

# OSCAR Newsletter April 2014

## OSCAR Meeting

The next OSCAR meeting is the 12<sup>th</sup> of April @ 9:00 AM, the second Saturday of the month. The meeting is being held in the back room at "The Kitchen" downtown on Cedar Ave. by the light on Rose St. & Cedar Ave.

## March 2014 OSCAR Meeting Notes

Mar 8, 2014 OSCAR Meeting

Officers: KD0NUV Randy, N0MDC Mike, N0RPI Dennis

KD0RGH Lowell, WA0FMG Bill, N0GZK Jeff, WB0PKG Dale, N0RPJ Dennis, KD0TLI Dan, KD0GVR Gregg, N0UW Tom, AC0DA Dan, K0BDD Brian, KA0PQW Matt, K0AJB Kevin, KD0GNF Glen, .

Feb minutes approved

Repeater update:

N0UW Tom - working good no planned updates till April

Echo-Link problem AC0DA and others. AE0BR Bill was to be contacted by KD0NUV. Randy spoke with Bill after a Sunday night net about a problem with some cell providers not being able to connect to the Node. Bill was going to reboot the controller and verify settings. Randy will follow up with Bill again about continued issues.

Events:

N0UW Tom

W1AW/0 June 11 – 17 You can be W1AW/0 see OSCAR website

Field Day:

N0MDC Mike Coordinator

KD0TLI Assistant Coordinator

- KD0NUV did check with School District about possible places to use.
- N0MDC contacted airfield to see if it was available. Airfield wants \$250 to rent space. We respectfully declined, with the promising outlook of several locations around the city and school district sites.
- Members are still asked to scout city parks and email or call N0MDC with possible sites so can check with Parks Dept.

Motion to adjourn

## Items of interest

### 1. RACES/ARES Update

- a. RACES and ARES are both Amateur Radio organizations that formally support the communities we live in. The RACES organization is part of Steele County Emergency Management and serves at the direction of the Steele County Emergency Management Director. ARES is organized by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) and supports community groups outside of the Emergency Management domain.
- b. Steele County operates a combined RACES/ARES organization in conjunction with OSCAR. This format allows the local Amateur Radio community to respond to a wide array of situations

with the least amount of confusion. Tom N0UW serves as the RACES Radio Officer and ARES Emergency Coordinator for Steele County.

- c. Tom N0UW is updating the list of individuals who will answer the call for assistance. Anyone who wants to be included in RACES/ARES notifications should contact Tom N0UW through the OSCAR email address.
- d. New RACES credentials are being issued. Previously issued Steele County badges with CERT, SKYWARN, RACES, ARES, OSCAR, or combined designations are no longer valid. Tom will take new pictures along with your current information to obtain a new RACES badge. Information and pictures can be updated at any OSCAR or SKYWARN meeting.

## SKYWARN Meeting

**!!! Yearly SKYWARN Spotter Training Tuesday, March 11, 2014!!!**

Class was a packed room and was a big hit!

The next SKYWARN meeting is April 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM, the third Tuesday of the month. Meetings are held in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor meeting room at the Owatonna Fire hall

### ALARC (Albert Lea Amateur Radio Club) - VE Test Session

Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm at the Glenville Fire Hall in Glenville, MN

Walk-ins welcome...

### FARC (Faribault Amateur Radio Club) - VE Test Session

Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at Geek Central downtown Faribault, MN

Walk-ins welcome...

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|--------|---------------|--|--|
| 12-Apr | OSCAR Meeting | Owatonna Steele County ARC<br>Owatonna, MN           | <a href="http://www.oscarmn.org">www.oscarmn.org</a><br><a href="mailto:oscarmn@q.com">oscarmn@q.com</a> |
| 18-Apr | Event         | World Amateur Radio Day                              | <a href="http://www.iaru.org">www.iaru.org</a>   |
| 19-Apr | Meeting       | MN Repeater Council<br>Litchfield, MN                | <a href="http://www.mrc.gen.mn.us">http://www.mrc.gen.mn.us</a>  |
| 19-Apr | Hamfest       | Des Moines RAA<br>Des Moines, IA                     | <a href="http://www.dmraa.com/hamfest">www.dmraa.com/hamfest</a>   |
| 19-Apr | VE Exam       | Faribault, MN  | <a href="mailto:kc0ouz@arert.com">kc0ouz@arert.com</a>   |
| 19-Apr | Hamfest       | Brainerd ARC<br>Brainerd, MN                         | <a href="http://brainerdham.org">http://brainerdham.org</a>  |
| 21-Apr | VE Exam       | Glenville, MN  | <a href="mailto:jrbaseman@gmail.com">jrbaseman@gmail.com</a>   |
| 26-Apr | Hamfest       | Northern Lights Radio Society<br>White Bear Lake, MN | <a href="http://www.nlrs.org">http://www.nlrs.org</a>  |