

BADGER STATE SMOKE SIGNALS 11/15/2010
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BADGER STATE SMOKE SIGNALS has been published for since 1969. The last issue was published in June of 2009. I had hoped to keep publishing since that time, but circumstances have not made that possible, and we are announcing that BSSS is being discontinued. We have gone from a monthly circulation of over 1600 servicing over 15 clubs to a present mailing list of less than 200 serving only a few clubs. Costs have continued to increase and work and health conditions made it difficult to find time to work on putting it out.

Much of the material published is now available over the internet from many sources on the local club and national levels. The BSSS web site <http://www.bsss.org/> has been allowed to expire.

The archived copies of BSSS and other publications will be donated to the Wisconsin State Historical Society. There they will be available for future researchers trying to find what this strange hobby of Amateur Radio was about. The CD ROM version of BSSS will also be kept available to anyone wanting a copy.

Regarding your subscriptions, any received since the last issue in 2009 will be refunded. If your check has not been deposited, it is being returned. For others already deposited, a refund check will be sent. After returning the subscriptions and covering closing costs, any funds remaining in the BSSS bank account will be given to an amateur radio related charity such as the ARRL National Foundation.

BSSS started as the publication of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club and was expanded to include the entire state of Wisconsin. Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ (SK) was the editor for over 30 years until his death and I continued as editor/publisher until last year.

There are many memories of working on BSSS in my basement (after Jim had made the mimeograph sheets) with the mimeograph machine and the monthly crew of mimeograph turners (until we acquired a motor driven mimeograph), slip sheets, collating, labeling and stamps followed by a late night snack at a nearby restaurant and then to the Post Office the next morning. Later we switched to commercial printing and night sessions were greatly reduced to only one or two people. I will not attempt to list all those that helped both with text material and with getting it out but, there were many.

It has been a pleasure bringing BSSS to the amateurs of Wisconsin, and I look forward to continuing to see you at hamfests and other activities around the state.

73 ken k9en

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