

OSCAR Newsletter May 2015

The next OSCAR meeting is **Saturday June 13th at 9:00am**, the second Saturday of the month. The meeting is held in the back room of "The Kitchen" restaurant in downtown Owatonna, located at 329 Cedar Ave N.

May 9, 2015 Meeting Notes:

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 am by President Randy KDONUV.

Attendees:

Barry	KDOYRE
Bill	WAOFMG
Brian	KOBDD
Charles	KCOLXB
Dan	ACODA
Dave	KCOUVY
Gregg	KDOGVR
Jeff	NOGZK
Kris	KCOREO
Kurt	KDOSEE
Larry	KROK
Leonard	KEOBPF
Lowell	KDORGH
Mike	NOMDC
Randy	KDONUV
Sandee	KDOKSA
Terry	KEODMZ
Tom	N0UW
Tony	NOTAD

There was a motion made by NOMDC and seconded by KDOGVR to approve the April 2015 Newsletter as minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was read by NOMDC. Motion made to approve by ACODA and seconded by KOBDD. Motion carried.

Repeater: No formal repeater report.

Skywarn: No formal report.

CERT: Annual meeting was held at the Fire Hall. THE CAKE WAS EXCELLENT!! Also noted that the Mankato and Waseca areas are working on plans to get involved with programs in there areas.

Check the website for events/details/changes. www.oscarmn.org

Field Day 2015:

- Location be the SE lawn of Willow Creek School in Owatonna. Same as last year. 1050 22nd St NE
- **June 27 & 28** Noon to noon
- The EOC trailer will be on site unless an actual emergency would prevent it
- KOBDD has graciously volunteered to be the resident chef – approval by all!!!
- Porta Potty will be on site. In case of a severe weather emergency, the school will be available for shelter
- Discussion about an opportunity for a special call sign that is available. Decision to keep N0UW as call sign

- Publicity is important. Flyers and posters will be available to hand out & post
- Try to get the word out to all hams. While we want to make as many contacts as we can, this is about FUN too
- Wireless PC network will be set up for logging in contacts.
- GOTA "Get On The Air" station will be a goal to get set up
- There will be a free will offering to help pay for food, water, gas, etc. to offset the cost of Field Day.
- **Remember this is public school property: No tobacco, No alcohol, No firearms. Thanks.**
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KROK reported the Faribault DSTAR is operational. UHF. 100 watts. Check the Faribault website for details.

Discussion about Field Day T-shirts. KDOSEE and KDOKSA will work on design and price with Court Sports who have the other OSCAR hat and clothing specifics.

KDOGVR has info on the low power station available for purchase. Contact him for details.

NOUW had information on equipment for sale. Listed below, BUT AS ALWAYS YOU CAN CHECK THE WEBSITE OFTEN FOR UPDATES, ITEMS WANTED OR FOR SALE, ETC.

Motion made to adjourn by KROK and seconded by KC0LXB. Meeting was adjourned at 9:57am.

A go around introduction and rag chewing followed adjournment.

Respectfully submitted, WA0FMG

ICS Classes

There's going to be a comprehensive ICS training class in Mankato on [June 20](#), covering ICS 100,200,700 and 800. They are looking for more students. These are the classes we require for ARES leadership, and highly recommend for others, as does the Red Cross and other agencies. This is a great opportunity to get live instruction on these important topics.

Butternut Antenna

I have an HF antenna that was originally owned by Gerry Boos (K0HVS) in Owatonna in the mid to late 90's up until 2001 when he passed away. It has been hanging in my garage (in Kasson) ever since. I would like it out of my garage and I know he would be happy to see it in use again. I believe it is this same antenna

<http://www.dxengineering.com/parts/but-hf5b>.

I do see one broken insulator on it, but otherwise it should be in working order. No offer will be refused :-)) I could help with delivery to the Owatonna area as well.

de Randy NØFDH (randy.rysvay@gmail.com)

Good Links to Antenna Stuff

<http://www.w2blc.net/linkant.htm>

de Junior NXØP

Mouser Factory Tour

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=G3V5Oi9fdr4

de Dave WBØVAK

1965 Flood Slide Show

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o28q8DfMJYE>

6:55 minutes – Amateur Radio Photo

Does anyone recognize any of the hams?

de Dave WBØVAK

"no-tuner-required" HF and VHF antennas

The author is William "Bill" S. Mitchell (AE0EE), whom I met last night at the [Bloomington Amateur Radio Assoc.](#) monthly meeting. -->> http://75.72.250.120/~bill/20141202_bara_presentation.pdf

de Terry KEØDMZ

Mesh Networks

During the Bloomington ARA meeting, club president, Matt Holden (KØBBC), played this March, 2015, AREDN.org (Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network) video presentation by Andre Hansen (K6AH) on "mesh networks"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=fkl5Nbnz24Y

It may interest ARES and RACES practitioners (*c.f.* with this guy's YouTube video screed: "Emcomm / ARES is a waste").

Evidently, not only is the AREDN TCP/IP software free, but it integrates seamlessly with any web browsers and email/messaging clients. It's actually flashable firmware for the antenna, which connects to the computer like an outboard WIFI antenna. Also, the antennas purportedly have reasonably powerful gain (i.e., for their class and application) (especially the "Ubiquiti" brand hardware). They're also cheap; ~\$100.00.

See also, *Wireless Networking in the Developing World*. It's a free book about designing, implementing, and maintaining low-cost wireless networks.

de Terry KEØDMZ

Encryption

There was a discussion that there is commercially-available, microwave-band, FCC-Part-15 equipment for transmitting encrypted EmComm of HIPAA-sensitive information through these AREDN mesh nodes (which connect to the internet). Apparently, Part 97 frowns on using cipher encryption keys that are not publicly known.

[CryptoData](#) is an easy-to-use, easy-to-install, rock-solid data encryption add-on for Mozilla-based clients (Firefox, Thunderbird and Seamonkey). See the [screen shots](#) and [examples](#). Only install it through your Mozilla-based "Add on's Manager". If anyone's interested, email me for more detailed instructions.

de Terry KEØDMZ