

QSO'er

Volume 40, Issue 2
June 2026



QSO'er

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Need something for a short period use? Check out the FCARC lending library. It may just have what you need.

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Include this with your annual dues payment.



QSO'er



A publication of the
 Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club
 P.O. Box 2346
 Appleton, Wisconsin 54912
www.fcarc.club

FCARC Officers

President— Mike Moore (WI9MMM)

Vice-President— Andy Lawton (AJ9L)

Treasurer— Donna Mendyke (KC9THF)

Secretary— Gene Wall (KE8KWF)

Membership Coordinator— Karen Thorne (WB9ZNA)

Technical Director— Larry Peterson (WA9TT)

Members At Large

Mike Miller (KD9KHQ)

Laurel Eihusen (KD9AJT)

Joel Kasper (WI4WD)

On the cover: FCARC participated in the Appleton Flag Day Parade. In this photo, Rod Roller (K6ROD), Mike Moore (WI9MMM), Roy Hinz (KC9VLP), and Joel Kasper (WI4WD) are preparing for the parade.

Message From the Editor

The True Signal of Our Club

By Gene Wall (KE8KWF)
FCARC Secretary and QSO'er Editor



As we head into another busy summer season, I've been thinking a lot about what makes amateur radio so enduring. In an era where everyone carries a smartphone capable of instant global communication, outsiders often ask us, "Why ham radio?"

The answer isn't just about the technology; it's about the connection. Whether we are checking into a weekly net, experimenting with digital modes, or fine-tuning an antenna project, we are part of a living network. But our most important signal isn't the one we bounce off the ionosphere—it's the one we extend to each other.

Lately, I've been thrilled to see our members stepping up. From leading public events such as field day and our hamfests, mentoring newer operators (our Elmers) to preparing for emergency communications in our surrounding counties, the dedication in this club is what keeps our local community strong. It reminds us that ham radio is at its best when it serves a purpose, whether that purpose is public service or simply helping a neighbor get a clearer signal.

Looking ahead, we have plenty of opportunities to get involved. Our calendar is chock full of events for all levels of experience. We need net control operators, volunteers for upcoming community events, and, as always, fresh content for this very newsletter! If you've recently tried a new mode, built a piece of gear, or had a memorable QSO, write it down and send it my way. Your experiences are what make these pages worth reading.

Thank you to everyone who keeps our club active, welcoming, and on the air. Let's continue to test our limits, share our knowledge, and support one another.

73,
Gene (KE8KWF)
Editor, The QSO'er



We are having the March General Membership meetings at

Fox Valley Technical College
Room F108. Enter through Door 3
or Door 8 for easiest access.

See page 9 for maps on where to park and enter the building.



2026 HAMFEST

NEW VENUE LOCATION! Sunnyview Expo Center

Presented by: Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club W9ZL
(FCARC)

An ARRL Special Service Club

Talk-In on the wide area **146.76 pl 100** repeater



Sunday

Nov. 8th, 2026



Time

8:00 AM to 2 PM



500 E. County Rd Y
Just off Interstate 41 at Hwy 76 Exit
Oshkosh, WI 54901

ADMISSION:

\$10 per person

**Amazing
RAFFLE PRIZES**

Raffle Drawings at 1:30 pm!

VE TESTING

Testing Begins at
9 am

FOOD & BEVERAGES

PRESENTATIONS

Directions from Green Bay

- Take I41 South
- Take Exit 124 (Hwy 76/Jackson St)
- Take a left onto Hwy 76/Jackson St and go south 1 mile to the first stop light (County Road Y)
- Take a left onto County Road Y and go about a 1/4-mile

Directions from Milwaukee

- Take I41/ Hwy 45 North
 - Take exit 124 (Hwy 76/Jackson St)
 - Take a right onto Hwy 76/Jackson St and go south 1 mile to the first stop light (County Road Y)
 - Take a left onto County Road Y and go about a 1/4-mile
- Sunnyview Expo Center is on your left

**Flea Market
Table**
1 table & 2 chairs
\$15

- Admission per person \$10
- Electricity Cost \$5 Extra
- Free Wi-Fi

**Commercial
Vendor Booth**

Includes 4 tables & 2
Chairs
\$50

- Vendors will be admitted at 6:00 AM
- Vendors-only loading zone on North side
- General Admission and Sales begin at 8:00 AM

**To Reserve a Table or Get Information:
Contact: Carol Young, Hamfest Chairperson**



920-915-8960



W9PIO2024@gmail.com

FCARC 2026 CLUB DUES

The 2026 club dues are now being accepted. You can pay your club dues with a credit card at the club website, you can pay by cash or check at a general membership meeting, or mail a copy of the renewal form with a check to the club PO Box. For 2026, our dues schedule will remain the same as 2025.

Full, Associate or Retired - \$20.00

Student - \$10.00

Family - Full Member, plus \$5.00 for each additional family member residing at the same address.

Renew online at HamClubOnline.com. The instructions for renewing your membership are outlined below.

Step 1: Navigate to HamClubOnline.com. Login to the website at the top of the page.



Step 2: Select the FCARC link near the middle of the page.

You are currently on the roster of the following HamClubOnline club:

FCARC - Officer (Membership Expires: 2026-12-31)
(Click the club name to enter the club menu.)

Manage Your Club Profile
Club Roster
Club Calendar
Send Message to Club Management
Newsletters & Communications
Files
View Your Attendance
View/Update Your Skills
Add Membership Time / Make a Payment
Purchase Club Items (Coming Soon!)
Club Auction (Coming Soon!)

Step 3: Select "Add Membership Time / Make a Payment." Your menu of options may look different than the image to the right.

Step 4: Click the large blue button in the center of the page.

[Click here to renew your existing membership!](#)

Step 5: Click "Submit." The annual fee is automatically populated for you.

\$20.00 USD (\$20.00 USD minimum)

\$0.00 USD

Square Payments

Submit

Step 6. Enter your credit card number, expiration date, and CVV code from the back. Click the blue button labeled "Pay \$20.00 USD."

Card number MM/YY CVV

Pay \$20.00 USD

Follow the simple instructions on the subsequent pages. You will receive an email confirmation of your renewal via email.

May FCARC General Membership Minutes

By: Gene Wall, KE9KWF

FCARC General Membership

Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2026

Per the organization's bylaws, a quorum was achieved. There was a quorum with a total number of 35 in attendance. Mike Moore (WI9MMM) called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Roll call was taken by all members in attendance.

The *Elmer of the Evening* was Mike Moore, WI9MMM.

Committee Reports

1. Secretary – Gene Wall (KE8KWF) – Gene once again solicited for guest contributors for the club newsletter.
2. Treasurer – Donna Mendyke (KC9THF) – Donna provided an update on the club's financial report, including new expenses for our new storage unit.
3. Membership Coordinator – Karen Thorne (WB9ZNA) – Nothing significant to report.
4. Technical Director – Larry Peterson (WA9TT) – Transmit Incremental Tuning (XIT) is a function on many radios that complements the function of RIT, which was discussed last month.
5. Members at Large – If any member has an idea for a program that you can give or would like to see, please speak to Evan Vandenlangenberg (N9DU), Rudy Reynebeau (KD9RPW), or Rod Roller (K6ROD).
6. Special Committees
 - a. *Repeater Committee* – Andy Lawton (AJ9L) – Nothing significant to report.
 - b. *Website Committee* – Alex Fraundorf (N9LEX) – The website is up and running.
 - c. *License testing* – Rick Kosiorek (WJ9K) – Our next testing date is May 30, 2026. Testing will begin at 8:30 am in room A158 at Fox Valley Technical Institute. Registration is from 8:00 am to 9:00 am.
 - d. *Public Information* – Carol Young (W9PIO) – Carol and Carl attended the meeting. Carol was recognized for her selection as the 2025 Ham of the Year.

Special Business

1. Election nominations taken at the club meeting:
 - a. Vice President: Andy Lawton (AJ9L) is the nominee. The vote was unanimous to re-elect Andy.
 - b. Treasurer: Donna Mendyke (KC9THF) is the nominee. The vote was unanimous to re-elect Donna.
 - c. Members-at-Large (3): Mike Miller (KD9KHQ), Laurel Eihusen (KD9AJT), and Joel Kasper (WI4WD) are the nominees. The vote was unanimous to elect these three members as the Members-at-Large.
 - d. Technical Director*: Larry Peterson (WA9TT)

* = the technical director position is appointed by the Repeater Committee, based on nominations.

New Business

1. None.

Old Business:

1. Flag Day Parade: Larry Peterson (WA9TT) – June 13, 2026 – Larry handed out the new shirts for the attendees. More information on when and where participants should go will be sent at a later date.

May FCARC General Membership Minutes (continued)

2. Sunshine Swapfest: Tony Mach (AB9IO) – June 20, 2026 - Tony provided an update on the planning for the event. We will hold the event at the Expo Center in Oshkosh, like last year.
3. ARRL Field Day: Rod Roller (K6ROD) - June 27-28 – Rod attended a forum on Field Day and learned a few items to discuss with members about how to integrate them into Field Day. More to come on this in the coming weeks.
4. CommunityFest – July 4, 2026 – Tim Hale (KC9FSH) is the liaison for the cities of Neenah and Menasha for this event. He was unable to attend the meeting. Mike Moore (WI9MMM) gave a brief run-down of the historical resource requirements.
5. EAA Special Events Station: Jon Oldenberg (AB9AH) – Jon still needs additional volunteers for each of the shifts. He ideally needs 8 people per shift. Sign-up is available on the club website. Much like previous years, we'll have two radios on HF, in addition to the demonstration on how kids can tap out their names in Morse Code. For questions contact Jon at ab9ah@arrl.net.
6. FCARC Picnic – Mike Moore (WI9MMM) provided an overview of the event for our new members. We will once again have a Fox Hunt at the picnic. Bring an appetite and your family. We start at approximately 11:00 am and are usually done around 2:00 pm.
7. Walk MS: Dave Sprangers (ND9DW) – April 25, 2026 – The event went very smooth and the volunteers were thanked for their support. We anticipate being asked to participate again next year.
8. Sole Burner: Brian Long (KB9LRD) – May 9, 2026 – Mike Moore (WI9MMM) thanked everyone who came out to support the event.

Technical Questions/Topic – Rod Roller asked if a J-Pole was directional. Andy described the antenna as mildly directional.

Show and Tell –

1. None

Program – Weak Signal Propagation Report (WSPR) – Presented by Mike Moore (WI9MMM). Mike provided an overview of the capability, summary of the different variations of the equipment you can purchase, and the value added to the hobby.

Adjourn at 8:30 pm

Minutes Prepared by-
Gene Wall (KE8KWF)

Reviewed by-
Mike Moore (WI9MMM)



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More for Hams

70cm Tape Measure Yagi

by Mike Moore, WI9MM

While I might hide the fox for our Fox Hunts, I have yet to find the fox when someone else hides it – like Andy (AJ9L). Still... that doesn't stop me from buying or building the toys (hunting aids). Our Build Day finally inspired me to build a 70cm Yagi antenna and try out using the third harmonic to locate a fox.

There are **a lot** more instructions on building the 2m Yagi than there are a 70cm Yagi – especially of the tape measure variety. One “How To” had all the elements equally spaced along the boom. **THAT** doesn't seem right. Many of them had PVC stubs – to support the tape measure elements. SERIOUSLY?! The reflector is only 13 inches long. How much support can it possibly need?

Anyway, after much looking, I decided to just throw caution to the wind and build something. My 2m tape measure

Design Information		Antenna Dimensions		
440 MHz, 7 Elements, 9.818 dBd Estimated Gain		US/Imperial		Metric
44.1 Degrees Horizontal Beam Width		Cumulative Spacing	Element	Element Length
47.6 Degrees Vertical Beam Width		Zero	REFL	13-1/32"
0.75" Diameter Non-Metallic Boom, Insulated Elements.		5-3/8"	D.E.	12-3/4"
No Boom Correction applied.		7-3/8"	D1	11-15/32"
Electrical Boom Length of 36.0" (2' 12").		12-7/32"	D2	11-5/16"
Allow for overhang when cutting boom to length.		17-31/32"	D3	11-5/32"
Driven Element Diameter = 0.5" (0-1/2")		24-11/16"	D4	11"
Parasitic Element Diameter = 0.5" (0-1/2")		32-3/16"	D5	10-7/8"
Suggested Stacking Distance for 2 Yagis:				
31.1" (2' 7-1/16") Horizontally				
28.8" (2' 4-3/4") Vertically				
Dimensional tolerance required = 0.08" (3/32")				

Yagi is about 3 foot long so I decided to go with 3 feet of length. That could get me 6 or 7 elements. WOW! It wasn't until I started to put the antenna together that the epiphany of “the handle” hit me. That 3 feet I chose didn't include the handle. OH WELL, we're committed. We've already cut the PVC. Beside, the stats are pretty good.

I chose **not** to use a tee fitting for the furthest director. I would use a cross fitting – like all the other elements. This way I could add another director if I really wanted. I also chose to prepare the interconnecting PVC stubs so that they were flush to the bottom of the wells in the tees and that there was only a light friction fit when the stubs were inserted into the cross fittings. This was done so when I glued them together, they would easily lay flush on the workbench and all the fittings would be aligned with each other. No one wants a Yagi where the elements are misaligned. I also chose **not** to make the distance between the radiating elements and the first director the 2 inches called for in the design. I just butted the two cross fittings together. I didn't think it would be a huge issue – given the one design on the internet that had all the elements 6 inches apart. I guess we will find out.

did not find any good information on how to assemble the driven elements. I chose to try a 1/4 inch spacing between the elements and made each element 6-1/4 inches long to achieve the 12-3/4 inch width that the design called for. I was also surprised that the 70cm Yagi is not supposed to need the hairpin matching stub. I did not add it. While playing with the antenna analyzer, I did try a hairpin stub but noticed no difference – so I felt confident in leaving the hairpin match off.

The finished antenna is 4-1/2 feet long. It feels a bit like a prop for a cosplay event. But... it is supposed to have almost 10dB of directional gain and a 45 degree “cone” - so I'm hoping that it will function as intended. We will find out on our next Fox Hunt.

I intend this to be mostly a receiving antenna, but I would still like to tune it a bit. According to my NanoVNA, it's between 2.6 and 3.0 SWR across the 70cm band. Even with the SWR, it turns my Baofeng into a 25 watt beam. I wonder how far away from the center of Appleton I could be and still get into the 443.650MHz repeater.

Happy building. Mike (WI9MMM)



HamThings)))

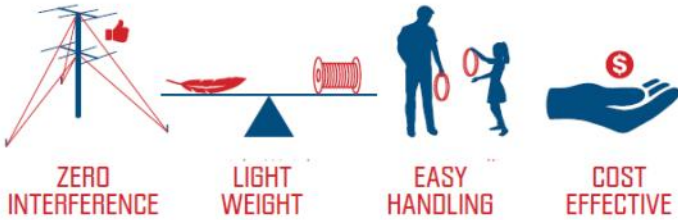


HamThings is owned by club member Chris N9CVR. We sell Fuse Blocks and VHF/UHF antennas.

Talk to Chris, good on QRZ, or HamThings.com,
Use promo codes W9ZLCLUBPRICE and W9ZLHANDDELIVER

MASTRANT ANTENNA GUYING

WHY GUY WITH SYNTHETIC ROPES?



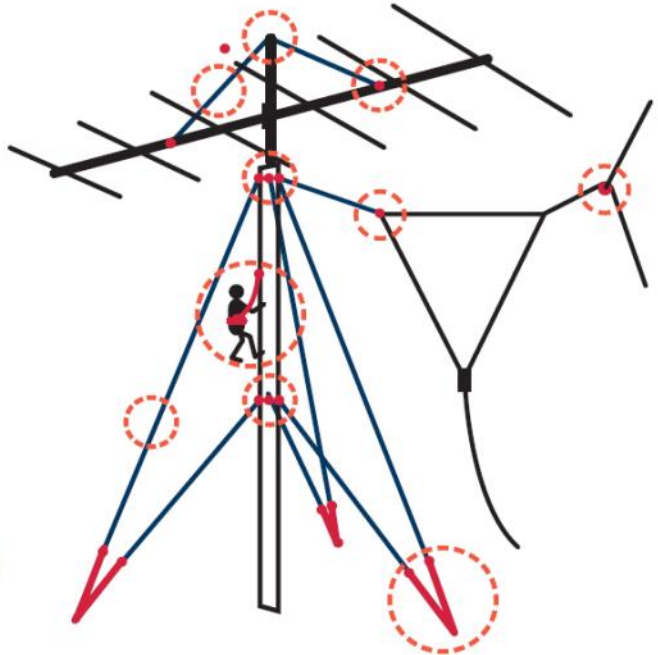
WHY MASTRANT?

- DESIGNED FOR GUYING
- UV RESISTANCE • HIGH STRENGTH
- LOW ELONGATION - NO STRETCH • WEATHER DURABILITY • WIDE RANGE OF ACCESSORIES AND "MUST HAVES" FOR ANTENNA WORK

HOW?

- CHOOSE APPROPRIATE GUYROPE
 - CALCULATE LENGTHS
 - THINK ABOUT IT • DO IT
 - REGULARLY CHECK IT

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Help Pass The HOA Legislation To Eliminate HOA Prohibitions on Amateur Radio Antennas!!! Free The Antenna!!!

HOW CAN I HELP?

By sending a letter to each of your Congressional Representatives and your Senators. Is my individual letter important? YES — Representatives and Senators rely on constituent input to decide which bills to support. Your voice counts.

BACKGROUND

The ARRL has successfully obtained Congressional support — both in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate — to introduce legislation that, if passed, will eliminate HOA/private land use restrictions that prohibit Amateur Radio operators from installing antennas at their residence.

WHAT ARE THE BILLS?

- U.S. House: H.R. 1094 Introduced by August Pfluger (R-TX) and Joe Courtney (D-CT)
- U.S. Senate: S. 459 Introduced by Roger Wicker (R-MS) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)

Use the automated letter writing system setup online at

<https://send-a-letter.org/hoa/>

or use the QR code to the right.



“This legislation is about restoring equal rights to licensed Amateur Radio operators. These restrictions hinder not only the enjoyment of Amateur Radio, but also its vital role in emergency communication during disasters.”

-- ARRL President Rick Roderick

Reprinted from *On the Air Magazine* Hints & Hacks



Completed coax connection waterproofing system.

HINT

Weatherproofing Outdoor Coax Connectors

To weatherproof your outdoor coax connections, check your local bicycle shop for bicycle inner tube. One inner tube can provide five or six rubber sleeves to cover and protect a coaxial cable connection, such as two PL-259 coax cable terminations surrounding a barrel adaptor. An 8-inch length covers the entire connection and, with cable ties at the ends, provides a tidy, moisture-resistant barrier.

I used a Bell Sports 27-inch inner tube designed for 1-inch tires. The diameter of the

inner tube is $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, which makes for a nice fit over PL-250 coax connectors.

Begin by cutting the tube on either side of the stem. Because the interior of an inner tube is covered with a talc-like powder to prevent the rubber from self-adhering during storage, you'll want to flush the interior with water. Run a damp paper towel over the tube to remove residual powder.

Cut the cleaned tube into 8-inch lengths. Slide one of these 8-inch sleeves over your coax connection. At one end,

wrap the sleeve around the coax and secure the folds with a cable tie, about an inch from the end of the sleeve. Pull the cable tie tight by hand (not with pliers). Repeat the process at the other end of the sleeve. Trim the ends of the cable ties.

A nice feature of this method is that the sleeve can be removed and reinstalled easily, by snipping the cable ties while being careful not to nick the sleeve. This type of waterproofing has lasted for more than a year for me.

Al Bregman, W4GHQ

HINT

Soldering Leads to Button Batteries

It's often difficult to solder leads to button batteries. I devised this alternative attachment method for when you lack the proper tabbed battery. You'll need a length of hookup wire, superglue or hot-melt glue, and heat-shrink tubing.

Strip about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch of insulation off one end of the two wires. Form the stripped portion into a zigzag/curlicue. Place the thoroughly cleaned battery on your work surface.

Use a piece of plastic to press and hold the shaped wire against the battery, and apply the glue to fix it there. Make sure the glue doesn't get between the wire and the battery terminal. When the wire is set, verify the continuity of the connection, then repeat the process on the opposite face of the battery.

Place heat-shrink tubing over the assembly and apply heat. As the tubing shrinks, it will conform to both the battery and the formed portion of the wire leads. This will provide an electrical connection and mechanical retention of the leads at the battery. Non-formed leads would lack retention. Solder the exposed leads as usual.

This method suffices for low current memory batteries. I've used this approach many times on NiCad battery sizes up to and including D cells with no detrimental issues.

Wayne Troutman, KC7FKW

If your battery lacks these helpful tabs, here's a solution.



NCVEC Question Pool Committee Issues Revision to 2026 - 2030 Technician Pool

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) Question Pool Committee (QPC) released a February 19, 2026, revision to the new 2026 - 2030 Technician Class question pool. Questions drawn from that pool are valid for Amateur Radio License exams given on, or after, July 1, 2026.

The revision includes minor wording clarifications to four questions in the pool. These updated questions have been incorporated into the published Technician question pool documents and are available on the NCVEC website at

www.ncvec.org/index.php/2026-2030-technician-question-pool.

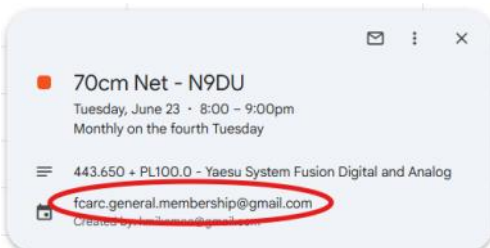
The 2026 - 2030 Technician question pool will be in effect from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2030. The current Technician Pool is only valid through June 30, 2026.

The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC) advises the amateur radio community to regularly check the NCVEC website at www.ncvec.org for updates to the question pools, which may include errata and withdrawn questions.

Use Your Google Calendar to Track Club Events

If you use Google Calendar as your digital planner, you easily integrate the FCARC schedule posted on our website in your personal calendar. Here is how to add the FCARC calendar.

Step 1: Go to the club website (fcarc.club) and scroll down to the club calendar on the left. Click on any event that you see and expand the window. You will see the words "View on Google Calendar." Click the link.



Step 2: The event will open Google Calendar and display the event on your screen. At the bottom of the event is the email address fcarc.general.membership@gmail.com. Highlight and copy this address.

FCARC Calendar

Click on an event title to expand more information.

Tuesday June 23, 2026

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM 70cm Net - N9DU

443.650 + PL100.0 - Yaesu System Fusion Digital and Analog

[View on Google Calendar](#)

Step 3: On the left side of Google Calendar you see the heading **Other calendars** with a plus sign (+) next to the words. Click the **plus sign (+)**. A window will open. Select "**Subscribe to calendar.**"

Step 4: A new window labeled **Add Calendar** will open. In the open text box, paste the email address that you copied in Step 2, then hit enter. The FCARC calendar will be added to the list of calendars that you can manage in Google Calendar. Once you have subscribed, you can adjust the settings for notifications from this subscription.

Add calendar



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AVAILABLE TEE COLORS:



AVAILABLE TEE SIZES: S - 6XL

PRICE PER POLO: \$34.00



PC61 Port & Co™ Essential Tee

AVAILABLE TEE COLORS:



AVAILABLE TEE SIZES: S - 4XL

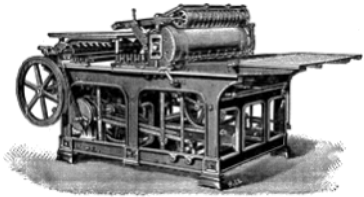
PRICE PER POLO: \$56.00

QSO'er Contributors Needed

Would you like to share something with club members but can't make it to a meeting? Publishing your item to share in the club newsletter will reach all members in an efficient manner. You don't need to worry about formatting or content. Submit your ideas in rough draft and they will be transformed into a neatly fitting piece for the whole club to read.

Other items to consider submitting to QSO'er are:

- Items for sale or swap
- Pictures of your ham shack
- Something new that you learned



To publish anything in a future newsletter, simply contact Gene (KE8KWF) and he will give you some basic guidance on how and what to submit. Your content will be published in the next edition of the QSO'er.

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Social Saturday

August 1, 2026
9:00 am

Rise, Shine, and Radiate at Social Saturday!

Looking for the perfect mix of high gain and high pancakes? Join us this Saturday morning at Golden Corral for our monthly Club Social Breakfast! Whether you're a seasoned Extra class, a newly licensed Tech, or just curious about the hobby, this is the ultimate low-stress, high-fun frequency to connect on. No formal agendas, no net protocols—just great food, endless coffee, and plenty of "eyeball QSOs" about our latest gear builds, antenna triumphs, and upcoming club events. Pull up a chair, pile up your plate, and let's kick off the weekend with some great fellowship. We can't wait to see you there!

FCARC Club Gear

On sale now at <http://www.ise-repair.com>

Contact Jeff on his website for information on items that you don't see, but would like. He stocks and makes a wide variety of POTA clothing and flags, hats, club shirts, as well as radio covers.



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CALLSIGN SHOWN

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Donate



GOT QUESTIONS? CALL our Google Voice Information Phone Number
920-358-0118



If you have an item, rig, QSL card, or anything related to Amateur Radio and want to share it with club members, bring it to the club meeting for **SHOW AND TELL**.

A 2-3 minute section put into the agenda for fellow hams to share items they find useful or promotes Amateur Radio.

Meeting Information

Fox Valley Tech College

1825 N Bluemound Dr
Appleton, WI

Classroom F108

Enter at door 3 (east side) or door
8 (west side)

Meetings start at 7:00 PM

Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month. Check the FCARC calendar for details.

The FCARC Board of Directors meets on the second Monday of each month at Fox Valley Tech in room B128. Park and enter entrance 12 on the west side of the building. Club members are welcome to attend.



From the guys who brought you misfit coils, Wolf River Coils LLC now has misfit collapsible whips.

102 inch collapsible SS whips \$15.00 or 3 for \$40

213 inch collapsible SS whips \$25.00

Now that Wolf River Coils LLC has incorporated a CNC Milling machine for coil production their supply of misfit coils is dwindling as we no longer create a misfit. So if you ever wanted to purchase a misfit SB1000 or SB Mini now is the time because when they're gone, they're gone.

SB1000 sells for \$20.00 and the SB Mini sells for \$15.00.



ARRL needs every radio amateur in the US to send letters to Washington as we continue our nationwide grassroots campaign to pass the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act. The process is simple; click the “Send Your Letters Now” button at arrl.org/HOA, put in your call sign, and press the red “Send My Letters” button. It takes seconds!

Wisconsin Hamfest Schedule

07/11/2026 - WI9SM Hamfest

Location: Oak Creek, WI

Sponsor: South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://wi9sm.org>

11/08/2026 - FCARC Hamfest

Location: Oshkosh, WI

Sponsor: Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club W9ZL

Website: <http://fcarc.club>

08/29/2026 - Circus City Hamfest

Location: Baraboo, WI

Sponsor: Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://yellowthunder.org>

04/24/2027 - ORC 47th Annual Spring Indoor Swapfest

Location: Cedarburg, WI

Sponsor: Ozaukee Radio Club, Incorporated

Website: <https://ozaukeeradioclub.org/>

09/12/2026 - 20th Annual ORC Fall Swapfest

Location: Cedarburg, WI

Sponsor: Ozaukee Radio Club, Incorporated

Website: <https://ozaukeeradioclub.org>



Next FCARC Ham Exam July 18, 2026 (at FVTC)

Registration starts at 0800. Testing starts at 0830. Room A160. Enter Door 15 from the north parking lot. The exam fee is \$15; this goes to the ARRL. You will receive an email from the FCC after testing on how to pay them for your license. You will need two forms of ID at least one of which must be a picture ID. All candidates must use their Federal Registration Number (FRN). No SSN's accepted per the FCC. Email addresses are **REQUIRED**. If you are upgrading, please bring a printed copy of your license for the VE's to verify your current license level.

Location: Fox Valley Technical College, 1825 N Bluemound Dr, Appleton, WI 54914, USA

Details on each testing date will be posted on the FCARC website.

Cell phones must be silenced and put away during exams. Non cell phone calculators are permitted. Programmable calculator memories must be cleared and are subject to examination by a VE.

If you fail an exam you may take a different version, time permitting, but you will be charged another \$15. If you are successful you may take the next element during that session with no charge.

WI9SM 2026 SWAPFEST

The South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club

www.wi9sm.org

Saturday July 11th, 2026

9327 S Shepard Ave

Oak Creek Wi

Tickets \$5.00 per person @ gate Food

and beverages available starting at 6:30 am

“Women's Auxiliary”

Legion Bar opens at 10am

Our contract with the Legion will not permit early marking of selling spaces

Talk-in Frequency 146.910 127.3pl -offset

Featuring “Tower Electronics”

Ticket stubs are to be placed in the ticket drum for random drawings. All winners will be contacted and any prizes will be mailed to you.

**Located between Ryan Rd (Hwy 100) and
Puetz Rd... East of Interstate 94**

Annual Club Auctions

March 4th and Oct 7th 2026

Doors open @5:30 Auction Starts @ 6:30 pm

Questions contact Karen KC9WQJ 414-578-0492

Save the Date!

MIDWEST SUPERFEST™

September 19-20, 2026

Three Sisters Park
17189 IL-29, Chillicothe, IL



w9uvi.net · Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club Electronics Expo · 68th Year

Illinois' Oldest Hamfest



Large Flea Market area with power available on many sites · Commercial Vendors · Forums · Hourly Door Prize Drawings · License Testing · Grand Prize Drawing · Demonstrations · Camping · EmComm Displays and more

Future Dates — Always on the third weekend of September:
September 19-20, 2026
September 18-19, 2027
September 15-16, 2028



Food & Drinks (including adult beverages) available





FCARC Lending Library

Chris Reitz, N9CVR
Head Librarian



The FCARC lending library is a repository of references, equipment, and supplies that club members are willing to loan out to other club members. If you would like to borrow an item from the lending library contact the owner and arrange to borrow the item. If you have something you would like to list in the lending library, contact Chris Reitz (N9CVR) to have your item listed.

Library Catalog

Current As Of 6/21/26

Item	Make	Model	Owner	Notes
Coax / Powerpole crimper			N9CVR	contains all required tools for crimping coax and powerpole ends, except wire stripper for
Power Meter	Diamond	SX-200	KD9UH	
RF Preamp	Ameco	PT-3	KD9UH	
Manual Antenna Tuner	MFJ	MFJ-	KD9UH	
TDR pulse generator	-	-	N9CVR	For Time Domain Reflectometry
TDR potentiometer	-	-	N9CVR	For finding characteristic impedance of TX line. Broken as of 2023.01.29, working on fix-
75m/40m NVIS dipole	-	-	N9CVR	Requires a tree or pole and some open space to deploy
2m/70cm tape measure			N9CVR	Portable, directional antenna. SO-239 connec-
offset attenuator	KC9ON		N9CVR	for fox hunting
20ft fishing pole			N9CVR	Good for portable installations where trees
misfit 213in whip	Wolf River Coil		N9CVR	Misfit whip - skinniest section doesn't go up (~6in). 3/8"-24 threaded base
Microbit v2 (x2)	BBC	Microbit	N9CVR	USB/Bluetooth Microcontroller with 2.4GHz radio capability and access to library of pro-
Antenna Analyzer	MFJ	208	WI9MM	2m Only Antenna Analyzer
2m mobile radio	Yaesu	FT-1500M	N9CVR	2m / Analog FM / 50W + WX.
Code Practice Oscillator	Pacific Antenna	CPO	N9CVR	From club build day. There are 3 in my household, so feel free to borrow one!

by Chris Codella, W2PA

Ham Humor, Part 1

Across

1. Four after A
 5. High frequency prefix
 10. Two is one
 14. Dubai designator
 15. Best condition for contesting, or tower climbing, say
 16. ZS neighbor's prefix
 17. AI language
 18. Diminish
 19. FET type
 20. With 41 and 52 across, society highlighted in 36 across and founded by 31 down
 23. VE2 way
 24. They make some displays play
 28. Skedaddles
 31. Buzzer (non-RF)
 33. 5N dough
 34. Mint alt., on eBay, e.g.
 35. "Excuse me", low in the band

36. QST department
 37. React. plus res.
 38. Hams love them
 40. Bird word
 41. See 20 across
 43. Owns
 44. Coffee maker
 45. "Sesame Street" regular
 46. Cut 100
 47. Salad green
 49. Kane's word
 51. "QRZ?"
 52. See 20 across
 58. N.Y.C. part
 61. 4W, was CR8 during the time of 31 down writing 36 across
 62. Tuvalu
 63. Houston university
 64. 31 down's prefix
 65. She sheep

66. Rotating rings for towers
 67. "Yes, Sen. Kennedy", familiarly
 68. Zero

Down

1. Unadorned
 2. Nassau prefix
 3. EME antenna
 4. IC-7800, say, in JA
 5. Grammar topic
 6. Radiation pattern feature
 7. Ski lift
 8. Respond again, on RTTY, say
 9. "He's ___ nowhere man"
 10. Tool for reducing spectrum width?
 11. 20's dispenser
 12. JA transceiver maker middle
 13. Don'ts partner

21. Famous DXpeditioner, when 31 down wrote 36 across, familiarly

22. Trillions of zeptos
 25. Goof
 26. Passions
 27. 5th century G-land settlers
 28. Last second on-line bidder
 29. D6 place
 30. Poplars, in W0, say
 31. Callsign suffix of one time 36 across writer and creator of 20 across.
 32. Zero zulu in two-land June
 35. Articulate
 36. Very popular examples of 38 across
 38. Early radio maker
 39. Fast no more
 42. Decorates 60's-style
 46. "...like taking _____

- from a fire hose." (information overload)

47. Half a Latin dance
 48. T.O.M.'s series of articles
 50. Where the DX might be listening
 51. Kit alternative
 53. Radiate
 54. UHF antenna type, with dis-
 55. Prefix in Lombardia
 56. First astronaut ham, familiarly
 57. Well known DXer KH6IJ when 31 down ran 36 across
 58. Disp. device before LCD, LED
 59. Early first century year
 60. Inter-area NTS org

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
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49					50			51						
			52				53	54				55	56	57
58	59	60			61						62			
63					64						65			
66					67						68			

Elmer's Contact List

This is a listing of hams who are willing to help other hams out in special areas. Feel free to contact these fellow hams with any questions. **Contact a board member to be an Elmer.**

Call / Name	Specialty Area
N9LVS - Dan	FCC Personal Data Changes
WA9TT- Larry	SSTV (analog)
N9AOT -Terry	Wires X / Digital
KB9AIT - Gary	Wires X
KC9YL- Anne	CW
W1GCS - Greg	Net Control Operators
WJ9K - Rick	Getting on the Air
KG9JP - KC	Contesting

FCARC Repeaters

Frequency (MHz)	Offset	Tone	Remarks
145.330	- 0.600 MHz	100.0	Yeasu System Fusion
145.690	Simplex		Yeasu System Fusion Analog Node
146.760	- .600 MHz	100.0	
146.760	- .600 MHz	107.2	This is a receiver station at Oneida Heights.
443.650	+5.000 MHz	100.0	

FCARC Member Repeaters

Frequency (MHz)	Offset	Tone	Remarks
224.500	-1.6	100.0	1.25 m repeater owned by WJ9K
1282.200	-12.0	146.2	23 cm repeater
442.475	+5.0	146.2	70 cm repeater owned by AJ9L
442.175	+5.0	100.0	70 cm repeater owned by WJ9K

FCARC Nets

Net Name	Frequency	Schedule and Extra Information
2-Meter	146.760	Wednesdays at 8:00 pm. Coordinator: John (KC9TFM)
2-Meter Digital	145.330	First Tuesday of the month at 8:00 pm. You can also use the FCARC's Fusion Room 40216, the W9ZL room. Coordinator: Mike (KD9QHQ).
2-Meter SSTV	146.760	Second Sunday of the month at 6:00 pm. Coordinator: Larry (WA9TT)
70 cm	443.650	Last Tuesday of the month at 8:00 pm. Coordinator: Rod (K6ROD)
222 Net	224.500	2nd Tuesday of the month. Coordinator: Dave (KB9RPH)
6-Meter	52.550	Third Tuesday of the month. Coordinator: Larry (WA9TT)

FCARC Club Calendar

July 2026

- 1 - 2 meter net 8 pm (AJ9L)
- 4 - **CommunityFest at 9 am**
- 7 - 2 meter digital net 8 pm (WA9TT)
- 8 - 2 meter net 8 pm (KC9TFM)
- 12 - 2 meter SSTV Net (WA9TT)
- 13 - Board of Directors meeting 7 pm
- 14 - 220 Mhz Monthly Net 8 pm
- 16 - 2 meter net 8 pm (KE8KWF)
- 18 - Amateur Radio License Exam
- 18 - EAA antenna set up
- 20 - 26 - **EAA Airventure**
- 20 - General Membership Meeting 7 pm
- 21 - 6 meter Monthly Net 8 pm
- 22 - 2 meter net 8 pm (WI4WD)
- 28 - 70 cm Monthly Net 8 pm (KC9THF)
- 29 - 2 meter net 8 pm (K6ROD)

August 2026

- 1 - Social Saturday 9 am
- 4 - 2 meter digital net 8 pm (WA9TT)
- 5 - 2 meter net 8 pm (KC9TFM)
- 9 - 2 meter SSTV Net (WA9TT)
- 10 - Board of Directors meeting 7 pm
- 11 - 220 Mhz Monthly Net 8 pm
- 12 - 2 meter net 8 pm (KE8KWF)
- 15 - **FCARC Annual Picnic and Fox Hunt**
- 18 - 6 meter Monthly Net 8 pm
- 19 - 2 meter net 8 pm (WA9TT)
- 25 - 70 cm Monthly Net 8 pm (WI9MMM)
- 26 - 2 meter net 8 pm (AJ9L)

September 2026

- 1 - 2 meter digital net 8 pm (K6ROD)
- 2 - 2 meter digital net 8 pm (KC9TFM)
- 5 - Social Saturday 9 am & Fox Hunt 7:30 am
- 8 - 220 Mhz Monthly Net 8 pm
- 9 - 2 meter net 8 pm (KE8KWF)
- 13 - 2 meter SSTV net 6 pm (KC9TFM)
- 14 - Board of Directors meeting 7 pm
- 16 - 2 meter net 8 pm (WI4WD)
- 19 - Amateur Radio License Exam
- 19 - Wisconsin Parks On The Air (WIPOTA)
- 21 - General Membership Meeting 7 pm
- 22 - 6 meter net 8 pm
- 22 - 2 meter net 8 pm (K6ROD)
- 26 - **Otto Gunski Runski**
- 29 - 70 cm net 8 pm (WA9TT)
- 30 - 2 meter net 8 pm (N9TNW)

October 2026

- 3 - **St. Joe's Run/Walk**
- 3 - Social Saturday 9 am & Fox Hunt 7:30 am
- 6 - 2 meter digital net 8 pm (KC9TFM)
- 7 - 2 meter net 8 pm (WI9MMM)
- 11 - 2 meter SSTV net 6 pm (KC9TFM)
- 12 - Board of Directors meeting 7 pm
- 13 - 220 Mhz Monthly Net 8 pm
- 14 - 2 meter net 8 pm (WA9TT)
- 19 - General Membership Meeting 7 pm
- 20 - 6 meter net 8 pm
- 21 - 2 meter net 8 pm (AJ9L)
- 27 - 70 cm net 8 pm (K6ROD)
- 28 - 2 meter net 8 pm (KC9TFM)

November 2026

- 3 - 2 meter digital net 8 pm (KC9THF)
- 4 - 2 meter net 8 pm (KE8KWF)
- 7 - Social Saturday 9 am & Fox Hunt 7:30 am
- 8 - **HAMFEST** & Amateur Radio License Exam
- 8 - 2 meter SSTV net 6 pm (KB9YUC)
- 9 - Board of Directors meeting 7 pm
- 10 - 220 Mhz Monthly Net 8 pm
- 16 - General Membership Meeting 7 pm
- 17 - 6 meter net 8 pm
- 18 - 2 meter net 8 pm (K6ROD)
- 24 - 70 cm net 8 pm (KB9AIT)
- 25 - 2 meter net 8 pm (N9TNW)

December 2026

- 1 - 2 meter digital net 8 pm (KD9QHQ)
- 2 - 2 meter net 8 pm (WI9MMM)
- 5 - Social Saturday 9 am & Fox Hunt 7:30 am
- 8 - 220 Mhz Monthly Net 8 pm
- 9 - 2 meter net 8 pm (WA9TT)
- 13 - 2 meter SSTV net 6 pm (WI9MMM)
- 14 - Board of Directors meeting 7 pm
- 16 - 2 meter net 8 pm (AJ9L)
- 21 - General Membership Meeting 7 pm
- 22 - 6 meter net 8 pm
- 23 - 2 meter net 8 pm (KC9TFM)
- 29 - 70 cm net 8 pm (KC9THF)
- 30 - 2 meter net 8 pm (KE8KWF)

Calendar items in red require membership participation or volunteer support to make the event happen.



FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

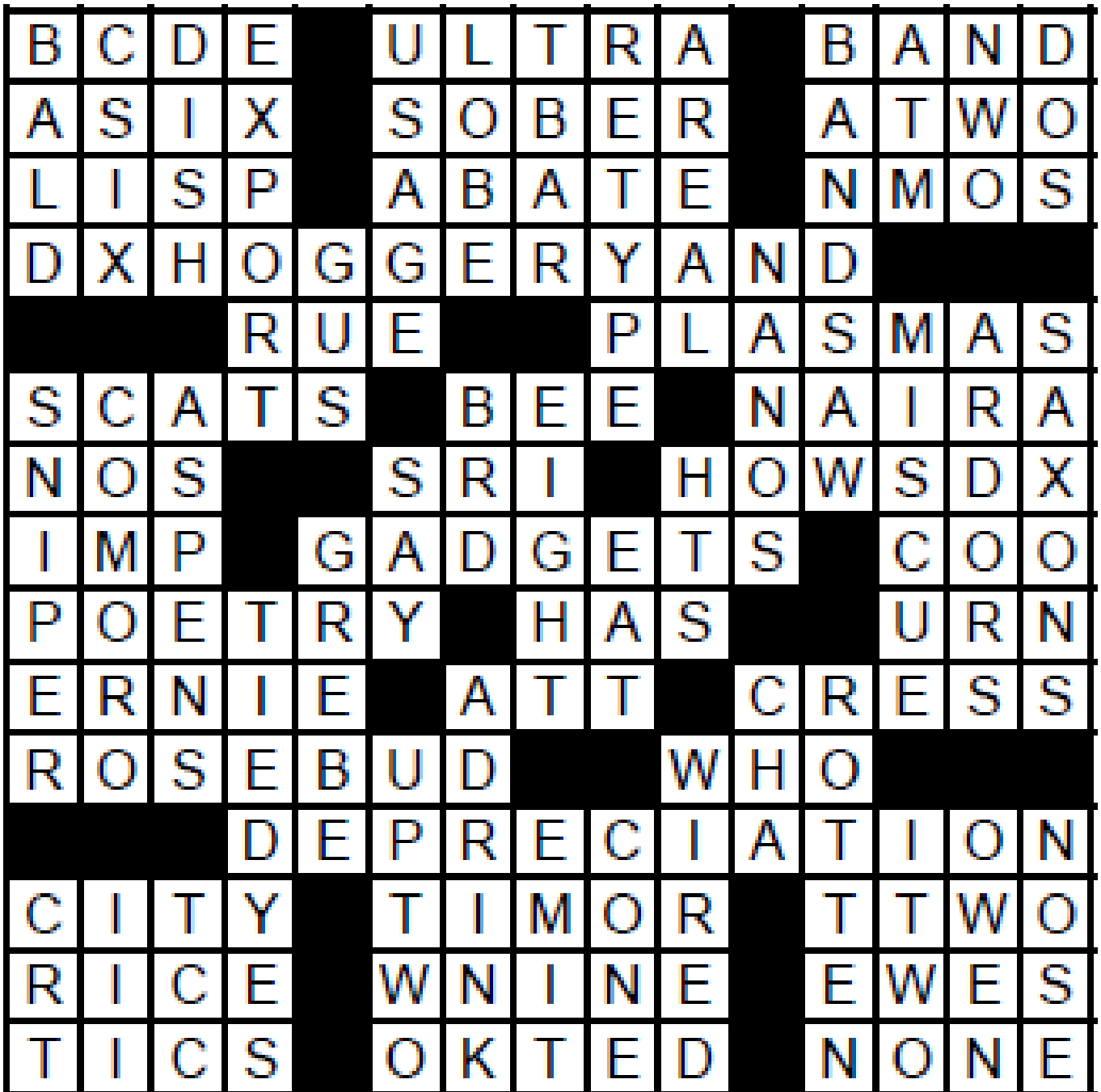
FCARC

General Membership Meeting Sign-in Sheet

Date: 5/18/2026

	Name	Callsign		Name	Callsign
1.	Mike Moore	W1Q9MMW	21.	Rick Kosonok	W19K
2.	KAREN THORNE	W89ZNA	22.	BOY HINZ	KC9VLP
3.	John Toczarsky	K9KI	23.	TONY WACH	A89IO
4.	Evan Wadylowicz	N9DU	24.	DAVID MENDS	KC9THX
5.	Gary Forstner	KB9AIT	25.	Greg	
6.	JOHN VERMIL	K9TEW	26.	Greg	
7.	TRIE Bjorkqvist	K0SRF	27.		
8.	Dave Spangier	ND9DUL	28.		
9.	Mike Holmann	A89MH	29.		
10.	Gene Wibel	K8RWF	30.		
11.	Paul Schwedel	K89CEJ	31.		
12.	MIKE SANDERSON	K09WYB	32.		
13.	Loren Larson	N9SEA	33.		
14.	ROD ROBER	KL8DD	34.		
15.	Stelle Letzko	KD9WXC	35.		
16.	MICHAEL D KRAUS	K89AEJ	36.		
17.	ANDY LAUTON	AJ9AL	37.		
18.	Rudy Regalano	KD9RPW	38.		
19.	Mike Miller	KD9QXA	39.		
20.	Marcus Va Grishin	K89VES	40.		

Crossword Solution From Page 29.



Submit your ideas for content, contributions, or items for sale for future editions of QSO'er to Gene Wall (KE8KWF) at ke8kwf@gmail.com. There are no special formatting requirements. All ideas are welcome. Together we can make our newsletter a useful addition to your shack.



FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

FCARC, PO Box 2346, Appleton, WI 54912
920-415-2ham (2426) - www.fcarc.club - fcarcw9zl@gmail.com

Membership Application

Date _____ New member Renewal

Full / Associate / Retired Student

Call Sign _____ License Class _____ ARRL Member? Yes No

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email _____

\$20.00	_____	Full, Associate (non ham), Retired
\$10.00	_____	Student School _____
Free	_____	New Ham (FCARC VE certificate required)
\$5.00 each	_____	Additional Family Members
	_____	Donation (Optional)
Total	_____	

My Family Member is Joining or Renewing:

New member Renewal

Call Sign _____ License Class _____ ARRL Member? Yes No

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

New member Renewal

Call Sign _____ License Class _____ ARRL Member? Yes No

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Note: Family members must reside at the same address

Note: Please see the treasurer for an ARRL dues form. Our club will receive a portion of those dues if you sign up or renew through us.

Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation.
Your contribution supports our community service and public safety activities.
All donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Please consult your tax advisor.

Treasurer Use:

Amount Paid \$ _____

Check # or method of payment _____

Paid through 12/31/ _____

Date Deposited _____

QuickBooks Updated _____

Website Updated _____

HamClubOnline Updated _____