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Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

April 2011
Volume 12
Issue 4

SOFTWARE DEFINED RADIOS

Peter E. Goodman, owner of Lazy Dog Engineering, spoke at the FWRC meeting in March and at an ACARTS meeting earlier this year on his Software Defined Radio (SDR). Information on the company's products like the LD-1B Software-Defined Radio is available on their web page at: www.lazydogengineering.com. Videos of their products are also available on the web page.

The LD-1B's performance has been described as comparable to the performance of Yaesu FT-817 in terms of sensitivity and out-of-band signal rejection. The SDR software provides a spectrum-analyzer-like graphical display of all signals within the tuning range, and the operator can instantly tune to any signal with a single mouse click. The IF bandwidth is highly adjustable as are the AGC characteristics.

The LD-1B bandpass filters the RF input, then down-converts it using a quadrature local oscillator (LO) and mixer. The output of the quadrature LO / mixer is a pair of intermediate-frequency (IF) signals, one of which is called the in-phase (I) signal and the other is called the quadrature (Q) signal. The I and Q signals, are conditioned by a simple lowpass filter, then sent to the left (L) and right (R) chan-



nels of the soundcard's line-in connector.

A 5-Watt transmitter module is being developed. Installation will not require any cutting, drilling, soldering, to the LD-1B. An external "mute" or "transmit" switch may be connected via the Accessory connector.

The host's SDR software, which is available from several third-parties at no cost, performs IF signal processing and demodulation. Compatible modes include AM, FM, SSB, CW, and in some cases DRM. "Soundcard" modes such as PSK31 are available using appropriate software and

a second soundcard or Virtual Audio Cable. Winrad is preferred, because the LD-1A software installation package includes a DLL which connects it with Winrad's controls so the operator can change the LO frequency either from Winrad or from the LD-1 control panel. A standalone LD-1B control application is also included in the installation package to let you use your LD-1B with other SDR software, such as Rocky.

The SDR software has a tuning range of 48 kHz, 96 kHz or 192 kHz, depending on

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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, KC9TPF, at kc9tpf@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.

Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

FWRC PRESIDENT'S CORNER

April is now here, and most of us are now dreaming of ways to improve our antenna system. Of course, it is Fox Hunt season too, and the FWRC April Fox-hunt will be history by the time you read this. If Fox Hunting is something on your "to do" list, but you haven't gotten around to building a suitable antenna, then this month's general meeting is for you! We will be constructing so-called "tape measure" yagi antennas at the meeting. These antennas are a great way to get your feet wet (or muddy) in the sport of Fox Hunting. Constructed out of PVC pipe and sections of tape measure rules, they can take a lot of punishment without incurring any damage. Having a directional antenna is the first step in Fox Hunting, so if you are interested, plan on attending the meeting and get one for yourself.

The antenna is the first step, and the operating principles are the next step. We are discussing having a "training" Fox Hunt on either a Saturday or Sunday soon, just for people that are starting out. You will be introduced to basic hunting techniques and strategies, as well as some of the Fox's clever tricks. Look for more information on this hunt at the meeting and the Ham News and the FWRC website.

Now that spring is officially here, another topic besides antennas and Fox Hunting, are operating activities. With the sun spots finally returned (15 and 10 meters are hot!), we have the Indiana QSO party coming up as well as the ARRL VHF QSO party, and of course the granddaddy of them all, ARRL Field Day! We are currently working on three possible sites for the FD operation; all of them are potentially great areas for the event. They include IPFW, the Veteran's Memorial Shrine (last year's site) and the Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society. We are hoping to make our decision very soon.

We are still working on the IN QSO party and VHF QSO party sites. Any good suggestions are welcome. E-mail them

to me, or bring this up at the meeting on April 15th. Until then, good DX and Best Regards!

73,

Steve, W9SAN



MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Steve Nardin called the meeting to order promptly at 7 pm, followed with the Pledge of Allegiance, and then followed with everyone introducing themselves.

There were no minutes from the previous meeting present, so moved directly to a report about our representation at the R/C and Hobby show. The show ran from 10 am to 4 pm on March 12, and went over well with those who showed interest.

Steve then announced that there is a request for some volunteers to help program weather radios on Sat April 9 from 9 am to 1 pm, with location to be announced.

Steve then informed us that there are currently three locations under consideration for this year's Field Day effort. First listed was the Veterans Memorial on O'Day Road, site of last year's effort; Second listed is the site of the Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society on Edgerton Rd east of New Haven; and the third listed is Dolnick Hall at IPFW.

It was then stated that at this time we



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kc9mut at yahoo.com

Open

April 15: The program will be a Fox Hunt Antenna Building session, so if you are in need of a Fox Hunt tape measure yagi, this is your golden opportunity!! 7:00 pm, also at the church. See you there...

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



have no location set for the Indiana QSO party or the VHF QSO party, and any ideas for an operating location would be great.

As Steve was the Fox on March 6, he gave a brief foxhunt report. After the report it was announced that the April meeting will be a tape measure beam antenna build. I would like to note that not only can these be used for foxhunting, but can also be used to hit repeaters with an HT during an emergency.

Ken Helms was introduced as the new Newsletter editor, and was warmly welcomed. It was also announced that IMO Skywarn can now be found on Facebook.

We then took a short break and then returned for a very good and informative session about Software Defined Radio, how it started, and how it works, and the future of; given by Peter Goodman, NI9N.

Respectfully submitted by Charles Ward, KC9MUT

PS: The FWRC is looking for someone to take over the meeting coffee duties! Any club member can do this for us, you don't have to be on the BOD.

Steve, W9SAN



SOFTWARE DEFINED RADIO

Continued from Page 1

the soundcard's sample rate. The tuning range is centered at the LO frequency, so the crystal-controlled LO found in many low-cost SDR's restricts the frequency coverage to a single 96-kHz range. The LD-1B uses a synchronized pair of direct digital synthesizer (DDS) chips as its quadrature LO, resulting in extreme frequency agility. The LO frequency is selected via a USB connection, either from the LD-1B's control panel or directly from Winrad. When the LO frequency is changed, one of the five preselector filters is automatically selected. These control functions are performed by a microcontroller. The microcontroller's firmware may be updated by the user via the USB cable.

Like all SDR's that rely on a host computer and soundcard, the LD-1's performance is dependent on the performance of the soundcard. An expensive professional-grade soundcard like the Delta-44 is NOT required. The LD-1B performs very well with a Creative SB1090 USB sound adapter, which is available for \$50 - \$75 dollars and is ideal for portable use with a notebook PC. It is important to note that most notebook PC's have a two-channel (stereo) audio output, but only a single-channel (monaural) mic input. This is not adequate for use with an SDR like the LD-1A, so if you plan to use a notebook as a host you MUST use a good-quality USB sound adapter like the Creative SB1090. When selecting a USB sound adapter, make sure it has a stereo line-in jack. Cheap ones and "dongle"-style adapters general have only a mono input.

The LD-1B Software Defined Receiver is listed on their web page as \$285 fully assembled or \$209.95 as a kit.

Is Your FWRC MEMBERSHIP CURRENT?

All FWRC memberships run from January 1 to December 31.

Members who pay their dues receive acknowledgement via email and are listed on our official club roster.

If you have not received such an acknowledgement and are not on the official roster, your dues payment has not been recorded and you are not an official member!

To pay your dues, simply fill out the form on the back of this newsletter and provide it with your payment as indicated on the form.

Thanks!

State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

ACARTS PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Spring is officially here. That means it is time for our annual Spring Banquet. It will be on April 19th at the Golden Corral on Lima Road at 7:00 PM. The club will be paying the cost of the meal for members. You may bring a guest, but will have to pay for the cost of their meal. Reservations are required as we need to know how many people to set up for. To make a reservation, send a email to "vberko at comcast.net", or call 456-2012. Let me know how many will be attending. Please try to arrive at the restaurant by 7:00 PM as we have to wait until everyone has arrived before we can be seated.

Spring also means that there are other activities taking place. We will be in severe weather season. Remember your Skywarn training. The most important thing is to be safe. Also remember that during activation, the repeater will be in a controlled state. You can tell by the "WX" trailer, and a audible "weather alert". All traffic goes through a net control. For general chit chat, make contact and then move to another repeater. Follow the guidelines for reporting weather informa-

tion on the net. It is also time for those antenna projects. Once again be safe. If something takes two people, find some help. I do not want to read about injuries. Be aware of your surroundings. Especially power lines. Power lines and antennas do not mix too well. You will not hear from the Green Thumb again this year. I did some clean up in my yard from last year. It was too much for me as I am still recovering from my surgeries and treatments. Hopefully the cherry tomatoes that reseed themselves last year will do a repeat this year. That is all I have for this month. Hope to see you at the banquet.

73,

Vic, KA9LTV

MARCH 2011 ACARTS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

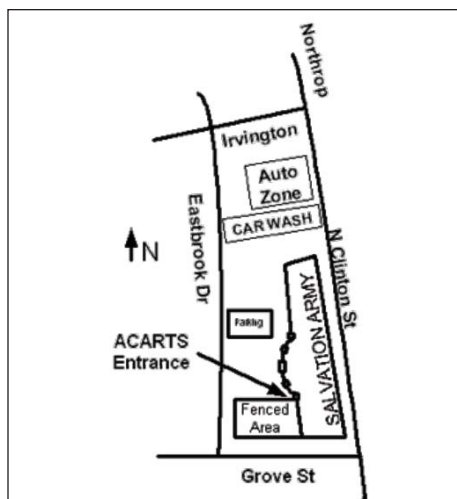
The meeting was called to order by Vic, KA9LTV.

Vic announced that the April meeting would be the Spring Banquet, to be held on April 19th at 7:00 p.m. at the Golden Corral on Lima Road. The club will pay for dinners for club members, guests will have to purchase their own dinners.



April 19: The program for this month is our annual Spring Banquet. It will be on April 19th at the Golden Corral Restaurant on Lima Road. The start time is 7:00 PM. The club will be paying for the cost of the meal for members. You can bring a guest, but you will have to pay for the cost of their meal. Reservations are required as we need to know how many people to set up for. To make a reservation send a email to "vberko at comcast.net" or call 456-2012 and leave a message. State how many people will be attending. Try to get to restaurant by 7:00 PM as we have to wait for everyone to arrive before we can be seated.

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



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He asked if anyone had any ideas for future programs.

After refreshments, a video was shown on Frank Moore's (WA1URA) efforts of relaying smuggled messages from Kuwait during Desert Storm. A video on tornadoes was also shown.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

MARCH 2011 ACARTS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order Vic, KA9LTV.

Vic announced that the March General Meeting program would be a video on Frank Moore's (WA1URA) efforts in assisting in relaying smuggled messages from Kuwait during Desert Storm. He added that the April Meeting would be the Spring Banquet to be held on April 19th at the Golden Corral on Lima Road.

Jim, KB9IH, stated that he had sent a letter to his Congressional Representative regarding HR607 and encouraged the other members present to do the same. He added that he would supply a copy to any one that wanted it. A discussion of HR607 followed.

No other business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF

Chile, Indonesia, Haiti, New Zealand, Japan . . . natural disasters know no boundaries. Walter Cronkite [KB2GSD] was a proponent of amateur radio and how the technology can be used in times of natural disasters. There is a video clip of him on YouTube explaining how Ham radio communications assists professional Humanitarian and Disaster Relief responders at:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Z9136_Nhh4

ARRL IN ACTION

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY?

Compiled by S. Khrystine Keane, K1SFA,
ARRL News Editor

This feature from the ARRL web page is a concise monthly update of some of the things ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment covers the month of March.



ARRL members are writing to their Congressional representatives, speaking out against HR 607 as it is currently written. The National Public Safety Telecommunications Council agreed with the ARRL, saying the bill, as presented, needs to be amended. ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, appeared in a video, explaining how HR 607 in its present form harms the Amateur Radio spectrum.

The ARRL filed a Petition for Rulemaking and a Request for Temporary Waiver with the FCC to authorize the use of single-time-slot Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) emissions in the amateur bands at and above 50 MHz, wherever multiple-time-slot TDMA is authorized. The FCC is seeking comments until April 22 on the Petition.

The ARRL Executive Committee met in Chicago. The minutes from that meeting are available on the ARRL website.

The FCC eliminated the requirement that amateur stations transmitting Spread Spectrum use Automatic Power Control (APC) to reduce transmitter power. At the same time, the Commission has reduced the maximum power of a Spread Spectrum emission from 100 to 10 W PEP. These new rules go into effect April 29, 2011.

W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station, announced its spring operating schedule.

The ARRL released CD exam software, now included with license manuals for Technician, General and Amateur Extra exams.

Sterling Coffey, N0SCC -- a freshman at the Missouri University of Science and Technology -- is the new ARRL Youth Editor.

Two astronauts received their Technician licenses. Chris Cassidy, KF5KDR, and Luca Parmitano, KF5KDP, will head to space in 2013.

In celebration of OSCAR's 50th anniversary, W1AW Station Manager Joe Garcia, NJ1Q, and ARRL Test Engineer Bob Allison, WB1GCM, are working on resurrecting the ARRL's backup OSCAR 1 satellite.

All test equipment in the ARRL Lab went through its annual calibration testing.

ARRL president Kay Craigie, N3KN -- along with Chris Walter, KI4CBF, and Carter Craigie, N3AO -- gave a presentation to a 5th grade science class on waves and how people use them. Using tin cans and string with student volunteers, the trio did experiments to apply the scientific method to ideas about sound waves and discussed electromagnetic waves and radio. Carter then demonstrated Amateur Radio on voice and CW, using an antenna that he and Chris set up in the school parking lot.

The May issue of QST was released to the printer. In addition, the seventh edition of The General Class License Manual and the fourth edition of The General Class Q&A were released to the printer.

Field Day merchandise is now available on the ARRL website. This year's product line includes a polo-style shirt, a hat, a pin and a pack of posters.

The ARES® E-Letter is now available in an audio version.

New questions have been posted to the QuickStats page on the ARRL website.

The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for March 2011 is Howard "Skip" Teller, KH6TY, for his article "Digital VOX Sound Card Interface."

Official Observer Desk: ARRL Field and Regulatory Correspondent Chuck

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FWDXA

Fort Wayne DX Association

2011 ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX CONTESTS

Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

In late February and early March, the higher bands (specifically 15m and 10m) finally came alive with lots of DX for the CW and Phone weekends of the ARRL International DX Contest. The 10m band showed the most improvement over last year, with lots of Caribbean, Central American, and South American DX stations putting in good signals into North America. There were even some western European stations, Oceania stations, and VK/ZL stations on 10m to round out both weekends.

The cause of the good propagation was a nice increase (finally!) in the extreme ultraviolet radiation (EUV) emitted by the Sun. Although we measure EUV from the Sun with satellites (we can't measure it at ground level because it is absorbed in the process of ionization), we usually use sunspot numbers (the area around sunspots emits EUV) and 10.7 cm solar flux (which doesn't ionize anything as its energy is much too low) as proxies for EUV.

The accompanying figure plots the 10.7 cm solar flux (green squares) from February 1 through March 8, which includes both the CW weekend (February 19 and 20) and the Phone weekend (March 5 and 6) of the ARRL DX contest. The 10.7 cm solar flux started out around 80 at the beginning of February, and rose to 115 or so around February 15. It then decreased, but came back with a second significant increase at the end of February and at the beginning of March.

Also plotted in the same figure with blue squares is the MUF (maximum usable frequency) for a 3000 km hop over the Millstone Hill (Massachusetts) ionosonde (the ionosonde is assumed to be the midpoint of this 3000 km hop). The

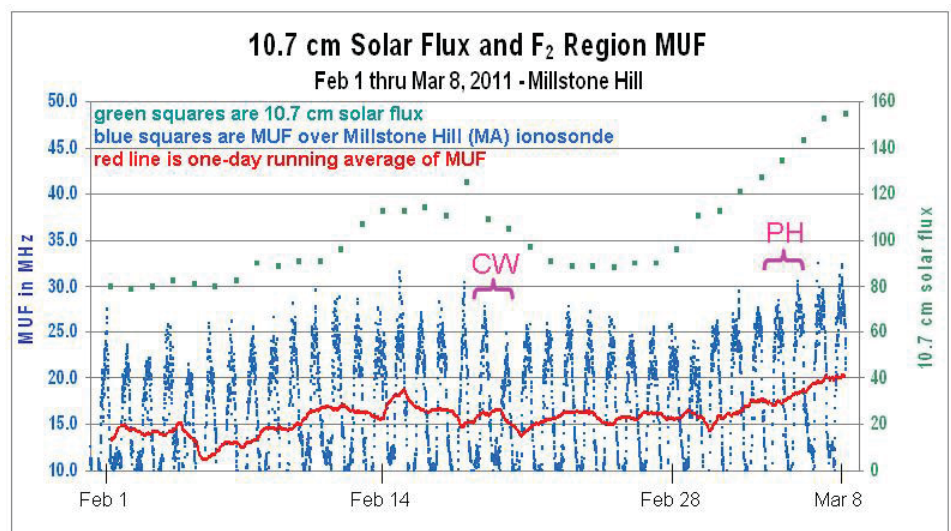
diurnal (daily) variation in the MUF is easily seen, with low MUFs at night and high MUFs during the day. This ionosonde is kind of on the way to Europe, so it gives us an indication of propagation to Europe. I wanted to use data from the Goose Bay (Newfoundland) ionosonde as it's truly along the path to Europe, but there was no data.

The daytime MUF bounces between 22 and 29 MHz in the first half of February (up through the 14th), which is typical of the daily F2 region variation. When the 10.7 cm solar flux starting increasing on February 11 for the first peak, the MUF followed suit. This is best seen in the one-day running average of the MUF (the red line). This appears to have helped 15m for the CW weekend by giving us longer duration

15m openings to Europe (and generally to all areas of the world), but it doesn't appear to have helped 10m too much on the Europe path. The southern path into the robust equatorial ionosphere provided good openings on 10m to the Caribbean and Central and South America.

The second increase in 10.7 cm solar flux starting at the end of February and going through the beginning of March had a much more significant impact on propagation for the Phone weekend. Not only did this larger increase again give us longer duration openings on 15m to Europe (and everywhere else, too, including Japan), it also pushed the MUF well above 28 MHz on the second day of the Phone weekend to give us some Europe on 10m. As a comparison, K3LR (a big multi-multi station) had 1208 QSOs in 121 countries on 15m and 250 QSOs in 75 countries on 10m for the CW event. For the Phone event, K3LR had 2696 QSOs in 140 countries on 15m (more than twice as many QSOs as CW) and 730 QSOs in 108 countries on 10m (almost three times as many QSOs as CW).

In summary, the increased solar activity sure helped the 2011 ARRL DX contests. Let's hope the Sun continues to be active for the contests this fall.



THE FOXHUNT CHRONICLES FOR THE MARCH 6 HUNT

March 6th was a cool but sunny day in the Fort for the Fort Wayne Radio Club's 2nd foxhunt of the year. It began at 1:30 pm EST on schedule, and consisted of five Fox Hunt teams. The foxes were last month's winners, Steve, W9SAN, and his grandson, Alex. Hunters did not know at the start they were headed for the Acres Land Trust property at the Vandolah preserve, just south of the McMillan Girl Scout Camp, on the east side of Interstate 69. After approximately one half hour, the first team to arrive pulled in at the site.

The first team there was WA7NXI and his partner for the hunt, KC9AUQ. They were joined a short while later by the teams of KC9MUT & KC9EZP as well as KB9DOS & KB9DOT. Following them was the OM and YL team of K9OMA and KA9YYI. Finishing up the field was Woody, KC9CGN on his own for the hunt. At the start of the hunt, all were warned that boots would probably be necessary for this hunt, and the ground at Vandolah warranted this due to snow and recent rain. The trails were hilly as well.

Steve, W9SAN, was operating the high power fox until people started showing up, then transitioned to the cross band HT fox that was hidden in the nature preserve. Intent on finding the fox, several teams walked right past W9SAN, who was often just standing a few feet from the trails, during the "quiet" times in between transmissions. Alex, in the meantime was watching the Fox from a hidden location about 16 feet away. He was in perfect position to observe the frustration that teams had in locating the cleverly hidden and appropriately waterproofed Fox as teams approached the site. All of them eventually found Alex, and asked in vain if he was actually the Fox.

One by one, the Fox was uncovered. The Fox was located first by KC9MUT/KC9EZP, second by KB9DOT/KB9DOS, then by K9OMA/KA9YYI, and by WA7NXI/KC9AUQ. Woody, KC9CGN, did not find the fox, but got points for being in the hunt. Due to the new rules structure, which figures in mileage and time, the following point were awarded:

- #1: KB9DOS/KB9DOT: 812 points
- #2: WA7NXI/KC9AUQ: 788 points

- #3: KC9MUT/KC9EZP: 785 points
- #4: K9OMA/KA9YYI: 770 points
- #5: KC9CGN: 200 points
- Fox: W9SAN/Alex: 329 points

This brings the current year fox hunt points as follows:

This puts the team of K9OMA & KA9YYI at the top of the Fox Hunting pile so far in 2011. We have 8 more hunts to go, so it will be interesting to see who prevails this year! After the hunt the group booked it over to the closest Dairy Queen for some tasty after hunting treats and good conversation.

Fox Hunting is great fun, good technical challenge, and a way to sharpen our

ham radio skills. If you would love to join in, remember that the April FWRC meeting will be a building session for "tape-measure" yagi antennas for two meter direction finding. This is a great way to get the first piece of equipment for your fox hunting careers, so don't miss it! If you are interested in building and keeping one of these antennas, let W9SAN or KC9MUT know, so we can get a count of how much material is needed. The next hunt is April 3rd. Come on out and have a blast with the Fort Wayne Radio Club!!!

73
Steve
W9SAN

FOX HUNT YEAR TO DATE POINTS

K9OMA	KA9YYI	WB9SSE	WB9RUS	KC9TIK	AB9YB	KB9OS	KC9MUT
1438	1438	668	668	525	525	525	1340
KC9EZP	W9SAN	ALEX	KB9DOS	KB9DOT	KC9CGN	WA7NXI	KC9AUQ
1340	914	914	1387	1387	725	1343	788

ALLEN COUNTY ARES NEWS

It is hard to believe that spring has sprung with snow still in the forecast. Spring is here and with that comes the official Public Service Events supported by the Allen County ARES group.

Our first two for the year happen on the same day, Saturday, April 30th. The annual March of Dimes March for Babies at Headwaters Park begins registration at 8:00 am on Saturday morning with the walk beginning at 9:00. The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Walk for a Cure is being held at Franke Park with registration beginning at 9:00 am with the walk starting at 10:30 am. As you can see we will need a number of volunteers for these walks as they overlap. Mark your calendars now and be prepared to volunteer for one of these activities.

It was great to hear the numerous stations participating in this past weekend's FM Simplex Contest. I have already re-

ceived a couple of logs and look forward to receiving the rest! The easiest way to get them to me is to email me (KB9WWM@arrl.net) an excel file of the log. You can also send me the log via snail mail: Jim Moehring, 2037 Sykhawk Drive, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46815. All logs must be submitted by April 23, 2011.

Finally, spring means it's also severe weather time. Make sure you are prepared. This is a good time to check out your equipment and preparedness supplies. Skywarn Spotters should check their equipment as well.

Thanks,
Jim Moehring
KB9WWM
Allen County ARES EC



Classified Ads

Items for Sale

Want to Buy

Forward any classified ads that you want included in the ACHN to KC9TPF at arrl.net.

DAYTON HAMVENTION

05/20/2011 to 05/22/2011

Hara Arena

1001 Shiloh Springs Road

Dayton, OH 45401

<http://www.hamvention.org/>

Talk-In: 146.94- or 146.64-

Email: info at hamvention.org

INDIANAPOLIS HAMFEST

07/09/2011

Camp Sertoma

2316 South German Church Road

Indianapolis, IN 46201

<http://www.indyhamfest.com>

Talk-In: 146.16/146.76 (no tone)

Public Contact: Bill Akin, K9YDO

PO Box 1672 Noblesville, IN 46060

Phone: 317-261-6658

Email: k9ydo at comcast.net

INDIANA STATE CONVENTION (FORT WAYNE HAMFEST AND COMPUTER EXPO)

11/19/2011 and 11/20/2011

Allen County War Memorial Coliseum

4000 Parnell Avenue

Fort Wayne, IN 46801

<http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>

Talk-In: 146.880+

Public Contact: James Boyer, KB9IH

PO Box 10342 Fort Wayne, IN 46851

Phone: 260-579-2196

Email: chairman at fortwaynehamfest.com

FEEDBACK NEEDED

If you have any suggestions for ACHN articles or any other inputs for the newsletter then please email them to the editor at kc9tpf at arrl.net.

Thank you for your support!

SUBSCRIBING TO THE ARRL AUDIO NEWS VIA iTUNES

The ARRL Audio News is once again available through iTunes. You can find the URL for the Audio News' RSS feed here. To download and subscribe to the Audio News via iTunes, log in to your iTunes account and go to the "Advanced" pull-down menu. Click on "Subscribe to Podcast," insert

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/aan.rss>

in the dialogue box and click "OK." You are now subscribed! Step-by-step photo instructions are available here.

If you have previously subscribed to the ARRL Audio News via iTunes, you should not have to re-subscribe; episodes should appear in your podcast folder once you sync your device.

FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO

Know a young (or not so young) ham attending college? Have them check out the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) web page. The FAR administers scholarships for post-high school study on behalf of the amateur radio clubs, organizations, and private individuals who are the monetary sponsors. The Foundation administers these scholarships without cost to the applicants or sponsors.

Scholarships are open to all licensed amateurs who are pursuing a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. Scholarship applications are currently available for the 2011-2012 school year. The application form is available on-line at:

<http://www.farweb.org/scholarships/by-year/2011/instructions>

In recent years, a number of articles have been written that explain the history and organization of the FAR scholarship program, as well as questions and answers about the program. More information on the program can be found at:

<http://www.farweb.org/>

ARRL IN ACTION

Continued from Page 5

Skolaut, K0BOG, handled complaints concerning the Voice of Korea on 3.560 MHz, truckers observed using 28.085 MHz in Ohio, fishing boats in California using 2 meters, jammers on California and Long Island repeaters and an over-the-horizon radar in Cyprus on 10.126 MHz.

Member Contact: ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, and Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, attended the ARRL North Carolina Section Convention. Henderson also attended the ARRL Alabama Section Convention. ARRL Field Organization Supervisor Steve Ewald, WV1X, attended the ARRL Nebraska State Convention. ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, attended the ARRL South Texas Section Convention.



Do you think the neighborhood association will notice the antenna comrade?

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

Photos of this month's of club events were provided by the newsletter editor.

FOXHUNT PROCEDURES AND SCORING RULES FOR 2011

Procedures

1. Contestants record their odometer readings at the foxhunt starting point, and report this data to the foxhunt coordinator.

2. Contestants record the time and odometer reading when they locate the fox transmitter and report these data to the fox. Alternately, the fox directly notes and records these data.

3. The fox forwards the individual hunter or team starting and ending odometer readings and the time data to the foxhunt coordinator.

4. The fox and foxhunters use the 146.76/.16 machine for coordination purposes.

5. The fox transmits on 146.430 MHz simplex. Fox transmissions should start promptly on the half-hour (assuming foxhunt start times of 1:30 pm/6:30 pm depending upon the month of the year), and at five minute intervals there-after. Each transmission duration is normally one minute in length.

6. If the fox employs a high power transmitter initially, and then switches to a low power (hidden transmitter, i.e., typically a cross-band HT), the following procedures will be followed.

a. High power transmissions will occur for one minute every five minutes.

b. When the first foxhunter localizes the fox, i.e., is out of his/her vehicle and

is on foot, the fox will transmit on high power for one minute and then transmit for another minute using the actual (hidden) fox.

c. The fox will continue with this (high power, low power-actual fox) procedure until all foxhunter/foxhunter teams have localized the fox. At this point the fox may resort to using the low power-actual fox only for all follow-on transmissions.

d. The fox WILL announce the start of the high power-low power procedure, and then WILL announce the transition to the low-power actual fox only procedure when each of them is initiated.

7. The duration of a hunt is limited to 2.5 hours.

Scoring

1. Every hunter starts a hunt with 1000 points.

2. Minutes used by a hunter/hunter team to find the fox are multiplied by 2.5 and equal time points.

3. Mileage traveled by a hunter/hunter team to find the fox is multiplied by 10 and equal mileage points.

4. Time and mileage points for a hunter/hunter team are added together and the sum is subtracted from 1000.

5. The result is the score for that particular hunt for the hunter/hunter team. (Note, each member of a hunter team re-

ceives this score for this particular hunt, and it is accumulated through out the year to compute a participating hunter's year end score).

6. Whichever hunter/hunter team has the highest score is the winner of that hunt, and they are the fox for the following hunt.

7. Hunters, or teams who have not found the fox at the conclusion of the hunt (i.e., by the time limit) are awarded 200 points.

8. Hunters, or teams who have found the fox, but who's score is less than 200 are awarded 200 points.

Scoring for the fox

1. The scores from individual hunters and hunter teams is summed.

2. This total is divided by the number of individual hunters.

3. The dividend is subtracted from 1000; the result is the fox's score for that hunt.

4. If the fox is not found by any of the hunters at the end of the time limit, 1000 points is awarded the fox. In this situation, (fox not found), the fox for the next hunt will be drawn at random from those participating in the current hunt who indicate an intent to participate in the next hunt.

Overall foxhunt winner for year

The foxhunter with the highest accumulated scores from all of the hunts is the winner for that hunting year. This foxhunter, (or possibly team) accumulates its points either from being a hunter, or being the fox.

Foxhunt Chronicles

The following is the planned Foxhunting schedule for 2011:

April	04/03/11	1:30 pm	Sunday
May	05/02/11	6:30 pm	Monday
June	06/06/11	6:30 pm	Monday
July	07/11/11	6:30 pm	Monday
August	08/01/11	6:30 pm	Monday
September	09/12/11	6:30 pm	Monday
October	10/02/11	1:30 pm	Sunday
November	11/06/11	1:30 pm	Sunday

Say Again?

"This 'telephone' has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication. The device is inherently of no value to us."

Western Union internal memo, 1876

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.

For updates and additional contests, see the Contest Corral Web page at www.arrl.org/contests .

HF VHF+	Contest Title Dates / Times	Ph	CW	Dig	Exchange & Frequencies (MHz) Sponsor's Web Site	Logs Due
3.5-28 50	ARRL Rookie Roundup Apr 17, 1800Z - Apr 17, 2359Z	X			Both calls, name, check, S/P XE# or "DX" www.arrl.org/contests	See Web
3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint Apr 5, 0200Z - Apr 5, 0400Z		X		RST, S/P/C, and power www.arsqrp.blogspot.com	2 days
1.8-14	SNS and NS Weekly Sprints Apr 8, 0200Z - Apr 8, 0300Z Weekly on Thursday evenings local time.		X		Serial, name, and S/P/C www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html	2 days
3.5-14	EU Spring Sprints Apr 9, 1600Z - Apr 9, 1959Z - See Web site		X		Both callsigns, serial, name www.eusprint.com	15 days
1.8-28 50-432	Montana QSO Party Apr 9, 0000Z - Apr 10, 0000Z - See Web site	X	X	X	RS, name, and S/P/C www.fvarc.org	May 31
144 7, 14	VHF Spring Sprints Apr 11, 7 PM - Apr 11, 11 PM	X	X	X	Grid Square (6-character preferred) sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints	14 days
7, 14	International Vintage Contest Apr 11, 0700Z - Apr 11, 1600Z		X		RS(T), grid square www.contestvintage.beepworld.it	May 30
3.5-14	NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint Apr 13, 0030Z - Apr 13, 0230Z Monthly on 2nd Tuesday or 3rd Wednesday (alternating).		X		RST, S/P/C, and NAQCC mbr nr or power www.naqcc.info	4 days
3.5-14	CWops Monthly Mini-CWT Test Apr 13, 1300Z - See Web site		X		Name, member number or S/P/C www.cwops.org/onair.html	2 days
1.8-28 50	TARA Skirmish Dig Pfx Contest Apr 16, 0000Z - Apr 16, 2359Z			X	Name, prefix www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_dp_x_rules.html	May 17
1.8-28	Lighthouse Spring Lites QSO Party Apr 16, 0001Z - Apr 24, 2359Z	X	X	X	ARLHS number or serial, name, S/P/C www.arlhs.com	12 days
3.5-28	All America Contest Apr 16, 1500Z - Apr 17, 2359Z		X		RST, continent, and category www.powerline.com.br/cw/jf/eng4.htm	Jun 30
1.8-28	Feld-Hell QRP Sprint Apr 16, 1600Z - Apr 16, 1800Z Monthly on 3rd Saturday			X	RST, QTH, Feld-Hell number www.feldhellclub.org	Apr 20
3.5-28	Michigan QSO Party Apr 16, 1600Z - Apr 17, 0400Z - See Web site	X	X		Serial and MI county or S/P/C www.miqp.org	30 days
222 28	VHF Spring Sprints Apr 19, 7 PM - Apr 19, 11 PM	X	X	X	Grid Square (6-character preferred) sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints	14 days
28	Ten-Ten Spring Digital Contest Apr 23, 0001Z - Apr 24, 2359Z			X	Call, name, county & S/P/C, 10-10 number www.ten-ten.org	15 days
3.5-28	SP DX RTTY Contest Apr 23, 1200Z - Apr 24, 1200Z			X	RST, serial, SP province www.pkrvg.org/zbior.html	May 24
432	VHF Spring Sprints Apr 27, 7 PM - Apr 27, 11 PM	X	X	X	Grid Square (6-character preferred) sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints	14 days
2.4G+	2 GHz and Up World Wide Contest Apr 30, 6 AM - May 1, 8 PM	X	X	X	6-char grid locator www.ham-radio.com/sbms	60 days
5.7G	Worldwide EME Contest Apr 30, 0000Z - May 1, 2400Z	X	X		TMO/RS(T) and "R" www.dubus.org	Jun 25
3.5-28	BARTG 75 Sprint Apr 30, 1700Z - Apr 30, 2100Z			X	Serial www.bartg.org.uk	Jun 1

Membership Application for ACARTS - and/or - FWRC

Name: _____ Call sign: _____ License class: _____

Street address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____ - _____ Phone #: (_____) _____ - _____ Unlisted? Yes

Email address: _____ ARRL Member? Yes

(ARRL membership helps your club maintain affiliation.)

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site? Yes No

Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. For FWRC a mailed paper newsletter is a \$20.00/yr. premium.

How would you like your newsletter delivered? by snail mail download from web site.

A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues

Regular membership \$12.00 / year

Additional family members¹ \$6.00 / year

Student membership² \$6.00 / year

Associate membership³ \$6.00 / year

(New Regular memberships are \$1/month)

Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues

Regular membership \$20.00 / year

Family membership¹ \$30.00 / year

Student membership² \$5.00 / year

Associate membership³ \$20.00 / year

Mailed newsletter premium \$20.00 / year

(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)

1. Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.

2. K-12 or full time student

3. Unlicensed member

Please attach a check (number _____) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

ACARTS

PO Box 10342

Fort Wayne, IN 46851

Fort Wayne Radio Club.

PO Box 15127

Fort Wayne, IN 46885

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

ACARTS Voice Repeaters

146.880 (-) General use / Skywarn priority

147.255 (+) General use

443.800 (+) General use

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

ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digirepeaters)

144.390 (s) APRS - wide

145.530 (s) W9INX-1 Digipeater and Node

Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters

Voice:

146.76 (-) General use

146.94 (-) General use with autopatch

146.91 (-) EchoLink connection repeater

Node number 519521

444.875 (+) General use

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

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.

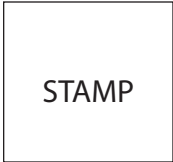
Northeast Indiana Packet Net: Sunday at 9:00 p.m. on 145.530 @ 1200 baud. We use unconnected converse mode to communicate for a roundtable net setting. Use your "UNPROTO" command or equivalent to set Digi path(s) through the strongest station(s) needed between you and your destination. Only use those 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
04/03/2011	1:30 PM	Foxhunt	Fort Wayne Off Track Betting Complex
04/05/2011	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
04/12/2011	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Fort Wayne
04/15/2011	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	GSUMC
04/19/2011	7:00 PM	ACARTS Spring Banquet	Golden Corral Restaurant on Lima Road
04/30/2011	--->	Deadline for May ACHN items	
05/02/2011	6:30 PM	Foxhunt	Fort Wayne Off Track Betting Complex
05/03/2011	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
05/10/2011	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Fort Wayne
05/13/2011	7:00 PM	FWRC Spring Banquet	GSUMC
05/17/2011	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Fort Wayne