

# The SPARKGAP



Volume 1

January 2010

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## **Next Meeting**

The February meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 2nd, 2010. You are welcome to join all who want to eat, ordering off the Hallie Eagles Club menu, at 6:00 P.M. The meeting will follow at 7:00 P.M.

## **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

## **January Minutes**

The January meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. after a brief presentation by Dennis Brown from Chippewa County Emergency Management. We had 17 members in attendance. Wendy Cohoon read the minutes from the last meeting. They were accepted as read. Diane Case read the treasurer's report which was accepted as read.

We welcomed Jay Growkowsky as a new member.

Constitution and By-laws corrections will be posted on the website.

Elections are coming up. Please if you are interested in filling a position contact Gene Radtke. Elections will take place in March and new officers will take their posts in April.

The date for the valentines party is set for February 11 at 29 Pines from 5:00 until 10:00 p.m.. We are waiting to see if Mr. Buckles and the CHI-HI Harmonics can perform for us.

Our Club directors took a proposal to the Eagles club for placing a White Board on the wall in the room we use. This would improve the facilities for presenters. The Eagles Club replied with a "no", but a decision was made to try the proposal again.

A letter from the Spirit of Christmas was read, the Club was thanked for their donation. More info will follow.

Discussion was held about a membership form, on the form would be info like phone numbers, email addresses, cell phone numbers, addresses, special interests, etc. There is a form on line. Concern was expressed about how much and what kinds of personal information should be posted on the web. There might be a possibility of updating the biography and adding that info there.

The Tech class has started and a few more people have now joined it. It is going well. There will be testing at the end of the class.

Bill Craft, an ex-teacher from the middle school, will be giving us a presentation, possibly in May, on handling message traffic over the radio.

Our Tailgate will be held July 24th this year, in the Eagles Club parking lot, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. This is a fundraiser for the club.

Field Day will be on June 26th and Kevin Cohoon has agreed to be in charge of the planning and arrangements..

A class for earning the Extra Class license will be held in April. You can find more info on the club site.

Anyone interested in going to Dayton should contact Gale Sorum. The dates are may 13th to the 16th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42.

Ron Anderson presented "Tuning an amp."

Members in attendance:

Ron Krueger	W9JRW
Lynne Krueger	KC9LLM
Mary Bohl	KC9PKN
Ron Bohl	KC9PKO
Gale Sorum	WD9HFT
Bert Spangler	W9ZZI
Ron Larson	W9RLL
Joe Peloquin	KC9JFP
Fred Harlson	KC9NN
Nolene Harlson	N9MNA
Kevin Cohoon	KC9HXL
Wendy Cohoon	KC9KGE
Diane Case	KB9VYD
Jary Grokowsky	N9CIQ
Gene Radtke	AB9GK
Bob St Louis	KC9JVB
Nat Perry	W0OCZ

## Ham trivia

Which brand of whiskey is indirectly responsible for the advent of the radio?

## DX News

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by NC1L, OH2BH, QRZ DX, the OPDX Bulletin, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites.

Thanks to all.

SENEGAL, 6W. Peter, HA3AUI is QRV as 6W2SC until March 31 while on holiday. He spends his time at the border between here and Guinea-Bissau. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using mainly digital modes, with some CW and SSB if requested. QSL direct to home call.

JUAN FERNANDEZ ISLANDS, CE0. Toshi, JA8BMK will be QRV as CE0Z/home call from January 19 to February 2. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL direct to home call.

AZORES, CU. A group of Finnish operators will be QRV as CU2KG and CU2KH beginning January 16. This includes being QRV as CR2X in the upcoming CQ World Wide 160 Meter CW contest as well as the upcoming ARRL DX contests. They will be active on all HF bands, including 160 meters, before and after the contests. QSL CR2X and CU2KG via OH2BH and CU2KH via OH8NC.

ANGOLA, D2. Vasily is QRV as D2QMN on 80 meters and other bands using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via RZ3EC.

AUSTRAL ISLANDS, FO. Wulf, DL1AWI, Peter, DL3APO and Mat, DL5XU will be QRV as FO/home calls from Raivavae Island, IOTA OC-114, from January 18 to February 5. Activity will be mainly on 160 to 30 meters using CW, and possibly SSB and RTTY on the other bands as well. QSL to home calls.

HUNGARY, HA. Gyuri, HA1CW is QRV with special event station HA2010S for all of 2010 during the 30th LEN European Championship in swimming, diving and other water sports that takes place in Budapest in August. QSL via operator's instructions.

GUINEA-BISSAU, J5. Peter, HA3AUI is QRV as J5UAP until March 31 while on holiday. He spends his time between here and Senegal. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using mainly digital modes, with some CW and SSB if requested. QSL direct to home call.

NORWAY, LA. Special event station LM50NRK is QRV during 2010 in celebration of the 50th anniversary of television in Norway. Activity is on the HF bands, including some satellite activity. QSL via LA4FPA.

NETHERLANDS, PA. Members of the European PSK Club are QRV with special event callsign PA30EPC until January 30. Activity is on all bands using PSK. QSL via PA4JB.

POLAND, SP. Special event station 3Z0FCH is QRV until June 30 in commemoration of the 200th birthday of Polish composer and pianist Fryderyc Chopin. QSL via SP7PAD.

EAST KIRIBATI, T32. Don, G3BJ will be QRV as T32BJ from Kiritimati, IOTA OC-024, from January 20 to 26. Activity will be in his spare time. QSL to home call.

MACAO, XX9. Georg, DK7LX is QRV as XX9TLX from Coloane Island, IOTA AS-075. He is active on 80 to 10 meters using mainly CW. His length of stay is unknown. QSL to home call.

ROMANIA, YO. Special event station YR5EPC is QRV from Transylvania until the end of 2010. QSL via YO6AJI.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The North American SSB QSO Party, NCCC Sprint CW Ladder, LZ Open CW Contest, Hungarian DX Contest, UK DX RTTY Contest, Feld Hell Sprint are all scheduled for this weekend. The Run for the Bacon QRP CW Contest is scheduled for January 18. Please see January QST, page 80, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest web sites for details.  
NNNN/EX

## Upcoming Hamfests

February 13th, 2010  
Cabin Fever Reliever  
St. Cloud ARC  
Contact: Arthur Carlson WA0NJR  
St. Cloud National Guard Armory  
1710 Veterans Drive,  
St. Cloud, MN

March 13th, 2010  
22nd Annuals Amateur Radio Equipment Auction  
Eau Claire ARC  
Contact: Jim Staatz K19H  
202 West Grand Ave  
Eau Claire, WI

April 9th & 10th  
16th annual AES Superfest  
AES Milwaukee  
Contact Ray Grenier K9KHW  
5710 West Good Hope RD  
Milwaukee, WI

## Upcoming Exams

March 27th, 2010  
Dunn County ARC      9:00am walk-ins  
James L Guenther  
715-232-2625  
GUENTHERJ@UWSTOUT.EDU  
UW Stout Millennium Hall  
1211 10th Ave. at S. Broadway  
Menomonee WI

From ARRL:

## Dominican Hams Attempt to Install

### Repeaters in Haiti

Eight members of the Radio Club Dominicano (RCD) -- the Dominican Republic's IARU Member-Society -- and Union Dominicana de Radio Aficionados (UDRA) arrived in Haiti on Friday, January 15, to install an emergency radio communications station and a mobile station. Shortly after they arrived, the hams returned to the Dominican Republic

for safety reasons.

The team -- using the call sign HI8RCD/HH -- had to shut down their operations after their convoy was fired on. Jose Garcia, EB9GF, who is integrated in the Spanish Red Cross contingent, was able to contact colleagues at the RCD. According to IARU Region 1 Emergency Communications Coordinator Greg Mossop, G0DUB, the RCD initially reported that their team crossed the Haitian border at 1550 UTC, time arriving at the Dominican Embassy in Haiti at 1929 UTC when they started installing and testing their equipment.

"Within a few hours though, reports via the RCD Facebook page -- confirmed by a long telephone conversation between Hugo Ramón, HI8VRS, and Ramon Santoyo, XE1KK -- reported that the HI8RCD team of eight amateurs were back in the [Dominican Republic] border town of Jimani," Mossop said. "Their convoy, which included other non related Dominicans, was assaulted and one person is reported dead. The radio amateurs are uninjured, but they decided to leave the capital for safety [reasons] and return to the border unescorted. They report the situation as 'extremely unsafe and scary.'"

On Saturday afternoon at 2104 UTC, Rafael Martinez, HI8ROX, posted this to the RCD's Facebook page: "I regret to inform you that the communications equipment is returning to Jimani due to the lack of security that there is in Haiti. The convoy was attacked as the team was leaving the embassy, with several wounded people confirmed. I do not know how many. For the moment, our equipment is safe, but I'm not sure." Martinez is the RCD's Web master.

The team was able to install two VHF repeaters in the Dominican Republic linking that country's capital -- Santo Domingo -- and Port-au-Prince: 146.970 (-600), CTCSS 100 Hz (please note that the old frequency 147.970 seems to be wrong) and 145.350 (-600), CTCSS 100 Hz -- is active near the Haitian border. Mossop said that these repeaters are being used by the Red Cross and Civil Defense "since there is no other way to communicate. The station at the embassy in Haiti could not be activated. To confirm, all members of the RCD team are safe and have returned to Jimani in the Dominican Republic."

On the morning of Monday, January 18, Martinez wrote that "the equipment that was returned to Santo Domingo is all being sent to Jimani and then sporadically to Port-au-Prince."

## **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

Please send newsletter info to:

Wendy Cohoon @ weeareheere@aol.com or call  
715-828-5844

### **Mailing Address**

CVARC

18310 79<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Web: [www.w9cva.org](http://www.w9cva.org)

Email: [info@w9cva.org](mailto:info@w9cva.org)

## **Trivia answer**

Jameson- Marconi's, maternal grand-father  
Jameson, funded his endeavors

## **CVARC Officers**

President — Jim Fering K9BDN

President Elect — Skip Kruger W9JRW

Secretary — Wendy Cohoon KC9KGE

Treasurer — Diane Case KB9VYD

Past President — Gene Radtke AB9GK

News letter — Wendy Cohoon KC9KGE