

Feedback is published by the Northeast Iowa Radio Amateur Association on a monthly basis.

The **NIRAA** meets the second Saturday of each month (**except August**) in the lower level of the Hawkeye Chapter of the American Red Cross, 2530 University Avenue, Waterloo. Meetings start at 7 p.m.; anyone interested in amateur radio is invited to attend.

Feedback Editor: Joe Hoepfner (N0FHL)

NIRAA OFFICERS, 1998

President: Larry Tisor (KB0SZV)

Vice President: Earl Taggart (K8YWT)

Secretary: Jay Nabholz (KC0AKJ)

Treasurer: Dave Berry (KB0OCI)

Directors: Dennis Orona (N0RWY) ('01),
Curt Wilson (NK0T) ('00)
Chuck Angel (WA0INC) ('99)

Area Repeaters, *indicates 136.5 PL required

Waterloo/Cedar Falls

W0MG: 146.94*, 444.975*

WA0INC: 146.82*, 443.75*, 444.925* (linked SEITS)

N0CF: 444.65*

KM0K: 146.655*

NK0T: 224.90

Independence – NI0L: 145.33*

Oelwein – KF0HA: 147.345

Waverly – N0RJJ: 145.43*

Hamfest Calendar

April 25, Des Moines RAA, Des Moines, IA. Tourism Building, Iowa State Fair Grounds. Talkin on 34/94 repeater.

May 15 – 17, Dayton Hamvention, Dayton, OH

June 6, St Paul Technical College, Lower Parking Lot, Tailgate Swapfest. Talkin on 16/76 repeater.

Internet Access

The official club web page on the Internet is located at:
<http://w0mg.nexcommtech.com>

If anyone in the club is interested in designing web pages or has information of use to club members, please contact N0CF.

ITEMS FOR SALE:

[Paid members may advertise any radio related items for sale in this newsletter. Contact the Feedback editor with your listings at least two weeks prior to the club meeting. Listings will run for only one month, to re-list an advertisement the editor must be contacted again.] (S) = For Sale, (W) = Wanted, (G) = Give Away.

(S) Hundreds of CQ & QST Magazines 1950 – 1980s.

(W) Radio Magazines 1940 – 1965. Contact Richard Petersen, 1940 Grand Ave, Marion IA 52302, Phone 319-377-9126.

(S) Alinco DJ-582 Dual Band 2.5 watt handheld, with two 800mah batteries, drop-in 14hr charger, leather case, manual.

(S) 2 Alinco DS-11 340mwatt 2meter HT, with manuals (4 mos old).

(S) Alinco MO-6 10watt 6 meter FM mobile transceiver. Contact Craig (N0PBU) or Joe (N0FHL) at 266-0270 or n0fhl@cfu-cybernet.net.

March Meeting Minutes

March 14, 1998

Meeting called to order at: 7:00 p.m. by president Larry Tisor

20 Members and 1 guests present

Sec Report: Read and approved.

Treas. Report: Read and approved

OLD BUSINESS:

KB0MGH brought the paid for T-Shirts. If you would like to acquire one, contact Dave (KB0OCI).

Craig (N0PBU) discussed Field Day (Jun 27-28, 98) preparations to date. Looks like we will have a Multi-multi classification along with a Novice/Tech station and Packet. A committee is needed for planning. If interested, please contact N0PBU at the next meeting.

Repeater news: No new status on the repeaters. A repeater committee consisting of Earl (K8YWT), Joe (N0FHL), Dave Platte (KB0BSM), Dave (KB0OCI) and Jay (KC0AKJ) was assigned and will be looking into getting the repeater from Curt and getting it checked out and back on the air.

There was also no new status on the 9600 link.

RAGBRAI coming to Cedar Falls. For those of you who don't know what RAGBRAI is, it is the Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa. This event started out as a Des Moines Register sponsored event of a couple of columnists riding bicycles across Iowa. It has grown into a major event. This year on July 23rd, an overnight stop is planned for Cedar

Falls. It was decided that a NEIRAA RAGBRAI committee would be setup at the April Meeting.

The club will be sponsoring Amateur Radio Licensing Examinations at Satori Hospital in the Cafeteria on April 16th. In response, Earl was asked and agreed to hold morse code practice Monday through Friday at 8:00 p.m. on 146.55. Anybody wishing to learn or improve his or her code is encouraged to listen to these sessions.

The Certificate to be given to members of NEIRAA to show membership was decided to be a combination of the two designs brought in.

NEW BUSINESS:

Weather Spotters course was announced with the class to be held at the National Guard Armory on Big Woods Road at 7pm on March 25th.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:43p.m. followed by our scheduled program which was a talk by Ron Gitch (K0VV) on RF Certification of Amateur Radio Antenna installations.

April Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of NIRA is Saturday April 11th.

On the Lighter Side

How to fix Electronics
(New Improved Version)

Step 1. Approach the ailing instrument in a confident manner. This will give the instrument the mistaken idea that you know something. It will also impress anyone who happens to be looking and if the instrument should suddenly starts working,

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you will be credited with the repair. If this step fails to work, proceed to step (2).

Step 2. Wave the service manual at the instrument. This will make it assume that you are at least familiar with the source of knowledge. Should this step fail to work, proceed to step (3).

Step 3. In a forcible manner, recite Ohm's Law to the instrument (Caution: Before taking this step, refer to some reliable handbook to be sure of your knowledge of Ohm's Law). This will prove to the instrument beyond the shadow of a doubt, that you know something. This is a drastic step and should be attempted only if the first two fail. If this step fails to work, proceed to step (4).

Step 4. Jar the instrument slightly. This may require anything from a three to six foot drop, preferably on a concrete floor. However, you must be careful with this step because, while jarring is an approved method of repair, you must not mar the floor. Again this is a very drastic step, if it fails, proceed to step (5).

Step 5. Brandish a large screwdriver in a menacing manner. This will frighten the instrument and demonstrate your knowledge of the deadly "short circuit" technique. Proceed to step (6) should step (5) fail.

Step 6. Add a 'tube' Even if the instrument is solid state. This will prove that you are familiar with the instrument design. This will confuse the instrument and thereby increase your advantage. If this doesn't work, proceed to the most drastic and dangerous step of all, step (7).

Step 7. Think.....

President's Corner

By Larry Tisor

First off I'd like to thank those members that came to the storm spotter training on the 25th of March. I would have liked to have seen more there from the club, as it always helps to have a refresher course. Severe weather season is now upon us, so we may be called out at any time. I hope to hear many of you on the air when we do have to go out.

The Club has several activities coming up and we'll need all the participation from the membership. The following are some of the upcoming events, Field Day and Ragbrai. I'm looking for volunteers to help set up Ragbrai communications, looks like we may need several operating stations to handle all the different sites, so please plan to help out.

Don't forget the Des Moines Hamfest on April 25.

The program this month will be on the link system. Hope to see you there.



Remember our net on Sundays at 9pm local time.