

Annual Report for 2025

Lake Region Amateur Radio Club



Membership: At the end of 2025, the club had 37 full members with 8 of these being life members.

Officers: President - Dwight, KD0OIX; Vice President – Ross, NOMSS; Secretary – Randy, KB0BVR; Treasurer - Neil, AE0HK; Trustee - Tom, N0GQA

Bylaws: The club approved on 8 March 2025 a major revision of the bylaws to allow voting by mail or email for club officers, define a quorum, and cleaned up some language in the bylaws. The current version is posted on our web site.

Repeater Use Policy: The club approved *Repeater Use Policy and Guidelines* on 8 February 2025 to provide guidance in the use of the club's repeaters. This policy is on our web site under the sections about repeaters.

Community Service Events: The club helped with 5 events this year with two of them new to the club. Over the 5 events, 18 club members participated representing more than half the members. As these events all occur in the summer events, it is felt that this is close to the maximum number of such events the club is willing to take on.

Lake Region Healthcare Run: This event is three races in one (1-mile, 5K, and a 10-mile) The club provided communication around the two longer racecourses on the morning of 7 June 2025. Nine club members participated. This was our first year to do this race. If we do this next year, we will need a more efficient way to get information to race headquarters.

Summerfest Parade. The club members worked with the Otter Risers Kiwanis Club to provide communication along Summitt Ave while setting organizing the floats for the parade on 14 June 2025. Seven club members participated. This was our first time with this event, and it worked out very well.

STEM Day for Kids: This was held at the West Otter Tail County Fair on 18 July 2025. The club set up a radio and let people make a contact on the radio. We were able to set up a dipole that worked much better this year. We also used the 1x1 call of KOY during the event. Six club members participated. Several kids got onto either an HF radio or a VHF HT and made contacts. We also handed out flyers and talked about amateur radio to interested people.

Hoot Lake Triathlon: The club provided communication around the racecourse on the morning of 27 July 2025 and kept the Race Directors informed of events out on the racecourse. This year we were able to get information directly to the race announcer and have an operator in the sweep vehicle. Eight club members participated in the event.

Dalton Threshers Show: Club members helped organize the parade on the morning of 6 September 2025. We also used HTs to relay information along the road during the organizing of the floats prior to the start of the parade. Nine club members helped with the event.

Community Outreach Events: The club hosted several events or activities that were open to the public to increase our visibility in the community.

School Club Roundup: Jesse, KMOJPR, got permission to set-up a temporary radio station in the Community Education Classroom during both weeks of SCR this year. The students used K0QIK as the call. During February 2025, four students from Kennedy Secondary School staffed the radio for a total of 12 hours after school. During October 2025, seven students staffed the radio for a total of 10 hours. Six club members came by the stations to offer encouragement or advice to the students across the two weeks.

Field Day: Field Day was on the lawn of the Otter Tail County Historical Society on 28-29 June 2025. We ran as a 2-alpha station with one station on SSB and the other running FT8. Sixteen people participated including club members and 27 visitors from the community.

World Amateur Radio Day: The club celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union on 18 April 2025 by having a display and station set up at the Otter Tail County Historical Society. Despite events posting on various social media and posters in establishments around town, the event was not well attended. The club members who helped with the event did have a nice time hanging-out with each other for the day.

Getting the Word Out: Jesse, KMOJPR, manages the Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/k0qik>) and the web site (<https://www.k0qik.net/>) for the club. Dwight, KD0OIX, manages the club page at QRZ (<https://www.qrz.com/db/K0QIK>). In 2024, the club printed business cards with information about the club; the cards were given to members to use to inform people about the club. The business cards distribution has gone quite well and we will likely need to reprint the cards in 2026. The club also had 2-inch stickers with the club logo printed. These are to be given to youths or guests who get on a radio during any of our events. It is hoped that the stickers will be displayed in ways that others might see them. This gives a common sticker across all our events and one that showcases our club.

Club Activities

Repeaters: The club maintained four active repeaters during 2025 in Otter Tail County. **146.640, -- ; 147.285, 123.0; 444.975, 123.0; 147.150, 123.0.** The club also maintains an Allstar node, 51502, on the **444.200** machine (tone is 151.4).

Nets: The club currently hosts 2 weekly net and 1 monthly net. 1) Sunday evening at 19:00 local time on the 147.150 repeater that serves to share information among members in eastern Otter Tail County and surrounding area; 2) Sunday evening at 19:30 local time on the 146.640 repeater that serves to share information among club members in western Otter Tail County and surrounding area; and 3) the first Wednesday of the month at 13:00 local time on the 146.640 repeater to share information about the weather.

Technician Class: The class was expanded to include 6 2-hour sessions plus a review or catch-up session with VE testing the week after the class. The class is offered only in the Fall and registration is through the Community Education Center. Three students were enrolled in 2025 and 2 students earned their license. For 2026, the class will be offered in the fall only.

VE sessions: The club hosted one in-person VE session (12 November) to support the technician class. It was a bit of a learning curve to transition to the ExamTools process of hosting exams. The club currently has 7 VEs among the members of the club (5 extra and 2 general).

Social Gatherings: The club had a Holiday Celebration supper at the American Legion on 4 January 2025. The club had a pizza party on 14 November 2025. The club also has a monthly “coffee and ham radio” gathering at Toast at 09:00 local time on the 4th Saturday of the month. Typically attended by 3 to 12 members or guests.

Build a Loading Coil: The club met in the automotive shop at the Community Education Center on 12 April 2025 to build inductance coils to make a 17-foot vertical antenna resonant for either 40 meters or 80 meters.

Presentations to the club during club meetings:

- 10 May 2025 - “Experiment with ferrite beads and chokes” by Todd, NO0X
- 9 August 2025 – “Logging software” by Ross, N0MSS
- 13 September 2025 -- “POTA vs WWFF and finding places to activate” by Dwight, KD0OIX
- 11 October 2025 - “Evaluating radio performance with a service monitor” by Ross, N0MSS
- 8 November 2025 – “Introduction to EZNEC software for modeling antennas” by Ross, N0MSS
- 13 December 2025 – Round table discussion on grounding and bonding, led by Ross, N0MSS

Compiled by Dwight, KD0OIX