



The Auction Was a Great Success and Foxhunting Season Is Here

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SKYWARN Training in Columbia City Will Be Our February Meeting

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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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FWRC 146.910 MHz ECHOLINK REPEATER ANTENNA REPLACED

by Al Burke, WB9SSE

The 20-foot long Cellwave PD-220 antenna atop the tower on Kettler Hall at IPFW was replaced on Wednesday, 22 January. The antenna does its thing launching and absorbing photons for the Fort Wayne Radio Club's 146.910/310 MHz EchoLink repeater. The existing antenna had been defective for over a year thus limiting the performance of the EchoLink machine.

It was COLD up there on the roof of Kettler Hall when Mike Powell and his crew of two from Tower Erection and Maintenance, Inc. started work around 10 a.m. They finished at 2:30 p.m. The task had been scheduled on numerous dates starting from right after Christmas until it was finally accomplished on the 22nd. It had to be rescheduled numerous times because of the less than moderate weather we have been experiencing here in Ft. Wayne for the last month or so. The temperature Wednesday morning was around 10 degrees F, but the wind was fairly low and there was no precipitation (at least not until 2 p.m. when we started getting some flurries).

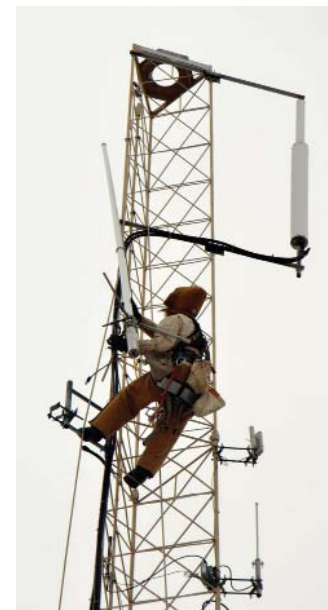
Despite the best laid plans of mice and men (specifically Jim Pliett, K9OMA,

and myself), ole Murphy struck. We had planned that the tower climbing task would consist of climbing the tower, removing the existing antenna from the tower leg, lowering it to the ground, removing the PL-259 to type N jumper cable from the base of old antenna, reinstalling it on the replacement antenna, hauling the replacement antenna back up the tower, reinstalling it on the tower leg, reconnecting the jumper to the transmission line at the top of the tower, and then climbing back down the tower. The intent being to minimize the time expended by Tower Erection Maintenance, Inc. since they charge at an hourly rate. Easy-peasy, eh?

Well it turned out that the jumper cable was damaged on the PL-259 end, and that meant that we (Jim) would have to replace the connector. And that meant that the tower climber had to climb back down the tower to keep from freezing in place while the cable was repaired.

If you have ever installed a PL-259 connector on double-shielded RG-8-style coax, you know it can be a difficult job, especially in the field. But Jim got it done.

Once the jumper was repaired the climber shimmied back up the tower and



Mike Powell of Tower Erection and Maintenance, Inc. replaces the antenna for the FWRC 146.91 MHz EchoLink repeater on the campus of IPFW. (WB9SSE photo)

the new antenna with the repaired jumper was hauled back up to the top of the tower and was installed.

When we measured the forward and reflected power at the output of the du-
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Internet Home Pages

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

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

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

The deadline for the each issue is the last day of the preceding month.

Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It has certainly been a good month for staying inside nice and warm and getting on the air! With temperatures getting close to the famous Blizzard of '78, I hope that no one had to go outside and do any antenna work! Let's face it, Amateur Radio is a great hobby to stay in touch with friends when the conditions outside are just terrible. Get on the air and join us!



Another winter special for the FWRC is the January Auction. If you missed it this year, you missed out on a good time! I actually made more than I spent, so for many of us it was even better. Special thanks go out to Bob and Donna Streeter, who work so hard to keep all the money handling from turning to chaos. Also, thanks to auctioneer Chad Beech, W9GGA, whose skill full voice makes it even more fun!

This year will bring some changes to the FWRC Fox Hunt regime. Since the Off Track Betting site will be closing shortly, we have decided to mix up the start locations for the various hunts this year. The four new start points that will be chosen in rotation and announced well before the hunts are the following:

- 1.) Buckner Park, off of Bass Road
- 2.) Kreager Park, off of North River Road
- 3.) Public Safety Academy, at Patriot Crossing (Southtown Mall area)
- 4.) Parking lot of the old Marsh supermarket at Maplecrest and Rothman Road

These locations will be announced along with the Fox frequency prior to the hunt itself, so pay attention to the club website and calendar, as well as announcements on the '94 machine and net announcements on the IMO net. Also, we

are looking into having some "Training" fox hunts for newbies, and maybe some "Vehicle Only" fox hunts for those that have difficulty getting around and digging for the micro fox! It looks like 2014 will be another fun year for the local hunts, which are open to all amateurs, not just FWRC members.

We want all to know that the 146.91 EchoLink repeater on the tower at Kettler Hall of IPFW is now back to full height antenna strength with the rather bone chilling repair job by tower climbers on January 22nd. The crippled antenna on the top of tower was taken down, repairs made to cables, and a fresh antenna was placed back on the top of the tower. Give it a try! Also, the EchoLink computer was loaded with the lat and long of the repeater, so that info should be available for EchoLink readout by DX stations. Thanks again to Larry, Al, and Jim for making this all happen (thanks too to Paul for his help on the computer).

Our February meeting is on Friday the 21st. our presentation for the evening will be done by the Fort Wayne Astronomical Society, and it will focus on the Solar System and also on their latest project to build their own observatory! This should be a good one, so please plan on joining us for this great evening. Until then, keep on the air, we need to be all Radio-Active!

73, Steve Nardin, W9SAN, FWRC President



February 21: The Feb program will be provided by the Fort Wayne Astronomical Society about our solar system.

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

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FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB JANUARY AUCTION

This year the annual Fort Wayne Radio Club auction was held on Friday, January 17, 2013. There were 31 attendees who signed for an identifying number for the auction. The seven folks who came to watch and not participate in the auction activity did not need to take an identifying number.

The best news is that the club gained 8 new/renewing members during the auction. This resulted in an income of \$130 for the club and \$12 for ACARTS. One of those members used a one year free membership for taking a class sponsored

by FWRC and passing the ham license test.

A father-son pair came to observe the auction, and left their contact information. They were seeking possible equipment (and ham radio information) for the son.

The auction benefit to the Fort Wayne Radio Club was a miserly \$56.25 compared to past years. One of the participants (Dave Van Doorn, W9WEL) owes the club \$20, and when that income is received the auction will have provided

\$76.25. The sum includes donations of \$6.00 total from participants Tammy Preble, Scott Badders, and Jack Shutt.

However....

An error was discovered during the checkout process after the auction was over. A seller for the item recorded on "sticky note # B97" was identified as participant #19. Participant #19 refused to take the sale money (\$4.00 less \$0.40 to the club = \$3.60), saying he did not bring anything to the auction to sell. That leaves
Continued on Page 7



FWRC auction photos by Tom Rupp - KU8T.

Big thanks to Steve, Jim, Al, Carol, Chad, Jay, Bob, Donna, for helping with the auction on Friday, January 17, 2014.

State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

ACARTS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am sure that all of you are as tired as I am of all the snow and cold temperatures of January. Hopefully, the February weather will be at least normal and it will warm up in March with the approach of spring. Fortunately, I don't have to leave the House until the board meeting on the 11th, unless the weather is good and I want to go somewhere.

Remember that there is no actual ACARTS meeting in February. The SKYWARN training in Columbia City on February 18th is on the same night that our regular meeting would be. The February



ACARTS meeting has normally been SKYWARN anyway, except this year we have to travel to Columbia City to attend. The details of the SKYWARN training can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

The January meeting was interesting, with everyone present telling a little about themselves and their ham radio experiences. I feel that we all got to know each other a little better. Thank you to all that participated.

73,

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

ACARTS JANUARY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Dave, W9LKH.

Dave announced that the February meeting would be the SKYWARN training at Columbia City High School.

The 2014 ACARTS budget was presented to the general membership. A motion to approve the budget was made by Larry, KF9YP, seconded by Bob, N9PWM, and approved by a voice vote.

Each member present gave a brief history of how they got into ham radio and what kind of operating they do or have done.

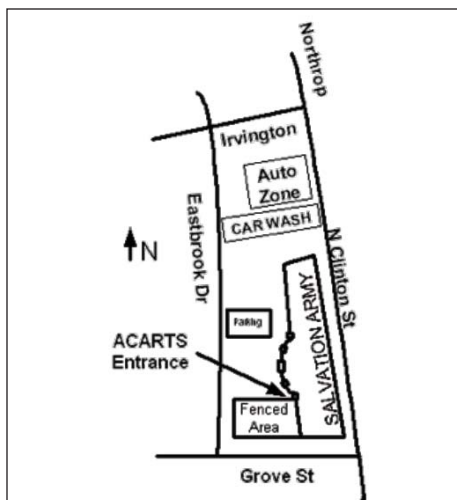
The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

Please note that the February meeting is the annual SKYWARN training and will be held at:
Columbia City High School
600 N. Whitley St.
Columbia City, IN
and not at our usual location.

February 18: Skywarn training at Columbia City High School.

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



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ACARTS JANUARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Dave, W9LKH.

Dave stated that the January meeting would be an open discussion with each member present giving a short history of how they got into ham radio and some of the things that they have done. He added that the February meeting would be the SKYWARN training at Columbia City High School. He then asked if anyone had any ideas for future meetings. Larry, KF9YP, said that he would like a program on digital modes.

Dave said that he had heard from the Indiana Repeater Council that the 146.88 MHz and 443.800 MHz repeater coordination had been updated with no problems and that the 147.255 MHz coordination had been sent to the surrounding states for their approval at the new location.

Dave also stated that he had updated the club status with the ARRL in order to maintain the ARRL Club Affiliation.

Howard, N9ADS, presented the proposed ACARTS budget for 2014. There were only slight changes from last year, based on actual spending. A motion to approve the budget was made by 7 Jim, KB9IH, seconded by Larry, KF9YP, and approved by a voice vote.

No other business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

2013 FORT WAYNE HAMFEST - A VISITOR'S PERSPECTIVE

By Mark Skowronski, K9MQ - from "Short Skip" the Lake County Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

There was plenty happening at last year's Fort Wayne Hamfest which is also an ARRL Indiana Section Convention. It was great running into many other ham's from Lake County also on the hunt for deals. A couple of those hams even made an entire weekend out of it.

As in past years, the only radio manufacturer that had a presence in Fort Wayne was Flexradio Systems out of Austin, Texas. They had their entire lineup of Software Defined Radio's on display, including the Flex 6000 series. MFJ Enterprises made it up from Mississippi and had their full lineup of radio's, amps, and accessories available for sale. There were also numerous other commercial vendors including R&L Electronics selling their popular "private label" line of equipment under the name of Jetstream. DXCC and

WAS card checking was available.

Because this was a state level convention, the ARRL had someone on site from Newington to help check cards. They were also able to check cards that aren't normally able to be field checked and they took the applications back with them to headquarters. This was also a great place to meet a lot of the ARRL section level staff including your section manager.

On Saturday, numerous forums were held in the adjacent meeting rooms. They held twelve forums with the most popular ones being the ARRL and Indiana Repeater Council forums. Marv, WV9O and myself chose to attend the Wouff Hong ceremony forum this year given by Dennis Gilby, K9JZA. Dennis has come to LCARC meetings a few times over the years talking about trying to bring a Wouff Hong ceremony back to Indiana. This was one of the first Wouff Hong ceremonies.

FORT WAYNE HAMFEST & COMPUTER EXPO NOVEMBER 15 - 16, 2014

Sponsored by the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

The 2014 Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo and the will be held on November 15th and 16th 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 2014 Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo will be open to the public from 9 AM to 4 PM on Saturday November 15th, and from 9 AM to noon on Sunday, November 16th. 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 \$5.00 parking fee. Children 11 and under are free with an adult.

2014 Foxhunt Schedule

The following is the planned Foxhunt schedule for 2014. All foxhunts start at 1:30 PM on Sunday. Location to be announced:

February 2
March 2
April 6
May 4
June 1

July 6
August 3
September 7
October 5
November 2



FWDXA

Fort Wayne DX Association

ALL I GOT FROM SANTA WAS A LUMP OF COAL

Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

The title of this paper says it all. I was a bad operator last year. Santa knew it, and rewarded me accordingly. And I know the specifics of why I was on the “naughty” list.



For example, in the ARRL DX Phone Contest in March I was searching and pouncing during the first night on 40-Meters. I was so involved in this that I didn't realize I worked a DX station on 7120 KHz. A quick “you're out of the US phone band” from an anonymous op woke me up. Oops. Naughty #1.

Another example occurred later in the spring. I jumped into a big DX pile-up. The DX station was working split, but I forgot to turn on the 'split' button on my OMNI-

VI. So I called him on his transmit frequency – not on his listening frequency. The frequency cops quickly reminded me of this goof with some less-than-pleasant shouts of “up, up, up”. Naughty #2.

Ending my “naughty” list this year was a dupe in the CQ WW DX Phone Contest. When I called the station in question, he said I worked him before. He didn't show up as a dupe in my log, though. He had a heavy accent, and the problem soon came to light. I had erroneously logged him earlier with an incorrect number in his call. Accuracy counts. Naughty #3.

These three events were certainly enough to get the lump of coal. I'm sure another one several years ago sealed the deal (apparently Santa has a good memory – or keeps a good list). One evening in early fall several years ago I worked a DX station split on 20-Meter CW. The next morning I ran across a pile-up on 20-Meter phone in which the DX was working

split. I called and called but couldn't work him. A quick check of the radio showed the problem. Although I remembered to turn on the split button this time, in my hurry to work him I forgot to set VFO B to his listening frequency. So I was calling him on phone down in the CW portion of the band from the QSO the night before. I bet the DX station wasn't listening way down there. Naughty #4.

Apparently Santa was listening to all of these screw-ups. Or more likely he has his elves monitoring the bands. Regardless, I will buckle down this year to prevent this from happening again – in other words, I'll be a better operator. After all, I'd sure like something more Amateur Radio oriented from Santa next December.

2014-2018 TECHNICIAN QUESTION POOL

The NCVEC Question Pool Committee has released into public domain the 2014-2018 Technician Class, Element 2, Question pool. This pool becomes effective for all Element 2 license examinations administered on July 1, 2014 and will be valid until June 30, 2018.

Please note: The question pool files that were posted on December 10, 2013 have been replaced with updated versions. If you visited the NCVEC site on December 10, 2013 and downloaded files, the current files include edits and corrections for six of the questions.

Rol Anders-K3RA, Laurel VEC
Chairman, NCVEC QPC

<http://ncvec.org/page.php?id=362>



Say Again?

“Don't drink and drive. Don't even putt.”

Dean Martin
Entertainer

TO TONE OR NOT TO TONE; THAT IS THE QUESTION

Although not too many hams seem to have been aware of it, for several years now Repeater Councils of many Midwestern states (including the Indiana Repeater Council) have been on a course to require that ALL coordinated repeater systems on all VHF/UHF bands require a CTCSS tone be present on the input to the repeater in order for the repeater to unsquelch and retransmit the received audio.

CTCSS, stands for Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System, often called "Tone" or "PL" (i.e. "Private Line", a Motorola Trade Mark); is a sub-audible frequency between 67.0 HZ and 254.1 HZ that is added to the audio of the signal that is transmitted to the input of a repeater. In other words, the hand held, base station or mobile rig that is intended to operate through the repeater must have a CTCSS tone encoder installed in it. (Virtually all post-1980 built amateur FM Xcvr's have the capability built-in.) Detection of the sub-audible tone then satisfies the condition necessary to unsquelch the repeater receiver and cause the detected audio to be retransmitted.

Often, the repeater also will transmit the same tone on its output so that individual receivers, so equipped for CTCSS, will only unsquelch for the local repeater and not be bothered by occasional DX repeaters, spurious signals, noise and so forth.

This move is significant to anyone that operates a repeater system, since coordination is essentially mandatory. Although the FCC does not explicitly require that a repeater be coordinated, it does however always stand behind the coordinated machine if any kind of complaint is received.

By virtue of this, if you do not have the blessing of the recognized coordinating body in your state, it is only a matter of time before you're off the air! This implies that anyone with a current coordinated repeater pair could lose that status and another party could potentially "hijack" the frequency! We would hope that this could never happen, but it pays to be prepared.

It should be noted that the councils are actively trying to find so-called "Paper Repeaters" and take away their coordination. A paper repeater is a where you have an assigned frequency to an individual or club, but the machine never was put on the air, thus potentially denying a bona fide repeater from getting a frequency.

All new systems are now required to have CTCSS, or they won't be granted coordination. Existing systems have, we believe, a two year grace period to establish CTCSS operation. This is true of all our surrounding states repeater councils as well, so Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, and Kentucky machines will be required to go CTCSS as well. If you look into the repeater directory you will see that about 70% of the nation's repeaters have this too. It will apply to 50, 144, 222, 440, 902 and 1296 MHZ repeaters.

Interestingly, one of the main arguments that the councils make for requiring CTCSS is for emergency operation! Their opinion is that no one scans repeaters anymore since noise so frequently opens up the machines, and "captures" the scanner thus effectively reducing the amount of area repeater monitoring that goes on. They believe that requiring tone will, by virtue of scanning, increase the

amount of monitoring that occurs thereby improving the chances that someone hear and respond to an emergency call.

Think of it this way, someone from out of the area who wants to make a call must look up the local repeaters, since they have no way of knowing what the frequencies or tone situation is. If we travel to somewhere we are unfamiliar with, we have to do the same. Locals already know the situation, so no problem.

To clear up one semantic point, an "open" repeater is one that is open to use by any amateur. It has nothing to do with whether or not that repeater requires tone or not. "Closed" machines are those that can only be accessed by hams belonging to a certain club or entity. Either system can be CTCSS or not.

Since the FM repeater is now the most prevalent entry route into Amateur Radio, it is important that all clubs maintain good, coordinated systems that all local hams can use.

We have up to two years to implement this switch to CTCSS operation, so it is my belief that the FWRC BOD should undertake a study as to the most effective means of accomplishing this, and also study the operational issues of doing it, including the handful of operators with pre-1980 radios and if anything can or should be done to help. I am sure that this move will be controversial, but we want to maintain our repeaters at the highest level, as well as being good neighbors in the VHF/UHF environment. We will be publishing more as this move unfolds.

Steve Nardin, W9SAN, FWRC President

FWRC Auction - from page 3

the club with \$3.60 it should not have. Combing through the auction records revealed that Jack Shutt is the most likely seller who should receive the money. "Sticky notes" numbered before and after #B97 were for Jack's equipment. Jack offered to donate the money due back to the club. That brings the donation total to \$9.60.

So the real auction proceeds will be \$76.25 after everything gets settled.

There were 22 active participants this year, with 5 who both sold and purchased items. There were 15 participants who only purchased items, and 3 participants who only sold items. In total, there were 8 sellers at the auction including the club itself.

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 Jim Pliett for their auctioning abilities.

**DON'T FORGET TO
PAY YOUR 2014
MEMBERSHIP DUES.**

Repeater Antenna - from Page 1

plexer and into the transmission line, we were quite pleased to see 60 watts forward and only 1 watt reflected. While we were at it, Jim checked the receiver sensitivity (measured at about 0.25 microvolts), and the amount of desensitization (which appeared to be zero).

So the EchoLink machine should be talking and hearing well now. Go have fun with it.

A postmortem of the antenna is planned. The SO-239 style bulkhead connector in the base of the antenna would turn when we were attempting to remove the jumper cable from the existing antenna. The mating PL-259 connector back shell on the jumper cable would turn too. We think that something is amiss inside the antenna housing in addition to the turning SO-239. Don't know if the jumper cable S-239 connector was damaged when the antenna was originally installed, or it occurred last Wednesday. I would imagine Jim will do a postmortem on the old antenna once we get it back in the lab. For the present, it resides in the penthouse at Kettler Hall.

Also, with the help of Paul Prestia I was able to enter the repeater Latitude and Longitude data, and the HAAT into the EchoLink Sys-Op screen. So the location of the repeater will now show up on the EchoLink web page.



Photos of the repeater antenna replacement were provided by Al Burke - WB9SSE and Jim Pliett - K9OMA.

More photos are available on the FWRC web page.



ANNUAL STORM SPOTTER TRAINING BEGINS THIS MONTH

By Jay Farlow, W9LW
Quadrant 2 Leader, IMO SKYWARN



Would you report this as a funnel cloud? SKYWARN spotter training helps you distinguish reportable features from those that are benign. (W9LW photo)

You can acquire and/or update the skills you need to be an effective and safe storm spotter for the National Weather Service (NWS) SKYWARN program at one of the events listed below. Note that the NWS will not present the training in Fort Wayne in 2014. The events listed below are the ones that are closest to Fort Wayne. The only other 2014 SKYWARN training sessions presented by the northern Indiana NWS office will happen in LaGrange, Logansport and South Bend, Indiana, and Archbold and Lima, Ohio (details at tinyurl.com/b75ybg8). The NWS recommends that all spotters and future spotters complete the free online spotter training (tinyurl.com/nxdojts) prior to attending these training sessions.

Columbia City

Feb. 18, 2014, 7 p.m.

Columbia City High School
600 N. Whitley St.
Columbia City, IN

Register in advance at tinyurl.com/kjpvmda

Bluffton

March 17, 2014, 6 p.m.

Wells County Community Center
1240 S. 4-H Road
Bluffton, IN

Register in advance at tinyurl.com/nyfmfu2



How often do you need to take the training?

An experienced spotter asked me a great question, specifically referring to the free, online training that the National Weather Service (NWS) recommends people complete before they attend live training sessions. He asked, "If we took the course last year to get certified, do we need to take it again prior to this year's training?"

ACES

- Awareness
- Communication
- Escape Routes
- Safe Zones

© The COMET Program

This slide from online spotter training reminds spotters of important safety concepts.

As I replied to him, the answer depends largely on your definition of "need." But first, let's clear up a possible misconception.

The northern Indiana NWS office (IWX) trains SKYWARN severe weather spotters, but it does not certify them. As the office explains on one of its Web pages (tinyurl.com/k5omstc):

"Some NWS offices issue ID's and/or certificates. However, maintaining such a large database in addition to tracking all the ID's, can be a difficult task. As a result, this office

does not issue ID's or certificates. The host of each training session, typically the county or city Emergency Manager, can issue and track these, at their discretion."

So, if you think you need recurrent training to maintain an NWS certification, you're incorrect, only because there's no such thing as NWS spotter certification in the IWX county warning area. And Allen County's emergency manager does not issue ID's or certificates, either. But please read on.

The northern Indiana NWS office does maintain a list of trained (not certified) spotters and, "in an effort to maintain an accurate database, spotters who have not received training within 3 years of their last session will be removed." So, if you took training (online and/or live) last year, you don't need to take any training this year to stay on the NWS list of trained spotters. But please read on.

As I wrote above, whether you need training (online or live) this year depends on your own definition of "need." Unless you are confident that you remember everything you learned last year and that there will be no new information in this year's training that will be valuable to you, you might need to take both the online and live training again to remain a safe and effective severe weather spotter.

Personally, I plan to go through the online modules again before I attend a live training session this year. And I plan to attend one or more live training sessions as well, plus one or more of the advanced events listed below:

- Central Indiana Severe Weather Symposium, Indianapolis (tinyurl.com/yjhy8tr)
- DuPage County Advanced Severe Weather Seminar, Wheaton, Ill. (tinyurl.com/kyn9kdm)
- Ohio State University Meteorology Club Severe Weather Symposium, Columbus, Ohio (tinyurl.com/mwok5zj)

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/>

NORTH AMERICAN SPRINT			ASIA-PACIFIC SPRINT			SCHOOL CLUB ROUNDUP		
FEB 2, 0000Z		FEB 2, 0359Z	FEB 8, 1100Z		FEB 8, 1300Z	FEB 10, 1300Z		FEB 14, 2359Z
3.5-14		CW	7,14		CW	1.8-28	50+	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL
BOTH CALL SIGNS, SERIAL, NAME, AND S/P/C			RST AND SERIAL			RS(T), CLASS, S/P/C		
www.ncjweb.com			www.jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt			www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup		
WORLDWIDE EME CONTEST			NEW HAMPSHIRE QSO PARTY			PODXS 070 CLUB VALENTINE SPRINT		
FEB 8, 0000Z		FEB 9, 2400Z	FEB 8, 1600Z		FEB 9, 0400Z	FEB 14, 8 PM		FEB 2, 0359Z
144	432	PHONE, CW	1.8-28		PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	1.8-7		DIGITAL
TMO/RS(T) AND "R"			RS(T) AND NH COUNTY OR S/P OR "DX"			NAME, OM OR YL, S/P/C		
www.dubus.org			www.w1wqm.org/			www.podxs070.com/		
NORTH CAROLINA QSO PARTY			ARRL INTERNATIONAL CW DX CONTEST			NORTH AMERICAN QSO PARTY RTTY		
FEB 23, 1500Z		FEB 24, 0059Z	FEB 15, 0000Z		FEB 16, 2359Z	FEB 22, 1800Z		FEB 23, 0600Z
3.5-28	50, 144	CW	1.8-28		CW	3.5-28		DIGITAL
NC COUNTY OR S/P/C, RS(T) OPTIONAL			RST, STATE/PROVINCE OR POWER			NAME AND S/P/C		
www.rars.org/ncqsoparty			www.arrl.org/contests			www.ncjweb.com		

Classified Ads

Items for Sale

Want to Buy



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.



54th Annual Michigan Crossroads Hamfest & Radio Swap

Saturday, March 15, 2014

Marshall Activity Center (MAC)

15325 W. Michigan Avenue, Marshall, Michigan 49068

Sponsored by the Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society

General Admission: Saturday, March 15th, 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

\$5.00 admission fee at the door

Vendor table or 8' space rental \$10.00

Free parking

Door prizes

Amateur Radio Examinations (10:00 AM)

QSL Card-Checking

Talk-in: 146.660 MHz (-600 kHz offset) SMARS Repeater PL 94.8



For more information, visit our website <http://www.w8df.com>, contact Tom, WR8G, at (269) 962-8007 or via email at wr8g@arrl.net. Alternate contact: Doc, K8OLY, at (269) 223-7141.

Articles, photographs, and classified ads for publication in the *Allen County HamNews* should be emailed to the newsletter editor at AB9ZD (at) ARRL.NET several days before the first of the month.

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

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 46851-0342

Fort Wayne Radio Club.

PO Box 15127

Fort Wayne, IN 46885-5127

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

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 (digipeaters)

144.390 (s) APRS - wide

145.530 (s) W9INX-1 Digipeater and Node

Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters

Voice:

146.76 (-) General use

146.94 (-) General use with autopatch

146.91 (-) EchoLink connection repeater

Node number 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. & 3.940 @ 6:00 p.m. local times.

Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net: 3.535 @ 8:00 a.m. & 8:00 p.m. local times.

Miscellaneous Nets

Allen Co. ARES Training Net: Tue. at 9:00 p.m. on 146.94-

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.

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-

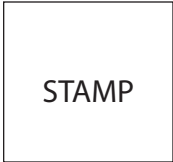
FWRC 6 Meter Net: Tue. 8:00 p.m. on 50.580 USB

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-

Indiana HF Traffic Nets Web Site:

<http://www.inarrl.org/inhfnet.html>



To:

Activities Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Place
02/02/2014	1:30 PM	Foxhunt	To Be Announced
02/11/2014	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
02/11/2014	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
02/18/2014	7:00 PM	Skywarn Training	Columbia City HS
02/21/2014	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	GSUMC
03/02/2014	1:30 PM	Foxhunt	To Be Announced
03/11/2014	7:00 PM	FWRC BOD Meeting	GSUMC
03/11/2014	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
03/17/2014	6:00 PM	Skywarn Training	Wells County Community Ctr, Bluffton
03/18/2014	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
03/21/2014	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	GSUMC
11/15/2014	9 AM - 4 PM	2014 Fort Wayne Hamfest	Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
11/16/2014	9 AM - Noon	2014 Fort Wayne Hamfest	Allen County War Memorial Coliseum