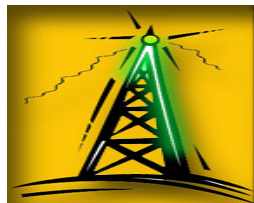




August Newsletter

Volume 09, Issue 8

August 1, 2009



WOSV

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

Message from the Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Hope your Summer is going well! Most anyone you talk to nowadays comments on just how busy they seem to be. Of course we hope that they are referring to being busy as they can be with their Amateur Radio hobby; attending club meetings and activities and experimenting with radios and electronics.

I think many who have been involved agree that it has been a great year for our club when we look at all the activities and work at the clubhouse that has been accomplished—I

think we have all had a Great time!

In regards to the monthly club newsletters, what would you like to see done differently? What information should be in the newsletter that isn't?

I don't know about, but I always enjoy reading about things local hams are up to, so I think it would be great to have more member written articles like Bryant Julstrom, KCOZNG's contribution to the March Newsletter—where he shared his Tube Based Test Oscillator that he built.

It's great to see what other members are working on and also it's great to be able to learn from other members or maybe just get a refresher on something you haven't read about or worked with recently.

Please contact me at KCOUEA@gmail.com with any suggestions or contributions (big or small) to the monthly newsletter! Have any great websites to share with club members?

73,
Mike Parker,
KCOUEA

July Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order on July 9th at 7:08 p.m. by President Art Carlson, WAONJR.

There were only 4 officers present and there were only a few topics to address. It was suggested that an email be sent out to board members prior to the board meeting to improve attendance.

No Treasurers report was available. The minutes of the April Board meeting were approved as printed in the May Newsletter.

The person who was crossbanding the .015 repeater has been contacted and has stopped.

It would be nice to get a crew together soon to work on putting up the tower at the clubhouse. Discussion took place about what antennas will be on the tower.

The Tour of Saints is on July 12th, volunteers to do radio communications will begin at 6 am.

Brainerd Hanfest is July 18th.

At 7:30 the meeting adjourned.

A PSK demo was shown

Respectfully submitted by Mike Parker, KCOUEA.

Dates to Remember:

August:

Aug Club Picnic	8th
Aug Gen Meeting	20th

Sept Gen Meeting	17th
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Oct Board Meeting	8th
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Oct Gen Meeting	15th
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Nov Annual Meeting	20th
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Dec Gen Meeting	17th
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Inside this Issue:

- General Meeting Minutes
Page 2
- General Club Info
Page 3
- Ham Radio Helps Out with Mountain Rescue
Page 4 & 5

July General Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order on July 16th at 7:02 p.m. by President Art Carlson, WA0NJR.

The Treasurer's report was as follows:

Checking	4,823.93
Savings	1,984.45
Rest. Savings	197.68
CD	<u>1,024.85</u>
Total Balance of	\$8,030.91

The Treasurer's report was accepted.

The June meeting minutes were accepted.

Old Business began with a report from Field Day activities, around 248 contacts were made, 40 psk/digital with 300 bonus points resulting in a total score of 868 points. Field Day was a great chance to hone up on skills in radio operation, equipment testing and software familiarity. The Girl Scout troop that visited on field day applied for and received their patches, members present decided that it would be good to invite them to a meeting and award the patches to them then.

In regards to the tower at the clubhouse, we would like to get some people together to determine location to get underground cables located and then dig the hole for the base.

Several club members participated in providing radio communications at the Tour of Saints bike ride event on July 12th. Things went well, providing communications between rest stops

for food and supplies as well as transporting bikes and bikers for bike breakdowns and also tired or injured participants. There were approximately 1000 bikers for the event, radio communications lasted approximately 8 hours and we hope to have a few more volunteers for radio communication next year to improve things.

The St Cloud Armory has been reserved for the 2nd Saturday in February (Feb 13th) for the clubs' Hamfest. Scott Hall, N0UV was looking for some members to work with him to learn how to compile, sort, organize and print the address list for the postcard mailing. Jack Maus, W0MBD and Jerry Dahlager, KC0WCF volunteered to work with Scott.

In regards to the clubhouse, the status of repairing the small pop machine was unknown, also the small fridge is not working. A suggestion was also made to plant trees in place of those that were cut down earlier this summer, this may be looked into in the Fall.

The .015 repeater has been receiving interference from somebody crossbanding it. The offending person was notified and the problem has stopped. In conjunction with the interference, our club is also ready to help the Brainerd area folks to setup a link to access the .015 Superlink.

The Club Picnic will be August 8th and will be at the clubhouse from 10am-2pm. The club will provide grilling food, but you are welcome to bring a food item to share. There will not be an electronics recycling truck on-site like was previously suggested, however we will still accept old electronics for recycling and they will be

Club Picnic
August 8th at
the Clubhouse
10:00 a.m.

picked up from the clubhouse at a later date. Also members are encouraged to participate in a "Garage Sale" at the picnic, members should bring in items they would like to sell—ham related or not.

A member made mention of a good article in the most recent QST issue, on page 44 there is an article about using Bluetooth with Radios—check it out.

Also a member suggested that when you are ordering project parts, it would be good to group orders with other members to save money and also to meet minimum order amounts that some companies require.

Upcoming dates include: Aug 20th Meeting, Aug 15th Radio Operating at Split Rock Lighthouse (more operators welcome—contact Scott, N0UV), Oct 17-18th JOTA (Jamboree on the Air) and the Annual meeting is Friday November 20th.

There was discussion about APRS, those that are interested in kit building may want to look into a TNC kit called Tiny Track from Byonics. Also members are encouraged to learn more about PSK and Echolink.

Harold Hoffman, KC0FAX won the \$5 door prize.

At 7:56 the meeting adjourned.

A PSK demo was shown

Respectfully submitted by Mike Parker, KCOUEA.

Field Day and
Tour of Saints
Events both
went Very Well!

Volunteer Opportunities

Clubhouse Clean-up

Many volunteers have spent numerous hours at the clubhouse so far this Summer, things are really looking nice inside and outside at the clubhouse. We would like to continue efforts to get more of the little up-keep projects done and some of the equipment and supplies organized a little more!

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Tower Construction at the Clubhouse

We're looking for some club members who are interested in working to determine exact location for the tower and to dig the hole for the base mount and concrete. We would like to move forward with this project very soon!

Special Thanks This Month!

Thank You to the following people for their help in moving trucks and providing radio communications for the Tour of Saints Bike ride event on July 12th:

Scott Hall, N0UV	Dave Leigh, W0DZW
Mike Parker, KCOUEA	Paul Ritter, KCO5MO
Dave Nick, KD7III	Jack Maus, W0MBD
Phil Jorgensen, N1ARM	Ben Ramler, KOBLR
Tom Weyhrauch, KD0DOS	Bob Jensen, KCOWYC
Lee Lorentz, WB0TRA	Scott Colombe, KDOFMK

Current Board Members

President

Art Carlson—WA0NJR—Elected

Vice President

Dave Leigh - W0DZW - Elected

Treasurer

Jerry Dahlager - KCOWCF - Elected

Secretary

Mike Parker - KCOUEA - Elected

Trustees

Larry Snodgrass - KCO5MM (2009 - 11)

Leonard Hopkins - KCONZF (2008 - 10)

Harold Hoffman - KCOFAX (2007 - 09)

Past President

Scott Hall - N0UV

Webmaster

Phil Jorgensen - N1ARM



To join the club's email reflector and/or to include your e-mail address on the private list shared between club members only, please email Mike, the newsletter editor at kc0uea@gmail.com



Weblinks of Interest

<http://www.byonics.com/>

Were you at the July meeting? If you were you may recall Brad, KB0HNN talking about the kit he purchased from this company to utilize APRS. The site also offers numerous other kits for Amateur Radio!

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<http://www.eham.net/articles/7936>

Ham Radio Safety in your vehicle—in this article, they are not referring to talking on ham radio is like talking on a cell phone while driving, but rather how safely is your radio equipment mounted inside your vehicle should you have an accident? Magnet mount antennas, many of use them, what can happen with those in a crash? This article has some great points—many things you may have not thought about!

Ham Radio Helps Out with Mountain Rescue

It was a quiet afternoon on July 11 and Rich Lippucci, KI6RRQ, of Vista, California, was monitoring the Catalina Amateur Radio Association (CARA) repeater on his base station. "I heard someone come over the repeater, calling, 'Is there anybody listening?' I responded and the caller said he was on his handheld transceiver hiking around the Mt Baldy area. He was about 2.5 miles off road and resting at the wilderness San Antonio Ski Hut. A few hikers had arrived from farther in the backcountry -- one of their friends had broken an ankle and was a mile or more up the trail and they needed help." Mt Baldy is the highest peak in the San Gabriel Mountains and the highest point in Los Angeles County.

Lippucci asked the caller for his call sign and name. "He told me he was Kirk Gustafson, KE6MTF," he told the ARRL. "I asked Kirk if he had a cell phone, but he told me there was no cell service where they were. I told him I would coordinate emergency services over my landline and asked for his exact location. He did an excellent job; he had a good idea of where he was and wasn't sure which county he was in, but he did have GPS coordinates."

Using his landline, Lippucci called 911 and was transferred three times until he was connected to Chelsea in the San Bernardino County Sheriff's dispatch center. "Chelsea coordinated the rescue with the San Bernardino Fire Department who sent

a foot patrol to the area," he said. "The Sherriff's office dispatched a helicopter to meet someone at the ski hut to take them to where the hiker was down. It took a little less than an hour for emergency services to get above the location in a helicopter, but they were not able to land the helicopter due to the rocky terrain at the ski lift." Lippucci said that while the foot patrol and helicopter were on their way, the group of hikers had brought the injured lady down the trail to the ski hut, stabilized her leg and determined it was probably not broken. They still did not feel they could carry her out as the trail down from the wilderness ski lift was so steep." The ski hut can only be reached via a steep three mile hike and 2200 feet elevation gain.

The dispatcher told Lippucci that the helicopter would perform a skid rescue where a crew member suspends a bed basket from the helicopter; the victim is secured and pulled back up to the helicopter. The dispatchers asked Lippucci to relay back to Gustafson, asking if the group needed anything, such as food or water. Gustafson relayed back that they didn't need anything. "After about 15 minutes from arriving



Quick-thinking hams Rich Lippucci, KI6RRQ, of Vista, California, and Kirk Gustafson, KE6MTF, of Burbank, California, were able to work together to coordinate a rescue in California's San Gabriel Mountains. [Kirk Gustafson, KE6MTF, Photo]

(Continued on the next page....)

Ham Radio Helps Out with Mountain Rescue Continued

on site, the helicopter and its crew got the victim airlifted out successfully without further complications," Lippucci said. Gustafson took a video of the rescue with his cell phone that you can see at http://marlene.zimage.com/ke6mtf/hike/rescue/iPhone/IMG_0408.MOV

Gustafson and Lippucci -- both ARRL members -- have been in contact since that Saturday afternoon. "Since the incident, Kirk informed me that the injured lady was around 40 years old and that there were up to 15 hikers hanging around the ski hut, some of which were search and rescue volunteers on vacation," he told the ARRL. "They had some kind of radios with them, but their batteries were dead. Kirk said when he got out of his car to start his hike, he grabbed his handheld transceiver radio and GPS. His friends told him 'That's just extra weight -- you won't need that.' He told them, 'I go nowhere without my radio. If I need to call for help, the only way I would be able to let them know where I am is with GPS. I'm bringing them.' I don't think they will say that next time! Kirk said that one of them decided they need to look into getting a ticket and radio and that the search and rescue folks said they were going to look into getting ham radio licenses."



Gustafson was with a group of hikers when one of them broke their ankle. He used his handheld transceiver and contacted Lippucci, who was manning a local repeater system. Lippucci notified rescue officials who sent a helicopter for the injured hiker, lifting her to safety. [Kirk Gustafson, KE6MTF, Photo]

Lippucci said that ham radio saved the day: "A handheld radio, hitting a local wide-area repeater, was what was needed when cell and landline phones were not available. Many thanks to the CARA club for their awesome reach in Southern California on 2 meters. Thanks also to those on the air that were very gracious to respect the traffic and keep communications open during the rescue. This is such an excellent example of the benefits of ham radio. If people had to hike out of the wilderness, get to their cars and find a cell signal, they might have been pushing up against the loss of daylight hours. Any rescue would have been significantly more difficult in the dark."

Lippucci told the ARRL that 911 and the Sheriff's office in San Bernardino accepted the ham radio call without hesitation. "They used a ham radio operator to relay questions to Kirk through me, to gain all the information they wanted and needed to put assets on the emergency," he said. "It was as if I was calling about something in my own backyard, even though the problem was several counties away in the mountains, with people I didn't know. I am proud to have had the opportunity to use my license in service of an emergency situation. As a CERT member, this was the very reason I got my ham radio license in the first place!" -- *Information provided by Rich Lippucci, KI6RRQ*

Article from: <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/07/21/10976/?nc=1>

Local Repeater Info

Clubhouse Phone: 320-255-1410

E-mail: webinfo@w0sv.org

E-mail Reflector:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/scarcmn/>

To send to the reflector and all those signed up for the reflector, send your email to:
scarcmn@yahogroups.com

**On the Web @
WWW.WOSV.ORG**

Repeater	Offset	Tone	Location
147.015	+	PL 100.0	Collegeville, 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
442.225	+	No Tone	St. Cloud, MN
443.650	+	PL 85.4	Avon, MN
145.270	-	No Tone	Paynesville, MN
147.255	+	No Tone	Sauk Centre, MN
146.520		Simplex	Nationwide Simplex
146.640		Simplex	Nationwide Simplex



If you have any additions, corrections or suggestions for this newsletter, please email the editor, Mike Parker, KCOUEA at KCOUEA@yahoo.com

St. Cloud Amateur Radio Club

401 4th Street North
 Waite Park, MN 56387



About the St. Cloud Amateur Radio Club

The St. Cloud Amateur Radio Club is 88 years strong! It all started back in 1921 with Robert "Bob" Witchen, WØSV, licensed as 9SV. The St. Cloud Radio Club call is registered as WØSV in honor of Bob Witchen, 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

