

Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

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POTA EDITION



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Along with updated radiosport events, local repeater and net information, and much more!





I have to apologize for the slight delay in getting out this edition of the HamNews. The ARRL International DX SSB Contest was this past weekend, and I was generally distracted with that event (and trying to get over a lingering cold at the same time). While I exceeded my personal goal for the contest (in terms of overall number of contacts), I was able to make the usual contacts with New Zealand, Australia, and Japan. I did not work any all-time-new-ones during this event, but I was able to make several contacts with China, South Korea, and the Philippines. These entities tend to be a little more choice during contests for me. All in all, I would call the contest a success. (And thank you to Carl, K9LA for the rotatable dipole that I am currently using! It makes a big difference.)

The 2024 hamfest season is heating up this month with the Toledo Hamfest on Sunday, March 17th. It has been a few years since I have been to this particular hamfest, but it is a short drive from Fort Wayne and is easily accessible off the interstate. Consider checking it out if you have the time.

Do you have any interesting projects planned for this spring or summer? The rotatable dipole that I mentioned earlier has performed well for me, although I am thinking of upgrading to something a bit larger. Maybe a Cushcraft MA5B or another compact tribander Yagi would fit the bill. Maybe I will find something at one of the upcoming hamfests.

Lately I have been hearing a few newer callsigns on the local repeaters. If you also hear a callsign that you do not recognize, please take a moment to say hello and to get to know these

folks. Each one of us is an ambassador for amateur radio.

Since I took over as editor a few years ago, I have made a number of changes to the format of HamNews. You might see a few more minor tweaks to increase the visibility of the various columns in the April edition. If you have any ideas that I can incorporate into the newsletter, please let me know.

Have a great month, and have a very Happy Easter!

73,

Josh W9HT

ALLEN COUNTY HAMNEWS

HamNews is a monthly, joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club, the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society, and the Fort Wayne DX Association.

Articles are written by members and friends of the three clubs. New submissions for HamNews are always welcome. Please send your information to the editor within two days of the end of the month for inclusion in the next edition.

HamNews Editor
Josh Long, W9HT
drjoshlong (at) gmail.com

The POTA Article That Brought Back German Memories

The ARRL magazine QST for March came out several weeks ago and I eagerly started looking through the publication to see what was new. One article on a POTA activation in Berlin caught my eye, so I started reading. All of a sudden, I realized that this Italian ham, IW0HK, had done a POTA activation in two of the places I had visited in Berlin, Germany, back in 1988! The name of the article is “Remembering the Cold War through Parks on the Air”. (See page 66 in the March QST magazine.)



While in Germany, this Italian ham used a small portable station to activate two historical landmarks.

Let's back up a bit: From 1982 to 1992, I worked for Magnavox Electronic Systems Company, which was owned at that time by North American Philips. This was the defense contractor division of the Magnavox company, and it did a variety of defense related technologies. One of these was Electronic Warfare, and that is the one I worked for doing mostly digital signal processing (though I did get to do some RF work too!). Although I cannot yet talk about the specific threats from the “Bad Guys” that we worked against, we did on occasion have to go into the field and try out our systems. I had made several trips to Japan for one deployment, but in the summer of 1988, I got sent to Berlin to see our gear in action.

Now the ham from Italy, Andrea, IW0HK, mentioned operating first from an artificial hill on the southwest side of Berlin called Teufelsberg or “Devils Tower”, this was actually a hill made

from the rubble of a destroyed Berlin during World War 2. When I was there, a large facility was at the top of the hill with what must be described as a ham's dream antenna system! Talk about aluminum overcast!! With coverage from DC to Daylight, this was almost as fantastic as the “Elephant Cage” antenna system I got to see in Japan (more on that later!).

This is what the antenna system looks like today.



It was fascinating to see what our EW equipment could do in a real world setting instead of relying on simulators. Now the Italian ham had mentioned he also had activated what was once famous Tempelhof Airport. But in '88, this was still in use as an airport, but not the main airport in Berlin. I got to visit this place only briefly. The airport is famous for being the airport used in WW2, and later it was the focal point for the Berlin Airlift, the biggest airlift in history. Andrea did not mention the airport's appearance in the movie “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade”, but I noticed that it was Tempelhof!

73,

Steve, W9SAN

P.S. I am looking for crystals for transmit and receive for an ICOM IC-22A transceiver (or the whole transceiver...) I have an older one and need some more frequencies for it; it could be a nice newbie loaner rig.



TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOCIATION HAMFEST 2024



TMRA 66th Hamfest - Radios/Computers/Electronics

SUNDAY March 17th 2024 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Student Health and Activity Center (SHAC)

Owens Community College 30335 Oregon Road, Perrysburg, OH 43551
GPS N 41° 35.575' W 83° 32.051' Talk-in: 147.27+ (PL 103.5)

On Campus Parking is Free and Close to the Hamfest

This ARRL-approved Huge Hamfest is Indoors and Professional Security is Provided.

All admission tickets are \$10.00. (Children 12 years old and under – **FREE**)
OCC students, faculty and staff – **FREE** admission with valid OCC ID

Tables are \$20.00 (floor) \$25.00 (wall) - free electric hook-up

TABLE APPLICATION FORMS ARE DOWNLOADABLE FROM OUR WEB SITE

www.w8hhf.org

or

SEND REQUEST FOR TABLE APPLICATION FORM TO wd8mxr@gmail.com

VE TESTING at 9:00am (**Registration at 8:30am**)

(If attending **only** for VE testing – purchase of an admission ticket is **not** required)

Pass your Technician Exam at the Hamfest – WELCOME TO AMATEUR RADIO !

Use your CSCE for complimentary Hamfest admission

FORUMS

Tony Luscre K8ZT: "Buying an Amateur Radio Transceiver". ARRL personnel: "ARRL Update"

CASH & DOOR PRIZE DRAWINGS (*must be present to win*)

\$50.00 cash at 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30, and NOON

DOOR PRIZES INCLUDE

ARRL coupon certificates: \$100.00 coupon for any Alpha Antenna System:

K4IA's "EasyWayHambooks" license study guide or "The Easy Way" book:

NOON: drawing for a DX Engineering \$100.00 gift certificate

FOOD SERVICE

Breakfast & Lunch: Sweet Nate's Coffee

MAJOR VENDORS SCHEDULED TO ATTEND (others to be announced)

EAE Soldering: Transel: Tower Electronics: Gold Medal Ideas:

AL-TECH (Glenn Alvino)



Net planned during tornado warning test March 12

By Jay Farlow, W9LW, Allen County Skywarn Net Manager

Governor Eric Holcomb has declared March 10-16 Indiana Severe Weather Awareness Week. As usual, the NWS will conduct a statewide tornado warning test during the week. The agency scheduled this year's test for 10:15 a.m. ET Tuesday, March 12.

The Allen County Skywarn net will participate in the test by activating directed net mode when the NWS issues the test warning. Net leaders encourage all available spotters to test their readiness by practicing the transmission of simulated severe weather reports during the net. Simulated reports could include hail, wind damage, wall cloud, funnel cloud or tornado.

Net participants should use the NWS preferred "time, event, location" procedure when making reports. For example: "At 10:15 a.m. (time) I saw a wall cloud (event) approximately two miles west of the intersection of Tonkel Road and Union Chapel Road in northern Allen County, Indiana" (location).

Net leaders also encourage all potential participants to review our directed net check-in and re-

porting procedures before March 12 by downloading the Net Operations Manual from the FWRC website: <https://tinyurl.com/284774dd>.

When transmitting a test spotter report, the best practice is to include the phrase, "test message" in the transmission. Doing so will help prevent any listeners from wondering if an actual severe weather event is underway.

Skywarn storm spotter training available

The Northern Indiana Office of the National Weather Service plans eight Skywarn storm spotter classes in March and April. Four of the classes will be in person and the remainder will be online.

The in-person class nearest Fort Wayne will be in Pennville in Jay County. It is scheduled for 6 pm. March 6 at the Pennville Community Center, 210 S Union St, Pennville, Indiana.

The weather forecast office plans online classes on April 11, 16, 20 and 22.

All classes, in-person and online, will cover the same content, so there is no need to attend more than one.

For more information and to register for a class, visit the office's web page at www.weather.gov/iwx/Spotter_Event_List.

Anyone who is interested in learning how to protect their fellow citizens by recognizing and reporting important severe weather information should take this class. It's also helpful to anyone who has ever seen a scary-looking cloud and wondered if it's anything to worry about.

Previously trained storm spotters should take the class at least every three years. The Allen County Skywarn Net manager tries to attend annually, however, to refresh his memory about what to look for and to see how the training has changed since the previous year.

Ham splatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN



Welcome to March. The year is now in full swing, and there are exciting things coming up that will interest almost everyone. If you missed the last meeting, we held a chili cookoff. It was a massive success. It accomplishes one of the goals that I set out of making the club more social. If you missed it, there will be other social gatherings we hold, so keep an eye on the newsletter or the website.

This weekend will be the first fox-hunt of the year. This is a great opportunity to learn the art of transmitter hunting. Radio direction finding is a fun part of the hobby. The Amateur Radio Direction Finding USA Championship will be held in October in Chelsea, MI. If you have any interest in participating, the club fox-hunt will be a way to brush up on your skills.

Carl, K9LA, will be presenting at this month's club meeting over the ARRL board meeting. FWRC is an ARRL affiliated club, and this is an opportunity to hear how our director represents us at the board meeting. It is also a chance to give him feedback, which he can relay to the ARRL. Being affiliated with the ARRL, if you renew your membership with the ARRL through the club, we will receive a small portion of your membership. Every little bit goes a long way to keep the club going.

There are also some future events

to keep on your radar. Coming up on the first weekend in May is the Indiana QSO Party. The club is aiming to keep the winning streak going. You can participate either as an individual and affiliate yourself FWRC, or you may participate in of the stations the club will be running. Keep an eye on the newsletter and website for more information. Also in May is Dayton Hamvention. Meghan and I attended last year for the first time and enjoyed it. If you are free May 17 - 19, it is worth the trip.

The final item to keep on your radar is Field Day. We will be back at the Old Fort this year. This is a great event to be involved in. Meghan and I have attended each year. Most years we just help setup or teardown. Last year, Meghan operated a digital station through tough band conditions, but managed to secure a contact with Hawaii. During Field Day, we hold a cookout on Saturday evening. This is open to all club members to attend, even if you don't operate at Field Day. Come out and enjoy the food.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to email me at kd9nrt(at)gmail.com. While I can't answer every email, I do read them all, and your feedback is essential in club operation.

73,

Adam, KD9NRT

FWRC Officers 2024
<p>President Adam Warrix, KD9NRT kd9nrt(at)gmail.com</p>
<p>Vice President Meghan Warrix, KD9ODP warrixmr(at)gmail.com</p>
<p>Secretary Al Burke, WB9SSE (260) 637-1989 aburke55(at)comcast.net</p>
<p>Treasurer Bob Streeter, W8ST rdstre(at)yahoo.com</p>
<p>Communications Manager Charles Ward, KC9MUT (260) 749-4824 kc9mut(at)yahoo.com</p>
<p>Directors Steve Nardin, W9SAN (260) 482-4039 w9san(at)arrl.net</p> <p>Terry Bowman, K9FMX (260) 705-7128 tjbowman(at)frontier.com</p> <p>Jim Stephens, KD9NYZ kd9nyz9nyz(at)gmail.com</p> <p>Larry Temenoff, KB9OS (260) 490-3089 temenoff(at)pfw.edu</p>

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES 9 February 2024

The February meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held on February 9th, 2024. It was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church starting at 6:05 pm. It was hosted by club President Adam Warrix, KD9NRT and there were about 20 attendees.

Adam led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and invited all present to introduce themselves with their name and call-sign.

This month's meeting featured a Chili Cook-Off organized by Board of Directors member Jim Stephens, KD9NYZ. Five of the meeting attendees brought in samples of their favorite Chili recipes, and samples of their culinary art were provided for everyone to taste and vote on. Tasters considered a number of characteristics such as color, texture, aroma, flavor, hotness, and so forth. Results of the voting were tabulated and the winner was Curt Kripe, KC9Z who took away a \$50.00 cash prize. Nobody got indigestion and everyone had a good time.

Steve Nardin, W9SAN provided a discussion on the club's initiative to develop an Elmer Corps, and to modify its Foxhunting focus. This year the club wants to work on a means of helping Ham newbies to more easily become involved in the hobby. Past efforts by ham radio clubs, including ours have attempted to integrate newbies into the hobby via periodic code and/or theory classes. These prove difficult to implement in practice, with class setup and attendance on a consistent basis a recurring problem; people have

busy schedules.

Steve posits that we develop a program where club volunteers agree to become either General or Specialist Elmer volunteers who would work one-on-one with new hams to answer their questions and mentor them so they can enter the hobby and grow. The idea is to have Generalists help newbies become acquainted with the hobby and then identify special needs, either of newbies or perhaps seasoned hams who desire specific insight into various aspect of the hobby such as CW operation, VHF/UHF operation, net functions, contesting, satellite operating, digital modes, antennas and so forth.

Steve also addressed a new direction for our Foxhunting activities. At present there only a few Foxhunting teams active (typically three to four), and they have been at it for quite some time. We think other potential new Foxhunters may be intimidated by the perceived expertise of these veteran teams. So it is proposed that we form super-teams comprising the veterans and Foxhunt newbies or wannabees who would work together in a hunt. Several super-teams, (ideally three or more) might start out (or maneuver to) different locations around town to take bearings on the fox which could then be shared and used to develop a true triangulation fix on the fox, they way triangulation is supposed to work. This would require coordination among the super-teams and development of a protocol to trade individual bearings during the hunt. Thus the competition between former Foxhunting teams would be eliminated and expertise at rapidly locating the fox, which is the object of Foxhunting after all, would be developed and would be a shared experience.

Adam noted that the ARRL sponsored School Club Roundup will

be occurring from February 12th through the 16th. This activity involves students and student clubs in both primary and secondary schools, many students make their first ham radio contacts via this activity. He will be organizing the activities at Snider High School. There are two School Club Roundups during each school year, the first occurring in October and the second in February. Each 5-day event runs from 1300 UTC Monday through 2359 UTC Friday, but a station may operate no more than 6 hours in a 24-hour period, and a maximum of 24 hours of the 107 hour event. Adam encourages FWRC club members to participate in this event, most likely on 40, 20 and 15 meters both on CW and Phone. For more details on the School Club Roundup initiative see:

<https://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>

Chad Beach, W9GGA mentioned that he is hosting an internet radio show (the Chad Show) on Z105.us, noon to 5pm Saturdays featuring all kinds of popular music, both new and old. He invites everyone to take a listen at:

<https://z103.com/home>

The meeting concluded about 7:53pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE

Secretary, FWRC

State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN



From the ACARTS President

We are back on track now this past month with our monthly general meeting schedule after January's cold weather meeting re-scheduling. And to be honest so far this winter has been extremely mild in comparison. But we still have March and April to get through yet!

This past month Jon Luckey N9OBL Engineering and Technology Instructor at FWCS Memorial Park Middle School and the Trustee of the Memorial Park MS - Pirates Engineering ARC KD9PE gave a great presentation on "Bringing Modern Shop including Amateur Radio back to Urban Middle School"

Jon explained to us some of the skills and projects his group gets into on a daily basis. Anything from familiarization of electricity, electronics, woodworking, metal fabrication to even sewing! Everyday skills that everyone should know. What I didn't realize is that the old school shop class does not exist in all schools anymore. On top of that his students have another plus in his curriculum that involves amateur radio including a full blown station. Jon even mentioned that they are working on a communications trailer! Jon is very down to earth and really a great mentor for his students. Thankfully he is instructing his

students in skills that some of their parents were never taught in their own generation.

ACARTS General Meetings are in person at the Red Cross and on online via MS Teams normally on the third Tuesday of every month at 7 PM. ACARTS Board Meetings normally are held on the second Tuesday of the month online via MS Teams only at 7 PM as well.

For late arrivals to our General meetings at the Red Cross, the front entry doors lock at 7:15 PM. They can be opened from someone on the inside. There is a receptionist staged at the front counter until 11 PM. You can also call us on the W9INX 146.880 Repeater for help as well.

The "After Meeting the Meeting"—It was tradition decades ago after a ACARTS General Meeting some would meet for a meal, a snack or a drink at a local restaurant if anyone was up to it. We are now meeting at Applebees 4510 N. Clinton St. (In the triangle between Clinton St, Parnell Ave, and Coliseum Blvd) this is just a stone's throw northwest of California Rd (Red Cross) All are welcome to join in. It gives us some additional social time.

Kelley Clond NT9F received and brought in the corrected ARRL Terrace Certificate and presented it to ACARTS. Thanks Kelley!

As a ACARTS member if you haven't yet, I would encourage you to register and utilize Ham Club Online. If you are paid member you are already entered in the system. Once you register and

ACARTS Officers 2024

President

Dan Dahms N9WNH
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Vice President

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hrpletch(at)gmail.com

W9INX Trustee

Dan Dahms N9WNH
260-503-4163
n9wnh(at)yahoo.com

login to: <https://www.hamclubonline.com>. Select ACARTS as the club. This is the Club Management System for ACARTS. Any emails you receive from ACARTS via Ham Club Online is not spam.

Membership dues are currently \$12/year for regular members, \$6/year for additional family members, \$6/year for students and \$6/year for non-licensed associate members. Dues can now be paid with a credit or debit card through the ACARTS Ham Club Online System. As well as payable in person at a meeting or by mail to:

ACARTS

PO Box 10342

Fort Wayne, IN. 46851-0342

If by mail you can use this application:

[https://www.acarts.com/images/Membership% 20application.pdf](https://www.acarts.com/images/Membership%20application.pdf)

We have also have started a groups.io remailer for ACARTS:

<https://groups.io/g/ACARTS>

This group allows two way communication between members. The Ham Club Online only allows for one way communication between club management and members and vice versa. It does not provide for communication between members. Communication from ACARTS will be broadcasted on this media also. Feel free to join.

We are hopefully finishing up soon with one committee and that is the Club Equipment Inventory Audit Committee. Our inventory is being added to ACARTS Ham Club Inline

site. It amazing how much stuff has accumulated. Needless to say we will be reviewing the items and decided what needs

to go.

We are beginning to work on the start of two other committees. One is the Hamfest 2023 Review/2024 Plans Committee set for Tuesday March 5 on MS Teams at 7 PM. Emails have went out to last years Hamfest Division Managers and a HCO Reminder will go out to all ACARTS members with a link to the meeting.

The other committee is the Constitution/By-Laws/501 (c) (3) Committee. This is a review and and to get our organization up to date and to be in line with switching from a 501(c) (4) to a 501 (c) (3).

The Motorola MTR 3000 146.880 W9INX Repeater has been doing well, we still have one programming issue, the dreaded double CW ID. The reason for this was this was missed on a update to the internal repeater controller programming and was to to be programmed to be "off."

We are awaiting on software capabilities for ourselves to do that in time. We are running sort of a hybrid controller setup currently. The internal Motorola controller operates as well as the external CAT-1000 controller. Another issue in my opinion is the audio levels need to be worked on a bit. The internal controller levels were fine, but adding the external controller brought in more to the mix in the audio paths. Everything seems to work fine, but the audio could be a little better. So adjustment between the two and possibly recapping the each of the four controllers would not hurt. They all are 25 years old. One CW ID problem was fixed in another way with a past problem with the internal controller, it's now fine using the "/R" as in

"W9INX/R" the problem was it was entered in as "W9INX/9" the first time!

In it's current channel selection it is set for 80 watts FM analog, carrier squelch (CSQ) input and transmitting a 141.3 PL tone. It is our current intent to keep it as a analog only repeater. Any considered future changes are the addition of a selectable on/off PL of 141.3 on the input of 146.280 in case of interference issues with a control operator command. Adding a voice announcement of the PL 141.3 The discussion of adding internet connect-ability for Echolink for SKYWARN and for other uses. And possibly adding very limited weather radio product notifications for Allen County, IN. for SKYWARN. This is all needs to be discussed yet between our board, membership and Allen County SKYWARN.

I would encourage all to add the transmit PL of 141.3 on all your radios in case of future need. use. It hurts nothing to transmit a PL tone since our receiver is operating carrier squelch as of now. We experience distant radio traffic at times from stations thinking they are accessing the following repeaters: Jackson, MI .88 (100 PL) Chicago,IL .88 (107.2 PL) Indianapolis, IN .88 (88.5 PL) Cincinnati, OH .88 (123.0 PL) That is not always the problem except if you are the one having to monitor the repeaters over night getting woke up by non local traffic bringing our .88 since we are carrier squelch. Another problem can be local noise interference that PL will mute.



In the light of using the Yaesu DR-1 as a temporary for .88, and since it's dual band. It was put online as our temporary fill in for our UHF Repeater 443.800 (+) to bring it back online until we purchase a UHF replacement. It is utilizing a 141.3 PL tone on transmit and receive and will be in the future with the replacement because of the amount of RF on UHF near the site. It is in AMS (Automatic Mode Select) for FM Analog and Yaesu Fusion. You will want to add the 141.3 tone on decode or you may hear digital bursts on your analog only receiver. I could have set it up for analog and digital receive, with analog only transmit but I did not at the time. Power out of the duplexer is only around 20 watts and then further loss of 600' of feedline. It is not networked so digital Fusion is local only. Feel free to use it in whichever mode and let us know how it works for you with the current coverage and audio experiences. My experience with a test on my HT inside my home 20 miles from the repeater with Jim Sampiere KD9NPL was typical fm analog from that far away, sometimes ok or noisy signal. We switched to Fusion and the audio was clearer and more solid of a signal.

73,

Dan N9WNH

ACARTS President



Upcoming ACARTS Events			
Date	Time	Location	Event
3/5/24	7:00 PM	MS Teams (Online)	ACARTS Hamfest Committee Meeting
3/12/24	10:15 AM	On the Air/Siren Activations	Indiana Statewide Tornado Test
3/12/24	7:00 PM	MS Teams (Online)	ACARTS Board Meeting
3/13/24	10:15 AM	On the Air - Backup Day - On the Air/Siren Activations	Indiana Statewide Tornado Test Backup Day
3/19/24	7:00 PM	Red Cross, 1212 E. California Rd Fort Wayne & MS Teams (Online)	ACARTS General Meeting
3/26/24	7:00 PM	MS Teams (Online)	ACARTS By-Laws & 501 (c) (3) Committee Meeting
4/9/24	7:00 PM	MS Teams (Online)	ACARTS Board Meeting
4/16/24	7:00 PM	Red Cross, 1212 E. California Rd Fort Wayne & MS Teams (Online)	ACARTS General Meeting "Ham Club Online & Groups.io"
4/20/24	7:00 - 10:00 PM	On the Air	ACARTS NE Indiana VHF/UHF Simplex Contest

NE Indiana VHF/UHF Simplex Contest

20 April 2024

ACARTS General Meeting
American Red Cross building
1212 E. California Rd., Fort Wayne, IN

Tuesday, February 20, 2024
7:09pm – 9:15pm
Meeting also streamed online via MS Teams

Attendance: (13 in person, 2 via MS Teams)
President: Dan Dahms (N9WNH)
Absent: Vice President: Chris McCullough (W9TSB)
Secretary: Stuart Hall (KD9LFW)
Treasurer: Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH)
Station Manager: James (Jim) Sampiere (KD9NPL)
Fundraising Manager (Hamfest Manager): Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP)
Board Member: Howard Pletcher (N9ADS)
Absent: Board Member: Steve Shannon (K9SKS)
Board Member: James (Jim) Bassett (W9YME)
Members: 13

Three new members were added to ACARTS membership: Jonathon Luckey (N9OBL), Christine Settecase (KA9LLI), and John Lazaro (KD9NIV).

President

President Dan Dahms, N9WNH, opened the group and everyone attending introduced themselves.

Dan reminded people about the dates, times, and online process of the Board Meetings and General Meetings.

The ARRL Diamond Terrace certificate replacement has not yet been received.

Still waiting on quote from Farm Bureau and from current insurer. Noted ARRL coverage does not include coverage for club Board members.

ACARTS' QRZ.Com page needs help. We cannot do anything officially until license change is processed.

Chris McCullough (W9TSB) has been appointed interim social media manager.

Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP) talked with Josh Long (W9HT) in reference to his assistance in providing students at Purdue Fort Wayne to assist the club in updating the website. It was noted that the website project will not commence until the Spring semester. Josh will talk with the class professor this week.

Howard Pletcher (N9ADS) will update the club website's front page to reflect the new officers. Dan Dahms will send him details to be changed.

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) noted the domain hosting expires May 28 and will be shifted to GoDaddy. Website hosting will remain with Ionis.

Secretary

Members of the 501c(3) and the Constitution & By-laws revision committee were confirmed as:

Dan Dahms (N9WNH), Chris McCullough (W9TSB), Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH), Stuart Hall (KD9LFW), Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP)

Members of the Asset Inventory committee were confirmed as:

Jim Sampiere (KD9NPL), Chris McCullough (W9TSB), Dan Dahms (N9WNH)

Anyone interested in getting involved in either committee was encouraged to contact Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) or Dan Dahms (N9WNH).

Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) volunteered to be Chairman for the Constitution & By-laws revision committee.

Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) reviewed the minutes from January General Meeting. Correction: correct call sign for Dan Dahms (N9WNH)

Motion: To accept minutes as read. Made by Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP), seconded by Jim Sampiere (KD9NPL). Passed by a voice vote.

Treasurer Kevin Hecksher, W9KMH

Kevin Hecksher, W9KMH, was able to access UBS account just today and has not had a chance to write Audit letter.

Reported on Cash Flow for January 2024 as compared to January 2023 cash flow, showing slight net income from table reservations for 2024 Hamfest.

Current balances as of end of January:

PNC account: \$8519.12

Petty cash: \$87

UBS account: \$43,113.42

Asset Inventory, Jim Sampiere (KD9NPL)

Jim Sampiere (KD9NPL) notes inventory going well with everything in the repeater shack done and a few more things yet to be inventoried.

It was noted that the 880 repeater transmits a 141.3Hz CTCSS tone. We also have limited capability now of changing channels on the repeater and having a 141.3Hz subtone on the input. We are currently running and hoping to keep the .88 carrier squelch on the input as much as possible. We will be adding remote capability to turn the input tone requirement on and off. It would be utilized on the input when needed because of interference etc. So please add the 141.3 tone to 146.28/146.88 on your radios now to be prepared for the future!

Currently the repeater is sending out duplicate Morse code identifications though listeners utilizing the 141.3Hz output tone on their receivers should possibly block the redundant identification.

On the temporary ACARTS 443.800(+) UHF repeater there is a 141.3 CTCSS tone on the FM input and output because of potential need for it at the site and to provide analog users a way to mute digital Fusion bursts. On Fusion it's 00.

Fundraising Manager (Hamfest Manager): Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP)

Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP) noted that on Tuesday, March 5, 7pm there is an online MS Teams meeting to review 2023 Hamfest. Anyone interested in helping out for 2024 Hamfest, please e-mail Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP).

Dan asked Jim Bassett (W9YME) to look into printing coats, shirts, jackets for the club. Jim stated he will look into it. Dan will send him samples of the logos.

Financial Audit Committee: Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH)

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) noted all the books are balanced through December 2023. The committee is just waiting for online access to UBS account, acquired today, to write final audit letter.

All club officers are listed on the UBS account and the address has been changed to the club's P.O. Box address.

Current UBS balance as of today: \$43,826.39

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) asked if anyone had any questions about why the club is transitioning to 501c(3) and rewriting constitution. No one present had any questions.

Motion to adjourn at 7:51pm made by Jim, seconded by Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP). Passed by voice vote.

Presentation: Jon Luckey, N9OBL, FWCS Engineering & Technology Instructor, Memorial Park Middle School
Also supervises the MPMS Amateur Radio Club (KD9PE)
“Bringing MODERN SHOP with Amateur Radio Back To Urban Middle School”

Jon noted the support he received from local ham clubs when he was licensed at 16 years old, getting his Extra at 18 years old.

“Shop has been brought back to Fort Wayne schools.”

Memorial Park Middle School is a magnet school of 600 students. STEM-certified.

STEAM: science-technology-engineering-arts-mathematics

Jon was brought in to build the engineering program at the school. He recognized that there is a lack of opportunities for the students to learn hands-on skills.

The goal is to have the largest, permanent middle school amateur radio station in the country.

The school has a number of machines such as router, CNC laser, welding, machining, forging, casting

Amateur Radio Station KD9PE

Playing Radio Battleship via CB radio as a precursor to School Roundup

Next meeting(s):

Asset Inventory Audit Committee Meeting: Tuesday, February 27, 7pm, online via Microsoft Teams

Hamfest Committee Meeting: Tuesday, March 5, 7pm, online via Microsoft Teams

Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 12, 7pm, online via Microsoft Teams

General Meeting: Tuesday, March 19, 7pm, American Red Cross 1212 E. California Rd., Fort Wayne, IN.

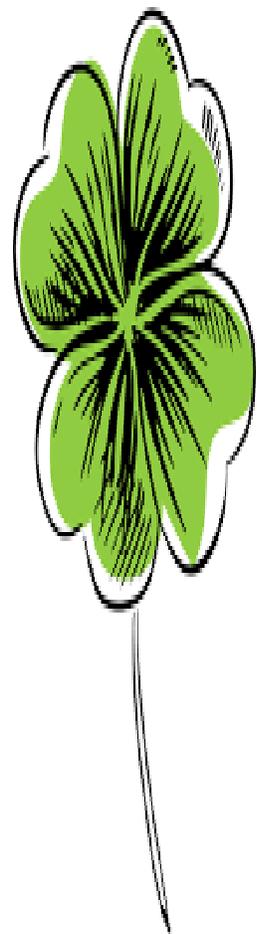
Ham Club Online/Groups.io/Facebook/Website.

ACARTS By-Laws Revision & 501c(3) Committee Meeting: Tuesday, March 26, 7pm, online via Microsoft Teams

**APRIL
7
2024**

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

**NEXT
FOXHUNT**





*New
Date!*

The Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Association

AUBURN HAMFEST

Saturday, July 20, 2024

Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum

1600 S. Wayne St. Auburn, IN 46706

OPEN 9 AM TO 2 PM • TALK-IN: 147.015 (141.3) 7:00 AM • LOAD-IN: 7 TO 9 AM

FREE

Admission

6,000 SQ. FT. INDOOR DISPLAY SPACE (Not counting the huge Museum Area!)



FREE

AUBURN CORD DUESENBERG Museum

View an amazing collection of classic motor vehicles.

FOOD VENDOR
on the parking lot.

NEED MORE INFO?

E-MAIL: W9OU@ARRL.NET

FREE

Parking

Supervised by the DeKalb County
ARES Team.



Indoor Vendor Tables: \$10 ea.

Order online now at www.w9ou.org

Outdoor Sales - One raffle ticket purchase for each parking space.

Contact: W9OU@ARRL.NET

Raffle Prizes:

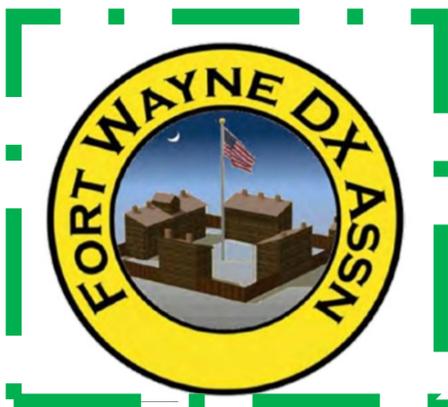
1st- Yeasu FTM 500

2nd- Zumspot with MD UV380 DMR

3rd- N3FJP Software (Full Access)

4th- \$50 Gift Certificate, DX Engineering

Ticket Prices \$5.00 - Buy 2, get 1 Free!



99 Years Ago

By Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA

When my fellow co-worker Ed Parigi WB9RMA became a Silent Key in July 2022, I inherited his collection of magazines and other paraphernalia. All in all, it was almost 100 boxes of QSTs, CQ magazines, Ham Radio magazines, 73 magazines, call books, and many other items.

One of the items was a 1925 issue of the *Radio Listeners' Guide and Call Book* published by the Consrad Company in New York. As expected from the title, it had radio broadcast stations of the United States, radio broadcast stations of Canada, foreign radio broadcast stations, Amateur Radio stations of the United States and other interesting items of the era.

How many radio broadcast stations were in Fort Wayne in 1925? There was good old WOWO on 1320 KHz at 500 Watts (owned by the Main Auto Supply Company) and WHBJ on 1280 KHz at 10 Watts (owned by the Lane Auto Company). As a side note, WBAA was on 1100 KHz at 250 Watts (run by my alma mater Purdue University). WLW in Harrison, Ohio (about 20 miles northwest of Cincinnati) was on 710 KHz at 5000 Watts (owned by the Crosley Radio Corporation). WLS (World's Largest Store – referring to Sears, Roebuck & Company) in Chicago was on 870 KHz and WGN (World's Greatest Newspaper – referring to the Chicago Tribune) in Chicago was on 810 KHz.

How many hams were there in Fort Wayne in 1925? There were 21 listed in Fort Wayne. All had the number 9 followed by either two or three letters (9AKO, for example). Prefixes weren't used yet, and of course that could cause confusion with non-US hams. For example, the Quebec (Canada) ham 2CG could be confused with 2CG in Brooklyn, NY. Another side note is that the 9th call area back then consisted of the states of IN, IL, WI, IA, MN, SD, ND, CO, NE, KS, KY, MI (Upper Peninsula) and MO.

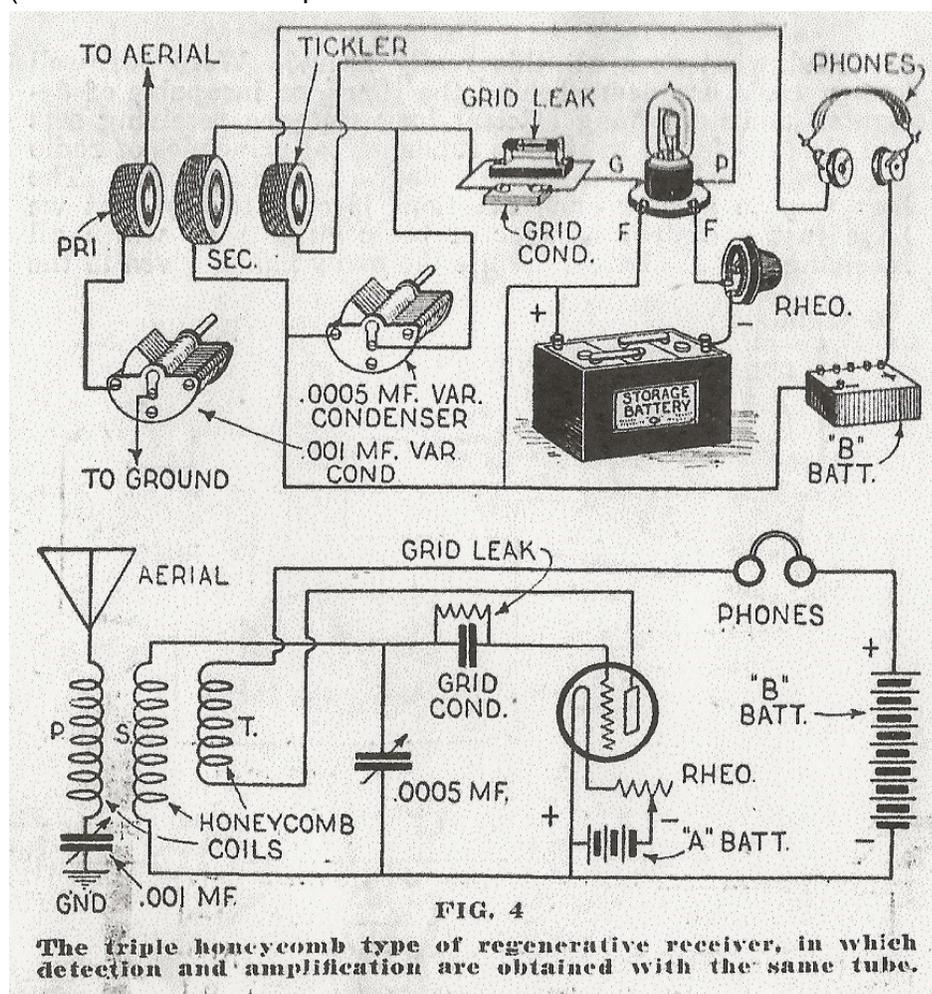
The page describing the ARRL gave details on the Officers, Directors and Traffic Managers. Back in 1925, Hiram Percy Maxim was the President. The Central Division Director was Clyde E Darr in Detroit. That brings up an interesting fact – back in 1925, the Central Division was Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Ohio and Michigan. There were thirteen US divisions and five Canadian divisions (Canadian hams were part of the

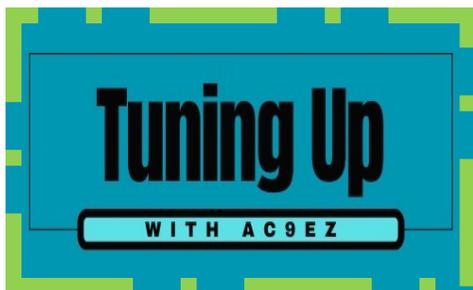
ARRL then).

Pages 96 and 97 showed a time zone map of the US and Canada. In 1925, all of Indiana, all of Michigan, all of Kentucky and half of Ohio were on Central time.

The first thirty five pages were devoted to technical issues: eliminating trouble from radio sets, the care and operation of batteries, fundamental principles of radio, aerials/loops/grounds, the care of vacuum tubes, radio logs, how to understand radio circuits, selecting and installing loud speakers and modern receiving circuits (covering crystal sets to super-heterodynes). The accompanying image shows the physical layout and the schematic of a regenerative receiver of the era.

I found this document to be a fascinating look at long-ago history.





POTA and How to Get Involved

Hello my fellow radio bugs! As I write this month's *Tuning Up* column, the thermometer reads 61 degrees – amazing weather for an Indiana February! Such warm weather sets a ham's heart to thoughts of portable, outdoor operating, and what better way to get involved with portable operating than to join the Parks on the Air movement! This month's column is a quick overview of what you need to know to become a "POTA" activator (or chaser).

The Basics of POTA

The "Parks on the Air" program (POTA for short) is a fairly simple concept – take your ham radio gear and go operate in a designated location field-day style. Designated locations for POTA are either state or federal level locations, including national/state parks, national/state monuments or memorials, trails, wildlife refuges/reserves, and historical landmarks. POTA sites can be as grandiose as Yellowstone National Park or as simple as the Steamboat Warehouse State Historic Site located in Bismarck, North Dakota, where the "site" consists of nothing

more than a small plaque next to the Missouri River and a gravel parking lot wide enough for maybe five cars.

An actual "POTA" activation looks exactly like a mini-Field Day operation. A POTA "activator" sets up his/her radio station within the boundaries of the POTA site, and proceeds to contact as many amateur radio operators as possible. How many contacts are made is totally up to the operator, although in order for that POTA "activation" to count as an official "activation" of that site, the operator must establish a minimum of 10 contacts.

There are two basic rules to keep in mind for POTA activations. Rule 1 is that the operator and all his/her equipment must be physically within the boundaries of the POTA site. Sometimes, determining what is part of a POTA site and what is not can be very tricky. In my own personal experience, I have sometimes needed to contact local county authorities (like county clerks) or even the state-level fish and game department in order to determine the boundaries of particular sites, simply because the maps documenting that site are not accurate or are not updated. How much due diligence is required to determine POTA boundaries changes depending on the site.

Rule 2 of POTA activations is that the operator must do everything in his/her power to not

damage the activation site. This means that the operator is responsible for "leave no trace." If after a POTA activation no one could tell such an activation occurred, then the operator has done a good job in "leaving no trace." If on the other hand it looks like a tornado just ripped through the POTA site, then the goal of POTA has not been met and both the amateur radio operator carrying out the activation (and the amateur radio service in general) earns a bad reputation.

How do you get started in POTA

Getting involved in POTA is really super easy. Simply connect to the POTA website at the following web address: <https://pota.app/#/signup>. The link will take you to a webpage that will guide you through the steps needed to begin your POTA journey.

As a brief overview, signing up for POTA simply involves creating an "account" with the Parks on the Air organization. An account will typically contain fairly standard, "boiler plate" options, with your name, callsign, and address showing up on your account.

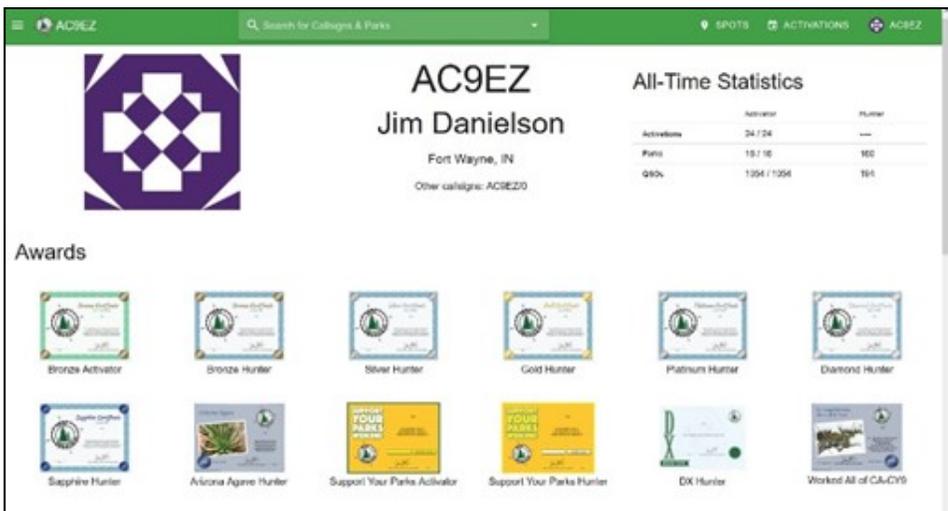
Similarly to the ARRL's lotw, once you have created an account, you will be able to "log in" to the POTA website, and a menu will allow you to choose a variety of actions and options. Want to upload a log from your most recent POTA activation? Super easy – simply log into

easy – simply log into your POTA account, find the log-upload page, locate your saved log in your logging software of choice, and hit “upload.” Want to see how many different POTA entities you have worked as a POTA “chaser?” Easily done! Again, log in to your POTA account and you will

in the POTA program for practically any combination or number of contacts, everything from working a set number of POTA entities to working POTA entities at specific times of the day (e.g., the “Late Shift” award). You can explore all of the various awards offered on the POTA website.

once you get started, the entire process becomes quite comfortable. The POTA website is easy to use and easy to navigate, with clearly labeled contents on the website and rapid support/service for POTA-related queries. Think of POTA as the Field Day that never ends. So, what are you waiting for? Get that portable gear out and start operating POTA!

73 de Jim ac9ez



A screenshot of AC9EZ's "home page" after logging into the POTA website.

have the option to look at your various totals of POTA entities activated, POTA entities worked, etc.

One very nice feature of the POTA website is the awards system they use. As one contacts/activates POTA entities, the POTA website keeps track of all of those contacts and issues awards based on those contacts. There are awards

Getting started in the Parks on the Air program can seem a little daunting, but

Recent Activations					Recent Hunter QSOs					
Date	Park	CR	Date	Phone	Total QSOs	Date	Activator	Park	Band	Mode
09/06/2023	K-2112 International Peace Garden Park (US-ND)	12	0	0	12	10/10/2023	VE9AW	K-0668 Paul J. C. Wilson Memorial Nature Wood Recreation Park (CA-GC)	15M	CW
09/06/2023	K-0713 Mount Rushmore National Memorial (US-SD)	13	0	17	30	10/14/2023	W8S	K-0754 Swains Island Marine Sanctuary of A. Simek National Marine Park (US-GI)	10M	DATA
09/06/2023	K-0713 Mount Rushmore National Park (US-SD)	30	0	0	30	10/13/2023	W8S	K-0754 Swains Island Marine Sanctuary of A. Simek National Marine Park (US-GI)	10M	CW
09/04/2023	K-0818 Menoken Indian Village State Historic Site (US-ND)	52	0	30	87	10/11/2023	W8S	K-0754 Swains Island Marine Sanctuary of A. Simek National Marine Park (US-GI)	10M	DATA
09/03/2023	K-0887 Sheboygan Woodcock State Historic Site (US-WI)	51	0	0	51	10/11/2023	W8S	K-0754 Swains Island Marine Sanctuary of A. Simek National Marine Park (US-GI)	10M	CW
09/01/2023	K-0831 Fort Maroon Overlook State Historic Site (US-NE)	0	0	50	50	09/10/2023	K9TIV	K-3905 Swain Point State Wildlife Area (US-GC)	20M	CW
09/01/2023	K-0831 Fort Maroon Overlook State Historic Site (US-NE)	42	0	34	66	09/09/2023	AR6CA	K-4215 Pike State Forest (US-PA)	20M	CW
12/10/2022	K-0815 Lisenborg State Historic Site (US-NE)	10	0	0	10	09/09/2023	K9P2N	K-7009 Panther State Forest (US-PA)	20M	PHONE
09/10/2022	K-0798 Mount Rushmore National Memorial (US-SD)	30	0	1	31	09/09/2023	N1EEL	K-7330 Anishinabe National Historic Area (US-SD)	20M	CW
09/10/2022	K-0834 David Thompson State Historic Site (US-NE)	11	0	7	18	09/09/2023	N4RRL	K-2193 Parke State Mountain State Park (US-GA)	20M	CW

What the bottom of the home login page looks like for Parks on the Air.



This section of the Allen County HamNews is available for local hams to list any ham radio related gear for sale or to place any ham radio related want ads.

Listings are posted for one month, but can be renewed upon request of the editor.

Please see page two for contact information.

N9QR Ham gear for sale: UPDATED 2/21/2024. All equipment is in good shape and working unless otherwise noted. It all needs a new home. Located about 3 miles south of the airport off Bluffton Road. Reasonable offers will be considered. I can be contacted at: mikes2125 at outlook.com or N9QR at arrl.net. Phone: 260-602-6193

Hustler 5BTV vertical antenna. Brand New in the box with brand new Gi-gaParts optional coax connection assembly. Never installed. Box opened to verify contents. 1 set of 14 radials for 7 bands. \$450

One 50' coil of new RG58 coax. \$20

One 50' coil of new RG 8x coax. \$20

Elecraft K3 External Speaker Splitter Kit (NEW) by N0SS. \$10

2 APC brand AC 620 VA UPS units. One in original box with battery (uninstalled) and one without box or battery. Both

look good and work fine. \$50 for both.

Heathkit SG-1271 Function Generator in good condition. \$10

HP 8640B Signal generator. Diode in the protection circuit bad. \$50

Heil Gold Line Mic with cable (Drake RA Plug) and heavy PTT Heil stand. \$50

12V DC power Supply (Vista R-III) with power cable. \$15

KD9SV RBOG Beverage Antenna preamp. Source Follower Preamp. NEW \$25

Two plastic bins with all kinds of connectors, adapters, including mic plugs, UHF, VHF, N, Audio, and test. Some new. \$10 per container. Again, ALL OR NONE. Pictures are available via email or text.

Several antique broadcast radios from the 30s and 40s. Consoles and table radios. Most are unrestored. A few are restored. Fire sale prices. Many are FREE, others are \$25 and up. Most are complete, restorable, and most include alltubes and original knobs. Email me for the list and prices.



For Sale: Baofeng DR-1801UV DMR/FM VHF/UHF handheld transceiver. Like new, barely used. An inexpensive way to get started in DMR (digital voice)! Programmed for both Fort Wayne's DMR repeaters and all Fort Wayne's FM repeaters. For use on DMR, a new user must obtain a numeric DMR ID from www.radioid.net. The seller will gladly input the buyer's DMR ID into the radio before pickup. Includes desk charger, programming cable, extra 2200 mAh battery pack. \$60. Jay Farlow, W9LW, at arsw9lw (at)gmail.com.



For sale 1 gallon of AMSOIL transformer oil. For oil filled dummy loads. \$30. Works lots better than any other fluid. Contact K9FW through his qrz.com email address for more information.

Area Nets (updated as of 3/1/24)					
Daily			Tuesday		
8:00 AM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	7:30 PM	147.150+	21 Repeater Group Net (97.4 PL)
8:30 AM	3.912	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	8:00 PM	50.580 USB	FWRC 6-Meter SSB Net
6:00 PM	3.910	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	9:00 PM	146.940-	Allen Co. ARES Training Net (141.3 PL)
6:30 PM	146.880-	IMO (alternate is 146.940)	Wednesday		
7:00 PM	147.015+	Tri State Two Meter Net	--	--	--
8:00 PM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	8:00 PM	145.270-	Whitley Co. ARES (141.3 PL)
Week-days			8:00 PM	50.580 FM	FWRC 6-Meter FM Net
9:00 AM	3.820	Little Red Barn Net	--	--	--
Sunday			Thursday		
8:00 PM	444.550+	Whitley Co. ARC Sunday Night Net (141.3 PL)	8:00 PM	D-STAR	Indiana D-STAR net (Note 3)
8:30 PM	146.910-	"No-Name" Net also on EchoLink Node number 519521	8:00 PM	50.580	AM 6-Meter AM Net
9:00 PM	145.53 simplex	Northeast Indiana Packet Net 1200 baud (Note 2)	8:30 PM	145.510 simplex	Allen County ARES Digital Operations Team Training Net (Note 4)
Monday			Saturday		
8:00 PM	224.780-	Fort Wayne 224 Net	8:00 PM	146.685-	Huntington ARES(141.3 PL)

1. All times local time. **Any changes or corrections should be submitted to the newsletter editor at drjoshlong (at) gmail.com.**
2. NEIPN is direct accessible via any BPQ Chat Node (or through Node hopping etc.) via other packet frequencies in this area and other areas through other nodes (it is locally direct accessible on 145.53 in NC & NE Indiana/NW Ohio and SE Michigan using KA9LCF-11, KC9VYU-11, N9LCF-11, N9PXO-11, K9BIF-11) Most BPQ Nodes use an SSID of -11.
3. Reflector REF024B.
4. Net starts using BPSK-31 and switches to BPSK-250 after roll call to pass traffic etc. NBEMS suite of software (FLDIGI, FLMSG, and FLAMP) is preferred.
5. Indiana HF Traffic Nets Web Site: <http://www.inarrl.org/index.php/public-service/indiana-nts>

Area Repeaters (updated as of 3/1/24)							
Frequency	Offset	Tone/Notes	Callsign	Frequency	Offset	Tone/Notes	Callsign
				442.6375	+5 MHz	MDR CC1	N9MTF
145.330	-0.6 MHz	141.3	W9FEZ	442.99375	+5 MHz	D-Star W9TE-B	W9TE
146.880	-0.6 MHz	--	W9INX	443.100	+5 MHz	DMR CC1	K9MMQ
147.255	+0.6 MHz	--	W9INX	443.275	+5 MHz	P25 NAC # 293	K9MMQ
146.760	-0.6 MHz	141.3	W9TE	444.250	+5 MHz	141.3	W9AVW
146.910	-0.6 MHz	--	W9TE	444.800	+5 MHz	--	W9FEZ
146.940	-0.6 MHz	141.3	W9TE	444.8750	+5 MHz	141.3	W9TE
		FM / C4FM					
224.780	-1.6 MHz	--	W9FEZ				

FWRC Membership Application

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____
 License Class: _____
 Street address: _____ City: _____
 State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone #: (_____) _____
 * Email address: _____
 * (@arrl.net domain is unreliable. Please use an alternate email address if you have one).
 ARRL Member? _____ (ARRL membership helps the club maintain ARRL affiliation)
 May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster & on our club web site? Yes or No

Fort Wayne Radio Club dues:

Regular membership	\$25.00 / year
Family membership ¹	\$35.00 / year
Student membership ²	\$5.00 / year
Associate membership ³	\$20.00 / year

(Memberships for July-December are ½ the stated amounts)

Please attach a check to this form (paying by check is strongly encouraged) made out to:
 Fort Wayne Radio Club (check number _____) and bring to a club meeting or mail to:
 Fort Wayne Radio Club
 P.O. Box 15127
 Fort Wayne, IN 46885-5127

- 1: Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.
- 2: K-12 or full time student.
- 3: Unlicensed member.

ACARTS Membership Application

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____
 License Class: _____
 Street address: _____ City: _____
 State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone #: (_____) _____
 Email address: _____ ARRL Member? _____
 (ARRL membership helps the club maintain ARRL affiliation)
 May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster & on our club web site? Yes or No

ACARTS dues:

Regular membership	\$12.00 / year
Additional family members ¹	\$6.00 / year
Student membership ²	\$6.00 / year
Associate membership ³	\$6.00 / year

(New regular memberships are \$1.00/month)

Please attach a check to this form (paying by check is strongly encouraged) made out to:
 Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (check number _____) and bring to a club meeting or mail to:
 A.C.A.R.T.S.
 P.O. Box 10342
 Fort Wayne, IN

- 1: Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.
- 2: K-12 or full time student.
- 3: Unlicensed member.