

VCARA

# CONNECTION

Vermilion County Amateur Radio Association



Nov 2010



**Join us at**  
VCARA Club House  
Woodbury Hill  
Danville, IL  
Nov 8, 2010  
7PM  
Program:  
Tom NU9R on Winlink



## 2010/2011 Officers

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### VCARA CONNECTION

The Vermilion County Amateur Radio Association (VCARA), a group of Amateur Radio operators, interested and active in the service of the Amateur Radio service, publish a monthly newsletter, where members and officers can post information of interest to other members.

Our policy is to print and/or post only information that is related to Amateur Radio, and not items of a political or religious nature, unless it has an impact on Amateur Radio, such as antenna ordinances, etc.

If a member wishes to have printed a topic that is not Amateur Radio related, they can submit a copy to the club newsletter editor, any club officer, and the matter will be discussed and decided upon by the Board of Directors.

No PERSONAL attacks will be allowed.

**Submissions are due on the last Friday of each month!!**

# Tuck's Thoughts



Thanks for presenting a great program at our last meeting Jim. It was very interesting. At our next meeting, Tom NU9R will be talking about Winlink. I know I could learn a lot more about this digital mode, so I will be listening intently. How about you?

As I stated in this space last month, I would like to see some changes to the way the club house is set up, making more room for club members and guests to sit during a meeting. I believe this will be done in the early spring as winter will be rearing its ugly face in the very near future.

As some of you may have noticed, I am trying to keep announcements on our repeater current and maybe a bit interesting. I will continue to change the announcements on a regular basis, no need for anyone to get into a panic if it is not changed immediately.

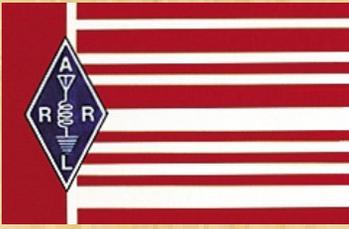
At our last meeting, I appointed a committee to research our becoming a slightly different non-profit group, one where we can apply for grants. I can see some great things ahead for our club when this change is made. While at it, they will be scouring over our bylaws and constitution, seeing if anything needs updated or simply changed. One thing that is a definite change is our meeting time. The bylaws now state we meet at 7:30, not the 7pm time we get together now. This committee is headed by Ron Johnson, KC9TAM.

We have some great people within the ranks of our membership, and I would like to see them shine. If you have a particular expertise, and would like to do a program on it, let me know, and we will try and get you scheduled.

Oh, another reminder, if you think some one has done something wrong on the repeater, think being the operative word, do not chastise them on the air. Take them aside, and let them know what you THINK they did. For example, the other day, I heard some one doing some testing on the repeater. Another individual told them they should not do that on the repeater, that they should take it simplex. Maybe so, but bottom line, was it hurting anything? Is it worth embarrassing one member when it really isn't needed?

**Ham Radio.....not just a hobby.....**

**.....But a real service!!**



## Remember the Fallen

November Meeting  
Monday Nov 8, 2010 7PM  
VCARA Club House  
Woodbury Hill  
Danville, Il

### Your help is needed!!

The newsletter received a few contributions this month, and we thank you!! The more articles we receive, the better for the newsletter and for you, the reader!!

I would love to see people who can write an article each month..maybe on constructing small indoor antennas for 2 meters, making your own antennas for not only VHF frequencies, but HF frequencies as well. Maybe step by step directions on installing connectors. Believe it or not, there are probably some newbies who might not know.

**Send me articles in Word or text only, or make the pdf files a jpg file.**

I can not convert pdf files back to text. Sorry.

Help out your newsletter!!! Deadline is the last Friday of every month!! 73.

Amateur Radio.....

.....Not just a hobby, but a REAL service.

### Radioactive!!

#### Nets to you.....

Sunday ARES net 7pm 146.820 pl 88.5  
Monday ICARC 8:00 147.030 dup+ pl tone 103.5  
Wed. Night Net 7:30 146.820 pl 88.5  
Fridays: 73's Late Night Net 9:00 pm 146.820 pl 88.5

### VCARA QSO Party

Every Saturday Morning!!  
9:00 am - 11:00 am

VCARA Club House - Woodbury Hill

A weekly get together for fellowship and to work on various club projects. Continued planning for upgrades to the club house facility. All are welcome, your help is appreciated.

# Meeting Minutes

## Monday October 11 2010



Meeting was called to order by NF9T at 7 Pm

Those members in attendance:

RON KC9TAM : TOM KC9RNA: SVEN  
KC9NWX: KEVEN KC9PDX: TUCK NF9T :JIM  
W9JUG :BILL N9RIV: QUINTEN KC9LNJ : JOSH  
N9WEW BOB KM5UE

### Opening Remarks by NF9T

Tuck gave a treasurer report, which was accepted

Tuck also reported on the Cook Internet increases expense to from \$25 to \$29 each month

Tuck also commented on the constitution and suggested modification of the wording on several statements.

Tuck commented on the ARES drill coming up on Wednesday this week and the possibilities of supporting this effort. The EC for Vermilion County canceled the clubs involvement due to lack of operators. A poll was taken of how many people could have participated

Josh gave a report on ARES, which included the clubs support, our support of ARES EMA and the Red Cross

### Old Business:

Jim W9JUG gave a report on clubhouse repairs

Tuck commented that the Win2k system requires an antenna

Kevin commented that he has an antenna and will make it available

### New Business

KB9ZMF discussed the festival of lights which is scheduled for November 18 Dave volunteered to chair this event

Ron KCTAM volunteered to Chair the 501c3 committee. Members of this committee are JIM K9KUZ and JIM W9JUG

Jim W9JUG resigned as clubhouse facility and KC9RNA volunteered to take this responsibility

Tuck announced that Kathy KG5GPR volunteered as ham fest chairperson and TOM NU9R as field day chairman.

Dave KB9ZMF volunteered to look into a location for the annual Christmas party locations. Various possible locations were discussed. Possible date Monday December 13

Dave KB9ZMF volunteered to update the silent key board

Jim W9JUG commented on repairs to the repeater coax and also suggested that lawn maintenance equipment be purchased next year.

Jim W9JUG proposed an Internet committee be formed to support its function. This was accepted with Jim W9JUG as chairman Ron KC9TAM and Steve N0YHH as committee members

Jim W9JUG presented a program on cycle 24

The meeting was adjourned at 8PM

# SPECIAL EVENT!!!

On Veterans Day, Thursday, Nov. 11, W9VFW at the Vermilion County War Museum will be active. All club members are invited to come and share the mic. Operation will be on 20/40 ssb, from 10am to 3pm. We will be operating an old Collins S-Line from the Vietnam War era.

## Two New ARRL Kits Coming Soon

10/23/2010 from the ARRL web site.

Two new ARRL kits are in the final throes of production. The first is a Morse code oscillator, produced for ARRL by MFJ Enterprises. The project is a good "beginners" electronics kit. We expect the kit will be popular with members, particularly newcomers, and with clubs, instructors and teachers seeking a classroom kit-building experience.

A supplementary resource guide for students and educators will be made available by the ARRL Education and Technology Program. The guide helps cover the fundamentals of the working circuit and its components.

A second kit is a PIC programming lab and project, produced for ARRL by Cana Kit (Canada). This more substantial kit is intended to be used with *ARRL's PIC Programming for Beginners* book (revised first edition). The kit includes all the necessary components, parts and boards, and follows the book's step-by-step exercises and tutorial. The kit also includes all the necessary parts to build a microprocessor-controlled CW keyer, which is the book's culminating project.

"We're excited about these new projects, which help emphasize kit construction, basic electronics, and the extraordinary potential of microcontrollers," said Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, ARRL Marketing Manager. "There's no better way to advance the radio art than by introducing more hams to project building and homebrewing." Both the ARRL Morse Code Oscillator and ARRL's PIC Programming Kit will be available later this fall. Watch for details at [www.arrl.org/shop](http://www.arrl.org/shop).



# TIME CHANGE!!

## Set your clocks back 1 hour Saturday night before retiring.