



Lakeshore Repeater Association, Inc.

KR9RK.ORG / KR9RK.COM

Newsletter: November 1, 2024

120 Members strong and going on our 50th year!



From the board

Contact the board members via email at Board@KR9RK.COM

The October membership meeting was held earlier this week with about 20 attendees. The MESHTASTIC presentation from Bruce, K9WBT and Brad, K9WNG was very well done and met with enthusiastic response. Bruce has posted links to the presentation and other useful information on the HH forum.

A \$100 expenditure was also authorized to procure a better LCD projector for use at our quarterly meetings. We evaluated one at the meeting and found that it would not be suitable for our needs. We used one provided by Bernie, N9AZA but those cost in excess of \$800. So we're still looking.

The pros and cons of linking wide area Allstar nodes covering Great Britain and New Zealand were discussed. We decided to continue with those links, but to monitor the situation (number of new check-ins).

We discussed the possibility of monthly membership gatherings at a local restaurant. A poll of the members present seemed to prefer early Sunday afternoons.

Our next quarterly meeting will be held at the Mt. Pleasant YMCA on January 28.

Our new Walworth receive site for the 442.000 repeater has been providing much needed western area receive coverage. You may access this site by switching to a 114.8 PL. This is linked into our main site full time via Allstar.

Full time RF access to LRA's 442.000 wide area repeater is also available in the Burlington area and is available via the 442.850 (88.5) repeater operated and owned by **Robin, WB9COW**. He also provides Echolink access (check with Robin for details). Use this site for handheld radio access when visiting the famous Fred's Burgers in Burlington.

Dave, NP2I, will head our committee for organizing this year's Christmas party. Stay tuned for details.

LRA Special Event Station:

We have formed a committee to apply for a special event callsign and get on the air to commemorate our 50th anniversary as a club. Stay tuned for more details.



... to Support the LRA Activities

At the last membership meeting , President Dwayne announced that we have formed a bi-weekly “volunteers forum” meeting call on GoogleMeets that will consist of any and all LRA volunteers. But volunteers only. To qualify for joining this call, members must volunteer for SOMETHING... . ANYTHING AT ALL. This will not be a formal meeting, but only a very informal discussion group. If you feel left out of the “inner circle of club management”, try volunteering for something and participating in LRA’s activities.

Our October meeting was led off by a MESHTASTIC presentation by **Bruce, K9WBT**, **Brad, K9WNG**, and **Jason, K9QKL**. Presentation slots are filling up fast. **Bernie, N9AZA** will lead off the January meeting with an update presentation on SKYWARN. **Craig, KC9UQE** will make a presentation on COMMON MODE currents at our March meeting.

If you have something to share with the group, and would like to present, please contact Dwayne, Matt, or me.

Quarterly Membership Meeting



NEW HOURS! NEW LOCATION!

Our quarterly open membership meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the first month of each quarter. (January, April, July, and October). The next will be Tuesday, January 28 and it will be held at our **new YMCA location** in Mt. Pleasant.

Officer Elections:

Both President **Dwayne, N9PYA** and Treasurer **Rick, KC9UJO** were re-elected to their current positions and have begun their new 2 year terms in office.



LRA Member Activities:

Foxhunts



Foxhunt attendance has been disappointing. At the meeting, a few members suggested that the location and early Saturday times of the hunt were a problem. Matt, AF9Q, will be re-evaluating the event timing. Perhaps reduced to a quarterly event not so early in the morning rather than monthly too. Matt, AF9Q, is considering all the options available.

In the meantime, the next one is still scheduled for Saturday, November 9 at the Meadows Restaurant at 10:00 am.



Bernie, N9AZA, is our SKYWARN coordinator for the LRA. Summer is long gone now, but the possibility of severe weather still exists.

Supporting Bernie on our SKYWARN committee is Steve, N9SEB, Rick, KC9UJO, and Dwayne, N9PYA.

The SKYWARN network is designed as a "liaison net" during severe weather operations, serving as a collection point where local spotter networks (operating on their local repeaters and frequencies) can collect and relay reports and information to the NWS in Norman. The local net control stations gather information from individual spotters and relay that information to the NWS via the liaison net.

Happy Hour, LRA Style



The "UN-NET" is hatching many more "Chickens" almost every day. **A new record** was set in April when K9SO, as moderator, logged in 61 participants blasting away at the old record of 54. We're rapidly approaching the 40,000 check-in mark.

Average numbers have been increasing with daily attendance of 40-50 becoming the norm.

This unusual "Un-Net" is gathering world-wide attention and without a doubt has been one of the big reasons for our club's phenomenal success this past couple of years. Regular check-ins from across the USA and Canada are now being augmented by check-ins from Wales, Scotland, and New Zealand.

But we don't want to lose its local SE Wisconsin feel as it has been a highly successful way new hams have introduced themselves to the locals. Many new hams have recorded the Happy Hour as their very first QSO.

Going on its 4th year, this is a fun, largely unstructured but moderated "Un-Net" where the moderator writes the often crazy rules. Check in **every day** after work with your call sign and share your happy thoughts. It's strangely addictive.

This group meets daily on both the LRA 442.000 and 147.240 Allstar linked repeaters at 5:00pm sharp and lasts for about an hour. Be prepared to share your happy thoughts for the day. It is moderated regularly by a group of 11 moderators including **K9SO, K9WBT, KC9UJO, N9PYA, and KD1Z**. Lately, **Robin, WB9COW, Craig, KD9UQE, Kevin, KB9LLV, Bernie, N9AZA, Mike, K9MWG**, and even **Derrick, VE5SD** from Saskatoon have been moderating too.

Repeaters from Maine, Saskatoon, Milwaukee, Burlington, and others regularly link in to us. If you're out of radio range, log in via Allstar nodes 511680 and 511681. WB9COW/R has Echolink connections too.

The beautiful FAT SQUIRREL certificate, courtesy of **Dave, NP2I**, is awarded for 100 HH check-ins and there are 90 of them decorating hamshack walls as of today. Four more recipients this month. Millennial awards for over 1000 check-ins have been awarded to 6 participants already with two more joining the Millennial club soon.

ARES/RACES AND LRA PUBLIC SERVICE NET.



Join us every third Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm on our 2 meter repeater for an ARES/RACES net followed by public service announcements. Please visit [[ARES/RACES website](#)] for more information on how to become involved and serve the community.

Saturday Breakfast



Many of our members meet for an informal breakfast every Saturday morning at 8:00am at the Meadows Restaurant in Franksville. Everyone is welcome.



Happy Hour Email Group on Groups.IO



We have a happy hour email reflector ("the forum") on Groups.IO now. Dozens of interesting posts last month. Join in the conversation by clicking on the link below now! You won't get spammed as you can opt to receive only one summary email per day. Get an invite here: [[LRA Happy Hour Net](#)] or send me an email requesting an invite to VP@KR9RK.COM



Member Activities

Brad, K9WNG, just got another car and is converting it to his POTA-MOBILE. He took out the entire sunroof assembly and headliner to mount a Tarheel HF antenna on the back deck:



Here's a shot of his operating position. As of this writing, he's already done 10 POTA activations and reports excellent results using his ICOM IC-7100 on an adjustable arm attached to the seat mount bolt:



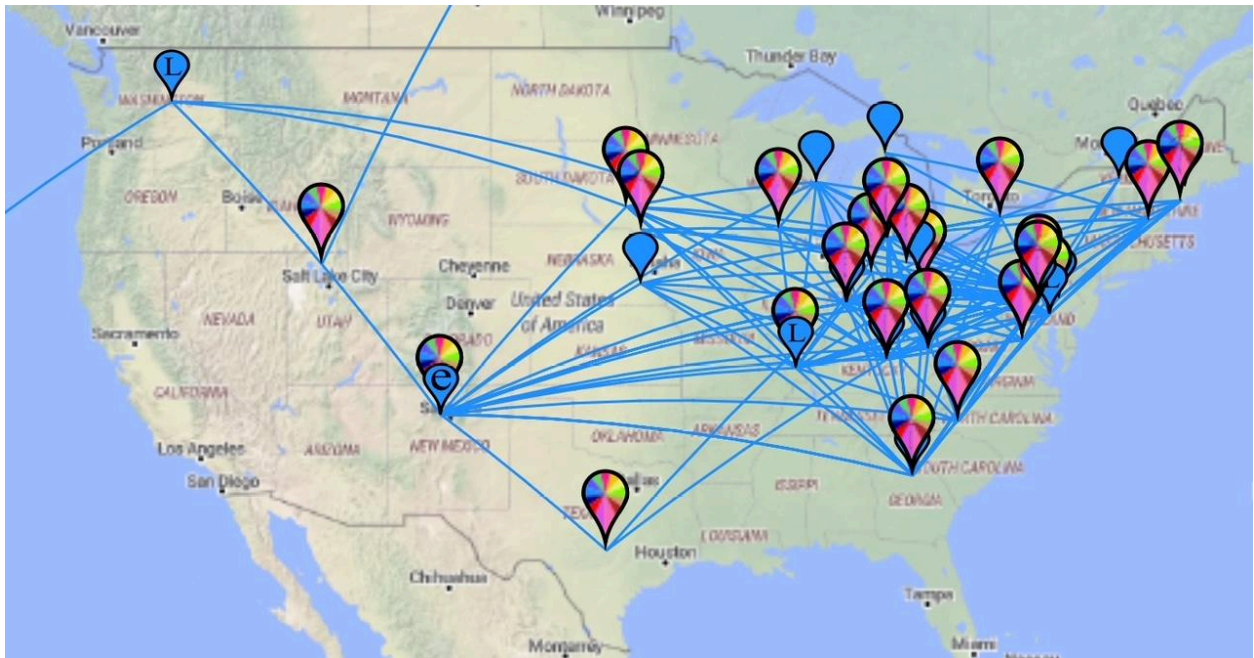
Jason, K9QKL, is taking his Ham Radio experience into what is unexplored territory for almost all of us : VLF (Very Low Frequency) in the 630 meter band. He found a used VLF transverter and installed an Information Station Specialists 630m antenna.

He's put an incredible amount of effort into his installation, laying down an incredible 2000 feet of radials (60 of them!). Here's a description of the installation he sent to me:

“Getting on the 630-meter band can be a journey, starting with the crucial step of notifying the UTC to avoid interfering with local PLC networks. Once approved, setting up a transverter is next, and I found Monitor Sensors' transverter, though challenging to acquire, its an excellent choice after nearly three years of searching. Antennas are another vital part, with limited information available for this low-frequency band. Inverted L's with custom matching units is an option, or you can opt for a home-brew solution. I went with the commercial route, purchasing an Information Station Specialists 630m antenna. This 20-foot, center-loaded vertical antenna with 2,000 feet of ground radials has a high Q factor, which suits the 472-479 kHz spectrum's narrow 7 kHz bandwidth. This band mainly supports digital modes like JT9, WSPR, and CW, with limited power at 5W ERP and a maximum of 500W PEP, highlighting the importance of efficient antenna and matching system designs for effective operation. Tuning of the antenna comes from a modified firmware NanoVNA.

This is primarily a winter and nighttime band, ideal for certain conditions. I've included a few photos to illustrate the setup: the first photo shows the center loading coil, which is 4 inches in diameter and 2.5 feet in length, crucial for the antenna's design. The second photo shows the vertical itself, a freestanding structure that requires no guy lines. The third photo displays the past 24 hours of 630-meter activity on PSK Reporter, reflecting the impressive reach of the setup across the U.S.

– K9QKL



Nathan, KC9HYY took out the special event callsign N9M to commemorate the Lake Michigan disaster of the sinking of the SS Milwaukee ferry in December of 1902

N9M

Car Ferry Sinks With 52 On Board

Find Bits Of Wreckage Off Racine Harbor Fire Loss At Film Laboratory Totals Millions

Disaster Revealed By Finding Of Pieces Of Wreckage Believed From Car Ferry Milwaukee From Which No Word Has Been Received Since It Left For Grand Haven Tuesday Afternoon

The captain of the steel hulled ferry was in charge of the vessel. He was seen to be in the vicinity of the wreck. The vessel was seen to be in the vicinity of the wreck. The vessel was seen to be in the vicinity of the wreck.

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The above is a photograph of the ill-fated Car Ferry Milwaukee. Making of several holds of wreckage of the ship as well as parts of the structure is an indication that the vessel failed to remain afloat. The vessel was seen to be in the vicinity of the wreck. The vessel was seen to be in the vicinity of the wreck.

EXTRA! Hollywood Fire Causes Great Loss
Fifty Persons Escape From Laboratory As Flames Destroy Expensive Films
All Records Broken By Stock Sales

N9M


"The SS Milwaukee originally was launched in Cleveland, Ohio in December of 1902. The Milwaukee was able to carry 30 train cars of freight and ran the Milwaukee, WI to Grand Haven, MI route from 1908-1929.

On October 22, 1929, The Milwaukee was returning to Grand Haven, MI when it encountered a northeaster gale in Lake Michigan, causing extremely high water conditions. After passing the U.S. Lightship No 95 at 3:45pm, no one saw the ship again. After not hearing from the ship for over 36 hours past its arrival time in Michigan, debris was found near Racine, WI followed by lifeboats and deceased crew members, leading to the presumption of the loss of the ship.

No one knows exactly what happened to the vessel since there were no survivors from the sinking, however it is presumed that the high seas came over the walls and filled the holds below deck, causing the ship to founder and sink. A group of diver in 1972 located the wreck of the Milwaukee, where it remains today in 125 feet of water 3 miles offshore and north of Milwaukee."

Nathan also printed out a beautiful fold-out QSL card and logged over 4000 QSOs.
Great work Nathan!

SS Milwaukee Special Event Station



N9M

ITU Zone 7
CQ Zone 4
Loc EN52ru
Walworth County

Confirming two-way QSO / SWL report

To Radio	Date			Time UTC	Band MHz	Mode 2-way	Report RST or dB
	Day	Month	Year				

QSL via KC9HY: PSE QSL TNX QSL: LoTW, eQSL, QRZ.com

Nathan Banks
PO BOX 324
Muskego, WI 53150
USA

73!

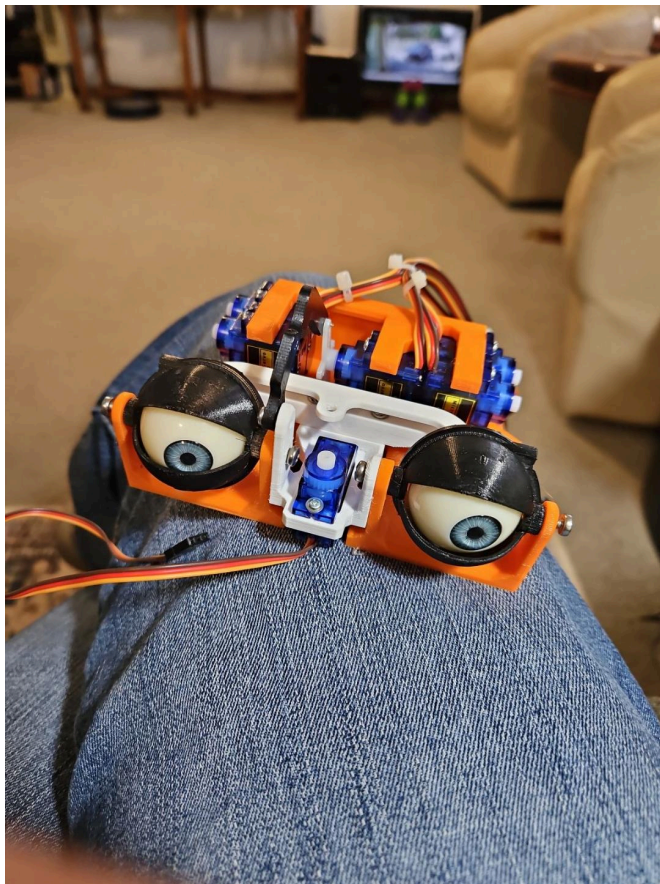
UNSLD print



My new Flex-8600 finally arrived and is installed at Q-SO Qorners now:



Jeff, KC9JOB, brings a new meaning to the term “eyeball QSO”. His mechatronic device has multiple servo motors. The eyes move realistically, the eyelids blink, all joystick controlled ... very spooky. All the parts are 3D printed and put together using his extraordinary building skills:



Fred, K9SO: I've always been challenged remoting CW paddle information over the Internet. Packet Jitter and latency issues destroy the timing of high speed paddle CW. While keyboard CW solutions exist, legacy CW operators like me miss the "reality" of paddle CW interfaces.

I've always thought that time stamping the key closures and openings then re-assembling them at the distant end in the correct format was the answer.

Now, someone (Max, N5NHJ) has done just that. He calls the system MORCONI [MORCONI](#) and I'm in the middle of getting that to work at Q-SO Qorners. I've written my own code with some modest success, but I'm trying out the MORCONI solution first. The program, written in C, runs on a powerful Teensy 4.1 micro and links into my FlexRadio system at the far end. I intend to build it into the Winkeyer USB case. Here's an implementation of the MORCONI system by G4IRN in a separate box:





Bruce, K9WBT, has been leading a local Winlink Wednesday Radio Email activity. There has been growing participation lately with a record turnout last week. Catch Bruce on the air or anyone on the daily Happy Hour Un-Net. Bruce moderates on Thursdays. What's it all about? Check out Winlink here [[Winlink](#)].

In order of appearance on K9JRM, Current Local Weather Conditions Form.

WB9COW, Current Local Weather Conditions Form.

K9SO, Winlink Connection hint, Having DC power connected to your transceiver helps considerably.

HAHAHA!! Thank you Fred

W9AFB, Winlink Check In Form on HF.

W0JT, Chris, Pierre, Hughes, SD, HF

KC9HY, DYFI Automatic Entry - Winlink EXERCISE. New one to me, Perhaps Nathan could respond to this roster and tell us more about it.

WO9B, WinLink Wednesday Net Check-In [Track Times at]: NEW BERLIN, WI.

N9UUO, John, N9UUO, Raymond, Racine Co, WI, VHF VaraFM

K9WNG, Winlink Check in Form, Vara FM

KD9SSY, ICS 213 General Message with a Space Weather Report, good work, Pierre

K9MWG, ICS 201, Incident Briefing. Nice work on sending a new one, Mike.

K7EDM, K7EDM / Marc Sacco / Preston / Franklin / ID / TelNet

WX9EMS, Winlink Check In Form, 2m Packet

KD9WAN, Winlink Check In Form.

W9ABE, Current Local Weather Conditions Form.

K9WBT (NCS)

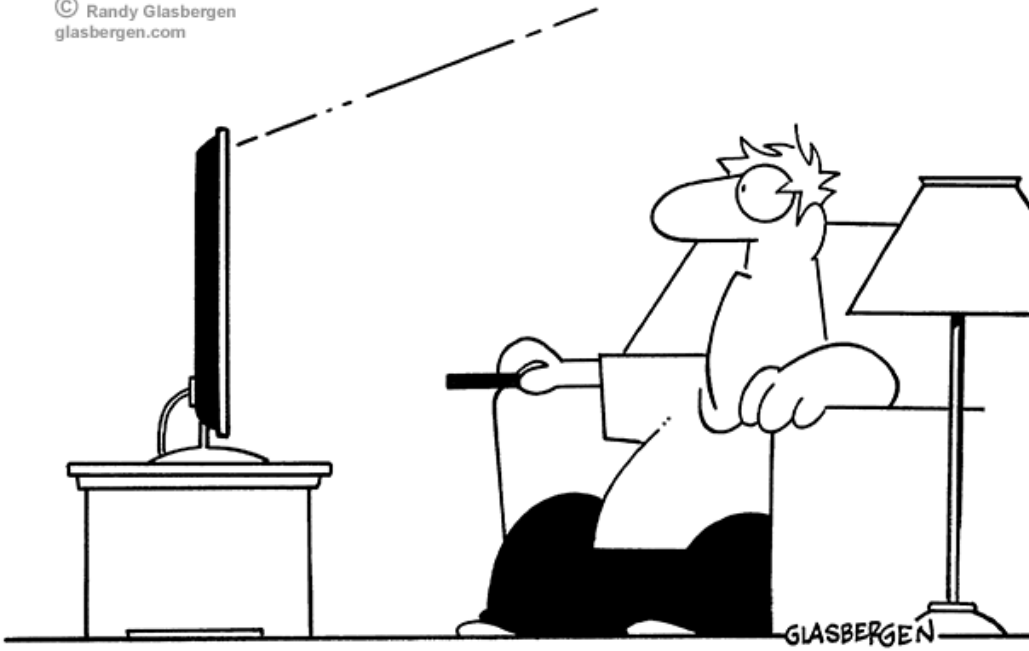
Gene, KB9ZKY, is administering the ham radio estate of Bob, KB9ZAF. Check out the equipment list on the HH forum.

Physics Comics

Classical Mechanics
Motion, Force, Energy



© Randy Glasbergen
glasbergen.com



"The world's greatest hoax was exposed today when it was revealed that algebra will *never* be useful to you later in life."



Contesting/Operating Corner



10/31/2024 | ARRL November Sweepstakes CW is Nov 2-3

The CW weekend of ARRL Sweepstakes is November 2 — 3. ARRL Sweepstakes is the "oldest domestic contest, beginning in 1930," with competition at the individual, multi-operator, and school club levels.

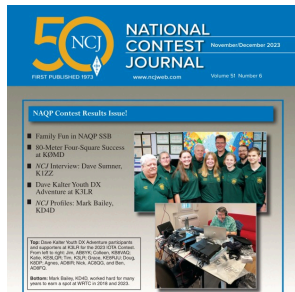
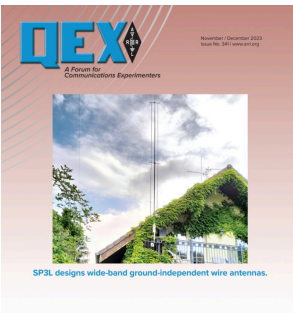
Visit the contest calendar to see what's cookin' this weekend:

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/weeklycont.php>

Several of our members participated in the CQWW SSB contest last weekend. A good place to snare some ATNOs. I used contests to up my DX country count for years. The CW version is the weekend after Thanksgiving again this year.

Join ARRL and subscribe to the Contest Update postings.

ARRL Publications (all 4 come with membership):



Join the ARRL today! [Join here now!](#)

Thanks to our growing list of newsletter contributors! Make sure you post your activities on the HH forum or send them to me at VP@KR9RK.COM. Pictures say it best! Don't forget to send me a picture of your QSL cards.

I've started a swap meet section of the newsletter in the appendix below and it works! Send me pictures and details of what treasures you may want to sell.

Next month, send me some pictures of the "Go Box" you created.

73, Fred, K9SO

VP, Lakeshore Repeater Association, Inc.

VP@kr9rk.com

APPENDIX I, upcoming events:

November 2, 2024 – ARES Conference / State Convention Location: Wisconsin Rapids, WI Sponsor: Numerous Website: <https://wi-arrrl.org/events/>

Appendix II

LRA Freefest: Presented for informational purposes only. The LRA assumes no responsibility for accuracy or suitability of purpose and makes no warranty of any kind.

In-Stock Free Shipping!



AMERITRON ALS-1306
Linear Amplifier 1200 Watts HF + 6 Meters
Solid State RF Deck - ARI-500 Built In
HRO Discount Price: \$3,998.95*

[Buy It](#)

*After Coupons & Promotions.

[Post](#) [Save](#) [Add To Wish List](#)

My pre-MFJ 1306 is for sale for \$2900 K9SO.

With the addition of my new Flex 8600, my older 6500 is no longer needed. A super radio. I have it for sale for only \$1600:



Gene, KB9ZAF, is administering the ham radio estate of Bob, KB9ZAF. Check out the equipment list on the HH forum. Almost everything has been sold, but he has a number of lengths of coax (RG-213 and LMR600) still available.