 02 WX Spotter Training (article)
- Mar 13 State meeting for ARES ECs, etc. (article)
- Mar 13 WØMG club meeting (article)
- Mar 20 Oskaloosa Hamfest (article)
- Apr 10 WØMG club meeting (article)
- May 14–16 Dayton Hamvention 2010
- June Field Day, Lookout Park, more information to come.

Weather Spotter's Training

Training will be on Saturday, March 02 at 6:30 PM. It will be conducted at Tama Hall on the Hawkeye Community College campus in Waterloo. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend and may sign up for a WX Spotter's card and Spotter Number. A state official will conduct the training which will last about two hours. There is no need to pre-register as you may sign up at the door. Expect lots of good overheads and other information. (Chuck Angel, WØALO)

State ARES Meeting

Annual training for ARES Emergency Coordinators, etc. will be held in Ames, IA on March 13. (contact Chuck Angel, WØALO with questions)

March Club Meeting

If you were not at the February meeting, you really missed a great opportunity to learn about balun testing by Stan, WØSJ.

Several different baluns were tested including commercial and home brewed ones. A Hewlett Packard Vector Impedance meter was used to measure impedance, SWR, and isolation on various amateur bands.

This presentation was such a success that Stan has agreed to follow it up at the March meeting with "Baluns Part II". He will go into more detail on how you can build your own balun which would likely be better than any you could buy commercially. You won't want to miss it.

The March club meeting will be held on March 13th, 7:00 PM at the Red Cross Center on University Avenue in Waterloo. Stan Johnson will be presenting Baluns Part II.

Note: if you had an UNUN at the last meeting and it tested poorly, it may have been due to a flawed test procedure caused by not realizing it was an UNUN rather than a BALUN. You may want to bring it back to the next meeting.

Mahaska Hams Swapmeet

The Mahaska Hams 22nd Annual Amateur Radio Swapmeet will be held at the American Legion, 302 High Avenue East, in Oskaloosa on March 20th from 8:00 to 11:30 AM. Admission is by donation and tables are \$5.00 each. There will be lots of free parking and a promise of great weather! Contact Vernon Stanley (WØSJF) at 641-622-2154 or Donald Brown (KCØRRM) at 641-660-0404 for more information. Talk-in: 145.490 (-600 KHz offset, tone 146.2)

April Club Meeting

The April club meeting will be held on April 10, 7:00 PM, at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), 1925 Newell Avenue in Waterloo (Hazmat Site). We will tour our EOC station there and Tom will do an APRS demo and have Digi running WØMG at the site.

Treasury and Dues

At the February meeting, approval was given to pay the premium for the club's liability insurance policy which is nearly \$300. The club treasury is quickly being depleted and there is little reserve to cover needed repeater maintenance costs, etc.

Much discussion took place on how we can cover the expenses with the most obvious being to increase dues, and/or membership numbers. Those present voted to leave the dues at \$10 for 2010 and to "pass the hat" to cover this year's expenses with plans to increase dues in 2011.

If you haven't paid your 2010 dues yet, please do so to help alleviate this problem. (See Dave Berry, WØDDW)

Weekly Breakfast

Join the group for breakfast (on your own nickel) every Monday morning at 9:00 AM. It's a good time to tell old war stories, get technical help, and solve all of the world's political problems. HyVee Cafeteria, 4000 University Avenue, Waterloo.

