

# PIERRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

CENTRAL SOUTH DAKOTA'S HAM RADIO NEWS

VOLUME 0110

EDITED BY KDØS

JANUARY 2010

## NEWSLETTER

I had planned that the December newsletter would be the last issue, and my plans to discontinue the newsletter still stand. Until someone steps forward to do the newsletter, I will only be forwarding information that is vital to PARC, as well as DARN. Ed, WØSD had asked that the following article be sent out in the various club newsletters. JIM KDØS

## SD-Link 2009 in Review

First we want to thank W0VH Lemar for the Humboldt site, W0RTD-Eldon for the Reliance and Murdo sites and WA0QLP-Tom for the Turkey Ridge sites, KELO for the Garden City site, Northern Hills for the Terry Peak sites and Bear Mountain sites and W0BLK (Black Hills ARC) for the Black Hills Tie. We thank the Pierre club for arrangements for the Pierre site with Hughes county and SDPB and the Pierre club for the Philip site. We also want to thank Rudy-WB0PWA for hosting the Rapid City UHF site over the years. We also need to thank the Black Hills ARC for providing the club house for Dale WA1RJC to do a lot of work on SD-Link equipment and the Black Hills Tie which is extremely valuable.

2009 saw the finalization of the updating of new or recent vintage equipment on the UHF backbone with the last site being Terry Peak. All the UHF equipment at all 9 sites are brand new or quite recent vintage. The recent vintage equipment are five MFS-5000's and two quite new programmable Motorola radios at Reliance. The rest are brand new radios.

The UHF equipment installation at Terry Peak completed the PL-Pass through UHF hubs that were started in late 2008. We need to thank Dale WA1RJC for there construction. We have four UHF hubs which are at Humboldt, Wessington Springs, Murdo and Terry Peak. The PL-Pass through gets rid of most of the delay previously experienced in the SD-Link which was especially noted with communication from one end of the link to the other.

Battery back up is now in place at all SD-Link sites. The last one, Garden City was converted to battery back up this year. The Pierre site has moved to a new building with a new auto start back up generator replacing the old one.

The UHF site at Rapid City was

dropped due to extremely low activity but the Black Hills tie now includes Rapid City, 16/76 on Terry Peak and an updated Bear Mountain Repeater. The Black Hills Tie operates out of W0BLK and is on battery back up. It is available 24/7 but it is requested it it only used for emergencies, emergency training and for short periods of time when needed so people can communicate between eastern and western SD. The Rapid City and Bear Mountain Sites have battery back up.

The VHF antenna at Garden City was moved from the northwest corner of the tower to the east which has provided significantly better coverage to the southeast and south. A new Micor receiver and a new Motorola battery backup charging power supply was installed at Garden City.

Dale WA1RJC changed out the Micor VHF station to the newer unified chassis version and installed a new VHF PA at Terry Peak. He also update to a newer Motorola battery backup charging power supply.

A new Motorola Battery backup charging power supply was installed at Turkey Ridge. We have also improved our power supply situation for backup battery power at Humboldt.

At the Humboldt, Wessington Springs, and Garden City sites we

added a circuit that indicates when we are on back up battery power. This completes all 9 sites where we now have an indication when we are on back up battery power. This is very valuable as we now know if we need to instigate power saving measures on the SD-Link.

Extra courtesy beeps re-appeared in 2009. We have cured some but more have re-appeared. Getting rid of these extra courtesy beeps will be the first task when the WX permits in the spring of 2010.

With the completion of the UHF equipment to new or recent vintage it was time to begin updating the VHF equipment. We have made great progress and now have a number of Motorola Back up battery supplies ready to go if needed. We also have 5 micor VHF receivers and exciter boards tuned up and working in the 2 meter amateur band meeting Motorola specifications. We also have a number of VHF PA's and station control modules ready to go. We also have back up SD-Link controller boxes and boards so we should be in a position to maintain the Micor VHF equipments for many years. Meanwhile we will start converting some sites to new VHF equipment. The first one will be Reliance because of access problems during the winter. Murdo and Philip are other candidates for new VHF equipment because of there remote locations.

Another project that is under way

is to have a SD-Link site on solar power. A test set up has been set up at W0SD and for 2010 Don AA0F is planning on setting up a monitoring system so we can remotely tell what is happening.

Thanks to work by Dick-W0SIR we received a \$500 grant for the second year from Sioux Valley Energy for the Humboldt site. While we are speaking of finances we were able to raise some money from the Sioux Empire Club tail gate party and the SD Hamfest hosted by the Pierre ARC. Thanks so much for all that have donated! We have power bills at Turkey Ridge, Wessington Springs, Reliance and Murdo that runs about \$1,000 a year. Certainly we have expenses in updating equipment. As you can see we are very much in need of donations.

The SD-Link Monitoring Team was started in 2009 and is off to a great start. Brian KC0VDE is the team leader. We are looking for more team members to take monitoring time. People interested can let Brian know via his QRZ address or he is easy to catch on the SD-Link. For those who can not make a formal commitment of a time to monitor we ask you to monitor as much as possible when you can and respond to people on the SD-Link that are not getting responses. Thank you to KB0TTC, W00EYV, WB0VBW, W0SD, KC0VDE, KD0S and WF0BBM who are on the SD-Link Monitoring team.

We also need more Net Controls for the SD-Link net so no one has to take over a month. Right now some people are taking two months. It is easy to do and we have all the information you need to be a NCS. 2009 NCS stations have been KD0S, WB0RJH, W0SD, W0ADZ, N0MHJ, KM0F, KC0WNG, KC0VDE, and KC0VDF. My apologies if I missed anyone!

The people who have really spent some significant time at sites working on things and bench time working on things in 2009 for the SD-Link are KD0S-Jim of Pierre, WA1RJC-Dale of Rapid City, W0ADZ Chris of Sturgis, N0ARU Bill of Mitchell, Ed W0SD of Salem and Don-AA0F of Forestburg. We also want to thank Don Kendall who has made many trips with Dale WA1RJC to Philip and Terry Peak.

Other help has been provided by Brian- KC0VDE of Sioux Falls, Steve-KB0KBJ of Castlewood and Jerry KG0GG on some projects.

Lastly we have the following links for the SD-Link and associated activities:

<http://www.w0sd.com/sdarc/sdarc.htm>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sdlink/>

[www.kc0vde.com](http://www.kc0vde.com)

BY W0SD

## PARC MONTHLY MEETINGS

ALWAYS THE SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH  
MONTH AT FIRE STATION #4

# Pierre Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes December 10, 2009

### Attendance Log:

WØNWT	Dave Mehlhoff
NØNPO	Greg Bond
WBØRJH	Greg Hall
KCØWVF	Jim Ward
KDØS	Jim Zahradnicek
NØPIZ	John Opp
KBØGGM	Randy Anderson
KØPIR	Rich Donahue
AAØLY	Tam Gatje

Greg, WBØRJH, called the meeting to order at 1937 hours, CST. Greg H thanked Dave, WØNWT, for handling the meetings in his absence. • Angela Lundeen has updated the EFS2.

Minutes of the previous meeting were referenced as published by the **SECRETARY**. Motion by Dave, second by Jim W to approve as published. Passed.

**TREASURER** Greg B. report. There are 9 paid members and 2 life members for 2010 so far. There were 27 members in 2009. • \$217 was received for SDLink contributions and that amount will be matched by the club and forwarded to the link officials. (not technically true. Will be used to pay power bills on Murdo and Reliance. Funds will not be given to SDLINK)kd0s.

**ACTIVITIES** – Jim W – We are donating the batteries we had in stock to the SDLink. • The SD QSO party was discussed. Each member is to do their own thing with the party due to conflicting schedules. (Batteries were owned by SDARC and were in PARC storage. They have now been transferred to SDARC via W0SD)KD0S

**TECHNICAL** – Jim Z – Some weather stations are presenting technical problems that have not yet been solved. Work will continue to improve their operation. • Larry Sluiter, KF8HW, has requested putting another repeater in Onida that would be a voting receiver to the .35 machine. A possible site has been offered there. Cost of equipment purchase, installation and maintenance have not yet been addressed. Moved to table discussion until Larry can attend a meeting to make a presentation for the site.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Jim W moved for the club to accept payments for jackets and write one check to Tam for the total amount when they are ordered. Passed.

**NEW BUSINESS** – A donation for electrical power from the club to Eldon, WØRTD, for power used for ham equipment at his sites was approved in the amount of \$517.

Election of officers for the calendar year 2010 was held. Winning those elections are:

President	WBØRJH	Greg Hall
Vice-President	WØNWT	Dave Mehlhoff
Secretary	KØPIR	Rich Donahue
Treasurer	NØNPO	Greg Bond

Trustee election will be held at the January 2010 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2121 hours.

Minutes recorded and submitted by AAØLY.

### PARC OFFICERS

President	Greg Hall	WBØRJH
VP	Dave Mehlhoff	WØNWT
Secretary	Rich Donahue	KØPIR
Treasurer	Greg Bond	NØNPO

## PARC TRUSTEES

Eldon Lindquist WØRTD Exp. 12-31-2009  
John Opp NØPIZ Exp. 12-31-2010  
Jim Ward KCØWVF Exp. 12-31-2011

## PARC APPOINTMENTS

Activities Jim Ward KCØWVF  
Tech Jim Zahradnicek KDØS  
Tech Randy Anderson KBØGGM  
Tech Eldon Lindquist WØRTD  
ARES Jim Zahradnicek KDØS  
Historical John Opp NØPIZ  
DARN Directors KDØS WBØRJH

**PARC 2009 MEMBERSHIP DUES  
ARE ONLY \$24.00 FOR INDIVIDUALS  
AND \$12.00 FOR ADDITIONAL FAMILY  
MEMBERS. CONTACT PARC  
TREASURER, NØNPO.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARC Meetings are always held the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Thursday of each month.

2009 membership is due.  
\$24.00 per year  
\$12.00 for additional family member.

Coffee: PARC members schedule coffee  
at 10:00 AM Saturdays at Gators in the  
Pierre mall, and 10:00 AM on Thursdays at  
Hardees.

**WWW.SDHAMS.COM**

KOPIR has put together a great page  
for use of all hams, not only those from  
the central SD area.

You do not have to register with the  
site to view, but should register if you  
want to post messages. Check it out!

You may even find this newsletter  
there!

## SOUTH DAKOTA LINK SYSTEM

Your South Dakota Link net is held each  
Wednesday at 9:00 PM central time on the  
South Dakota link. Depending on your  
location you can check in on one of the  
following repeaters.

Turkey Ridge	<b>147.000+</b>
Humboldt	<b>147.285+</b>
Garden City	<b>146.670-</b>
Wessington Springs	<b>147.345+</b>
Reliance	<b>146.940-</b>
Pierre	<b>146.730-</b>
Murdo	<b>147.300+</b>
Phillip	<b>147.375+</b>
Terry Peak	<b>147.030+</b>
Rapid City	<b>444.750+</b>
<b>All repeaters use 146.2 tone</b>	

**DONATIONS TO THE SD LINK SYSTEM ARE  
URGENTLY NEEDED AND A NEW EASIER  
METHOD IS NOW AVAILABLE.**

Go to the SDARC web site:  
<http://www.w0sd.com/sdarc/sdarc.htm>  
and make your secure tax deductible  
contribution with your credit card or paypal  
account!

## SD HF NETS

SD MORNING WX NET	7:30 AM	<b>3.959</b>
SD NJQ NOON NET	12:15 PM	<b>3.870</b>
SD NEO EVENING NET	6:00PM	<b>3.860</b>

**Pierre repeater** 145.35- w/146.2 tone  
**Pierre IRLP node 3266** 146.565 w/146.2 tone

**Martin EchoLink** 145.505 no tone