



# The Feedline

“W9JZ – SERVING AMATEUR RADIO SINCE 1933”

Volume 30, Number 32

## • Club Information

### 2006 FLARC Officers

Sam Rowe KG9NG - President  
John Steffl WZ9I - Vice President  
Joe Lynch, W9YHF- Secretary  
Don Michalski W9IXG – Treasurer

### Board Members at Large

Daniel Grim, AB9LQ  
Sarah Elizabeth Baguhn - WA9SE  
Gary Muskat KA9SRM

### CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS, etc.

Our club meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at the Space Place, 2300 S Park St. Madison. Regular meetings start with the business meeting at 7:30 PM, followed by the program unless otherwise noted. Times and location are subject to change, with prior notice.

### Saturday morning “Zilch” locations

- The East side Zilch (ham breakfasts) are at 7:30 AM at the Green Lantern on the west end of Siggelkow Road in McFarland.
- The West side Zilch is at 10:30 AM at Village Green at 7508 Hubbard Ave. in Middleton. See you there.

### Madison Area InfoNet

Thursday evenings on 147.15 at 8 PM; 146.76 is the backup frequency. Traffic and check-ins are welcome.

### Madison Ham Web Page

Website is at <http://www.qsl.net/flarc>. Keep checking the links page for new goodies!

### Meeting dates and programs

- March meeting  
March 18, 2008 at the Space Place on Park Street
- April meeting  
April 15, 2008 at the Space Place on Park Street

### Prez Says

I hope every one of you were able to participate in this year's Wisconsin QSO party.

When you send in your logs, be sure and list FLARC as your club affiliation. It is about time for the Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club to take back the first place trophy.

At our March meeting Daniel, W9DGI will explain the difference between the planetary A index and geomagnetic disturbances when he gives us all an introduction to Propagation.

We have a road trip planed for our April meeting. We will visit the Mount Horeb Fire Department which has been in operation since 1890, and currently has 65 volunteer fire fighters. The presentation at the Fire House will include a tour of the fire house and ornate fleet of trucks, radio communications equipment, and antenna tower. Discussion of the roll of radios within everyday emergency response will be included.

73

Sam, KG9NG

### Items of Interest

BUCK NITE

W9GOC

FLARC Treasurer's Report

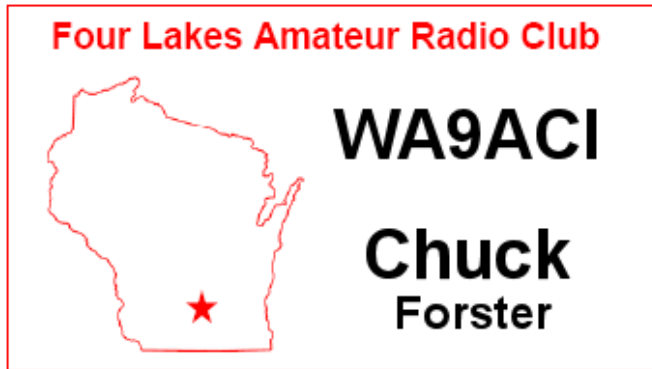
87 members - \$4445.53

## • Guests

**WB9BRF & KB9LYM**

## • **"WE HAVE BADGES!"**

Yes FLARC has engraved club badges.



This is the design and you can order yours using the included form.

## • **VE Testing Program**

The Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club of Madison, Wisconsin sponsors a monthly VE testing program at the University of Wisconsin Space Place, 2300 South Park Street, downstairs on the lower level, in the Villager shopping center complex (located in the middle of the shopping center).

Exams are given the first Saturday of the month. Holidays included. Doors open at 8:00 AM, and we hope to have all exams completed and graded by 10:00 AM. Testing is also available to all candidates on Sundays after the Ham Training classes, which are offered three times per year, and during the spring MARA Swapfest.

We offer special accommodations for testing to those with alternate abilities. We require some advance warning on the nature of the accommodations you will need, e.g., an exam reader, etc. Other than that no reservations are necessary. Walk-ins preferred. Try to arrive at 8 AM or shortly thereafter.

UW-Space Place is located at 2300 S. Park Street, lower level, in Madison, WI. Watch for the Park Street, highway 151 north, exit from the Beltline which is highway 12 & 18 - UW-Space Place is

approximately 1/2 mile north of the Beltline, and will be on your left as you head toward the heart of town just past McDonald's. That landmark is more identifiable than the Space Place signage. The Villager shopping center's 2300 S Park Street is the middle of the first parking lot past McDonald's. The UW radio club's BARS repeater, 146.685, pl 123.0, is used for talk in before the start time of 8 AM. Testing is in the lower part of the building in the Space Place class room. Look for signs when you enter the building.

Things to bring:

- Photo ID or two other forms of identification; If you have another FCC license (for example, GMRS) in your name, please bring your Federal Registration Number as it is used by the FCC's Universal Licensing System. (If you have no such license, your Social Security number will serve as an interim identifier until your FRN is generated.)

If you have a current amateur radio license, please also bring:

- The ORIGINAL license and ORIGINALs of any CSCEs which should be considered (both returned to you after inspection), and
- a photocopy of the license and CSCEs (sent with your application to the ARRL VEC) \$14.00 exam fee, preferably as a check or money order made payable to ARRL/VEC

Things NOT to bring:

- A fancy programmable calculator. (the calculator must not have memories, or the memories must be cleared before you use it on the test. This includes clearing the PDA or cell phone memories, so those would not be good choices to use for a calculator.) Simple calculators are provided for your use.

73, Carolyn Kammen NQ9A coordinator

E-mail: [nq9a@arrl.net](mailto:nq9a@arrl.net)

608 246-0225, 24-hour machine.

## • **Programs for FLARC Meetings**

We need lots more ideas and topics for programs to present at our meetings. So let us hear from you. Send your ideas to Frederick, W9GOC, or to any of the FLARC Board Members. Thanks for your support.

## FLARC Web Site

The FLARC URL is <http://www.qsl.net/flarc> . If you see any errors, please let Dan Grim, AB9LQ know, e-mail: [drgrim@wisc.edu](mailto:drgrim@wisc.edu) .

### • Elmers

If you are interested in being an Elmer, one who helps newcomers get started in ham radio, we would like you to contact FLARC. Our coordinator for our Elmer Program is Ralph, W9CAR who can be contacted at 231-9195 or 212-7300. Let us all get involved in helping others become better amateur radio operators. *BECOME AN ELMER!*

### • Mission Statement

## The Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club

The Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club (F.L.A.R.C.) is a non-profit, general interest club that exists to promote the growth and enjoyment of Amateur Radio in South-Central Wisconsin. The club's mission is to encourage new operators, enhance the skills and interests of those already licensed and to provide communications in the event of disasters or other emergencies. To accomplish this mission, F.L.A.R.C. will:

- Schedule regular meetings with informational programs and the opportunity for informal fellowship.
- Publish a monthly newsletter for the membership.
- Sponsor training classes.
- Sponsor Volunteer Examinations.

**The Feedline** is the regular monthly newsletter of the Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club (FLARC). The editor for **The Feedline** is Dan Grim, AB9LQ, and can be contacted at (608) 873-8338 or e-mail: [drgrim@wisc.edu](mailto:drgrim@wisc.edu).

## Wisconsin Section News

Keep in touch with the ham action in Wisconsin by going to the Wisconsin section website:  
<http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=W1>.

73, Don, W9IXG, Wisconsin Section Manager

## • Awards Checkers

Checker for the WAS Award is Gari, NG9V. When you are ready, just contact him; he'll be glad to do it, 608-221-2022 or [gberliot@ameritech.net](mailto:gberliot@ameritech.net) .

Checker for the VUCC awards is Richard, K9APW. Contact him at 608-833-0011 or [k9apw@arrl.net](mailto:k9apw@arrl.net).

### • For Weather Net Folks

The Wisconsin-based Badger Weather Net is held every morning on 3.985 MHz, between 0500 and 0715 local time.

### • For Sky Warn Watchers

If the weather gets active in the Dane County/Southern Wisconsin area, you may want to follow the action on 444.375MHz.

The Milwaukee Area Skywarn Association (storm spotters) webpage has a state-wide list of frequencies used for severe weather reporting.  
<http://www.mke-skywarn.org/~svoros/radio.html>.

### • Announcing the Northern Illinois Digital Ham Yahoo Group

Illinois Digital Ham. This group is dedicated to the discussion & development of amateur / ham radio use of digital voice & data communication techniques utilizing D-STAR, APCO P25, packet, HSMM/Wi-Fi, etc.

Join the group to exchange ideas & information and learn about operating the digital modes in Northern Illinois.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/illinoisdigitalham/>

73, Mark, WB9QZB

### • W1AW 2006 Spring Operating Schedule

The W1AW Operating Schedule may be found on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html> .

## • Information Locater

### • *Amateur Radio Web Sites*

[www.qsl.net/mara](http://www.qsl.net/mara)

[www.wi-repeaters.org](http://www.wi-repeaters.org)

<http://www.madisondxclub.org>

<http://www.n9mw.com> (DX-Cluster)

<http://www.w9smc.com>

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dane\\_co\\_ares-races/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dane_co_ares-races/)

(has a current listing of Public Service Events)

Note: The Wisconsin Association of Repeaters (WAR) site, <http://www.wi-repeaters.org/>, will provide a current list of all repeaters in the state of Wisconsin. You can get the list sorted by frequency, by city or by region. The list has the offset, tone frequency, availability of auto patch, emergency power, owner, if open and if it's associated with emergency nets.

The Madison DX Club is reported to work with Internet Explorer and not with some versions of Netscape. <http://www.madisondxclub.org> Always check the website for information on the location of the next meeting.

Other interesting sites are [www.qsl.net](http://www.qsl.net) and [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com). There are many, many links to other sites, which promote things from antennas, antenna construction to software. Also [www.ac6v.com](http://www.ac6v.com) and [www.cpcug.org/user/wfeidt/index.htm](http://www.cpcug.org/user/wfeidt/index.htm) are full of links about ham radio. The latter is NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX page with the link ADXO, Announced DX Operations.

If you click on some of these URLs, they may not work and you will get an error message. They are OK if you type them into your browser.

Also, the ARRL Letter is a weekly update of amateur radio news, which can be found at: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/> .

### • *Badger Amateur Radio Society (BARS)*

For those of you who utilize the 146.685 MHz,

pl123.0 Hz (W9YT), repeater in the Madison area, the Badger Amateur Radio Society (BARS) is the group which operates this equipment. The BARS group is the student based organization of the University of Wisconsin, and is open to amateur radio operators who are students, alumni, or just involved in amateur radio. BARS meetings are the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, at 5:00 pm and 5:45 pm, respectively, in room 1055 ECB (Engineering Center Building).

Currently, the BARS Echolink© unit is off-line and not operational, due to questions concerning the operation of the simplex unit under FCC rules.

### • *And Other New Topic Areas and Sections for The Feedline*

As our newsletter continues to develop and grow, we are always looking for topic areas and sections to add to our monthly writings. If you have any ideas, are willing to contribute to a topic area, or just have found some information you think amateur radio operators need to know about, let our editor know. You can contact Dan Grim, AB9LQ, at [drgrim@wisc.edu](mailto:drgrim@wisc.edu).

### • *Learn Morse Code*

Here is yet another location on the Web where you can gain information about Morse Code and get assistance with your learning. The website: <http://justlearnmorsecode.com/>

### • *Your Novice Accent*

Try this site by Dan KB6NU, <http://kb6nu.com/your-novice-accent/>

### *QRP – A New Section*

QRP is a subject within amateur radio which has been somewhat “low key,” or lacking power. (Sorry, I got a million of them.)

**The Feedline** is answering the call of QRP by introducing a QRP section in our Newsletter. So, calling all you QRP fans and operators, we need your assistance in bringing our new QRP section to life. We are interested in your stories, technical topics, references to articles you have seen or read, anything related and a part of QRP in

Repeaters Listed by City, Region & Frequency in  
HTML & Text Form Technical Round-up

## *Need Manuals or Tech Info for Your Radio?*

The following website has a lot of information for a very large number of amateur radios by many manufacturers.

<http://www.ham.dmz.ro/>

Give it a whirl the next time you need a manual, schematic, bulletin, or how to repair a problem.

## *• Wisconsin Repeater Frequencies*

Repeater List (Booklet Format)

<http://www.wi-repeaters.org/Mar2006Listing.pdf>  
[ats  
http://www.wi-repeaters.org/warlst.htm](http://www.wi-repeaters.org/warlst.htm)

WAR Band Plan

[http://www.wi-repeaters.org/war\\_bandplan.htm](http://www.wi-repeaters.org/war_bandplan.htm)

WAR PL Tone Plan Map

<http://www.wi-repeaters.org/wisctcssmap.pdf>

Cross Band Repeater Frequencies

[http://www.wi-repeaters.org/war\\_crossband.htm](http://www.wi-repeaters.org/war_crossband.htm)

WAR March Newsletter

<http://www.wi-repeaters.org/Mar2006Newsletter.pdf>

Minnesota Repeaters

[http://www.mrc.gen.mn.us/MN\\_List.pdf](http://www.mrc.gen.mn.us/MN_List.pdf)

## *• High Frequency Electronics*

Here is a great publication for those of you interested in the upper frequency world.

<http://www.highfrequencyelectronics.com/>

## *• Ham Radio Propagation Tracking*

For those who are interested in participating in ham radio propagation tracking you are

encouraged to investigate PropNet. It's a very intriguing system using PSK31 & packet radio.

The founder of PropNet Ev, W2EV attended the ARRL/TAPR DCC (Digital Communications Conference) in Chicago in 1998.

There are links to PropNet along with dozens of other links & files on

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/illinoisdigitalham/>

PropNet Home Page

<http://www.propnet.org/>

PropNet Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PropNET-Online/>

### **Description:**

Amateur Radio based propagation tracking on LF, MF, HF, VHF, UHF and the microwaves. Participants answer the question, "If the band is open and nobody is transmitting, does anybody hear it?"

Join this ad-hoc PSK31 and AX.25 (!) network of propagation enthusiasts as they probe the ether for previously unknown openings; sometimes stumbling across long-forgotten (or yet to be officially discovered) phenomena.

Download the PSK31 software from either (1) this group's FILES area or (2) N7YG's website:

-->

<http://home.earthlink.net/~propnetpsk/propnetpsk/index.html>

Stations can report what they hear via the Internet (if they have it at their station)!

--> <http://propnet.findu.com/>

### **Most active frequencies:**

**PSK31:** 28.131-MHz USB, 14.097-MHz USB, 50.291-MHz USB, 144.288-MHz USB  
**AX.25:** 28.128-MHz USB, 50.620-MHz FM, 147.585-MHz FM

The most popular frequencies are: 28.131 for PSK31 and 50.620 for FM.



## . For Those Interested in TUBES

Here is a great site.

<http://www.funwithtubes.net/>

## BUY — SELL — TRADE

**ATTENTION FLARC MEMBERS:** If you have amateur radio or computer items that you would like to BUY, SELL, or TRADE, you can do it in *The Feedline*. There is no charge for non-commercial advertising. Ads and continuations can be sent to Dan Grim AB9LQ editor, [drgrim@wisc.edu](mailto:drgrim@wisc.edu), and will be posted for 3 months.

### For Sale

#### **Kenwood TS-60 Transceiver**

100W 6 meters only. AM-FM-CW-SSB.  
Never run mobile. Mic and manual included.

\$250

#### **Timewave DSP-599zx Audio DSP filter.**

Manual

\$200

#### **Kenwood TS-940S/AT HF Transceiver**

Loaded! 500Hz Kenwood CW Filter, 6kHz IRC AM Filter, Automatic Antenna Tuner, IF232 Computer Interface, Heil Desk Microphone, Operating and Service Manuals.

**Ted Gisske, K9IMM**

**608-523-1947**

### For Sale

TS-50 Kenwood

late SER # , works well, has a few scratches on top cover.

with hand mic , manual, mobile mounting bracket.

414-364-3533 (608-262-8732)

HOME 242-9571

THANKS MUCH

**Jim Brown KC9AGG**

### For Sale

**IC2100**, 55 watt 2 meter mobile  
like new in original box.

Used for packet so mic has less than 5  
"Hallloooo's" blown into it. \$96.

Ed N9MW

Contact [ed@n9mw.com](mailto:ed@n9mw.com).

### For Sale

**Hi-Gain TH7DX** tri-bander with balun in good condition. Disassembled on the ground for local pick up only, Janesville, WI. **\$290**

Doug, W9PN

Janesville, WI

[W9PN@ARRL.net](mailto:W9PN@ARRL.net)

608-364-8260 (days)

608-314-9658 (nights / weekends)

#### **Hustler 5 BTV vertical antenna.**

Purchased new in May. This includes the 80 meter section. Can see specs at [http://www.newtronics.com/main/html/base\\_hf\\_5\\_b\\_and.html](http://www.newtronics.com/main/html/base_hf_5_b_and.html).

**Paid \$149.00, will sell for \$100.**

#### **Classic 1987 Kenwood TS 530 S**

in excellent condition, last contacts made July 14 during contesting with WW2SUB.

**Asking \$ 350**

which includes the MC-50 Desktop Microphone.

#### **Kenwood AT-230 Antenna Tuner**

in excellent condition.

**Asking \$200.**

All manuals included.

Thanks, Jim Ersig

W9LJV

608-798-4803

[w9ljv@arrl.net](mailto:w9ljv@arrl.net) or

[jersig@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:jersig@madison.k12.wi.us)

## FOR SALE

The following items are for sale:

- M-18, 50-foot, Glen Martin tower with a Hazer 6 tram system for antenna mounting.
- XP-70 Series Sommer antenna which appears to be a 706 model or 708 model.
- Miscellaneous feed line and tower guy wires.
- Antenna rotor (no current information on what unit it is, or whether it works).

Tower is located in Madison, Wisconsin, and for more information contact:

**John Stefl WZ9I.**



## FOR SALE

Badger Amateur Radio Society has a LOT of tubes for sale, and you can get a copy of the Tube List from them by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

Badger Amateur Radio Society  
1415 Engineering Drive  
Madison, WI 53706

## FOR SALE

Equipment is for sale by Mark Mullen, W9MIM. The equipment is owned by Jim Hickey who let his license laps and has no further use for the items listed. Mark volunteered to sell the equipment for Jim and all transactions must go through Mark. The prices are what they are going for on e-bay. Contact Mark via his e-mail address or via the post office W9475 Stone Ledge Rd, Beaver Dam, WI 53916. His phone number is 920-887-8781. The equipment is in excellent shape but hasn't been used for quite some time. NOTE: If you are interested in the tower and the Tailtwister rotor, the KLM KT-34XA Triband beam antenna goes with it. All equipment is priced to sell. Here's a chance to

get a good deal and all is right here in Beaver Dam.

## . Advertisers

The club is always looking for advertisers for our club. This helps defray the cost of the news letter some. If you have a candidate(s) in mind; see Don or any board member for details. It is a good way for some business to get exposure and help the club out. It isn't very expensive at all. Contact Don Michalski, W9IXG or Funiversity

**Ham University is the premier Windows program for helping you pass your FCC Exams. Ham University contains all the questions for all three FCC written exams. You can browse the questions, quiz yourself on your weak areas, or set yourself a mock exam. Ham University provides you with three ways to learn Morse code. First there are formal lessons which introduce the code one letter at a time. Then there are exercises, a set of typical transmissions to practice on (you set the speed). And finally there is Pentode®. This highly motivating game (inspired by Tetris) makes acquiring the code effortless. New Technician Class now available.**

**Requirements: You will need a PC with a 386 or higher running Win95, Win98, Win-ME, WinNT, Win2000 or WinXP plus a sound card.**

**Goto: <http://hamuniversity.com/>**

March2008

### Tom's Auto Clinic

**2652 E. Washington Avenue  
Madison, WI 53704  
608-241-3391**

Steve – N9CK

Marylynn – K9SAM

May2007

### Phasor Labs

**[cforster@phasorlabs.com](mailto:cforster@phasorlabs.com)**

Oct2007