

FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 16 ISSUE 1 www.fdlhams.org January, 2015

Join Us On Sunday Evenings For Our Weekly Net — 1930 hrs. 145.430 MHz — Tone 97.4 Hz

2015 Club Officers

President: Donald Larson KC9UVJ

Vice-President: Tom Powell, KC9VXR,

Secretary: Lloyd Vandervort N9RPU

Treasurer: Doug Schultz N9EZF

Sergeant-at-Arms: Ron Keller, KC9YVL

Board Member: Dave McCumber N9WQ

Board Member: Randy Grunewald KB9KEG

Board Member: Larry Mielke KC9RUE

Committee Chairs

Contesting: Randy Grunewald KB9KEG

Education/Scholarship: Jack Heil KG9IN

Field Day: Grunewald, Heil

Fund Raising: Open

Net Manager: Doug Schultz N9EZF

Newsletter: Dick Finn KC9ZVW

Public Service: Ed Beltz N9PJQ

Publicity/Program: Joe Scheibinger K9VY

Repeater: Lloyd Vandervort N9RPU

Testing: Doug Schultz N9EZF

Truck: Brad Freund KC9QYP

TVI: Lloyd Vandervort N9RPU

Web Site: Steve Smith W9GPI

Each committee has several members. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact the chairperson and volunteer

Annual Dues are Due

Doug Schultz N9EZF will be collecting the 2015 dues at the meeting.

The dues for one person is \$15 per year. Dues for a family are \$20. You should make checks payable to the Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, you can mail your dues to

Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 53
Fond du Lac, WI 54936.

Special Note For the January Meeting:

Our January meeting will be held as usual at Moraine Park Technical College at 7:00 pm on January 12, 2015.

HOWEVER

We will be meeting in room A112 (The World Link Room) instead of our normal location. Please see the article on our meeting for more information.

Club meetings

Club meetings are 7 p.m., on the second Sunday of the Month at Moraine Park Technical College, Room A102.

Club Nets

Sunday Evenings - Open to all
6:15 pm Ten Meter SSB Net-28.450 MHz
7:30 pm Two Meter FM Net-145.430 MHz PL 97.4

FDL County ARES Net

Sunday Evenings

For ARES Team Members. Now combined with the Club Net at 7:30 pm.

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Local Ham Radio Enthusiasts Will Visit ARRL Headquarters Live Via "Skype"

The Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club will be holding their next meeting on Monday, January 12th at 7:00 PM at Moraine Park Technical College in Fond du Lac. This very special meeting will be held in room A112, which is the World Link room on the Fond du Lac campus. The room is equipped with a very large back projection screen which will be used for a "Skype" contact to ARRL (American Radio Relay League) in Newington, CT. The room is set up for ITV, inter-campus and remote audio video connections.

This meeting will celebrate the 100th year anniversary of ARRL marked by a number of special events. ARRL (American Radio Relay League) is the national association for Amateur Radio in the US. Today, with more than 161,000 members, ARRL is the largest organization of radio amateurs in the world. While many voice and Morse code contacts have been made by amateur radio operators with W1AW in Newington, CT, few have had the opportunity to have a video connection. During the meeting, Moraine Park will contact the control room of W1AW live on "Skype" for a two way conversation with Joe Garcia, General Manager of the station, and project the live conversation on the screen in the World Link Room. Members of the club will be able to interact with the station manager, and the camera man will give a complete tour of the station.

W1AW Station Manager Joe Garcia has been a licensed amateur Radio operator since 1979 and holds an Extra class license. Joe attended the S.I. Ward School of Electronics at the University of Hartford in CT. In late 1984, Joe got a job working at the ARRL headquarters, and spent a short time in the Volunteer Exam department before taking the manager job back in the QSL service. In October 1996, Joe took over as station general manager.



Despite the fact that Joe is surrounded by Ham radio all day, he still enjoys Ham radio at home. "I enjoy low-power contesting and DX. I make my own antennas. My understanding bride of 15+ years, who also works in the headquarters volunteer examining department enjoys sitting next to me at contest and DX time. The job has afforded me the pleasure of meeting hams from around the world! It gives me a whole new perspective on the lives and cultures of other individuals."

This will be the first of many informative meetings using "Skype" technology that will bring informative and educational programming to the local Amateur Radio Community. The meeting is open to the public and is free of charge. For more information, contact Joe Scheibinger at 920-237-1450.

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Successful Testing for New HAMS and Upgraded Tickets.

Many thanks to our team of VEs who completed a testing session on Dec. 6, 2014 at the Red Cross Office on North Main Street. The following successfully completed their tests and were awarded the noted licenses: Brian Smith, Forestville, WI passed the Tech. Joel Koch, Fond du Lac, WI passed the Tech. Matthew Yates, Brandon, WI passed the Tech. Gabriel Stark, Ripon, WI passed the General exam. Dick Finn (KC9ZVW), Malone, WI passed the Extra exam.



Brad Freund (KC9QYP) presents Brian Smith with his Technician Class license



Doug Schultz (N9EZF) awards Matt Yates his technician Class Ticket. Doug coordinates our testing program.



Joe Scheibinger (K9VY) presents Joel Koch with his Technician Class license



Brad Freund (KC9QYP), Doug Schultz (N9EZF) and Joe Scheibinger (K9VY) present Dick Finn (KC9ZVW) with his Extra Class ticket.

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Successful Testing (cont.)



Brad Freund (KC9QYP) awards Gabriel Stark his General Class license

Morse Code Classes Starting in Feb.

Members of the Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club will be able to experience the nostalgia of Morse Code with a special class that will be held at the end of each club meeting at Moraine Park starting with the February meeting thanks to Rick Robinson.



Richard "Rick" Robinson, has been a Fond du Lac club member for twenty years. Rick was licensed in 1969 as WN6KMD. He received his General as KA9RNB, and his Advanced and Extra class licenses in mid 1980's as NI9Z. Rick enjoys contesting and other parts of ham radio that he would like to get himself back into, but he has not had an antenna up in over 20 years. "The contesting I do is from my cabin up north. I plan on putting up a tower and my TH7 at the cabin next year."

Rick was in the U.S. Navy from July 1965 to July 1969, as a Radioman. He was a CW operator on Guam Island (NPN) and for one year as a CW shift supervisor, in Japan (NDT). His first 2 1/2 years were spent in boot camp, electricity/electronics school, radio school and one year at "Navcommsta" Long Beach, California.

Classes will run from 8:00pm to 8:30pm after the club meetings, starting in February 2015. There is no cost for this program. This program will cover learning the code, both sending and receiving. The goal is to learn enough from this ongoing class to work CW on an upcoming field day.

Rick is looking forward in teaching this class to club members and non-hams in the community who have an interest in learning CW.

International Morse Code

1. A dash is equal to three dots.
2. The space between parts of the same letter is equal to one dot.
3. The space between two letters is equal to three dots.
4. The space between two words is equal to seven dots.

A	•• —	U	•• —
B	—•••	V	•• —•
C	—•• —•	W	•• — —
D	—•••	X	—••• —
E	•	Y	—•• — —
F	•• —••	Z	— —••
G	— —••		
H	••••		
I	••		
J	• — — —		
K	—• — —	1	• — — — —
L	• —••	2	•• — — — —
M	— —	3	•••• — —
N	—•	4	•••• —
O	— — —	5	•••••
P	• — —••	6	•••••
Q	— — —• —	7	— —•••
R	• — —•	8	— — —••
S	•••	9	— — — —•
T	—	0	— — — — —

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Club Christmas Party:

The 2014 Christmas Party went off as scheduled, unfortunately, without me. I was under the weather and not up to celebrating. It appears that everyone had a great time. My thanks to Lloyd Vendervoort for the pictures.



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Club Christmas Party: (cont.)



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January Meeting

The next meeting of the Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club will be held on Monday, Jan. 12, 2014 at 7 pm at Moraine Park Technical College Room A-112

ARRL Contests

January 24-26
January VHF

February 9-13
School Club Roundup

February 21-22
International DX – CW

For information on these contests and more, visit www.arrl.org/contest-calendar

2015 FdL Ham Calendar Items

January 9, 2015
7:00 pm Monthly Meeting
8:00 pm CW Class

Generally speaking, I will be publishing the newsletter each month on the Monday before our monthly meeting. I start assembling it during the preceding week. Obviously I would like to have the material as early as possible but the deadline will have to be on that Friday.

Following are the pertinent dates I'll update this table and print it in each month's newsletter):

	Publish Date	Deadline Date
Feb., 2015	2/2/2015	1/30/2015
Mar., 2015	3/9/2015	3/6/2015
Apr., 2015	4/6/2015	4/3/2015
May, 2015	5/4/15	5/1/2015



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Upcoming Special Event Stations

I picked out several Special Event Stations that I thought might be of interest from the official ARRL list. For information on many, many more Special Event Stations, visit www.arrl.org/special-event-stations

01/24/2015 | Winter Field Day

Jan 24-Jan 25, 1700Z-1700Z, N8W, Mineral City, OH. SPAR Society for the Preservation of Amateur Radio. 14.210 7.050. QSL. Tom Phelps, 235 Leonard Ave NW, Massillon, OH 44646. We practice emergency communications during the summer with the June Field Day. What about emergency communications during the winter months? SPAR helps promote not only emergency communications in the winter months, but also interaction of Amateur Radio Operators worldwide. N8W will be operating near the town of Mineral Wells, Ohio. Our team is KD8ENV(Mike), KD8BBK(Tony), N3JJT (Scott) and WD8MBE(Tom). We will be operating phone, CW and psk. See URL for more info.

www.spar-hams.org

02/07/2015 | Shuttle Columbia Special Event Station

Feb 7-Feb 8, 1500Z-2200Z, K5C, Nacogdoches, TX. Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club. 28.480 21.280 14.280 7.200. QSL. Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club, 167 CR 2093, Nacogdoches, TX 75965. w5nac.com

2015 Fond du Lac Christmas Parade

I was unable to make the Christmas Parade but Lloyd Vandervoort was able to supply a few snapshots:



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Gene Olig passed on the following article written by his friend Ed Palagyi from Crawfordville, Florida. I thought it made for some easy and pleasant reading and really shows the pleasure some of our fellow HAMs get from the hobby. The article is from the County Line Roadrunner published by the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club. Enjoy!

THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

DATELINE CW

By: Ed, KN4Y

Participants pass, but County Hunting is eternal.

Happy New Year, Can it be the year 2014 already? What did I do last year? I must plan to make a county hunting plan for this year. Usually when I make such a plan it does not pan out and the plan is re-planned or paned. I am distracted from my plan planning when I hear Gator's truck slides up to the recycled railroad tie. Gator comes into the radio shack carrying a white cardboard box and a white envelope. "Happy New Year Dude, I have what every county hunter wants for the New Year, a hot latte and a custard filled éclair." He hands me a cup of java and a custard filled éclair, "Gator, you know how to start a new year off sweetly, what is in that envelope?" "I have no idea; it was hanging on your mailbox." I take the envelope and open it, "Wow Gator I got first place world in the ten-ten international net fall CW QSO party." Gator sips his latte, "You done did good," Gator turns on the computer and I enjoy my éclair and wipe the custard off my chin.

Gator finishes his latte, "Dude did you operate in the ARRL 160-meter contest?" I hand him a memory stick. "Here is the log." Gator looks at the log, "I see you made 190 QSO's, you must have stayed up after midnight, how were conditions?" I give Gator a thumbs down, "The conditions were brutal, lots of QSB and I heard no stations west of Kansas. How many new counties did I get?" Gator massages the log, "Not bad Dude, you got 21 new counties on 160-meters, two 1X3 and one 2x2 call," I take four cookies of the computer desk to enjoy with my latte.

Gator is looking at the computer, "I see that county hunter Dude with the Big Green Dragon is no longer legal consul for the ten-ten International; Net. Do you know why?" "They probably found out he was a mobile county hunter with no ten meter resonator." "Really?" "No Gator, I was just joking, here check out my ARRL ten meter contest log." Gator takes the memory stick and brings up the log. I am listening to W4SIG running mobile and see Gator motions with his hand to get my attention and I turn around, "Ten meters must have been in a good propagation mode. You made 350 QSO's encompassing 36 States, 9 Canada multipliers, 3 Mexican States, 52 DXCC countries, four new ten meter counties and a natural Bingo." "How long did you operate."

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"I got the CW going Friday night and the band was nada, made 20 Texas contacts in five hours. Saturday morning I came to the shack at 5:00am." "Really Dude you were here before daylight." "Please do not interrupt and yes I was here and at sunrise the band again was filled with signals. I had a ball working the stations." I pause for a sip of latte, "Sunday I did the same thing except I stopped to go to church. Sunday was good but not like Saturday." Gator shakes his head, "I find it hard to believe you got here at 5:00am." Time is a tool for County hunters.

Gator swivels around in the office chair, "I see you worked the Croatian CW contest and made 60 contacts." "Yes I did, I hope to get the 9A boys into county hunting." "Never happen Captain." I know better and ask, "How did I do in the Stew Perry contest and the Canada Winter contest."

Suddenly Gator's cell phone ring a ding pierces our inattention span, "Sorry Dude I have to move my body to another location and he is gone like drops of sweat on a hot plate. I hear him yell, "Cappuccino tastes better then espresso." Except for a piece of tail all the kamikaze squirrels made it safely across the driveway. The printer stops. I get the printout and it is a list of the county hunters heard on the CW call frequencies. I read, AB4YZ, AF3X, AF5CC, K0ARS, K0FG, K4YT, K4YAA, KA4RRU, KB9OWD, KC7YE, KE3VV, KO7X, KW1DX, N3RC, N4CD, N4JT, N7IV, NT2A, NU0Q, W0GXQ, W3DQT, W4HSA, W4SIG, W5QP, W7FEN, W7IN, and WD4OIN.

I see on the on the county hunter's forum that Bill, W7GHT is a silent key. I remember anxiously waiting for the cherished MRC's from Bill during my quest towards USA-CA. Lay down in Peace and Sleep.

January when the Northern mobile CW county hunters encounter high winds, freezing temperatures, whiteouts and icy roads, the Southern county hunters are hunting deer, pythons and hogs and to make matters worse this is the second month with no State QSO parties. However, there are 18 CW contests during this first month of a new year. The fun starts with the ARRL straight key night. You can ignore this contest if you do not know what a straight key is. Want some DX action; check out the OK1WC Memorial Contest and the fast and furious four hour LZ open contest. If you know your name try the North American QSO party. If you want some six meter fun operate in the ARRL January VHF contest. To finish the month there is the Classic Exchange which is a junk contest. Did I say that, definitely nap time?

HAPPY NEW YEAR



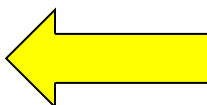
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Last Name	First Name	Call
Beay	Todd	AC9EX
BELTZ	LORRAYNE	KC9YQS
Beltz	Ed	N9PJQ
Bleuel	Paul	KC9NAA
Calvert	Scott	KC9UVI
Chapman	Donald L.	KC9KZQ
Choate	Dean	KC9TGM
Cole	Jim	N9WAP
Cram	Stanley	AI0M
Finn	Richard	KC9ZVW
Frac	Edward	AA9WW
Freund	Bradley	KC9QYP
Grunewald	Randall	KB9KEG
Heil	Marjorie	KC9BEN
Heil	Jack	KG9IN
Keller	Ronald	KC9YVL
Kowal	Cully	KS0D
Krause	Dawn	KD9CAW
Lamont	Larry	KB9POP
Larson	Donald	KC9UVJ
Lauber	Joseph	KC9MDY
Mahnke	Charles	K9HXI
McCumber	David	N9WQ
Mielke	Larry	KC9RUE
Miller	Mike	KC9DOA
Murray	Douglas	KC9ZVT
Nett	Matthew	KD9BBN
Neuburg	Ted	W9LUQ
Olig	Dottie	K9FDL
Olig SR	Gene A	KD9ZP
Pass	Anthony	KC9QYR
Paulin	Dennis	KB9OFM
Powell	Thomas	KC9VXR
Radtko	Gerald	WA9GON
Robinson	Richard	NI9Z
Salazar	Fernando	KC9ZVX
Schultz	Douglas	N9EZF
Simon	Louis	KB9VQM
Simon	Barbara	W9MER
Sippel	Rev. Ed	W9VYO
Smith	Stephen	W9GPI
Tvrdy III	Paul	N9KLL
Vandervort	Lloyd	N9RPU
Zittlow	David	K9DUI

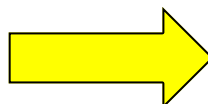
ROSTER

Name
Sort



Last Name	First Name	Call
Frac	Edward	AA9WW
Beay	Todd	AC9EX
Cram	Stanley	AI0M
Zittlow	David	K9DUI
Olig	Dottie	K9FDL
Mahnke	Charles	K9HXI
Grunewald	Randall	KB9KEG
Paulin	Dennis	KB9OFM
Lamont	Larry	KB9POP
Simon	Louis	KB9VQM
Heil	Marjorie	KC9BEN
Miller	Mike	KC9DOA
Chapman	Donald L.	KC9KZQ
Lauber	Joseph	KC9MDY
Bleuel	Paul	KC9NAA
Freund	Bradley	KC9QYP
Pass	Anthony	KC9QYR
Mielke	Larry	KC9RUE
Choate	Dean	KC9TGM
Calvert	Scott	KC9UVI
Larson	Donald	KC9UVJ
Powell	Thomas	KC9VXR
BELTZ	LORRAYNE	KC9YQS
Keller	Ronald	KC9YVL
Murray	Douglas	KC9ZVT
Finn	Richard	KC9ZVW
Salazar	Fernando	KC9ZVX
Nett	Matthew	KD9BBN
Krause	Dawn	KD9CAW
Olig SR	Gene A	KD9ZP
Heil	Jack	KG9IN
Kowal	Cully	KS0D
Schultz	Douglas	N9EZF
Tvrdy III	Paul	N9KLL
Beltz	Ed	N9PJQ
Vandervort	Lloyd	N9RPU
Cole	Jim	N9WAP
McCumber	David	N9WQ
Robinson	Richard	NI9Z
Smith	Stephen	W9GPI
Neuburg	Ted	W9LUQ
Simon	Barbara	W9MER
Sippel	Rev. Ed	W9VYO
Radtko	Gerald	WA9GON

Call
Sort



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You Might be Addicted to "Ham Radio" if:

1. When you look at a full moon and wonder how much antenna gain you will need.
2. When a friend gets a ride from you and remarks that you have a lot of "CB's" in your vehicle, it turns into an hour long rant on how "ham radio" is not "CB radio".
3. When someone asks for directions, you pause, wondering if long or short path would be best.
4. When you can look at a globe and be able to point to your anti-pode (and you know what an antipode is).
5. Your cell-phone ring tone is a Morse code message.
6. You have accidentally said your Amateur Radio call sign at the end of a telephone conversation.
7. Your favorite vacation spots are always on mountain tops.
8. You notice more antennas than road signs while driving your car.
9. You have driven onto the shoulder of the road while looking at an antenna.
10. Porcupines appear to be fascinated with your car.
11. If you ever tried to figure out the operating frequency of your microwave oven.
12. For Bachelors: When you look around your bedroom and see wall to wall ham gear and ask: Why am I still single?
13. The local city council doesn't like you.
14. You think towers look pretty.
15. Your family doesn't have a clue what to get you for Christmastime even after you tell them.
16. Your HF amplifier puts out more power than the local AM and FM radio stations.
17. The wife and kids are away. The first thing that goes through your head is that no one will bother you while you call "CQ DX" a few hundred times.
18. When you pull into a donut shop and the cops on their coffee break ask if they can see your radio setup.
19. You refer to your children as your "Harmonics".
20. Your girlfriend or wife asks: "You're going to spend \$1,000 on what???"
21. You actually believe you got a good deal on an eBay purchase.
22. When you see a house with a metal roofing and your only thought is what a great ground plane for an antenna that would be.
23. You have pictures of your radio equipment as your opening page on your desktop computer.
24. Every family vacation includes a stop at a Ham radio store.
25. The first question you ask the new car dealer is: "What is the alternator's current output"?
26. You buy a brand new car based on the radio mounting locations and antenna mounting possibilities. Forget about the gas mileage.
27. You have tapped out Morse code on your car's horn.
28. A lightning storm hits nearby and takes out your new Laptop Computer, Plasma TV, DVD Recorder and Electronic Wall Telephone but all you care about is if your radios are okay.



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You Might be Addicted to "Ham Radio" if: (cont.)



29. Your wife has had to ride in the back seat of the car because you had radio equipment in the front seat.
30. During a love making session with your wife, you stop to answer a DX call on the radio.
31. Your wife threatens you with divorce when you tell her that you are going on a "fox" hunt.
32. Talking about male and female connectors makes you feel excited.
33. You dream of big, comfortable knobs but not on women.
34. During a love making session with your wife, you stop to answer a DX call on the radio.
35. Your wife threatens you with divorce when you tell her that you are going on a "fox" hunt.
36. Talking about male and female connectors makes you feel excited.
37. You dream of big, comfortable knobs but not on women.
38. When you are house hunting you look for the best room for a radio shack and scan the property for the best possible tower placement.
39. When house hunting you give your realtor topographical maps which show local elevations.
40. The real estate agent scratches his/her head when you ask if the soil conductivity is high, medium or low.
41. You have Ham radio magazines in the bathroom.
42. When your doorbell rings you immediately shut down the amplifier.
43. Fermentation never enters your mind when "homebrew" is mentioned.
44. Instead of just saying no, you say "negative".
45. You have used a person's name (Roger) to indicate an acknowledgement.
46. You become impatient waiting for the latest Amateur Electronic Supply (AES) catalog to arrive.
47. You have found yourself whistling "CQ" using Morse code.
48. You always schedule the third weekend in May for a vacation.
49. You walk carefully in your back yard to avoid being "close lined" by elevated antenna radials and low antennas.
50. You have deep anxiety or panic attacks during high winds or heavy ice storms.
51. You and the FedEx/UPS men are on a first name basis.
52. You really start to miss people that you've never seen.
53. Your exercise machine has a Morse code keyer.
54. Your neighbors thought you were nuts when you ripped up your lawn to bury chicken wire for a ground system.
55. Your next door neighbor thinks that your wife is a widow.
56. Your wife has delivered meals to your "ham shack".
57. If you sold all your radio equipment you could pay off your home mortgage.

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