

FEEDLINE

MARCH 2012

SPRING
IS
UPON US
EARLY
MARK YOUR
CALENDARS:

UPCOMING
EVENTS

SKYWARN TRAINING
CHECK OUT

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/fgf/>
FOR TRAINING IN YOUR AREA

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 Articles that will not be published are those of a personal nature or that constitute an attack against an individual.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.

MEETING MINUTES
February 28, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Jeff, KD0BTT at 7:30 PM. There were 12 members present.

Secretary's Report – The minutes from January were distributed by Jeff, KD0BTT and approved

Treasurer's Report – From Truman, KD0MTD was approved. Truman is looking into reinvesting the money market accounts into a higher yield account. Currently we are earning about 25 cents a month on the accounts.

ARES/EC – No Report

Activities Report - No Report

VE Report – No Report

Repeaters – No Report

N0GFK School Club – No Report

Old Business

A. MN QSO Party – Conditions were poor that weekend, and no local contacts were made.

New Business

A. Miscellaneous – Charlie, KI0LS relayed from Jeff, KB0YFK about some interference that



seemed to be centered around 158.805 MHz, which is interfering with some commercial frequencies he deals with. Close to the hospital near the helipad. Anyone interested in DF'ing to find the source, Jeff would be appreciative.

The next club meeting will be March 27, 2012 at 7:30 PM

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM

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SKYWARN TRAINING

Check out
www.crh.noaa.gov/fgf/
for times and locations
along with latest updates
for other cities.

March 2012

26	Crookston, MN
27	Red Lake Falls, MN

April 2012

23	Thief River Falls, MN
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DATES OF INTEREST

NEW 60 METER PRIVILEGES NOW IN EFFECT

March 2012

- 24 CQ WPX SSB Contest
- 27 Club Meeting
- 31 Midwinter Madness Buffalo, MN

As of March 5, US amateurs have new privileges on the 60 meter band. In addition to an increase in effective radiated power from 50 to 100 W, hams can now transmit CW and PSK31 on the following channel-center frequencies:

- Channel 1: 5332.0 kHz
- Channel 2: 5348.0 kHz
- Channel 3: 5358.5 kHz
- Channel 4: 5373.0 kHz
- Channel 5: 5405.0 kHz

April 2012

- 14 Brainerd, MN Hamfest
- 15 ARRL Rookie Roundup – Phone
- 24 Club Meeting

Amateurs can also transmit USB voice and PACTOR III on the following suppressed carrier frequencies (the frequencies typically shown on transceiver displays):

- Channel 1: 5330.5 kHz
- Channel 2: 5346.5 kHz
- Channel 3: 5357.0 kHz
- Channel 4: 5371.5 kHz
- Channel 5: 5403.5 kHz

May 2012

- 4 NPCSS (see article)
- 18-20 Dayton Hamvention
- 29 Club Meeting

June 2012

- 23-24 Field Day
- 26 Club Meeting

For more information, please see 60 Meter Operations -- New Privileges and Recommended Practices

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Regulatory/Recommended_Practices_for_60_Meters%20-%20Version%206_4.pdf>, Published

July 2012

- 13-15 Peace Garden Hamfest
- 31 Club Meeting

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-publishes-new-guidelines-for-60-meters> by the ARRL HF Band Planning Committee. A revised

August 2012

- 28 Club Meeting

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ARRL band chart <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Ham_bands_color.pdf> is also available. Watch for the article "New Privileges on 60 Meters" by ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, in the April 2012 issue of QST.

The ARRL Letter
March 8, 2012

Published by the American Radio
Relay League

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**NPCSS
Information Provided by
Kevin KB9WOB**

We invite you to attend the Northern Plains Convective Storm Symposium (NPCSS) in Grand Forks, North Dakota from 8 am until 5 pm on **Friday, May 4, 2012**. The intent of this symposium is to provide an opportunity for individuals with an interest in convective weather to exchange ideas, case studies, preliminary or finalized research findings, new forecasting techniques and technologies, communication tools and methods, and meteorological decision support. Meteorologists, students, researchers, broadcast media, storm chasers, Skywarn volunteers, emergency management, and members of the public with an interest in

convective weather are encouraged to attend. Our focus is the Northern Plains of the United States and Canadian Prairies. Presentations focusing on topics outside this region are also welcome.

Note: This is an abbreviated conference this year, 2012, in lieu of the previously planned conference in Aberdeen, SD, which has been canceled due to budgetary considerations.

Symposium registration and abstract submission are open until April 27, 2012. The registration fee is \$10 for students and \$20 for everyone else. Lodging is available at the Hilton Garden Inn on the UND campus. When you call, mention that you are attending the Northern Plains Convective Storm Symposium and would like the UND rate of \$89 per night. Lunch will be at Speedway restaurant and is not included in the symposium registration fee.

Specific information including symposium location, hotel details, how to submit an abstract, registration, and agenda will be available at the symposium website (<http://atmos.und.edu/stormconf/>). The page will be updated frequently as details are confirmed.

If you have any questions regarding this workshop you may contact Fred Remer (remer@atmos.und.edu) or Greg Gust (gregory.gust@noaa.gov).

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Everyone is welcome so please send this to friends or colleagues who may be interested in attending.

We look forward to seeing you in Grand Forks on May 4, 2012.

-- NPCSS Organizing Committee

What: Northern Plains Convective Storm Symposium

Where: University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND

When: 8 am to 5 pm Friday May 4, 2012

Who: Anyone with an interest in convective storms and summer season weather including meteorologists, researchers, scientists, Skywarn volunteers, emergency managers, storm chasers, and members of the media.

Registration Fee: \$10 for students, \$20 everyone else.

Registration deadline: Friday, April 27, 2012

Lodging: Hilton Garden Inn, Grand Forks, ND, (701) 775-6000

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The Extra Class Question of the Day by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

As many of you already know, I have written study guides for the Tech and General Class license exams (www.kb6nu.com/tech-manual). Until now, however, I've shied away from writing an Extra Class study guide. The two main

reasons for this are that the material is much more complicated and there's a lot more of it.

This year, however, the NCVEC is updating the Extra Class question pool, and I've decided to bite the bullet and do it. So, I'm now in the process of writing a No-Nonsense Extra Class Study Guide.

After I got started on this, I had a D'oh! moment. It occurred to me that instead of just publishing this material in the study guide, I could also post some of it to my blog (www.kb6nu.com). So, now I have the "Extra Class question of the Day" feature on KB6NU.Com.

In reality, it's usually more than just a single question because many of the questions are on the same topic. That's OK, though, because in reality, I don't post these every day. So, it all works out. Having said all that, here's an example. The correct answer to the question is in bold.

Extra Class question of the day:
meteor scatter

Amateur radio operators use many different ways to get signals from one spot to another. Perhaps one of the most interesting is meteor scatter propagation.

Meteor scatter propagation is possible because when a meteor strikes the Earth's atmosphere, a cylindrical region of free electrons is formed at **the E layer** of the ionosphere. (E3A08) **28 - 148 MHz**

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is the frequency range that is well suited for meteor-scatter communications. (E3A09)

Unfortunately, these ionization trails are relatively short-lived, so to communicate via meteor scatter, you need to either be able to detect when these paths are available or be transmitting when the paths are available. **All of these choices are correct** when talking about good techniques for making meteor-scatter contacts (E3A10):

- 15 second timed transmission sequences with stations alternating based on location
- Use of high speed CW or digital modes
- Short transmission with rapidly repeated call signs and signal reports

For more information on meteor scatter, go to:

- G3WZT's Meteor Scatter page (www.qsl.net/g3wzt/g3wzt_ms.html)
- RSGB's Meteor Scatter page (www.rsgb.org/psc/meteor-scatter.php)

For more Extra Class questions of the day, go to www.kb6nu.com.

When he's not trying to figure out how he'll be able to finish writing the No-Nonsense Extra Class License Study Guide, Dan, KB6NU is station manager at WA2HOM (www.wa2hom.org), the ham radio

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station at the Hands-On Museum in Ann Arbor, MI. If you have a particular question that you'd like him to make a "question of the day," e-mail him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com

**MALYJ VYSOTSKIJ
 ISLAND
 ADDED TO
 DXCC
 DELETED ENTITIES
 LIST**

According to the Finnish Ministry of Transportation and Communication, the Saimaa Canal Treaty between Finland and Russia has been finalized by relevant Finnish and Russian authorities through ratification. Malyj Vysotskij Island (MVI), R1M, is no longer included in the Treaty. Thus, MVI was deleted from the DXCC List as of February 17, 2012, and added to the DXCC Deleted Entities List. Read more here <http://www.arrrl.org/news/malyj-vysotskij-island-added-to-dxcc-deleted-entities-list>.

The ARRL Letter
March 1, 2012

Published by the American Radio
Relay League

www.wa0jxt.org



TRIVIA

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

What is a VCO?

February's trivia question was:

WHAT IS PLL?

And the answer is:

Phase-Locked-Loop

This may be found on page 10.33 of *THE ARRL HANDBOOK 2006*