

PARC News

November, 2008

Volume 18 Issue 11



Vote For Officers

A BIG Change!

See Page 3 for Christmas Party Change

A Note Of Thanks From Our Guest

Hi, folks-

I just wanted to say "thanks" to the PARC for making me feel welcome during my trip to Fremont/Colon last weekend for the ARRL CW Sweepstakes contest. It was great to meet some of you at breakfast on Saturday, and the honorary membership in PARC was a real surprise; thank you!

This is one of the reasons why Amateur Radio is one of the best activities around. My hosts, Lance and Darlene, invited me, a total stranger, into their home and let me use their station just because they wanted to help out a fellow Amateur. I am grateful for the fellowship this hobby offers throughout the world. Darlene's cooking was simply out of this world, and it sure was good for this Illinois boy to taste some real Midwest home cooking. Thanks, Darlene.

The KEØRC club station that Lance has is a great resource available to all of you. I encourage all of you to check it out. I can assure you it performs well; I made 1067 QSO's in all 80 ARRL/RAC sections for a score of 170,720 points. Based on preliminary reports, I have the best score in my category (Single Operator, Low Power) in Nebraska and the Midwest Division, and am currently ranked 8th in the country. All of this is subject to change as we go over the logs with a fine tooth comb, but I'm very satisfied with my effort.

If you are at all curious about getting on the air, please talk to Lance or Larry (KØSW) and inquire about using the KEØRC station. Dipping your toe in the deeper end of the pool is always exciting and fun; who knows, you just might find something you've been missing and didn't even know it.

I will be writing a story about my experiences in Nebraska on my ARRL Blog, "Notes From The Contest Branch." You can find a link to it at www.arrrl.org/contests.

Thanks again for the hospitality, and feel free to drop me a line at any time if I can do anything for you.

Best 73,

Sean Kutzko KX9X

ARRL Contest Branch Manager

(860) 594-0232

kx9x@arrrl.org

Check out the ARRL web page Sean mentions above. See pictures of us at the Village Inn Breakfast. Sean is a great writer. He wrote some very nice things about us and our club! - Darlene



Sean KX9X



Jane makes Sean a PARC Member

PARC Minutes

October , 2008

**Check into the PARC Net
Every Wednesday at 7 p.m.
on the 146.67 repeater!**

Meeting called to order by Jane Mehaffey, KBØZUN, a 7:30 p.m. 16 people were present. Everyone introduced themselves.

There were no minutes because we did not have a meeting in September. Treasurer's report accept by Joe Roberts WAØSTV, seconded by Steve Benke KFØMS. Approved.

Darlene Hoffman NØLOP gave the newsletter bill to Larry Martens KØSW. The bill for picnic food approved. Rich Mehaffey KBØARZ and John Beranek, KCØKKE seconded. Approved.

Hospitality: Sharon Martens KBØTVB sent Dok Doksansky WAØRHY a card for his surgery.

Field Day – Larry said to think about where we want to go next year. Had good time this year.

Flea Market – Rich said the date is July 18th, 2009 for next year.

Picnic – Thanked Dave WØNRW and Karol Theophilus for their hospitality for our picnic.

Christmas Party – Dec. 13th at 6 p.m. The party was supposed to be at Andy's on 1st, but the menu was only 2 items. We discussed moving to Wooden Windmill because we can order off the menu. Rich called. He got us booked for Dec. 13th at 6 p.m. at Wooden Windmill.

New Business: Vote for Ham of the Year –

Executive Board Director Meeting – Talked about the members working at Flea Mkt. Do not have to pay if you work, up to you. Talked about the website. Lance Hoffman WNØL looked into 1, 2 or 3 years, no break in the rate. Chose 1 year because might be changes. Third thing, as in past donated to the repeaters and decided to do again.

Next month, Jane said vote for officers, Jane would rather not be president because she is going to be gone a lot next year.

ARES: Dave T. said annual OMMARs training has always been Sat. This year Tues. Nov. 18th 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. at 87th and Burt, part of Methodist Hospital Joe C. Harper Training Ctr.

Equipment is here for Three Rivers, but not yet installed.

Net Control – Nothing.

Old Business: Nothing.

Dave T and Sharon will count the votes for Ham of the Year.

Draw for the pot – Milt Krostad WØFKG. He was not present. Pot carries over.

Breakfast for next Saturday at Village Inn at 8 p.m. with our guest Sean Kutzko. 12 people raised their hands as attending.

Larry said CQ contest this weekend. Lance talked about the contest this weekend. Steve said we should decide if we want to meet at Hero's again next year and let them know the dates.

November meeting is a week earlier. Bob Kirchmann, WØICE made motion, John seconded we meet at Hero's next year.

Joe and Steve have a program.

Motion to adjourn – Rich seconded by Mel Cunningham KØVLA.

**Milt Krostad
WØFKG's
name was
drawn. He
was not pre-
sent.**



Membership Dues:

Dues are \$10 for first member of a family and \$3 each additional member per calendar year if paid between Jan. 1 and March 1. Dues are prorated at \$1 per month after March 1 for new members. Previous year member's dues remain \$10 whenever they are paid. Life membership is \$200.

SEND TO:

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



Pioneer Amateur Radio Club Report - October, 2008

Savings.....	\$ 130.68
Checking	\$1,007.23
Petty Cash	\$ 10.50
Total	\$1,148.41
Income:	
Total	\$ None
Expenses:	
Newsletter	\$ 14.88
Total Expenses.....	\$ 14.88

- This Month — Hero's / Gambinos
- CLUB MEETING: November 21, 2008
- Supper at 6:30 Meeting at 7:30



www.k0jfn.com

CQ Communications Acquires WorldRadio Magazine

(Hicksville, NY and Sacramento, CA, November 12, 2008) -- CQ Communications, Inc. has acquired WorldRadio magazine, CQ Publisher Dick Ross, K2MGA and WorldRadio Publisher Armond Noble, N6WR, announced jointly today. CQ, based in Hicksville, New York, currently publishes CQ Amateur Radio, CQ VHF and Popular Communications magazines. WorldRadio, based in Sacramento, California, has been published monthly since July, 1971, with a primary focus on the human side of ham radio. CQ, a general-interest ham radio magazine best known for its support of DXing and contesting, has been in print since January, 1945.

Armond Noble, N6WR, Publisher of WorldRadio, said that at the age of 74 the time had come for him to retire. "I wanted to be sure that WorldRadio found a good home, and that our readers would continue to be served by an independent voice in amateur radio," Noble said.

CQ Publisher Dick Ross, K2MGA, said, "WorldRadio has filled an important niche in our hobby for nearly four decades. We welcome WorldRadio's readers to the CQ family, and we look forward to meeting their needs for many years to come."

Current plans call for WorldRadio to continue to be published online as part of the CQ family of magazines, with Editor Nancy Kott, WZ8C, continuing in that position. WorldRadio subscribers will also have their subscriptions transferred to CQ magazine. Readers will be notified of details as plans are finalized.

73, Carl, N4AA

Reminder

Our November meeting is the third
week -
November 21st because of Thanksgiving!

Hero's tells Sharon our meeting night is
also "Half Price Large Pizza Nite"
What a deal !!



The Change

PARC Christmas Party
Sat. Dec. 13, 2008
WOODEN WINDMILL
Fremont

Time: 6 p.m. Menu: Choose Off The Menu

Antennas & Stuff



The Pioneer Amateur Radio Club had a nice visit and breakfast with the contest branch manager from the American Radio Relay League this past November 1st.

The ARRL is one of the main reasons Amateur Radio service is alive and well in this country and many others.

The book "200 Meters and Down" by Clinton Desoto tells the story of ham radio after the shutdown in World War I and the years following when ARRL's founder WIAW and his coworkers staved off the legislation that would have ended the Amateur Radio Service.

I have been a League member since 1964 and while I may not have agree with every policy change, I still support the League.

Sean Kutzko, KX9X, the contest branch manager for the ARRL came to our club to have a go at the Nebraska record score for the ARRL November CW Sweepstakes contest. Sean proved to be an accomplished CW operator and all around good guy. He used the contest shack at the Fremont Area Radio Transmitting Society and thanks to the hospitality of Lance and Darlene, he made 1,067 contacts in all 80 Clean Sweep section multipliers for a raw score of 170,720 points.

While not quite a record, that is a remarkable score for 100 watts and bottom of the sunspot cycle conditions.

Sean's coworker, Ward Silver NØAX, had issued a challenge from Missouri and was soundly defeated. Ward probably had to buy dinner. They both have written many columns in QST.

I learned and re-learned several things about serious contesting:

1. You need to have your contest logging software up to date and ready before the test.
2. You need to have your station set up for comfort for long operating periods.
3. You need to be sure your antennas work well on the bands and directors you will be needing to work.
4. You need to learn how to "Run" stations on a frequency instead of hunting and pouncing throughout the contest.
5. You have to "Stay in the Chair" for the full duration of the contest!

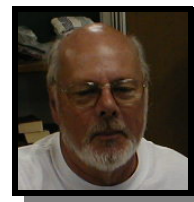
Thanks, Sean for the great breakfast and for showing the PARC that ARRL is more than just "Those guys back in Newington." Hi!

We still miss the line scores in QST though!

73 es TNX de KØSW

Watching Sean Operate Was A Pleasure

Lance WNØL



It was a real pleasure watching Sean, KX9X, operate the 2008 ARRL CW Sweepstakes contest, the weekend of November 1 and 2. I learned much from his operating!

1). The logging software (CT) he used has been available for years, and I had used it. The latest version is much improved and after seeing it perform, I highly recommend it. It's free!

2). I need to work on my "sitting" capabilities. Staying in the chair, and focused, is a necessity.

3.) I also need to work on my IBEK (Interface Between Ears and Keyboard) and my short term memory retention. While I am a "touch typist", there are numerous times when I type the wrong letter, need to delete that character, remember what it was, type it, and continue. In an exchange, such as the Sweepstakes, it's not just the callsign, but a consecutive serial number, category, year licensed and ARRL section.. Missing one character can mess me up seriously, so remembering the exchange would help. It is a grueling exercise, which can greatly improve ones operating skills.

While I will never be able to "keep my butt in the chair" for that long, I can work on the other things.

All the equipment and antennas performed well. There was a

brief shutdown of the radio, which was resolved by adding a small fan over the finals. Ergonomics dictate rearranging and adding ventilation around the equipment.

Sean indicated, if he returns next year, he will enter in a different category. I plan to explore the possibility of adding Internet access to the shack. Linear amplifiers are currently available for the "high power" category. The antenna for 160 meters is currently "on the ground" due to construction of a new grain bin in its path. Hopefully, sunspot activity will increase, helping 15 and 10 meter propagation.

ARRL SWEEPSTAKES -- 2008

Call: KX9X	BAND	QSO	QSO	PTS	SECTIONS
Category: Single Operator	160	0	0	-	
Power: Low Power	80	436	872	-	
Band: All Band	40	362	724	-	
Mode: CW	20	268	536	-	
Section: NE	15	1	2	-	
Score: 170,720	10	0	0	-	
Power Output: _100__ watts	Totals	1067	2134	80	
Hours of operation: _24	Score:	170,720			

PIONEER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - Fremont, NE

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President—Jane Mehaffey Secretary—Darlene Hoffman
V. President—Joe Roberts Treasurer—Sharon Martens

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Mel Cunningham, Joe Roberts, Bob Kirchmann
+ 2 Officers

Committee Chairs

Field Day—Larry Martens	Publicity—Kiel Eltiste
Flea Market—Rich Mehaffey	Education—Steve Benke
Picnic—Dave Theophilus	Net Manager—John Beranek
Christmas Party—Jane Mehaffey	ARES Mgr.-Dave Theophilus
Hospitality—Sharon Martens	Technical—Carl Johnson

It Was A Good Time

By Darlene NØLOP

Yes, it was a pleasure to have Sean Kutzko, KX9X, the ARRL Contest Manager visit us during the weekend of Nov. 1st.

The pictures to the right are from our breakfast on Saturday morning at Village Inn. Fifteen members came to breakfast. Thanks to all who attended. Sean mentioned to me that it really made him feel welcome.

The one thing that made Sean feel extra special happened at breakfast when Rich asked Sean to autograph his QST magazine. Sean told me when we got home and again on Sunday, “I’ve never had anyone ask me for my autograph! I can’t believe it”.

I, personally, really hit it off with Sean. I thoroughly enjoyed having him as our guest for the weekend. He’s very enjoyable to have a discussion / conversation with on any subject.

I think you can tell from his personal note to us on Page 1 and also on his ARRL blog that he really enjoyed being here, also.

He mentioned before he left, that he would like to come back. If that happens, maybe we can have a get together somewhere other than a restaurant so that more of you can get to know him better.



Above: Lance WNØL, Bob WØICE, Linda KCØYRR, Bill KAØVXK, Jane KBØZUN, Larry KØSW, Sean KX9X, Carl WØGAJ and Dave T WØNRW.

Below: Steve KFØMS, Mel KØVLA, Larry KØSW, Sean KX9X, Carl WØGAJ, and Dave T WØNRW.

