

FEEDLINE

JULY 2008



The Field Day 2008 crew

(l-r) Charles KIOLS, Jeff KD0BTT, Jim KC0XW, Neil KC0REN, Marilyn Klug, Rod KE0A, Jerry KCV0GWK, Dick KC0LUR, Dick KA0HDN, Paul KA0CAF, Gary KC0JPP, Gerry N0NGW, Lance KC0YWZ

DETAILS INSIDE

The **FEEDLINE** is the official journal of the *Forx Amateur Radio Club, Inc.*, PO Box 14773, Grand Forks, ND 58202-4773. The Forx ARC is incorporated in the State of North Dakota and is a non-profit organization as defined in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Permission is hereby granted (unless otherwise specified in the article) to copy any original article published in this newsletter, provided the source is credited.

Articles are solicited for publication. Content must be geared towards amateur radio or advancement of the communications art. Articles that will not be published are those of a personal nature or that constitute an attack against an individual. The editor reserves the right to revise all material for space consideration

MEETING MINUTES

June 24, 2008

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM – Larry KIOW presiding

There were 9 members present which does not constitute a quorum, thus no official business could be conducted

The minutes of the May meeting were reviewed; there was one correction to be made: under New Business, Item B, line 3, word 5 should be ‘he’ not ‘her’

ARES Report by Gerry NONGW – June was a busy month with an estimated 38 hours posted at the NWS during 6 call-outs

Activities Report – Brainerd MN Hamfest July 12, 2008; brochures were passed around

Peace Garden

Hamfest July 12

Field Day 2008 –

Rod KE0A reported all was proceeding well; the last committee meeting

will be held Wednesday

June 25 at 7:00 PM at Burger King on South

Washington Street;

Breakfast will be at Season’s Restaurant 7:00 AM Saturday morning

prior to arriving at the FD site for setup; Gerry NONGW pointed out that there will be no



formal food served at the site other than sloppy-joes on Saturday night

Repeater Report – none

Gerry NONGW made two proposals to be discussed at the July meeting

1. Proposal to set up a scholarship fund for club members who are also ARRL members

to reimburse the \$45 cost of each of the ARRL Emergency Communications Courses (I, II, and III) upon successful completion

2. Proposal to encourage people to check into the Monday night 2-meter net – each person who checks in will have his/her name placed in a ‘hat’ and either quarterly or annually a drawing will be held for a prize

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

Next meeting July 29, 2008 at 7:30 PM

-.-. --.- -.-. --.-

Potato Bowl Parade

Mark your calendars **NOW**.

Saturday
September 13, 2008
9:00 AM

DATES OF INTEREST

| | |
|----------------|--|
| July 2008 | |
| 29 | Club Meeting |
| August 2008 | |
| 2 | North American QSO Party – CW |
| 8-10 | Dakota Division Convention - Rochester, MN |
| 16 | North American QSO Party – SSB |
| 26 | Club Meeting |
| September 2008 | |
| 13 | Potato Bowl Parade |
| 13 | RRRA Tailgate Hamfest West Fargo, ND |
| 30 | Club Meeting |
| October 2008 | |
| 4 | Grand Forks Hamfest |
| 4 | SET |
| 28 | Club Meeting |
| November 2008 | |
| 25 | Club Meeting |

Table of Contents

| Article | Page |
|----------------------------|------|
| Meeting Minutes | 1 |
| Dates of Interest | 2 |
| Table of Contents | 2 |
| KC0YXB Tower | 3 |
| Field Day 2008 | 4 |
| Dakota Division Convention | 7 |
| Arctic Circle | 8 |
| ND Section News | 9 |
| For Sale | 9 |
| URL's of Interest | 10 |
| Trivia | 10 |

--- -- -- -- --

**CROOKSTON
THURSDAY
NIGHT
NET
9:00 PM
147.120(+)**

**GRAND FORKS
MONDAY
NIGHT
NET
9:00 PM
146.940 (-)**

NEW TOWER SOUTH OF GRAND FORKS



(l-r) Jim KC0XW, John KB0BSJ, Rod KE0A
installing the HF Beam on Nancy KC0YXB's new tower
(Photos by Nancy KC0YXB)



John KB0BSJ installing 2-meter and 6-meter beams
Ground support provided by Marilyn Klug, Charles KI0LS, Nancy KC0YXB

FIELD DAY

June 28-29, 2008

As usual lots of planning went into this years Field Day event. Planning began several months ago with gathering together a committee and meeting to decide where it was going to be held. Last year's site in the Grand Forks Industrial Park was just not available due to major construction on the very site we used to set up on. Nancy KCOYXB mentioned the need to a friend of hers who is an owner of a manufacturing plant on the outskirts of Grand Forks. He was willing to let us set up there in his parking lot.

As the start of Field Day approached the weather looked promising, weather wise. However, suddenly there was rain in the forecast for Saturday. Saturday began cloudy, cool and dry. Quickly it began to rain and it continued all day. There were some lulls in the drops but not many. This did not deter setup for Field Day. Trailers were brought to the site. Towers and verticals were set up along with a couple of multiband dipoles. By 1:00 PM CDT (1800 UTC) all was ready; well almost.

The CW station and digital stations began their operation; but the phone station had a minor set-back to delay its beginning run. The monitor for the logging computer failed to function properly. A black CRT is a sure sign of something amiss. So, it was back

to town to find another monitor so that logging could begin. After about an hour the second monitor arrived and the phone station began its operation.

All stations took off to a slow start. It may have been the gloomy weather and high winds; who knows. By 6:00 PM Saturday there were less than 100 phone contacts. This was attributed to the fact that in the high winds the beam the phone station was using could not safely be raised on its crank-up tower to an acceptable height. Also the backup dipole was found to have an open in its feedline and was unusable.

Buy mid-evening the winds began to die down and the tower and beam were raised to a better position for the phone station and the action picked up. Also the rain had stopped and the skies cleared.

Many at the site throughout Saturday asked "Where is everyone?" It was apparent that the number of Hams at Field Day was not where it was on prior years. This contributed to periods of inactivity during the night for all stations.

Sunday's forecast was for sunny skies and temperatures in the upper 70's. It cooperated quite well. Phone operation went sporadically all night with major operation

(continued on page 7)



Sunrise on the SSB Beam/Tower - Sunday, June 29, 2008
(Photos by Jim KC0XW)



(l-r) Dick KC0LUR (logging), Jerry KC0GWK (operating)
SSB at FD 2008
Neil KC0REN and Gerry N0NGW at the Digital Station (in the back)



(l-r) Neil KC0REN and Charles KIOLS
Working the Digital Station



Rod KE0A working the CW Station

(continued from page 4)

beginning around 6:00 AM. The CW and digital stations resumed operation shortly thereafter. With the sunny and warm weather contacts rolled in and each station logged many contacts quickly and easily.

Operation ended at 1:00 PM Sunday and the phone station had over 300 contacts, digital over 140, and CW had close to 600.

A fun time was had by all those that attended. A big THANK YOU to Patsy Nies for the awesome Sloppy-Joes that were provided for Saturday's evening meal. For those that were not there, you missed a good time. We hope to see everyone there next year at Field Day 2009.

-.-. --.- -.-. --.-

SUPER HAM RADIO EXPO & DAKOTA DIVISION CONVENTION

Rochester Amateur Radio Expo
and Dakota Division Convention
Friday and Saturday August 8 &
9th

www.rarexpo.org

Dx'ing, Emergency
Communications, Contesting,
Casual Operating, Antennas,
Propagation, whatever your
Amateur Radio interest the
Rochester EXPO is the place to be.

DON'T MISS IT!

The Rochester Amateur Radio Club is presenting the Amateur Radio Expo Friday and Saturday, August 8-9 at the University Center in Rochester, Minnesota. The star-studded event will bring together the WØ DX Convention and Contest Central lineup of top speakers, the ARRL Dakota Division Convention with two big banquets and a great hamfest and flea market all in one complex.

When are the sunspots coming back? Carl, K9LA well known for his knowledge on sunspots will be there. So will Dean Straw, N6BV Editor of the ARRL Antenna Book; Gordon Hardman WØRUN, Alpha Power; Dennis Motschenbacher, Yaesu and a host of others will headline the speaking events and seminars.

Ralph Fedor, KØIR and Glen Johnson, WØGJ world known for their DX peditions will address the event.

Dennis Dura, K2DCD ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Communications Specialist, Sean Kutzko, KX9X, ARRL Contest Manager and Al Dewey, KØAD, Editor of NCJ, the National Contest Journal will all be there.

WØGJ will be the Guest Speaker at the Saturday, August 9 evening Convention Banquet. The banquet will also recognize the RARC WØ

(continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7)

Contester of the Year and WØ Young Ham of the Year.

Seminars from DX to antennas and amps; and even a video tour of world famous WØIAH. Add the WØ Contest Central and you have something for everyone at the incredible August Expo. The flea market and retail area will delight those interested in buying radios or selling anything electronic at Rochester.

APRS, Emergency Response and Digital Modes demos will be presented throughout the day Saturday. A long list of prizes, a DXCC card checking official and VE testing will round out an outstanding event.

The Rochester Amateur Radio Expo will be held at the University Center, 855 30th Avenue SE, Rochester, MN.

Additional Expo information is available at www.rarexpo.org

Information on the Hamfest portion and the flea market is available at N0ZN@charter.net

I hope to see you all there.

73,
Jay Bellows, KØQB
Dakota Division Director

W1AW/KL7 TO OPERATE FROM ARCTIC CIRCLE

Just 300 miles south of the Alaskan Arctic Ocean -- where the Arctic Circle crosses the Dalton Highway (66 degrees, 33 minutes north) -- W1AW/KL7 will be on the air (grid square BP56) July 26-August 10 on all bands from 160-6 meters. This ARRL 2008 Alaska State Convention Special Event Station plans to run two HF stations operating CW, SSB and digital, one satellite station and one station devoted to 146.52 MHz. The Alaskan summer skies are ablaze with gray line-enhanced propagation effects, providing six to eight hour spurts of activity to most of the ham radio world. W1AW/KL7 plans to be active from 0600 UTC-1400 UTC to maximize gray line propagation. From Alaska, signals will take off in both directions at the same time: Europe to the East on one side, with Asia to the West on the other side. For an illustration of how Arctic gray line propagation works, see page 21 in the August 2008 issue of QST. The 2008 Alaska ARRL Convention will run from August 1-4, 2008 in Anchorage. For more information, please see the W1AW/KL7 Web site <<http://www.akhamfest.com/arcticirclespecial.php>>.

The ARRL Letter
Vol. 27, No. 28
July 18, 2008

**Monthly North Dakota Section
News Summary
Friday, July 18, 2008 8:58 AM**

NORTH DAKOTA: SM, Kent Olson, KAØLDG -Field Day was a big success in ND this year. Six clubs sent in traffic, and I think there may be more out there. Remember to get me your results so I can figure out which club will take home the coveted "ND Top Gun" award. Please pass on your condolences to family and friends of Dean Newton, WBØSWS, of Garrison who passed away recently. It seems that I have had some e-mail problems recently, but it has been cleared up by the ARRL. KAØLDG@ARRL.org should work again. The Fargo hams helped out with the American Diabetes Assoc. Bike Tour last weekend. Despite the very strong winds, the ride was a success. The RRRRA in Fargo is hosting a tailgate hamfest on Sept. 13th. The event will be held at Amour Park in West Fargo and be FREE - All are invited. The event will last most of the day, and include outdoor fun and picnicking (bring your our food). More information will be out shortly, and check out www.rrra.org for specifics. Another hamfest to put on your calendars is the Dakota Division Convention. The Rochester ARC will be hosting it on August 8-10th, and will be one event you will not want to miss. This will be an event you can bring the whole family to, and all will have fun, so consider making the trip. Check out this website for full information:

<http://www.rareexpo.org/>. Until
next month...73!

ARRL North Dakota Section
Section Manager: Kent R. Olson,
KAØLDG
ka0ldg@arrl.org

-.-. -.-. -.-. -.-.

FOR SALE

**Kenwood TS140S
HF Transceiver
\$300**

**MFJ Versa Tuner
\$150**

**Bencher Low Pass Filter
\$30**

Harold N0SAA
yллеk@mncable.net
218-686-8617
1602 Greenwood St. E # 120
Thief River Falls, MN 56701

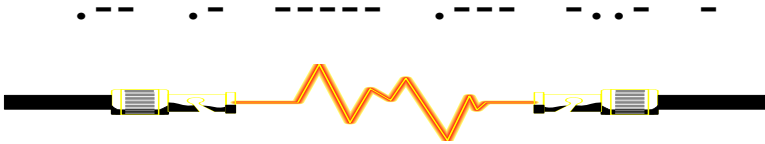
URL's of Interest

Forx Amateur Radio Club

www.qsl.net/wa0jxt

ND Section

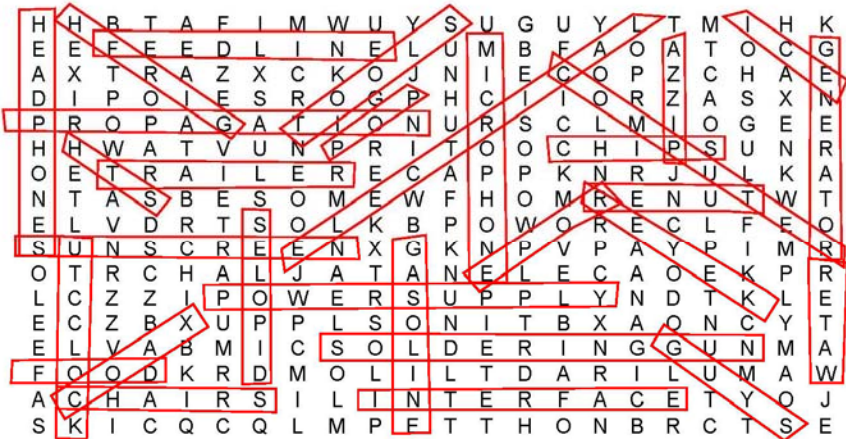
<http://home.earthlink.net/~qtipf16/>



TRIVIA

The following trivia question is taken from *The ARRL Handbook 2006*. The answer will be published in the August 2008 issue of the *FEEDLINE*.

WHAT IS THE TEMPERATURE COEFFICIENT
OF POLYESTER AT 20°C?



FD WORD SEARCH SOLUTION