

W.A.R.C. QRM MAGAZINE

President: Greg VK2KGO
Secretary: John VK2YW
PO Box 294 Wagga Wagga NSW 2650
Meetings at Small St Clubrooms
Last Friday of each month

Callsign: VK2WG – VK2RWG – VK2RTW
Nets: 146.750 / 3605Mhz Tuesdays 2030hrs
7.165Mhz Sundays 1200hrs EST
IRLP Node - 626
Editor: John VK2YW Patron: Rivtron

May 2003 Issue

Next Meeting – Friday 30 May

The President's Words

Hi all. It's that time of the year again. No not Christmas. It's time for the Annual General Meeting. This generally means that you as club members need to consider whom you want as the executive of your club. That is the most effective people to lead your club for the next twelve months. At present I cannot say that I have been leading your club to the best of my ability. It boils down to a matter of time, or should I say the lack of time. My commitment to Family, Work and Scouting continues to be quite heavy and it doesn't look like easing off for another twelve months.

What am I saying? Yeh I'm quite happy to help out where I can but I don't feel I have done the post of President it's just deserves. Ask John 2YW, he has to harass me to do the monthly report? Please come to the AGM and find a good effective executive for your club. And yes there is a job for all of you.

Were you at the last meeting? If you were not you missed an excellent talk from Lee 2LRR. It was very informative and a lot of discussion followed. Especially when John Darnley from the Met Bureau joined in to the discussion. It became evident that we needed John to come back to us to discuss further radio propagation and the weather. See you at the next meeting and then at the AGM.

Greg VK2KGO

Snippets

*** Don't forget Q-News – Channel 3 at 8pm Tuesday night (at this stage) and the Virtual Pub – IRLP net VK wide – Friday nights 8pm. The latter generally has a discussion question which is very interesting listening. Wagga liaison on UHF VK2RTW.

*** Have you read this month's AR? Well done to Lee VK2LRR for his report in VHF-UHF an expanding world.

*** Speaking of Lee VK2LRR what a meeting for the last one! Lee has agreed to present a similar talk at the Riverina Field Day as one of the Seminar presenters. Well done.

*** John Darnley, OIC of Wagga Met Bureau filled in some bits for Lee's presentation and has kindly agreed to come back at the next meeting to speak to us on weather and the Bureau etc.

*** The May meeting will take nominations for positions for the forthcoming year. See tear off attached. We would like to hold an AGM dinner as well and would like to get all the boring business out of the road so we can eat! AGM and dinner is on (at the clubrooms of course) June 27th. Another Casserole Dinner! If you weren't at the last one you missed a really pleasant evening ...no cost ...just bring your casserole and sweets and let's eat!

*** How did you go with the Einstein puzzle in last month's QRM?

*** May 25th (Sunday) the clubrooms will be used for Bicycle Wagga Wagga's ride. We will be supplying the BBQ and selling drinks. If you can make it down to give hand then come down before lunch. Good fun and we make a bit from the drink's fridge.

*** Don't forget the Saturday morning working bee ...the painting is slowly getting done. If you can't paint, just come for a cuppa!

*** Neil VK2KNR has been busy building and programming repeater controllers for Rod VK2MKV to get installed into the VK2RTD repeater project. He apologises for not attending last week but as he was about to go his Dad turned up. I told him he should have brought him along!

*** Make sure you have a look at the list of equipment for sale elsewhere. Note that you need to contact Tony VK2ACV

*** Congratulations to Lee VK2LRR for passing the AOCP. Not only that but you can all look forward to working him as VK2KRR.

*** Also congratulations to John Mason who has now completed all of the requirements for a station licence having passed his Regulations at the last exam. John is from Leeton.

*** Commiserations to Jamie VK2PHI and Keith VK2HBJ and we wish them luck for their next attempt.

Tear off and bring to May Meeting

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WARC inc AGM nomination form	
I,	VK nominateVK
To the position of for the 2003-04 WARC inc Club year.	
Seconded	signed.....
Proposed	signed
Acceptance	signed

Letter from America

Recently John VK2YW, forwarded to me a copy of QRM electronically, I was very pleased to read it remembering familiar calls from the past. I thought that it would be pleasant to pass on a few notes from the local club and some of the content of meetings here in W1. You may find it interesting to sample a bit of Amateur Radio "Yankee style".

I am a member of the Nashua Area Radio Club (NARC) in New Hampshire. As I understand, it is almost as old as WARC. The accents are certainly different but the enthusiasm is the same.

Our last meeting dealt with Emergency Communications.

As a little background, Nashua is in the State of New Hampshire, which is part of the New England region of the United States. It is situated about four hours north of New York, and about an hour north of Boston by road. Increasingly, since the events of 9/11, Amateurs are forging a visible and important role in local communities and in emergency communications. They are potentially a swift responding, technically proficient independent resource. Sterling Eanes, AKIK, who is involved in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) (the American equivalent of WICEN), presented an interesting talk on this changing role and what individual people could do to be prepared if called upon.

The following are some ideas and facts that I jotted down which may be of interest and with Sterling's permission I asked if I could share this with you.

The following is a reality. All people here are encouraged to be individually prepared. This includes a plan to ensure safety of family, home, and you. As radio amateurs, should a natural or man-made disaster occur, we may be called upon or volunteer to assist in emergency services within our community.

Its not a good time to sort out what you will need to do, when an emergency occurs. Some prior planning is prudent in these times.

A good start is to create what could be called a GO List. At this most basic level, it is a checklist of equipment you would need to pull from your regular operations to support an emergency communications response. This hopefully ensures that you gather ALL the equipment needed to respond in a timely manner.

The next level of preparedness is to actually make up a GO kit. This ideally contains the majority of portable equipment you would need gathered together in one place. A toolbox or small airline suitcase was suggested as a suitable storage place. In reality, as we all don't have resources just to have dedicated rigs etc. set aside just in case, put in what you can and then use a checklist to top the kit up. Hopefully you will then have what you need to provide the communications services need. As a starting point Sterling suggested two levels of kit, the first level is built around your HT(s) (vhf, uhf)

A first level GO-kit:

Start with a small kit built around your HT.....make a clear checklist and have it in the storage box. Have in this kit the following suggested items, add other you think you would need, or if you have them in service put on the needed list to pull if required:

- easily portable case to hold everything
- the HT and regular rubber duck antenna
- Extra batteries (dry cell case for extra flexibility), AA if you need them
- Power adapters: cigarette lighter, Anderson powerpole, Molex, battery clips; extra fuses
- High gain antenna, 10m coax (RG-8M type) and a range of adapters for remoting antenna
- Speaker/mic, light headphones or headset (conditions can be very noisy) and NO VOX operation is essential
- Notebook, pencils for logging; identification, HT manual (shrink a copy of your HT manual down and cover with laminate) local repeater frequencies, emergency communications plan summary
- Small flashlight (try to insure everything uses the same type of battery and have fresh spares) small multi-tool, black tape (lots of black insulation tape, very useful can make signs, patch holes, fix lots of things etc!), compass
- Money and change for emergency use
- Small first aid kit, aspirin
- Light snacks

Kit one is good for local low power operations but if a greater area is involved or you are to net control an area, greater power will be required and a more sophisticated antenna installation will need to be pushed into the sky. (Interestingly only vhf,uhf was discussed)

An Advanced GO-kit approach

This kit is both for longer duration activities and since higher power is often required build this kit around your mobile rig. You may wish to carry it in your car but have facilities to be able to remove rig from car and operate portable. Establish reliable clear communications on the lowest power to conserve batteries in a portable situation.

The kit should include the following as suggested:

- mobile radio, mic, headphones
- AC power supply, extension cord, power strip; small inverter
- larger rechargeable battery
- more coax and adapters
- more extensive tool kit, more tape, propane soldering iron
- easily larger portable case to hold all of this
- Winter/extra clothes
- Food and water
- Larger flashlight and/or 12 v light
- more documentation and communications plans; message forms
- AM/FM/TV/WX radio

I know that this is all basically common sense however it does serve to stimulate thoughts on what is needed to be able to effectively respond and be prepared.

73 W1/VK3JNM Micheal (formally VK2JMG)

For Sale

The Underlisted items are available at prices quoted or near offer subject to BEST OFFER by 31st May 2003. Contact via email to: tonymul@pip.com.au or PHONE 02 9791 0366 Tony VH2ACV.

1. KENWOOD TS-440S with AAT and Mic MC60 #7090801 \$ 1500.00
2. 2. KENWOOD Power Supply for 440S \$ 125.00
3. 3. AZDEN 2M - FM PC5-3000 #81015 \$ 450.00
4. 4. ALINCO VHF/UHF Mobile DR-605T # T002525 \$500.00
5. 5. KENWOOD TM-221A 2M FM Mobile # 9031810 \$200.00
6. 6. TAIT T196 2M Base with P/S #207639 \$ 200.00
7. 7. MARCONI VTVM TF2604 240VAC 1500MHz #200930/45 \$ 150.00
8. 8. HP410C VTVM 240VAC 1500MHz # 0982A14561 \$100.00
9. 9. UNIDEN 16ch Scanner (nsn) \$50.00
10. 10. A & R PS141 Batt.ELIM 4.5/12V 500mA \$ 25.00

All negotiations via VK2ACV - Tony at PH: 02 9791 0366 or email to tonymul@pip.com.au
All payments to credit Mrs Jean Ward QTH R for VH2SW.

A QSL on IRLP

Twice now Keith VK2HBJ has answered calls late in the night from overseas stations calling in to Wagga. It seems the name Wagga has a certain attraction to overseas stations. Whether it is because they know they will generally get an answer or whether it is the name, I am not sure. However, Keith has now worked the USS Salem station twice on IRLP and spoken with some it's of the many junior visitors. Imagine his surprise

when not only two QSL cards (2 different ones, both from K1USN) turned up in the mail but a beautiful A4 appreciation certificate commemorating his contact. I am sure this will take pride of place on Keith's shack wall. Well done Keith!



NEXT MEETING NEXT MEETING NEXT MEETING NEXT

Don't forget to tear off the nomination for and bring it along. Following on from last meeting, John Darnley, OIC Bureau of Meteorology, will be presenting a talk on weather, charts etc. Ever wanted to know why something weather wise happens? Then here is your opportunity.