



Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

November 2012
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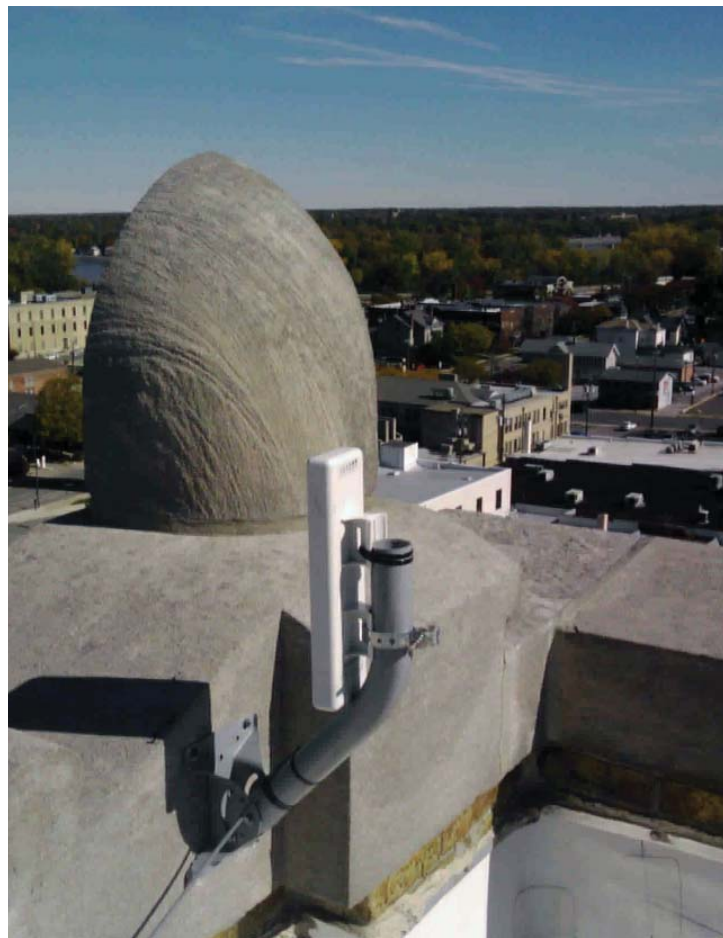
FWRC D-STAR REPEATER IS BACK ONLINE

by Al Burke, WB9SSE, FWRC Secretary

During the windstorm that plagued Fort Wayne this last summer, Internet service to the Masonic Temple was lost thus depriving our D-STAR system of Internet access which disconnected the machine from the D-STAR backbone. The Masonic Temple management eventually acquired a new Internet Service Provider (ISP) for the temple, and in doing so declined allowing us to make use of it.

As a result the club had to obtain its own ISP which it did through the facilities of the Indiana Data Center (IDC). The club purchased a 2.4 GHz Wi-Fi transceiver which it mounted on the roof of the temple near the D-STAR UHF antenna, and it provides the Ethernet connection used by our D-STAR computer and hence connectivity once again to the D-STAR backbone. Our Wi-Fi transceiver (see photo) connects with an IDC Wi-Fi node located about two blocks north of the temple.

Thus through the considerable efforts of club members Paul Prestia, KA3OPZ, Jim Pliett, K9OMA, Terry Bowman, K9FMX and Al Burke, WB9SSE we are pleased to report that Fort Wayne's D-STAR machine (442.99375 (+) MHz) is fully functional. That being the case, we take this opportunity to remind you that the Fort Wayne Hamfest is nearly upon us. So it's a good time to consider picking up either a hand held or mobile D-STAR radio from one of the vendors who will be offering them for sale at the Hamfest. Keep in mind that ICOM has a new 5 watt D-STAR capable single band (UHF) handheld (the ID-31A) at a reasonable price, considering the technology, that is perfect for use with our Ft. Wayne D-STAR machine.



2.4 GHz Wi-Fi Network Antenna

Also this month

Technician Classes.....	3	SKYWARN Spotter Info	9
Fort Wayne Hamfest Flier.....	5	Hurricane Sandy	9
Classified Ads	7	Local Nets.....	11
Foxhunt Chronicles.....	8	Activities Calendar	12

Internet Home Pages

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

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

Please send any articles, classified ads, or other information to the editor, Ken Helms, AB9ZD, at ab9zd at arrl.net. Please put "For Newsletter" in the subject line. Most text and graphics formats are acceptable. Microsoft Word and JPEG are preferred if separate files are used. For those without computer access, please mail your submission to either of the clubs post office boxes.

The deadline for the each issue is the first day of the month.

Hamspletter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As I write this editorial for the Allen County HamNews, my thoughts are with my relatives living on the east coast, in the cross hairs of Hurricane Sandy. With more and more reports of flooding and power outages, I wonder what our Amateur Radio colleagues in the east are dealing with. We may not be able to help directly, but we can listen in, and I plan to do so after I am done. By the time you read this, it will be over, but it is a very real reminder that as hams, being prepared is indeed a very important aspect of our service.

Hopefully, all of you are taking advantage of the great propagation on HF. I didn't have a lot of time to spend on the CQ World Wide DX contest this past weekend, but was able to work 24 countries on 20, 15, and 10 meters in just a few hours with my "stealth" loop antenna. Fantastic! The bands were all packed with signals, and I was even able to work some new countries, like Gambia and New Zealand. Fun stuff! If you can do it, don't miss this! With other contests coming up soon, like ARRL 160, ARRL Sweepstakes, and the 10 meter contest, even if you are not really



serious about contests, it is still great fun to see how many places you can work.

As usual, the Fort Wayne Radio Club will have two tables at the ACARTS Fort Wayne Hamfest, coming up this month. If you are a club member, and you have something to sell, or have something to donate to the club, be sure to sign up to man the tables for at least an hour. Also, the Hamfest is a great time to pay up for next year's membership, so if you can, please do so. I am looking forward to our state's BEST hamfest once again. We will see you all there!

Since the Hamfest is on the same weekend that we would normally have our meeting, we have moved up the meeting date by one week. **Please plan to join us on November 9th at 7:00 pm for our monthly meeting.** The program will be by Chad Beech, W9GGA, on the radio station WWV. Also, Joseph, K9RFZ, will have a static display on a new "Go-Kit" he is working on. It promises to be a great time, so we will all get together, one week earlier. Be there or be square!

Best Regards, Steve Nardin, W9SAN



Have a safe and happy holiday season!



Officers

President

Steve Nardin, W9SAN
260-482-4039
w9san at arrl.net

Vice President

Jim Pliett, K9OMA
260-693-9211
jhp16702 at frontier.com

Secretary

Al Burke, WB9SSE
260-637-1989
aburke55 at comcast.net

Treasurer

Bob Streeter, W8ST
260-672-9737
w8st at arrl.net

Communications

Paul Prestia, KA3OPZ
260-247-2806
pfixher at gmail.com

Directors

Tom Baker, N9TB
260-747-2714
n9tb at arrl.net

Terry Bowman, K9FMX
260-493-7177
tjbowman at frontier.com

Charles Ward, KC9MUT
260-749-4824
kc9mut at yahoo.com

W9TE Trustee

Carole Burke, WB9RUS

Webmaster

Jay Farlow, W9LW

November 9: Chad Beech, W9GGA, with a presentation on the radio station WWV. Also, Joseph, K9RFZ, will have a static display on a new "Go-Kit" he is working on.

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

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

The October meeting of the Fort Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church on 19 October 2012 with club president Steve Nardin, W9SAN, serving as host. There were about 35 guests present.

The Treasurer provided information for the following report regarding club finances as of 19 October, 2012:

Income \$4,543.77

Expenses \$4,895.93

Cash on hand \$125.99

Checking balance \$5,870.26

Savings balance \$2,041.99

Minutes from the September meeting can be found in the Ham News and on the club web page.

Details regarding the October Foxhunt may be found in the Foxhunt Chronicles which will be posted in the Ham News and on the club web page. But in summary, Charles Ward and Fred Gengnagel, KC9MUT and KC9EZP won the October hunt and will serve as the fox for the last foxhunt of the year (November). Note, following the conclusion of the November hunt, Jim & Annie Pliett will once again host the end-of-season Foxhunt bonfire out at their QTH on Wappes Road. Everyone is invited to attend, but if you do please bring a carry-in to help feed the happy bon-fire goers.

New Business:

During the November foxhunt, the high power fox will operate on the input of the 147.255 repeater, (i.e., 147.855 MHz) which will give casual listeners a chance to listen-in on the foxhunt goings-on. The actual (low power) fox will still operate on 146.430 MHz.

Jeff Dailey, KC9QCD reported that a balloon launch from Taylor University would occur Saturday, 20 October. The balloon will carry a micro-fox operating as a beacon on 146.565 MHz and would not be dropped. The micro-fox will transmit for 20 seconds every 60 seconds for as long as the batteries last and it will sign Jeff's call sign.

Steve Nardin noted that the November

club meeting would occur on 9 November because of the Fort Wayne Hamfest occurring the following weekend. The presentation will feature a discussion and description of National Bureau of Standards radio station WWV.

Steve also reported that the club will not formally be supporting the Boy Scouts JOTA activity this year as we could not recruit enough volunteers to man the activity properly. However, Joseph Lawrence, KB9RFZ reported that he would be conducting merit badge classes with groups of Scouts on Saturday, 20 October at IPFW and would be making demonstration contacts on the 146.91 machine every 20 minutes starting at 13:00 local.

Steve Nardin reopened nominations for the election of club officers and Board members and Brian Jenks, W9BGJ's name was added to the list of those willing to run for a board position. Since the offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Communications Manager had only one person each willing to run for those positions, those positions were filled by acclamation and only the Board of Director positions were voted on.

Those running (for the four Board) positions were:

Tom Baker, K9TB,

Brian Jenks, W9BGJ,

Jim Machamer, KB9DOT,

Tom Rupp, KU8T,

Charles Ward, KC9MUT, and,

Rich Gilson, KC9PUX

Ballots were passed out and the results tabulated. The results were that for the 2013 club year Officers and Board members are:

President, Steve Nardin, W9SAN

Vice President, Jim Pliett, K9OMA

Secretary, Al Burke, WB9SSE

Treasurer, Bob Streeter, W8ST

Communications Manager, Paul Prestia, KA3OPZ

Board of Directors members:

Tom Baker, K9TB

Jim Machamer, KB9DOT

Tom Rupp, KU8T

Charles Ward, KC9MUT

Following the elections Joseph Lawrence, KB9RFZ provided an excellent tutorial on the assembly of crimp type PL-259 RF connectors onto LMR 400 type coaxial cable. Anyone who has ever had to assemble PL-259 type connectors of the soldered braid variety would very definitely appreciate how much easier it is to use these crimp type connectors.

In addition to the connector assembly tutorial, Jim Pliett, K9OMA and Al Burke, WB9SSE conducted the annual Rig Clinic where-in they hauled in tons of test equipment used to test club members' equipment for power output, frequency accuracy, deviation, modulation depth and SINAD/receiver sensitivity. Most of the club members who brought equipment in to be tested were happy to find that their rigs were functioning normally.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE

Secretary, FWRC

TECHNICIAN CLASSES OFFERED IN ANGOLA

The Land of Lakes Amateur Radio Club will be conducting Technician classes in the Angola, Indiana area on Thursday nights from 6 to 9 pm. Classes will be held November 8, 15, 29, and December 6, 13, 20. VE testing will also be arranged. Students need to pre-register. To do so, call 260-475-5897 and ask for Bill Brown.

More information on where the classes will be held will be provided with registration.



State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

ACARTS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The amendment to the ACARTS Constitution and By-Laws creating three Director at Large positions on the Board of Directors was passed at the October meeting. The election for club officers for 2013 will be held at the November meeting. Please consider running for one of these new board positions, or for that matter, running for any of the officer or manager positions. Most of the Board of Directors has held positions for over a decade. Some new and possibly younger blood on the Board of Directors can help restore ACARTS to the status that the club held in the community many years ago. This is your opportunity to help shape the future direction of the club without having the duties and responsibilities of a manager position.



The ACARTS Christmas Dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 18th, at 6:30 p.m., at Hall's Guesthouse on Washington Center Road. The details will be published and e-mailed next month. Many thanks to Corrine Boyer for finding the location and making the arrangements.

The Hamfest on November 17th and 18th is rapidly approaching. If you worked at the Hamfest last year, your manager should be contacting you soon to see if you can work again this year and to arrange the schedule. If you have not worked at the Hamfest before, or have not had a job for a couple of years, and would like a job this year, please contact the Hamfest Chairman, Jim Boyer, KB9IH, and let him know of your availability and your preferred day(s) and times. Jim can be reached at kb9ih(at)arrl.net or 260-489-6700.

73,

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

Thanks to E.J., KC9HIY, for his informative presentation on APRS at the October meeting.

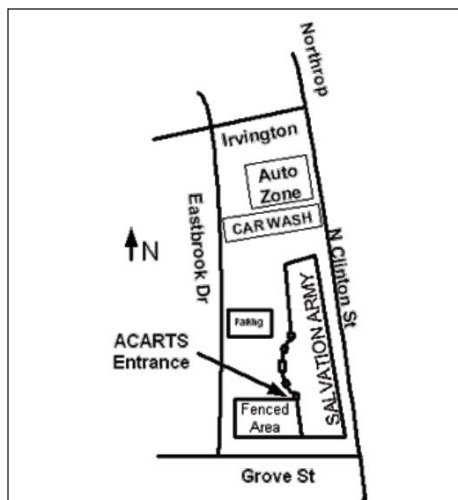
ACARTS OCTOBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Dave, W9LKH.

Dave presented the e-mails from and to the Salvation Army regarding the door to the Salvation Army Center being propped open during the June ACARTS General Meeting.

Dave presented a proposed amendment to the ACARTS Constitution and By-laws that would eliminate the Communications Manager, Emergency Preparedness Manager, and Communica-

tions Manager Positions and create three Director at Large positions on the Board of Directors. Howard, N9ADS, suggested that the descriptions of the eliminated managers' positions remain in the by-



November 20: Hamfest Wrap-up and the election of officers for 2013.

Unless otherwise scheduled, all meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the Salvation Army Center, 2901 N. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN.

ACARTS Officers

President

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

Vice President

Dave Keiser, WB9UNL
260-244-3322
wb9unl at yahoo.com

Secretary

Rita Alvey, KC9VCX
260-241-4907
kc9vcx at hotmail.com

Treasurer

Howard Pletcher, N9ADS
260-747-5252
n9ads at arrl.net

ACARTS Managers

Activities

Open

Emergency Preparedness

Dan Soper, KB9NGM
260-637-5787
dlsoper at frontier.com

Communications

Open

Station Manager

Open

Fundraising Manager:

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

W9INX Trustee:

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

Tech Committee

Open

laws so that the duties can be assumed by a Director at Large, if necessary in the future, without another amendment being passed. Dave stated that he would present a revised proposal at the General Meeting.

No other business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

ACARTS OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Dave, W9LKH.

Dave reminded the members present that they were not to admit any basketball players into the Salvation Army facility and to advise them that they must wait for their coach to allow them admittance. This was necessitated by the door being propped open during the June General Meeting.

Dave announced that the October program would be a presentation on APRS by E.J. Caylor, KC9HIY, on APRS.

Dave presented a revised proposal for the amendment to the ACARTS Constitution and By-Laws. It was approved by the Board of Directors to be presented and voted upon at the October General Meeting.

Jim, KB9IH, gave an update on the progress of the preparations for the upcoming Hamfest.

Dave, W9LKH, stated that he would propose and form a Hamfest Committee at the November meeting.

Jim, KB9IH, gave a presentation and demonstration of the Raspberry Pi, a tiny computer using the Linux operating system.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

Talk-in on
146.88 (-)



**FORTWAYNE
HAMFEST**
& Computer Expo

November 17-18, 2012

Allen County War Memorial Coliseum & Exposition Center
At the corner of Indiana 930 (Coliseum Blvd.) and Parnell Avenue – (N 41 06.878 W 85 07.388)

Indiana A.R.R.L. Convention

Featuring updates by Central Division Director Dick Isely, W9GIG.

**Indiana's largest ham radio, computer,
and electronic fleamarket!**
All indoors and under one roof !

For the latest information, check out our World Wide Web page at:

www.fortwaynehamfest.com

For questions on tables, email tables@fortwaynehamfest.com, or call 260-579-2196 and leave a message
NO TABLE SALES AT THE DOOR

EmComm RoundUP: Depiction Software, State Wide Packet Network, FLDigi, APRS

Hours & Admissions

Saturday 9 AM – 4 PM
Sunday 9 AM – 3 PM

\$6 (good both days)

\$4 (Sunday only)

(The Expo charges \$4.00 for parking)

D.X.C.C. Information

Carl K9LA and Mike N9NS will check DXCC QSLs, including 160m and deleted entities.

Vicky AE9YL will check WAS, UUCS, and WAC awards.

From the A.R.R.L.

Dan Henderson, N1ND
Regulatory Information Manager
Dick Isely, W9GIG
Central Division Director
Kermit Carlson, W9XA
Central Division Vice Director
Lou Everett, WASLOU
Indiana Section Manager

Forums and Meetings

Saturday

9:00 AM VE testing (until noon)
10:00 ARRL Forum
11:15 IRCC forum
12:00 PM Young Ladies Radio League
12:00 PM D-STAR
1:00 AMSAT
1:30 NBEMS in EmComm
2:00 QRP
2:30 Indiana Repeater Council
3:00 NTS CW Traffic Nets

Sunday

10:00 AM The Changing Face of Contesting and DXing
11:00 ARRL's Legislative Action and Grassroots Program Update
12:00 Cycle 24 and HF Propagation

Check our web site for the latest info

Amateur Radio Exams on Saturday

Test times: 9 AM to 12 noon. No advanced registration. If upgrading you must bring a copy of your license. Everyone must have two ID's (one with photo). The exam fee is \$14.00. **Use the main Hamfest entrance and look for signs.**

Sponsored by the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society



Photo from last year's Hamfest. Don't miss it this year.



Fort Wayne DX Association

ANTENNA WORK UPDATE AND THE CQ WORLD WIDE DX PHONE CONTEST

Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

The August column titled 'Summer Maintenance' discussed the on-going antenna work at my QTH in order to get ready for the CQ World Wide DX Phone Contest at the end of October (which is history when you read this). Although there were a couple of hiccups, most of the work is done.

The 5-element 10-Meter monobander is now on the West tower at about 55 feet. It went up very easily and is playing very well. Some tree trimming was necessary to allow the 10-Meter Yagi to rotate without getting tangled in the limbs and leaves at the top of a nearby tree. The West tower also supports the 40-Meter inverted-vee at about 50 feet and the 4-element 10-Meter monobander at about 16 feet (half wavelength) fixed towards the southwest.

The new East tower now supports the T6 log periodic dipole array (14-30 MHz) at about 45 feet. The term 'new' is a misnomer - this tower is a hodgepodge of sections I had laying around. As mentioned in the August column, the T6 needed some work - each half of the longest element needed some shims inserted into the boom due to metal cracking from wind

vibration. Some tree trimming was also necessary since the longest T6 element was hanging up in the limbs of a tree near the East tower.

The East tower also supports the 80-Meter inverted-vee. Right now it is cut for the Phone portion of the band, but it eventually needs to cover the CW portion, too. I have two 80-Meter traps in the garage, and I'm thinking maybe I could make it into a duo-bander for Phone and CW using these traps.

I also resurrected the inverted-L for 160-Meters using the tall oak tree on the east side of the property (the original inverted-L was for 80-Meters and 160-Meters, but came down several years ago in high winds from a strong cold front). At the moment I only have one 120-foot elevated radial installed, and I plan to add at least one more elevated radial. I used this antenna in the 160-Meter Stew Perry warm-up contest the weekend of October 20-21, and it played well for a simple antenna.

So now the station again covers 160-Meters thru 10-Meters (ok - I don't have anything on 30-Meters), with emphasis on 10-Meters. Because I have three antennas on 10-Meters (the 5-element

monobander, the 4-element monobander, and the T6) and because Cycle 24 appears to be an underachiever (not too many years of 10-Meter propagation as in past solar cycles), I decided to do a single-band effort in CQ World Wide Phone instead of hosting a Multi-Two entry with locals as in past years.

My plan for 10-Meters is to point the T6 to the southeast for the Caribbean and South America. The 4-element monobander headed to the southwest will cover VK/ZL. And the 5-element monobander only needs to rotate between east (for Africa), northeast (for Europe), and northwest for Asia. Thus I can cover the major ham population areas with minimal rotator use.

As discussed in previous columns, I decided to set a challenging goal to make the CW world Wide Phone contest more enjoyable. But it's more than just a 'make XXX QSOs' goal. I reviewed the 10-Meter records for the Ninth call area for CQ World Wide Phone and they are shown in the accompanying table. The Assisted categories are intriguing as they allow the use of PacketCluster to chase zone and country multipliers. And I think I can do fairly well using low power. Thus my goal was to break the W9 Assisted Low Power Phone record.

And that's what I attempted. I left the amplifier off, cranked the OMNI-VI RF power all the way up to 85 Watts (Low Power limit is 100 Watts), and had a ball on 10-Meters. I made 623 QSOs in 33 Zones with 127 Countries for a claimed score of 286,720. That certainly should break the existing record, but I don't know if other W9s were chasing this one, too. I'll just have to wait and see what happens.

NINTH CALL AREA 10-METER RECORDS IN CQ WW PH

CATEGORY	CALL	SCORE	QSOs	ZONES	COUNTRIES	YEAR
UNASSISTED HIGH POWER	K9NW	1,149,889	2088	39	158	2001
UNASSISTED LOW POWER	KE9R	261,807	725	32	115	2000
UNASSISTED QRP	NO9Z	54,872	254	18	58	2001
ASSISTED HIGH POWER	W9XT	721,130	1382	34	151	1990
ASSISTED LOW POWER	K9QC	43,673	140	29	90	2011

If you have something you would like to have listed in the classified section then please send an email to the newsletter editor at ab9zd@arrl.net.

2012 FORT WAYNE HAMFEST

The 2012 Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo and the 2012 Indiana State A.R.R.L. Convention will be held on November 17th and 18th at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum and Exposition Center, located at 4000 Parnell Avenue in Fort Wayne (at the corner of Parnell and Coliseum Blvd).

The 2012 Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo, and Indiana ARL State Convention will be open to the public from 9 AM to 4 PM on Saturday November 17th, and from 9 AM to 3 PM on Sunday, November 18th. Admission is only \$6.00 per person (good for both days), or \$4.00 for just Sunday, and there is plenty of parking in a large, paved parking lot, but please note that the Coliseum charges a \$4.00 parking fee. Children 11 and under are free with an adult.

We will once again be offering VE testing. See the Forums/VE test page for details.

We have several forums each day, on many subjects relating to amateur radio and electronics.

We will also be welcoming several representatives from the American Radio Relay League.



2012 FORUMS, MEETINGS, AND VE TESTING INFORMATION

Saturday, Red Room

- 9:00-11:45 VE TESTING by W5YI Cost is \$14.00, Required: Photo ID & one other form of identification Copy of current license if upgrading
- 12:00-12:45 Young Ladies Radio League by Carole Burke WB9RUS
- 1:00-1:45 AMSAT by Gerd Schrick WB8IFM and Steve Coy K8UD
- 2:00-2:45 QRP by Bill Kelsey N8ET
- 3:00-4:30 NTS CW Traffic Nets by Lou Everett WA5LOU, Ivin Flint W9ILF, Brian Jenks W9BGJ, and Mike Poyser N9EXM

Saturday, White Room

- 10:00-11:00 ARRL Forum by Dick Isely W9GIG Director, Central Division; Lou Everett WA5LOU Indiana Section Manager; and Dan Henderson N1ND ARRL Information Regulatory Manager
- 11:15-11:45 IRCC Forum & Outstanding Amateur of the Year Awards Ceremony by Jack Parker W8ISH
- 12:00-1:15 D-STAR by Mark Thompson WB9QZB
- 1:30-2:15 The Application of NBEMS In Emergency Communications by Jim Moehring KB9WWM, Allen County Emergency Coordinator
- 2:30-4:00 Indiana Repeater Council by Dan Dahms N9WNH

Sunday, Red Room - Nothing Scheduled

Sunday, White Room

- 10:00 - 10:45 The Changing Face Of Contesting and Dxing by Dan Henderson N1ND ARRL Information Regulatory Manager
- 11:00-11:45 ARRL's Legislative Action and Grassroots Program Update by Dan Henderson N1ND ARRL Information Regulatory Manager
- 12:00-12:45 Cycle 24 and HF Propagation by Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

THE FOXHUNT CHRONICLES FOR OCTOBER 2012

The ninth foxhunt of the 2012 season occurred on Sunday, the 7th of October

The hunt took place on a brisk Sunday afternoon, partly sunny, with a cool breeze from the north hinting at the season to come. Seeing as how the leaves have been starting to change color this hunt promised to at least allow the participants to enjoy the fall foliage while attempting to find the pesky transmitter, and Mark (WA7NXI) and Steve (KC9AUQ) did not disappoint.

There were 3 teams searching for the fox this hunt, comprising of Kim and Jim Machamer (KB9DOS & KB9DOT), Steve and Linda Nardin, (W9SAN & W9LAN) with grandson Alex, and Charles Ward and Fred Gengnagel (KC9MUT & KC9EZP).

Right on the dot of 1:30, lo and behold.....a signal!!! As all hunters heard the fox transmission from the start, the hunt was on! The initial bearing was to the west north-west, so off we went. As the



author myself and Fred were slightly concerned when the other 2 teams turned to the south at the start, when

we clearly indicated the signal was north. However we held to our bearing, and as it turns out, it was good that we did.

The Fox was placed at the public access site on Lake Everett, in a hollowed out piling that was placed on re-bar pounded into the ground, in line with the rest of the pilings that were in place to mark the parking area.

Fred and I were the first to find the transmitter, and had a bit of trouble placing the fox back where we found it without alerting the other hunters in the area, but managed to do so. Kim and Jim were the next to find, with Steve in close attendance, making it near simultaneous time for them to find.

Seeing how most had autumn chores and stuff to do, there was no feasting afterward.

Consequently for the November hunt the duties of the fox will be provided by Charles Ward and Fred Gengnagel.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Ward, KC9MUT

FOX HUNT YEAR TO DATE POINTS

	WA7NXI	KB9VTK	KC9MUT	KC9EZP	KB9DOS	KB9DOT	W9SAN	W9LAN	WB9BGJ	KB9ZQG	KC9UHU
This Hunt	681	0	781	781	752.5	752.5	702.5	702.5	0	0	0
Total	5033	4395	5769	5026	5150	5150	3675.5	3025	1062.5	1062.5	3416
	K9OMA	KA9YYI	WB9SSE	KC9AUQ	WB9RUS	ALEX	NATHAN	KE4YPO			
This Hunt	0	0	0	681	0	-	681	0			
Total	4409.5	3599.5	4409.5	3253	1109.5	891.5	3460	510.5			

**The Last Foxhunt for 2012 will be
 Sunday, November 4th at 1:30 PM. It will
 start at Trackside, the Off Track Betting
 Complex, 1820 W Washington Center Rd.**

ARE HAM RADIO SKYWARN SPOTTERS BECOMING IRRELEVANT?

By Jay Farlow, W9LW, Quadrant 2 Director, IMO SKYWARN

Are ham radio SKYWARN spotters becoming irrelevant, the way that ubiquitous cell phones reduced the importance of repeater autopatches? Comments at a recent meeting hosted by the Northern Indiana National Weather Service could lead one to believe that answer is, "Perhaps."

The Northern Indiana NWS weather forecast office conducted a workshop October 17 for its Integrated Warning Team (IWT). By NWS definition, an IWT includes the local NWS office, news media and emergency management community. The purpose of the workshop was to find ways to increase data sharing between the three components of the IWT. Representatives of each of the three IWT segments gave presentations on their needs. The comments of the NWS representatives were particularly interesting.

"The only way we really know what's going on is when we get that ground truth report," said an NWS presenter. Unfortunately, the NWS is not receiving enough timely reports from its trained spotters. An NWS representative expressed frustration at seeing significant radar data in an area where he knew trained spotters lived but getting no reports.

When reports don't arrive via traditional means (like ham radio, or messages from emergency officials), the NWS has no choice but to search elsewhere for information. It has started searching on social media networks like Facebook and especially Twitter. It turns out that users of social media often write about the weather they see, because they believe their friends and followers are interested. Members of the IWT acknowledged that most such reports come from people without any weather training. But many social media users send their updates

from camera-equipped smart phones and include photos with their reports.

"One picture of a funnel cloud is better than 10 reports from trained spotters," an NWS representative said.

Does that mean ham radio operators should abandon SKYWARN nets? Perhaps not. But it might be wise to take steps to improve the value of our service. Here are some ideas to consider:



- **Education.** By learning all we can about meteorology, we can assure that all our reports are valid and valuable.

- **Technology.** By becoming familiar with and using other technologies to supplement ham radio (e.g. tweeting photos from smart phones), we can provide a more complete service while demonstrat-

ing our ability to stay on the "cutting edge."

- **Procedures.** By insisting on sounding as professional as possible when we communicate, we can build credibility among any IWT members who monitor or receive our reports.

In upcoming articles, I'll share more ideas along these lines, especially ways to gain more education and use technology.

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

HURRICANE SANDY: ARRL GUIDELINES FOR PROVIDING ASSISTANCE

The ARRL is recommending two websites to those radio amateurs who want to volunteer for response-and-relief efforts for Hurricane Sandy:

If you would like to volunteer, please go to www.nvoad.org/sandy

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please go to www.redcross.org/charitable-donations

"Amateur Radio operators who want to assist should not self-deploy to the affected area," explained ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, K11U. "There are many ARRL Sections involved in the impact area, and each has different requirements on how they locate, credential and deploy volunteers. If a need for manpower is identified that cannot be met locally or in the Section, Section leadership may contact other Sections for assistance. If the need is still not met, Section leadership may then contact ARRL HQ for assistance."

Both the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) VoIP Hurricane Net have activated in support of WX4NHC, the Amateur Radio station at the National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami. The HWN has activated and is monitoring their net frequencies on 14.325 and 7.268 MHz, and using 3.950 MHz as propagation dictates; they plan to operate continuously until the storm has weakened. "Throughout this event, we remind everyone that we are also available to provide backup communications facilities to official agencies such as Emergency Operations Centers and Red Cross officials in the affected area," HWN Spokesman Stan Broadway, N8BHL, explained. "We will also be interested to

Continued on page 10

Say Again?

"The world potential market for copying machines is 5000 at most."

IBM executive, to the eventual founders of Xerox, saying the photocopier did not have a market large enough to justify production, 1959

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	
	ARRL EME Contest	X	X	X	Call signs, sig rpt, acknowledgement	Jan 1
50-1296	Nov 3, 0000Z - Nov 4, 2359Z				www.arrl.org/contests	
3.5-21	Radio Club of America QSO Party	X			RST, QTH, name, equipment	
	Nov 3, 1700Z - Nov 4, 0500Z				www.radioclubofamerica.org	
1.8-28	ARRL November Sweepstakes		X		Serial, category, call, check, ARRL sec	Nov 20
	Nov 3, 2100Z - Nov 5, 0300Z				www.arrl.org/contests	
3.5-28	Worked All Europe DX Contest			X	RST and serial (see web for QTC rules)	2 weeks
	Nov 10, 0000Z - Nov 11, 2400Z				www.waedc.de	
1.8-28	Kentucky QSO Party	X	X	X	RST and KY county or S/P/C	Dec 31
50	Nov 10, 1400Z - Nov 11, 0200Z				www.wkdx.com	
1.8-28	ARRL November Sweepstakes	X			Serial, category, call, check, ARRL sec	Dec 4
	Nov 17, 2100Z - Nov 19, 0300Z				www.arrl.org/contests	
3.5-7	Homebrew and Oldtime Contest		X		RST, serial, and category	Dec 18
	Nov 18, 1300Z - Nov 18, 1700Z				www.qrpsc.de/contestrules/hotr.html	
1.8-28	CQ World Wide CW Contest		X		RST and CQ zone	5 days
	Nov 24, 0000Z - Nov 26, 2400Z				cq-amateur-radio.com	

Hurricane Sandy

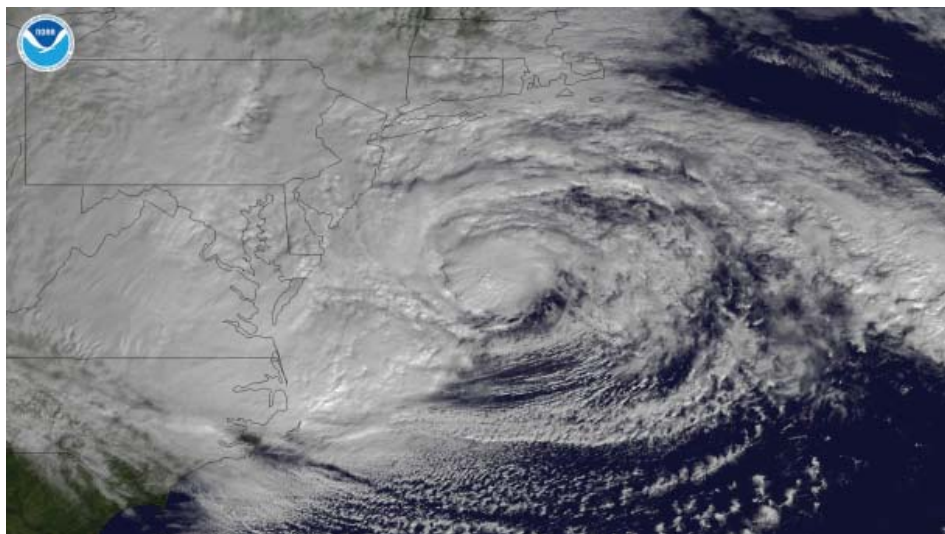
Continued from Page 9

collect and report significant damage assessment data back to FEMA officials stationed in the National Hurricane Center."

The VoIP Hurricane Net activated at 5 AM EDT Monday, October 29 and will be on for the duration of the storm event. "We will connect up the *NEW-ENG* EchoLink conference node: 9123/IRLP 9123 to the *WX_TALK* EchoLink conference node: 7203/IRLP 9129 system to form one large network," said VoIP Hurricane Net Director of Operations Rob Macedo, KD1CY. "This is what was done during Hurricane Irene and we feel this was quite successful. The Amateur Radio station at the National Weather Service office in Taunton Massachusetts, WX1BOX, will act as the primary net control. We would like to get as many

backup net controls to help handle reports going to WX4NHC and to take the net over if we lose connection into the system."

"Please remember -- everyone's first priority is safety," Corey said. "If you are in Sandy's path, make sure you and your loved ones are safe."



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	<input type="checkbox"/> \$12.00 / year
Additional family members ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
Student membership ²	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
Associate membership ³	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
(New Regular memberships are \$1/month)	

Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues	
Regular membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 / year
Family membership ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00 / year
Student membership ²	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5.00 / year
Associate membership ³	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 / year
Mailed newsletter premium	<input type="checkbox"/> \$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	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 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.

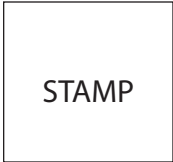
Northeast Indiana Packet Net: Sunday at 9:00 p.m. on 145.530 @ 1200 baud. We use unconnected converse mode to communicate for a roundtable net setting. Use your "UNPROTO" command or equivalent to set Digi path(s) through the strongest station(s) needed between you and your destination. Only use those 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
11/03/2012	9:00 AM	Amateur License Examinations	Boy Scout Council Headquarters
11/04/2012	1:30 PM	Foxhunt	Fort Wayne Off Track Betting Complex
11/09/2012	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	GSUMC
11/13/2012	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
11/17/2012	9:00 AM	2012 Fort Wayne Hamfest	Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
11/18/2012	9:00 AM	2012 Fort Wayne Hamfest	Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
11/20/2012	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
12/04/2012	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
12/08/2012	9:00 AM	Amateur License Examinations	DeKalb County Court House Annex
12/11/2012	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
12/14/2012	6:30 PM	FWRC Christmas Banquet	GSUMC
12/18/2012	6:30 PM	ACARTS Christmas Banquet	Don Halls Guest House on Washington Center Road