

FEEDLINE

MAY 2012

Field Day 2012 Information

Newly Licensed Ham

and more

Details Inside...

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 Articles that will not be published are those of a personal nature or that constitute an attack against an individual.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

April 24, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Jeff KDOBTT at 7:30 PM. There were 13 members present.

Secretary's Report - The minutes from March 2012 were distributed by John KAOSVY and were approved as published. Jim KCOXW brought foam and paper airplanes.

Treasurer's Report - By Truman KD0MTD was approved. He requested that a committee of two people review the club finances.

ARES/EC -Rod KE0A said there was a big crowd at Grand Forks EOC for Skywarn training. Nancy K9DIG reported that the DATA net is now at 6:30 PM.

Activities Report - No report

VE Report -Rod KE0A said he has been contacted by a lady who wants to get her ham license. Testing will be May 12 at the North side Cafe at 9:00 AM. We will also set up a schedule for license testing. It will be on the club website and the UND channel.

Repeaters - No report.

N0GFK School Club Report - Nancy K9DIG reported that N0GFK is number 16770 in the YL



system. The kids are about 20% into the TECH material.

Old Business

A. Nominating Committee Report - Rod KE0A said the current officers have agreed to serve again for the next year and presented them as the committees nominations.

B. Field Day Committee Report - Jeff KDOBTT said the committee has talked about what to do for set up.

C. Mrs. Sprague Ham Equipment - The equipment and prices and Mrs. Sprague's phone number were published in the Feedline. Call her if interested. Also, Mark Rice has ham equipment for sale.

D. Quarterly Drawing won by Kevin KB9WOB

New Business

A. Field Day - Equipment, Antenna Placement. - Setup was already discussed. Had a discussion on logging programs.

B. Club Financial Audit - Rod KE0A and Nancy K9DIG were appointed to audit the club finances.

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM

The next club meeting will be May 29, 2012 at 7:30 PM

DATES OF INTEREST

FORX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEETINGS

May 2012

- 26 CQ WW WPX
Contest – CW
- 29 Club Meeting

**Last Tuesday
Every Month
7:30 PM**

June 2012

- 9 ARRL VHF QSO
Party
- 9 Angle Inlet, MN
Special Event
- 23-24 Field Day
- 26 Club Meeting

**Basement of
Altru Hospital
Meeting Room E
(next to cafeteria)**

**[Please note that operation of
radios and cellular phones
anywhere within Altru Hospital
is prohibited]**

July 2012

- 13-15 Peace Garden
Hamfest
- 14 IARU HF
Championship
- 31 Club Meeting

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August 2012

- 28 Club Meeting

September 2012

- 25 Club Meeting
- 29 Fargo Hamfest

Special Notice:

**Every three months of the year
names of all those who have
checked into the net each
Monday night during that time
are put in a lottery and one name
is drawn to receive an ARRL Gift
Certificate. The more Mondays
you check in the better your odds
are to get selected.**

October 2012

- 30 Club Meeting

November 2012

- 27 Club Meeting

FIELD DAY
JUNE 23-24, 2012

LOCATION:
Nancy K9DIG
QTH

1079 Harvest Lane NE
Thompson, ND

Talk-In:
146.940 (-)

THE ARRL FIELD DAY LOCATOR SERVICE SHOWS A
MAP OF THE LOCATION
<http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>

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VE Test Session

Held
May 12, 2012

Robin Cox KDØSAC

Passed Her
Technician Exam

Congratulations!!

Mailing lists, blogs, and podcasts are good sources of ham info

**By Dan Romanchik,
KB6NU**

Whether you're a newcomer or an old-timer, the Internet is possibly the best way to learn as much as you can about amateur radio. On the Internet, you'll find many, many ham radio mailing lists, podcasts, and videos. In essence, these resources give you access to hundreds, if not thousands, of Elmers.

One mailing list that I always suggest to new hams is the HamRadioHelpGroup (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HamRadioHelpGroup>). The purpose of this group is to help "those who are interested in getting started in Amateur Radio or upgrading their license." This mailing list has a good mix of beginners and experts, and most questions are answered quickly and correctly. One thing that I really like about this group is that the moderators do a good job of keeping the discussions on track, and will squelch them when they stray off topic or threaten to turn into flame wars.

In addition to the HamRadioHelpGroup, you might also want to join a more targeted mailing list. For example, if you're interested in learning Morse Code (hint, hint), you might join the SolidCpyCW list

(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SolidCpyCW/>). If you just bought a Yaesu FT-60 hand-held transceiver, you might want to join the FT-60 list

(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FT-60/>). Chances are that no matter what your interest, there's probably a mailing list to discuss that interest.

I'm subscribed to a lot of amateur radio mailing lists and could probably spend most of my day just reading and replying to them. In order to get the most out of them, without them taking away from my on-air time, I only read those threads that I am really interested in, and even then, I quit reading them once they have started to drift off-topic. I also un-subscribe myself from lists that cover topics that I'm no longer interested in.

Blogs, podcasts and videos

In addition to getting on a few mailing lists, you might want to read a few blogs and subscribe to podcasts. These are also great sources of information about amateur radio. I blog about amateur radio at www.kb6nu.com, and lots of hams find it a good source of information. You can find a list of other ham radio blogs that I'd recommend on my home page.

Podcasts are also a good source of information. One podcast that you

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might want to check out is the Practical Amateur Radio Podcast (<http://www.myamateurradio.com>). Since 2008, Jerry, KD0BIK, has been producing PARP, and currently has more than 50 different episodes online. For other podcasts, consult the list on Jerry's home page.

Finally, there are literally thousands of amateur radio videos on the net. On YouTube alone, there are approximately 32,000 of them. The American Radio Relay League has its own channel (<http://www.youtube.com/user/ARRLHQ>), but perhaps the most popular amateur radio video channel is the K7AGE channel (<http://www.youtube.com/user/K7AGE>). K7AGE has more than 6,200 subscribers and his videos have garnered more than 2.1 million views!

Whatever source or sources of information you select, remember to not let them take up too much of your time. Ham radio is about more than just reading, listening, or watching. It's about doing!

When he's not answering yet another e-mail, Dan blogs about ham radio at www.kb6nu.com, teaches ham classes, and ragchews on 30m and 40m CW. You can e-mail him with comments or questions at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

Red River Basin Chasers, HAM bones, and Weather Geeks... Greg Gust KC0TIY

Good News! The planned upgrade of our NWS Doppler Radar network to Dual-Polarized capability is progressing way ahead of schedule. As a result, The KDLH radar near Duluth is currently undergoing its upgrade, and the team will likely begin the upgrade of our KMVX radar, near Mayville ND, sometime next week. This is over a month ahead of schedule, and likely to happen at a less climatologically stormy period than the previous late June slot.

That said, the KMVX radar will be OTS during that upgrade period and we will need to rely heavily on neighboring radars and the local eyes-to-the-skies provided by our SkyWarn Spotters... should the threat for severe weather materialize. We expect the radar to be down for about 5 days, beginning around May 16th.

I will send you all a schedule updates and some more bullet talking point stuff early next week. But please spread the word among your local clubs, groups, and Spotter buds.

For now, here are some Key Points:

- The Mayville ND Doppler Radar

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(KMOVX) will be out-of-service for about a week, during upgrade, beginning @May16th. - Back-up radar coverage from other network radars is not very good, so SkyWarn Spotter diligence will be especially important should severe weather materialize during the upgrade period.

- The result will be an upgrade to a Dual-Polarized radar.
- The net benefit will be improved analysis of precipitation type and amount.
- The upgrade does not improve the existing physical coverage area of the existing network.

There are some online training materials available via our NWS Warning Decision Training Branch <<http://www.wdtb.noaa.gov/courses/dualpol/Outreach/index.html#nonmets>>. I would recommend you review the Dual-Polarization Technology Overview <<http://www.wdtb.noaa.gov/courses/dualpol/Outreach/non-mets-intro/player.html>> module, which is designed for the non-meteorologist. You can tackle whatever parts of the "Training for Non-NWS Meteorologist" stuff that you wish

AMATEURS ASKED TO LISTEN FOR HORYU-2 SATELLITE

The Japanese HORYU-2 <http://kitsat.ele.kyutech.ac.jp/index_e_new.html> research satellite was launched May 17 at 1639 UTC as part of a mission that included the JAXA climate observation satellite Shizuku. HORYU-2 was built by students at the Kyushu Institute of Technology (KIT) and it carries the call sign JG6YBW. The satellite will conduct a variety of experiments including high-voltage power generation and space debris measurements. Amateurs have been asked to monitor HORYU-2's Morse code and 1200-baud AX.25 packet telemetry at 437.375 MHz. Telemetry decoding software is available for download <http://kitsat.ele.kyutech.ac.jp/Documents/ground_station/Horyu2%20Data_Analysis_Program_japanese.zip>. To encourage hams to submit reports, KIT will conduct a monthly prize drawing. Details are available here <http://kitsat.ele.kyutech.ac.jp/Documents/ground_station/english/Receive_competition_eng.pdf>.

The ARRL Letter
Published by the
American Radio Relay League
May 24, 2012

North Dakota ARRL Section News for the 1st Quarter 2012.

It's been certainly an early spring with less moisture than last year. Now the time to get the new antenna in the air. There has been a lot talk about those new 40+ foot verticals that work on all bands. If you put one of these antennas up, let me know. It would be interesting how they work for hams on a limited yard to put up antennas. Also, check out the new Digital Edition of QST which is free to ARRL members.

Coming up next quarter will be the "North Dakota TOP GUN" award for the radio club in North Dakota that makes the most points on ARRL's Field Day 2012. Field Day is June 23rd and 24th, 2012. Last year the Grand Forks Club - FORX ARC took the honors.

**** Upcoming Events ***

The Dayton Hamvention is scheduled for May 18-20th, 2012 and this year there is a caravan of North Dakota Hams heading to the largest Hamfest in the USA.

International HamFest will be held on July 13, 14 & 15th, 2012 with all day activities and weekend camping. It is located 10 miles north of Dunseith, ND at the International Peace Gardens at the US Lodge. US Exams will be given and the Talk-In Frequency is 146.52 simplex. Admission fee is

\$13.00 per person for the whole weekend. Come join us for camping, socializing and the flea market.

The RRRRA Hamfest 2012 is scheduled for 09/29/2012 at the Red River Valley Fairgrounds/Hartel Ag Building, 1805 West Main Avenue, West Fargo, ND. Website: <http://rrra.org> and is sponsored by the Red River Radio Amateurs of Fargo, ND/Moorhead, MN Talkin is 145.350 (PL 123)

**** Quarterly Net Reports ****

The ND WX Road Net is on 75 Meters- 3.935 MHz, 8:30 AM CDST, Monday thru Saturday and the DataNet is on 75 Meters- 3.937 MHz, 6:0 PM CDST.

Net Report - January 2012 WX Net - 46 sessions, 841 qni, 7 qtc
DATA Net - 26 sessions, 535 qni, 4 qtc

NCS for January: wa0csl, w0tf, kd0yx, wd0gmd, kf0il, kr0w, wb6hef, w0fc, nd0b, w0hs, w0nd, and nd0cw

Net Report - February 2012 WX Net - 49 sessions, 870 qni, 11 qtc
DATA Net - 28 sessions, 475 qni, 7 qtc

NCS for February: kr0w, w0fc, w0tf, wb6hef, nd0b, kf0il, w0hs, kd0yx, wa0csl, k0tlw, and nd0cw.

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Net Report - March 2012 WX Net
- 46 sessions, 709 qni, 6 qtc DATA
Net - 27 sessions, 408 qni, 13 qtc
NCS for March: wd0gmd, kd0yx,
w0osp, w0hs, kr0w, wa0csl,
wb6hef, nd0b, kf0il, w0t, k0tlw,
w0fc, and nd0cw.

Region Net Traffic Net : nd0cw,
DayTen, 40m ssb net M-F 7280

MAKE SURE YOU CHECK THE
NORTH DAKOTA SECTION
NEWS FOR THE LATEST
NORTH DAKOTA ACTIVITES
AT www.arrl.org. If you have any
special announcements, feel free to
email me w0nd@arrl.org. Check
www.w0nd.com for the latest list
of ND stations and activities.
Until next Quarter - 73's Lynn -
WOND

ARRL North Dakota Section
Section Manager: Mr Lynn A
Nelson, WOND
w0nd@arrl.org

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**FCC SEEKS HIGHER
VANITY CALL SIGN FEE**

The FCC released a Notice of
Proposed Rulemaking on May 4,
seeking to raise the fee for Amateur
Radio vanity call signs. Currently,
a vanity call sign costs \$14.20 and
is good for 10 years; the new fee, if
the FCC plan goes through, will go
up to \$15 for 10 years, an increase
of 80 cents. The FCC is authorized
by the Communications Act of

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1934 (as amended) to collect vanity
call sign fees to recover the costs
associated with that program. Read
more [here](http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-higher-vanity-call-sign-fee)
<[http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-
seeks-higher-vanity-call-sign-fee](http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-higher-vanity-call-sign-fee)>.

The ARRL Letter
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American Radio Relay League
May 10, 2012

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**BSA TO OFFER
MORSE CODE
INTERPRETER STRIP**

For many years, Boy Scouts and
Scouters have been able to earn an
interpreter strip to wear on their
uniforms. This strip -- worn on the
uniform above the right pocket --
denotes proficiency in a foreign
language or sign language. Each
language has its own strip (with the
name of the language embroidered
in that language), and some Scouts
and

Scouters wear more than one strip.
Now those hams involved with the
Boy Scouts can show their
proficiency in Morse code with a
Morse code interpreter strip (with
M-O-R-S-E spelled out in Morse
code). Read more [here](http://www.arrl.org/news/bsa-to-offer-morse-code-interpreter-strip)

<[http://www.arrl.org/news/bsa-to-
offer-morse-code-interpreter-strip](http://www.arrl.org/news/bsa-to-offer-morse-code-interpreter-strip)>.

The ARRL Letter
Published by the
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May 10, 2012

QST de W1AW
Space Bulletin 001 ARLS001
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington, CT April 26, 2012
To all radio amateurs

SB SPACE ARL ARLS001
ARLS001 **NASA accepting
proposals for ARISS
contacts**

NASA is now accepting proposals from US schools, museums, science centers and community youth organizations to host an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contact between November 1, 2012 and May 1, 2013. To maximize these radio contact opportunities, NASA is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan. Proposals are due July 2, 2012.

Using Amateur Radio, students can ask astronauts questions about life in space and other space-related topics. Students fully engage in the ARISS contact by helping set up an Amateur Radio ground station at the school and then using that station to talk directly with a crew member on the International Space Station for approximately 10 minutes. ARISS has a network of mentors to help organizations obtain the technology required to host this exciting opportunity for your students.

Interested parties should contact NASA's Teaching From Space office via e-mail at JSC-TFS-ARISS@mail.nasa.gov to obtain complete information and the proposal/application form.

You can find more information at, <http://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/teachingfromspace/student/s/ariss.html>

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**GRAND FORKS
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NET
9:00 PM
146.940(-)**
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7:00 PM
MONDAY**

www.wa0jxt.org

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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 MIXER?

April's trivia question was:

WHAT IS AM?

And the answer is:

Amplitude Modulation

This may be found on page 11.4 of *THE ARRL HANDBOOK 2006*