



FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

— FDL 73 —



VOLUME 20 ISSUE 2

www.fdlhams.com February, 2019

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

Club Officers

President: Buddy Larson KC9UVJ
Vice-President: Tom Karmann KC9VZY
Secretary: Lloyd Vandervort N9RPU
Treasurer: Doug Schultz N9EZF
Sgt-at-Arms: Paul Bleuel KC9NAA

Board Member: Ron Keller KC9YVL
Board Member: Dick Finn KC9ZVW
Board Member: Larry Mielke KC9RUE

Committee Chairs

Contesting/
Education/
Scholarship: Jack Heil KG9IN
Field Day: Jack Heil KG9IN
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: Tim Braun W9AAV

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

Mailing Address

Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
PO Box 53
Fond du Lac, WI 54936-0053
E-mail: fdlhams@fdlhams.org

**Newsletter
Submissions:**
Please email to
rfinn5@hotmail.com

Last Month's Entertainment on the Web!

Last month's entertainment was with the Secretary of the International Amateur Radio Union David Sumner K1ZZ. Thanks to Lloyd Vandervoort you can see the entire program by clicking here:

<https://youtu.be/fVzhzhUpYlw>

On Monday January 14th, 2019, the Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club had the honor of having Dave Sumner K1ZZ, Secretary of the IARU. The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), is the global federation of national amateur radio associations in more than 160 countries and territories. Dave was active with the IARU during his entire 44-year career on the staff of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the national association for Amateur Radio in the United States. He retired as ARRL Chief Executive Officer in 2016. The Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club meets at the Moraine Park Technical College in Fond du Lac WI on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 PM CT. Everyone is welcome. For more information on becoming a member of the club, please Email backstage-live@gmail.com. It is also listed in our newsletter and on our web site in the list of entertainment.



Joe Scheibinger K9VY

Next Meeting

When: February 11, 2019 at 7:00 pm

Where: Moraine Park Technical College, Room A-112

Program: 501 C3 Application



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501c3 Finished and Delivered to the Club By Joe Scheibinger

I am pleased to announce that the 501c3 application for the FARC is finished and has been delivered by mail to our treasurer Doug Schultz N9EFZ. A copy of the entire application has also been delivered by E-mail to the leaders and board members. Anyone wishing to see the entire application please send me a request by E-mail to backstage-live@gmail.com.

The application was challenging and fun! We had to wait until after the elections so we could get the correct leadership accurately listed.



One of the fun parts of the exercise was searching the databases in Madison for the paperwork from the original FARC corporation papers filed. In the picture you can see the original page of the Articles of Incorporation dated February 17th of 1956. The names and address of the club's original founding members are listed, Earl W. Jenkins, Clifford E. Sword, and James Lee Steffen. Article 3 says it all, and it is as true now as it was in 1956. "The purpose shall be to promote the interests of Amateur Radio in the general community, develop individual efficiency by furthering cooperation among its members and to offer our services to the community in time of emergency or disaster." That statement from 1956 is one of the reasons I am proud to be a member of the FARC.

Need more good news? The actual cost of sending this to the government has dropped by \$150 since we started this adventure! For clubs with an income of less than \$40,000, a new price has been established to make the exercise more affordable.

With this application and the certificate, our club can now open doors for fundraising, taking in donations, and make it easier to find a stable place to meet if needed, and make the education of more Ham Radio enthusiasts easier.

Joe Scheibinger K9VY

Form 199—Sec. State, 1956.

See suggestions on back.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

Executed by the undersigned for the purpose of forming a Wisconsin corporation under Chapter 181 of the Wisconsin statutes, **WITHOUT STOCK AND NOT FOR PROFIT.**

Article 1. The name of the corporation shall be

THE FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.

Article 2. The period of existence shall be

Perpetual

Article 3. The purpose shall be to promote the interest of amateur radio in the general community, develop individual efficiency by furthering cooperation among its members and to offer our services to the community in time of emergency or disaster.

Article 4. Location of the principal office

Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

Article 5. Name of the initial registered agent

Earl W. Jenkins

Article 6. Address of the initial registered agent

263 Morris Street

Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

Article 7. The number of directors may be fixed by by-law but shall be not less than three.

Article 8. The number of directors constituting the initial board shall be three

Article 9. Names and addresses of the initial directors:

Earl W. Jenkins

263 Morris Street

Fond du Lac, Wis.

Clifford E. Sword

261 1/2 Morris Street

Fond du Lac, Wis.

James Lee Steffen

442 North Park Avenue

Fond du Lac, Wis.



Vintage Amateur Radio de Bill Shadid, W9MXQ

After releasing the successful TR-3 Transceiver in 1963, Drake Radio Company came out with an updated version, the TR-4, in 1967. The TR-4 upgraded the filter system to make the filters more competitive and in the process solved some dependability problems with the filters as originally designed for the TR-3. Also, the vacuum tube PTO in the TR-3 gave way to a solid-state PTO in the TR-4. Recall that Drake used variable inductor tuning in their PTO. Most competitors used a variable capacitor for tuning, usually referred to with the term "VFO."



The TR-4 design kicked off a model that went well into the 1970's and competed successfully against the hybrid transceivers coming from Kenwood, Yaesu, and Sideband Engineers. As mentioned in the article on the TR-3, for a while this design was made in parallel with the much-touted Drake TR7 all solid-state transceiver. The TR-3/TR-4 basic design was very successful and said a lot for the engineering and design talent coming from R. L. Drake Company in Miamisburg, Ohio

This Drake TR-4 article is the second of a two-part series about Drake Vacuum Tube Transceivers. It will also include the specialized six-meter version, the TR-6 Transceiver. I urge you to also read the previous article on the TR-3 for additional information that applies to both radio series.



Drake TR-4C 80-10 Meter SSB/AM/CW Transceiver and RV-4C External VFO
(Part of the Drake Collection at W9MXQ)

The TR-4C was the last major chassis version of the TR-4 series of radios. The TR-4C (pictured above) changed the dial readout design in keeping with the "C" series of Receivers and Transmitters from Drake (the R-4C and T-4XC) in addition to many other improvements. Some of those improvements were also on late versions of the original TR-4. There were two other sub-versions of the TR-4C . . .

The TR-4CW – included provisions for adding a 500 Hz CW Filter for receive use.

The TR-4CW/RIT – which include TR-4CW features plus Receiver Incremental Tuning to further enhance the radio's capability on CW.

The RV-4C you see above is virtually identical to the earlier RV-4 except for the different dial mechanism – in keeping with its dual disk epicyclic display which is like the drive and display on the Collins S-Line dial except the dial es-cutcheon area design. All the TR-3 accessories worked with the TR-4 series as well. That includes the RV-3, RV-4, and RV-4C External VFO Consoles.

Something unique about Drake – and in the industry, to my knowledge – was that the transceiver's power supply could be mounted inside the Remote VFO cabinet. Also unique was the speaker in the Remote VFO Console. Other manufacturers that offered a separate Transceiver, Speaker, and External VFO required the placement of three cabinets on the operating desk. Drake made this possible with only two cabinets.



Vintage Amateur Radio de Bill Shadid, W9MXQ

Here are pictures of the three interchangeable External VFO Consoles offered by Drake, for your comparison . . .



Remember that all three of the above units would work equally well with any TR-3, TR-4, TR-4C, TR-4CW, or TR-4CW/RIT Transceiver. The RV-3 and RV-4 are nearly identical. The RV-3 and RV-4 have markings every 25 kHz with 1 kHz (25 total) markings on the dual skirt – like the TR-3 and TR-4 Transceivers. The RV-4C has 1 kHz markings on the dual disk epicyclical display, like the TR-4C series of radios. As with the TR-3 Transceiver, the RV-3 used a vacuum tube oscillator. The RV-4 and RV-4C are solid-state.

There were other differences to be noted – particularly in early and late versions of the TR-4 Transceivers (pre-TR-4C). See below pictures of an early and late TR-4 . . .





Vintage Amateur Radio de Bill Shadid, W9MXQ



The TR-4 Transceivers – all models – used three 6JB6 Television Sweep Tubes in the final amplifier section. The three tubes provided an input power of 300 watts PEP on SSB and a bit less, 260 watts, on CW. The radio would provide 260 watts PEP input power on AM with controlled carrier AM modulation providing approximately 75 watts carrier output with no modulation. Output power would be about 150 watts PEP SSB output and about 130 watts CW, key down output. 10 and 15 meters would produce somewhat less. On AM mode, there is a separate detector for clear and pleasant AM audio. Friends on AM, however could spot you as using an SSB radio as they could tune and discover that you had only one sideband. In the end, this is a SINGLE sideband transceiver!

The TR-3 used three 12JB6 tubes in the final amplifier – a major difference with the TR-4 series radios and their 6JB6 finals. These tubes are identical in performance. The 12.6-volt 12JB6 seemed appropriate given that these radios were also designed to run in 12-volt system automobiles. When the final amplifier tubes are a 6.3-volt and there are three of them, there is a bit of filament voltage and current balancing to use a 12.6-volt supply source. It is interesting to study the schematic to see how Drake ran the three 6.3-volt power amplifier tubes in the 12.6-volt power system.

Drake did offer the high performance 34-PNB Noise Blanker for late TR-4 and all TR-4C series transceivers. For TR-3 and early TR-4 radios, Drake had offered a model 34-NB Noise Blanker. Note the absence of a “P” in that model number – meaning that this was not a plug-in device. Drake provided an extensive set of instructions for a complicated installation process. One of these 34-NB Noise Blanker units is installed in a TR-4 owned by my friend, Pat, W9JL. Pat’s TR-4 has an added switch in the position shown on “Late TR-4” picture. Many owners installed a switch in that location with a matching Drake knob to make their radio look like a later TR-4. However, Drake’s installation manual for the 34-NB Noise Blanker had a different idea. See the picture below taken from the instruction manual front cover for the Drake Model 34-NB Noise Blanker Kit . . .



Picture of the Instruction Manual Front Cover for the Drake 34-NB Noise Blanker Kit

This book is a rare find. It completely covers the many areas of wiring modifications to tap the i-f of the TR-3 or TR-4. One assumes the “34” means TR-3 and TR-4 but that is hard to tell some 55 years after the fact.

Look at the PLATE control just to the right of the meter assembly and you can see a small (hard to see in this picture) stick-on label that says “ON” on top and “OFF” on the bottom. Also see the lever switch that is added concentric with the PLATE tuning shaft. The 34-NB Kit supplied parts for this location of the Noise Blanker switch. Many hams, as discussed, added a switch in the same location as on the later TR-4 and all TR-4C series Transceivers.

(W9MXQ Radio Manual Library)



Vintage Amateur Radio de Bill Shadid, W9MXQ

Drake had a complete line of accessories for the TR-4 series transceivers that all worked equally well with the earlier TR-3 radio. Unlike other Drake models that had little inter-series compatibility, the TR-3 and TR-4 lines were 100% compatible in all ways for interconnection.



There was a rather interesting change at the time the Drake TR-4C replaced the TR-4 and at the same time the Drake R-4C Receiver and T-4XC Transmitter replaced the R-4B and T-4XC, respectively. Drake made a subtle change in the front panel in addition to moving to an epoxy ink silk screen over the brushed, anodized front panels. Here is an example for you while looking at a late TR-4 and an even later TR-4C Transceiver . . .



Late Drake TR-4 Transceiver



Drake TR-4C Transceiver

(Pictures from W9MXQ Drake Collection - Past and Present.)

See the aluminum trim around the outer edge of the TR-4 Front Panel and the absence of that feature on the TR-4C Front Panel. Accessories that transcended this change had running changes – for instance the popular Drake MN-2000 Antenna Matching Network and the L-4B Linear Amplifier were changed – so you can find them with both front panel versions, depending on when they were manufactured. As a collector, I like for all my units to match. Functionally, that is a ridiculous requirement – but that is what I like in any case!

Here is a rather complete setup of major accessories for the TR-3/TR-4 line of equipment. This is as it exists at W9MXQ . . .









Vintage Amateur Radio de Bill Shadid, W9MXQ



Like the TR-3, Drake offered power, speaker, and accessory options for the TR-4 series of radios. These accessories stayed the same through the entire production cycle of the TR-4 line. Drake even offered a specialized console to use when the TR-4 was mounted in an automobile. For these accessories, please review the pictures, below. Many of these items were updates from similar items offered for the TR-3 Transceiver. Some, however, were later designs and were unique to the TR-4 line.

Drake “4-Line” Accessories that were used with the TR-4 Transceivers . . .

| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |
| <p>MC-4 Mobile Console – Installed and Alone</p> | | <p>MS-4 Speaker Console</p> |
|  |  |  |
| <p>AC-4 AC Power Supply (Mounted in MS-4 or RV-4)</p> | <p>DC-4 DC Power Supply (For 12 VDC Operation)</p> | <p>FF-1 Fixed Frequency Adapter</p> |

(Pictures above are from W9MXQ collection items – past and present – except for the MC-4 Mobile Console. MC-4 pictures are from Universal Radio, in Columbus, Ohio.)

Other accessories were also used with the very popular Drake “4-Line” Receivers and Transmitters. These are the subject of an upcoming article. Check these items that, except for the W-4 Wattmeter, are shown in the complete station setup, previously pictured . . .



Vintage Amateur Radio
de Bill Shadid, W9MXQ



L-4B
Linear Amplifier



MN-2000
Antenna Matching Network



W-4
Wattmeter

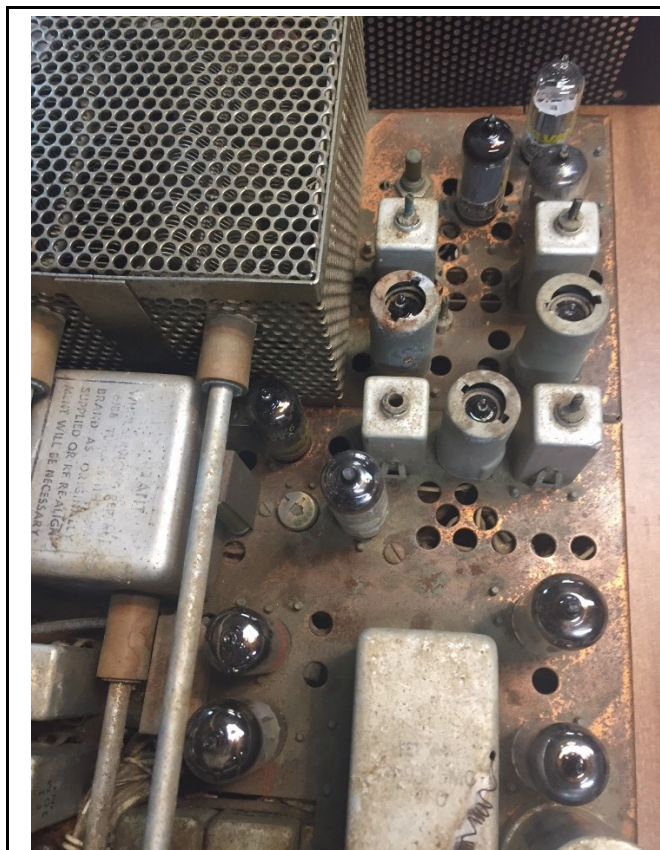
(From the W9MXQ Drake Collection.)

The Drake L-4B Linear Amplifier was preceded by the similar appearance L-4 Linear Amplifier. Drake Amplifiers will be the subject of a future article. The MN-2000 shown here – a recent acquisition – is a later design without the border on the front panel. The MN-2000 is capable of full power at the time of its manufacture – that is, 2,000 watts PEP input. It is not up to the power capability of today's 1,500-watt output amplifiers in key down modes, such as RTTY. Drake made a lower power version Antenna Matching Network that was called the MN-4. The MN-4 was designed around the power level of the TR-4 with its capability to handle 200 watts PEP output on SSB. The MN-4 had a similar appearance and front panel size to the MN-2000. But the MN-4 lighter in weight and was several inches less in depth.

As mentioned in the TR-3 article, one negative in the Drake designs in early years was their copper plated chassis. A high percentage of these chassis, even with reasonable care, seem to corrode in an odd array of unsightly black and blue-green colors. Some do not do that, however, and it is hard to tell why. I had a Drake R-4B and T-4XB Receiver and Transmitter that I bought new in the late 1960's that stayed for years nearly pristine. I sold the set to a ham in Chicago who still has it. When I saw it again a few months ago it was still clean and near perfect. But that is not the norm for Drake or other brand radios with copper plated steel chassis and other hardware. With the introduction of the "C" series radios, Drake moved to a cadmium plated, clear chromate dip steel chassis and other parts. Here are some pictures to show you the difference in the two TR-4 series radios at W9MXQ right now . . .



Vintage Amateur Radio
de Bill Shadid, W9MXQ



TR-4 - Copper Plated Chassis
(In W9MXQ Drake Collection)



TR-4C – Cadmium Plated Chassis
(In W9MXQ Drake Collection)

Relatively speaking, the copper plating is in “good” condition on the TR-4, above left, compared to what one can find on the market. This radio is in good operational condition and is one I hope to add to my collection. This issue faded into history with the later cadmium plating. While good chassis Drake radios can be found in this vintage, it must also be known that this does not impact good operation from the radio. The above left TR-4 works every bit as well as the rather perfect looking TR-4C on the right.

The world seemed to love Drake radios and design. This is proven in an offering from the Brazilian amateur radio equipment manufacturer, Eudger.



Vintage Amateur Radio de Bill Shadid, W9MXQ



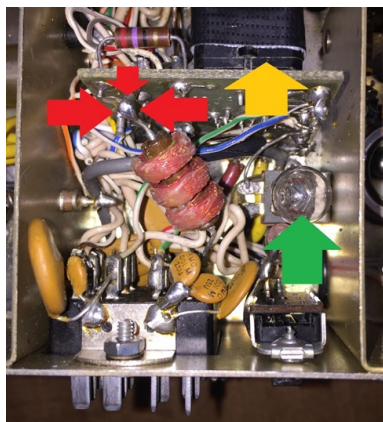
Eudgert Linha Ouro B Transceptor



Eudgert Speaker/Power Supply

As they say, "Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery."

In a little personal note, my TR-4C Transceiver, MS-4 Speaker, and AC-4 Power Supply came from a ham in British Columbia. The RV-4C came from a friend of his in Ontario. The TR-4C worked intermittently when initially tried (after I upgraded the AC-4 Power Supply with new capacitors and diodes). I wanted to get the cabinets refinished so I sent the radio to a well-known Drake repair person. Upon return the cabinets were as perfect as new, the radio was as clean and nice as the day it left Drake. But, the transceiver only worked for the first day back. The intermittent operation had returned just as when I sent it. After a few days I decided to make my own repairs and made some interesting discoveries . . .



TR-4C Repairs . . . After returning to W9MXQ from a repair technician, the radio still became intermittent and then became intermittent more frequently. The issue was found after a study of the schematic and the known symptoms. I felt it was related to the Low High Voltage (about 250 volts which is high voltage for lower level stages). After this analysis and the resulting determination of where to look, I measured voltage in active circuits in the radio and found that intermittent operation was tied to low or erratic 250-volt supply. Going from the 250-volt pin on the power supply connector – lower left in this picture I almost immediately found an intermittent, cold, solder joint at the radio side of the 250-volt input choke – in the center of the picture. The cold solder joint was at the point indicated by the three red arrows. For reference you can see the T/R relay (yellow arrow) and the series fuse lamp (receiver input line) (green arrow). Analysis with symptoms while looking at the schematic is a classic form of troubleshooting that reduces the time necessary inside the radio. For

me it determines the path to the solution before opening the radio cabinet.



Vintage Amateur Radio de Bill Shadid, W9MXQ

Subsequent issues – after the radio was returned from the technician and after replacing the final amplifier tubes – came to light with the radio when it started making “hissing noises.” That indicated arcing taking place somewhere. A bit of observation with the room lights switched off caused an interesting discovery – a grid to plate intermittent short in one of the final amplifier tubes. I replaced the defective 6JB6 tube and all is now functioning very well.



Moral of this story is . . . **“Repair your own radios.”**

Drake, in about 1968, introduced a variant of the TR-4 for six-meters – the single band TR-6. The unit appears to have used much TR-4 hardware – even down to the final amplifier with its 6JB6 Sweep Tubes. The power capability of the TR-6 with those same tubes in the 50-54 MHz band was the same as on HF with the TR-4. Here are some pictures of the offering . . .



Drake TR-6 Transceiver



Drake TR-6 with the RV-6 External VFO

Note identical panel designs – missing only the LSB/USB Indicator Lamps. As you can also see, the silk screen was also unique to the TR-6 and RV-6.

Most accessories for the “4-Line” worked with the TR-6. But, the TR-6 had two of its own in the 9-NB Noise Blanker and the RV-6 External VFO, pictured above. I have had two TR-6 Transceivers over the years. These are a nicely built, work very well, and hold their own even on today’s bands. One omission in the line was a linear amplifier. But back in those days, a group of former Drake employees started Raytrack Company, in Columbus, Ohio, to make their own version of the Drake L-4B Linear Amplifier. They also had a six-meter version of that amplifier that was reasonably popular. The fact that it connected easily to the TR-6 was almost a given. Raytrack used two Eimac 3-500z triode amplifier tubes in both. I have wondered if Drake ever contemplated a six-meter version of the L-4B. But, it was a limited market. I am looking for information on Raytrack Linear Amplifiers for a future article.

The TR-6 was expensive. Better prices (but not better performance) came from Swan with the 250c Six-Meter Transceiver and the Heathkit SB-110A. (Not to be confused with the not so good, earlier versions from both companies – the Swan 250 and the Heathkit SB-110.)

I appreciate that you read my articles. Remember that I am open to questions and comments anytime at my email address, W9MXQ@TWC.com.

Thanks to W9DYQ, K9DJT, and KC9PIF for keeping me honest by proofing my articles.



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MEETING MINUTES

FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Minutes of FDLARC Monthly Meeting

Monday, January 14, 2019



Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm with President Donald "Buddy" Larson KC9UVJ presiding.



Program:

Dave Sumner K1ZZ, the Secretary of the International Amateur Radio Union was our presenter via SKYPE.

Dave started at the ARRL in 1968. The **International Amateur Radio Union (IARU)** is an international confederation of national amateur radio organizations that provides a forum for common matters of concern and collectively represents matters to the International Telecommunication Union.

Dave's position with the IARU is instrumental in preserving our radio amateur frequency bands, and helping co-ordinating world wide spectrum allocations. There are 189 countries in the IARU.

The IARU team is comprised of volunteers.

Their mission is to protect the amateur spectrum from interference from items like switching power supply chargers to unauthorized broadcasters in the amateur frequencies.

Introduction of Attendees:

All attendees introduced themselves.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Cully Kowal KS0D and seconded by Don Chapman KC9KZQ. The motion carried unanimously via a voice vote.

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Truck Fund | 0.00 |
| Emerg. Services Fund | 1,482.79 |
| General Use Fund | 4,841.96 |
| Savings Account | 25.00 |
| Petty Cash Fund | 19.12 |
| Total | 6,368.87 |
| Repeater Fund | 230.81 |

Treasurer's report

The Treasurers Report was presented by Doug Schultz N9EZF. A motion to approve the Treasurers Report was made by Wally Drees KD9JAD and seconded by Lloyd Vandervort N9RPU. The motion carried unanimously via a voice vote.

New Business:

The Wisconsin QSO party will be held on Mar 10-11, 2019.

The club will hold a License Testing Session on Feb 16, 2019 in Room O104 Moraine Park Technical College from 9:00am through Noon.





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MEETING MINUTES

FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Minutes of FDLARC Monthly Meeting Monday, January 14, 2019



Doug Schultz N9EZF announced that our first Brat Fry of the year will be held on May 31 through June 1, 2019 at the normal location at the truck stop in Lomira.

Summer Field Day will be held on June 22 & 23, 2019. We need to start thinking about operating modes and activities.

Two applications for membership were presented:

Don Bakke KD0HCW

Ben Haack KD9LVQ

A motion to approve these applicants was made by Jack Heil KG9IN and seconded by Cully Kowal KS0D

The motion carried unanimously via a voice vote..



Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn by Cully Kowal KS0D. The motion was seconded by Peter Fox KB9WZD. The motion carried unanimously via a voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Raffle # 555085 was won by Buddy Larson KC9UVJ





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NOTICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

FDLARC On YouTube



Many of you may not be aware, but Lloyd Vandervoort N9RPU, our Club Secretary, has been making videos of the presentations at our meetings. There is now a pretty large collection of them on You Tube. Do yourself a favor and take a few minutes to scan the list and play some of them. Enjoy!

FARC - W3AO Field Day Presentation <https://youtu.be/UK1A47pNKyo>

FARC - Bob Heil Ham Radio Presentation https://youtu.be/t3Ueh9IN5_U

FARC - WWV Presentation https://youtu.be/w3-DP9DEv_U

FARC - Pacific Antenna Talks Kit Building <https://youtu.be/SBReL2YIsn0>

FARC - Scanner Master Presentation <https://youtu.be/dlSIAufGkv8>

FARC - WBAY Field Trip TV Nov 17 2015 <https://youtu.be/sfQvJ1fV6eo>

FARC - WBAY transmitter tour https://youtu.be/NnZ21O_6HvA

FARC - NooElec https://youtu.be/s_pxYkH4xds

FARC - Elecraft Radio <https://youtu.be/3Ou1Qpx9Vg8>

FARC - Ed Tobias & Morse Code <https://youtu.be/9uu4PFMrH2U>

FARC - Salvation Army Emergency Communications <https://youtu.be/oxXoZjuTTNE>

FARC - KFIZ Interview <https://youtu.be/UVFMCvRGEJE>

FARC - HAARP Presentation <https://youtu.be/cdeNXLMuyEE>

FARC - The DZKit Ham Radio Kits https://youtu.be/giZcfQW_tpA

FARC - The DZKit Ham Radio Kits https://youtu.be/giZcfQW_tpA

FARC - The Christmas Island DXpedition with Bill Kendall (4/9/18) <https://youtu.be/XgjYL0vAhlw>

FARC - Restoring Old Antique and Classic Radios (5/17/19) <https://youtu.be/3l352v4gYdw>

FARC - Dave Sumner K1ZZ, Secretary of the IARU (1/14/19) <https://youtu.be/fVzhzhUpYlw>

Newsletter Back Issues

When I took over as the newsletter editor I simply continued the volume numbering that existed then. Unfortunately, I don't have copies of those old newsletters. I would appreciate it if you have any newsletters earlier than October, 2014 you would send them to me. Electrocin copies are ideal but I would also be pleased to accept hard copy. I'll scan them and return the originals to you.

Many Thanks, Dick Finn KC9ZVW



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HAM Testing Session

The Volunteer Examiners of the Fond du Lac club will be holding Amateur License exams on February 16, 2019 from 9:00 AM until Noon in Room O-104 at Moraine Park Technical College in Fond du Lac. If you have questions or want to reserve a spot please contact Doug Schultz at 920-922-3088 or via email at schultz74@charter.net. There's still plenty of time to crack the books and prepare to upgrade



Amateur Radio Applications in Limbo as Partial Shutdown Continues

ED NOTE: The following is from the ARRL VE Newsletter. Even though the shut down is over, it still contains some info that may be of use. We also have the possibility that the shut down will be restarted in the near future so the following may still be pertinent.

The FCC is not processing any Amateur Radio applications as the partial government shutdown approaches its fourth week. The FCC suspended "most operations" at mid-day on Thursday, January 3, although an appearance of activity continues. For radio amateurs, the shutdown means that, while the Universal Licensing System ([ULS](#)) continues to accept applications for all valid purposes, the FCC will not review or act upon them until the funding stalemate is resolved. This includes Volunteer Examiner Coordinator test session batch files as well as modification, renewal, and vanity call sign applications filed by individual licensees. Amateur Radio newcomers who have passed the required examinations will have to wait until the shutdown concludes to receive a call sign and authorization to operate. License upgrades are also on hold.

"Due to a lapse in funding, the operations of the Federal Communications Commission will be limited with no system support. We regret any inconvenience," the FCC says on the ULS home page. This means very limited human intervention while the shutdown continues, and if a system breaks down, it will not be repaired until after employees are back on the payroll. At this point, 262 of 1,437 FCC employees (excepting contractors) remain on the job, as are FCC Commissioners.

The [Antideficiency Act](#) prohibits FCC and other federal employees from working until funds are available to pay them; they may not even volunteer, check their email, or attend meetings. While the law doesn't directly affect FCC automated filing databases, some of these cannot operate without regular human intervention.

The Commission has emphasized that it will undertake any activities necessary for the protection of life and property during the funding lapse. That includes the High Frequency Direction Finding (HFDF) Center in Maryland, considered essential.

The FCC website remains up, and the FCC *Daily Digest* of its activity continues to be posted, but the website is not being updated, and the only items it contains are those related to spectrum auctions, activity that is funded through auction proceeds, not government funds. The Electronic Comment Filing System ([ECFS](#)) will also accept posts, but filings will not be reviewed or processed until after normal operations return.

The FCC spelled out the overall impact of the funding lapse in a January 2 [Public Notice](#). Using available funds, the agency was able to maintain a business-as-usual posture until that date. The FCC released an updated [Plan for Orderly Shutdown Due to Lapse of Congressional Appropriations](#) on January 9. The resumption of normal operations will also be announced on the FCC's website.

For further information, please see the ARRL news items on the website:



FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

— FDL 73 —



VOLUME 20 ISSUE 2

www.fdlhams.com February, 2019

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

Free, For Sale or Wanted

Upcoming HAMFESTS and Conventions From ARRL

Hamfests

03/09/2019 | Amateur Radio Equipment Auction

Location: Eau Claire, WI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.ecarc.org/>



03/17/2019 | Hamfest 2019

Location: Jefferson, WI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: TriCounty Amateur Radio Club, W9MQB

Website: <http://www.w9mqb.com>



03/23/2019 | MRAC, MAARS Swapfest

Location: Milwaukee, WI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club, Milwaukee Area Amateur Radio Society

Website: <https://www.w9rh.org/club-events/swapfest/>

05/03/2019 | Ozaukee Radio Club 41st Annual Spring Swapfest

Location: Cedarburg, WI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Ozaukee Radio Club

Website: <http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org/downloads/spring-swapfest/2019-ORCSpring.pdf>





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2019 CALENDAR

Jan. 14, 2019

FDLARC Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm, MPTC A-112.

Feb. 11, 2019

FDLARC Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm, MPTC A-112.

Feb. 16, 2019

License Exams, 9:00 am-Noon, Moraine Park Technical College in Room O-104
Contact: Doug Schultz N9EZF



Mar. 10 & 11, 2019

Wisconsin QSO Party



Mar. 11, 2019

FDLARC Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm, MPTC A-112.
Annual Membership Drive-Contact Joe Scheibinger

Apr. 8, 2019

FDLARC Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm, MPTC A-112.

Apr. 13, 2019

License Exams, 9:00 am-Noon, Moraine Park Technical College in Room O-108
Contact: Doug Schultz N9EZF



May 13, 2019

FDLARC Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm, MPTC A-112.

May 17—19, 2019

Dayton HAMFEST



May 31, 2019—June 1, 2019

Brat Fry at the Country Corners Exxon Station, Hwy 67 and Hwy 41 in Lomira.
8:00am to 5:00pm—Contact: Doug Schultz N9EZF



June 10, 2019

FDLARC Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm, MPTC A-112.

June 7—9, 2019

Walleye Weekend. Contact Joe Scheibinger K8VY

June 22 & 23, 2019

ARRL Field Day, 1800 UTC Saturday and running through 2059 UTC Sunday



July 8, 2019

FDLARC Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm, MPTC O-102.

July 21, 2019

RMC Triathlon



Aug. 12, 2019

FDLARC Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm, MPTC A-112.

Aug. 25, 2019

Race the Lake

August 23-24, 2019

Brat Fry at the Country Corners Exxon Station, Hwy 67 and Hwy 41 in Lomira.
8:00am TO 5:00pm—Contact: Doug Schultz N9EZF



Sept. 9, 2019

FDLARC Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm, MPTC A-112.

Sept. 20—22, 2019

Fox Cities Marathon



Oct. 8, 2019

FDLARC Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm, MPTC A-112

Oct. 12, 2019

License Exams, 9:00 am-Noon, Moraine Park Technical College in Room O-108. Contact: Doug Schultz N9EZF



Nov., 11 2019

FDLARC Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm, MPTC A-112.
Election of 2019 Officers

Dec. TBD, 2019

FdL Parade of Lights, 4:00, Downtown

Dec. 14, 2019

License Exams, 9:00 am-Noon, Moraine Park Technical College in Room O-104
Contact: Doug Schultz N9EZF



Dec. TBD, 2019

Christmas Party: Jim and Lind's Contact Buddy Larson KC9UVJ





CLUB ROOSTER



| First | Last | Call Sign |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Reinholt | Aschmotat | N8VDH |
| Donald | Bakke | KD0HCW |
| Jim | Balthazor | K9AIX |
| Todd | Beay | AC9EX |
| Ed | Beltz | N9PJQ |
| Donna | Blend | KC9TFN |
| Paul | Bleuel | KC9NAA |
| Blend | Bowen | KC9VXV |
| Timothy | Braun | W9AAV |
| Marjean | Buck | KC9LFI |
| Neal | Buck | KC9LFN |
| Justin | Buell | KB9YET |
| Don | Chapman | KC9KZQ |
| Dean | Choate | KC9TGM |
| Jim | Cole | N9WAP |
| Stan | Cram | AIOM |
| Walter | Drees | KD9JAD |
| Kirk | Everson | KC9FZE |
| Dick | Finn | KC9ZVW |
| Debra | Florian | |
| Mark | Forss | WD9CY M |
| Peter | Fox | KB9WZD |
| Brad | Freund | KC9QYP |
| Derek | Giese | KD9IAN |
| Ray | Grenier | K9KHW |
| Ted | Gustavus | KD9IAH |
| Ben | Haack | KD9LVQ |
| Jack | Heil | KG9IN |
| Marjorie | Heil | KC9BEN |
| Richard | Jarzynka | KD9EMX |
| Tom | Karrmann | KC9VZY |
| Ron | Keller | KC9YVL |
| Joyce | Keyes | KC9KIJ |
| Mike | Keyes | KE7ES |
| Cully | Kowal | KS0D |
| Dawn | Krause | KD9CAW |
| Annika | Kreis | |
| Lorelei | Kreis | |
| Scott | Kreis | |
| Larry | Lamont | KB9POP |
| Buddy | Larson | KC9UVJ |

| | | |
|---------|-------------|--------|
| Dave | Witt | WD9W |
| Laura | Yates | |
| Mathew | Yates | KD9CSD |
| Matthew | Zimmerman * | KD9KTY |
| David | Zittlow | K9DUI |

| | | |
|----------|----------------|--------|
| Joe | Lauber | KC9MDY |
| Michelle | Lawrence | N9RQL |
| Mike | Lawrence | N9UA |
| Isaac | Lundberg | KD9FPG |
| Chuck | Mahnke | K9HXI |
| David | McCumber | N9WQ |
| Larry | Mielke | KC9RUE |
| Doug | Murray | KC9ZVT |
| Tom | Murray | N0HOR |
| Nancy | Myers | K9ANA |
| Randy | Nelson | KC9MYG |
| Matt | Nett | KD9BBN |
| Ted | Neuburg | W9LUQ |
| Dot | Olig | K9FDL |
| Gene | Olig | KD9ZP |
| Tony | Pass | KC9QYR |
| Dennis | Paulin | KB9OFM |
| Gene | Peterson | KD9IAG |
| Tom | Powell | KC9VXR |
| Gerry | Radtko | WA9GON |
| Rick | Robinson | NI9Z |
| Walter | Rueger | KC9WQ |
| Kyle | Ruesch | AB9AX |
| Fernando | Salazar | KC9ZVX |
| Joe | Scheibinger | K9VY |
| Gregory | Schmude | KD9EHB |
| Doug | Schultz | N9EZF |
| James | Scovronski | N9WAM |
| Barbara | Simon | W9MER |
| Louis | Simon | KB9VQM |
| Ed | Sipple | W9VYO |
| Steve | Smith | W9GPI |
| Ed | Steinfeld | KB1ZJK |
| Brian | Turkiewicz | KC9LFR |
| Paul | Tvrdy | N9KLL |
| Danny | Vandekolk | KC9IGD |
| Lloyd | Vandervort | N9RPU |
| Doug | Wagner | KC0RNS |
| Ted | Willett | W9NHE |
| Laurie | Winchell-Beltz | KC9YQS |