

Spurious Emissions

Orleans County Amateur Radio Club

March 2010

OCARC Meetings

The OCARC meets at **7:30 PM** on the **2nd Monday** of each month at the Orleans County Emergency Management Office (14064 W. County House Rd. Albion, NY)

The exceptions are the August (picnic) and September (dinner) meetings

Club Officers

President

Stephen W Maier KZ2R

Vice President

Howard Flint KC2EZJ

Secy

Charles Lind N8CL

Treas

Richard Toussaint
KA2BCF

Dir

Bruce Sidari WA2TMC

Net Mgr

Marion Toussaint
KA2BCE

OCARC Meeting March 8, 2010

WHERE: EMO

WHEN:

March 8, 2010

TIME: 7:30 PM

Program:

So as not to bore you as I probably do with some of my programs, this month will be a series of four different mini programs. About 15 minutes each.

If the discussion gets

too intense we can cut back a bit.

I have mentioned before I get some great ideas from members.

Many times I have been asked how something works or can you do a program on this particular subject.

I love it because it makes me do some research and a bit of head scratching (ok no bald jokes hihi).

The April meeting will have the SKYWARN program so there will only be two meetings remaining to discuss Field Day.

I will spend a bit of program time discussing that and the contents of the article I wrote in this months newsletter.

Please read it and bring your input to the meeting.

73 WA2TMC

Club Station Improvements

Wayne N2WK and myself have been working on the club station. We are both hoping you will see a dramatic improvement when you come to the March meeting. We will discuss then what we feel is needed. Amazingly we have almost everything we need to put TWO very good HF stations on the air. Included are two very modern HF rigs, antenna tuners on each station and antenna selection for each station. We might need a few small accessories under \$100 total to get it right. We will have some Saturday morning sessions on how to use the equipment. Everything will be labeled and very clear accessible "quick start" instructions for each station. The VHF radios will be mounted above the table top and very clear "quick start" instructions posted as well.

73 Bruce WA2TMC

OCARC Field Day 2010

The planning begins !!!!

Yes, Field Day has become our premiere annual club event. Maybe soon to be replaced by a Hamfest, but it will always be our biggest “operating” event that’s for sure.

I was FD Chairman last year and was aided by almost all of our members in one capacity or another. Most notably Wayne N2WK. Wayne has volunteered to be even more involved this year. I’m sure by now you know of Wayne’s background in Dxing and Contesting, He has been exceptionally successful over the years in organizing FD type events. I’m sure most of you are familiar with the video I played at the club meeting called “Winning on the Hill”. The contest team that actually did this large field type contesting for a few years was completely organized by Wayne. His expertise is welcome and appreciated.

Wayne prepares for a contest like most coaches prepare for a game. He analyzes EVERYTHING rules, his team, available equipment, strategies, best operating positions, frequencies, antenna placement, interference elimination etc etc.

You will hear from him very soon.

Yes, we started out a few years ago calling this a “picnic with radios” and that is still the goal.

But now I’d like to call it a ***“Picnic with Radios and a Radio Education”***.

Everyone knows what I feel the most important thing to come out of Feld Day is some new or renewed camaraderie amongst our members.

To me above all the social aspect is NUMBER ONE.

So over these past months from last Field Day many conversations that included many members have been had at Tim Horton’s reviewing last years FD and what we should do to improve.

Our score must important because everyone always wants to know, “How did we do? What place did we get? Who did we beat?”.

There is nothing like being a part of a team that sets a goal and accomplishes it. It certainly makes you feel connected to something very positive.

There is nothing like being a part of a team that sets a goal and accomplishes it. It certainly makes you feel connected to something very positive.

We want to set a goal, accomplish it and share the feeling of success with all.

Wayne will explain in more detail as FD gets closer. YOUR thoughts and ideas are welcome.

Ok so here are some of the things that came out of the “high Level” (hihi) at TH’s.

In no particular order and additional ideas will be explored and added.

EDUCATION:

There are many members who do very little if any HF operating. Not because they are not qualified but just have had very little experience or don’t own the right equipment. We want to change that. We want to get everyone involved in operating by having a “coach” involved, someone who can provide a bit of guidance as to how to efficiently make FD contacts, use of antennas, radio operation, what to do when interfered with or how not to interfere with the other FD stations etc.

We have a number of Technician class operators that I would love to see upgrade to General. FD is a perfect place to get them on HF and demonstrate what a lot of us know already...HF is FUN!!

Before FD we will have some mini seminars. So much radio and operating theory can be learned discussing radio operation, antenna theory and position and the interference issues

Radio Operation — We will discuss **BEFORE** FD the operation of the radios we will be using. It was suggested and agreed that we put operators in front of radios they probably have never seen. Now that’s not much fun is it? It certainly doesn’t lend itself to good operating conditions.

Logging Program — Just like the radios, we expect operators to sit in front of a computer and a program that at best they saw a year earlier. Again not much fun is it? We will have times BEFORE FD to get everyone familiar with the logging software. Some operators prefer to have someone log for them and that’s fine too.

Coaching available during FD to help with the above “hands on issues”

(page 4)

CATEGORY: For many years we have operated in the 2A category it is probably one of the most competitive categories. There is a separate category for EOCs Emergency Operating Centers. It is the F class. We are going to run the **2F class** which is still very competitive with just below 100 entries last year. The beauty of this is that we can run from the EOC's AC power with their generator as a back up. So we do not need to run off portable generators. There are a few other advantages.

FOOD:
This club is known for its food hihi. Let's see.... Dinner meeting, Picnic, Christmas Party. So I was thinking of something a bit more dramatic for Saturday. We will see what we come up with.

TENT:
The same arrangement as last year although we might go for a bit bigger tent. I really enjoy seeing everyone sitting around under the tent and socializing.

OTHER CLUBS: I was very happy to see members from other clubs come and enjoy our FD. I truly believe we have an active club and want to "show it off" to the neighboring cities and Counties. I think we are all proud of our club. I hope when others come to operate or visit they might leave with the thought of joining our club.

Let's welcome them all and make them feel wanted.

Ok I have been a bit longwinded here but this is our "FD", lets get ready to enjoy.

No this is NOT a high intensity HF contest and it is not meant to be.

If I have learned any lessons at all in my limited contesting career over the years is that the knowledge I have gained by preparing for a contest type scenario not only helps me be a better operator but bit by bit I learn more and more about this great hobby we share.

73 Bruce WA2TMC

OCARC Weekly NET

The OCARC 2 Meter Net meets every Tuesday evening at 9:00 PM on the WA2DQL repeater.

Freq = 145.27 KHz -600

PL = 141.3 Hz

This is a very informal net and ALL stations are welcome.

The schedule of net Control stations for the next month is:

March	3	KC2JKU
March	10	KA2BCE
March	17	WA2TMC
March	24	KA2BCF
March	31	KC2JKU
April	7	KA2BCE
April	14	WA2TMC