## Allen County HamNews Fort Wayne Radio Club Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

December 2009

Volume 10 Issue 12

## Fort Wayne Radio Club Chirstmas Party

As I write this Thanksgiving evening, I cannot believe that Christmas is right around the corner. Therefore, the FWRC Christmas party is right around the corner too. The party this year is 6:30 P.M., December

18, 2009, at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church. The dinner will be the usual pot luck with the club providing the plates, utensils, coffee and punch. Please bring a covered dish to share. There will also be a voluntary gift exchange for whom ever wishes to participate. The gift should be between \$5 and \$10, and labeled for a man or a woman. Please put your name on the tag so we know who to thank. I look forward to seeing all of you at the party for a lot of good food and fellowship.

Carole Burke, WB9RUS



#### What's Inside

#### **ACARTS Christmas Dinner**

The December program is our annual Christmas dinner. It will be on December 15, 2009, at Casa D'Angelo. The restaurant is located at 3402 Fairfield Ave. The start time is 7:00 PM. The club will be paying for the cost of the meal for members on

record as of April 2009. You may bring a guest, but you will have to pay for their meal. The menu will include dishes with or without meat. Reservations are required as we need to know how many to set up for. The deadline is December 12, 2009. To make your reservation send me a email at "vberko at comcast.net". You can also call 456-2012 and leave me a message. Let me know how many will be attending.

73, Vic, KA9LTV

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

Please send any articles, corrections, for sale notices, etc. to the editor, Victor Guess, WB9UZA, wb9uza at arrl.net. Please put "for newsletter" in the subject line. Text should be plain ASCII, graphics should be JPEG or GIF. For those computer impaired: snail mail to 3311 Sanibel Drive, Fort Wayne, IN, 46815-4755.

Deadline for the January issue is Friday, 1/8/2010.

## **Internet Home Pages:**

Fort Wayne Radio Club:

http://www.FWRC.info/ http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FWRC/

ACARTS: http://www.acarts.com

Ft. Wayne DX Asoc.: 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/

# Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

#### **Officers**

#### President:

Tom Baker N9TB 747-2714 n9tb at arrl.net

#### Vice President:

Woody Woodbury KC9CGN 632-4083 woody922 at netzero.net

#### Secretary:

Al Burke WB9SSE 637-1989 woffermom at cs.com

#### Treasurer:

Bob Streeter W8ST 672-9737 w8st at arrl.net

#### Communications Manager:

Steve Nardin W9SAN 482-4039 w9san at arrl.net

#### Board of Directors

Carole Burke WB9RUS 637-1989 wb9rus at comcast.net

Terry Bowman K9FMX 493-7177 tjbowman at verizon.net

Carl Thomas WB9YBI 627-2100 renee.thomas at mchsi. com

Vic Guess WB9UZA 485-7472 wb9uza at arrl.net



#### **President's Corner**



I would like to thank Steve Nardin, W9SAN, for helping with the November General Meeting. Unfortunately I missed the meeting due to a nasty flu bug. Hopefully that is behind me now. Steve's presenta-

tion was on "Forgotten Antennas". Hopefully some of you got some ideas for experimentation. Now is a good time to get an antenna up to experiment with over the winter months. Antennas are a fun and easy way to do some experimentation!

The December Fort Wayne Radio Club General Meeting will be the annual Christmas Banquet. The meeting is scheduled for Friday December 18th. Plan to arrive around 6:30 PM and we will start the food line around 6:45 PM. Remember this is a carry-in with the club providing plates, plastic-ware, and drinks. So throw together your favorite dish to pass and plan on being there. We will have the Fox Hunt trophy to give out to this years winner. And, as always, we will have a gift exchange. Men bring a gift for a man and women bring a gift for a woman. Keep it under \$5 and remember to label it for a man or woman and put your name on it so the recipient knows who to thank. This is always a fun evening so make sure it is on your calendar!

The January General Meeting will be our annual Auction. It is scheduled for Friday January 15<sup>th</sup>. Plan to get there and get your goodies on the tables at 6:00 PM. We will start the auction at 6:30 PM. We need to get started because this tends to run a little longer than our regular meetings. There are always a lot of miscellaneous goodies and a number of good bargains so bring some cash and plan on participating in the bidding. This is a fund-raiser for the club with a small percentage of the proceeds going to the club. It is always a very fun evening with a lot of laughs so make sure you are part of the fun.

I believe that 2010 will be another good year

for the club. We are already talking about some improvements for the 2010 Field Day set-up. The June VHF QSO party will probably be a go as well. We have some good programs for the monthly general meetings. The only other ingredient we will need is your participation.

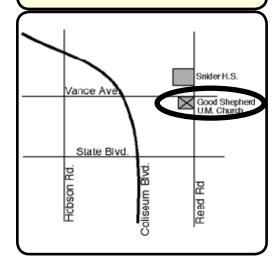
I again want to thank everyone who was willing to run for a position on the 2010 Fort Wayne Radio Club board. We had a number of positions that were unopposed; but there was voting required for other positions and the tallies were very close. There will be at least one new face on the board for 2010 as Charles Ward, KC9MUT, won a general board position along with Terry Bowman, K9FMX, and Carole Burke, WB9RUS. Thanks again for everyone who participated.

Remember the December General Meeting is Friday December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM for the annual Christmas Banquet. I hope that we see you there.

Tom / N9TB

## FWRC Christmas Banquet

Dec. 18, 6:30 p.m.





#### Fort Wayne Radio Club Meeting Minutes, 20 November 2009

The November Meeting of the Fort Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church on 20 November 2009 with club vice president Woody Woodbury serving as host. There were about 35 persons present.

#### **Old Business:**

Woody started the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and followed this by having all in attendance introduce themselves and their calls.

Al Burke read the October meeting minutes and there were no corrections.

Bob Streeter provided the Treasurer report. As of 20 November 2009 the club had realized an income of \$1,946.67 year-to-date, expenses year-to-date of \$1,097.38, and had \$98.00 in cash plus \$7,519.90 in checking/savings. The repeater antenna replacement fund had collected \$453.06 in donations, plus a pledge of \$100.00 from Art Kidd, WK9DD. In addition, Jim & Annie Pliett and Carole & Al Burke had pledged a total of \$400.00 towards replacement of the 146.910 MHz antenna at Robison Park.

Al Burke gave the Foxhunt report for November, the last foxhunt of the season. Details can be found in the December Ham News. Charles Ward, KC9MUT garnered the most points this foxhunt season and thus is the winner of the Foxhunt traveling trophy, which will be presented to him at the Christmas banquet.

#### **New Business:**

Jim Boyer, KB9IH reported that the Hamfest went well with attendance about the same as last year. He noted that table sales were up and that overall the event stayed in the black. He thanked all FWRC members who provided much appreciated help to make the event a success again this year.

Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ noted that new antennas were to be installed at the Public Safety Academy next week, followed by the installation of radios and consoles. He expected that everything would be completed by the end of January.

Carole Burke reminded everyone that the Christmas banquet would occur at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in December starting at 6:30 pm. Everyone should bring a suitable carry-in as usual. If you want to participate in the gift exchange bring a gift marked for a man or women.

Steve Nardin reported that Richard, N9HRA, brought items from Bill Meints' estate to the hamfest. The sale of these items, which were donated to the club, increased the club's treasury by \$280.00.

Jim Boyer noted that 77 VE tests were given to 66 applicants during the hamfest. The statistics of how well the applicants did are unknown, but it can be reported that Linda Nardin and Debbie Jenks successfully passed their General.

Steve Nardin and Carole Burke announced that plans were afoot to start a local YL net. Tentative plans include conducting it on Wednesday evenings using the 146.76 MHz machine. Implementation details will follow.

Following the business meeting the 50-50 raffle was conducted. Woody Woodbury, KC9CGN drew the winning ticket, which happened to be his own, so he donated his share of the \$10.00 pot to the club treasury.

Steve Nardin then presented a very interesting program entitled "Forgotten Antennas"

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE Secretary, FWRC



## STATE OF THE ARTS

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

### ACARTS Officers

#### **President**

Vic Berko, KA9LTV (260) 456-2012 vberko at comcast.net

#### Vice President

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH (260) 485-6135 w9lkh at comcast.net

#### Secretary OPEN

#### **Treasurer**

Howard Pletcher, N9ADS (260) 747-5252 n9ads at juno.com

### ACARTS Managers

Activities OPEN

#### **Emergency Preparedness**

Dan Soper, KB9NGM (260) 637-5787 dan996 at aol.com

#### Communications

Victor Guess, WB9UZA (260) 485-7472 wb9uza at arrl.net

#### Station Manager OPEN

#### **Fundraising Manager**

Jim Boyer, KB9IH (260) 489-6700 kb9ih at arrl.net

#### **W9INX Trustee**

Vic Berko, KA9LTV (260) 456-2012 vberko at comcast.net

#### **Tech Committee**

Emery McClendon, KB9IBW (260) 485-4120 kb9ibw at juno.com

## **President's Message**



This month's program is our annual Christmas dinner. It will be on December 15<sup>th</sup> at Casa D'Angelo on Fairfield Ave. For the full details, read

the activities article. [pg. 1]

I would like to thank Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA for last month's program. He gave a very interesting program on propagation and cycle 24. Last month also saw another Hamfest. I would like to thank everyone who volunteered to work at the Hamfest this year. It takes a lot of work and people to put on a Hamfest, and you help to make it a success. We have received some comments, both good and bad, We can't make everyone happy, but we sure try.

I can use some suggestions for a January program, and also for the rest of the year. A few months program's are already set as they are annual events. March is Skywarn training. April is our annual Spring banquet. In July we do not have a board or general meeting as we take a vacation. August is our family picnic. And of course the Christmas dinner in December. If there is something you would like to see, let me know and will try to find someone to do a program. If you have something that would be of interest, volunteer to do a program.

A few closing words from the green thumb. I was on vacation the week after the Hamfest. I was hoping for the weather to be nice so that I could get my final yard cleanup work done. But, the weather did not cooperate. I needed the ground to be dry so I could work. The rain kept the ground too wet. Now it is too cold to spend a lot of time outside.

That's all I have for this month. See you at the Christmas dinner.

73, Vic, KA9LTV



### **Meeting Schedule**

#### **ACARTS Christmas Dinner:**

12/15/09, 7:00 p.m., Casa D'Angelo, Fairfield Ave.

Next Board Meeting: 12/8/09, 7:00 p.m.



## November 2009 ACARTS Board Meeting Minutes



The meeting was called to order by Vic, KA9LTV.

Vic stated that he has re-coordinated all of the club repeaters.

Jim, KB9IH, brought the final Hamfest details up for discussion. He also brought up the idea of the Club paying for half of tee shirts and hats bearing the Hamfest logo purchased by club members.

A motion was made by Vic, KA9LTV, seconded by Vic, WA9UZA, and passed by a voice vote.

No further business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

## November 2009 ACARTS General Meeting Minutes



The meeting was called to order by Vic, KA9LTV.

Vic announced that the December meeting would be the annual Christmas dinner at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 2009, at Casa D'Angelo on Fairfield Avenue.

Jim, KB9IH, reported on the Hamfest ticket sales and Coliseum costs. Final costs were not yet available, but it appears that sales were similar to last year. He also gave a general evaluation of the Hamfest.

Dan, KB9NGM, reported on the attendance of the Hamfest Forums. He expressed his thoughts on room arrangements for next year, and suggested that the Club purchase a video projector instead of renting one each year.

The Hamfest workers' drawing was held. The winner was Margaret Pletcher.

After refreshments, a presentation on propagation and solar cycle 24 was presented by Carl, K9LA.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

## **Foxhunters' Party Photos**

photo courtesy of Jim Pliett, K9OMA









## A Busy Year for DXCC Card Checking - Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA



### Ft Wayne DX Association

When I became a DXCC card checker in August 2000, I figured my efforts would be limited to card checking at the Ft. Wayne hamfest and help-

ing the ARRL at the Dayton hamfest. Indeed, that's how it started, but over the years my card checking activities have expanded. And this year, 2009, was the busiest so far.

In June Vicky and I attended HamCom in the Dallas/
Ft Worth area. What I remember most about this event is the guy who drove a long distance to apply for his first-ever DXCC award. Unfortunately he only brought 100 cards, and one of them didn't have his call correct. So it was rejected, and he went home empty-handed.

July found me at the W0DXCC Convention in Rochester (Minnesota). You can read about this great event in the FWDXA

column in the September 2009 Allen County Ham-News. There wasn't a lot of card checking activity at this event, which enabled me to attend many of the forums. The W0DXCC convention runs three tracks simultaneously (DX, contest, general), so sometimes it was tough to make a decision as to which forum to attend.

Vicky and I traveled to Spokane (Washington) in August to attend the Northwest DX Convention. It was the first year for this event in Spokane. The convention now rotates every year between Vancouver (British Columbia), Seattle, Portland (Oregon), and Spokane. There was moderate card checking activity at this event, so I missed some of the forums. But I did catch Ward NOAX's slide show of the W1AW/KL7 effort in the IARU contest in July and his visit to W0AIH's impressive contest station. Ward showed these slides at the Ft. Wayne hamfest on Sunday.

In September we attended the one-day W9DXCC Convention in the Chicago area. This event always generates much card checking activity, and it's not uncommon to spend all of Saturday checking cards. The organizers of this event recognized that the card checkers usually missed all the forums, so they set up a monitor (with audio) inside the card checking room. Thus all the presentations were piped in so we could see what was going on. Thank you, W9DXCC organizers!

In October Vicky and I flew to England to represent

the ARRL at the RSGB (Radio Society of Great Britain) Convention. which took place in a beautiful convention center about an hour north of London. That was another extremely busy card checking event, and we spent all of Saturday and much of Sunday morning checking cards. Many people dropped by to say hello to the 'renegade colonists', and we responded by telling them we had taken a Berlitz language course in British English to allow us to communicate.



November saw us at the Ft. Wayne hamfest. With help from N9AG and N9NS, we checked about 15 DXCC applications - pretty much typical for the Ft. Wayne hamfest. Vicky had a WAS application and a WAC application, too.

The Ft. Wayne hamfest was not the only card checking event we attended in November. Due to a minor medical problem that prevented him from flying, Dan N1ND (ARRL HQ employee) asked me if I could cover the Pescara (Italy) hamfest as the ARRL representative for DXCC card checking. This is a big hamfest over the Thanksgiving weekend put on every year by ARI (the Italian national amateur radio society - Associazione Radioamatori Italiani). So instead of a conventional Thanksgiving meal of turkey, we enjoyed home-grown Italian food. Not a bad trade in our book!

## Give Your Generator Some Space - Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the same folks that bring you WWV, publish a monthly newsletter called NIST Tech Beat. Here's an item rom the 10/6/09 issue of NIST Tech Beat that will be of interest to radio amateurs:

To subdue the steaming heat of hurricanes or to thaw out during a blizzard, gasoline-powered, portable generators are a lifeline during weather emergencies when homes are cut off without electricity. But these generators emit poisonous carbon monoxide—a single generator can produce a hundred times more of the colorless, odorless gas than a modern car's exhaust. New research from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) shows that to prevent potentially dangerous levels of carbon monoxide, users may need to keep generators farther from the house than previously believed—perhaps as much as 25 feet.

Up to half of the incidents of non-fatal carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning reported in the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons involved generators run within 7 feet of the home, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Carbon monoxide can enter a house through a number of airflow paths, such as a door or window left open to accommodate the extension cord that brings power from the generator into the house. While some guidance recommends 10 feet from open windows as a safe operating distance, NIST researcher Steven Emmerich says the "safe" operating distance depends on the house, the weather conditions and the unit. A generator's carbon monoxide output is usually higher than an automobile's, he says, because most generators do not have the sophisticated emission controls that cars do.

"People need to be aware that generators are potentially deadly and they need to educate themselves on proper use," Emmerich says. With funding from CDC, NIST researchers are gathering reliable data to support future CDC guidance.

NIST building researchers simulated multiple scenarios of a portable generator operating outside of a one-story house, using both a test structure and two different computer models—the NIST-developed CONTAM indoor air quality model and a computational fluid dynamics model.

The simulations included factors that could be controlled by humans, such as generator location, exhaust direction and window-open-



ing size, and environmental factors such as wind, temperature and house dimensions. In the simulations the generator was placed at various distances from the house and tested under different weather conditions.

"We found that for the house modeled in this study," researcher Leon Wang says, "a generator position 15 feet away from open windows was not far enough to prevent carbon monoxide entry into the house."

Winds perpendicular to the open window resulted in more carbon monoxide entry than winds at an angle, and lower wind speeds generally allowed more carbon monoxide in the house. "Slow, stagnant wind seems to be the worst case because it leads to the carbon monoxide lingering by the windows," Wang explains. Researchers determined that placing the generator outside of the airflow recirculation regions near the open windows reduced carbon monoxide entry.

In the next phase of the study NIST will model a two-story house that researchers believe will interact with the wind differently. NIST researchers also have worked with the Consumer Product Safety Commission on related work. (See: "NIST to Study Hazards of Portable Gasoline-Powered Generators," NIST Tech Beat, March 5, 2008.)

The generator study can be downloaded at http://fire.nist.gov/bfrlpubs/build09/PDF/b09009.pdf.

\* L. Wang and S.J. Emmerich. Modeling the Effects of Outdoor Gasoline Powered Generator Use on Indoor Carbon Monoxide Exposures. (NIST Technical Note 1637,) 2009.



#### For Sale & Wanted

Berdell Smith (WB9UYU) SK Estate Sale These are the remaining items left over from the hamfest.

Ten Tec 544 HF Transceiver includes 245 & 249 filters and noise blanker kits, manuals etc. (\$350)
Ten Tec 242 Remote VFO with manual (\$60) (With the Remote VFO this allows you to do split operations)
Ten Tec 262M Power Supply with manual (\$60)
Ten Tec KR-50 Paddle Keyer with manual (\$60)
Ten Tec 291 Manual Tuner with manual (\$70)
\$25 Discount if you purchase the entire HF Station for \$575

Kenwood TR-7400A VHF Mobile (\$55) (Feedback from speaker when volume @ 12 o'clock position)
Pace Communicator II VHF Mobile (\$45)
Homebrew Antenna Switch (\$20) (With plans from October 1957 QST)
Homebrew Keyer Interface (\$10)
Heathkit HD-1410 Keyer (\$40)
Heathkit HM-102 SWR/Watt Meter (\$40)
Brown Brothers BTL-A Key (\$75)
Autek MK-1 CMOS Keyer (\$40)
SWR Bridge Meter \$15
ICOM 2AT box, manual and new earphone (NO RADIO) (\$3)

All the items listed above are in very good physical condition, were tested and appear to work fine except when noted.

Yaesu FRG 7000 Receiver (\$75) – Powers up, no receive

Please contact the Whitley County ARC if you have any questions or if you are interested in this equipment.

Dan M. Dahms President Whitley County ARC Inc.

Club Address: Whitley County ARC Inc. PO Box 652

Columbia City, IN. 46725

Club Website: http://www.wcarc.org

Club Email: wc9ar@arrl.net

FOR SALE:

Tower (Rohn HDBX-48 – some minor rust)
Cushcraft 11 element 70cm beam (A449-11)
Cushcraft 20 element dual phase beam (A148-20T)
Comet 146/443 MHz 8.5/12 dB gain collinear antenna (GP-9)

\* \* \*

Cornell-Dubilier CDE HAM II rotor (now HyGain) Discone antenna (50-1200 MHz)

4 - approx 120 foot runs of Beldon 8214 equiv low loss coax

2 – approx 120 foot and 1 70 foot run of RG8X "mini" RG8 coax

1 - approx 120 feet of R&L 8 conductor (2/16 6/18) rotor cable

Cross boom for 70 cm beam antenna

Cross boom for discone and inverted V longwire

Estimated 15 foot very heavy duty mast pipe out of the rotor

In the air now - I will tilt over, you disassemble and haul away. - \$1000

Don Gagnon WB8HQS, 260-484-3317 don(at)digiwonders.com

\* \* \*

FOR SALE:

Kenwood TR-2400 (Works, could use a display).

Power Amp (25 watt).

Homebrew Yagi.

45 feet coax.

Homebrew base.

Asking \$50 for all.

Steve OShaughnessy, steveo250k(at)yahoo.com My cell is 609-3360

\* \* \*

FOR SALE:

Like new, Yaesu VX-7R. Picked up at Dayton two years ago, but it's hardly been used. About 10 minutes of actual transmit time. Original battery still works fine. Only cosmetic issue is a tiny dent on the right side of the black screen bezel. I honestly can't remember how it got there, 'cause it's never been abused. Asking \$260, which includes the MH-57 Mic.

Robert Parisot 260-456-1859 makeusmile64(at)hotmail.com

REE:

- Epson Stylus Color 880 printer
- used floppy disks
- two 14" VGA monitors

Call Vic, WB9UZA, 260-485-7472, wb9uza(at)arrl. net

\* \* \*

## **Shape-shifters**

Modern antennas are used in everything from cell phones to GPS devices. Made from copper or other metals, there are limitations to how far antennas can be bent - and how often - before they break completely. Researchers from North Carolina State University have created shape- shifting antennas that offer added flexibility and durability. These characteristics open the door to a host of new uses in fields ranging from public safety to military deployment.

The researchers made the new antennas by injecting an alloy made up of the metals gallium and indium, which remains in liquid form at room temperature, into elastomeric microchannels. Once the alloy has filled the channel, the surface of the alloy oxidizes - holding the alloy in place while allowing it to retain its liquid properties. "Because the alloy remains a liquid, it takes on the mechanical properties of the material encasing it." says Dr. Michael Dickey, assistant professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering.

Read the full story here: http://link.abpi.net/l.php?20091203A2

## The ARRL 160 Meter and 10 Meter Contests

from *The ARRL Letter* – Both MF and HF offer a lot of breathing room for all interests in Amateur Radio. As the 2009-2010 Contest Season continues, two single-band events



in December will highlight the magic of the opposite ends of the shortwave spectrum: the ARRL 160 Meter Contest (2200 UTC Friday, December 4 through 1559 UTC Sunday, December 6) and the ARRL 10 Meter Contest (0000 UTC Saturday, December 12 through 2359 UTC Sunday, December 13). Read more: http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/12/01/11222/?nc=1

#### **Test Points**

12-Dec-2009

Sponsor: UNSPONSORED Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins) Contact: STEPHEN J KOUTS

(419)238-5560

Email: SKOUTS@BRIGHT.NET

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: VAN WERT COUNTY EMA

1220 OLD LINCOLN HWY BUSINESS US 30 EAST

HOMELAND SECURITY BUILDING

VAN WERT, OH 45891





#### 2010 Foxhunt Schedule

Jan.	No hunt	12 July	6:30 pm
14 Feb	1:30 pm	9 Aug	6:30 pm
7 Mar	1:30 pm	13 Sep	6:30 pm
11Apr	1:30 pm	3 Oct	1:30 pm
3 May	6:30 pm	7 Nov	1:30 pm
7 June	6:30 pm	Dec.	No hunt

All foxhunts start at off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.

## **Regional Hamfests**

Date	Location	Contact Phone	URL or E-mail		
9 Jan 2010	Waukesha, WI	414-425-3649	http://www.warac.org		
31 Jan 2010	Strasburg, OH	888-447-2403	http://tuscoarc.org		
21 Feb 2010	Livonia, MI	734-941-5043	http://www.livoniaarc.com/Swap.htm		
6 Mar 2010	Dugger, IN	812-648-2487	http://www.kc9ak.org/hamfest.html		
7 Mar 2010	Sterling, IL	815-284-5650	http://www.sterlinghamfest.com		
For more complete information go to http://www.acarts.com/hamfests.htm or http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html#listing					



## The Foxhunt Chronicals November 2009 - Al Burke, WB9SSE

The 10<sup>th</sup> and final Fox hunt of the 2009 season was held on Sunday afternoon, the 1<sup>st</sup> of November. The temperature was in the mid 60's with a crystal clear sky, perfect weather for

foxhunting.

The November hunters consisted of six teams including Jim & Kim Machamer, KB9's DOT & DOS, the team

of Tim Ryman, K8IAT, Eric Keck, KC9LUT, Rodger Correa, KC9IPL & Garry Carpenter, N9GIS, all from the 21 Repeater group in Kendallville, the team of Charlie Ward, KC9MUT and Phil Hooper, AB9IZ, and single hunters Jonathon Decker, KT1GER, Steve Nardin, W9SAN, and Woody Woodbury, KC9CGN.

For this last hunt of the year Jim Pliett, K9OMA and Al Burke, WB-9SSE provided the role of the fox. They hid the fox, (a cross-band HT) amidst a hay bale in a corn field on the Solomon Farm Park just west of the YMCA (Dupont Rd.) facility. The HT radiated about 5 watts and was controlled from the YMCA parking lot, roughly 300 yards or so from the fox.

Jim and Al started out transmitting the fox signal from an HT running about 5 watts into a quarter wave vertical mounted on the roof of Jim's van. This produced a signal strong enough to be heard by the herd (pardon the pun) located at the Off-Track Betting Parlor parking lot (Washington Center and Lima Roads), the foxhunt starting point. All except for Steve Nardin, that is. Steve had an equipment problem in the form of a faulty attenuator and thus couldn't hear the signal. But he knew enough to follow the pack, and he eventually diagnosed the problem, removed the attenuator from his feed-line, and thenceforth heard the fox's emanations.

Something about the fox location caused DF readings to be all over the place according to reports received from the hunters after the event concluded. After about an hour or so, Jim & Kim Machamer and Woody Woodbury showed up in the YMCA parking lot and located Jim's van. Not too long after that the rest of the hunting pack showed up and thus the entire crew were afoot trying to sniff out the fox's third harmonic. There were more than one pair of wet feet realized during this part of the hunt as sections of the corn field were a little swampy, but it did not deter the hunters.

First to find the fox was Woody Woodbury followed

by Jonathon Decker, Jim & Kim Machamer, Charlie Ward and Phil Hooper, Steve Nardin, and then the 21 Repeater Group team in that order.

And the final point scores for the 2009 Foxhunt season are:

<b>Points</b>	Callsign
25.5	K9OMA
20.5	KA9YYI
24.5	WB9SSE
19.5	WB9RUS
5.0	W9SAN
23.5	KC9CGN
24.0	WB9YBI
16.0	KC9KTG
23.5	KB9DOS
23.5	KB9DOT
13.0	W9BGJ
13.0	KB9ZQG
7.0	KC9AFE
8.0	AB9IZ
27.0	KC9MUT
4.0	KF6CCN
3.0	KB9OS
5.0	KC9PUY
4.0	KT1GER
1.0	K8IAT
1.0	KC9LUT
1.0	KC9IPL
1.0	N9GIS

#### **Congratulations Charlie!**

After the hunt, everyone proceeded to Jim & Annie Pliett's digs for the End of Foxhunting season bonfire and party, which is becoming a foxhunting tradition. There was plenty of food including hot dogs, both red and white chili, baked beans (really good), corn bread, deserts and other goodies, and drinks (including Jim's specially formulated apple cider with that little something "extra" in it). The bon-fire was constructed from the remains of an 80' tree that had been dropped and cut-up the prior week and included the remains of the Pliett's last years Christmas tree. Bonfire ignition was accomplished using an ether and sawdust fueled cannon that was triggered from a count-down clock and which produced a sheet of flame about 10' long that in turn ignited the combustables located deep inside the wood pile. It was impressive and fortunately, no eyebrows were singed.

Tallying the accumulated scores, it turns out that Charlie Ward, KC-9MUT is this year's point's leader and winner of the traveling trophy that will be presented at the Fort Wayne Radio Club's Christmas banquet in December.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE

[photos from the Foxhunters' Party are on pg. 5]

Membership Application for □ ACARTS - and/or - □ FWRC						
Name: Ca	all sign: License class:					
Street address: City:						
State: ZIP :4 Phone #: () _	Unlisted?  \[ \square \text{Yes} \]					
Email address:						
(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 \$17.00/yr. premium.  How would you like your newsletter delivered?						
A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues	Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues					
Regular membership Additional family members <sup>1</sup> \$12.00 / year \$6.00 / year	Regular membership					
Additional family members <sup>1</sup>	Family membership <sup>1</sup>					
1	Student membership <sup>2</sup>					
Associate membership <sup>3</sup>	Mailed newsletter premium					
(New Regular memberships are \$1/month)	(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)					
<ol> <li>Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.</li> <li>K-12 or full time student</li> <li>9 digit ZIP code required for US bulk mail</li> </ol>						
Please attach a check (number) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:						
ACARTS	Fort Wayne Radio Club.					
PO Box 10342	PO Box 15127					
Fort Wayne, IN 46851	Fort Wayne, IN 46885					
For dual membership, fill out both sides and send 2 checks to either club. Payment by check is strongly encouraged!						

#### **ACARTS Voice Repeaters**

146.880 (-) General use / Skywarn priority

147.255 (+) General use / Autopatch priority\*

443.800 (+) General use

(All repeaters have autopatch, but 88 has only speed dial emergency #'s.)

#### **ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digipeaters)**

144.390 (s) APRS - wide

145.530 (s) W9INX-1 Digipeater and Node

#### Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters

Voice: 146.76 (-) General use

146.94 (-) General use with autopatch
146.91 (-) EchoLink connection repeater

Node number 16636

ATV: 439.25 In, 910.250 Out, 144.340 Audio & control

#### **Area Traffic Nets**

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

444.875 (+) General use

**IMO**: meets nightly at 6:30 p.m. on 146.88-

Tri State Two Meter Net: meets daily at 7:00 p.m. on 147.015+

21 Repeater Group: meets each Wed. at 7:30 p.m. on 147.150

Help and Swap Net: Mondays at 9:00 p.m. 146.94(-)

6 Meter SSB/AM Net: Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m. EDT or EST on 50.580 MHz Net controls: K9RFZ & W9SAN

Daily Indiana Traffic Net 3.910 @ 8:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. local

Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net 3.535 @ 9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. local times

#### Miscellaneous Nets

**Allen Co. ARES Training Net:** Tuesdays at 9:00 p.m. on the 146.94 W9TE repeater.

Emergency Preparedness Net: Thursdays at 9:00 p.m. on the 146.88 repeater

Huntington ARES: Saturday at 8:00 p.m. on 146.685

Whitley Co. ARES: Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. on 145.270 (Note 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)

Whitley Co. Sunday: Sundays at 8:00 p.m. on 444.550+, 131.8 PL 160 Meter "No-Name" Net: Sun. 8:00 p.m. Indiana time 1966 kHz., Wed. 9:00 p.m. 3866 KHz., Cross-band link on 146.49 MHz. Everyone welcome! Contact Larry Temenoff, KB9OS for more info.

Little Red Barn Net: M, W, F @ 8:30 a.m. on 3820 kHz. Net control is K9ODF

Northeast Indiana Packet Net: Sunday at 9:00 p.m. on 145.530 @ 1200 baud. We 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.

Allen County HamNews PO BOX 10342 FORT WAYNE, IN 46851

## TO:

