

Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

March 2006

Volume 7 Issue 3



Regulation-by-bandwidth Petition "A Reasonable Middle Ground," League Says

from *The ARRL Letter* – The ARRL says its Petition for Rule Making (RM-11306) to regulate the amateur bands by necessary bandwidth rather than by mode represents “a reasonable middle ground in a difficult regulatory area.” In reply comments filed with the FCC February 21, the League said it was gratified to see more than 900 commenters responded to the admittedly “controversial” petition and noted that many “show the investment of a good deal of thought about the proposal.” ARRL said it would have been concerned if the amateur community had not responded with a loud voice on all facets of the League’s regulation-by-bandwidth proposal.

“ARRL continues to believe that its petition is a measured response to progress in digital telecommunications technology and successfully balances the interests of all, regardless of which of the polarized opinions in this proceeding, if any, constitutes a

‘majority’ view,” the League’s reply comments said. “To the extent that the success of this philosophy necessitates the participation and cooperation of all amateurs in the development of, and increased reliance on, modernized voluntary band plans, ARRL is optimistic that such participation and cooperation will be available” as it has in past “transitional phases” in Amateur Radio’s history.

The ARRL is asking the FCC to replace the table at §97.305(c) with a new one that segments bands by necessary bandwidths ranging from 200 Hz to 100 kHz. Unaffected by the ARRL’s recommendations, if they’re adopted, would be 160 and 60 meters. Other bands below 29 MHz would be segmented into sub-bands allowing maximum emission bandwidths of 200 Hz, 500 Hz or 3.5 kHz, with an exception for AM phone.

The ARRL says the changes it’s proposing constitute a balance “between the need to encourage wider bandwidth, faster digital communications and the need to reasonably accommodate all users in crowded bands.”

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

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

**Deadline for April issue is Friday, 4/7/06.
Please do NOT send anything in all caps!!**

Internet Home Pages:

Fort Wayne Radio Club:
<http://www.fortwayneradioclub.org>

ACARTS:

<http://www.acarts.com>

Ft Wayne DX Association:

<http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/>

Hamsplatter

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President's Corner



Beware the ides of March.... Hard to believe but March is already here. It was great seeing the turnout at the Skywarn presentation February 21st, hosted by our friends at ACARTS. I even understand that a few of us showed up on TV later that night. Steve Eddy gave a very interesting presentation. It gets better each year. Hopefully spotters won't be needed much this year but I am confident that if we are activated we will perform our duties with enthusiasm as well as professionalism. Please remember that if severe weather is in the area the Skywarn net will be brought up on the 146.88 repeater in Fort Wayne.

Just before I sat down at the PC to write this message I was reading the new issue (March 2006) of QST that arrived in the mail this past week. Of particular interest was the advertisement from ICOM on pages 129 and 130. On the first page of the ad a vulture is sitting on a tombstone with a caption that reads, "Some say this is the future of amateur radio." When you turn the page, in bold print, the ad continues, "PROVE THEM WRONG. Amateur radio will die only if hams let it die." The ad of course goes on to impart how ICOM supports hams in this endeavor. From my chair, I couldn't agree with them more. Ham radio will only die if we let it. If you haven't been on the air lately, take a few minutes to renew some old acquaintances. Blow off the dust from that transceiver or come to a club-sponsored event. Help us help the hobby grow.

Speaking of growth, we have received a request from the Red Cross to present a Technician level license class. In the past, we have presented these classes in several locations and are anxious to do so again. We have not finalized plans but we will certainly need volunteers to help teach the class and to "elmer" the class participants. If you are interested in helping with the class, please drop me an e-mail at the address list elsewhere

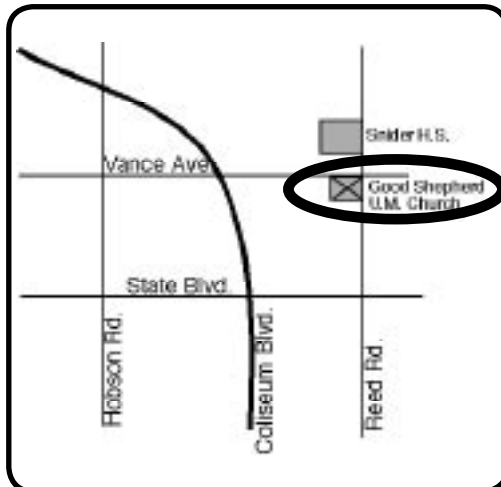
in this newsletter.

This past month there were a couple of news stories of interest to the amateur radio community. The congressional report regarding the response to hurricane Katrina had several very positive comments regarding the role of amateur radio. In fact, as I read through the lengthy report, I found no negative comments regarding the role that ham radio played in the response. Hats off to the hams that responded to the disaster and to the efforts of the ARRL and ARES to coordinate the response.

Secondly, after I had submitted my message last month, BPL reared its ugly head in Indiana. I had anticipated it (but had hoped it wouldn't). In Daniels State of the State speech, the Governor had made a comment regarding his desire to ensure all of Indiana, including the rural areas had broadband access to the Internet. Because of Verizon's investment in FIOS here in Allen County, I don't foresee any problems close to

continued on pg. 3

**Feb. Meeting:
Tue, Mar. 17, 7:00 PM
Emergency Communi-
cations and ARES**



President's Corner, cont'd.

home. However, elsewhere in the state we must remain vigilant. While BPL has not yet been shown to be a viable and economic alternative to other technologies its effects on our radio spectrum have been well documented.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Richard Andrew, N9HRA on his recent appointment as EC for Allen County. At the same time, we must also thank Howard Pletcher, N9ADS for his many years as our EC.

I have invited Richard to present an update on Emergency Communications and ARES at our next club meeting. That meeting will be held March 17, 2006, 1900 hrs at Good Shepherd United Methodist Church. The church is located at Vance and Reed Roads, across the street from Snider High School. If you have an interest in Emergency Communications or would like to know how to volunteer your communication skills to help in an emergency, please plan to attend.

I look forward to seeing you there.

73

Jim, KB9WWM



Revised Element 2 Question Pool

from *The ARRL Letter* – Revised, corrected Element 2 question pool released: The Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) has announced the release of a revised and corrected Element 2 (Technician) question pool. The new Element 2 question pool becomes effective for all Technician-class Amateur Radio examinations administered on or after July 1, 2006. Changes from the initial Element 2 question pool include elimination of some questions (T5D06, T6B09 and T7A08) and rewording of others to increase clarity. “We thank those users who reported the errors and made other suggestions for ways to improve the product,” the committee said. “The QPC reviewed all submissions and incorporated the changes that were appropriate.” The QPC warned that only the Element 2 question pool dated February 6, 2006, is valid. The new Element 2 database is available for download from the NCVEC Web site as a PDF, MS-Word, Rich Text Format (RTF) or ASCII text file <http://www.ncvec.org/ama_news_article.php?id=82>. The QPC says subsequent changes will be handled by deletion of the affected question. The QPC invites additional input via e-mail <qpcinput@ncvec.org>.

Bandwidth, cont'd from pg. 1

The League's reply comments countered criticism that its petition represents “overregulation wrapped in a different cloak,” that increased reliance--and confidence--in the ability of voluntary band plans to substitute for subband regulation by emission mode is misplaced, or that the ARRL's proposal caters to a small minority of digital enthusiasts and experimenters. Many of those who commented expressed a desire to leave things as they are, some because they feel the advent of digital technology may threaten their favorite mode.

“They are comfortable with the status quo, because the current regulations are not encouraging toward digital modes and, therefore, the current regulatory scheme, they feel, ‘protects’ them,” the League said. “The comfort level with the status quo is high for these licensees, and they have not hesitated to tell the Commission so.”

The League emphasized, “All should be accommodated by the regulatory structure of amateur subbands, and technology changes demand regulatory changes in this instance.” Its plan, the League said, “attempts to segment emission modes of similar bandwidths in a manner that accommodates the varied needs and interests of all, while insuring compatibility by grouping like-bandwidth emissions together.”

Citing repeated efforts to gather input from the Amateur Radio community at large and from its members since its regulation-by-bandwidth concept was first aired in 2002, the League called the petition “the most thoroughly vetted regulatory proposal” it's ever developed.

“The ARRL petition does not favor one mode at the expense of another,” the League reiterated in concluding its reply comments. “It merely allows expansion of the repertoire of options that amateurs may pursue compatibly.”

The ARRL petition is available on the FCC Web site <http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/retrieve.cgi?native_or_pdf=pdf&id_document=6518181567>. The League's reply comments are on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/bandwidth/Bandwidth-Petition-Reply-Comments-2-6.pdf>>.

STATE OF THE ARTS

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President's Message



It is March and that means that Spring is almost here. It is also time for me to get on my spring-time soapbox. Last month we had our annual Skywarn training class. It was well attended with 65 people present. I received many comments from both people attending and the National Weather Service about the nice facilities at the Salvation Army Center. It would have been really great if we could have found an easy way to tap into their audio/video system. At least we had use of their large screen that lowers from the ceiling. If you did not make this session, check the calendar for a class in the area. Also go back to last month's newsletter and read the article by Joel, KB9RH. Pay special attention to the reporting section of the article. When we are activated, the repeater will have a "WX" in CW before it drops. This means that you leave a pause before you continue your conversation so a station with weather related traffic can get into the repeater. During the storm the repeater will be under the control of a SkyWarn Net Control operator. All traffic goes through the net control. Keep your traffic short unless the Net Control or NWS requests additional information. Do not call in to say it is raining at your house too, just to get on the radio. If net control asks for information from a particular area because someone saw something, that is acceptable. Most of all remember what you learned about safety. We want you around for the next storm.

The next issue with spring is antenna maintenance. Your antenna farm may need some work from the winter weather. Or, you are ready to put up that new antenna that you bought at the Hamfest. It is always best to have help putting that antenna up. As they say, there is safety in numbers. The more bodies you have, the quicker the job gets done. Always be aware of your surroundings. Make sure your tower and antenna are far enough away from power lines. Have a safety zone large enough if possible so that a falling antenna will not make contact with a power line. Most important, if you are climbing a tower, use a climbing belt. We want to have you around for a long time. Like Mr. Spock would say, "Live long and prosper".

The AC-ARTS Spring Banquet will be on April 18, 2006. This year the banquet will be co-pay, and the club will pay for half of the cost. We have not yet decided on a location. Watch the website, your e-mail, and next month's newsletter for more details. The program for this month has not been set as I write my message. Check the website for updated information. I could use some suggestions for May. That's all I have for now.

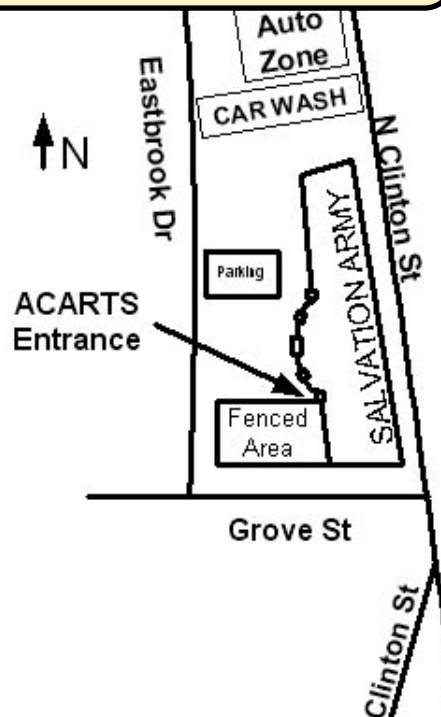
73,
Vic, KA9LTV

Meeting Schedule

Meeting Location: Salvation Army Center, 2901 N. Clinton St. (see map)

General Meeting: Mar. 21, 7:30 PM
Program: TBA - Listen for net announcement.

Next Board Meeting: Mar. 14, 7:30 PM
All members are encouraged to attend.



ACARTS February 2006 Board Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Vic, KA9LTV.

Vic announced that the Skywarn training meeting would be at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, February 21, 2006, in the auditorium at the Salvation Army Center. It was decided that no refreshments would be served because of the Salvation Army's policy of no food or beverage in the auditorium.

He asked if anyone had any ideas for the March General Meeting program.

Joel, KB9RH, said that attendees should be sure to pick up the blue sheet at the Skywarn training. It contains the latest reporting criteria and other useful information.

Jim, KB9IH, said that he has the revised contract from the Coliseum for the 2006 Hamfest. By using only half of Expo IV and not using the Blue Room, it provides a savings of about \$2000.00 in Coliseum rent.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH



ACARTS February 2006 General Minutes



Tuesday, February 18, 2006 was the annual Skywarn training presented by Steve Eddy and Pat Murphy from the National Weather Service, Northern Indiana. Thirty eight people representing ACARTS, FWRC, and the Salvation Army were in attendance at the Salvation Army Center, which started at 7:00 PM and ended at 9:25 PM. Due to the combined annual training no club business was discussed.

Topic's covered by Steve and Pat during the training were Spotter Safety, Reporting Criteria, How and When to report, and different reporting methods which I will quickly revisit here.

The reporting criteria are:

- Tornados,
- Funnel Clouds;
- Wall Clouds - Must be rotating and persistent;
- Flooding - Rapidly rising water levels, flooding in areas that normally don't flood, and rivers rapidly approaching "Bank full";
- Strong Winds and Strong Wind Damage;
- Hail - Report all hail, and please report if measured, or estimated size by comparing to a Coin.

The National Weather Service has several means of reporting. Via Amateur Radio, via Telephone, and now via the Internet. There are two ways of reporting via the Internet. First is at the web page at <http://www.weather.gov/iwx>. and the new ESPOTTER system. In order to use the espotter system you have to log on and complete the online training session afterwards when you e-mail the NWS your e-mail is recognized and a warning sound alerts the NWS that you just sent in a report. The espotter web site is <http://esotter.weather.gov> .

The NWS requests that we as spotters keep the 4 W's and the 3 C's in mind when reporting. The 4 W's are **WHO** is reporting, **WHAT** you are reporting, **WHERE** you are reporting from, and **WHEN** it happened. The 3 C's are **CALM**, **CLEAR**, and **CONCISE** when reporting.

Steve also covered the Advanced Skywarn training taking place around the area. March 11 at Dayton Oh, and March 18 at Indianapolis, IN. If interested in attending the Dayton training please visit <<http://weather.gov/iln>>. If interested in attending the Indianapolis training please visit <<http://weather.gov/ind>> or <<http://www.acarts.com>>.

Congratulations to Wilbur Ort for winning the Rain Gauge.

Respectfully submitted; Steven Berrier.



Peter I Island Update

from *The ARRL Letter* – 3Y0X DXpedition logs more than 87,000 contacts: This month's 3Y0X DXpedition to Peter I Island managed to put 87,034 contacts into its logbook during two weeks of operation before it shut down February 19 at

1813 UTC. The lucky last contact was with K8LTG. The 3Y0X DXpedition surpassed the 82,000 QSOs achieved by A52A (Bhutan), but it fell a bit short of the 96,000 contacts logged by K1B (Baker Island). The 22-member 3Y0X team, headed by led by Ralph Fedor, K0IR, and Bob Allphin, K4UEE, now is safely aboard its ship, the DAP Mares and plans a stop in the South Shetlands on the way home. Because of its remote location in the Bellinghausen Sea near Antarctica and the severe weather conditions, Peter I has been activated but rarely and remains one of the most-wanted DXCC entities. For additional information, visit the Peter I DXpedition Web site <<http://www.peterone.com/>>.



**The DX Magazine's
Most Wanted List
Carl Luetzelschwab
K9LA**

Ft Wayne DX Association In last month's column, I talked about the 3Y0X DXpedition. I mentioned that the pile-ups would likely be huge, as there hasn't been any major Amateur Radio activity from this extremely rare DXCC entity in over twelve years. This DXpedition is now history, and indeed the pile-ups were huge. But they were workable, and many PacketCluster spots had the comment "thanks for the new one" appended in the comment area. I hope you worked them if you needed them.

This brings up a good question. Is there a way to measure how rare a DXCC entity is? After all, there currently are 335 DXCC entities, and there must be some order to 'rareness' based on the activity from that entity.

Yes, there is a way to measure the rareness of an entity - and it comes from a bi-monthly magazine devoted to DXing. It's The DX Magazine edited by Carl N4AA. For more information about The DX Magazine, check out www.dxpub.com.

Every year N4AA conducts a survey of which entities everyone needs, and this forms the basis for the Most Wanted Countries. The result is a list of the top one hundred DXCC entities. The results are subdivided with respect to Worldwide needs, Europe needs, and North America needs (which is further divided into our four time zones - Eastern, Central, Mountain, and Pacific).

The results of the latest survey (2005) appeared in the January/February 2006 issue of The DX Magazine. The accompanying table shows the rankings of the top 25 entities needed by DXers in the Eastern time zone.

There are very good reasons why these entities are rare. The reason is one or more of the following:

1. Difficult to get permission to operate from
2. Difficult/expensive to travel to
3. Unstable political climate
4. The path is tough with respect to propagation

It's interesting to note that the difference in rankings

between the entities needed by the four time zones in North America (basically the same entities but shuffled) is essentially a broad picture of propagation with respect to the northern auroral oval.

With respect to activity of these Top 25 entities, the recent 3Y0X DXpedition should move it down the list from #9. But realizing that Peter I probably won't be activated again for many years says it will gradually move up the listing. The first-ever amateur radio convention in Port Blair in the Andaman Islands (VU4) this coming April should move it down from #5. And the upcoming DXpedition to #6 Glorioso (FR/G) will help move it down the list, too.

Some of the other Top 25 entities will also be activated in the near future, and knowing when these operations will happen is important if you're chasing these entities. This is where subscribing to a DX bulletin (for example, QRZ DX from N4AA or The Daily DX from W3UR) is very helpful.

RANK	PREFIX	ENTITY
1	BS7	Scarborough
2	P5	North Korea
3	VU7	Lakshadweep
4	70	Yemen
5	VU4	Andaman
6	FR/G	Glorioso
7	FT8W	Crozet
8	ZS8	Marion Island
9	3Y/P	Peter I
10	VKOH	Heard island
11	3Y/B	Bouvet
12	KP1	Navassa
13	KP5	Desecheo
14	FT8Z	Amsterdam
15	KH7K	Kure
16	VK9W	Willis Island
17	1S	Spratly
18	S2	Bangladesh
19	BV9P	Pratas
20	SV/A	Mt Athos
21	JD1/M	Minami Torishima
22	FR/T	Tromelin
23	E4	Palestine
24	ZL8	Kermadec Island
25	VK9C	Cocos Keeling

25 Most Wanted Entities in the Eastern Time Zone (2005 Survey)

Indiana Section News for January 2006



Condolances to the Family and Friends of these Amateurs who became a Silent Key during January: James R.Hardy KB9ROP, Greencastle, January 7; Henry S. Cox N9JBT, Hanover, January 9; Charles 'Eldon' Shrock, Bunker Hill, January 12. They will be missed.

If you have information about an upcoming hamfest or special event, please don't forget to send the info to our Indiana Section Webmaster, Russ Simpson WA0JTL at: wa0jtl@arrl.net. He is more than willing to list your hamfest, etc., on the Indiana ARRL website. So far this year, he hasn't received any information about hamfests or Special Events during 2006.

However, a late listing: The Blackford Amateur Radio Club is hosting a CQ Contest Night on February 20th, Presidents Day, from 6:00pm till 9:00pm using their AA9Z Repeater on 146.655 MHz. Different club members will take time slots to rack up as many contacts as possible. Any ham in the greater Blackford County area is asked to please check in with name, QTH, and callsign. (fm Bob WD9BHT)

Dave Pifer N9YNF, Indiana SEC, reports a very quiet month for ARES. A number of stations have completed one of the ARECC Courses or the NIMS Courses. Several ARES stations reported operating with the RACES statewide test held during January.

It appears that for 2006, all stations participating in ARES will be required to take the NIMS training, IS700. An introduction, IS800 the National Response Plan. An introduction, ICS100;"Introduction to the Incident Command System"; and ICS200 "Basic ICS"; are the required courses and must be completed by October 1, 2006. In order to complete this, you can either take the courses on-line from: <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/> or through your local government agencies who are also required to take these courses. They only take a few hours each and are followed by an exam. The cost is free, only your time and effort are required.

The following VHF/UHF Net Managers reported their net's activity during January 2006: KC9BHI, N9ZMY, N9DGQ, KE9WI, WD9HTN, KB9UAG, KF9EX, WB9RVN, WD9BKA, WB9NCE, KC9EGN, and KA9QWC.. If your Net Manager's callsign does not appear here, then our VHF/UHF Section Net Manager did not receive a monthly report from him. Send reports to John Kinley KC9BHI kc9bhj@arrl.net

The Officers and Directors of the Indiana Radio Club Council would like to extend our best wishes to you and your club in the coming year. All IRCC membership dues are now due for 2006. If your club has already paid for 2006, please accept our thanks for you club's support. Please mail \$10.00 check, payable to Indiana Radio Club Council and send with an application to: Russ Simpson WA0JTL, 133 Abbey Ct., Noblesville, IN 46060. Applications can be downloaded in .pdf format at: http://www.inarrl.org/IRCC_App010504.pdf

Many thanks to all those who sent reports of activities in their areas, and local happenings.

January Section Net Activity:

NET	FREQ	DAILY TIMES (UTC)	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESS
ITN	3910 kHz	1330/2130	2299	202	1309	54
QIN	3656 kHz	1430/0000	269	183	1152	54
ARES	3910 kHz	4TH SUN/MO @ 1300Z	0	0	0	0
HOOSIER VHF NETS 11 REPORTING			596	17	781	48
HOOSIER DIGITAL NETS (?)			0	0	--	0

January ORS Traffic Reports: KO9D 405, WB9FIU 390, K9GBR 214, K9PUI 64, WA9JWL 58, AB9AA 20, AB9DV 19, N9HM 13, WB9NCE 6, KC9UU 5.

January Public Service Honor Roll Reports

CALLSIGN	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
WA9JWL	40	40	10	50	20	0	160

73,

ARRL Indiana Section
 Section Manager: James S. Sellers, K9ZBM
k9zbm@arrl.org





Update to Indiana Section News for January 2006

MESSAGE TO ALL INDIANA SECTION ARES APPOINTEES

As many have pointed out, there are a number of issues regarding NIMS certification by October 1, 2006, for ARES. Volunteer organizations are not required to take the training, but are "Strongly Encouraged" to do so by FEMA. The ARRL has not provided any leadership in this issue so far.

The decision to require the NIMS training was based on:

1. The trends of our peer organizations.
2. The requirements of our neighboring ARRL sections and others throughout the country.
3. Feed back from responding organizations who say we must have NIMS training. This is obviously an over interpretation of the need for NIMS training.

Therefore it seemed appropriate to require the training.

However, since I have received significant negative feedback, I am re-evaluating that decision to require training period. Therefore, all NIMS and ARECC training is strongly encouraged. However, do not be surprised if your assistance could be refused for not having the certification either at the local or national level, especially in regards to NIMS training.

This will hopefully change in the future as NIMS is investigated by the ARRL with the Special Subcommittee for Emergency Communications.

73,
David L Pifer N9YNF
Indiana Section Emergency Coordinator

ARRL Indiana Section
Section Manager: James S. Sellers, K9ZBM
k9zbm@arrl.org

ARMAD News



Calling all Amateurs:

ARMAD is only three months away, and many exciting things related to the event are taking shape. Clubs are letting us know that will be participating from throughout the U.S. and around the world.

We would like to make a big impact on the Fort Wayne community again this year during ARMAD. We are asking Amateurs from both Clubs to once again come out and operate this year. We would like for the people of our community to see a nice group of our members behind the microphones this year.

ARMAD is a fun event, and it is open to all Club members, and others that are interested in showing support to those that serve our Country.

If you want to help out this year contact Ron / N9KNJ, Richard / N9HRA, Fred . KC9EZP, Bill / N9NAI, or Emery / KB9IBW for more information and to get on the list.

Thank you for your support and interest in ARMAD. Let's "Ham It Up For The Troops."

Sincerely;
Emery / KB9IBW
www.armad.net

Dayton Announces 2006 Theme

from *The ARRL Letter* – Dayton Hamvention® announces theme for 2006 show: "Ham Radio is Public Service" is the theme for Dayton Hamvention 2006--reflecting the renewed awareness by the public of the service Amateur Radio operators provided after the Gulf Coast hurricanes and other disasters. In announcing the theme, Hamvention 2006 General Chairman Jim Nies, WX8F, said that it serves to remind the public and the ham radio community that one of the reasons ham radio exists is to provide communication in emergencies when all else fails. Several forum sessions are expected to deal with emergency communication-related topics, including how Amateur Radio performed after the hurricanes wiped out communications in a wide segment of the south. For more information, visit the Dayton Hamvention Web site <<http://www.hamvention.org>>. More than 25,000 visitors are expected to attend the three-day event Friday through Sunday, May 19-21. The ARRL has announced that it will present ARRL EXPO 2006 during Hamvention <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/nc/2006/>>.

Test Points

13-Apr-2006
 Sponsor: GOSHEN ARC
 Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
 Contact: PAUL F COREY
 (574)262-4414
 Email: PAUL.CORY.B@BAYER.COM
 WORK
 VEC: ARRL/VEC
 Location: GREENCROFT RETIREMENT CENTER
 HOMAN BUILDING
 GREENCROFT BLVD
 GOSHEN, IN 46525



22-Apr-2006
 Sponsor: UNSPONSORED
 Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins)
 Contact: ROBERT E HIGH
 (419)795-5763
 VEC: ARRL/VEC
 Location: VAN WERT COUNTY EMA
 1220 OLD LINCOLN HWY
 HOMELAND SECURITY BUILDING
 VAN WERT, OH 45891

29-Apr-2006
 Sponsor: W5YI-VEC -- WHITLEY COUNTY ARC
 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
 Contact: ROGER L MC ENTARFER
 (260)503-9008
 Email: N9QCL@ARRL.NET
 VEC: W5YI VEC
 Location: PEABODY LIBRARY
 1160 E STATE ROAD 205
 COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725

06-May-2006
 Sponsor: W5YI VEC - ALLEN COUNTY
 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
 Contact: JULIAN F FRANKE
 (260)484-1728
 VEC: W5YI VEC
 Location: ANTHONY WAYNE AREA COUNCIL
 8315 W JEFFERSON BLVD
 BOY SCOUT COUNCIL BUILDING
 FORT WAYNE, IN 46804

24-Jun-2006
 Sponsor: UNSPONSORED
 Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins)
 Contact: ROBERT E HIGH
 (419)795-5763
 VEC: ARRL/VEC
 Location: VAN WERT COUNTY EMA
 1220 OLD LINCOLN HWY
 HOMELAND SECURITY BUILDING
 VAN WERT, OH 45891

For Sale & Wanted

- NEC multi/sync xe17 17" color monitor - \$25 o.b.o.
- Majicspin model # usb5232ui 52x32x52x external CD burner - 1 year old and like new - \$25 o.b.o.
- 3 amp Astron power supply still in box - make offer
- 2- GE commercial power supplies 6 amp - make offer
- computer, sound card, 56k modem, needs hard drive (home built by friend - no details) - make offer



Gene Reed
 705-4786 day time
 627-6442 after 7pm
 genereed [at] att.net

* * *

50 foot Tower available

Randy Culver, KA9YGY, has a 50 foot Channel Master tower for anyone who will remove it. It is in good condition but must be removed because of coming work on the house exterior. Call Randy at 260-589-2992. The tower is east of Berne off of Highway 218.

2006 Foxhunt Schedule

- March 5 – 1:30 PM
- April 2 – 1:30 PM
- May 1 – 6:30 PM
- June 5 – 6:30 PM
- July 10 – 6:30 PM
- Aug 7 – 6:30 PM
- Sept 11 – 6:30 PM
- Oct 9 – 6:30 PM
- Nov 5 – 1:30 PM
- Dec. – none



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

Carl, N9NRO

Regional Hamfests

Date	Location	Contact Phone	URL or E-mail
18 Mar 2006	Marshall, MI	269-965-1415	http://www.qsl.net/w8df
19 Mar 2006	Maumee (Toledo), OH	419-535-6594	http://www.tmrahamradio.org
25 Mar 2006	Columbus, IN	812-342-4670	carc_in@yahoo.com
25 Mar 2006	Michigan City, IN	219-325-9089	http://www.w9ly.org
19-21 May 2006	Dayton, OH		http://www.hamvention.org/

For more complete information go to <http://www.acarts.com/hamfests.htm> or <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html#listing>

ARRL Ham Aid “Gear Ready To Go” Awaits Next Disaster



from *The ARRL Letter* – When another disaster on the scale of Hurricane Katrina comes along, the League will be able to deploy “ham gear ready to go,” thanks to manufacturers’ donations of Amateur Radio gear, ARRL members’ generous monetary contributions and a federal grant. The ARRL Ham Aid-sponsored “Go Kits” now being assembled at League Headquarters are the third leg of a program that’s already reimbursed certain out-of-pocket expenses for ham radio hurricane zone volunteers and helped restore Amateur Radio backbone infrastructure along the US Gulf Coast.

“To me, this is a first step in ramping up ARRL’s ability to support Amateur Radio volunteers in the field before the next big disaster hits,” says ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH. “It won’t replace or supplant anything that’s already on the ground and working well, but it will strengthen it and add flexibility to Amateur Radio’s overall response capabilities.” The equipment and cash donations, coupled with a grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), will mean Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) field volunteers will never go without in terms of equipment. Hobart says \$25,000 in Ham Aid funds have been set aside for the Go Kits.

The Go Kits will enable the League to loan out needed equipment on a moment’s notice. Emergency Communications Specialist Harry Aberly, AB1ER, spends his days at ARRL Headquarters securely stowing various equipment complements in rugged, waterproof Pelican 1650 containers.

“The idea is that this makes it easy to ship,” explains Aberly, “and since they’re less than 50 pounds apiece, they’ll be able to go by air if necessary.” Flooding won’t be an issue. “You can throw them in the water, and they’ll float,” he adds.

So far, Aberly says, there’s an HF Kit, a VHF/UHF Kit, a Handheld Transceiver Kit and a Support Kit—seven of each, and more on the way. He and other League staffers consulted with volunteers who’d been in the field during Hurricane Katrina to find out what gear served them best or what they wished they’d had but didn’t.

The HF Kit contains a 100-W HF transceiver, a microphone and a power supply. The VHF/UHF Kit includes a dualband mobile transceiver, power supply, headset, 10 handheld transceivers and a supply of alkaline bat-

teries. In the Handheld Transceiver Kit are eight dual-band handheld transceivers and antennas plus a stock of extra batteries. The Support Kit includes a length of BuryFlex 213 coaxial cable, rope, 15-foot jumper cables with battery clamps at one end and an Anderson Powerpole on the other. The kit includes various fittings and adapters to connect to the power distribution unit and to make RF feed line connections. All kits contain any necessary manuals. Packed in a separate container, appropriate antennas and antenna accessories will accompany a given kit.

More than two dozen members of the Amateur Radio industry and individual radio amateurs contributed equipment last year for use in the Hurricane Katrina relief effort <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2005/09/09/105/>>.

Citing Amateur Radio’s favorable treatment in recent US House Subcommittee and White House reports on the Hurricane Katrina response (see below), Hobart said it’s imperative to sustain and enhance ham radio’s emergency communication capabilities for the future. “Disasters happen to be one place Amateur Radio can shine,” she pointed out. “We need to maintain a high level of readiness to do those things that are second nature to ARES members but that the public is just coming to recognize.”

Making the Go Kits available to ARES teams, Hobart says, will help to cement Amateur Radio’s position as a community resource. “We want to be able to ensure that we have the personnel and the equipment,” she said. “With a disaster of this magnitude we need to be ready.”

ARRL continues to solicit Ham Aid donations to help maintain and sustain the League’s ability to support Amateur Radio volunteers in the field. League members can contribute to Ham Aid via the secure ARRL Development Office donation Web site <<https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/basic/>>. Simply click “Ham Aid” and complete the on-line form.

What’s in your “Go Kit”?

Do you have an inventory sheet or checklist? Do you keep it 100% packed and if not, do you know where everything is that needs to be packed?

Membership Application for ACARTS - and/or - FWRC

Name: _____ Call sign: _____ License class: _____

Street address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____-4 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 \$12.00/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 members ¹ \$6.00 / year
 - Student membership ² \$6.00 / year
 - Associate membership ³ \$6.00 / year
- (New Regular memberships are \$1/month)

Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues

- Regular membership \$15.00 / year
 - Family membership ¹ \$21.00 / year
 - Student membership ² \$6.00 / year
 - Associate membership ³ \$15.00 / year
 - Mailed newsletter premium \$12.00 / 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
4. 9 digit ZIP code required for US bulk mail

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 2 checks to either club. **Payment by check is strongly encouraged!**

ACARTS Voice Repeaters

- 146.880 (-) General use / Skywarn priority
- 147.255 (+) General use / Autopatch priority*
- 443.800 (+) General use

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

ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digipeaters)

- 144.390 (s) APRS - wide

Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters

- Voice: 146.76 (-) General use
- 146.94 (-) General use with autopatch
- 146.91 (-) General use
- 444.875 (+) General use
- ATV: 439.25 In, 910.250 Out, 144.340 Audio & control

Area Traffic Nets

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

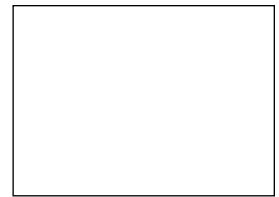
- IMO:** meets nightly at 6:30 p.m. (2330 UTC) on 146.88-
- Tri State Two Meter Net:** meets daily at 7 p.m. (2400 UTC) on 147.015+
- 21 Repeater Group:** meets each Wednesday at 9 p.m. (0200 UTC) on 147.150

Help and Swap Net: Mondays at 8:30 p.m. 146.94(-)

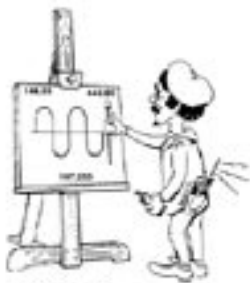
Miscellaneous Nets

- Huntington ARES:** Saturday at 8:00 p.m. (0100 UTC) on 146.685
- Whitley Co. / ARES:** Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. (0015 UTC) on 145.270 (Note 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)
- Whitley Co. Sunday:** Sundays at 7:45 p.m. (0045 UTC) on 444.550 +. (The 146.460 simplex crossbanding from both nets has been dropped.)
- 160 Meter "No-Name" Net:** Sunday and Wednesday nights at 8:00 PM Indiana time (0100 UTC). On 1966 kHz. Everyone welcome!

Allen County HamNews
 PO BOX 10342
 FORT WAYNE, IN 46851



TO:



WSINX/R



Activities Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Place
3/14/06	7:30 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Center
3/17/06	7:00 PM	FWRC Meeting	GSUMC
3/21/06	7:30 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Center
4/2/06	1:30 PM	Foxhunt	off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.
4/8/06	---->	deadline for Apr. ACHN items	
4/11/06	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
4/11/06	7:30 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Center
4/18/06	??	ACARTS Spring Banquet	??
4/21/06	7:00 PM	FWRC Meeting	GSUMC
4/28/06	---->	deadline for May ACHN items	
5/1/06	6:30 PM	Foxhunt	off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.
5/2/06	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
5/9/06	7:30 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Center
5/12/06	6:00 PM	FWRC Spring Banquet	GSUMC
5/16/06	7:30 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Center
6/2/06	---->	deadline for June ACHN items	
6/5/06	6:30 PM	Foxhunt	off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.