



W-C ARES

Waupaca-County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

MEETING MINUTES

WHEN DISASTER CALLS - AMATEUR RADIO ANSWERS



Meeting Attendees:

Chuck Fritz (AC9F); Leighton Trice (W9KL); David Chroninger (WB9GBG); Rick Hutchison (KD9QQR); Greg Duescher (KD9OAZ); Cody Lind (KD9QXL); David Wedde (KD9VOF); Joseph Walesewicz (KD9USW); Al Mallek (K9WVM); Dean Sommerfeld (KD9VLH); Bob Martin (KA9EOK); Bill Lund (KD9TNY); Brian Becker (KD9VVO); George Lampere (AB9CQ); Durand Larsen (KD9WWT); Jeff Lane (KD9SIM); Steve Leitzke (KD9WYC); Carl Young (KD9RMZ); and Carol Young (KD9WRY).

I. Meeting began at 6 pm Chuck Fritz called the meeting to order.

II. OLD Business:

- a. Chuck asked Dave how the updating of the Yaesu FT 8800 radios in the trailer, at King, in the EOC, and the hospital was coming. Dave mentioned he is still working on three locations but the EOC radio is updated.
- b. Waupaca Triathlon Information was provided by Dave (WB9GBG) about the upcoming Waupaca Triathlon on August 19th, 2023. Dave will send information to all who signed up so far as to location of each station operator. Around 6 am operators will meet and begin going to their station locations. The event usually is done around 10 am or so.
- c. Leighton Trice provided information about the status of the EOC HF antenna.
- d. Theda Care Waupaca Hospital Radio—Chuck showed pictures of where members enter the Theda Care Waupaca hospital for emergency activation of the hospital radio. In the pictures, he showed how to go into entrance #2, see the person at the emergency desk window and show your badge, go down the hospital hallway between 901 and 902 until you see the No Exit door, and then the room is there with the Yaesu FT 8800 radio.

III. NEW Business:

- a. ROT (trailer) ideas were discussed about removing two power supplies and using a 50 am Astron that Chuck picked up for free. Other trailer improvement ideas were putting one rig runner in the center of the counter, coming up with a mount to run antenna lines more efficiently, and finding improvements for reducing interference between radios (such as making band pass filters). Carol and Carl Young donated at the meeting an ICom 718 radio with microphone and case to the Waupaca County ARES/RACES. Chuck mentioned it needs an automatic tuner. The group voted on purchasing a tuner for the radio. K9WVM made the motion and KA9EOK seconded the motion to purchase an automatic tuner that is made for the ICom 718.
- b. Tech Night Nets—Carl Young mentioned he has held two Wednesday night Tech Night Nets and most of the discussion has been with the interest in antenna builds. Other ideas have been making band pass filters. The Tech Net is for anyone with or without amateur radio technical questions to attend. The consensus of the attendees on the Tech Net so far has been to keep doing them every Wednesday night at 7 pm.
- c. The Treasurer's report was provided during the meeting.



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New Business continued:

- d. Next Build Project was discussed and a date/time was set. The next build idea is a "Double Bazooka Antenna for 10 Meters" , and **the next build will start at 6 pm on Thursday, July 27th, 2023, at Sabertooth Enterprises** located at 1439 Churchill St Suite 201, Waupaca, WI 54981. Anyone is welcome to attend and participate. Joe (KD9USW) owns Sabertooth Enterprises and has offered for the group to use the classrooms at his business for build projects.
- e. Carol Young (KD9WRY) provided information about this year's Field Day in Weyauwega. Waupaca County's Field Day report and documentation was submitted successfully to the ARRL Field Day online URL site on July 9th, 2023. Carol also submitted an article and photos to the ARRL Soapbox URL for possible chance to be submitted in QST magazine. Greg (KD9OAZ) submitted the ADIF format of this year's Field Day contacts and operators to QRZ for W9WAP. Bill Lund (KD9TNY) was asked to be next year's GOTA station operator and agreed. Cody Lind was asked to be next year's Field Day Assistant Coordinator and agreed. Carol asked all meeting attendees to email her anything they liked about this year's Field Day and any improvements they want to see for future Field Days so she can complete an After Action Report/Improvement Plan for providing at a future meeting. Field Day Door Prizes for participation were drawn at tonight's meeting. Bob (KA9EOK) won the Anderson Power Pole prize, Cody (KD9QXL) won the soldering station, and Chuck (AC9F) won the LaCrosse Weather Station.
- f. Manawa Rodeo Day Parade was discussed and Carol mentioned that Waupaca County ARES was presented as entrant #90 of 112 total entrants. The crowd was huge. Throughout the parade, Carol broadcast on a speaker how amateur radio provides communications when needed and Cody's family walked through the parade distributing "what is amateur radio" literature and candy. It would be nice next year to participate in the parade again and have the communications trailer in the parade.
- g. MEET the FLEET — Cody Lind (KD9QXL) and David Wedde (KD9VOF) will be coordinating this year's Meet the Fleet event being held on Tuesday, July 18th at the Manawa Rodeo Grounds by the Waupaca County Sheriff's Department. Cody provided their plan for the event and the Waupaca County ARES/RACES trailer will be located up near the food area with electricity provided. If interested in participating, please contact Cody or David.
- h. "National Night Out" in New London— Carol mentioned that NL Police welcomes the Waupaca County ARES to participate in their National Night Out event this year on Tuesday, August 1st, 2023 from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. The purpose of the event is to build relationships with the community and to support police, fire, and community partners in promoting safer communities and crime prevention. W-C ARES purpose at this event is to build relationships with New London police, fire, and community partners.
- i. Fox Hunts were discussed and Dave and Leighton discussed previous Fox Hunts done in the past. This item was tabled to discuss more at a future meeting.
- j. Who can pull the trailer was a topic discussed. Topics regarding insurance and the trailer were discussed. More information will be researched and discussed another time.



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- k. Carol (KD9WRY) read Jarrod's (Hartman Creek State Park Superintendent) email message to Chuck about POTA (Parks on the Air) rules. Hartman Creek State Park needs amateur radio operators to alert the park in advance that they plan to activate, the location they want to activate inside the park, and make sure they abide by the park rules of not driving on grass areas, do not attach any equipment into the ground, trees, etc. By doing these recommendations, Jarrod can then inform all the Hartman Creek State Park rangers/staff/and public in the park what the Amateur Radio Operators are doing. Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club has also been provided with the rules from Hartman State Park and has someone checking into these new rules that other WI State Parks do not require or enforce.
- l. The following upcoming events were read off:
 - i. Meet the Fleet at Manawa Rodeo Grounds on July 18th
 - ii. FCARC Exam Testing will be held at Maplewood Middle School in Menasha on July 22nd
 - iii. National Night Out at New London Police Department on August 1st
 - iv. Waupaca Kiddie Triathlon on August 18th
 - v. Waupaca Triathlon on August 19th
 - vi. Circus City Swapfest at Baraboo on August 26th
 - vii. WIPOTA on September 16th
 - viii. HRO Swapfest in Milwaukee on September 22nd and September 23rd
 - ix. SET/Taste of Norway in Iola on October 7th
 - x. WI ARES/RACES Convention from 9 am to 4 pm in Wisconsin Rapids on November 4th
 - xi. FCARC Swapfest at Neenah Labor Temple in Neenah on November 5th
- m. Leighton presented a program on "Why Traffic Handling is Important" and the group practiced taking NTS messages in ICS format at tonight's meeting.
- n. A meeting door prize was drawn for a 2 meter half-wave j-pole portable antenna and KA9EOK won the door prize. Bob gave the prize to Jeff, KD9SIM. Congratulations.
- o. Chuck asked that everyone keep Roger Steinbach in their prayers as his father recently passed away.

VIII. Chuck adjourned the meeting around 8:30 pm