

OCARC Monthly News Letter

Orange County Amateur Radio Club



Volume 1, Issue 12 O C A R C Orange County Amateur Radio Club December 2015 Editor W2LGB



Presidents Message

Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah.

Where did the year go? Seems like only yesterday we were holding our annual Christmas/Holiday party. What a year!

The club has grown again this past year and I'm sure we'll see even more progress in 2016. I am looking to establish various teams this coming year so more members can become involved and become a more interested club member. The first team to be named with Tom Ray, W2TRR, as Team Leader will be the Technical Team with the mission of assisting members with any technical questions and solving operating problems we seem to have every Field Day. Soon to be established will be a Special Events Team to create club events, and every club needs social events, so we'll need a team to organize our annual Holiday party, the annual club picnic and put together an exciting menu for our Field Day activity.

The major club event is, of course, our annual Hamfest. Over the last few years, in spite of the ease of ordering ham gear on the internet, our event has slowly grown to be the area's largest hamfest. Although many club members pitch in the day of the event, there is a vast amount of prep work that has been primarily done by one person...specifically, Barbara Favoino. It's time for her to take a break, so a new team will work with vendors for door prizes and make sure all the necessary sub-teams are in place to build yet another successful Hamfest.

Let's all look forward to 2016 and make OCARC even greater. Help make the club one you can be very proud to be a part of and envied by all the others.

73,
Bruce, K2ULZ

OCARC Officers

President: Bruce G. Baccaro, K2ULZ
Vice President: Tom Ray, W2TRR
Secretary: Barbara Favoino, KD2ANH
Treasurer: Mark Copeletti, WM2C
Education Director: Gordon Shacklett, KB2SSZ
Membership Chairperson: Amy Scherl, KC2WWX
ARRL DXCC Card Checker Mickey Favoino K2NRS

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Club Nets

- The 2 Meter Net meets Wednesday evenings at 8PM Eastern Time on the Club's repeater, output 146.485, input 145.885, PL 88.5.
- **ECHOLINK NODE**
- Tom Ray, the KD2ANX trustee, maintains an Echo link node listed under his call sign (W2TRR-R). Please feel free to join our 2 Meter net using Echo link.

OCARC HF Net Every Sunday At
Noontime on 3.920 MHz"
Plus or minus QRM



OCARC Board of Directors:

Bruce Baccaro
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Mickey Favoino
K2NRS

k2nrs@ocarc-ny.org

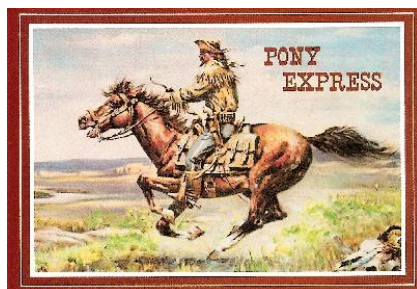
Joe Martellaro
N2JAM

n2jam@ocarc-ny.org

To Contact the Club the Old Fashioned way:

P.O. Box 624
Cornwall, NY
12518

845-391-3620



IARU Praises WRC-15 Regarding Use of Ham Bands for Non-Amateur Satellites

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has welcomed the exclusion from consideration of all existing Amateur and Amateur-Satellite frequency allocations for potential use by non-amateur satellites. World Radio communication Conference 2015 (WRC-15) last month in Geneva recommended an agenda item for the next WRC in 2019 involving spectrum studies for short-mission satellites that removes from consideration the Amateur-Satellite allocations at 2 meters and 70 centimeters.

"This is an excellent result for the amateur services and clearly shows that non-amateur satellite constructors need to consider spectrum other than the very limited and congested segments that are available for amateur satellites at 144 MHz and 435 MHz," said IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA.

WRC-19 Agenda Item 1.7 calls on delegates "to study the spectrum needs for telemetry, tracking and command in the space operation service for non-GSO satellites with short duration missions, to assess the suitability of existing allocations to the space operation service and, if necessary, to consider new allocations, in accordance with Resolution COM6/19 (WRC-15)."

Resolution COM6/19 specifies 150.05-174 MHz and 400.15-420 MHz as the frequency ranges that may be considered for possible new allocations.

One factor the conference considered in deciding on those particular frequency ranges was that, contrary to the provisions of the ITU Radio Regulations defining the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite services, "some non-amateur satellites have used frequencies for telemetry, tracking and command in the frequency bands 144-146 MHz and 435-438 MHz which are allocated to the Amateur-Satellite Service."

Larry's DX Corner

W2LGB

DX News for December 2015 DX via ARRL DX News

ANTARCTICA

Bhagwati, VU3BPZ is QRV as 8T2BH until mid-December 2016 at the Bharati Research Station. Activity is on 20, 17, 15 and 10 meters using SSB. QSL via I1HYW.

SABLE ISLAND, CY0

Aaron, VA1AXC is QRV as CY0/VA1AXC until January 31, 2016 while on work assignment. Activity is in his spare time on 20 meters using SSB. QSL direct to JE1LET.

SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, E5

Magnus, SM6WET will be QRV as E51WET from Rarotonga Island, IOTA OC-013, and Aitutaki Island, IOTA OC-083, from December 14 to January 8, 2016. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and JT65. QSL direct to home call.

SOLOMON ISLANDS, H4

Tom, WL7HP is QRV as H44TM from Guadalcanal until February 16, 2016. He is active in his spare time on 40, 20, 17 and 15 meters using SSB and possibly some CW. He plans to visit three of the outer islands. QSL to home call.

MADEIRA ISLANDS, CT3

Members of the REP-Delegation in Madeira will be QRV as CQ90IARU from December 17 to 23 in celebration of the 90th anniversary of the IARU. QSL via bureau.

BRUNEI, V8

Members of the Brunei Darussalam Amateur Radio Association are QRV as V890IARU until the end of 2015 to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the IARU. Activity is on the HF bands using all modes. QSL via V85TL.

ZAMBIA, 9J

Peter, 9J2HN is QRV as 9J2JOCV until the end of 2015 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers. QSL direct via JL1IHE.

BARBADOS, 8P

Ernest, J69AZ will be QRV as 8P9JB from December 15 to January 5, 2016. Activity will be on the HF bands using QRP power. QSL direct to home call.



GET THOSE ANTENNAS READY FOR WINTER!

Digital News

By Larry W2LGB

Fusion, Dstar, DMR, PSK, RTTY, Packet, Pactor

Oh my so many to choose!

What modes do I recommend? At this time in radio History, I would recommend each and every mode. Amateur radio is all about experimentation. Every month I will select a different mode and we will discuss the BASIC setup/operation and what is needed to get you on the air. This month will be The DV4MINI Device.

What is the DV4MINI All About?

DV4MINI- What is The DV4mini?

DV4mini Dongle is a tiny very powerful USB stick that can change any PC into a HOTSPOT for the modes D-Star, DMR (C4FM Fusion) and now DPMR and P25.

It contains a powerful 32-bit micro controller as well as a complete 70cm transceiver and modulator/demodulator for GMSK and 4FSK (including raised cosine) as well as a USB interface. With 12 mw output.

It does not require its own power supply as it is powered through the USB interface.

Thanks to a power saving voltage transformer even older USB like 2.0 interfaces will work. The Dv4mini uses a comprehensive but simple to use software package which allows for the linking with DCS reflectors for both D-Star and DMR reflectors, C4FM and P25.

But remember on DMR that this will not get you into the DMR-Marc network, it will only get you into the DMR+ "Hytera" network for now, on group 4639.

I managed to get this little nifty device to operate on a Raspberry Pi 2, lots of configuration and not for the faint of heart. The windows version worked flawlessly first time.

First of all there are very limited distributors of this device.

American Distributor

<http://wirelesshold.com/dv4mini.aspx>

European Distributor

http://www.helitron.de/shop/product_info.php?language=en&products_id=81

All The Software is located at this site:

<http://dv4m.ham-dmr.ch/>

Better read the installation manual and instructions if you plan on using the Raspberry Pi, The windows install is very straight forward and easy to do.

The Tech support is from Wireless Holdings was superb. Even called me back!

So this is what this device looks like:



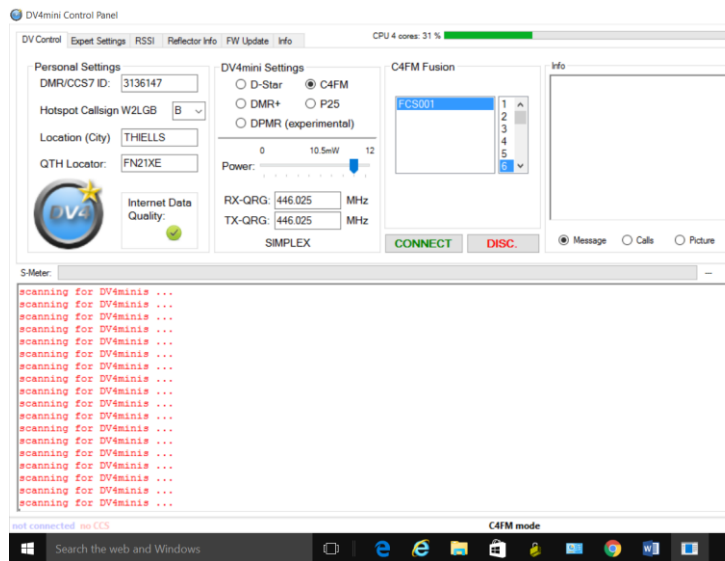
You will need an SMA uhf antenna as some units have them and some do not. This device is ONLY available in UHF at the present moment. I highly recommend this item if you are interested in the digital modes.



My Raspberry PI and case with DV4Mini

Digital News Continued

Windows 10 screen shot of the program.



You are now able with the appropriate radio and this device to use these different modes.

In order to operate this unit YOU MUST HAVE a DIGITAL ID!!

You can go to this site and request one yourself or you can contact me and I will do that for you.

<http://www.dmr-marc.net/cgi-bin/trbo-database/register.cgi>

If you prefer me to do this for you, Please include call sign, first and last name and your email address and home address in the email to me. W2LGB@arrl.net You will receive your number via email.

So Far I have tested the following modes.

DMR Mode, ok sounds good,

C4FM (Fusion) Sounds the best, and Dstar, works well and sounds ok.

I will be testing P25 very shortly as I had to get a radio capable of that mode.



One Last thing to remember, You cannot operate this unit without the proper radio

Dstar requires a Dstar radio
Fusion Requires a Fusion Radio
DMR requires a DMR radio
P25 Requires a P25 radio.

CLUB NEWS

Big Congratulations are in order as Our President Bruce Baccaro K2ULZ was awarded the HAM of The Year Award at the ARRL Hudson Division Luncheon. The luncheon was excellent and a great time was had by all that attended.



Mike Lisenco, Hudson Division Director, reading the plaque inscription to Bruce and the attendees



Bruce Giving a speech



Rachele and Bruce



With Bruce is Pete Cecere ENY Section manager.

Thank you to all the club members who attended this fine luncheon.

The Officers and Members of the OCARC Want to extend our congratulations to all the recipients of the Ham of the year award and to all the others whom received awards, JOB WELL done, this is the type of dedication that will keep our hobby alive and well.

***** **EXTRA EXTRA** *****

WALLKILL, NY Dec 5, 2015 OCARC ANTENNA CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING TEAM PERFORMS MAGIC

Setting yet another shining example of ham ingenuity and teamwork from OCARC, the new COBRA UltraLiteMulti-band antenna has been installed, ready for balun finishing, in record time. The team met at the KB2SSZ antenna farm the morning of Dec. 5, quickly discerning and simplifying the requirements for hoisting the new wire, flawlessly executing line shots with a pneumatic launcher, hauling ropes and pulleys to the highest tree limbs, and pulling the 140-foot antenna to its new home 45 feet up. Lending muscle and brains to the stunningly efficient effort were George N2BEF, Howie WA2AGA, Les KD2BFP, Mickey K2NRS, James KD2BQJ, and Stan K2STN. Offering expert advice remotely from home were Mark WM2C, Larry W2LGB, and...AND...Gene K2KJI, from his electronics store in Cedar Grove NJ, "source of the COBRA".

Ham operator Shacklett, KB2SSZ, said, "This was an amazing undertaking! I couldn't have been more pleased with the dedication and persistence of this OCARC team! Mega-thanks to all!".

Club Good and Welfare

We would like to wish Mike McGinn, KD2CNU a speedy recovery, Mike is resting at home and you can email mike via the OCARC Group.

Wishing Happy Birthdays to the following members:

N2NP- Noreen, K2NRS- Mickey, KC2WWX- Amy, KC2AOU- Richard, KC2VHQ- Keith, KD2ABY- Warrick, KC2ZOU- Richard, N2WRT- Robert, KD2BFP- Les, KD2BFR- Thomas, KD2BMG- Thomas, KD2GQZ- Glenn, KD2JSP- Robert and Thomas Grantham.

Editor's Note:

Well One year has passed and what a year it has been, the newsletter was revived and this is our 12th issue. I want to thank everyone whom contributed to this fine newsletter, without your input there would be only a few pages. Keep the news coming, email what you would like to see and what you would like published to w2lgb@arrl.net

Let's make 2016 an even better year and as our president stated we have big plans for the club in 2016, this is your club please tell us what you would like to see, do and participate in.

I want to wish all the officers and Members of OCARC and their families a very Happy Holiday Season, to all the Officers and employees of the ARRL for a job well done in 2015.
Larry W2LGB



Swap and Shop Items for sale and or Trade

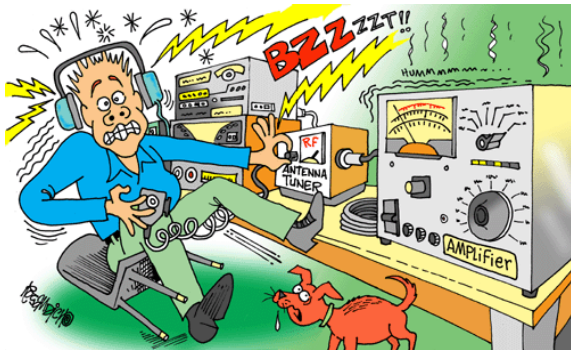
\$ 425.00 Motorola XPR 4550 New Dmr
Mobile Radio Uhf only also works regular
FM repeaters

\$ 200.00 Icom IC-208 H Mobile

\$ 250.00 TiTan Dx Vertical Antenna
Negotiable

\$ 175.00 Connect Systems VHF DMR and
analog 1000 channel radio

\$425.00 Icom ID-80a Dstar and FM Dual Band
with a GPS MIC \$300 dollar value
Radio used 2 hours.
Included will be a nifty manual and RT
systems software. See Larry W2LGB



Please Contact Micky K2NRS or Larry
W2LGB for any Items you would like to
purchase.



TITAN DX ANTENNA

Vintage Icom Receivers For Sale



These venerable Icom vintage receivers come with
every available option available at the time
I purchased them, including Remote Controls for
each radio!

These could be the most pristine R71 and R7000
receivers available anywhere.

They come with their original boxes, as shown
here.

Everything pictured here is included

I am asking
just

\$800.00

Everything Must Go!

Contact Steve KD2JSM at skarp@earthlink.net