

# THE KEY



The Riverland Amateur Radio Club is a Special Service Club affiliated with the American Radio Relay League

## Riverland Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 621  
Onalaska, Wis. 54650

## Repeater

146.970 PL 131.8

## RARC Net

8 p.m. Sundays on the  
146.970 repeater.

## Club meetings

7 p.m., First Tuesday,  
meeting room I, lower  
level, Gundersen/Lutheran  
La Crosse. **Elmer session**  
6 p.m.

## RARC Web page

<http://rarc.qth.com/>



## Skywarn recognition warms participants

Todd Shea, KB9YXS, Warning Coordination Meteorologist

Fears of a new millennium in the form of "Y2K" in 1999 brought new awareness and appreciation of amateur radio operators. The National Weather Service showed its appreciation that year, and since, with Skywarn Recognition Day. La Crosse area Hams came together Dec. 5 at the La Crosse NWS office for another successful day of radio operations and camaraderie.

One of the warmest event days on record brought out 35 people. Mostly sunny skies and no snow cover led to highs in the mid 40s. Several operators tallied 338 contacts with Hams in 46 states as well as Italy, Bahamas, Canada and Wales sharing contact and current weather information. Four radios and antennas operated for much of the day.

Bill Kleinschmidt, N9FDE, made 80

percent or more of the contacts. Members of the Mississippi Valley Amateur Radio Association and the Riverland Amateur Radio Club provided equipment, helped with setup, and making contacts.

Participants included: Kevin Holcomb, KC9ZGD; Carl Thurston, KC9HDS; Larry Worthington, KC9HDP; Dave Peters, KB9EWG; Bob Seaquist, W9LSE; Art Osborn, W0JDC; Tom O'Brien, WB9BJQ; Pat Kendrick, KE9B; Todd Rastal, KC9NOI; Bill Wood, KE9XQ; Roger Reader, KA9BKK; Craig Goldbeck, N9ETD; Cory Lynch, KC9NOJ; Pat Kendrick, KE9B; Rhyse Jensen, KE0FMX; Len Litvan, KC0RSX; John Wetenkamp, KB9UMX; Scott Cross, KB3MKD; Chris Kanable, KC9CMD; and Steve Wiebke, W0STV.

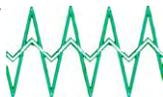
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## HOLIDAY PARTY

Schmidty's, 3119 State Rd, La Crosse  
Tuesday, Jan. 5, 6 p.m.  
Family style party menu

## President's Frequency



### Modulation

By Kevin Holcomb, KC9ZGD

Greetings and happy New Year!

I would like to start out saying a big thanks to Greg Miller, KA9FOZ, for being the president for the past four years. I have big shoes to fill, but it should help with the transition with Greg staying as an officer.



Thanks to the others for stepping up for the club. They are Dan Abts, AB9TS, vice president, Greg Miller, KA9FOZ, treasurer, and Bob Seaquist, W9LSE, secretary. We are all willing to work hard to make RARC the best club we can.

We have some impressive goals starting the year with more activities in regard to meetings, the Elmer session and a program after our business. It's a challenge, but with a committee, we should get good results.

Here's a preview of ideas in the hopper: work on Elmer sessions, programs, radio events such as run/walk races, traffic control, and other community work. Also getting ARES/RACES working again in this area. The major challenge is to recruit new people to our hobby and our club.

I encourage all of us to support staying positive and moving forward. The saying, "we've been there and done that, it doesn't work," is something we need to change. I know that ideas have been tried and failed. A lot of what was tried was from long ago. This is a new group with some new Hams and hopefully some more new ones to join. As we network with agencies such as the police, the county, emergency management, and other agencies or groups that could use our service, our skills may be used more. There is always a need for us, as Hams, in some form or another if we make our skills and abilities available.

Some of my own personal goals as a Ham are to upgrade my license, work on improving my HF capabilities at home, and to grow as much as I can as a Ham both in education and in "Ham" skills. I am putting amateur radio as number one focus for myself this year and I also encourage you to make a New Years goal commitment related to amateur radio.

I encourage anyone who have questions or suggestions to feel free and contact me either at [KC9ZGD@yahoo.com](mailto:KC9ZGD@yahoo.com), or at 608 797 2975. I look forward to serving RARC as president and doing what is best for the needs to the club.

## Calendar

### Sun. Jan. 3

✦ Kids Day, Kids Day gives young people on the air experience and provides a chance to interest them in getting a license of their own.

[www.arrl.org/kids day](http://www.arrl.org/kids day).

### Tue. Jan. 5

✦ Riverland Amateur Radio Club Holiday Party, 5 p.m., social hour, 6 p.m. dinner, Schmidty's, 3119 State Rd, La Crosse.

### Sat. Jan 9

✦ WARAC 44th Annual Swapfest, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Waukesha Expo Arena, 1000 Northview Rd., Waukesha.

### Sun. Jan. 17

✦ Wisconsin Antique Radio Club Swapfest, 7 to 11 a.m., W.G.'s Banquet and Entertainment Center, 3200 S. 103rd St., Milwaukee. Radios, tubes, parts, books.

### Sat.-Sun. Jan. 30-31

✦ Winter Field Day, 11 a.m. Saturday - 11 a.m. Location to be determined. Sunday. [www.winterfieldday.com/](http://www.winterfieldday.com/)

### Sat. Feb. 6

✦ License testing, 9 a.m. Church of Christ, 3506 28th St. South, La Crosse. Register at least five days in advance with Roger Reader, KA9BKK, 608 783 0723 or [readers@centurytel.net](mailto:readers@centurytel.net).



## License course interest asked

Is there interest for Technician and General Class license classes? Bill Wood, KE9XQ, says, if there is interest, he would start presenting the material at the club Elmer sessions, 6 p.m. at the meeting location and night. "Mark your calendars for the first Tuesday of each month and come and help teach and learn more about your hobby," says Wood.

Like the famous Ginsu knife ad, "there's more!"

Wood promises to again present the Modern Electronics course material after club meetings. "Hopefully you can stay around for 30 minutes to stimulate those neurons of yours," he says.

## Riverland Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 621  
Onalaska, Wis. 54650



President ..... Kevin Holcomb, KC9ZGD

Vice president..... Dan Abts, AB9TS

Treasurer..... Greg Miller, KA9FOZ

Secretary..... Bob Seaquist, W9LSE

Newsletter editor.. Bob Seaquist, W9LSE

Address correspondence regarding the club to Greg Miller, [ka9foz@gmail.com](mailto:ka9foz@gmail.com). This newsletter is sent by e mail to current and past RARC members and others. If you wish to change your address or subscription, e mail [W9LSE@arrl.net](mailto:W9LSE@arrl.net)

**THE HERALD** WISCONSIN DIRECTORY

Here is the first installment of the directory which will list all the hams in Wisconsin. Each address has been checked recently by a mailing with "address correction requested." Please notify the Herald of any errors or additions. Back issues of the Herald are available at 50¢ postpaid.

**LA CROSSE COUNTY**

- Dangor..... 54614
- Holmen..... 54636
- La Crosse.....(88). 54601

- W9AE Joe Kohrer  
2730 Hagen Road
- K9APG Thomas E Wulling  
613 N 22nd Street
- W9BGR Donald F Becky  
1519 Bainside Street
- W9BI James M Kolladahl  
2042 Loomis Street
- K9BLA Chester D Christenson  
2719 Prospect Street
- W9BNQ Walter R Rubin  
1507 Avon Street
- W9BRI John G Havlik  
825 Hager Street
- K9BVM Richard E Thomas  
2320 Sison Drive
- K9CET Alan H Locks  
105 S Union
- W9CCK A C Van Elston III  
2005 Cass Street
- W9CII Barry L Cole  
106 East Goodard St
- K9CIT Frank E Grover Jr  
131 West Avenue South
- K9CUT L Bruce Ejerstedt  
535 South 22nd Street
- K9DAU Charles A Ferriss  
403 West Avenue South
- W9DMH William H Johnson  
1514 So 29
- W9DOE Ellsworth L Dismore  
2925 Lakeshore Drive
- K9DOO Harold D Olson  
4161 Ferndale Lane
- K9DKO Richard J Konrad  
1020 Main
- K9EGP Eugene C Lang  
1307 South 81th
- K9EGO Laveane F Bentzen  
611 South 20th Street
- K9EQQ William Winder  
RFD 1 Box 187
- K9EHL George H Wolff  
1515 S 30th Street
- W9ESQ Thomas A Shaw  
2844 So 21st Terr
- K9ELK Clarence R Netval  
1402 South 29th St
- W9EOA Ronald R Martinmaki  
RFD 3 Box 200
- K9ERF William R Buchner  
1214 Perry Street
- K9ETS Leroy J Weibel  
424 South 20th St
- K9ERT Frederick G Asp  
1814 South 19th
- K9EWH Carl W Buoff  
2282 Coulee Drive
- W9EZO Frank H Grover Jr  
See K9CIT
- W9FA Clifford J Killilea  
3205 Cliffside Drive
- W9FAB Brian G Hayek  
1411 Travis St
- K9FTZ William A Fike #114  
705 Norman Coulee Rd
- W9GOT Joseph B Swice  
2128 Redfield Street
- W9GHT Orlin E Hanson  
2119 Main Street
- WA9GJJ Frank H Pauver  
1108 Hainbridge St
- W9GPT Terry E Wiphus  
1620 State Street
- WA9HDI Jerome C Gokowsky  
424 N 11th St
- WA9HPD Earl J Patterson  
1632 So 29th St

- K9HFK Grace V Wilson
- K9HFL Earl T Wilson  
1304 State St
- WA9HHT Raymond G Wakeew  
1510 Avon Street
- W9HJJ Warren D Rees  
4108 Bank Drive
- W9HJJJ Tom R Atchison  
211 10th
- W9HJK Paul B Uber  
4015 Brookside Lane
- W9HJV Herman J Ludvik  
1511 So 15th Street
- W9HJV Ronald K Nelson
- K9HVL Terry A Bachmann  
705 Norman Coulee Road
- WA9HVL Burrell M DeClute  
2206 Park Drive
- WA9HZL Eugene R Tetelaff  
2818 South 23rd St
- W9HIES Robert S Rifenberg  
2218 Cass
- W9IHP Wa B White  
136 So 21st St
- K 9IMG William D Riley  
1633 Charles Street
- WA9IEH Walter W Schumacher  
1337 George Street
- WA9JCL Ronald R Rifenberg  
2218 Cass St
- W9JDE Tyson J McMahon  
3500 Farnham
- W9JLE Robert J Colleran  
RFD 1
- W9JME Ernest J Gershon  
(K9ZVU)1526 State Street
- WA9JTE Martin R Riskin  
5427 Elm Drive
- W9JTF Fred T Moore  
1824 So Loney Blvd
- W9EAE John C Young  
518 Perry Street
- K9KPE Earl W Posa  
RFD 1
- W9KTD Bruce Tohinumi  
3273 South 31st St
- K9KTG Harold J Schans  
2107 Sison Drive
- W9KUG James E Wehrenberg  
3002 So 26 St
- K9LES Dallas C Miller  
730 Harvey Street
- K9LMX Lorin J Mickley  
1402 Madison Street
- W9LNS Marvin A Haas  
2106 So 16th
- WA9LYY Paul A Van Sol  
3014 Ward Avenue
- WA9MEC Dennis J Frey  
RFD 2
- W9MIF Timothy P Hulick  
1521 Main Street
- W9MNG Ray B Snider  
203 South 23rd Street
- W9MRY Orlan D Emerson  
1217 So 10th
- WA9MWG Gerald A Roessler  
2031 So Loney Blvd
- WA9NQC Melvin H Johnson  
4135 Valley Parkway
- K9PBE Raymond E Severson  
2317 Loomis Street
- WA9QCP William J Swing  
RFD 1 Box 85
- K9QTE Don J Bechtel  
815 So Eighth St
- K9QTF Joseph H Rohrer  
2730 Hagen Road
- W9SFL Laurence A Knutson  
1702 Weston Street
- WA9SQW Joseph C Mezera  
RFD 2
- WA9SUV Scott S Davis  
RR1 Ebner Coulee Road
- W9TCV Charles A Ferriss see  
403 West Avenue S K9DAU

- WA9VER Ray P Hadgraft  
1428 Wood Street
- W9VFF Albert E Roff
- W9VFF 1609 Mississippi St
- K9VQR Archie E Sokolik III
- K9VQC Archie E Sokolik Jr  
121 Usher Street
- W9VMB Kenneth P Gribi  
1907 Loney Blvd So
- WA9ZAZ Richard G Davis  
RR1 Ebner Coulee
- K9ZOB James A Molledahl  
2042 Loomis Street
- END OF LA CROSSE LISTING
- Ministro ..... 54644
- Onalaska.....(19) 54650
- W9AXY Leslie E Janke  
355 N Shore Drive  
RFD 2 Box 282 A
- W9BJQ Thomas J O'Brien  
507 Third Avenue N
- WA9CEX Oscar Allen  
114th and Lake Road
- K9QFE William T Lee  
320 Fourth Avenue N
- K9GPF James D Hamwell  
7
- K9GFE William H Brooks  
453 Second Avenue N
- W9GSH Phillip C Reid  
610 Gilster RFD 1
- W9SEW Phillip F Uehling  
512 North Fourth Ave
- W9RFX Susan Sokolik  
RFD 2 Prairie Pk Addn
- W9RFT Stanley Sokolik  
RR2 Prairie Park Addn
- W9KIO Raymond M Lohken  
917 Green Bay St
- K9LEK James H Burcum Jr  
RFD 2
- W9LQZ Richard E Helman  
1063 Fairfield
- WA9JQB Charles E Allen  
1025 Oak Ave So
- W9RUG Herbert E Rugen  
706 Fourth Ave North
- K9OAB John E Burcum  
1025 South Oak Street
- W9FAA Russell E Sackmaster  
RFD 2
- W9TIX Robert G Kerr  
RFD 3 Box 144
- K9TYR Samuel C Sokolik  
RR Box 177N
- Rockland.....(1)....54653
- W9HTU Edward J Ikert
- West Salem...(7)....54659
- W9YALP Lloyd A Wiley  
Box 665
- W9IBQ Carl V Salbrede  
127 No Van Ness St
- W9KFX Robert L Humbel  
RFD 1
- W9RFX Warren R Bruns  
119 S Garland St
- K9PEI William D Kapanke  
116 No Youlan St
- WA9TQV Loren E Lewis  
Box 145
- K9TSS James R Carstens  
Route 1

**No sweeps clean-up**

By Bob Seaquist, W9LSE

There's no new coffee cup in the cupboard but contacts from the US Virgin Islands to the Yukon made running the ARRL Sweep stakes Nov. 21-22 a great time! A failed antenna didn't really crimp plans too much either.



The goal in running the Sweeps is to contact each of the 83 North American ARRL sections and, if you do, you earn the right to buy a coffee mug that says you made a clean sweep. It is a simple event any Ham could enter and enjoy. It also gives two shots, the CW Sweeps the first full weekend of November and the Phone Sweeps the third weekend of the month.

My goal was simply to get on the air and play; I hoped to make a clean sweep but needed to spend time on some projects around the house so I just aimed at making a bunch of QSOs. Once done with the Honoy Do List I turned on the rig and tuned up and down the 10, 15 and 20 meter bands collecting one contact after another. They came fast and furiously during searching and pouncing. Tune, hear a station, call, make the contact, log it and tune some more. 'Hardly had to call twice before being recognized and confirming the contact.



The plan was to run 10, 15 and 20 'til dark then spend the night on 40 and 75 meters, a plan that worked right up to evening. Going to 40 meant switching to the venerable G5RV, a reliable and versatile antenna. Or USUALLY a reliable and versatile antenna. It would not tune. I turned off the radio and waited until Sunday before finishing up my log.

There were many entries on the log but not every section. Far from it. Still, it was fun and I made many contacts and I certainly will try it next year.

**Course offered for Tech license**

The Winona Amateur Radio Club is offering a Tech Class course beginning Monday, Jan. 25. It will run 6-9 p.m. Classes will be in 105 Watkins Hall, Winona State University.

The course is free. Participants should have a copy of the ARRL Ham Radio Licensing Manual, 3rd Edition. Manuals will be available for purchase for \$29.95 or participants may provide their own copy. There is a \$15 testing session fee.

For registration or more information contact Len Litvan, LjLitvan@gmail.com or 507 643 7526 by Jan. 17.

## It's nice to be appreci-

Everyone likes to be noted for what they do. If a person puts themselves out, they usually aren't looking for a reward of any kind, but it is nice to get an "at a boy!" or a pat on the back for a job well done. For this reason our last event of the year is especially rewarding. The first Saturday in December each year has been designated Skywarn Appreciation Day, and is a nationwide at all participating National Weather Service offices. How this event takes place at other NWS offices is not clear but if the one on the top of Grand Dad's Bluff is any indication, they must all be special and well attended. The topographical location is about as good as one could expect, being on top of the bluff line, several hundred feet above the City of La Crosse. That alone makes it a desirable site for amateur radio activity, but that is only the beginning. Added to the great scenery and nice high elevation. The local event takes place inside of the NWS office where all Hams are invited to gather, regardless of club affiliation, home location or whether they are active in Skywarn spotting or not. As nice as the offices of the NWS are, the food, beverages and friendly hosting furnished by Todd Shea, KB9YXS, and the entire staff of the La Crosse NWS office, makes it very good indeed.

This is an especially noteworthy event, since Hams from all around the area come together there to share in the bountiful goodies, the great radio operating conditions, and the camaraderie. This being neutral ground, Hams who would not necessarily be meeting with each other, unite for this one day and share stories, compare equipment, and discuss articles they read in QST magazine, as well as operating the various bands.

Skywarn Appreciation Day is not the only instance where the efforts of the

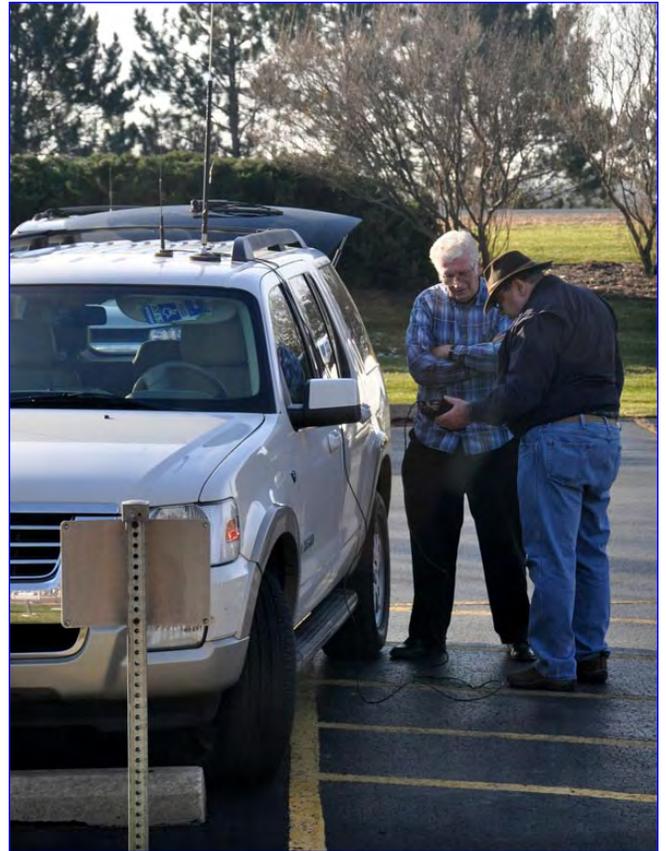
local Hams receive a note of appreciation, there is also the Rotary Club's donation to the RARC's treasury in appreciation for the efforts of those Hams who help them out annually with the set up of Rotary Lights in Riverside Park in La Crosse. The RARC is one of the oldest organizations that participate in the set up of Rotary Lights, and the longest continuously active group to help out at the set up. The donation that the RARC receives is the main fund raising source of the club, and their appreciation in the form of that check is always welcome.

There is another form of appreciation that the local Hams receive on a more personal level, it is the thanks that is expressed by those individuals who participate in one of the events that the RARC marshals. The RARC, since it is a Special Service Club as designated by the ARRL, annually offers its services to many organizations which host run walks, bikeathons, and marathons. When standing watch over the proceedings of these events, the individual Hams are quite often thanked personally by the participants as they pass by. They know full well that their safety and well being during those events is largely due to the vigilance of the event marshals.

Another form of appreciation every once in a while comes from the public at large who, by one means or another find out that the local Hams have been

storm spotting, and thus helping to keep them safe from possible disasters due to storms and floods.

But yet another form of appreciation comes from those stations that are contacted during this event, our other Special Events, Field Day, and daily as Hams practice their art. Operating the bands is definitely an art form as in spite of the science involved with the design and construction of the needed equipment, it is the finely tuned ears and well trained methods used by Hams that really make it work. This last instance of the Ham operators' art is most appreciated by the individual Hams themselves, for if they weren't "bitten by the bug" they would be Hams and there would be none to appreciate.



Bill Wood, KE9XQ, left, and Carl Thurston, KC9HDS, at the Dec. 5 Skywarn Recognition event.

*This is a "fillable" form in Adobe Acrobat. Fill in the blanks, then print and submit with your dues.*



## Riverland Amateur Radio Club Membership

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Member dues \$20  
or  
Family membership dues \$25 (covers all members of immediate family in the household)

Names and call signs (if any) of family members

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Contributions** for special projects or general operations \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Dedicated purpose \_\_\_\_\_  
(Contributions may be applied to tax deductions)

**Total dues and contributions enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Return this form and a check to the treasurer at the January club meeting or mail it to:

**RARC  
Box 621  
Onalaska,  
Wisconsin 54650**

My interests include:

Public Service  DX  Construction  Boat Anchors  QRP  Ragchew

Suggest program topics that would interest you, that you could present, or persons who possibly could make presentations.



**Dues are payable  
by Jan. 31**