

# FEEDLINE

DECEMBER 2009



The team of Rod KEØA, Nancy K9DIG, Ryan NØOJ, and Charles KIØLS (not pictured) got a "Clean Sweep" during the 2009 November Phone Sweepstakes.

The team managed to get all 80 sections and about 898 contacts.

The **FEEDLINE** is the official journal of the *Forx Amateur Radio Club, Inc.*, PO Box 14773, Grand Forks, ND 58208-4773. 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 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 Articles that will not be published are those of a personal nature or that constitute an attack against an individual.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

**There was no  
November 2009 issue  
of the *FEEDLINE***

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

**MEETING MINUTES  
November 24, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by Karen N0TKP at 7:31 PM

There were 12 members and 1 guests present

Secretary's Report - The minutes from October were distributed by John KA0SVY. motion by Rod KE0A 2nd by Jeff KD0BTT to approve. The minutes were approved

Treasurer's Report - By Nancy K9DIG were approved.

ARES/EC - by Jeff KD0BTT - Jeff KD0BTT has been appointed EC for Polk County. Received an email draft outline of frequencies to use statewide (MN) for emergencies. This includes uhf, vhf and hf. Draft copies are available and the final version will be available when done. It is also on the Minnesota ARES website. Gerry N0NGW and the rest us congratulated Jeff KD0BTT on his appointment.

Activity's Report -by John KA0SVY for Donna KC0SKD - The Christmas party will be held Tuesday December 29, 2009 at the Italian Moon at 6:30PM.



VE Report - By Rod KE0A - There will be testing late January or early February. UND students wishing to test will notify Rod KE0A.

Repeater Report - Paul KA0CAF - The noise has been cleared up. The club held a fox hunt and narrowed the source to a building in the downtown area. An engineering firm in the building had some faulty equipment and is working to fix the problem. Gerry N0NGW said thanks to the hunters for their work.

Jeff KD0BTT talked to Norm Bakken KC0SD about the 700 repeater. Nothing wrong with the repeater but the power has been shut off till equipment can be moved to a new building.

Sioux Club Report – No report

**Old Business**

A. Hamfest - Karen N0TKP said that the church has been reserved for a Hamfest on October 2, 2010 if we wish to have one. Motion from Nancy K9DIG 2nd by Rod KE0A to have the Hamfest. The motion passed. Everyone agreed that Karen N0TKP should be in charge.

B. November Sweepstakes results - Rod KE0A reported that Ryan N0OJ came up from Colorado and

(continued on page 3)

## DATES OF INTEREST

December 2009

29 Christmas Party

January 2010

1 ARRL Straight  
Key Night  
2 ARRL RTTY  
Roundup  
9 North American  
QSO Party – CW  
16 North American  
QSO Party –  
Phone  
23 ARRL VHF  
Sweepstakes  
26 Club Meeting

February 2010

23 Club Meeting  
27 Bismarck  
Hamfest  
27-28 Red River Sled  
Dog Derby

March 2010

20-21 ND QSO Party  
30 Club Meeting

April 2010

27 Club Meeting

May 2010

25 Club Meeting

June 2010

25-27 Field Day  
29 Club Meeting

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

### DECEMBER MEETING

6:30 PM

### ITALIAN MOON

### 810 SOUTH WASHINGTON GRAND FORKS

An annual get-together for  
members and their families

---

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

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

## 2010 DUES ARE DUE

Once again it is approaching the end of another year. Now is the time to renew your dues with the club for the year 2010. Your dues provide the club with funds, which pay for newsletter postage, correspondence postage, club repeater maintenance, club activity insurance premiums, club activities, and other expenses. Club activities include Field Day and the Hamfest among others. Please support your club and renew your dues today.

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

(continued from page 1)

they along with Charles KI0LS and Nancy K9DIG had 898 contacts and got a clean sweep. Jeff KD0BTT had 85 and John KA0SVY had 9 the first one of which was W1AW. All had a good time.

C. Skywarn recognition day December 5 - Gerry N0NGW stated that SRD will be December 5, 2009 from 6:00 PM Friday till 6:00 PM Saturday at the National Weather Service. Rod KE0A said he will take his amp to NWS to be hooked up to their radio for the event.

D. Headbolt Award - Karen N0TKP said that any nominations for the Headbolt Award should be given to any of the club officers. If there are nominations the award

will be given out at the Christmas party.

E. School club - Nancy K9DIG said that the schools are receptive to a school ham club but haven't got back to her.

### **New Business**

A. DXpetidion - Listen for Rod KE0A from about November 30 thru the first week in December. He will be in Curacao; listen for PJ2/KE0A.

The next club meeting will be Christmas Party 6:30P M December 29.

Next regular meeting 7:30 PM, January 26, 2010

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM

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

THINK

ARES



John KA0SVY making contacts during Skywarn Recognition Day held December 5, 2009 at the NWS office in Grand Forks.



Donna KC0SKD and Larry KI0W working the radios during the event.

Monthly ND Section News  
December 16, 2009

Welcome to the North Dakota  
ARRL Section News for November  
2009.

It is already December in North  
Dakota and what a wonderful  
November did we have. The new  
Boat Anchor Net on Saturday after  
the 12:30 PM WX Net has been a  
real success! Bill, N0CKB from  
Minot said that the amateurs are  
having fun trying out their old rigs.  
Check in with your vintage  
equipment and show off your  
signal quality!

\*\*\*\* SEC Update \*\*\*\* We are still  
finalizing our initial plan for the  
ARES Services in North Dakota.  
KD0AAK, ND Section Emergency  
Coordinator

\*\*\*\* Upcoming Events \*\*\*\* The  
Bismarck Hamfest will be held on  
February 27, 2010 from 7 AM until  
3 PM at St. Mary's Grade School in  
Bismarck. There will be a North  
Dakota Net Control's meeting,  
testing for amateur licenses and an  
ARRL Forum at the Hamfest. The  
North Dakota QSO Party will be  
held on March 20th & 21st, 2010  
and is planned to be a full 24 hour  
contest. If you have any input on  
this activity, send me an email at  
w0cq@arrl.org with your thoughts.  
This is a great time to get your  
WAS or help others out with North  
Dakota, including a lot of DX  
trying to work ND. Stay tuned for  
the rules on the website of  
W0CQ.COM.

\*\*\*\* November Net Report \*\*\*\*  
The Goose River Net on 160  
Meters- 1.895 MHz, Sundays at  
8:30 AM CST reported 5 Sessions,  
74 Check-ins & 1 Message passed.  
The ND CDO/WX Road Net on 75  
Meters- 3.937 MHz, 8:30 AM CST  
& 12:30 PM CST, Monday thru Sat  
reported 47 Sessions, 775 Check-  
ins & 13 Messages passed, and the  
DataNet on 75 Meters- 3.397 MHz,  
5:30 PM CST, Daily reported 29  
Sessions, 511 Check-ins & 15  
Messages passed. ALL NET  
CONTROL OP'S --A special  
thanks to K0HDA, KE0VF,  
N0RDJ, K8BBM, KOMAD,  
W0KRC, W0OSP, W0TF,  
KA0ETO, W0FC, KD0YX,  
K0TLW, W0CQ and AI0Q for  
acting as net control for November.  
We are experiencing QRM on 3937  
due to the band conditions at  
sunrise and sunset. Our plans are to  
work with the ND net members and  
try to move the net times to better  
utilize the frequency.

\*\*\*\* Section Managers Notes \*\*\*\*  
Have begun working on a  
spreadsheet to list the ND amateurs  
that check into our nets with email  
addresses. After we get that  
completed, our plans are to build a  
group email so that ND information  
can be distributed quicker than  
"word of mouth". The list of ND  
check-ins with locations and names  
for the ND nets and the Net Control  
preambles are still available for  
printing in a PDF file format on  
W0CQ.COM.

(continued on page 6)

(continued from page 5)

MAKE SURE YOU CHECK THE NORTH DAKOTA SECTION NEWS FOR THE LATEST NORTH DAKOTA ACTIVITES & NEWS AT [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org). This site has an Alert Section that allows me to put out quick alerts. If you have any special announcements, feel free to email me [w0cq@arrl.org](mailto:w0cq@arrl.org). Until next month... 73's Lynn - W0CQ

-----  
ARRL North Dakota Section  
Section Manager: Lynn A. Nelson,  
W0CQ  
[w0cq@arrl.org](mailto:w0cq@arrl.org)  
-----

-.-. --.- -.-. --.-  
**AMATEUR RADIO CLUBS  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

When it comes to reaching radio amateurs there is no stronger link than to the hundreds of Amateur Radio clubs across the country. Now as the application period for ARRL Foundation Scholarships is open (until February 1, 2010), club newsletters and email bulletins to club members are an effective and important tool to remind young hams that there are more than 50 scholarships to be awarded in the spring of 2010.

If your club membership has high schools seniors and adult hams pursuing continuing education, remind them that the application period for the 2010 scholarship awards closes promptly on February 1, 2010. All the

information about ARRL Foundation Scholarships, including application instructions and forms, can be found on the web at [www.arrl.org/arrlf](http://www.arrl.org/arrlf). Candidates should review the descriptions of all the scholarships and apply only those for which they qualify\*. Note that a recent transcript is required with all applications.

Another vital role your club can play in the scholarship program is to encourage club members -- and the club itself - to make contributions to the ARRL Foundation Scholarship Fund. Contributions in any amount to the ARRL Foundation are an important source of revenue to strengthen the scholarship program. New \$1000 scholarships are added every year and your club might think about sponsoring one with an annual donation or by endowing an award with a larger gift.

Note: The William R. Goldfarb Memorial Scholarship is open only to high school seniors who must complete the application for that award and include a FAFSA or SAR based on the most recent family financial information, along with a full high school transcript.

The ARRL Foundation is an IRS-designated 501(c) (3) organization holding tax id # 23-7325472. Contributions to the ARRL Foundation are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

ARRL Club Newsletter  
December 18, 2009



## **AMATEUR RADIO BILL PASSES SENATE, MOVES TO THE HOUSE**

On Monday, December 14, S 1755 -- The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009 -- passed the Senate by unanimous consent; the bill now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration. Sponsored by Senator Joe Lieberman (ID-CT), and Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), S 1755, if passed, would direct the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to undertake a study on emergency communications. S 1755 points out that "There is a strong Federal interest in the effective performance of Amateur Radio Service stations, and that performance must be given -- (A) support at all levels of government; and (B) protection against unreasonable regulation and impediments to the provision of the valuable communications provided by such stations." Read more here <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/12/15/11247/?nc=1>>.

The ARRL Letter  
Published by the American Radio  
Relay League  
December 17, 2009

### **-.-. --.- -.-. --.- AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: FIRST CHINESE AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITE NOW IN SPACE**

AMSAT China (CAMSAT  
<<http://www.camsat.cn/>>) reports  
that at around 0230 UTC on

**FEEDLINE**

December 15, China launched its first Amateur Radio satellite -- named XW-1  
<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/satellites/satInfo.php?satID=116&retURL=satellites/futures.php> -  
into space. The microsatellite -- a secondary payload aboard the CZ-4C rocket launched from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center -- was launched into a Sun-synchronous orbit with an apogee of approximately 1200 kilometers. XW-1 successfully reached orbit at 0253 UTC. Members of the XW-1 launch team reported they received a beacon from the satellite shortly after the satellite deployed. In the first few days, the XW-1 team will work on the satellite's FM and store-forward transponder mode and its linear transponder mode. Once those tests are complete, they will upload a new flight program to set up the payload schedule. The satellite's communications payload includes a beacon and three crossband transponders operating in FM, SSB/CW and digital modes. Uplink and downlink frequencies can be found on the CAMSAT Web site  
<[http://www.camsat.cn/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=56&Itemid=67](http://www.camsat.cn/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=56&Itemid=67)>. For the latest Keplerian elements for XW-1 and other satellites, check out the W1AW Keplerian Bulletins  
<<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/kep/>>.

The ARRL Letter  
Published by the American Radio  
Relay League  
December 17, 2009

**DECEMBER 2009**



## **FCC LOOKS TO REVISE, CLARIFY VANITY CALL SIGN RULES**

On Wednesday, November 25, the FCC issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) -- WT Docket No. 09-209 -- seeking to amend the Commission's Amateur Radio Service rules to clarify certain rules and codify existing procedures governing the vanity call sign system, as well as revise certain rules applicable to club stations.

According to the FCC, almost 80,000 licensees have replaced their sequentially issued Amateur Radio call signs with a vanity call sign since the program began in 1996. When the program began, the Commission established what they called "the broad outlines" of the vanity call sign system, concluding that call signs generally should not be available for reassignment for two years following the death of a licensee, or expiration or termination of the license for that call sign. In doing so, the Commission made exceptions for former holders of the call sign, close relatives of a deceased former holder and club stations of which a deceased former holder was a member.

The Commission did not, however, specify all of the procedures governing the vanity call sign system, but indicated that the procedures "would be set out in the Public Notices announcing 'starting gates' for the groups receiving

initial priority and that the procedures would be adjusted from gate to gate as experience dictated." The procedures announced in the Public Notices announcing the gates are still in effect, but they are not set forth in the Commission's Rules. The NPRM states that the FCC "now believe[s] that certain provisions should be codified in our rules, and others added, so that the vanity call sign system will be fair, equitable and transparent to all amateur service licensees. The Commission also decided in the Vanity Report and Order [issued in 1996] to resume issuing new club station licenses. We believe that certain rule changes to the club station licensing rules may be appropriate."

The comment period for WT Docket No. 09-209 will extend for 60 days after it is published in the Federal Register. Historically, items appear in the Federal Register approximately 7-10 days after they appear on the FCC Web site. Reply comments can be made up to 75 days after publication in the Federal Register. Read more here

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/11/25/11220/?nc=1>.

The ARRL Letter  
Published by the American Radio  
Relay League  
November 25, 2009

www.waØjxt.org

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



## TRIVIA

The following trivia question is taken from *The ARRL Handbook 2006*. The answer will be published in the January 2010 issue of the *FEEDLINE*.

GIVEN A PIECE OF TEFLON COATED STRANDED WIRE,  
WHAT WOULD THE VALUE 7X34 REPRESENT?

October's trivia question was:

What do SIP, DIP, and FLAT-PACK have in common?

And the answer is:

Three of several package types of IC's

This may be found on page 7.7 of *The ARRL Handbook 2006*

# ANNUAL DUES FORM

January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
CHK# _____
DATE _____

As stated in the bylaws of the Forx Amateur Radio Club dues expire on the last day of December (December 31, 2009 in this case). Dues are payable as follows:

Regular Membership	\$20.00
Family Membership	\$27.00
Student/Youth Membership	\$10.00
Senior Membership (62+)	\$10.00

If you have paid your dues for the year 2010, thank you. You will continue to receive the *FEEDLINE* published monthly. If you have not yet paid your dues for 2010, please use the form below.

Please make your check payable to: FORX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
P.O. BOX 14773  
GRAND FORKS, ND 58208-4773

Please do not mail cash. Cash is acceptable if your dues are paid to the Treasurer directly.

**Please complete the following form to be included with your dues payment:**

Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip+4: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type (circle one): Regular / Family / Student / Senior

**To receive the club newsletter *FEEDLINE* via E-mail, please provide your address below:**

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you an ARRL Member? Yes / No    ARES Member? Yes / No**