

The SkyWave Vilas County Amateur Radio Club



VCARC ACTIVE IN THE 2025 WIS QSO PARTY

VCARC Members were active in the 2025 Wisconsin QSO Party held on March 9 for an 8-hour operating period. Those members included Dave N9DBS, KC KG9JP, RayBob KD9DDE, Marie KD9VUB, Joel KB9RBY, Bob KC9RF, and Ray WB9OCO.

The Wisconsin QSO Party objective was for stations anywhere to contact Wisconsin stations for points. Wisconsin stations contact stations anywhere for points. Everybody has fun!

This was the first time several VCARC Members participated in the QSO Party. The most active bands used by the VCARC Members were 20, 40 and 80 meters.

VCARC MONDAY NIGHT 2 METER NET

The VCARC 2 Meter Net meets every Monday night starting at 7:30 PM local time. Net Control is via the W9VRC Eagle River repeater on 145.150/ PL 114.8.

VCARC APRIL MEETING

The next VCARC meeting will be held on Wednesday April 9 starting at 6:00 pm at God's Gathering Place at 1695 Hwy. 45N Eagle River, WI.

Tech Talk

Bob KC9RF will give a demo of Thetis software that runs his Anan G2 SDR radio. Please join us for this informative presentation.

VCARC MARCH MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

March 12, 2024, 6:00 PM – Meeting called to order by Bob KC9RF, all rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurers Report

Beginning Balance	\$6365.41
Expenses: Website	84.27
Membership Dues	160.00
Donations	0.00
Ending Balance for November	\$6441.14

The Treasurers Report and Meeting Minutes were moved, seconded, and accepted by all.



Old Business

RayBob KD9DDE updated that the VCARC regarding the anonymous donation. After discussion with the bank, the donation check was deposited into the Club account.

VCARC will be testing a Wi-Fi extender to determine if a signal can be received at the repeater location in the hospital garage.

Tech Talk ideas included radio demonstrations, and mounting mobile equipment,

AllstarLink connected repeater communication has distinctive advantages, would likely increase repeater usage and the audio quality is superior. Bob KC9RF suggested a working group to explore in detail.

New Business

VCARC to review APRS issues at the Phelps Fire Station. Range is limited to about a mile or less. Possible antenna issues and should be replaced.

Discussions

The WeComm Sayner repeater is operational and, on the list, to be interconnected. Based on other priorities it will likely be a while. The Sayner repeater is responsible for up to 50% of the Monthly ARES VHF Net check-ins. WeComm donations are welcome.

Announcements

VCARC 2025 Membership Renewals are now due. The cost is \$20 per Individual Membership and \$25 for a Family Membership. Renewals can be sent to the VCARC P.O. Box 1141, Eagle River 54521 or submitted at the meeting.

The motion to adjourn was made at 6:50 PM

April 2025

ARRL NEWS

FCC Initiates Broad Inquiry on Rules to Delete or Amend

In a Public Notice titled "In Re: Delete, Delete, Delete," issued on March 12, 2025, the FCC is soliciting public input on any FCC rules in any service that members of the public believe should be deleted or modified "for the purpose of alleviating unnecessary regulatory burdens."

This is the latest in a series of similar proceedings going back to 1996, when the Communications Act was amended to require the FCC to periodically review its rules.

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®, through its Executive Committee and FCC Counsel, is conducting a review of the provisions in Part 97 and other related rules that apply to radio amateurs.

ARRL is also soliciting feedback from its members. Rules identified as outmoded, obsolete, or that for other reasons should be repealed or modified, will be included in ARRL's filing to be submitted no later than the FCC deadline of April 11, 2025. The deadline for filing reply comments is April 28, 2025.

It is expected that the Commission will incorporate suggestions that it decides worthy of its consideration in a future Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) that could be issued later this year.

There will then be an opportunity for public comment on the specific rules that the Commission proposes for deletion or modification.

ARRL CONTESTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

The following are upcoming ARRL Contests and Special Events.

Rookie Roundup- Phone (Contest)

Mission: To encourage newly licensed operators ("Rookies") in North America (including territories and possessions) to operate on the HF bands and experience competitive Amateur Radio operating. Experienced operators ("Non-Rookies") are strongly encouraged to participate and help new operators – either on the air or in person.

Objective: Rookies exchange information with as many other stations as possible on the 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter HF bands. Rookie entrants are encouraged to read "HF Contesting – Good Practices, Interpretations and Suggestions."

Contest Period: April 21. Begins 100 UTC Sunday, ends 0359 UTC Sunday.

2025 NFL Draft (Special Event)

April 16 thru Apr 30, 0000Z-2359Z, W9D, De Pere, WI. Green Bay Mike & Key Club. 10-80 meters CW and SSB; 7.030, 7.230 28.060, 28.450 14.030, 14.230 3.555, 3.900. Certificate & QSL. Green Bay Mike & Key Club, 3004 Quarry Park Dr. #10, De Pere, WI 54115. Commemorating 2025 NFL Draft in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

WISCONSIN AREA HAMFEST CALENDER

It is that time of year again for "Ham-Festing." If you are looking for a new piece of radio equipment or just trying to get rid of that "Old Boat Anchor" a Spring Hamfest is a great way to accomplish both.

The following are the upcoming Wisconsin Area Hamfests.

Madison Hamfest

Date: 04/26/2025

Location: Mandt Community Center

400 Mandt Parkway Stoughton, WI 53589

Website: <https://w9hsy.org/>

Sponsor: Madison Area Repeater Association

ORC 45th Annual Spring Indoor Swapfest

Date: 04/26/2025

Location: Ascension Columbia St. Mary's Center (Milwaukee Curling Club)

W67N890 Washington Avenue Cedarburg, WI 53012

Website: <https://www.ozaukeeclub.org>

Sponsor: Ozaukee Radio Club, Inc.

ARAC Hamfest

Date: 05/03/2025

Location: Head of the Lakes Fairground

4700 Tower Ave. Superior, WI 54880

Website: www.thearac.org

Sponsor: Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club



TECH TALK

World Amateur Radio Day

Every April 18, radio amateurs worldwide take to the airwaves in celebration of World Amateur Radio Day. It was on this day in 1925 that the International Amateur Radio Union was formed in Paris.

Amateur Radio experimenters were the first to discover that the short-wave spectrum — far from being a wasteland — could support worldwide propagation. In the rush to use these shorter wavelengths, Amateur Radio was “in grave danger of being pushed aside,” the IARU’s history has noted.

Amateur Radio pioneers met in Paris in 1925 and created the IARU to support Amateur Radio worldwide.

Just two years later, at the International Radiotelegraph Conference, Amateur Radio gained the allocations still recognized today — 160, 80, 40, 20, and 10 meters.

Since its founding, the IARU has worked tirelessly to defend and expand the frequency allocations for Amateur Radio. Thanks to the support of enlightened administrations in every part of the globe, radio amateurs are now able to experiment and communicate in frequency bands strategically located throughout the radio spectrum.

Of the 25 countries that formed the IARU in 1925, the IARU has grown to include 160 member-societies in three regions. IARU Region 1 includes Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Northern Asia. Region 2 covers the Americas, and Region 3 is comprised of Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific island nations, and most of Asia.

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has recognized the IARU as representing the interests of Amateur Radio.

Today, Amateur Radio is more popular than ever, with more than 3,000,000 licensed operators!

World Amateur Radio Day is the day when IARU Member-Societies can show our capabilities to the public and enjoy global friendship with other Amateurs worldwide.

World Amateur Radio Day 2025

IARU is very pleased to announce the theme of: “Entering the Next Century of Amateur Radio Communications & Innovation”.

IARU is celebrating its centenary in 2025. Since its founding in Paris, France, IARU has worked tirelessly to promote innovation in amateur radio and to encourage the growth of the service in communities throughout the world.

IARU has represented the Amateur Services at international and regional regulatory bodies by relying on our volunteers who come from many countries and communities.

IARU has been a sector member of the ITU since 1932 and the work of our volunteers has continued since that date with unmatched success, as was highlighted with the accomplishments at WRC-23.

During our centenary year, we should take time to reflect on the remarkable achievements of radio amateurs over the last 100 years. While Amateur Services have been in operation for over a century, 1924 was the first year that intercontinental amateur communication became commonplace.

Since that time radio amateurs have made unparalleled advances in technology related to the Amateur Services that play a critical role today in sustaining world-wide communications and allow us to respond to global emergencies.

World Amateur Radio Day is an opportunity to reflect on our achievements since 1924. We should celebrate our diverse community and the advances and innovations we have made as we look forward to celebrating the IARU centenary next year.

ARRL and the IARU

The administration of the IARU is performed by the ARRL, which serves as the International Secretariat. The policy and management of the IARU are carried out by its Administrative Council, made up of the three IARU officers (President, Vice President and Secretary) and two representatives from each of the three regional organizations. The Administrative Council normally meets annually, usually in conjunction with a regional conference.



Vilas County Amateur Radio Club

An ARRL Affiliated Organization

VCARC OFFICERS and COMMITTEES

President	Kyle Ruesch, AB9AX
Vice President	Bob Barnum, KC9RF
Secretary	Marie Beckholt, KD9VUB
Treasurer	RayBob Heuer, KD9DDE
Board Member	Kirby Giampa W8DCD
Newsletter	Bob Barnum, KC9RF, Ray Protich WB9OCO



CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address:
W9VRC
Vilas County Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 1141
Eagle River, WI 54521

Website: <https://vcarc.net/>

MONTHLY MEETINGS

VCARC Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. The meetings can be attended in person or via Zoom. The Zoom meeting information is:

Log in to Zoom at www.zoom.us

Join the meeting with meeting # 881 9483 6234.

Password is 328355

Quick Link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88194836234>

MONDAY NIGHT 2 METER NET INFORMATION

The VCARC operates a weekly Net every Monday night starting at 7:30 PM local time. Net Control is via the VCARC Eagle River repeater on 145.150/ PL 114.8.

VCARC REPEATER INFORMATION

The VCARC operates amateur radio repeaters in Eagle River and Land O' Lakes Wisconsin.

Eagle River Repeater
145.150 PL 114.8
Echolink Node 691369

Land O' Lakes Repeater
145.390 PL 114.8
Wires-X Room 80110 Linked to Yooper net Room
65384

THE SKYWAVE NEWSLETTER

The SkyWave is the Official publication of the Vilas County Amateur Radio Club. If you wish contribute articles or other newsworthy items regarding Amateur Radio for publication, please contact Bob KC9RF at rwb1636@gmail.com or Ray WB9OCO at WB9OCO@gmail.com.