

# The SkyWave Vilas County Amateur Radio Club



## VCARC Getting Ready For Field Day 2025

The VCARC is making final preparations for the ARRL Field Day 2025 which will be held on June 28-29. The Field Day location will be the same as last year at the Sugar Camp Municipal Complex in Sugar Camp WI.

The Club will operate under its call W9VRC. The Club will have 80 thru 10 meters stations with a VHF station as well. Transmitter power will be limited to 100 watts output.

The Field Day stations will operate on battery power with one station set up with solar panels. The VHF station will operate 6 meters, 2 meters and 70 cm.

The VCARC Field Day 2025 will begin with a hearty breakfast at Dee Dee's Diner at 9:00 am in Sugar Camp. The activities will then continue at the Sugar Camp Municipal Complex for set up. Field Day starts at 1:00 pm (1800 UTC).

All are welcome to attend Field Day 2025 whether to operate, help set up the stations or just meet and greet fellow ham operators from the area.

For more information regarding Field Day please contact Kyle AB9AX or Bob KC9RF.

### 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 JUNE MEETING

The next VCARC meeting will be held on Wednesday June 11, 2025, starting at 6:00 pm at God's Gathering Place at 1695 Hwy. 45N Eagle River, WI.

The June Tech Talk will be a Round Table discussion and final Field Day preparations.

### VCARC MAY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

May 14, 2025, 6:00 PM – Meeting called to order by Kyle AB9AX, all rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.



### Treasurers Report

Beginning Balance	\$7551.14
Expenses	0.00
Membership Dues	20.00
Donations	0.00
Ending Balance	7571.14

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

### Old Business

RayBob KD9DDE updated that the VCARC regarding the hospital internet connection, still moving forward.

The Eagle River repeater is having receiving issues, need to identify the problem(s)

UPDATE: Jeff KD9FYU performed troubleshooting, and it appears the 40-year-old tuned cavities need to be replaced. Thanks to RayBob KD9DDE and Fred KD9CCE for their efforts as well.

### New Business and Announcements

A Nominations Committee Is being formed for the 2025-2026 Officers. If you are interested, please contact Kyle AB9AX.

Kirby N8DCD will be/ has contacted local EMA services regarding repeater relocation to one of their towers for enhanced coverage.

The Monthly Tech Talk was on Having A Successful Field Day by Bob KC9RF.

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The motion to adjourn was made at 7:00 PM

## **KG9JP Takes First Place Phone In Wisconsin QSO Party**

KC KG9JP took First Place in the Single Operator Low Power Phone category in the Wisconsin QSO party held on March 9 -10, 2025.

KC had a total score of 85294 with a total of 563 phone QSO's and 53 Wisconsin Counties. He was running 100 watts. KC will receive a plaque sponsored by Wolf River Coils for a fantastic finish in the category.

Bob KC9RF also placed in the Top Ten Single Operator category with a score of 64134, with a total of 634 phone QSO's and 48 Wisconsin Counties.

Congratulations to both KC and Bob for the contest well done!

## **Ride For Research Support**

The Ride For Research will be held on Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>. It is a dual sport motorcycle ride in Wabeno area in Forest County.

Ham radio help is needed for the event as the course tends to be in areas that have spotty to no cell phone service. If there is ever an event where radio communications is essential, this is it.

It's an all-day commitment; however, lunch and dinner is provided by the event. Participants enjoyed operating this event in the past. This is great opportunity to test out your Ham equipment to see how it works in a real situation.

If you are interested in learning more or participating, Ray Mark KB9CBL is leading the communications for the event. His contact is kb9cbl@yahoo.com

## **InSayner Mountain Bike Ride Support**

On Saturday, June 14th, the 2025 The InSayner Mountain Bike Ride is being held. In the past the VCARC membership supported this event with ham operators. Assistance is again requested for this year's event.

If you are able to assist, contact Blue Poupart KD9FIO. His email is: bluejakt@gmail.com

## **Phelps 2025 Triathlon Canceled**

The Phelps Chamber of Commerce has informed VCARC that the Phelps 2025 Triathlon has been cancelled. In the past the VCARC supported the event with ham operators.

## **ARRL NEWS**

2025 ARRL Field Day is a few short weeks away on June 28 – 29. The theme of “Radio Connects” highlights how radio ties our world together — bridging distances near and far, connecting people of all ages and walks of life through a shared interest in wireless technology, and providing a hands-on pathway for future technology leaders to experiment with radio as part of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics curricula.

ARRL has made it easy for radio clubs to make in-person connections during the event. In addition to the resources available for promoting activations that are available on the Field Day website at [www.arrl.org/FieldDay](http://www.arrl.org/FieldDay), there is a site locator tool. Clubs can list their activations, and those looking to attend a Field Day site can find one in their area.

With a little more than a few weeks to go until the big weekend, there were 538 sites listed on the locator. To search for a site near you, just go to the map and zoom in on your area. Click on the red map pins for details about each site.

ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air event held annually in North America. More than 31,000 hams participate each year.

## **ARRL CONTESTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS**

The following are upcoming ARRL Contests and Special Events in the Wisconsin area.

### **International Digital Contest**

Contest Objective: Amateurs worldwide contact and exchange QSO information with other amateurs using any digital mode (excluding RTTY) that supports the 4-digit Grid Square exchange — attended operation only -- on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 meter bands.

Contest Date/ Period: June 7-8, 2025. Begins 1800 UTC Saturday, ends 2359 UTC Sunday.

### **June VHF Contest**

Contest Objective: For amateurs in the US and Canada (and their possessions) to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree Maidenhead grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz.

Contest Date/ Period: June 14-16, 2025. Begins 1800 UTC Saturday, ends 0259 UTC Monday.

### **ARRL Field Day 2025**

Objective: To contact as many stations as possible on the 160-, 80-, 40-, 20-, 15- and 10-Meter HF bands, as well as all bands 50 MHz and above, and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less-than-optimal conditions.

Contest Date/ Period: June 28 - 29, 2025. Begins 1800 UTC Saturday, ending at 2059 UTC Sunday.

### **NB9QV USS Cobia Museum Ships Weekend**

Jun 7-Jun 8, 1400Z-2000Z, NB9QV, Manitowoc, WI. USS Cobia Amateur Radio Club. 7.240 14.240. Certificate. Send contact information to, kc9yl@arrl.net, to receive PDF certificate. <https://www.qrz.com/db/NB9QV>

### **Appleton Flag Day Parade**

Jun 14, 1830Z-2030Z, W9ZL, Appleton, WI. Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club. 14.246. QSL. FCARC, PO Box 2346, Appleton, WI 54912. Operate our special event station while we traverse thru the Appleton Flag Day parade. QSL via FCARC PO Box 2346 Appleton WI 54912 fcarc.club.

### **36TH Anniversary of SATERN**

(Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network) Jul 19-Jul 20, 1500Z-1500Z, KD9NJR, Hoffman Estates, IL. Salvation Army SATERN. 3.820 7.265. Certificate & QSL. Salvation Army Central Territory Headquarters. SATERN TEAM Don Dewar, 5550 Prairie Stone Parkway, Hoffman Estates, IL 60192.

### **WISCONSIN AREA HAMFEST CALENDER**

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.

### **LARS Yooper Hamfest**

Date: 06/07/2025  
Location: Luce County Fairgrounds  
11555 County Road 399 Newberry, MI 49868  
Website: <http://www.w8nby.org>  
Sponsor: Luce Amateur Radio Services

### **Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club**

Date: 06/21/2025  
Location: Sunnyview Exposition Center Parking Lot #2 500 E. County Rd. Y Oshkosh, WI 54901  
Website: <https://fcarc.club/>  
Sponsor: Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club

### **Riverland Amateur Radio Club**

Date: 06/21/2025  
Location: American Legion Onalaska  
731 Sand Lake Rd. Onalaska, WI 54650  
Website: <http://rarc.qth.com>  
Sponsor: Riverland Amateur Radio Club

### **TECH TALK**

The following is a handy ham radio station checklist whether operating Field Day, POTA or just your home station. Remember Safety First!

- ☐ Fuel for generator (if applicable) properly stored.
- ☐ Fire extinguisher on hand and appropriately located.
- ☐ First Aid kit on hand.
- ☐ First Aid - CPR - AED versed else trained participant/s on site for full Field Day period.
- ☐ Access to NWS alerts to monitor for inclement weather.
- ☐ Tent (if used) stakes properly installed and marked.
- ☐ Temporary antenna structures (if used) are properly secure and marked.
- ☐ Site secured from tripping hazards (coax cables, extension cords, etc.).
- ☐ Site is set up in a neat and orderly manner.
- ☐ Stations and equipment properly grounded.
- ☐ Access to a means to contact police/fire/rescue if needed.
- ☐ Individual designated as a point of contact for visitors.
- ☐ Minimize risks and control hazards to ensure no injuries to public.
- ☐ As necessary, monitoring participants for hydration and ensuring an adequate water supply is available.

(Courtesy of ARRL Checklists)

# 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://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](mailto:rwb1636@gmail.com) or Ray WB9OCO at [WB9OCO@gmail.com](mailto:WB9OCO@gmail.com).