



O P E N M I C



A NEWSLETTER OF THE
RUNESTONE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, W0ALX

W0ALX RARC, 2301 S Le Homme Dieu Drive NE, Alexandria, MN 56308
www.arrl.org www.w0alx.org Repeaters: 146.790 Alexandria; 147.255 Sauk Centre

ANTIQUE RADIO REPAIR

You don't need advanced electronics knowledge to fix most old radios. Tube-powered radios are simple in comparison to modern electronics. Most were built to conventional designs, and they use replacement parts that are still readily available. Fixing old radios can be an enjoyable hobby in itself, and you might even learn something about one of our century's key technologies.

You should **not** power up an un-restored radio before doing a basic checkup. That may destroy expensive parts or start a fire, and it won't tell you anything very useful.

Get the Schematic

The schematic diagram is your road-map to a vintage radio or TV, identifying all of the parts and showing the connections among them.

Clean and Inspect the Chassis

Look under the chassis for obvious problems, such as missing parts, disconnected wires, and burned or broken components. Cracked or broken power cords are very common. If your power cord has either problem, replace it before you try to power up the set. If a resistor or capacitor suffered catastrophic failure, then it may be cracked, broken in half, or have its end blown out. These obviously ruined parts must be replaced. In a small number of old radios, the insulation on the wires under the chassis degrades over time and becomes brittle, falling off in pieces. If your radio has only one or two wires like this, it's easily cured by unsoldering one end of the wire and slipping new insulation over it.

Clean and Test the Tubes

Every tube in your radio should be removed for cleaning and testing. This elementary step should be done sooner rather than later.

(cont next column)

JULY 2014

Replace Capacitors – Check Resistors

Paper and electrolytic capacitors are so *unreliable* that testing is a waste of time, replace them. Usually the other type capacitors are OK. Resistors fall somewhere in between. More reliable than the worst types of capacitors, they still can change value with age. I always start with the electrolytic capacitors in the power supply, since the rest of the set can't possibly work if those are defective. Once the power supply is healthy, you can cautiously power up your set. Additional troubleshooting may be required if the set still doesn't work. The final step after getting the radio to detect stations is peaking the IF's and alignment.

wa0ebz

(This is the third and final installment of a series tracing "commercial radio" development in the US. The writer is Wayne Johanson WA0EBZ who graciously consented to develop the series. Thank you Wayne for some interesting and informative articles...well done!)

MONTHLY MEETING
JULY 15, 2014
GLENWOOD STATE BANK-ALEX
7:00pm

PROGRAM: JIM KB0INZ will "show and tell" us about a couple 70cm antennas he's recently built

UPCOMING EVENTS:

July 15 7:00pm RARC Monthly Club Meeting
July 19 8:30am Sat Coffee, Jan's Place, Alexandria

Aug 2: 8:30am Sat Coffee, AJ's, Osakis
Aug 16: 8:30am Sat Coffee, Holmes City—a community event coupled with a Farmers Market...free will type contribution for breakfast
Aug 19 RARC PICNIC LOCATION: TBA

Sept 6: 8:30am Sat Coffee, Trucker's Inn, Sauk Centre
Sept 16: RARC Monthly Club Meeting
Sept 20: 8:30 Sat Coffee, Depot, Alexandria

Oct 4: 8:30am Sat Coffee, Trucker's Inn, Sauk Centre
Oct 18: 7:30am Sat Coffee, Brass Lantern, Alex
Oct 18: 9:00am Set-up for W0W, Kensington Park
Oct 19: 8:00am Continue W0W, Kensington Park
Oct 21: 7:00pm RARC Monthly Club Meeting

RUNESTONE MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 2014

Club President Bill Klundt(KG0DX) called the meeting to order at 7:04PM at the Glenwood State Bank in Alexandria, MN.

Attendance: Jim Horn(KB0INZ), Roger Haffner(KD0UTA), Mike Thomas(W0MKE), Wayne Johanson(WA0EBZ), Pete Jennings(KD0UVA), Alden Mattocks(N0MIC), Dick Fjeld(N0CE), John Ross(W0JAR), Norm Yeutter(W0KCJ), Norm Priebe(W7ISD)

Minutes of Meeting of May 20, 2014 were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: General Fund \$3505.40 + \$0.00 - \$0.00 = \$3505.40

Coffee Cash \$285.41 + \$0.00 - \$0.00 = \$285.41

Trustee Report: No activity per W0KCJ

Technical Report: W0ALX repeaters are OK. The SuperLink controllers being "bad" and the use of a 2m antenna to receive 440MHz signals at Barnesville means Alexandria/Barnesville link does not work.

Education Report: None

Public Information Report: None

Safety Vests for Club: Pete Jennings is authorized to order 6 ARRL approved vests for the club at \$24.95 each + \$5.00ea shipping all size 2X. (N0CE/W7ISD) Passed.

(cont on p.3)

2014 RARC OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

KG0DX Bill	President
W7ISD Norm	Vice-President
W0KCJ Norm	Treasure / Trustee
KB0INZ Jim	Secretary
open	Technical Director
KC0UTN Ric	Education Director
W7ISD Norm	Director (2015)
N0QXM Nick	Director (2016)
W0JAR John	Director (2017)

PRESIDENTIAL SPLATTER.....

Put your order in now...I only have two FD pins left. Five bucks each...I'll have them at the July 15 meeting so you can take a look. They'd be great on your "radio" cap!

Note the summer schedule for Saturday breakfasts in this issue. We've had pretty decent turnouts for them so far...let's keep it going.

In the final de-briefing, Field Day was much better than expected. Friday evening set-up went very nicely and, in turn, getting operational on Saturday morning was pretty much a snap. There were many visitors, ample ops to keep the radio busy nearly 100% of the time, the food was great and the socializing was even better. I'll try to get something published in ARRL Field Day Soap Box regarding the W0ALX event...be sure to check out their website and see if it's uploaded.

73, Bill KG0DX



BIG OLE KEPT AN EYE ON THINGS.....EVEN THOUGH HE WAS MISSING PART OF HIS HELMET

(continued Minutes....)

Field Day Plans: Bill and Pete to work out Gopher State pre-dig inspection.
W0KCJ will send Pete non-profit status documents so Pete can place a free ad in the Echo Press. Coffee cash will be used for sodas, etc. We will monitor repeater with HT radios. We will operate on battery power. Set up starting at 6:00PM Friday June 27. At 8:30AM Saturday we will start the Awake the Lakes/Rib Fest special event station. 1:00PM start ARRL Field Day Contest. Quit about 10:00PM. Resume Sunday at 8:30AM. Tear down and pack up about Noon.

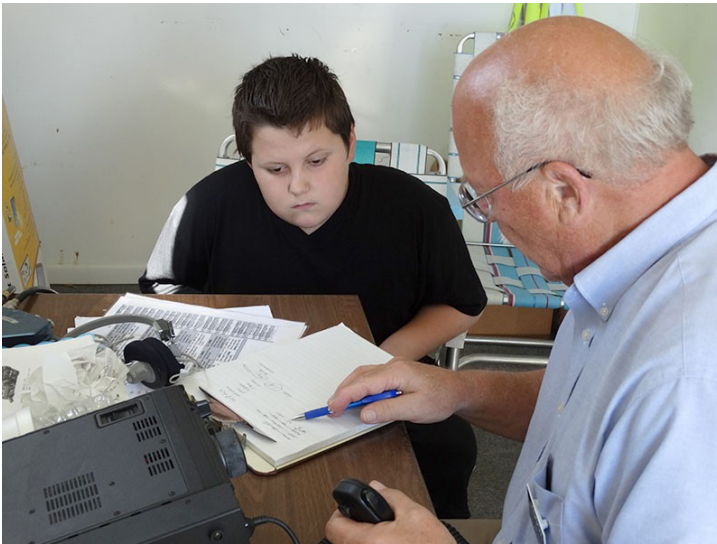
Adjourned. Minutes submitted by Jim Horn(KB0INZ), Secretary R.A.R.C.



UP SHE GOES....although the antenna appears close to the power line, it's at least twice the length to the lines....whew!

2014 NET CONTROL AND MEETING GOODIES

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>NET CONTROL</u>	<u>GOODIES</u>
JANUARY	KC0UTN/NN0Q	KG0DX
FEBRUARY	W0KCJ	W0KCJ
MARCH	NN0Q	N0CE
APRIL	N0RCL	KD0UTA
MAY	KD0MOM	KD0RAV
JUNE	KB0INZ	N0NYV
JULY	KD0UVA	KD0UVA
AUGUST	KC0UTN	PICNIC
SEPTEMBER	N0CE	N0CE
OCTOBER	KB0INZ	W7ISD
NOVEMBER	OPEN	KC0UTN
DECEMBER	KC0UTN	CHRISTMAS PARTY



HERE'S WHAT TO SAY.....



IT'S RAINING....EVERYONE INSIDE



LOOKING PRETTY SERIOUS

MEN AT WORK.....?



SPECIAL THANKS TO GEORGE N0RCL FOR SECURING THE SITE THIS YEAR AND ARRANGING FOR A GREAT COVERED MOBILE SHELTER FOR OUR USE...WORKED GREAT!