

PARC News

Dave Covers A Variety of Happenings

First of all, thanks to the Lincoln Amateur Radio Club for another fine ARRL Nebraska Convention on Saturday. I attended most of the seminars, met lots of people I haven't seen for a while, and even won a prize (a small one). That means I am due for the big one next year. I counted at least 17 Pioneer Amateur Radio Club members in attendance.

I have mentioned the excellent propagation website SolarCycle24 at: www.solarcycle24.com in several past columns. That URL still works but the new official name is now SolarHam at: www.solarham.com. The website is also on a different and faster server.

The Dodge County Spotter Training is on Tuesday, March 22 at 7 PM in the Mohr Auditorium in Scribner. If you can't make this one, a complete list of spotter training sessions is available at: <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/oax/skywarn/outreach.php>

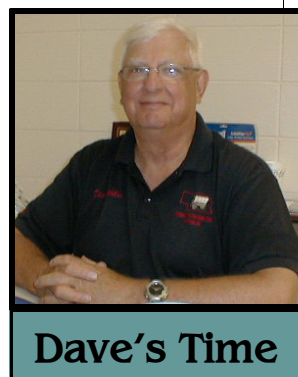
If you like weather programs, and who doesn't, then you will want to consider going to the Central Plains Severe Weather Symposium and Family Weatherfest in Lincoln on Saturday, April 9. This event annually attracts several thousand people and has grown every year. Full details are at: <http://snr.unl.edu/cpsws/>

A non-amateur radio event is coming up soon. Many of you know that Karol and I are two of the three co-chairpersons for the Friends of Keene Memorial Library Book Sale on April 7-10 at the City Auditorium. Many of you have donated books for this event as well as buying a supply of books to read during the next year. Another PARC member, Linda Kirchmann, WØZIP, has gotten involved as a volunteer book sorter. Dick Felt, KBØQWM has helped move books and boxes during the year. We will have about 1500 boxes of sorted books, which equates to 30 to 40 thousand items. Complete details are at: www.fremontne.gov/index.aspx?nid=129

Our speaker this month will be George Blessing, KCØHY1. George will present a program on "The Ham's Guide to Modern-Day Digital Modes in Amateur Radio". Come prepared to ask a lot of questions.

See you at the PARC meeting on Friday.

Dave T. WØNRW



Dave's Time

A Little Info On Our Speaker—George W. Blessing

George Blessing will present the program at our Friday meeting. He is employed by UNL at Omaha in the Information Technology Field, specializing in Microsoft Active Directory and related subjects.

In relation to Amateur Radio, my interests lie in the experimentation with newer digital technologies such as P25, D-STAR, Moto TRBO, and anything else that might be coming down. AX.25 was the first thing that really piqued my interest in Amateur Radio as a Middle School aged guy watching a friend connect to a buddy of his in Tekamah over the packet system and chat on-screen just the way that Instant Messaging allows us to do today!

(Continued on Page 2)

Inside this issue:

State Convention	2
SWIARC Flea Market	2
Radiation Drill	2
PARC Minutes	3
March Program	3
Antenna & Stuff	4

March PARC Meeting

- Friday, March. 25th
- Meeting at 7:30
- Meal at 6:30
- Hero's/Gambino's
- 1900 E. Military
- Fremont, NE



Steve Benke KFØMS and Mel Cunningham KØVLA attended the SWIARC Flea Market in McClelland last month.

Four PARC Members Participate In Drill At Middle School

Bob and Linda Kirchmann WØICE and WØZIP and Lance and Darlene Hoffman WNØL and NØLOP acted as volunteers in the Region 5/6 Drill for Radiation Detection which was held at the Fremont Middle School this month.

It was conducted to provide practice for Fremont area first responders and give them a chance to familiarize themselves with procedures in case of a radiation emergency at the Fort Calhoun Nuclear Power plant .

Ironically, this practice was one day before the earthquake in Japan that has so affected the Nuclear Power Plant in one of their cities.

PARC Is Well Represented At State Convention

March 19, 2011 started out at 7:30 am, with Rich KBØARZ, entering our driveway, to pick up Larry KØSW and me. Darlene supplied us with freshly baked, Red Lobster type biscuits, in a box for the trip to Lincoln. We then headed to pick up Carl WØGAJ, and then to Highway 109. A left turn, and we were on our way to Lincoln.

We had good conditions all the way. We arrived at the Convention hall at the 8:30 opening time. Admission went smoothly, and we were quickly perusing the fleamarket tables.

It appeared that attendance was down, slightly, from last year. There also appeared to be fewer vendor tables, with quite a few empty tables.

PARC was extremely well represented by a majority of our members. By my count, there were 18 members.

Treasurer's Report March, 2011

Savings	\$130.68
Checking	<u>987.69</u>
Total	\$ 1,1189.37
Income:	
Dues	\$ 40.00
Donations:	
Region 5/6	200.00
Field Day.....	<u>20.00</u>
Total	\$ 260.00
Expenses:	
Newsletter	\$ 6.00
Inc. Filing.....	<u>20.00</u>
Total	\$ 26.00

Speaker (Continued from Page 1)

I'm not your typical Ham—contesting really doesn't hold any fascination for me, nor does operating on any band outside of 2m and 70cm. I see Amateur Radio as a "skill" in addition to being a hobby, which is why I like the idea of Field Day, though I haven't been to my local one in many years.

Amateur Radio is a great hobby because it has something for everyone—it all depends on what your interests are and how much you want to be involved. As Amateurs, we need to find a way to "market" Amateur Radio to the younger texting generation.

FEBUARY PARC MINUTES

February 25, 2011

The PARC meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Dave Theophilus WØNRW. Nineteen people were present. Everyone introduced themselves.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed in PARC News.

The Treasurer's report was approved as printed in PARC News.

Dave asked for a motion to pay the bills. Steve Benke KFØMS made the motion and it was seconded by Dick Felt KBØQWM. Approved.

HOSPITALITY: Sharon Martens KBØTVB sent a card to Lin Everett, WØLLE who lost his wife recently.

FIELD DAY—June 25-26, 2011: Larry Martens KØSW said he is looking for suggested for a place to go.

FLEA MARKET July 30, 2011: Rich Mehaffey, KBØARZ reported the date was moved because the DX Convention is the same day as the original date and several hams want to attend it.

PICNIC September 25, 2011. Nothing.

CHRISTMAS PARTY TBD: Nothing.

NET CONTROL: John Beranek KBØKKE thanks everyone for helping with net.

ARES: Three Rivers Health is moving to 2400 N Lincoln Ave in 2012. They are responsible for moving the antenna and

Coax, but we could probably help if possible.

Dodge County Spotter Training is at 7 p.m. on March 22 in Scribner at Mohr Auditorium.

EDUCATION: Jane Mehaffey KBØZUN reported no date has been set yet for the North Bend School Radio presentation.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing

NEW BUSINESS: The Secretary of State Incorporation registration needs

to be renewed. Sharon will take care of this. Dave T. discussed the new legislation being proposed to have frequency police. Dave sees no need for this to happen.

Deadline for book donations for the library sale is March 9. The sale is April 7-10 with April 7 for members.

POT: NØORI—

Billy Dokulil was pulled. He was not present.

The program was supposed to be given by KØNEB, Joe Eisenberg, but weather is a problem, so he did not attend. Joe asked Dave to pass on the info for the Nebraska State Convention to be held by the Lincoln club on March 19th. Dave said he asked for seminar times to be posted on their website.

Lance Hoffman WNØL presented a video on his tower raising at his QTH in place of the original program scheduled.



PARC MINUTES Feb. 2011

Check into the
PARC Net every
Wednesday at
7 p.m. on the
146.67
repeater

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Yearly PARC Dues are \$10 for the first member of a family and \$3 each additional member if paid between Jan. 1 and March 1, 2011.

Dues are prorated at \$1 per month after March 1st for new members. Previous year member's dues remain \$10 whenever they are paid.

Life membership is \$200.

SEND TO:

Sharon Martens, KBØTVB
2316 E. First St
Fremont, NE 68025

March Program

Our speaker this month will be George Blessing, KCØHYI. George will present a program "The Ham's Guide to Modern-Day Digital Modes in Amateur Radio".

**PIONEER AMATEUR
RADIO CLUB –
FREMONT, NE**

NØLOP

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***We're On The Web:
www.k0jfn.com***



www.k0jfn.com

President—Dave Theophilus
WØNRW
V. President—Mel Cunningham
KØVLA
Treasurer—Sharon Martens
KBØTVB
Secretary—Darlene Hoffman
NØLOP

Board of Directors:

Sandy Cunningham KBØTVB
Joe Roberts, WAØSTV
Frank Veverka, KØAJA
And 2 Officers

Committee Chairs:

Hospitality: Sharon Martens
Field Day: Larry Martens
Flea Market: Rich Mehaffey
Picnic: Dave Theophilus &
Sharon Martens
Christmas Party:
Jane Mehaffey &
Sharon Martens
Publicity: Dave Theophilus
Education: Jane Mehaffey
Net Control: John Beranek
ARES: Dave Theophilus

The WX (weather) has been great and we keep thinking about Aerials. That is what Kurt N. Sterba calls antennas. Kurt is the author of World Radio magazines column called “Aerials”. His pen name is actually a play on a type of antenna that is used in short wave broadcasting. The vertical antenna that I put up last fall is not working out like I had hoped. The idea was to try a trap vertical in a location that was to be the new home for a HyGain Hy-Tower.

Thanks to Lance and my old buddy, Dayle Johnson, KØSZ (sk). I was able to get ahold of a used HyTower which is a full sized 1/4 wave vertical aerial made of tower sections and large tubing that is over 50 feet high.

The trap vertical was stuck in the ground right before the snow-fall last fall and I just had time to put 3 radials down for a ground plane when the ground froze. I had hopes that we could get some DX performance on 80 and 40 meters with a vertical to see if that would be a good place for the Hy-Tower.

Well, the thing works, but at no time were received signals as good as on the wire dipoles and slopers. I was looking for better reception of CW DX signals here in town where the receive noise level is so high. The theory books all say that more radials are better for a vertical antenna and I guess they are right. Radial wires in the back yard will have to be buried to keep out of the lawn mower. I need to make a decision where to put the HyTower and where I can lay enough radial ground wires to make it worth while. The sloper antennas are kind of like an upside down vertical. They are 1/4 wave wires fed at the top with the tower being the ground plane and sloping down at roughly 45 degree angles.

I guess summer time will be more experimenting with the “Aerials” - Hi -

Where do you want to go for the ARRL Field Day this year?

73 de KØSW



Larry, KØSW

Antennas & Stuff