



American Radio Relay League Indiana Section January 2017 Newsletter

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“To promote and advance the art, science, and enjoyment of amateur radio”

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Notes From the Section Manager’s Desk...

In the last few months I have fielded some questions from clubs around the section about how to improve the local radio club. The concerns normally involve recruiting new members to the club and getting the existing members active. The first thing the elected officers of any club should do is listen to their members and give them a voice. You may need to solicit the input of the members but be sure to listen to their concerns or suggestions. Next, be open to change. If the suggestions are moving the night of the meeting, then be open to that.

The most important thing about growing or invigorating a club is to have FUN. If the members of the club don’t find the activities or meetings to be enjoyable then your club will almost certainly struggle. The most discouraging practice that I have seen in many clubs is a prolonged “business” portion of the meeting. I would encourage all club officers to listen to their members and focus on the fun.

Fun, frequencies, fellowship and food. These are the four F words that will help any Amateur Radio club grow and prosper. Some argue that food shouldn’t be part of it but I beg to differ. Food can bring almost anyone together.

Good luck in 2017 and I wish everyone a Happy New Year.

73,
 Brent Walls, N9BA
 ARRL Indiana Section Manager
bwalls@arrl.org

Remembering Friends We'll Miss ...

All silent key obituary notices should be sent directly to Brent Walls at bwalls@arrl.org for inclusion in this monthly column.



For inclusion in QST, please follow the instructions at <http://www.arrl.org/silent-key-submission-guidelines>

Field Organization Appointment Updates

Appointment Resignations / Cancellations:

- Jacob Plas KC9PRR Emergency Coordinator
- Oral Henderson WB9HLA Emergency Coordinator

New Appointments

- Scott Nelson W9DBA Emergency Coordinator

The ARRL appreciates the time and effort every volunteer gives in serving the Indiana Section and promoting amateur radio. Many people talk about what should be done, but it takes committed volunteers to get it done. Thank You!



News from around the Indiana Section

WVARA sponsors HamCamp

The Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association (WVARA) Ham Radio New Operator Camp (HamCamp) is a one-day workshop that provides the newly-licensed operator practical instruction in basic electronic measurements, setting up an amateur radio station, building & erecting antennas, making contacts, and other aspects of amateur radio. Each student will make at least one VHF contact and at least one HF contact during the workshop.



HamCamp is limited to a total of 15 participants and pre-registration is required. The workshop fee is \$10 and includes lunch. Additional information and registration information can be found on the WVARA website at www.w9uuu.org/classes/hamcamp.php.

HDXCC Bicentennial Awards – Get them soon!

In 2016 Indiana celebrated 200 years of statehood and the Hoosier DX Contest Club is sponsoring two awards to help commemorate the event. The first award is the Indiana Bicentennial County Award which includes two opportunities to earn the award. The second award is the Indiana Bicentennial County Activation Award.



The official rules and more information about the awards can be found on the HDXCC website at www.hdxcc.org/bicentennial/index.html.

Upcoming Hamfests

6th ANNUAL

Hendricks County Amateur Radio Society

Brownsburg Hamfest

HAM RADIO,
COMPUTERS,
MAKERS SUPPLIES,
ELECTRONICS FLEA
MARKET.

Buy, Sell, and Socialize.

www.HCARS.org



SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2017
Hamfest opens to the public at 7:00 am
til 2pm

Admission \$5.00
Free Parking

AMERICAN LEGION POST #331
636 East Main St, Brownsburg, IN 46112

Talk-in 147.015 + Repeater

Food is available for purchase on site provided by the American Legion.

NOTICE TO VENDORS

Available set up times: Friday 02/17/17 from 3:00 pm to 7:30 pm
Saturday 02/18/17 6:00 am to 7:00 am

Pricing Schedule for Tables:
\$15.00 per Table with Power **
\$10.00 per Table No Power

** Bring your own extension cords and power strips.
Table sales available both days. Hamfest
contact E-Mail: hcars46122@gmail.com

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS.



N9HC

E-mail: hcars46122@gmail.com

Cabin Fever HamFest

Saturday, February 25th , 2017

7:00 am-1pm CST

La Porte Civic Auditorium
1001 Ridge St, La Porte, Indiana

General Admission \$7.00
Talk-In 146.610 (131.8)

For Table Reservations

Contact:

cabinfeverhamfest@gmail.com

Free Parking

Food Concessions

VE TESTING 9am

Door Prizes

Tables \$15.00/per
(1st table includes 1 free
admission)

Electric \$5.00 extra
(per Vendor / Limited Access)
ADVANCE RESERVATIONS
MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE
BY FEB 11TH ,2017
No Refunds

Reservations can be mailed to:

LPCARC
PO BOX 148

Michigan City, Indiana 46361

Are you BORED?



**Here is
The Cure!**

CABIN FEVER HAMFEST
is sponsored by
The La Porte County
Amateur Radio Club

Visit <http://lpcarc.org/hamfest>
for updates and information
Ph: 219-851-2143



2017 Terre Haute Hamfest & Computer Expo



Saturday -- March 11, 2017

Clay County 4-H Fairgrounds
6650 N State Road 59
Brazil, IN 47834
(39° 29' 03" N, 87° 07' 30" W)

Indoor Event – Rain or Shine!

8:00 AM to 12:00 PM EST

(Vendor setup begins at 6:00 AM)

Talk-In: K9IKQ/R, 146.685 MHz, PL 151.4 Hz

Admission \$7.00 (12 and under free)

Free Tables
Hourly Door Prize Drawings
DXCC, WAS, & VUCC Card Checking

Public Information Outreach

With the start of the new year, I would like to see everyone with a renewed energy and passion to spread the word about amateur radio. We have a great group of amateur's doing great work, either through their PIO efforts, or by reaching out and educating, the amateur's of tomorrow, and being that Public Information Ambassador teaching others they meet about this hobby of ours. I would like to applaud each and everyone who has gone that extra step, and enlightened even one person who knew little or nothing about what we are or what we do. To each and every one of you, Thank You.

Clubs, Groups, or other collectives of amateur's, do you have someone that is your spokes person? Are you looking for a spokes person for your group? Please consider getting involved as your club or group's PIO, and consider becoming a PIO with the ARRL. Becoming a PIO is simple, and lets your local media know that you are their point of contact for any questions they may have regarding Ham Radio. Imagine who's life could you touch that leads them to be the next Astronaut, Scientist, or even the next Head of State. Yes, this wonderful hobby has breed all of those. Who could you help, by turning them on to Amateur Radio.

Thank You for all you do for Amateur Radio,

73,

Barry Palencer, KC9WMS

ARRL Indiana Section – Public Information Coordinator

PIO Reports:

Allen County PIO Jay Farlow, W9LW

In December, I continued updating my list of journalists and their email addresses.

I also became aware of two media hits of interest, neither of which were a result of my work:

Dec. 2, 2016: "Amateur radio operators enjoy global friendships," by Tess Plazek, The Times Community Publications, <http://infortwayne.com/2016/12/02/amateur-radio-operators-enjoy-global-friendships/>

Dec. 7, 2016: "Preparing an emergency supply of food." This story on WANE TV, Fort Wayne's CBS affiliate includes a sound bite from former Indiana Section Manager Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ. It makes no mention of ham radio, but I'm relaying it because a.) Joseph is in it and b.) it's a good emergency preparedness story.

<http://wane.com/2016/12/07/preparing-an-emergency-supply-of-food/>
73,

Jay Farlow, W9LW
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Monroe County PIO Jimmie Merry, KC9RPX

It has been a very quiet month around Monroe County for all 3 clubs. Especially with the students at Bloomington South High School, K9SOU and Indiana University, K9IU being on holiday break.

The Bloomington Amateur Radio Club had a quiet month also. Although the Helping Ham's Fund project did collect items at

our Christmas Party and delivered 3 holiday gift baskets. Donations came from both club members, and fund proceeds.

BARC donated items for students at Templeton Elementary School in Bloomington for 25 of their students that the school was collecting for to brighten up their holiday. The BARC Helping Ham's Fund purchased items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, gloves, combs, hair ties, shampoo, and fruit juice.

The BARC Helping Hams project purchased and gave a handheld radio to a longtime member of the club Chuck Kraus, N9ESO to keep him on the air until members of the Helping Hams can check out Mr. Kraus's existing equipment for issues.



The Bloomington Amateur Radio Club has a new monthly meeting location at the Bloomington City Government Center (Shower's Building), located at 401 N Morton St in Bloomington. Meeting time is 700 PM the 1st Friday of each month.

The Bloomington Amateur Radio Club was highlighted on January 6, 2017 for its \$100 donation to A.R.I.S.S.

Amateur Radio newslines for January 6, 2017 (#2045)
<http://www.arnewslines.org/storage/audio/2017/Report2045.mp3>.

The Bloomington Amateur Radio Club, voted to donate \$100 at its December meeting to ARISS, and a club officer quickly matched that with his own check, as did 2 other club members.

Whitley County PIO Roger McEntarfer, N9QCL

I announced in the local newspapers: Columbia City Post & Mail, Churubusco News and South Whitley The Tribune News, Local WJHS 91.5 FM (Whitley County Joint High School) radio station, Local Web based News: Columbia City Talk of the Town and Churubusco Busco Voice Several and HF Nets: Indiana Traffic Net, Interstate Side Band Net and the Michigan Buzzard Roost Net and several of the local 2M and 70 CM nets around the northern Indiana area about the Whitley County Amateur Radio Club (WCARC) Dinner Meeting on December 8, 2016, the Whitley County Amateur Radio Club General Meeting on January 12, 2017 and the Whitley County W5YI Test session on January 28, 2017.

The next Whitley County Amateur Radio Club General Meeting will be held on Thursday January 12, 2017 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM, In Community Rooms A and B of the Peabody Library 1160 E. State Rd. 205 - Columbia City, Indiana.

The program for the evening will be Whitley County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Organization and the needs of the agency, presented by Whitley County EMA Director, Amy Biggs.

The next W5YI Test session will be held on Saturday January 28, 2017 from 9:00 to 11:00 AM,

In Community Room A of the Peabody Library 1160 E. State Rd. 205 - Columbia City, Indiana.

73's

Roger McEntarfer/ N9QCL

ARRL Public Information Officer

Affiliated Club Coordination

Thanks to many of the clubs across Indiana that have responded to the request to bring their annual reports to a current state. However, some clubs need to review the information within their annual report as information recently went out of date.

If any club should need assistance with the update process, please feel free to call or email me anytime. I should be able to assist you. I realize that new club officers may not be able to access their clubs annual report, because they don't have admin or editing access to do so on the ARRL.ORG website.

Clubs that still need to check their information on the ARRL website are as follows: **White County ARS, Whitley County ARS, Tri-State ARS, Indiana Masonic Home, Goshen ARC, Hoosier Repeater Builders, Grant County, Tri County HF Society, Whitewater Valley ARC, Porter County ARC, Purdue University, Zion Lutheran.**

Some clubs had missing vital information that was missing such as meeting location or time, email, website, or phone contact. Most clubs should be receiving my emails. If not please send me a current e-mail contact.

I would like to hear about news worthy items from clubs across Indiana. If your club has news that a fellow ham across the state might find of interest, please send these items to me by the 5th of each month. This can be about you club, an event, or about something special that happened in amateur radio in your area.

Indiana Affiliated Club News

Bloomington Amateur Radio Club (K9DIY)

The BARC Helping Hams fund accepted donations of non-perishable food items at or Christmas party. We made 3 holiday baskets from the items that was donated by our club members.

The Helping Hams fund donated personal care items such as shampoo, toothpaste, soap, toothbrushes, gloves, and fruit juice to Templeton Elementary School in Bloomington, for a project to assist children at their school. We were able purchase items to assist an estimated 25 children.

On Christmas eve, the Helping Ham's delivered a special gift to our friend Chuck Kraus, N9ESO. The Helping Ham's purchased a handheld radio to help Mr. Kraus get back on the air. When warm weather arrives, we will check his radio and antenna out and get his base station back in operation.

Hendricks Co Amateur Radio Society (HCARS)

HCARS held their annual Christmas dinner and officer's elections on December 10th with 31 in attendance. The 2017 officers for HCARS will be: President John Farmer, N9CQ; Vice-President Mike Rollins, WA9NCF; Treasurer Wayne Fox, KE9P; Secretary Ron Burke, KB9DJA.

HCARS will host their annual training classed for all three levels of license, starting on March 3, 2017. The classes will be held every Friday evening for 8 weeks, with a testing session on April 28th. The time for the classes and test will be at 7:00 PM at the Hendricks County Senior Service Center, located at 1201 Sycamore Lane in Danville, IN.

The Brownsburg Hamfest sponsored by the Hendricks County Amateur Radio Society Club will be on February 18, 2017 at the Brownsburg American Legion Post 331, located at 636 East Main St. In Brownsburg, Indiana. Setup will be on Friday February 17th from 3pm to 7:30 pm and Saturday morning February 18th from 6am to 7am. Admission is \$5 at the door, which will enter you in the drawings for door prizes and the Grand prize. Talk-in will be on the 147.015 N9HC Repeater. The ARRL Central Indiana Division Coordinator Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, and ARRL Indiana Section Emergency Coordinator Tony Stokes, KU9V, will have a booth at the hamfest. Contact the new Hamfest Coordinator, Bruce Jones, KD9AGH, hcars46112@gmail.com or check the hamfest link at www.hendricksares.org for more details.

Congratulations to the re-elected officers of the Hendricks County Amateur Radio Society: President -John Farmer, N9CQ, Vice President - Mike Rollins, WA9NCF, Treasurer- Wayne Fox, KE9P, and Secretary - Ron Burke, KB9DJA.

Mid – State (Franklin, IN)

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club in Franklin, Indiana has recently moved to their location for their monthly meetings. They will be at the new Community and Conference Center at the Johnson R.E.M.C. Headquarters located at 750 International Drive, in Franklin, Indiana, just north of Carter Lumberyard on US 31 South. The monthly meetings will still be on the third Saturday of the month at 8am, with VE testing starting about 9:30am.

Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association (Terre Haute, IN)

The Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association will be conducting its 2ND annual Ham Radio Operator Camp (Ham Camp) on February 4, 2017.

This workshop is intended for the newly-licensed (or rusty) amateur radio operator and covers such topics as basic electronic measurements, setting up a station, & making contacts. During the workshop, each student will make at least 1 VHF/UHF contact and 1 HF contact.

The fee is \$10 and includes lunch. Complete details are available on the WVARA website at: <http://w9uuu.org/classes/hamcamp.php> . Ham Camp is limited to 15 participants and students can register on-line at the WVARA website.

73,
Jimmy Merry, KC9RPX
INARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator
KC9RPX@arrl.net

Technical Specialists – Helping Hams

December seems to have been a month of getting things ready for the new year, cleaning up, tuning, tweaking, and fixing radios, software, and testing new radios.

From around the state Roger, N9QCL is using a drone to raise wire antennas into the highest trees, I'm sure we will have future updates on this if not YouTube videos. I'm sure this could be the hottest hamfest

topic this year, and probably a few naysayers will have comments as well. Bill, NF9K has the latest on the Tera 7400 DMR HT and a host of other information from Raspberry Pi to P25. Mark, K9MQ provides information on a few articles he has written and how he repaired his Nest thermostat, along with other useful information on amateur radio. Many other reports are chock full of interesting news, tidbits, and darn useful information!

I'm still looking to add Technical Specialists in some underserved areas especially in the East Central and South Eastern area of the state. If you live in the Richmond area and have a technical bent you may be the person we need to fill a Technical Specialist position. If you're interested or want to find out more send me an email.

73,
Mark Westermeier, N9OZ
Indiana Section Technical Coordinator
N9OZ@arrl.net

Technical Specialists Reporting for December 2016: N9QCL, NI9Y, N7BBW, WA9FGT, K3HTK, W9WEL, N9LYY, NF9K, W9BGJ, WB8WOR, AC9HP, K9MQ, KB9BVN, N9SFX, K0RL, AC9AZ, W9AMT, N9OZ

TS December Reports:

N9QCL

I spent much of my December time straightening up my ham shack and setting up a new NETGEAR AC1900 DST Router. I plan to

continue the shack cleanup in January along with getting a new desktop set up to run all the digital modes replacing my current laptop.

I purchased some new accessories for my DJI Phantom 3 Pro Drone that will assist me in raising wire antennas into the highest trees. Will see how well this works out once the parts arrive and I get a nice day to try it out.

As Vice President of the Whitley County Amateur Radio Club, I am responsible for the programs for each meeting, if anyone would like to give a presentation or have any ideas for programs for one of our WCARC meetings next year's please send me an email.

The next Whitley County Amateur Radio Club General meeting will be held on Thursday January 12, 2017 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM, in Community Rooms A and B of the Peabody Library 1160 E. State Rd. 205 - Columbia City, Indiana. The program for the evening will be Whitley County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Organization and the needs of the agency, presented by Whitley County EMA Director, Amy Biggs.

The next W5YI Test session will be held on Saturday January 28, 2017 from 9:00 to 11:00 AM, in Community Room A of the Peabody Library 1160 E. State Rd. 205 - Columbia City, Indiana.

73's
Roger McEntarfer/ N9QCL
ARRL Technical Specialist

K3HTK

SDR - I have been experimenting with the SDR Play unit I picked up a while back and found that Android drivers have been created for use with those devices such as tablets, Phones, IoT compute, etc. I hope to find some solutions for Amateur Radio to propose with my experimentation.

<http://www.sdrplay.com/android.html>

Icom 7300 – I have been enjoying using the Icom 7300 and have found that this is one of the best receivers I have used yet and feature rich. I also have a KX3 that I would say although a different package, very comparable to the Icom 7300 in performance. The Icom software is probably the biggest drawback that I have found so far for utilizing a PC to radio setup. I think it would be nice to have more integrations with other SDR packages out there without adding more hardware to do the job.

Not much else to report for now... Stay tuned...

Happy New Year!

73,
Ed K3HTK

W9WEL

I am attempting to help a ham in Wyoming with a transmitter problem. We are doing this via telephone and e-mail ----- not the best of conditions. I have done this before, and, so far, have been successful, but then, not all problems are the same so, we'll see.

Dave Van Doorn
W9WEL

NF9K

I trust the holidays were kind and enjoyable to you and yours. Things were great here as I spend the last half of December on vacation, which allowed me some time to get some projects completed. So with that, here we go:

Received an email comment via my website looking for assistance in programming a 33cm Motorola MTX9250. After a primer on topics such as personalities, CPS modifications for ham band use, he was off to the races with his shiny new HT!

Finished building and testing a Raspberry Pi based EchoIRLP node for Steve Jones (W9SMJ). I'm still waiting to meet up with him to deliver the final product, but he will be pleased. I know he's looking to get his node connected up to Randy Fisher's node that I built a couple of months ago.

Worked with Randy (K9MMQ) up in Ft. Wayne on a port-forwarding situation through his Ubiquiti Edge Router. I will say, having been a firewall guy for 20+ years, the way the lay out their ACLs is very misleading. But we were able to get things figured out and connect him up to various nodes and reflectors as a test. As Hanibal Smith would say, "I love it when a plan comes together!"

Traded out internet devices at my primary DMR site in Indianapolis. The Verizon box that was over there keep losing connectivity. I've back on a USB device and a CradlePoint router, which proved to be rock solid. I'd taken the Verizon box over because it had the ability for two analog lines to be added and I was considering dorking around with a digital auto patch. Also replaced the cooked Astron PS on the amplified. I found a continuous duty

switcher on Amazon rated at 50A, so we'll see how it works out. So far, so good.

Worked with an IL ham an his openSPOT. He was very interested in connecting in with our network and joining our weekly nets. In order to facilitate his request, I needed to follow up on some open connectivity items between Crossroads and BrandMeister. Luckily those guys remembered our discussions from ~6 months ago and we discovered most of it was partially build. So a little tweaking and we were able to provide the connectivity requested.

Another website comment from a mother of a new ham with a brand new TYT MD380. They were having issues getting it programmed. I guided her through the process and also suggested she join our FB group where she was able to get multiple people on board to help her.

Attended the Grant County ARC Christmas Party where I was presented with a lifetime membership for my technical contributions to their organization. Very unexpected, but very honored to have been given something like that.

Bought a Tera 7400 DMR HT. This is the unit that you see Powerworx advertising. So far, I'm pretty impressed. It's a Chinese radio, of course, however, it's quite solid. I like the black screen with the white letters and much like the hacked MD-380 firmware, you're able to download the global DMR contact database and store it on the radio instead of having to enter it into CPS or mess around with kludgy import processes. Of the cheaper DMR radios I own (Connect Systems, TYT, Zastone, etc.) the Tera 7400 is my favorite. I believe it retails new with programming cable for around \$275, so closer to the

CS750 in cost, but in all things, you get what you pay for.

Helped the guys up in Homer, AK with some codeplug changes on their MD-380's. Things are progressing well up there. Excitement is growing and they are learning! I sort of wish I was a little closer to the action, but I am considering a trip up there at some point.

Received a website comment from a ham asking for assistance in upgrading the firmware on his DV Mega. He was unclear about the modification required on the board and where to apply it. I was able to provide him a link with the information he required and he was good to go.

Received an email from a Bulgaria Ham asking to collaborate with the XLX DSTAR Reflector I have up and running. He's wanting to experiment with the inter-connectivity. Sometimes it amazes me at the request I get for help and more so where they come from.... But they find me somehow and I think that is pretty cool!

Repaired a small issue with the IRC website wherein the logo disappeared. Very odd, the only thing I can think is that a URL got munged during one of the automatic updates. Luckily the fix wasn't too involved and it was back pretty quickly. The rest of the site was fully functional, just no logo.

Helped one of the Homer, AK guys with his openSPOT and an understanding of what was connected and what was not. He quickly picked up on things and was up and running in no time.

Began tinkering with the Arcom RC-210 web interface software. I

built a Pi based upon Rasbian/Jessie and have it connected up to my controller and ready for the software installation. Unfortunately, there are no docs available currently, so you pretty much have to pull it down from GitHub and wing it. I'd hoped to get to this while I was on vacation, but I didn't get any further than setting the node up. Perhaps I'll have more to share next month.

With the only networked DMR repeater in AK connected to our c-Bridge we are currently the hub for the Alaska Statewide (#3102) talkgroup. The AK guys are open to sharing it with whomever and have requested to get it linked up to Brandmeister so that they can get on with their hotspots. I've completed the work on our side and am waiting for the BM guys to do their thing. We're close, but at last test, it's not working. Hopefully that will be resolved soon.

Started talking to some other hams about a P25 network throughout IN. I already own two Quantars (one on 33cm the other one 70cm) and just purchased an AstroTac 3000 Comparator to function as the central hub. As you will recall from previous reports, I had successfully linked my 70cm Quantar to a similar setup down in KY. It sounds as if we might be looking to duplicate what they are doing down there for IN. This could get real fun, real fast. I'm looking forward to the collaboration and the learning as we bring the various pieces into play.

That's it for December! Whew! See you next month!

73,
Bill Atkinson, NF9K
ARRL Technical Specialist

W9BGJ

Hello Mark and all reporting this month. Yes I agree the year has flown by and they seem to go quicker the older i get as well! Not a lot going this month as holiday activities have taken a lot of my time. Will be attempting to set up more licensing classes in the near future for perspective hams and work on getting some antenna ideas set up for other folks in the community 73 all and have a great January.

BRIAN G JENKS W9BGJ
ARRL TECHNICAL SPECIALIST

AC9HP

The month of December was going to be a quiet month of little amateur activity.

This mostly held true, however Brian KB9BVN and myself spent some time preparing for our General Class that will begin in January.

I also spent some time diagnosing a failure in my K3S. The LPA board failed and it is off to be repaired by the fine folks at Elecraft.

I am still actively seeking Extra class amateurs to help with our monthly test sessions for the Indiana Elmer Network VE Team. The IEN VE Team will meet every third Thursday in 2017.

An idea of setting up a Amateur Radio day in the Indianapolis area is being talked about. This day would include several classes or presentations by hams. If you have something of interest that you would love to present, a class-room or lab/workshop idea that you

think other hams may be interested in please contact me by email with your ideas and availability to help. This may be early summer or late spring or perhaps even just planning for 2018.

As I enter January I am starting to prepare for the Winter Field Day event for the Hendricks County Radio Communications Support Group. This event is focused on emergency preparedness and is usually help outdoors in the winter to test our ability to operate in extreme conditions.

You do not have to be a member of any group to participate and you do not have to be outside. The rules of the Winter Field Day event are loosely based on the same rules for field day and the details can be found at www.winterfieldday.com. Participation in this event is fun and helps to sharpen the skills needed to be an amateur radio operator.

Looking forward to a year full of Amateur activities and hope to catch you all on the air!

Winter Field Day Assoc.

<http://www.winterfieldday.com/>

Winter Field Day Association (WFDA) is a group of Amateur Radio Operators who practice emergency communications in a winter environment

Thanks,

Wayne AC9HP

K9MQ

Much of my time in December was spent writing two articles for newsletters. The first article was about the Hobart High School high altitude balloon launch for the section newsletter. The second one was an article for the LCARC's newsletter Short Skip reviewing a free service for your telephone that helps block robocalls called Nomorobo. I assisted two amateurs this month. An amateur with a Tytera MD380 upgraded his radio to the latest firmware and community codeplug. He was hearing traffic on the talkgroups, but when he would transmit he would get no response. We met on the air for a test and found that he forgot to input his subscriber number into the codeplug. RAS (restricted access) was recently implemented on the Hoosier DMR network and common "dummy" subscriber numbers that you see in many of the community codeplugs, such as all 1's or 123456789 have been blocked. Make sure to double check this field before uploading to your radio.

Another amateur inquired about how large of a power supply he would need to run with his HF radio. After looking up the specifications for his radio, I helped him with selecting a power supply to meet his needs.

I built a Coax Connector Tool for putting PL259's on to coax based on Joseph K9RFZ's Eham.net article. I have not had a chance to try it yet. I spent late summer putting together a kit of assorted slugs for my newly acquired Bird 43



wattmeter. I had a line isolator that I purchased and was always curious about how lousy it was. The wattmeter showed a three percent power loss at the highest frequency.

My Nest (second generation) learning thermostat stopped responding to any changes made at the thermostat itself, but continued to function when controlled from my iPhone or on the web. After trouble shooting with tech support, I was told that since it was out of warranty, I would have to purchase another thermostat. I ended up partially disassembling Nest and found the outer ring that is used for control was heavily greased. I suspect that some of the grease got on the optical finger. I went ahead and cleaned the optical sensor as best that I could. After reassembly, I can now once again control the temperature at the thermostat.

I received a nice Christmas card from a ham in Jasper County thanking me for assisting him with his DMR related questions over the past year.

73 Mark, K9MQ

mark@k9mq.com

KB9BVN

This month I worked with Wayne Michael AC9HP and helped him get a new Tech to General upgrade class setup. The class will begin on Jan 5 and run for about 8 weeks total. Also did a comparison of several automatic antenna tuners versus a couple of manual antenna tuners and found the old fashioned manual tuners did a much better job, although slower, of matching rig to wire. Not a big surprise really. Auto tuners are very handy to have but if you want real matching selectivity go with the manual tuner. I am in the midst of putting together a kit building day that may go off in March, aimed at new hams new to soldering. The project will most likely be a 100w dummy load, a very

useful tool in the shack. My son Andrew N9AWM and his wife Krista KD9BCS presented us with another new harmonic in December, she's beautiful and is our tenth grand child. So December 2016 was a very good month! Dayton Hamvention tickets are on sale now at <http://hamvention.org> - only 18 more Fridays to Hamvention!

73 de KB9BVN

N9SFX

A fellow ham in Great Britain sent me a book for Christmas. OSS Station Victor / Hurley's Secret War. The first printing was in 2016 in Great Britain. It's about a radio communications site in England that went on the air in 1944 to send and receive messages from behind enemy lines. It's only 96 pages.

Happy New Year,
Pete, N9SFX

AC9AZ

First of all, a Happy New Year to all. As you probably already know the Hamfest "TurkeyFest" for the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association (WVARA) was canceled due to unforeseen circumstances. Please place on your calendar the date and location of the annual **Spring Hamfest Saturday -- March 11, 2017**; Visit the website <http://www.w9uuu.org/hamfest.html> for more details.

The WVARA will be holding a Ham Radio New Operator Camp (Ham Camp) on Saturday, February 4, 2017. This one-day seminar is

for the new or inexperienced operator who is facing the dilemma:

"Okay, I've got my license -- now what?"

Taught by a team of amateurs with a combined experience of over 200 years in the hobby, Ham Camp will cover such topics as setting up your station, operating techniques, building antennas, and more. Visit the WVARA website for more information. <http://www.w9uuu.org> and click on the *2017 Ham Camp Now Open*.

The WVARA enjoyed its annual Christmas Party on December 17th. It was a gala event with a dinner and highlighted by a "Dirty Santa" gift exchange.
73 to all and *to all a good night*. John, AC9AZ

John Swez, AC9AZ
Technical Specialist Indiana Section

W9AMT

I trust everyone had a pleasant holiday season this year and that Santa brought everyone that special ham radio toy they wanted! Efforts continue on getting my VHF DMR machine on-the-air here in Indy and my 900 in Muncie. Thankfully with the help of Jordan, K9NZF, we should have Muncie on the air very soon.

I managed to pick up a vintage Yaesu FT-101F Station. It's a very clean specimen. I had an FT-101E as my first HF rig nearly 20 years ago, so it's nice to have another, this time with all the accessories. I

forgot how fun it was to operate. Sure it's old and clunky, and well past its prime, but it sure does sound good on the air.

In DMR news, Hoosier DMR added yet another repeater to our arsenal. I assisted Chris KC9TKJ with getting Scipio, Indiana on this month and it now provides a huge DMR footprint from Edinburgh to Henryville along the I-65 corridor. Great to see DMR getting some coverage in the southern part of the state. I've also been working with a gentleman in the Richmond area on getting a system up that way as well. That, along with the new Lynn repeater, should provide great coverage to the east.

I am tinkering around with the idea of adding a UHF P25 repeater at my downtown Indianapolis site. On the hunt for a Quantar...

Hope everyone has a great start to 2017!

Tony Tolbert W9AMT

N9OZ

Most of my December was taken up with the early arrival of my first granddaughter and the festivities of the month. So it was a month to ponder and reflect on amateur radio.

As the new year approaches I've taken a hard look at all the radio equipment I have, some in good order and some not so much. Amateur radio has really changed since I first became involved, the HF band has benefited greatly from digital in the form of even greater usage and especially on lower power. Digital has taken the hobby by storm and has forever changed it. Now looking at the amount of digital

equipment I have and the fact as units they don't talk to each other in the digital mode, one has to wonder where this is all going. Experimentation is the hallmark of amateur radio and the more that occurs the more modes and more specializations of equipment we see. I'm now looking to start making some personal decisions of where I want to be in amateur radio and where do I want to go. A reflection that will take me into the new year. 73

Mark Westermeier, N9OZ

Official Observers - We're Here to Help

TOTAL NUMBER OF OFFICIAL OBSERVERS: 13

HF MONITORING HOURS: 88

VHF/UHF MONITORING HOURS: 142

ADMINISTRATIVE HOURS: 5.25

ADVISORY NOTICES SENT: 0

GOOD OPERATOR CARDS SENT: 1

Our ARRL Indiana Official Observers contributed 235.25 hours to assisting fellow Hams.

Hello Folks!

Your Indiana Section Official Observer Team would like to wish everyone in our Section a very happy and prosperous new year. Let's make 2017 the best year ever.

73 all!

Lou Everett, Sr., WA5LOU
ARRL Official Observer Coordinator, Indiana Section
Telephone: 317-749-9883

National Traffic System - Net Gains

Hello everyone, after a busy holiday season it feels good to take a breather and get back to business. Overall the numbers are looking good and our nets are steadily increasing with traffic and check ins over all. I would like to see a little more participation on the QIN our CW traffic net. The morning session CW net is a great mode of communication and a very efficient way to pass traffic under less than ideal conditions. So, let's make an effort to give QIN a shot in the arm. If anyone is interested come and join us on the morning session at 0930 local time or the evening session at 2000 local time on 3535 kHz. There are a great group of folks that participate and are always welcoming of newcomers. Other than that, looking forward to a great 2017 until next month 73 all.

Brain G. Jenks, W9BGJ
ARRL Indiana Section Traffic Manager
w9bgj@arrl.net



NTS By the Numbers

PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR ROLL							
STATION	SESSIONS	MESSAGES	APPTS	PUB SVC	EMG RES	DIGITAL	TOTAL
N9TU	40	40	30	0	0	20	130
W9WXN	32	40	30	0	0	10	112
W9BGJ	40	40	30	0	0	10	120
KA9QWC	40	40	30	30	0	10	150
K9DUR	40	8	30	20	0	0	95
AB9ZA	40	30	20	0	0	0	90
K9EOH	40	3	20	1	0	10	74
W9EEU	11	33	20	0	0	20	84
WA5LOU	29	40	30	0	0	0	99
N9SE	40	40	10	0	0	0	90
TOTALS	352	306	250	51	0	80	1044
STATIONS REPORTING	10						

ORS AND SAR STATION REPORTS						
STATION	TYPE	ORGINATED	RECEIVED	SENT	DELIVERED	TOTALS
W9WXN	ORS	0	243	126	25	394
W9BGJ	ORS	2	44	44	6	96
KA9QWC	ORS	0	7	40	0	47
W9PC	ORS	0	5	10	0	15
WA5LOU	ORS	0	6	6	4	16
N9SE	SAR	1	62	81	10	154
N9TU	ORS	11	113	145	10	279
AB9ZA	ORS	0	13	10	7	30
K9DUR	SAR	0	4	4	0	8
W9MGB	ORS	3	3	7	7	20
W9EEU	ORS	0	4	7	0	11
WA5LOU	ORS	0	20	39	10	69
W9WXN	BPL	0	107	83	17	207
KY9M	SAR	0	1	1	0	2
TOTALS		17	632	603	96	1348
STATIONS REPORTING		14				

HF NETS					
NET NAME	SOURCE	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS
ICN	WA9VBG	51	0	271	9
IDTN	K9JAJ	154	34	467	22
ITN	N9TU	1760	184	1423	62
QIN	K0TQ	86	42	318	38
TOTALS		2051	260	2479	131
NETS REPORTING	4				

VHF/UHF NETS					
NET NAME	SOURCE	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS
BARTHOLOMEW CO ARES	K9JAJ	28	0	59	3
21 CLUB VHF NET	KA9QWC	24	0	34	3
CASS CO	KA9YBN	36	0	79	5
CLAY CO ARES	K9HX		0	29	4
CROSSROADS DMR	KC9QZE	64	0	94	4
CROSSROADS D STAR	KC9QZE	5	0	15	1
FAYETTE CO	N9TU	10	0	15	2
HARRISON CO ARES	W9WXN	28	3	61	4
HOOSIER HILLS ARC	WD9EWF	42	0	27	4
HUNTINGTON CO NET	K9BME	61	0	174	4
IMO NET	AB9PC	281	0	226	30
JEFFERSON CO	N9XVB	10	1	19	4
KOSCIUSKO CO ARES	KC9NWM	45	0	72	5
KOSCIUSKO CO EMG NET	KC9AYT	79	0	83	4
MID STATE ARC	K9DY	128	0	235	4
MONROE CO ARES	K9TEM	74	0	61	5
MORGAN CO ARES	N9JPX	54	0	68	4
NE IN PACKET NET	KA9QWC	17	0	300	3
NOBLE CO ARES	KA9QWC	18	0	66	4
OWEN CO ARES	K9EOH	30	0	61	4
SCOTT CO ARES/RACES	WR9G	43	1	84	4
SOUTH CENTRAL AREA	KA9OPL	45	0	88	4
TARS EVANSVILLE	KE9YK	78	1	67	4
WABASH VALLEY	N9YRX	77	2	82	4
WHITLEY CO ARES	W9NNH	22	0	94	4
WCARC NET	KA9DTZ	4	0	14	1
TOTALS		1303	8	2207	122
NETS REPORTING	26				

Amateur Radio Emergency Service - In Action

SEC Comments

It is hard to believe that another year has come and gone, but 2017 is here, as I reflect on the last year I think of all the hamfests I went to, people I met, and QSO's I had I am reminded what a wonderful hobby this is, and it is because the people that we get to interact with. It was a privilege to be appointed the Indiana Section Emergency Coordinator back in July, I tried to hit the ground running and plan to carry that momentum into 2017! Soon I will begin planning the 2017 section wide Simulated Emergency Test, I also have plans to visit many club meetings and hamfests around the section this year as well. I have no doubt, 2017 is going to be a great year in the Indiana Section!



of

In December, we started the ARRL Indiana Section ARES DMR net, and it has been a great success so far, I would like to thank those that have taken the time to check in and share ARES news from the section. I am looking for net control operators for both this net and the ARES HF net, if you are interested in volunteering please send me an email at ku9v@arrl.net

DEC Opportunities

I am looking to fill several District Emergency Coordinator positions throughout the section including districts 1, 5, 9 and 10. Please share these opportunities with your ARES team, at club meetings or other gatherings in those districts. Anyone who has interest in serving as a

District Emergency Coordinator should contact me directly.
Responsibilities and requirements of a District EC can be found on the ARRL website at <http://www.arrl.org/district-emergency-coordiantor>

Stay Connected with ARES!

The Indiana Section is a large section geographically and sometimes it is hard to feel connected to the Indiana Section ARES program or learn about the different events around the section. There are now a few new ways to stay connected using social media networks. You can “Like” Indiana Section ARES on Facebook or “Follow” Indiana Section ARES on Twitter.

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/inarrlares

Twitter: www.twitter.com/IN_ARES

73,

Tony Stokes, KU9V

ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator, Indiana Section
KU9V@ARRL.NET

ARES by the Numbers

NUMBER OF ARES MEMBERS (REPORTED): 740
MEMBERSHIP CHANGE (REPORTED): 7

NUMBER OF ASEC/DEC/EC/OES REPORTS RECEIVED: 40
NUMBER OF APPOINTEES NOT REPORTING: 33

DEC's REPORTING: KB9WWM District 03, WR9A District 04,
KC9RVL District 06, W9EEU District 07

EC's REPORTING: KC9PRR Adams County, KB9WWM Allen
County, K9JAJ Bartholomew County, WB9HLA Blackford County,
KV9N Cass County, KC9JAV Clark County, K9PLG Dearborn

County, KC9ELU Decatur County, KC9ZCK Dekalb County, NQ8E
Delaware County, N9TU Fayette County, W9WXN Harrison County,
KB9DJA Hendricks County, WA9DAN Jay County, KC9RLC
Jennings County, N9SIU Johnson County, AB9ZA Kosciusko County,
W9SOX Marion County, WD9GIU Miami County, K9TEM Monroe
County, N9JPX Morgan County, K9EOH Owen County, AD0TY
Parke County, N9CZV Randolph County, AC9KF Saint Joseph
County, WR9G Scott County, W9DRB Spencer County, N9GKE
Tippecanoe County, W9DAC Tipton County, W9VKD Vigo County,
KT9B Warrick County

OES's REPORTING: W9LW Allen County, K9IUB Monroe County,
KC9TYA Vanderburgh County, KA9QWC Whitley County

NUMBER OF LOCAL ARES NETS ACTIVE: 88
NUMBER OF TEAMS WITH NTS LIAISON: 15

TOTAL NUMBER OF NET SESSIONS, DRILLS/TESTS THIS
MONTH: 85
TOTAL DRILLS PERSON-HOURS REPORTED: 537.81

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS REPORTED: 6
TOTAL PSE PERSON-HOURS REPORTED: 190

EMERGENCY NETS REPORTED: 0
TOTAL EMERGENCY PERSON-HOURS REPORTED: 0

TOTAL NUMBER OF ARES OPERATIONS THIS MONTH: 91
TOTAL PERSON-HOURS REPORTED: 727.81

IN ARES SECTION NETS
Sessions = 7 QNI = 151 QTC = 0 QTR = 219 minutes

Indiana ARES December DEC Comments

District 3 KB9WWM: "I attended the District 3 DHS District Planning Council Communication Sub Committee Meeting in December as the District ARES Representative. Greg Watson, KA9DTZ was nominated to join the DPC as the 2nd Amateur Radio Representative for District 3. Congratulations, Greg! Also, it was announced that Don West, the Indiana DHS, Communications Director will be officially retiring January 20th. Don has been a supporter of Amateur Radio Emergency Communications in Indiana. A permanent replacement for Don has not been announced.

District 3 is still looking for ECs for Huntington, LaGrange, Wabash and Whitley Counties. If you are interested, please review the Job Description found on the ARES page on the new Indiana Section Website and/or contact of your interest.

Jim, KB9WWM "

District 6 KC9RVL: Attended Christmas Dinner with Muncie Area Amateur Radio Club, and EmComm ECI ARC. (No regular monthly meetings for either club in December). Received one EC resignation with monthly report from Blackford County.

District 7 W9EEU: Hosted a Christmas dinner for the Clay County group. Attended the Sullivan County meeting where I presented Cory Unger W9CDU with his EC appointment certificate and his EC badge.

Indiana ARES December EC Comments

Allen County KB9WWM: Quiet month in Allen County. I am looking forward to our activities in 2017.

Bartholomew County K9JAJ: A safe and prosperous New Year to each and every one of you from the Bartholomew Co ARES Team!

Dearborn County K9PLG: "The LVARC Holiday meeting was not a business meeting but a great social gathering of Hams and a few guests. There were 9 members in attendance and 3 guests. We missed a few people on vacation and Doug Oldham who is dealing with a family emergency with his step child losing their house in the Gatlinburg fires. Please keep Doug and his family in your prayers. What they missed was pizza, White Castles, cookies and snacks. I tried my best but some of the White Castles went uneaten.

We all discussed radio for the evening and the meeting broke up about 9:00 PM.

We wish everyone Happy Holidays.

Paul B. Nielander KD9AZW

Decatur County KC9ELU: The Decatur County ARES group teamed with the Bartholomew County ARES and Jennings County ARES for our annual SET. We tested our two meter VHF simplex communication distance capability from county to county and took a total of 20 check-ins from the ARES groups. Also tested was the linked repeater control activated between the Jennings County 442.975 MHz repeater and the Bartholomew County 146.790 MHz repeater.

Dekalb County KC9ZCK: Happy New Year

Delaware County NQ8E: No meeting in December

Fayette county N9TU: Still no net manager or NCS. I have been filling in when available.

Harrison County W9WXN: Not much to report this month. Held our weekly ARES training net and we reviewed our winter reporting criteria for winter storms.

Hendricks County KB9DJA: Working on a couple of training programs that will come in April. One will be a refresher/update training for our ""Hospital Hams"" and the other will be on working with our Net Control hams. This will include training protocols in net discipline, and handling of radio traffic.

Jennings County KC9RLC: 4 ARES Nets, total 2 hrs.

Johnson County N9SIU: : Looking forward to the new year of service to our community.

Marion County W9SOX: Volunteers from Marion County ARES participated with the Salvation Army Bed and Breakfast Club Radiothon again this year. This year in addition to answering phones a couple volunteers took to some exciting bell ringing in front of the phone bank on the circle in Indianapolis. It should be noted that not all amateur radio operators have what it takes to make it on the disco floor.

A local hospital has completed installation of an antenna and feed line that will be available for ARES or other amateur radio use when called upon. We will be going out to check and test it ourselves in the coming week.

Monroe County K9TEM: Monroe County ARES members participated in the monthly county warning siren test, plus four weekly ARES Monday Night nets during December.

Scott County WR9G: The Scott County EMA Group conducted a VE Session Saturday, December 10th and had 3 new candidates take exams. One took and passed their Technician exam. The other two took and passed both their Technician & General exams. We also had a Technician operator take the General exam and passed as well. 2016 was a good start for the newly formed VE group with five newly licensed operators in 2016. In 2017, we will hold 6 sessions. Those sessions will be on the second Saturday of every even numbered month at 10:00 AM local time and we are looking forward to holding licensing classes before the April exam session and thereafter. Happy New Year & 73, Steve WR9G

Indiana ARES December OES Comments

Monroe CK9IUB: Quiet December

Vigo County K9DUR: Have been checking into Indiana ARES DMR net on Tuesday night. Good net.

Whitley County KA9QWC: "December 2016 was another busy month with various radio nets & events. The annual Huff 50K Trail Run event was Saturday, December 17, 2016 at the Chain O Lakes State Park located south of Albion Indiana in Noble County. I along with many others provided ham radio communication for safety to support this winter run with several hundred participants. I serve as a net manager on the VHF North East Indiana Packet Net (NEIPN) on Sunday evenings at 9pm local time on 145.53. Also, I serve as net manager on the Noble County VHF ARES nets & the 21-Club Repeater club VHF nets. Additionally, I assist as one of the net controls for ITN & IDTN. My VHF packet station operates 24/7 on 145.530 actively sending & receiving radiograms.