



W-C ARES

Waupaca-County Amateur Radio Emergency Service
MEETING MINUTES

WHEN DISASTER CALLS - AMATEUR RADIO ANSWERS



Meeting Attendees: (21 attendees)

Dave Chroninger (WB9BGB); Cody Lind (KD9QXL); Al Caldiero (KD9YBU); Al Mallek (K9WVM); Steve Leitzke (KD9WYC); Brian Becker (KD9VVO); Bob Martin (KA9EOK); Carl Young (KD9RMZ); Carol Young (KD9WRY); Chuck Fritz (AC9F); Rick Hutchison (KD9QQR); Dean Sommerfeld (KD9VLH); Joe Walesewicz (KD9USW); Durand Larsen (KD9WWT); Dan Bekeris (AC9JA); Greg Duescher (KD9OAZ); John Hewitt (N9JFK); Bill Lund (KD9TNY); George Lampere (AB9CQ); David Wedde (KD9VOF) and Sean Wedde (guest). NWTC Student Photographer, Shelly Young.

- I. Meeting began at 6:00 pm Chuck Fritz called the meeting to order.
- II. Members introduced themselves to the group and visitors were welcomed. Waupaca County ARES/RACES members gathered for a group photograph to be taken. Picture will be posted on website and Facebook soon.
- III. Chuck reminded everyone present that the proper meeting etiquette needs to allow one person at a time talking and multiple conversations at one time are not good etiquette.
- IV. OLD Business:
 - a. Chuck asked Dave if he will have the updating of the Yaesu FT 8800 radios at King and the hospital completed prior to October 7th. He stated the radios have to be updated before Oct. 7th's SET. Chuck also mentioned to keep Tom Jensen at King in our thoughts as he has been experiencing medical issues.
 - b. Waupaca Triathlon Information was provided by Dave (WB9BGB) about the Waupaca Triathlon on August 19th, 2023. Discussion was made about how the triathlon went and the confusion with the 5K bikers in the race and stopping the racer without a helmet. Dave mentioned that the Waupaca County ARES/RACES might receive about \$850 for 94 hours of service that the group provided to the triathlon bike race.
 - c. Carl Young provided a nice report on how the Wednesday Night Tech Net is going. Each Wednesday night about 5-8 people check in on the repeater for the net. Topics that have been brought up on this net so far include: NVIS, scanner antennas, cubicle quad antennas, fan dipoles, RF and electrical grounding, lightning arrestors, and VHF WinLink. Carl shared some upcoming activities and ideas he would like to add to the net. Members at the meeting expressed they appreciate the Tech Net and would like to see it continue. A new start time of 7:30 pm would accommodate the check ins better. Information about the check in time will be posted on the website and Facebook page of the Waupaca County ARES/RACES to keep people informed since some check ins are from other areas/counties.
 - d. Antenna Builds were discussed. Carol Young said the next antenna build will be one that Cody Lind recommended: 'A Linked Dipole'. Cody explained how the antenna is built and designed to work. A tentative plan for the next build date and time was discussed as Saturday, October 14th at 6 pm at Sabertooth Enterprises in Waupaca (corner of Appletree Lane and Churchill Street). More information will be posted on the Facebook page and sent out in an email when the date/time is confirmed. At the 'Linked Dipole' build, the group will schedule another build date/time for a copper j-pole antenna idea by David Wedde .



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Old Business continued:

- e. Wautoma Repeater Update: George Lampere provided information as to how the Wautoma Repeater is operational but has poor connection currently due to some antenna changes and moves that occurred due to a new tower being installed. While establishing the repeater setup, he had to present to a committee what expenses, liabilities, and other challenges would be faced with having a repeater on the Wautoma water tower. At this time a new commercial antenna is being purchased and Ben Jenke from Iola will be helping George with getting the antenna up and tuned. For further details, contact George Lampere.
- f. S E T—Simulated Emergency Testing — Chuck mentioned this is the group's big event coming up. The emphasis this year is "Hospital to Hospital". The Waupaca County Communications Trailer will be set up at the Taste of Norway in Iola on Saturday, October 7th, 2023, for this event that runs from 9 am to Noon. Members will be stationed on the King radio, ThedaCare Waupaca Regional Hospital radio, and in Iola at our communications trailer. Setup of the trailer will be on Friday, October 6th. David Wedded volunteered to pull the trailer to Iola on the 6th. Carol Young said they will help with setup on October 6th. David Wedde (KD9VOF) and Carl Young (KD9RMZ) will be stationed at King, Dave Chroninger (WB9GBG) and Carol Young (KD9WRY) will be stationed at the Waupaca Hospital, Bob Martin will be operating remotely from his location, Chuck Fritz (AC9F), Greg Duescher (KD9OAZ), Bill Lund (KD9TNY), Rick Hutchison (KD9QQR), and Dan Bekeris (AC9JA) will be at the communications trailer in Iola, on October 7th. An ICS 205 form and more information will be sent out in advance of the event. Carol and Carl Young will get more details from Stan on some antenna questions brought up.
- g. Bear Creek Kraut Run Report was provided by Chuck Fritz (AC9F). Carol presented slides showing pictures of the event/group, the Outagamie County ARES trailer and connection panels. Chuck mentioned that the way the connection panels are in that trailer is how he would like to make some changes to the Waupaca County ARES trailer. He also thought it would be nice to have a portable repeater like the Outagamie County ARES has.
- h. Upcoming Events were discussed as follows:
 - ◇ Saturday, September 16th—Wisconsin Parks on the Air (WIPOTA) find more info online
 - ◇ Saturday, September 22 and 23—HRO Superfest in MKE
 - ◇ September 24th—Belvidere Swapfest in Belvidere, IL (Chuck, Al, and Scott are attending)
 - ◇ October 7th—SET/Taste of Norway
 - ◇ November 4th—WI ARES/RACES Convention 9 am to 4 pm—WI Rapids (Good way to meet others)
 - ◇ November 5th—FCARC Swapfest—Lucky Dogz Neenah Labor Temple—Green Bay Rd, Neenah
 - ◇ AuxComm - Winnebago County Sheriff's Office—October 21 & 22 (George, Carl, and Carol will attend)
 - ◇ Other Comments: Bob Martin (KA9EOK) offered to donate Motorola radios with duplexers for construction of a 440 Portable Repeater. The group would need antenna, feedline, and controllers to construct a 440 Portable Repeater.



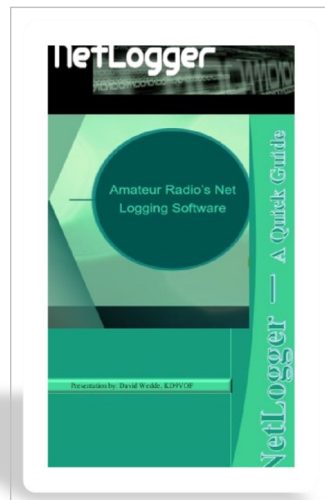
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- i. Program—Net Logger by David Wedde (KD9VOF). David Wedde presented a program about Net Logger net logging software and the benefits it can provide to NCS and groups for nets. His presentation can be found at <https://www.waupacacountyareswi.org/presentations> or on Waupaca County ARES/RACES YouTube channel. David mentioned during his presentation that NetLogger will be used this coming Sunday on the Waupaca County ARES/RACES Sunday Night Net at 8 pm for anyone wanting to download and try it out. David also provided a handout to all members present and has more copies if anyone would like a copy. Thank you David for a nice presentation.



- i. The meeting door prize was drawn and Rick Hutchison won a ticket for a chance to win a Yaesu 710 that the FCARC is selling tickets for. Good Luck Rick at winning. The FCARC will be drawing for the Yaesu 710 radio once all 100 tickets have been sold.
- k. EC, Chuck Fritz adjourned the Waupaca County ARES/RACES meeting around 8:45 pm on Thursday, Sept. 14, 2023.