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Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club

Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

December 2018
Volume 19
Issue 12

FUN AT THE 2018 FORT WAYNE HAMFEST



A huge thanks goes out to all of the volunteers who helped plan, organize, and assist with the 2018 Fort Wayne Hamfest. This event would not be possible without your help.

Because of the outstanding work that has been done on the Fort Wayne Hamfest in years past, it has been approved by the ARRL to be the Central Division convention which will provide more activities and, best of all, exposure throughout the division.

A big thanks also goes out to Al Burke, WB9SSE; Steve Nardin, W9SAN; Linda Nardin, W9LAN; and Tom Rupp, KU8T for all of the photos they have provided, not just the hamfest but throughout the year. There are more photos of the hamfest (168 at last count) on the FWRC web page. [Click Here.](#)



Also this month

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Internet Home Pages

Fort Wayne Radio Club:	http://www.FWRC.info/
	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FWRC/
ACARTS:	http://www.acarts.com
Fort Wayne DX Association:	http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/
ARES:	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen_Co_IN_ARES/
IN_PACKET Yahoo Group:	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IN_PACKET/

Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN 46885), the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN 46851), and the Fort Wayne DX Association.

Please send any articles, classified ads, or other information to the editor, Ken Helms, AB9ZD, at **AB9ZD(at)ARRL.NET**. Please put "For Newsletter" in the subject line. Most text and graphics formats are acceptable. Microsoft Word and JPEG are preferred if separate files are used. For those without computer access, please mail your submission to either of the clubs post office boxes.

The deadline for the each issue is a few days before the end of the preceding month.

Hamsplatter

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

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

The November meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church (GSUMC) on 9 November, 2018. The meeting was hosted by President Charles Ward. Secretary Al Burke, WB9SSE was absent, so the minutes were captured by Linda Nardin, W9LAN.

There were about 30 folks in attendance and following the Pledge of Allegiance, each person introduced themselves via their call sign.

The Treasures report indicated the following financial status for the club:

Income Year-To-Date	\$9,902.04
Expenses Year-To-Date	\$6,441.16
Savings balance	\$4,829.27
Checking balance	\$3,723.98
Cash-on-Hand	\$59.00
Vanguard account balance	\$5,045.49

Charles noted that the ACARTS Hamfest would occur on 17-18 November. The club has two tables. If you want to put an item for sale on the club tables, feel free to do so. If you don't intend to stay by the item you must clearly indicate in writing what the item is, what condition it's in, what price you're asking, and your contact information. You must also agree to man the table for at least one hour. A sign-up sheet will be available for that purpose.

Charles also noted that a full slate of forums will occur at the Hamfest on Saturday including an RFI forum presented by Steve Nardin, W9SAN, and a forum "Getting on 630 Meters" presented by Jim Pliett, K9OMA.

Charles also noted that the Hamfest would be an opportune time to re-up

your FWRC membership for 2019. You'll be able to do that at the club table. Anyone re-upping for 2019 will be entered in a raffle for an ICOM 2100 2-meter mobile transceiver, and if you want to increase your chances of winning the ICOM, extra chances will be available for \$1.00 each.

Paul Prestia, KA3OZP summarized the repeater status. The BridgeComm unit has been repaired (transmit module replaced, newest firmware installed) and is in transit to us. It will be installed at the 146.76 site at Robison Park. At present, due to the efforts of Tom Rupp, KU8T and Jim Pliett, K9OMA, 146.76 is operating using one of our spare Master II transceivers that had been put into storage when the system was upgraded to the BridgeComm hardware. Meanwhile, the 146.91 machine at PFW seems to be working just fine as is the 444.875 machine at Robison Park. And the D-STAR system is working except for its internet connection. The problem seems to be an issue with the router. Phil Hooper, AB9IZ and Paul Prestia are working the problem.

Both the upper and lower VHF collinear antennas mounted on the Robison Park tower appear to be failing. Both are getting long in the tooth and we suspect they have been taking on water as a result of the monsoon like rainstorms Ft. Wayne has experienced over the summer and fall. This has resulted in periodic increases in the VSWR which can be hard on power amplifiers. At present we are looking into



December 14: The December meeting will be the annual Christmas banquet. It will be at GSUMC starting at 7:00 PM.

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W9TE Trustee

Carole Burke, WB9RUS

Webmaster

Jay Farlow, W9LW

Unless otherwise scheduled, all meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, 4700 Vance Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN.

the cost of replacing the upper antenna and its jumper. The costs would be approximately \$1,500.00 for a new antenna and perhaps as much as \$2,000.00 for the tower climbing labor. Al Burke, WB9SSE is working on obtaining formal quotes.

Charles reminded everyone that our December meeting will be the annual Christmas banquet. It will occur on Friday, 14 December at GSUMC starting at 7:00 PM. The club will provide both baked and fried chicken, soft beverages and place settings. Attendees are requested to bring a carry-in dish to round out the menu. (He mentioned that he had received a copy of downlink message originating from the International Space Station stating that most modern culinary carry-in events these days feature meatballs and/or deviled eggs in the bill of fare). Boy, isn't science amazing!

He also mentioned that we will be doing a gift exchange again this year. If you wish to participate, bring a wrapped gift (not to exceed \$10.00 in value) indicating

if it's for an OM or YL, and be sure to mark who it's from.

The HUFF 50K Trail Run & Relay will take place at Chain-O-Lakes state park in Albion on 29 December, 2018. The local ham community typically has provided communications support for this event. A call for volunteers will be forthcoming soon.

The November foxhunt occurred on 4 November and was the last foxhunt for this year. Don Glick, K9LI and his wife served as the fox and hid out on the west side of Allen County. Carole & Al Burke plus Jim Pliett and Bob Marchand formed fox hunting team #1, Linda & Steve Nardin plus their grandson Alex formed team #2, and Charles Ward formed team #3. The Nardin team was the first to find the microfox, followed by the Burke/Pliett/Marchand team, followed by Charles. The foxhunting trophy will be awarded at the Christmas banquet, and the first foxhunt for 2019 will occur the first Sunday in February.

Jim Plummer, KD9GDX exhibited a copy of the November issue of the periodical "Senior Life" that contained a great article on ham radio (on page four of the November edition). It included an interview of Jim and his wife Brenda (KD9GDY), and also addressed the upcoming Fort Wayne Hamfest. Copies of this periodical are available at local restaurants.

Following the business meeting Charles introduced Jeff DeLucenay, KB9QG, from the Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Association/DeKalb County who presented a program on how to program the current slew of handheld and mobile VHF and UHF radios using the software tool Chirp.

The Secretary wishes to thank Linda Nardin, W9LAN who took the notes on tonight's meeting in my absence which in turn enabled these minutes to be prepared.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE

Secretary, Fort Wayne Radio Club



State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

ACARTS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another Hamfest is in the books. Preliminary figures show the attendance were slightly lower than last year. We don't have all of the final invoices as of yet, so we can't give an exact profit and loss statement. Expenses were about the same as last year, so we don't expect a big difference. Overall, the Hamfest and the banquet were a success.

Plans are already underway for next year's Hamfest. After 18 years, Jim Boyer, KB9IH is stepping down as Hamfest chairman. Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ, who was essentially Jim's assistant chairman this year is taking the reigns as Chairman. Many thanks to Jim for a Job well done for so many years and many thanks to Joseph for taking on the duties. Joseph already has several ideas for next year. Thanks to those of you that worked to put the Hamfest together during the year, helped at the Hamfest, had a table, attended, and made purchases from the vendors. Your participation makes it all possible.

November was election month for ACARTS. Many of the officers and directors agreed to run for another term. The major change was Jim Boyer, KB9IH, and Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ, switching positions, with Joseph becoming Fundraising Manager, or essentially the Hamfest Chairman, and Jim taking the Vice President position. TJ Walker, W9QHY, decided not to run for re-election because of health



issues and work commitments. There had been an opening for one of the three Director At-Large positions this year. Steve Shannon, K9SKS, put his name in nomination for the open Director position. Welcome Steve, and congratulations to the winners.

The Secretary position is still open. The main duties of the Secretary are taking minutes of the board and General meetings and submitting them to the Allen County HamNews each month. The board can appoint a Secretary at any time during the year, so ACARTS is actively looking for someone willing to take the job. Let me know if you are interested.

The ACARTS Christmas Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 18th at Hall's GuestHouse on Washington Center Road. This is an hour earlier than previous years. We will again be ordering from a special menu. As I didn't hear any complaints, the menu choices will be the same as we used for our Spring Banquet. Reservations are required. Please let me know by Sunday, December 16th, that you plan on attending and how many guests will be with you. Contact me at w9lkh(at)comcast.net or 260-485-6135 to make your reservations. ACARTS will pay a portion of each member's meal. Guests, which are highly encouraged to attend, will have to pay the full amount of their meal. Please make plans to join us for an evening of good food and conversation. I would especially like to invite the new members that are

December 18: The Christmas Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. on the 18th at the Guesthouse. Dave needs reservations by the 16th.

Unless otherwise scheduled, all General meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the Red Cross Center, 1212 E California Rd, Fort Wayne, IN. Board meeting are held at the Salvation Army Facility.



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new hams or long-time hams that joined ACARTS this year for the first time. The Christmas Dinners, Spring Banquets, and August Picnics are great opportunities to meet fellow club members in a casual setting. I hope to see you there.

73,

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

President

ACARTS NOVEMBER 2018

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Dave announced that the November meeting would be the Hamfest wrap-up and club elections.

Dave added that the Christmas Dinner would be December 18th, at 6:00 p.m. at Hall's Guesthouse.

Dave suggested that The January meeting be a planning meeting to give the members an opportunity to express what activities and programs that they would like.

Joseph, K9RFZ, who was not present at the meeting, had agreed previously to run for Fundraising Manager, which is essentially the Hamfest Chairman position. Jim, KB9IH, accepted the nomination to run for Vice President, and replace Joseph. No other nominations were received.

Preparations for the Hamfest/Central Division Convention were discussed. Dave, W9LKH, stated that the use of the \$5.00 meal tickets had been approved by the Operations Manager of Casas. There are a few worker positions that still need to be filled, but, other than that, everything appears to be in good shape. Howard, N9ADS, reported that 41 banquet tickets had been sold, and that table sales were about the same as last year, with only a few less being sold at this point.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

President



ACARTS NOVEMBER 2018 GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Dave, W9LKH.

After introductions, Dave asked if there were any new hams with a membership letter present. None were present.

Dave announced that the Christmas Dinner would be at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 18th, at Hall's Guesthouse. He added that he would begin taking reservations on December 1st.

Dave stated that the January meeting would probably be a planning meeting.

A wrap-up discussion of the Hamfest followed. Jim, KB9IH, gave a general overview that things went well. He presented the Coliseum ticket sales and turnstile count, as well as Coliseum expenses. Total attendance, including attendees, workers, and vendors, was down about a hundred people over last year. Coliseum expenses were about the same as last year.

Howard, N9ADS, reported that other income and expenses were about the same as last year, but final figures could not be presented as all of the invoices had not been received.

Joseph, K9RFZ, presented numerous observations and suggestions for next year. Bernie, K9JDF, and Fred, KC9EZP, reported on their aspects of the Hamfest. Other comments were heard from the members present.

Dave, W9LKH, opened the floor to nominations for 2019. Dave said that he would run again as President, Howard, N9ADS, again as Treasurer, and Bernie, K9JDF, and Bob, N9PWN, would stay on the ballot as board members. He stated that there was no nomination for Secretary, and that there were only two nominations for the three Director At-Large positions. He added that Joseph, K9RFZ, had agreed to run for Fundraising Manager, essentially the Hamfest Chairman, for 2019, and Jim, KB9IH, had accepted the nomination for Vice President. Steve Shannon, K9SKS, put his name in for nomination for the open Director At-Large position.

A motion was made to close the nominations by Bernie, K9JDF, seconded by Howard, N9ADS, and passed by voice vote.

A motion was made by Bernie, K9JDF, to declare the ballot elected by acclamation. It was seconded by Howard, N9ADS, and passed by a voice vote.

Dave, congratulated the winners, and stated that the board can appoint a Secretary at any time to fill the open position. Current Secretary, TJ, W9QHY, decided not to run again because of health and work schedule reasons.

A motion to adjourn was made by Bernie, K9JDF, seconded by Jim, KB9IH, and passed by a voice vote.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH.



The Little Red Barn Net had lunch at the Casa Ristorante Italiano across Parnell from the Hamfest. Seventeen enjoyed getting together for lunch on the Saturday of the Hamfest. It's been a yearly activity for the Little Red Barn Net, 6-Meter Net, 224 Net, and all other Hams who want to join us. Tom – KU8T



Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA

If you've been around a while (like me), you may remember that the title of this month's column was a 1961 song by Dick and DeeDee. Would you believe it has a tie to DXing at solar minimum? Let me explain.

I subscribe to The Daily DX edited by Bernie W3UR. It's e-mailed 5 days a week and reports on DX activities, with special bulletins as necessary. A special bulletin on November 5 reported that Martti OH2BH's short duration DXpedition to A52BH (Bhutan) was done. He spent 5 days there and made about 5,000 QSOs. I could easily copy A52BH on 40m CW in the evening on my Shared Apex Loop, but I couldn't work him with 1000 Watts to an inverted-vee at 45 feet. Jim KR9U worked him on 40m CW, and he has a 2-element 40m Yagi at around 110 feet. The extra height and the extra antenna gain made the difference.

In his report, Martti said that "Twenty meters was disappointing, as it did not open anywhere during my stay." Let's look at some issues to try to understand why 20m wasn't open to anywhere. We'll look at geomagnetic field activity, VOACAP predictions and Google Earth.

During Martti's stay in Thimphu (the capital of Bhutan), the planetary K indices were relatively low. Although the path to North America might have been disturbed since it's over the North Pole, the paths to Europe and JA avoided the auroral oval. So, I don't think geomagnetic field activity was the problem.

Running VOACAP on paths to Europe, Japan, East Coast North America (W2) and Midwest North America (W9) gave MUFs (maximum useable frequencies) at the

THE MOUNTAIN'S HIGH AND THE VALLEY'S So DEEP

best time of day for each path.

I also looked at the terrain around Thimphu on Google Earth. Thimphu is in a valley and is surrounded by some good-sized mountains. I used Google Earth to determine the height of the mountains and how far away they were from Thimphu on the four paths mentioned above. The accompanying table summarizes all the results.

Although the MUFs were high enough on the Europe, Japan and W2 paths, the predicted elevation angles would be blocked by the mountains. The path to W9 had a low MUF in addition to the predicted elevation angle being blocked by the mountains. All predictions produced very weak signals and the elevation angles in the table gave the highest signal powers.

I suppose there might have been some diffraction and/or scatter possible. If it did happen, it apparently didn't result in strong enough signals.

Why are the predicted elevation angles so low? The reason is because we're at solar minimum. With few sunspots, there's not enough ionization to refract higher elevation angles on the higher frequencies (including 20m). This is very obvious when you compare elevation angle statistics (in N6BV's HFTA, for example) on the high bands at solar minimum and at solar maximum. If we had many more sunspots, higher elevation angles could be supported.

So, with reasonable confidence, we conclude that the terrain around Thimphu played an important role in making 20m unusable during the A52BH DXpedition at solar minimum.



path from A52BH to	heading from Thimphu	predicted MUF	predicted elevation angle	Thimphu height	mountain height	distance away	angles blocked below
U.K.	319°	21.5 MHz	3.9°	7,600 ft	10,432 ft	2.97 km	16.1°
Japan	67°	26.4 MHz	5.2°	7,600 ft	12,014 ft	6.98 km	10.8°
W2	347°	14.9 MHz	3.0°	7,600 ft	11,000 ft	9.61 km	6.1°
W9	358°	13.2 MHz	3.0°	7,600 ft	10,000 ft	8.90 km	4.7°



NWS CHANGES SKYWARN® SPOTTER TRAINING SCHEDULE

By Jay Farlow, W9LW, Allen County
SKYWARN net manager

NWS-led SKYWARN® storm spotter training will no longer occur every spring in Allen County. A new training rotation developed by the northern Indiana National Weather Service (NWS) office (IWX) means that the next two sessions in the county will occur in the fall of 2019 and the spring of 2021. The Allen County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), however, plans to devote its February 21, 2019 meeting to spotter education.

Beginning in 2019, IWX will offer 21 spotter training sessions per year, versus the 22 to 26 sessions it previously conducted annually in February, March and April. The new schedule divides the sessions into two seasons; 12 in the spring season and nine in the late summer or early autumn. Autumn sessions will allow IWX to focus on late-season severe weather and winter weather observations.

"While this is a change, it is not a degradation of service," IWX warning coordination meteorologist Michael Lewis wrote via email.

Lewis encouraged county emergency managers to promote spotter training sessions held in neighboring counties, because the NWS program contains no information that's specific to any county. For example, Allen County residents who wish to attend an IWX session in the spring of 2019 may travel to Adams, Huntington or Noble County.

Increase in other services led to change

IWX created the new training schedule to provide more balance to the of-



fice's operational workload, according to Lewis. He explained that an increase in the amount of [Impact-Based Decision Support Services \(IDSS\)](#) that the office provides to core partners made necessary the workload rebalance. For example, over the past four years, IWX staff members have attended:

- District and sector emergency management meetings (including five Indiana Department of Homeland Security districts, one Ohio sector and one Michigan district)
- Local emergency planning committee (LEPC) meetings (every active county LEPC meeting within the IWX coverage area at least once)
- More than 40 exercises (including full scale, functional, tabletop and discussion based)
- State and International EMA meetings
- Countless other public outreach events throughout the 37 counties within the IWX service area.

County-specific training encouraged

In addition to promoting spotter training in neighboring counties, Lewis encouraged county emergency managers to conduct county-specific storm spotter training during "off years." During such events, emergency managers could provide basic information about county-specific warning operations, such as outdoor warning siren policies, notification services, activation procedures, shelter-

ing instructions, reporting methods, etc. To support such county-specific training, IWX will make available recorded spotter training segments (four- to six-minute videos) from the most current version of its spotter program.

In a November email to Allen County ARES, a representative of the Allen County Office of Homeland Security (ACOHS, Allen County's emergency management agency) indicated that the office had no plans to conduct the suggested county-specific storm spotter training.

ARES to host training

Allen County ARES wants to give its members, other hams and members of the general public an opportunity to receive spotter education before the next spring severe weather season. For that reason, ARES plans to devote its Feb. 21 meeting to spotter education and to welcome all interested persons, including hams who are not ARES members and non-hams.

The meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the main branch of the Allen County Public Library. The agenda is still being developed, but ARES leaders plan to present some of the information themselves based on NWS materials. ARES has also invited others from the community to provide presentations, including ACOHS, the City/County Consolidated Communication Partnership (our local 911 public safety dispatching center), and local broadcast meteorologists.

Mark Feb. 21 on your calendar and watch the January and February issues of Allen County HamNews for more information.

A PANORAMIC PHOTO OF THE 2018 FORT WAYNE HAMFEST

Not just a swap meet but an opportunity to see old friends, learn something new, and have some great food too.



THE FOXHUNT CHRONICLES FOR THE NOVEMBER HUNT

The November foxhunt occurred on a cool but pleasant fall day, on 4 November 2018. We had three foxhunt teams in contention for this final hunt of the 2018 season. Team one consisted of Charles Ward, KC9MUT. Team two included Steve and Linda Nardin, W9's SAN & LAN and their grandson Alex. Team three was composed of Jim Pliett, K9OMA plus Carole & Al Burke, WB9's RUS & SSE, and Bob Marschand, K9BLI.

The role of the fox was provided by Don Glick, K9LI and his wife Julie. They were located in a bee keeper's meadow on a farm near the junction of O'Day Rd. and Yellow River Rd. west of Ft. Wayne. They employed a yagi and a mobile/base for the high-power fox which seemed to get into the foxhunt starting point just fine. They emplaced the microfox in the branches of a tree about six feet off the deck.

The hunt started at 13:30 with the strong 146.430 MHz high power fox signal heard at the Corbin Memorial Park starting point. Bearing readings indicat-



ed that the fox was towards the west, (although Steve Nardin told me that his first bearing indicated that the fox was to the west-northwest). Never-the-less we noticed that Steve's van was right on our tail as we headed down Lake Ave. and into downtown Ft. Wayne. Based upon the bearings we measured, we headed west on Jefferson, then north on Hillegas then northwest on Leesburg until we finally wound up on O'Day Rd. at which point we started to hear the microfox signal.

Interestingly enough, while we were in the process of trying to localize the fox Jim Plummer, KD9GDX came up on frequency and told everyone that he was out deer hunting and ran across the fox lair, so he knew where it was. Despite clever attempts to get him to tell us, he wouldn't divulge its location. But what the heck, it was worth a try. He did, however, get a deer, with a bow and arrow no less.

As it turned out the Nardin team localized the fox first and were on the ground with their hand held yagis before we got there. As a result, Steve and Linda's grandson Alex was first to spot the microfox perched up in that tree. Shortly after that Jim, Bob and I located the microfox, followed by Charles.

It was evident that certain members of the Nardin team were rejoicing in their having found the microfox first, notably Alex. Oh, to be young again.

Following the hunt everybody bo-

geyed over to the Liberty Diner to chow down. The food was good, as usual, but the prices seemed a little salty. Perhaps they are trying to pay for the new roof they recently had to install.

Scores for this hunt and the year-end totals are as follows:

Call	Score This Month	Year to Date
WB9RUS	2	26.83
WB9SSE	2	27.83
K9OMA	2	29.33
KA9YYI	0	19
KC9MUT	1	30.5
KC9EZP	0	26.5
KB9RLW	0	9
KD9LFW	0	5
KC9UHU	0	5
W9SAN	3	18.33
W9LAN	3	17.33
Alex	4	16.33
K9LI	6.33	23.33
JULIE	6.33	20.33
AB9IZ	0	2
K9BLI	2	2

Charles Ward, KC9MUT garnered the most points this year and so will take possession of the 2018 foxhunt trophy for another year.





Since Steve Nardin and crew found the microfox for this month's contest, the final one for 2018, they will serve as the fox when the 2019 foxhunting season opens next February. That should occur on Sunday the 3rd of February. Mark it on your calendar and plan to join in on the fun.

73's,

Al Burke, WB9SSE



See You Next Year!



If you have something you would like to have listed in the classified section then please send an email to the newsletter editor at **AB9ZD(at)**

ARRL.NET.



CHRISTMAS SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

Christmas in Bethlehem "Bethlehem on the Air"

Dec 8, 1800Z-2300Z, W9WWI, New Washington, IN. Clark County Indiana Amateur Radio Club. 14.245; 40 through 6 meters conditions permit. Certificate & QSL. W9WWI CCARC Bethlehem, 4208 Perry Crossing Road, Sellersburg, IN 47172. LoTW will be used to log contacts. www.clarkcountyarc.org

Christmas in Bethlehem

Dec 15-Dec 24, 1400Z-2300Z, KC5OUR, Belen, NM. Valencia County Amateur Radio Association. 7.283 14.283 21.383. QSL. Valencia County ARA, P.O. Box 268, Peralta, NM 87042. Celebrating the Christmas season from Belen (Bethlehem) New Mexico. For QSL card please SASE to KC5OUR. kc5our@arrl.net or kc5our.com/wordpress

Oglebay Park Winter Festival of Lights

Dec 15-Dec 16, 1200Z-2359Z, W8ZQ, Wheeling, WV. Northern Panhandle Amateur Radio Club. 14.245 7.210; 75, 40 and 20 meters; other bands as conditions permit. Certificate. Joe McCready, 29 Clover Ln, Colliers, WV 26035. www.qrz.com/db/w8zq

WX3MAS Special Event

Dec 15-Dec 16, 1400Z-2200Z, WX3MAS, Nazareth, PA. Christmas City Amateur Radio Club. 14.265 7.270 3.850. QSL. WX3MAS, Greystone Building, 14 Gracedale Ave, Nazareth, PA 18064. 1400 to 2200z each day. Send QSL and SASE (A6 or larger for 4"x6" card). Operating from the club station in Nazareth, PA, by Delaware-Lehigh ARC "Christmas City Radio Club" members. For details and possible electronic certificate, see www.dlarc.org

CONTEST CALENDAR

Here are a few of the contests that will be held in the next few weeks. Please refer to the contest web sites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Some of the places on-line with information on contests include:

ARRL Contest Corral Web page www.arrl.org/contests

ARRL's National Contest Journal www.arrl.org/ncj

ARRL Contest Update www.arrl.org/contest-update-issues

Contesting On-Line www.contesting.com

WA7BNM Contest Calendar www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/

DXNews <http://dxnews.com>

DX Zone Contesting www.dxzone.com/catalog/Contesting/

ARRL Contest Calendar www.arrl.org/contest-calendar

QRP ARCI TOPBAND SPRINT			ARRL 10-METER CONTEST			QRP ARCI HOLIDAY SPIRITS HOMEBREW SPRINT		
DECEMBER 6, 0000Z		DECEMBER 6, 0300Z	DECEMBER 8, 0000Z		DECEMBER 9, 2359Z	DECEMBER 9, 2000Z		DECEMBER 9, 2300Z
1.8	-	PHONE, CW	28	-	PHONE, CW	1.8-28	-	CW
RST, SPC, MBR OR POWER			RST, STATE/PROVINCE (DX: SERIAL)			RST, SPC, MBR OR POWER		
http://www.qrparci.org/contests			http://www.arrl.org/10-meter			http://www.qrparci.org/		
CQC GREAT COLORADO SNOWSHOE RUN			NAQCC CW SPRINT			ARRL ROOKIE ROUNDUP, CW		
DECEMBER 9, 2100Z		DECEMBER 9, 2259Z	DECEMBER 12, 0100Z		DECEMBER 12, 0300Z	DECEMBER 16, 1800Z		DECEMBER 16, 2359Z
14	-	CW	3.5-14	-	CW	3.5-28	50	CW
RST, SPC			RST, SPC, MBR OR POWER			NAME, 2-DIGIT YEAR FIRST LICENSED, SPC		
http://www.coloradoqrclub.org/			http://naqcc.info/			http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup		
DARC CHRISTMAS CONTEST			SKCC SPRINT			STEW PERRY TOPBAND CHALLENGE		
DECEMBER 26, 0830Z		DECEMBER 26, 1059Z	DECEMBER 26, 0000Z		DECEMBER 26, 0200Z	DECEMBER 29, 1500Z		DECEMBER 30, 1500Z
3.5-7	-	PHONE, CW	1.8-28	-	CW	1.8	-	CW
RST, SERIAL, CLASS			RST, SPC, NAME, MBR OR POWER			4-CHAR GRID SQUARE		
https://www.darc.de/home/			http://www.skccgroup.com/			https://www.kkn.net/stew/		

ACARTS (W9INX) REPEATERS			FWRC (W9TE) REPEATERS			OTHER AREA REPEATERS			
Freq/Offset	Input Tone		Freq/Offset	Input Tone		Call	Freq/ Offset	Input Tone	
146.880 (-)	No tone	General use / Skywarn priority	146.760 (-)	No tone	General use (Note 1)	W9FEZ	145.330 (-)	No tone	Fort Wayne
147.255 (+)	No tone	General use	146.910 (-)	No tone	General use (Notes 1 and 4)	W9FEZ	224.780 (-)	No tone	Fort Wayne (Note 1)
443.800 (+)	No tone	General use	146.940 (-)	141.3 Hz required	General use (Notes 1 and 3)	W9FEZ	444.800 (+)	No tone	Fort Wayne (Note 1)
144.390 (s)	Digital	APRS - wide	444.875 (+)	141.3 Hz required	General use (Note 1)	K9MMQ	443.100 (+)	N/A	Fort Wayne, DMR
145.530 (s)	Digital	W9INX-1 Digipeater and Node	442.99375	D-STAR	General use (Note 2)	K9MMQ	443.275 (+)	141.3 Hz required	Fort Wayne
Notes: General Note: Standard 0.6 MHz (2-meter), 1.6 MHz (1.25-meter) and 5.0 MHz (70-cm) frequency offsets are used for all repeaters unless otherwise indicated.			Notes: 1. 141.3 Hz output tone present 2. Offset + 5.0 MHz, W9TE ___ B, W9TE ___ G 3. Yaesu System Fusion repeater, supports both FM (analog) and C4FM (digital) voice 4. EchoLink connection repeater Node number 519521			N9MTF	442.6375 (+)	N/A	Fort Wayne, DMR
						W9AVW	444.250 (+)	141.3 Hz required	Fort Wayne
						W9OU	147.015 (+)	No tone	Auburn
						WC9AR	145.270 (-)	141.3 Hz required	Columbia City
						WC9AR	444.550 (+)	No tone	Columbia City
						K9OMA	147.375 (+)	No tone	Columbia City
						K9HC	146.685 (-)	141.3 Hz required	Huntington
						N9BCP	147.150 (+)	97.4 Hz required	Ligonier
						Notes:			

Articles, photographs, and classified ads for publication in the Allen County HamNews should be emailed to the newsletter editor at [AB9ZD\(at\)ARRL.NET](mailto:AB9ZD(at)ARRL.NET) several days before the first of the month. If you notice information that needs changed, please contact the newsletter editor by email.

The Allen County HamNews is prepared using Adobe's InDesign software along with PhotoShop and Acrobat on an i7 PC running Windows 10.

Membership Application for ☐ ACARTS OR ☐ FWRC

Name: _____ Call sign: _____ License class: _____
 Street address: _____ City: _____
 State: _____ ZIP: _____ - _____ Phone #: (____) _____ - _____ Unlisted? ☐ Yes
 Email address: _____ ARRL Member? ☐ Yes

(ARRL membership helps your club maintain affiliation.)

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. For FWRC a mailed paper newsletter is a \$25.00/yr. premium.

How would you like your newsletter delivered? ☐ by snail mail ☐ download from web site.

A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues

Regular membership ☐ \$12.00 / year
 Additional family members¹ ☐ \$6.00 / year
 Student membership² ☐ \$6.00 / year
 Associate membership³ ☐ \$6.00 / year
 (New Regular memberships are \$1/month)

Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues

Regular membership ☐ \$20.00 / year
 Family membership¹ ☐ \$30.00 / year
 Student membership² ☐ \$5.00 / year
 Associate membership³ ☐ \$20.00 / year
 Mailed newsletter premium ☐ \$25.00 / year
 (Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)

1. Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.

2. K-12 or full time student

3. Unlicensed member

Please attach a check (number _____) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

ACARTS

PO Box 10342

Fort Wayne, IN 46851-0342

Fort Wayne Radio Club.

PO Box 15127

Fort Wayne, IN 46885-5127

For dual membership, send a check to each club for your respective membership. Payment by check is strongly encouraged!

Special Event Stations This Month

Civil Air Patrol 77th Anniversary

Dec 1-2 1500Z-2100Z W9CAP

<http://www.ilwg.cap.gov/communications/w9cap>

Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration

Dec 1-9 1300Z-2200Z W2W

<http://www.wv-2.us/>

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Dec 5-10 0000Z-0000Z W5W

<https://www.qrz.com/db/kc5nx>

Apollo 8 50th Anniversary

Dec 21-27 0000Z-2359Z Several

<https://nasaontheair.wordpress.com/>

Battle of Trenton

Dec 26-30 1400Z-2200Z W2T

<https://www.w2zq.com/>

For a complete listing of special event stations (and latest updates), check the listing in QST and the ARRL web page:

www.arrl.org/special-event-stations

AREA NETS

Daily			Tuesday		
8:00 AM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	8:00 PM	50.580 USB	FWRC 6-Meter SSB Net
8:30 AM	3.940	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	9:00 PM	146.940-	Allen Co. ARES Training Net
6:00 PM	3.940	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	Wednesday		
6:30 PM	146.880-	IMO (alternate is 146.760)	7:00 PM	146.760-	FWRCYL Net
7:00 PM	147.015+	Tri State Two Meter Net	7:30 PM	147.150+	21 Repeater Group
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
8:30 AM	3.820	Little Red Barn Net	9:00 PM	146.940-	Help and Swap Net
Sunday			Thursday		
8:00 PM	444.550+	Whitley Co. ARC Sunday Night Net	8:00 PM	D-STAR	Indiana D-STAR net (Note 3)
8:30 PM	1.965 & 146.910-	"No-Name" Net also on EchoLink Node number 519521	8:00 PM	50.580 AM	6-Meter AM Net
9:00 PM	145.530	Northeast Indiana Packet Net (Note 2)	8:30 PM	145.510 (s)	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

1. All times local time. **Any changes or corrections should be submitted to the newsletter editor at AB9ZD (at) ARRL.NET.**
2. On 145.530 @ 1200 baud. Use unconnected converse mode to communicate for a roundtable net setting. Use your "UNPROTO" command or equivalent to set Digi path(s) through the strongest station(s) needed between you and your destination. Only use those that are necessary! Have all your "Monitor" settings on so you can see everyone.
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>

To:

Activities Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Place
12/04/2018	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
12/11/2018	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
12/14/2018	7:00 PM	FWRC Christmas Banquet	GSUMC
12/18/2018	6:00 PM	ACARTS Christmas Dinner	Don Hall's Guesthouse