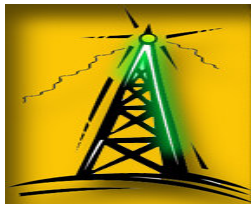




February Newsletter

Volume 08, Issue 2

February 1, 2008



WOSV

*St. Cloud Amateur Radio Club
Celebrating 90 years on the airwaves*

Message from the Prez—The Prez Sez ...

QSL!

Q-signals go all the way back to the days of spark gap transmitters, when CW was the only mode. These three letter codes speeded communication as well as helping hams avoid any language barrier. A list in my shack has 63 Q-signals and another 26 just for nets. These days only a few Q-signals are heard on the bands. The most common is QSL.

QSL means "I confirm" and QSL?: "Do you confirm?" It's even used on SSB.

And QSL cards, sometimes called "The Final Courtesy," are the most

common, and looked forward to, reminders. Whether you collect cards for award (Worked All States, DXCC, etc.) or just for fun and bragging rights every ham I know likes to receive QSL cards. But the catch is "If you want a card you have to send a card."

A hams first cards are generally generic, and that's OK. No one has any idea of what kind of ham they'll be so they don't know what kind of card will represent them best - or do the best job for them. Mine were so plain I had to write my call and address on myself. Later

came a big state of Minnesota and callsign, not a custom design, but I didn't have to fill in my own info. The custom design came when I thought it would help get a reply from some DX stations. They get thousands of cards and if mine stands out just a little the chances of getting a card in return improve.

Lots of members have upgraded lately and will be looking for cards of their own. I'd like every member to bring in one of their old or current cards to put on display. Almost every one will have a "Printed by" on the edge giving an idea of which printer does what work. Include a note about what working with the printer was like: Good, Bad or Ugly.

I'll be looking forward to see you and your card at the next meeting.
73,
Scott - NOUV

Dates to Remember:

February:

Pre-Hamfest Mtg	14th
Hamfest	16th
Feb General Mtg	21st
March General Mtg	20th
April Board Mtg	10th
April General Mtg	17th
May General Mtg w/Auction	15th
June General Mtg	19th
Field Day	28th & 29th
July Board Mtg	10th
July General Mtg	17th
August Picnic	9th
August General	21st
Sept General Mtg	18th
Oct Board Mtg	9th
Oct General Mtg	16th
Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)	19th
Nov Annual Mtg w/Auction	21st
Dec General Mtg	18th

Announcements:

- Join the Clubs' New Email Reflector
See Page 3
- Email Address List
See Page 4
- KBOHNN's Weather Station
See Page 6

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QRM - Are you being interfered with?

QRZ - Who is calling me?

QRT - Shall I stop sending?

QSO - Can you communicate with ... direct or by relay?

QSY - Shall I change to transmission on another frequency?

QTH - What is your position in latitude and longitude (or according to any other indication)?  
~~~~~

January General Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order on January 17th at 7:00 p.m. Introductions were made.

The December meeting minutes were accepted as printed in the January newsletter.

The Treasurer's report was as follows:

Checking	3,516.68
Savings	1,322.69
Rest. Savings	612.43
CD	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total Balance of	\$6,451.80

Treasurer's Report was accepted.

There was discussion in regard to the February 16th hamfest. Talk-in station help was discussed—Dave,

WODZW should be able to assist Lenny, KCONZF so that no one person has to man the talk-in

station all day. Bake Sale items are requested in small quantities. Vendor tables can be reserved for \$10, SCARC members \$5. Tables will be held until 9:00 start time and 10:00 for the reserved tables. It

Pre-hamfest meeting Feb. 14th at clubhouse 7:00 p.m.

was suggested that the hamfest be advertised in the newspaper under community events and on KNSI broadcast radio.

A discussion on electronic waste: Where can this be disposed of?

The clubhouse is storing some items which may need to be disposed of in the future. Some people had some ideas of places to dispose of these items. Discussion also included the possibility of having an E-waste truck at the Annual Picnic on August 9th.

The packet station at the clubhouse is operational again, it is on 145.670, STCBBS to acquire the station.

Jack, WOMBD and Bryant, KCOZNG are currently instructing 3 students in preparation for amateur license testing at the VE test session held during the Hamfest.

The 147.015 repeater will have a temporary announcement added about the Feb 16th hamfest.

A "Volunteer Opportunities" section will be added to the newsletter and website

to relay information about upcoming dates.

Volunteers and a few Bake Sale items are needed for the Hamfest on February 16th!

A Skywarn drill will take place on Feb 13th at 6:00 p.m. using all simplex (146.52 MHz) to simulate

Stearns County having an ice storm where all AC power is out and therefore no repeaters are operational. All are welcome to participate in this practice event to learn how to handle traffic in a formal net situation.

An ARRL announcement was shared that on January 19th and 20th hams were encouraged to listen on 40 meters for echo off the moon between transmitted beeps.

The trustee voting resulted in Lenny, KCONZF being re-elected for another 3 year term.

Mike, KCOUEA won the World Radio Subscription and the \$5 prize would have gone to Jay Keltenberg, KCONXY if he had been present.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00.

Respectfully submitted by Mike Parker, KCOUEA.

January Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order on January 10th at 7:02 p.m.

The October Board meeting minutes were accepted as printed in the November newsletter.

The Treasurer's report was as follows:

Checking	3,941.65
Savings	1,322.02
Rest. Savings	612.43
CD	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total Balance of	\$6,876.10

Treasurer's Report was accepted.

The Trustee election rotation was clarified, Larry, KCOSMM's seat will come due for re-election in November, 2008.

Dates to remember for 2008 were reviewed and it was decided that we should include a "Volunteer Opportunities" section in the newsletter and on the website.

The August Annual Picnic will be held at the Sauk Rapids Municipal park, the park has been reserved.

The hamfest on February 16th will have VE testing from 10 to 12, we will have bake sale goods and cash prizes again this year.

A new club storage shed is estimated to cost \$1,000.00 for materials. A decision will need to be made on building versus purchasing an already built shed.

For the clubhouse tower construction a variance with the city will need to be applied for.

.....(Continued on Page 4)

Joining the Club's E-mail Reflector—Easy as sending an E-mail

Understanding that meetings are only once a month and may not fit into all member's schedules, the e-mail reflector is a way to communicate to help each other out with answers to questions, information about upcoming activities and a great way to spread a message to those who are not always able to be on the air as often as we would like to.

The new e-mail reflector is hosted on Yahoo Groups, this will allow for the e-mail reflector to stay with



Stay in touch with the Club

Join the E-mail Reflector
Today!

the club and not be affected by individual members commitments changing. Being on Yahoo groups there can be multiple club members managing the reflector. The SCARCMN Yahoo Group is not

public, Brad, KBOHNN and Mike, KCOUEA are the moderators of the group, managing the reflector and approving only those who request to join who are part of the ham community.

To join the email reflector:

1. From your email account that you would like to send and receive Radio club emails at, send an email to: scarcmn-subscribe@yahoogroups.com In the body of the email include your name and ham call sign.
2. Then check your email for a new email, almost immediately there will be an email which will tell you to reply to that email to confirm your request to join, reply to the email. This will alert Brad and Mike of your request to join.
3. Once Brad or Mike checks their email next they will see your request to join and will submit their approval for you to join.
4. You will receive a confirmation email indicating that you were approved and that you have joined the Yahoo Group/the Clubs' E-mail Reflector. You will then receive messages sent to the email reflector by other members. To send a message to all members on the email reflector send your message in an email to: scarcmn@yahoogroups.com

Current Board Members

President

Scott Hall - NOUV

Vice President

Art Carlson - WA0NJR - Elected

Treasurer

Jerome Dahlager - KCOWCF -
Elected

Secretary

David Nick - KD7III - Elected

Mike Parker - KCOUEA - Acting Secretary

Trustees

Leonard Hopkins - KCONZF (2008 - 10)

Harold Hoffman KCOFAX (2007 - 09)

Larry Snodgrass - KCOSMM (2006 - 08)

Past President

Jack Maus - WOMBD

Webmaster

Phil Jorgensen - NIARM



Pictured from left to right:

Art Carlson - WA0NJR (Vice President),
Scott Hall - NOUV (President)
Jerome Dahlager - KCOWCF (Treasurer)

Club Member's Email Address's - List being Compiled

Hello One and All St. Cloud Amateur Radio Club Members.

What I am suggesting is that I create an Email address

book to be printed out and handed out only at club meetings. This address book would not be printed out on any web site. *(See note on right)*

For those of you interested in having fellow club members have your Email address, just send it to me at: W0DZW@charter.net. I will then

Please share your email address with Dave, W0DZW for it to be shared with all SCARC members!

put it together, print out copies, and bring them to the club meetings. Please send your call sign, first name, and E-mail address.

Thanks and 73's

W0DZW, Dave,
W0DZW@charter.net

Since Dave sent this message by e-mail to the club's email reflector on 12/22/07, a suggestion has been made that email addresses may also be accessible from the club's Yahoo Group, which is mainly acting as the club's e-mail reflector, but has

other features that may be used as well. If members join the Yahoo Group with a Yahoo username then they have access to the group and could be able to gain access to member's email addresses. The e-mail address list may be made available in the files area of the Yahoo group, which could be downloaded only by those who have requested to join and have been approved by the moderators to be a member of the Yahoo Group.



W0DZW@charter.net
With your Call sign, First name and E-mail address

Regardless of the distribution method of the list of club member's e-mail address, the list will only be distributed in a manner that is not publicly available, but only in a way which is only available to members of the SCARC.

January Board Meeting Minutes Continued

A request was made to get the BBS packet station at the clubhouse on the air before February 15th so that it may be used for a hospital demonstration.

The Echolink repeater at the clubhouse continues to drop mid-week and needs to be restarted, a solution to the problem is being sought.

A clubhouse key was requested to be

issued to Bryant, KCOZNG to assist him with helping teach license classes with Jack, WOMBD. It was suggested to have an annual key audit to track clubhouse key inventory.

The Minnesota QSO party will be on 40 meters on February 2nd—participation is encouraged.

A cleaning of the clubhouse is necessary

in the near future to determine what to do with unused equipment that is collecting. A decision will need to be made to sell items at the hamfest or auction off at a club auction.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00

Respectfully submitted by Mike Parker, KCOUEA.

Volunteer Opportunities:

SCARC Hamfest

February 16th

Help in a variety of roles to sufficiently conduct this club event.

A pre-hamfest meeting will be held on February 14th at the clubhouse at 7:00 p.m.

Tour of Saints

July 13th

Bike ride event (not a race) - Volunteers to provide radio communication for bike repairs, injuries and to support operations of the event.

Clubmember KBOHNN's Weather Station Info

Brad shared the following on the club's email reflector on 1/29/08, see page 4 of this newsletter for instructions on how to join the club's email reflector to stay informed!



LaCrosse WS2315 model
www.lacrossetechnology.com

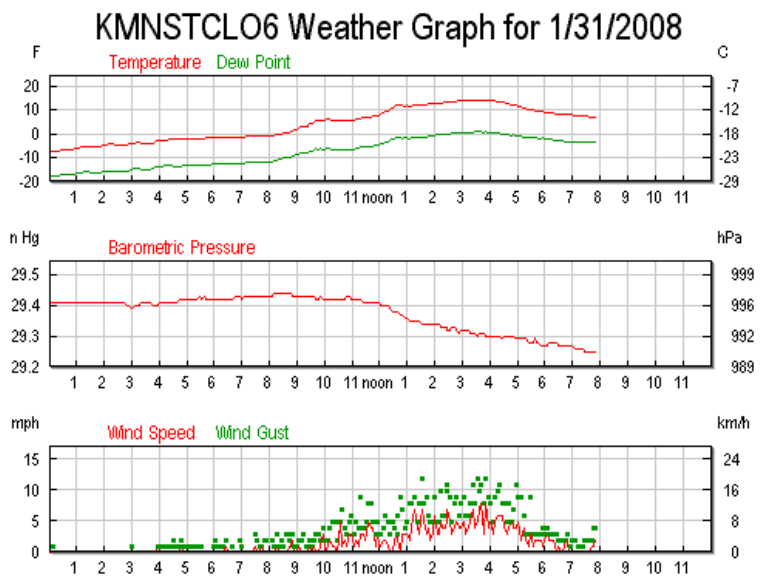
I know how hams like to talk about the weather, and thought this might be of interest, especially on a day like today. You've probably seen the various personal weather stations you can buy just about anywhere now. The Davis models are still up on top, but the price reflects it. I purchased a LaCrosse model for \$100 (WS2315) that does indoor temp/humid, outdoor temp/humid/rain/ wind speed/wind dir/pressure. It can be used wireless or wired. I set mine up wired for the better updates (8 seconds), and batteries aren't required when you wire it. So far it seems to be plenty good for my non-scientific home use.

One of the cool features is a serial port. Not only do you get the included LCD display, you can run serial to your pc, and log all the weather data for your station. Adding additional software such as www.weather-display.com allows you to publish your weather data to various web sites like Weather Underground.

Here's a link to my station on Weather Underground.

<http://www.wunderground.com/weatherstation/WXDailyHistory.asp?ID=KMNSTCLO6>

Up on top you can see the summary, below there are 24 hour graphs, and on the bottom is all the raw data. In the summary, you can pick any date, or look at weekly/monthly/ yearly data/graphs. On the right side you should see a real time wind compass rose and other data. Below that is a google map add-in with wind direction/temp. You can zoom in/out and move around this map and view other weather stations in the area. Below the map is a link "Full Screen RapidFire Flash View" which will open up a new window with data updated every few seconds.



Some of the graphical data from KBOHNN's feed to Weather Underground.

I'm not sure if I'll leave my station reporting to weather underground forever.

My goal is to get the weather station talking with my voicemail system on the 146.835 repeater, which would make current weather available on the repeater with a DTMF code.

If anyone wants more info just post here (on the club email reflector) or let me know.

73

Brad KBOHNN

St. Cloud Amateur Radio Club

401 4th Street North
Waite Park, MN 56387



Phone: 320-255-1410

E-mail: webinfo@w0sv.org

E-mail Reflector:
[http://groups.yahoo.com/
group/scarcmn/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/scarcmn/)



Information About the St. Cloud Amateur Radio Club & Area Repeaters

The St. Cloud Amateur Radio Club is 85 years strong!

It all started back in 1921 with Robert "Bob" Witche, WØSV, licensed as 9SV.

The St. Cloud Radio Club call is registered as WØSV in honor of Bob Witche, first licensed ham in the area.

Since then, the club has grown by leaps and bounds serving in many useful ways among the surrounding tri-county area.

For a more detailed history visit our website at: www.w0sv.org

73

<u>Repeater</u>	<u>Offset</u>	<u>Tone</u>	<u>Location</u>
147.015	+	PL 100.0	Collegetown, MN
146.940	-	Autopatch	St. Cloud, MN
146.835	-	PL 85.4	St. Cloud, MN
147.105	+	PL 85.4	Avon, MN
224.800	-	No Tone	St. Joseph, MN
444.350	+	No Tone	St. Cloud, MN
443.650	+	PL 85.4	Avon, MN
145.270	-	No Tone	Paynesville, MN
146.520		Simplex	Nationwide Simplex
146.640		Simplex	Nationwide Simplex
442.225	+	No Tone	St. Cloud, MN
147.225	+	No Tone	Sauk Centre, MN



Please email the editor, Mike, KCOUEA at KCOUEA@yahoo.com with any corrections or additions to the newsletter.

