



The SPARK GAP

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PRESIDENTS CORNER*by Gale, WD9HFT*

I would like to thank all those that helped with our Swapfest in July and remind everyone about the Mobile Antenna clinic in August. I hope all are enjoying the cooler weather.

CVARC MEETING MINUTES*by Ron, W9RJW*

Sorry no info – I am on the road in AZ. And CA and all points in between. I will say it is HOT.

NEXT CLUB MEETING

The next meeting will be Aug 18, 2005 at 6:15 PM at KB9VCO's location. This will be the 2nd Annual Mobile / Antenna clinic. This event is open to all hams and non-hams. Visit the EVENTS page on the club webpage for additional information.

CLUB HAPPENINGS

On July 9th the club sponsored its first (and not the last) Tailgate Swapfest. It was a big success. There were 80 buyers and sellers present. All comments were very positive, and those hams in attendance were glad to have something in the local area they could attend. Improvements next year were noted. A big thanks to Ron, W9RMA, for doing the groundwork and securing the location. (Eagle Club – Lake Hallie).

The following week the 440M Fox hunt was held and there were 6 teams competing for the coveted "FOX TAIL" Award. The winner this time was Jim Mercer, W5JLM. Jim's secret against the big guns, knowing how to use an HT and Rubber duck. (Jim did not share any super secrets about his technique).

The club picnic was held, on Fox Hunt weekend, at W9SWL's on the "Hottest" day of summer. Those attending offered a fine select of food. All, save the fact we all stayed inside in the cool A/C air, had fun and good fellowship. (Cooking was done outside but there was a breeze – not cool, but a breeze).

Information and pictures for these events can be found on the club webpage – <http://www.w9cva.org>

AMATEUR RELATED NEWS BITES*by John, W9SWL*

Always check the Newline page on W9CVA.org for the latest in ARRL News happenings. It is published weekly and will keep you informed about what the ARRL is involved with.

ARRL News**AREA HAMFEST ACTIVITIES***by John, W9SWL***Aug**

13 - Baraboo, WI 0700-1200 608-356-2313

<http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/hamfest.htm>

13 - St. Cloud, MN

14 - Amana, IA

20 - Madison, WI AM Jamboree

20 - Young America (MSP) 147.65

Sep

9-11 Dakota Convention - Fargo, ND

10 - Rush City, MN

16-18 Peoria, IL

17-18 Grayslake, IL Radio Expo**CONTEST BUZZ – by John, W9SWL**

ARRL Contest Calendar can be found here:

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html> a more complete list follows. **August 2005:**

TARA Grid Dip Shindig	0000Z-2400Z, Aug 6
10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB	0001Z, Aug 6 to 2359Z, Aug 7
National Lighthouse Weekend QSO Contest	0001Z, Aug 6 to 2359Z, Aug 7
European HF Championship	1200Z-2359Z, Aug 6
ARRL UHF Contest	1800Z, Aug 6 to 1800Z, Aug 7
North America QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Aug 6 to 0600Z, Aug 7
RSGB RoPoCo 2	0700Z-0900Z, Aug 7
SARL HF Phone Contest	1230Z-1630Z, Aug 7
NCCC Thursday Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 12
WAE DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Aug 13 to 2359Z, Aug 14
Maryland-DC QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 13 to 0400Z, Aug 14 and 1600Z-2359Z, Aug 14

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NCCC Thursday Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 19
SARTG WW RTTY Contest	0000Z-0800Z, Aug 20 and 1600Z-2400Z, Aug 20 and 0800Z-1600Z, Aug 21
ARRL 10 GHZ and Up Contest	0600 local, Aug 20 to 2400 local, Aug 21
Keyman's Club of Japan Contest	1200Z, Aug 20 to 1200Z, Aug 21
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Aug 20 to 0600Z, Aug 21
New Jersey QSO Party	2000Z, Aug 20 to 0700Z, Aug 21 and 1300Z, Aug 21 to 0200Z, Aug 22
NCCC Thursday Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 26
ALARA Contest	0600Z, Aug 27 to 1159Z, Aug 28
Hawaii QSO Party	0700Z, Aug 27 to 2200Z, Aug 28
SCC RTTY Championship	1200Z, Aug 27 to 1159Z, Aug 28
YO DX HF Contest	1200Z, Aug 27 to 1200Z, Aug 28
Ohio QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 27 to 0400Z, Aug 28
SARL HF CW Contest	1230Z-1630Z, Aug 28
Kentucky QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 28 to 0400Z, Aug 29
CQC Summer VHF/UHF QSO Party	1800Z-2100Z, Aug 29

ANTENNAS

by John, W9SWL (If you would like to know about a specific type of antenna - drop me a note)

A very detailed Mobile Antenna clinic will be held on Aug 18 – the next club meeting. If you have questions about HF/VHF/UHF mobile antennas and their mounting – come to the next meeting and bring your camera to capture the information presented.

TECHNICAL TIDBITS

by John, W9SWL

If you like to tinker, build things, or just review circuits, here the biggest collection of circuits on the planet. (<http://www.discovercircuits.com/index.htm>). Using these as a reference, the projects one can build are endless. Take a look and have some fun.

ASK ELMER ??

by John, W9SWL

What is the Amateur Code? – this is something you may know but I think it bears repeating:

THE AMATEURS CODE by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928) - (something to keep in mind)

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE - never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL - offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE - with knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station, and operation beyond reproach.

FRIENDLY - with slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED - Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC - with station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

CVARC OFFICERS

President – Gale Sorum (WD9HFT)

Vice President – Bert Spangler (W9ZZI)

Secretary – Ron Krueger (W9JRW)

Treasurer – Ron Anderson (W9RMA)

Past President – John Ingersoll (W9SWL)

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