

The SPARK GAP



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MAY MEETING

The May meeting will be held at the Chippewa Valley Airport on Tuesday evening, May 2, 2006. You are welcome to join all who want to eat, ordering off the Connell's II menu at 6:00 P.M. The meeting will follow dinner at about 6:45 P.M.

APRIL MINUTES (Summary)

The CVARC April 4, 2006 meeting was a combined "Annual Meeting" (required by Wisconsin State Law) and the regular April meeting. No less than 21 CVARC members were in attendance.

The newly elected officers are President-Elect Ron Anderson (W9RMA), Treasurer Joe Eide (KB9R), and Secretary Ron Krueger (W9JRW). Gale Sorum became Past-President and Bert Spangler became President.

Fox Hunts were scheduled for June 17, 2006 and September 23, 2006. The September Fox Hunt could be an invitational . . . stay tuned.

Meeting dates for the next year were set as: May 2, June 6, June 29 (to avoid meeting on July 4 which probably would have been poorly

attended), Aug 1, Sept. 5, Oct 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, Jan. 2, 2007, Feb. 6, 2007, Mar. 6, 2007 and April 3, 2007 (Annual Meeting). Field Day will be held at Hallie Park and official Club activities will end on Saturday.

Please share with Club officers your interests in future club activities. An August Amateur Radio Mobile Radio "Shoot Out" will be held by the club . . . stay tuned for specifics.

The new CVARC Biography was handed out at the evening's program. It contained photographs of each member and their biography. Updates of this Club document may be done on a yearly basis by just adding new member's pages and an updated index.

HUMOR

I am writing in response to your request for additional information on my insurance claim. In block #3 on the accident reporting form I put "poor planning" as the cause of my accident. You said in your letter that I should explain more fully and I trust the following details will be sufficient: I am an amateur radio operator, and on the day of the accident I was working alone on the top section of my 80-foot tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of trips up the tower, brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware. Rather than carry the now un-needed tools and materials down by hand, I decided to lower the items down in a small barrel by using a pulley, which fortunately was attached to the gin pole at the top of the tower. Securing the rope at ground level, I went to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and materials into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied

the rope, holding it tightly to insure a slow descent of the 300 lbs. of tools. You will note in block #11 of the accident reporting form, that I weigh only 155 lbs. Due to my surprise of being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate of speed up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately, by this time, I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold onto the rope in spite of my pain. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of tools hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed 20-lbs. I refer you again to my weight in block #11. As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles and the lacerations of my legs and lower body. This encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools; and fortunately, only three vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools, in pain, unable to stand, and watching the empty barrel 80-feet above me -- I again lost presence of mind. I let go of the rope.

TAILGATE SWAPFEST—2006

Mark your calendar for the CVARC Tailgate Swapfest scheduled for July 8, 2006, at the Eagles Club Parking Lot in the Village of Lake Hallie, between Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls — same place as last year. The event will start at 8:00 A.M. and run until noon. Entry charge is \$5.00 for looking or selling.

NETS/FREQS/TIMES

- Badger Weather Net 3.985 - 0600
- Badger Emergency Net 3.985 - Noon
- Wisconsin Side Band Net 3.985 - 1715/1730
- ARES/RACES 3.977.5 - Sun - 1800

AREA REPEATERS

Albertville (link)	442.800	110.9
Albertville	444.350	110.9
Chippewa Falls	147.375	110.9
Eau Claire	146.91	110.9
Eau Claire	147.24	110.9
Eau Claire	443.300	110.9
Holcombe	145.47	110.9
Holcombe (link)	147.345	136.5
Holcombe	444.525	110.9
Menomonie	146.61	110.9
Osseo	145.33	110.9
Osseo	444.200	110.9

CVARC OFFICERS

- President -- Bert Spangler (W9ZZ)
 Vice President -- Ron Anderson (W9RMA)
 Secretary -- Ron Krueger (W9JRW)
 Treasurer -- Joe Eide (KB9R)
 Past President -- Gale Sorum (WD9HFT)

Mailing Address

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