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Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

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ANNUAL SKYWARN SPOTTER TRAINING SCHEDULED

By Jay Farlow, W9LW, Interim Quadrant Two Director, IMO SKYWARN

The National Weather Service SKYWARN® program provides an important way for ham radio operators to serve our communities. Every year, the National Weather Service (NWS) trains volunteers to provide critical severe weather information that's not available by any other means. The annual opportunity to receive this training in Fort Wayne happens Tuesday, February 21, at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of the Public Safety Academy of Northeast Indiana, 7602 Patriot Crossing, Fort Wayne. The NWS canceled an identical session previously scheduled for 2 p.m. at the same location.

For hams who are new to storm spotting, this training is the best way to learn what to look for and how to avoid mistaking "look-alike" phenomena for truly dangerous weather. For hams who have attended the training in the past, the training provides an important refresher and information on any changes that have occurred in the SKYWARN program. If you miss the Fort Wayne session, other sessions are available in surrounding counties. See a list of these sessions at

<http://1.usa.gov/7uFJzl>.

For spotters who are interested in a deeper dive into severe weather information, the 2012 Central Indiana Severe Weather Symposium is an all-day session geared toward providing more advanced information for spotters and weather enthusiasts. The event takes place Saturday, March 10, in Greenwood (south of Indianapolis). At press time, the agenda was still under development but the speaker list included Mike Bettes, a meteorologist with The Weather Channel. Pre-registration is required by March 8 (no walk-ins accepted). More information is available at <http://1.usa.gov/8WIMtC>.

Remember that IMO SKYWARN changed some of its ham radio procedures for our quadrant last summer. I'll outline those procedures in the March issue of Allen County HamNews. They'll also be the topic of a presentation I'll give at the Fort Wayne Radio Club's meeting March 16. If you missed my presentation to the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society last fall, the March presentation will cover the same material. You can

also learn more about SKYWARN operations in our area by visiting the SKYWARN page on the FWRC website. Just go to www.fwrc.info and click the word, "SKYWARN" in the main menu.

If you have questions or comments about local SKYWARN ham radio operations, feel free to contact me at w9lw@arrl.net.

**DON'T FORGET
TO RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP!**

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| Fort Wayne DX Association: | http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/ |
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| 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@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 the first day of the month.

Ham splatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Although the weather is a little on the acrummy side, we move into February with some good news for the club: We have a new club trailer! Last year, the club voted on allocating up to \$2000 for the



purchase of a newer, roomier, but still easy to tow trailer that would be used to haul our communications supplies for events like QSO parties and of course the big one, Field Day. Our current trailer, built I believe by John Gollier back around the late eighties, has served us well. Originally, there was a propane powered 4KW generator with a custom built power panel installed inside the trailer, and exterior mounts for the aluminum towers that the club uses.

Our new trailer is longer, taller, and wider, with enough room to store the towers inside and out of view, and with double doors at the rear and a side door at the front. We are just starting to do the planning for the interior layout and appointments. I envision racks to mount the towers, bins with castors to store coax, power cords and strips, antennas, and other necessary equipment. If space allows, I would like to have some table surfaces that would be used to store bins when in transit, but could do double duty as temporary operating positions. Also, we need to have dual supply lighting and electrical outlets, (120 volts AC and 12 volts DC) so that we could unload or reload in the dark, and run off the generator or "AC mains" if desired.

What other ideas do you have for the trailer? We are also talking about what graphics for the outside, possible paint schemes (white roof to keep it cool??) and other possibilities. This month our BOD (Board of Directors) meeting will be on February 7th and it will be an On The Air meeting, so plan to listen in and offer your ideas.

We hope to see everyone for our general meeting as well when former Mag-

navox antenna expert, Adoph Wozniak, WA9WTJ, will do a presentation on the beginnings of Electronic Warfare in World War II. This should be a fascinating talk. We are looking at a fun Spring for the Amateur Radio enthusiast, with great things to come, so check the website and Allen County Ham News frequently to see what is happening. Fox Hunt season starts up this Feb 12th, too, so get working on that equipment!! I want to build up an active attenuator for close-in hunting.

Special Thanks to all that have renewed their club memberships for the 2012 calendar year. If you haven't done this already, please fill out the form at the back of the newsletter and send it in with your check. If you cannot remember if you have paid or not, check out the list of paid members on the website to confirm your membership. Thanks again for supporting the Fort Wayne Radio Club!

Best Regards, Steve, W9SAN



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Carole Burke, WB9RUS

Webmaster

Jay Farlow, W9LW

February 17: Adoph Wozniak, WA9WTJ, will do a presentation on the beginnings of Electronic Warfare in World War II.

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

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB AUCTION RESULTS FOR 2012

This year the annual Fort Wayne Radio Club auction was held on Friday, January 20, 2012. There were 35 attendees who signed for an identifying number for the auction. Nine attendees were not club members. Those who came to watch and not participate in the auction activity did not need to take an identifying number, and were not counted in the attendance list.

There were 24 active participants this year, with 2 who both sold and purchased items. There were 20 participants who only purchased items, and 2 participants who only sold items. In total, there were 5 sellers at the auction including the club itself.

A total of \$174 changed hands this year. The auction benefit to the Fort Wayne Radio Club was \$123.50. The high dollar value equipment donated by Ray-

theon did not attract any offers at the auction.

This year there were 9 renewing memberships paid at the auction. If you are not a club member this year, please consider renewing your membership for this year. When you renew your membership in FWRC, you will receive a confirming email from the treasurer (providing you tell us your email address!). The confirmations are sequentially numbered, so you can tell how many people have renewed prior to your renewal.

I really appreciate the help of W9DJS, WB9SSE and W9SAN in helping keep track of the auction proceedings, and in behalf of the club I want to thank Chad Beech and Paul Prestia for their auctioning abilities.

Bob, W8ST, Treasurer



FWRC ACQUIRES A TRAILER FOR FIELD DAY

The Fort Wayne Radio Club has purchased a used trailer to replace the trailer in which it currently stores and transports antennas, towers and other equipment related to ARRL Field Day and other portable operations. The new unit is a 2009 Royal Cargo single-axel trailer with inside dimensions of 12 feet long, five feet, nine inches wide and six feet, three inches high. Its rated gross weight is 3,500 pounds.

According to FWRC President Steve Nardin, W9SAN, Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ became aware of the trailer's availability on or about January 23 and notified the FWRC board. The individual owner originally advertised the trailer for \$2,100. FWRC members had previously authorized an expenditure of up to \$2,000 for a trailer, so after some board members inspected it, the board voted and offered the owner \$2,000. The owner accepted the offer.

Terry Bowman, N9FMX, took photographs of the trailer. He reported that a dark spot on the floor is the result of a leak near the roof vent. He wrote that he planned to reseal the vent as soon as he could.

Steve wrote that the trailer needs other work to prepare it for its mission, including the installation of interior racks, etc. He expected to plan club work days to accomplish those tasks.

Jay Farlow, W9LW, Webmaster

State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

ACARTS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I wish to thank those of you that have renewed your ACARTS memberships or joined the club for 2012. Even though the Hamfest is our primary fundraiser, your continued membership helps keep the repeaters running. If you have not yet renewed, now is the time



reporting criteria. The National Weather Service considers you to not be a trained spotter if you have not attended their training for three years. This year there will be only one session in Allen County. There will not be an afternoon session. I hope to see all of you there.

to get your check in the mail. Twelve dollars a year in a bargain, considering the Spring Banquet and the Christmas dinner that the club funds for current members. If you have not renewed, you will be officially dropped from the membership rolls on March first. You will no longer receive e-mail notifications of club activities or mailed copies of the newsletter if you receive it by that means.

I recently reinstated the clubs' ARRL affiliation. The affiliation is placed on inactive status by the ARRL if they do not get a current list of officers and the current membership at least every two years to prove that the clubs voting members are at least 51% ARRL members. The ARRL's count showed a percentage of 82.35% of the ACARTS members as ARRL members in mid-January. Memberships that have come in since then bring the percentage to bring that total to 87.12%.

ACARTS does not hold a General Meeting in February. The meeting is replaced by the annual Skywarn training at the Public Safety Academy. The training is held this year on our regular meeting night of February 21st at 7:00 p.m. Refreshing your training every year is a good idea, plus you can learn of any changes to the

73,

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

JANUARY 2012 ACARTS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 10, 2012 the board meeting was called to order by Dave Lindquist (W9LKH) at 7 pm. Those present were Howard Pletcher N9ADS, Jim Boyer KB9IH, Dan Soper KB9NGM, Dave Keiser WB9UNL, and Rita Alvey KC9VCX.

The January meeting will have Larry Temenoff KB9OS will be making a presentation call "Wireless, To Infinity and Beyond." The February meeting will be held at the Public Safety Academy and will be SkyWarn Training.

The new business that was covered was a letter from Gold Medal to see if the club was interested in purchasing club jacket and such. At this time the club is

February 21: SKYWARN Training at 7 pm at the Public Safety Academy.

Unless otherwise scheduled, all meetings are held at the Salvation Army Center, 2901 N. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN.



ACARTS Officers

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Station Manager

Open

Fundraising Manager:

Jim Boyer, KB9IH
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Tech Committee

Open

JANUARY 2012 ACARTS MEETING MEETING MINUTES

not interested in purchasing items. It was discussed that if we do decide to purchase clothing items that there are places locally that we can get quotes from

The club will re-instate our membership to the ARRL. We now have over 50% of the members of the club that are also ARRL members. This will be good for 2 years.

The budget was to be presented by Howard but will be emailed to the board members later in the week. The budget was emailed and approved as presented by all the board members.

Sent request for the Hamfest for the 2012 and it is tentatively approved. The Meeting will be held in March and we will get a final approval by then. One of the things that the Ham fest committee will be reviewing for the next time will be the number of tickets that are given out, the number of flyers made and an overall review of the numbers. The other thing that was discussed was to hold the Ham fest at the south end of the expo hall rather than north end. This would open up doors 1, 2, and 3. There has also been a volunteer to help learn the ropes of the Ham fest and be the vice chair on the committee. Discussion will be talked about at a later date. A letter was received that the D-Star Seminar was very good. It was decided to make sure that this seminar would be held again next year.

Members are accepted all year long. There was a suggestion of making March the deadline for the year for current members to pay due and be placed in the directory each year. This is so that the directory can be updated and put on the website and updated listed can be gotten to current members.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Submitted by Rita L E Alvey (KC9VCX) Secretary

January 17, 2012 at 7:04 pm The meeting was called to order by Dave Lindquist W9LKH.

The ARRL has been reinstated and waiting on the updates to be completed. We have 82.35% membership. This will be good for 2 years. All members are encouraged to join the AARL as it is a great way to keep up to date with a magazine each month and other great benefits. They also make sure that the Ham Radio keeps its place to help others during emergency situations and to help the organization stay strong.

The budget was presented to the club by Howard Pletcher N9ADS for approval. The motion for the approval of the budget first was Howard N9ADS and seconded by Bob N9PWM. All present approved the motion and the budget was approved as presented.

The Hamfest will be held on November 17-18, 2012. It has been sent for approval which should be heard by March.

January 21, 2012 at 8:30 am the RACES and ARES will be having a drill on the 146.94 repeater. All those are members please check in for roll call.

March 10, 2012 the National Weather Services will be holding a SkyWarn Training in Greenwood, Indiana from 8:30 am - 4 pm and the cost is \$35.00 per person.

A brief break for snacks was held.

Larry Temenoff KB9OS gave a presentation called "Wireless, From Infinity and

Beyond."

Larry presented a very interesting talk on the history of wireless, antenna and how it has progressed over the years and how each new discovery has advanced our uses for our personal and business uses. Some of the few areas that he covered were:

Types of Wireless:

- Radio AM/FM
- Satellite dish
- Clarke's Belt Terrestrial
- Microwave Point to Point
- Free space optics-laser beam digital
- DAS-Distributed Antenna System
- Intranet Point to Point
- Wireless Design
- Cabling and Installation
- Predicting the Future of Wireless

The presentation was very informational and there were some very good questions that were asked by the club members. If you get the chance to hear Larry present this sometime make sure to get a front row seat.

Next ACARTS meeting will be on February 21, 2012 at 7 pm at the Public Safety Academy. Hope to see you all there.

Submitted by Rita L E Alvey (KC9VCX) Secretary

W1AW GETS NEW ANTENNAS

The freak snow storm in late October wreaked havoc on the ARRL HQ antenna farm. According to W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, both of W1AW's M-Squared 40 meter Yagis were severely damaged, as was the 80 meter cage antenna, and an element on the north tower's 10 meter Yagi was twisted vertically. The antennas atop the ARRL Headquarters building for W1HQ, the station for the Laird Campbell Memorial HQ Operators Club, also received damage: the Gap Titan vertical was turned into something that looked like a pretzel, and the Pro-Sis-Tel rotator was also damaged.

Read about the new antennas in the news section of the ARRL web page. Great photos there too.

FWDXA

Fort Wayne DX Association

THE DIAMOND DXCC CHALLENGE

Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

Since 2012 is the 75th anniversary of the ARRL's DXCC Award (the first "countries" list appeared in the January 1937 issue of QST), the ARRL created the Diamond DXCC Challenge for 2012. The Challenge is based on the list of "countries" shown in the aforementioned 1937 list. Also see Clinton DeSoto's article titled "How to Count Countries Worked" in the October 1935 issue of QST. Both of these articles are available to ARRL members in the QST Archives.

World politics and world geography have changed over the past 75 years (now there's an understatement!), so many of the original entities on the list don't exist anymore. Thus the ARRL had to correlate current day entities to these old entities as best as possible. This results in some unusual "work this current day entity to count for the old entity" listings. For example, since the Canal Zone does not exist anymore, to catch this one you have to work an HP (Panama) station that is within 8 km (5 miles) of the Panama Canal. Another example is to work the old Rouma-

nia (yes, it was spelled with the letter 'u' in it back then), you can work a current day Romania or a current day Moldova. Interesting, isn't it?

The rules are pretty simple. You need to work at least 100 of these old entities. US Amateurs must be a member of the ARRL. Contacts must be made from within the same DXCC entity. Contacts must be made in 2012 – from 0000 UTC on January 1, 2012 through 2359 UTC on December 31, 2012. All Amateur bands may be used except for 60-Meters. There are no mode, band, and power endorsements. QSLs are not required – you are on your honor here, so keep a good log of your contacts on the ARRL-supplied form. The basic Award is at least 100 entities, with endorsement stickers for the 125, 150, 175, 200, and 225 levels. The Diamond DXCC Award certificate is \$12 in the US, with endorsement stickers at \$1.

Visit the following web sites for the official rules, the official entity list, and the official log entry form (an Excel file): <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-diamond-dxcc-challenge> and <http://www.arrl.org/>

diamond-dxcc.

Have fun chasing this unique award. I plan to see how many I can work in the forthcoming ARRL International CW DX Contest later this month. It will be tough to work them all, as some are tied to current entities that are really tough to work. Take some time to read the old list – it's quite a lesson in history.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Barbados | VP6 |
| Bechuanaland | |
| Belgian Congo | ON |
| Belgium | ON |
| Bermuda Islands | VP9 |
| Bhutan | |
| Bismarck Archipelago | |
| Bolivia | CP |
| Borneo, Netherlands | PK5 |
| Brazil | PY |
| British Cameroons, see Nigeria | |
| British Honduras | VP1 |
| British North Borneo | VS4 |
| Brunei | |

Excerpt from the old "countries" list. Do you know where Bechuanaland is? How about the Bismarck Archipelago? Also note that many countries didn't even have a prefix back then.

Say Again?

"[Television] won't be able to hold on to any market it captures after the first six months. People will soon get tired of staring at a plywood box every night."

*Darryl Zanuck, Movie Producer
20th Century Fox, 1946*

After much thought I've decided to sell my HF gear. Since moving to an apartment I just don't have the time, the room, or finances to continue. Although this gear is not the top of the line, it sure would give some new ham the ability to get on the HF bands at a lower cost. All of my gear is in top notch condition, some of it is old but very good.

Here's the list.:

Item 1. Alinco DX77T, recently aligned and checked by Burkhart (i have the receipts). It is complete with CW filter, user manual, service manual, and original box. This Alinco was the last production run. Asking price \$400.00.

Item 2. MFJ 4125, 25 amp power supply. Used to power the DX77T. \$70.00

Item 3. GAP "Hearit" audio module. Overcomes nicely the somewhat noisy DX77 receiver. \$75.00

Item 4. Two English Kent all brass keys with ball bearings, one English style straight key, one single paddle side keyer, \$65.00 each.

Item 5. Dentron Junior antenna tuner. Vintage but is excellent. Built in toroid coil for matching ladder line. \$45.00.

Item 6. Dentron 10-40 meters dipole with ladder line. \$25.00.

Item 7 Shure 444 mike, vintage but excellent with manual. Noted for fine voice characteristics. \$45.00 OBO.

Item 8. Daiwa CN101L cross needle SWR bridge. \$65.00

Item 10. Heathkit electronic iambic keyer with assembly manual. works! Vintage. Offer?

Some misc items.

Wayne A. Doenges K9AXM
260 749 2657
Goldrocket at frontier.com
New Haven, IN 46774

Livonia Amateur Radio Club Swap & Shop Feb 19, 2012

The Livonia (Michigan) Amateur Radio Club (<http://www.livoniaarc.com>) is having our Swap & Shop on Sunday, February 19th from 8 AM till noon at the Livonia Seniors Center 15218 Farmington Road Livonia, MI 48154. More information can be found on our swap page: <http://www.livoniaarc.com/Swap.htm>

Mike, N8MR, LARC Swap Co-Chair

Test Equipment Still for Sale

The following equipment owned by the club did not sell at the Jan. 20 auction. The club plans to list these items on the website for one week, then list them on eBay.

- HP 8590A Spectrum Analyzer
- HP 8656A RF generator
- Phillips 6668A 1 GHz counter

To purchase one of these items or obtain more information, contact Al Burke, WB9SSE, at aburke55@comcast.net.

NEW ARRL INDIANA SECTION TECHNICAL COORDINATOR

I want to welcome Mark Westermeier, N9OZ to our Indiana Section team as the new Technical Coordinator. Mark resides in Carmel, Indiana and enjoys low power digital HF, along with technical problems of all types, as well as electronics construction and repair projects. Mark dabbles in many different areas of amateur radio, including ATV, which he still enjoys. Currently, Mark is the Executive Director, Carmel Clay Parks, in Carmel, IN. He previously owned and operated Radiocom in Indianapolis. His experiences in Electronics dates clear back to 1969 when he started as a two-way radio technician and moved to being a Field Technical Representative for Motorola.

Mark and his staff of Technical Specialists are more than welcome to help you with any technical problem that you may have. If they do not know the answer, they will find someone that does, either here in Indiana or through me to ARRL HQ. We could still use more Technical Specialists throughout the State. The ones we have now are located in these cities:

N9OZ, Carmel; WB8WOR, Bloomington; NI9Y, Mishawaka; W9BGJ, Fort Wayne; N7BW, New Albany; WB9L, Knox; N9OCL, Columbia; KB9BVN, New Whiteland; N9FSX, Osceola; KB9VTK, Laotto; N9LYY, Attica; AC9AZ, Terre Haute, and WA9FGT, Petersburg.

As you can see, we do have a lot of areas that still need coverage by Technical Specialists. If you are interested in being one, and feel that you can help fellow Amateurs out with a problem, please look over the requirements here:

<http://www.arrl.org/technical-specialist>

You must be a member of the ARRL and send in a report to Mark every month detailing what activities you performed in regards to the position. Interested? Send Mark an e-mail detailing your qualifications for being a Technical Specialist to n9oz@arrl.net

73

John Poindexter, W3ML

Indiana Section Manager, ARRL

FWRC TEST EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

The Fort Wayne radio club has acquired three pieces of professional grade test equipment that it wishes to sell for the benefit of the club treasury and area Hams. We want to first offer this gear to the local Ham community at what we consider very attractive asking prices so that it can be put to good use within that Ham community. If it does not sell in this venue, then we plan to offer it on eBay.

The items we are offering are as follows:

HP8590A Spectrum Analyzer



The HP 8590A is a portable RF spectrum analyzer. A Spectrum analyzer is able to read the frequency and amplitude of an electrical waveform and perform some basic computations on those readings.

Physical

The HP 8590A itself measures 14.4 inches wide, 18.1 inches deep and 8.4 inches high and is mounted in a standard 19" rack mounting assembly. The machine weighs in at 29.8 pounds.

Signal Frequency

The 8590A spectrum analyzer can read signal frequencies between 10 kHz and 1.5 GHz with a four-digit resolution. The readout is accurate to within 5 MHz +/- 1 percent of the signal display span. The sweep time range on the unit is from 20 milliseconds to 100 seconds.

Signal Amplitude

The 8590A can measure signal amplitudes from -115 dBm to +30 dBm in a 50 ohm system and frequencies between 10 KHz and 1.5 GHz. The 8590A amplitude reading has a dynamic range of 70 dB.

A PDF format Operating Manual and a

Service Guides are available for the unit.

The average asking price for this unit on eBay is around \$1,900.00. The average selling price we have seen on eBay is around \$1,100.00. For Ft. Wayne area hams and local pick-up we are offering this unit for \$700.00.

HP 8656A Signal Generator



Introduced in the early 1980s, the HP 8656A signal generator is a high-end piece of test equipment. It provides accurate, easy and rapid calibration of telecommunications equipment. When Agilent bought HP labs, they renamed the HP 8656A to the Agilent 8656A. The 8656A functions are remotely controllable through its HP interface bus (HP-IB) by another computer.

Electronic Features

The HP 8656A features a carrier frequency range of 10 kHz to 990 MHz with an output level between -127 and +13 dBm (+0.1 microvolt to + 1.0 volt). The output resolution is in 0.1 dB increments; the frequency resolution is in 100 Hz (fine) or 250 Hz (course) increments. The output level flatness is less than or equal to 1.0 dB across the frequency spectrum. It has an internal 50MHz reference source for testing and calibrating the machine. An external reference source can be either 1 MHz, 5 MHz, or 10 MHz.

The HP 8656A has two internal AM and FM modulation modes: 400 Hz and 1 KHz. It also handles mixed modulation and external modulation signals. The AM depth is less than or equal to 99 percent; the FM peak frequency deviation is less than or equal to 99 KHz. The RF Output has a female type-N connector and a 50 ohm impedance. For added safety, the HP 8656A contains reverse power protection up to 50 watts and 25 volts.

Front Panel

The panel has an eight-digit LED frequency display and a two-digit LED level

display. All controls are push-button keys that set the frequency generator. The panel buttons cross-convert units between dBm, voltage and EMF. The unit stores up to ten control panel settings for later use.

This unit is fully functional with a measured (commanded) output frequency error of:

- 10 Hz at 10 MHz,
- 50 Hz at 100 MHz,
- 770 Hz at 990 MHz

Signal output power levels appear to be within about two or three dbm of that commanded.

AM and FM modulation functions work, although we did not measure the absolute value of (FM) deviation or (AM) percent modulation as a function of values programmed into the unit.

As can be seen here, the front panel



has a blemish at the modulation level readout, but it in no way impacts the operation of the unit. Otherwise the unit is obviously used, but clean.

The average asking price we have seen on eBay for this item is around \$575.00. For Ft. Wayne area hams and local pick-up we are offering this unit for \$375.00.

Philips PM 6668 Counter



This is a seven digit, high resolution, 1 GHz counter (it counted reliably up to 1.1 GHz on my bench). Seven digits means that you can resolve frequency to plus or minus one KHz if you're counting between 1 MHz and 1 GHz, and plus or minus 0.1 Hz if you're counting between 10

Hz and 999.999 KHz. Signal sensitivity is fine.

For Ft. Wayne area hams and local pickup we are offering this unit for \$100.00.

Anyone interested in these items should contact:

Al Burke, WB9SSE
Secretary, Fort Wayne Radio Club
260-637-1989
woffermom@cs.com

The items will be available for local pickup through 16 March of this year for the prices noted above. After that, they will be offered on eBay.

KOLTS SPECIAL EVENT - INDIANAPOLIS

Fellow Indiana Amateurs

Special Event Stations from Indianapolis will commemorate this great week dealing with the upcoming Sporting Event by using the call sign KOLTS.

Members of the IRC, RCA and IMS radio clubs will begin on Monday January 30th at 00:01 local time and operate through Sunday February 5th 23:59 local time. There will be a special commemorative QSL card, check QRZ.com.

They are not allowed by NFL rules to mention Super Bowl on the air.

Listen for the KOLTS Special Event calls on these suggested frequencies:

| | SSB | CW |
|-------|------------|-----------|
| 6 M | 50140 | 50040 |
| 10 M | 28340 | 28040 |
| 12 M | 24940 | 24910 |
| 15 M | 21350 | 21040 |
| 17 M | 18140 | 18090 |
| 20 M | 14240 | 14040 |
| 30 M | | 10140 |
| 40 M | 7240 | 7040 |
| 80 M | 3840 | 3540 |
| 160 M | 1840 | 1810 |

Some may be using digital modes as well.

Hopefully, you will be able to make several contacts with them.

I wish them the best of luck in their endeavors to conduct this Special Event honoring Indianapolis and the Great State of Indiana.

73
John Poindexter, W3ML
Indiana Section Manager

ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio™

THE 2012 DAYTON HAMVENTION® WILL BE HELD MAY 18-20, 2012

The Allen County HamNews is prepared using Adobe's InDesign software along with PhotoShop and Acrobat on an i7 PC running Windows 7.

Photos of this month's of club events were provided by Terry Bowman.

Say Again?

"We don't like their sound, and guitar music is on the way out."

Decca Recording Co. executive on rejecting a record deal with the Beatles - 1962

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 contest include:

ARRL Contest Corral Web page: <http://www.arrl.org/contests>

WA7BNM Contest Calendar: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

ARRL's National Contest Journal calendar: <http://www.ncjweb.com/contestcal.php>

Contesting On-Line: <http://www.contesting.com/>

| HF | Contest Title | Ph | CW | Dig | Exchange & Frequencies (MHz) | Logs Due |
|--------|-------------------------------|----|----|-----|--|----------|
| VHF+ | Dates / Times | | | | Sponsor's Web Site | |
| 3.5-14 | North American Sprint | | X | | Both call signs, serial, name, and S/P/C | 7 days |
| | Feb 5, 0000Z - Feb 5, 0400Z | | | | www.ncjweb.com | |
| 1.8-28 | School Club Roundup | X | X | X | RS(T), Class, S/P/C | 30 days |
| 50+ | Feb 13, 1300Z - Feb 17, 2359Z | | | | www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup | |
| 1.8-28 | ARRL Int'l CW DX Contest | | X | | RST, state/province or power | Mar 21 |
| | Feb 18, 0000Z - Feb 19, 2400Z | | | | www.arrl.org/contests | |
| 3.5-28 | North American QSO Party | | | X | Name and S/P/C | 14 days |
| | Feb 25, 1800Z - Feb 26, 0600Z | | | | www.ncjweb.com | |
| 3.5-28 | ARRL Int'l Phone DX Contest | X | | | RS and state, province, or power | |
| | Mar 3, 0000Z - Mar 4, 2400Z | | | | www.arrl.org/contests | |
| 3.5-28 | Wisconsin QSO Party | X | X | X | WI county or S/P/C | |
| 50+ | Mar 11, 1800Z - Mar 12, 0100Z | | | | www.warac.org | |
| 1.8-28 | Virginia QSO Party | X | X | X | Serial and VA county/city or S/P/C | |
| 50-440 | Mar 17, 1400Z - (see web) | | | | www.qsl.net/sterling | |
| 1.8-28 | North Dakota QSO Party | X | X | | RST and ND county or S/P/C | |
| 50,144 | Mar 17, 1800Z - Mar 18, 1800Z | | | | www.w0nd.com | |

2012 Foxhunt Schedule

The following is the planned Foxhunting schedule for 2012. Each start at Trackside, the Off Track Betting Complex, 1820 W Washington Center Rd:

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|---------|--------|
| February | 02/12/12 | 1:30 pm | Sunday |
| March | 03/04/12 | 1:30 pm | Sunday |
| April | 04/01/12 | 1:30 pm | Sunday |
| May | 05/06/12 | 1:30 pm | Sunday |
| June | 06/03/11 | 1:30 pm | Sunday |
| July | 07/01/11 | 1:30 pm | Sunday |
| August | 08/05/11 | 1:30 pm | Sunday |
| September | 09/09/11 | 1:30 pm | Sunday |
| October | 10/07/11 | 1:30 pm | Sunday |
| November | 11/04/11 | 1:30 pm | Sunday |

Membership Application for ACARTS - and/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 \$20.00/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 \$20.00 / 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

Fort Wayne Radio Club.

PO Box 15127

Fort Wayne, IN 46885

For dual membership, fill out both sides and send two checks to either club. Payment by check is strongly encouraged!

ACARTS Voice Repeaters

146.880 (-) General use / Skywarn priority

147.255 (+) General use

443.800 (+) General use

(For autopatch 88 has only speed dial emergency #'s.)

ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digirepeaters)

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 519521

444.875 (+) General use

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

D-STAR

442.99375, Offset + 5.0 MHz, W9TE ___ B, W9TE ___ G

Indiana D-STAR net, 1st and 3rd Thursday, 7:30 - 8:30,

Reflector REF024B

Area Traffic Nets

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

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: Wed. at 7:30 p.m. on 147.150

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

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: Tue. at 9:00 p.m. on 146.94-

Emergency Preparedness Net: Thurs. at 9:00 p.m. on 146.88-

Huntington ARES: Sat. at 8:00 p.m. on 146.685-

Whitley Co. ARES: Wed. at 8:00 p.m. on 145.270

(Note 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)

Whitley Co. Sunday: Sun. at 8:00 p.m. on 444.550+, 131.8 PL

"No-Name" Net: 8:30 pm Sunday and Wednesday nights. 1.965 MHz or cross band on the 146.91 repeater.

Little Red Barn Net: Weekdays @ 8:30 a.m. on 3820 kHz.

Thursdays at 3826 kHz.

Northeast Indiana Packet Net: Sunday at 9:00 p.m. on

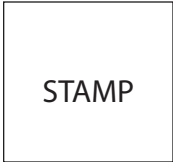
145.530 @ 1200 baud. We use unconnected converse mode to communicate for a roundtable net setting. Use your "UNPROTO" command or equivalent to set Digi path(s) through the strongest station(s) needed between you and your destination. Only use those that are necessary! Have all your "Monitor" settings on so you can see everyone.

FWRC YL Net: Wed. 7:00 p.m. on 146.76-

FWRC 6 Meter Net: Tue. 8:00 p.m. on 50.580 USB

6 Meter AM Net: Thurs. 8:00 p.m. on 50.580 AM

FW Area Student Net: Wed. 9:00 p.m. on 146.91-



To:

Activities Calendar



| Date | Time | Event | Place |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---|--|
| 02/07/2012 | 7:00 PM | Amateur License Examinations | Fort Wayne Boy Scout Council Headquarters |
| 02/07/2012 | 7:00 PM | FWRC Board Meeting | GSUMC |
| 02/12/2012 | 1:30 PM | Foxhunt | Fort Wayne Off Track Betting Complex |
| 02/14/2012 | 7:00 PM | ACARTS Board Meeting | Salvation Army Facility |
| 02/17/2012 | 7:00 PM | FWRC General Meeting | GSUMC |
| 02/21/2012 | 2:00 PM | SKYWARN Spotter Training | CANCELLED |
| 02/21/2012 | 7:00 PM | SKYWARN Spotter Training (and ACARTS General Meeting) | Public Safety Academy of Northeast Indiana |
| 03/06/2012 | 7:00 PM | FWRC Board Meeting | GSUMC |
| 03/04/2012 | 1:30 PM | Foxhunt | Fort Wayne Off Track Betting Complex |
| 03/13/2012 | 7:00 PM | ACARTS Board Meeting | Salvation Army Facility |
| 03/16/2012 | 7:00 PM | FWRC General Meeting | GSUMC |
| 03/20/2012 | 7:00 PM | ACARTS General Meeting | Salvation Army Facility |