



Along With Spring Cleaning, Don't Forget the Foxhunt, Spring Banquet, and QSO Party  
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# Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

April 2016  
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## THE INDIANA QSO PARTY IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

Although it's not yet spring, it's time for Indiana radio clubs and individual hams to start planning for the Indiana QSO Party on May 7. Not only is this the annual running of our popular (and fun ) INQP, it's also a special celebration of Indiana's 200th birthday. And to mark that special event, we've got extra awards for working or activating our state's original 15 counties. This is a great opportunity to become "the hunted" and experience pileups on YOU !

There's a link to a PowerPoint presentation on the INQP website ([www.hdxcc.org/inqp](http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp), click on *Publicity Package*) that could be used as program material in your club. The website also holds a lot of other info, like rules for INQP, operating tips, and links to special awards, like the Worked All Indiana Counties award, or the one-time award for contacting all 15 original counties.

Perhaps your club will mount a full blown effort to put your county on the air and compete for the **Top Club** plaque. Your members can participate as individuals, and then combine their scores for a club score. You can also organize a multi-op effort, and perhaps shake out the club gear prior to Field Day. (Check out the rules and operating categories)

If you are not a club member, feel free to operate and compete for individual awards, including our attractive plaques and certificates. Beside operating from home, you can go mobile, or set up bigger (and higher) antennas as a rover.

Whatever your operating choice, please get on the air Saturday May 7 to put Indiana (and your county) out there for others to work.

Once you have made a plan, please let me know what counties and call signs you will activate on May 7. We'll put your call on the activity map.

Thanks.

Mel Crichton KJ9C [kj9c@arrl.net](mailto:kj9c@arrl.net)

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Internet Home Pages	
Fort Wayne Radio Club:	<a href="http://www.FWRC.info/">http://www.FWRC.info/</a>
	<a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FWRC/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FWRC/</a>
ACARTS:	<a href="http://www.acarts.com">http://www.acarts.com</a>
Fort Wayne DX Association:	<a href="http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/">http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/</a>
ARES:	<a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen_Co_IN_ARES/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen_Co_IN_ARES/</a>
IN_PACKET Yahoo Group:	<a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IN_PACKET/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IN_PACKET/</a>

# INDIANA QSO PARTY

First Saturday in May

May 7, 2016

12 hours - 1500Z to 0300Z (11 AM-11 PM EDT)  
More at [www.hdxcc.org/inqp](http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp)

SSB & CW

160 - 10 meters

- PLAQUES** awarded for :
- TOP CLUB AGGREGATE SCORE, INDIANA
  - TOP INDIANA SCORE, single op high power (> 100 w)
  - TOP INDIANA SCORE, single op low power ( 100 watts and under)
  - TOP INDIANA SCORE, single op QRP ( 5 watts and under)
  - TOP SCORE, PORTABLE (single or multi-op) in Indiana
  - TOP SCORE, MOBILE in Indiana
  - TOP SCORE, ROVER in Indiana
  - TOP SCORE, MULTI-OP, fixed single transmitter Indiana
  - TOP SCORE FROM OUTSIDE INDIANA (high power)
  - TOP SCORE FROM OUTSIDE INDIANA (low power)
  - TOP SCORE FROM OUTSIDE INDIANA QRP
  - TOP SCORE FROM W7
  - TOP SCORE FROM New England
  - TOP BLACK HOLE - MI, WI, IL, MO



Many certificates awarded, including special BICENTENNIAL certificates for 2016

For More info, go to:

[www.hdxcc.org/inqp](http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp)

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 a few days before the end of the preceding month.

# Ham splatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

And here it is April already, when the days are getting longer, and the temperatures are getting warmer, making it easier to get out and do things. Not only do we have the usual types of things like cleaning winters debris from the yard, flower beds to tend to, and gutters to clean, but also Ham Radio!



be here before we know it, and at this time we are still looking for a site to operate from this year. Should you have a good idea of a suitable place, feel free to drop a line to any BOD member, and it will be added to the list of candidates. The sooner we lock in a site, the better we can plan the event.

This month's Foxhunt will be held on Sunday April 3rd, starting at 1:30 pm, with the Nardins playing the role of the wily fox this time. The BOD meeting will be held on Tuesday the 5th, 7:00 pm, with the Spring Banquet on the 15th. All are welcome and encouraged to attend any and all events.

At this time we are also starting to plan for the IN QSO party, which is Saturday, May 7th. As with previous years, we will be needing help with setup, tear down, and more importantly, operating! Whether you can participate for an hour, or stay for the entire day, all help is greatly appreciated. Please note, the operating times have changed this year, and the contest now runs from 11am to 11 pm local time. We do have a preliminary site to operate from this year, and more details will follow. This is the year of Indiana's Bicentennial celebration and the chances are the airwaves will be very active for this event, so mark your calendar and plan on joining the fun!

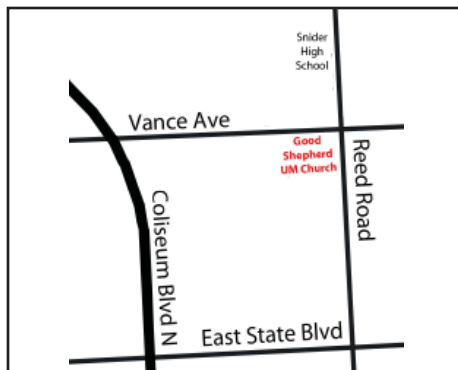
Rumor has it we may see a reappearance of the VHF Simplex contest this year, and there is sure to be a large list of public service events as well. Details should come from event planners as needed. All in all, looks like many things to do.

Speaking of things to do, Field Day will

With all the things we have to do this month, it can be easy to forget how we have made it to this point. Most of us started with minimal operating privileges, and we were mentored along the way to bigger and better things. The same holds true today, as a new Ham starts as a Tech, with mostly FM privileges, and a small sliver of HF. As a club, we should be doing all we can do to encourage the growth of new Tech's into a higher license class, as well as the new hams in general. Robust repeater systems, a good mentoring program, and a willingness to be open to new ideas and people is key to continued encouragement of this great hobby of ours. As a club we have that, and I just want to say thank you to all the people that make us, FWRC, who we are.

Hope to see many of you out and about this month!

Charles Ward



**April 15:** The Spring Banquet will be at 7:00 PM at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, 4700 Vance Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN.

Unless otherwise scheduled, all meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, 4700 Vance Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN.

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## FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

The March meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church on 19 March, 2016 and was hosted by club president Charles Ward, KC9MUT. There were about 40 people in attendance. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance everyone present introduced themselves via their call sign.

Steve Nardin, W9SAN announced that the Indiana QSO Party would occur on 7 May, starting at 11:00 am, EDT. It is a twelve hour contest/ operating event that all are encouraged to participate in. If plans work out the FWRC will be operating out of the Old Fort in downtown Fort Wayne. For more information regarding this operating opportunity check out:

<http://www.hdxcc.org/inq/>

Charles noted that the June VHF contest will be here before we know it. Since club-wide participation in this event has not been significant of late, he is considering conducting a rover operation from his truck with two or three other folks participating.

Charles announced that a site for Field Day has not yet been finalized. The Dolnick Learning Center location at IPFW may be available, but that's not assured so other venues are still being explored.

Charles awarded Carole Burke, WB9RUS, a Special Service Award plaque for over 30 years service to the club. A paper version of the award was presented at the Christmas Banquet in lieu of the more spiffy plaque presented this evening because there was not enough time to have the plaque made before the Banquet. But better late than never.

Dan Ward, N9WLW announced that he is looking for volunteers to support the Indiana Trail 100 Trail Race to be held again this year on 30 April, 1 May at Chain-O-Lakes State Park. Dan is hoping to recruit folks to help with communications while the four hundred registered runners traverse the 100 mile course. Details about this event can be obtained at:

<http://www.indianatrail100.com/>

Folks interested in helping Dan out with this noble effort can contact him at:



**FWRC President KC9MUT Presenting Carole, WB9RUS Special Service Award**

N9WLW@yahoo.com, or  
(260)-402-7561

Charles noted that the annual Spring Banquet carry-in is scheduled to occur on 15 April this year at Good Shepherd United Methodist Church starting at 7:00 pm. The club will provide chicken, drinks and plates/cutlery as usual with the remaining goodies to be provided by the attendees.

Charles announced that a special Fox-hunt is being contemplated where-in the hunters would start from various locations of their choice. Each foxhunting team would broadcast their (current) position, the true bearing to the fox, and relative signal strength to all other hunters. This is exactly the way we would operate if we were conducting an actual (lost, stolen, malfunctioning, rogue) transmitter hunt, so it would be excellent practice for the real thing. Participants could include those listening from fixed locations (their QTH for example). We would use 146.76 or perhaps 146.91 as an intercom to distribute readings from each participant. Someone would need to serve as the fox, and someone would need to function as a coordinator who would plot all of the DF readings from participants and vector hunters to the vicinity of the fox as deduced from the data. Most likely this special hunt would occur on a day other than our normally scheduled monthly contests. Stay tuned for further developments.

Charles commented on the current status of the WLDE/Parrott Rd. initia-

tive. The Sarkes-Tarzian legal department provided a draft boiler-plate Lease Agreement that defined the ground rules and requirements for potential lessee's desiring to be located on the new WLDE tower on Parrott Rd. Currently we are contemplating locating a vhf machine, most likely the 146.94 repeater presently sited at Parkview/Randallia, and a uhf repeater, most likely the D-STAR machine presently located at the Masonic Temple in downtown Ft. Wayne. The antennas for these two machines would be installed at about 280' on the WLDE tower. This would significantly improve the footprint and thus utility of both machines.

Our analysis of the draft Lease suggested no significant concerns other than the potential implications relative to details of the liability insurance Sarkes-Tarzian seemed to be requiring we have in place. Its requirements appeared to us to be more than the club could reasonably afford. So we modified the draft lease, (and especially details of the liability insurance coverage) and reviewed it with our main point of contact (WLDE's chief engineer). He seemed to have no problems with our revision of the draft and has forwarded it to Sarkes-Tarzian Legal for their (hopefully final) review and approval. If Sarkes-Tarzian Legal signs-off then we are good-to-go. We just have to figure out how to finance the project without breaking our Treasury.

Our initial analysis of this project indicated it would cost us about \$7,000.00 or so to install two antennas and feed-lines and a structure to house our equipment at the Parrott Rd. site. That's a lot of money. So far the Board of Directors has considered two initiatives intended to raise money for the project, and they were described by Charles, Bob Streeter, W8ST, Steve Nardin, W9SAN, and others. The two initiatives are:

1. The Club conducts a raffle for a Honda top-of-the-line 1500 watt portable generator (for a cost to the club of a little less than \$1,000.00). The Honda is highly rated and has received excellent reviews in QST. If we limited the raffle sale to 500 tickets at \$10.00 per ticket we could expect to clear as much as \$4,000.00 to-

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# State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

## ACARTS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Many, many thanks to Carl, K9LA, for his very interesting presentation on "Amateur Radio Contributions to Science" at the March meeting. Carl also gave a recap of solar cycle 24 and his predictions for the next couple of solar cycles. The meeting was well attended, so thanks to all of the members that were there to give Carl a warm welcome.



It is officially spring and we have already enjoyed some warm spring weather. Other than the fact that the grass is starting to rapidly grow and yard work will start to encroach on our amateur radio activities, it is time for the ACARTS Spring Banquet. The banquet will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19th, again

at Hall's Guesthouse on Washington Center Road. Please plan on joining us for an evening of good food and conversation. The club will pay for a portion of the members' meals while guests, which are highly encouraged to attend, will have to pay for their own dinner. Reservations are required so that we can tell the Guesthouse how many people to plan for. Please contact me by Monday, April 18th, at w9lkh@comcast.net or 260-485-6135 to let me know that you plan to attend and how many guests you are bringing. I'll see you there.

73,

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

President

## ACARTS BOARD MEETING MARCH 8, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Dave, W9LKH.

Our speaker for the general meeting will be Carl, K9LA talking on Amateur Radio's contribution to science and solar cycles. Jim, KB9IH presented a new format for the Hamfest flyer. This included a complete design change and the addition of color instead of the standard black and white we have had in previous years. Jim is also exploring ways to keep the cost down, suggesting that sending out the flyer as bulk email rather than mailing the flyer through traditional US Post, would lower the costs of printing too.

We will be having our Spring banquet

at Hall's Guest House on April 19, 2016. This will take the place of our general meeting at the Salvation Army. We will need to begin taking RSVP at the first of next month.

We have had only one response to the board's inquiry for monthly programs. The member who responded would like to have a program on kit building, soldering and repair. Bernie, K9JDF suggested

**April 19:** The Spring Banquet is at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19th, at Hall's Guesthouse.

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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that we have a program on packet radio. He will talk with Bradd, KA9LCF to ask if he will come and discuss how a ham station can be set up covering areas such as, equipment, software, speeds and frequencies.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Submitted by TJ Walker, W9QHY

## ACARTS GENERAL MEETING MARCH 15, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Dave, W9LKH who announced that we need to have those who will be attending the Spring banquet to RSVP and Jim, KB9IH showed his update of the Hamfest flyer.

Carl, K9LA gave an interesting and detailed talk on Amateur Radio's contributions to science beginning in 1912. His talk covered:

- In 1919 Harold Beverage, 2BML developed a low noise receive antenna for lower frequencies. Over the course of his life he had filed for 42 patents.
- 1920 the Bureau of Standards asked AR to help better understand fading. There are 3 types. Rapid, Gradual and Very Slow Drift.
- 2017 there will be a solar eclipse and that ARRL is considering an eclipse QSO party.
- Solar cycle 24 and beyond. Sun spot cycle is moving lower. Cycle 25 suggests smaller solar cycle. Propagation on 6, 10, 12 and 15 meters will be low. Propagation on 17, 20 and 30 meters will be better. Discussion also covered antennas for the lower frequencies since the solar cycle is projected to be low.

More of Carl's information can be obtained by going to his propagation website at <http://k9la.us>. Carl was thanked for his presentation by our president Dave, W9LKH.

Meeting adjourned shortly after 8:00pm

Submitted by TJ Walker, W9QHY

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM CENTRAL INDIANA SEVERE WEATHER SYMPOSIUM 2016

### Exerpts from Jay Farlow's, W9LW, Blog

The 2016 Central Indiana Severe Weather Symposium, hosted by the Indianapolis office of the National Weather Service (NWS) and the Indiana chapter of the American Meteorological Society, provided a full day of interesting presentations. Below are a few highlights.

### Squall Lines Made Cooler

John Kwiatkowski of the NWS Indianapolis office provided a presentation on Quasi-Linear Convective Systems (QLCS). Early in his talk, Kwiatkowski explained that this is the same type of storm that meteorologist formally called a "squall line." Kwiatkowski joked that the new name sounds much cooler and that using it will impress members of the opposite sex.

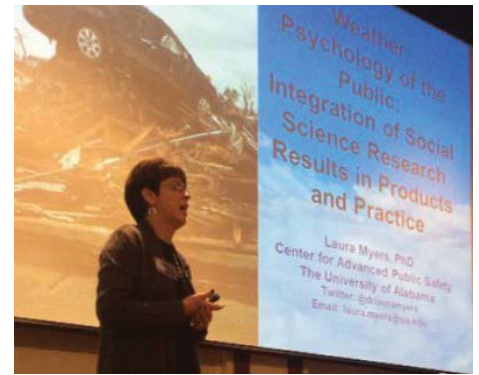
QLCSs are much more common in Indiana than are supercell thunderstorms. Yet, as Kwiatkowski explained, spotting a QLCS in the field can be more dangerous than watching a discrete supercell out in the plains. Part of a QLCS can produce very damaging straight-line winds without appearing any different to a field observer than any other part of the storm. It can also produce essentially invisible, rain-wrapped tornadoes which, while small and brief, can easily overturn a spotter's car. Kwiatkowski advised staying home and reporting damage after the storm passes.

### It'll Never Happen To Me (And If It Does, I Can Handle It)

Dr. Laura Myers, a research scientist at the University of Alabama's Center for Advanced Public Safety, provided a presentation titled "Weather Psychology of the Public: Integration of Social Science Research Results in Products and Practice." She pointed out a variety of issues regarding how (and whether) people respond to weather warnings.

Myers said that a significant challenge of the weather enterprise is to make people understand that the benefits of safe behavior outweigh the costs and inconvenience.

Among the many discoveries she presented were some that will likely surprise weather enthusiasts:



Dr. Laura Myers presents on weather psychology. Photo by NWS Indianapolis

- Most people either don't believe severe weather will ever affect them (it will always happen to someone else), or they believe that they are uniquely able to handle it.
- Not everyone has a single, good warning modality, but people should have more than two.
- Upon first learning of a weather alert, people often waste time seeking secondary confirmation, sometimes leaving insufficient time to take adequate shelter.
- Most people don't know what county they are in, even if they live there.
- The tone, seriousness and message of broadcast meteorologists can make a difference in how people respond to threats.
- Words like "emergency" in weather communications prompt more action but must be used sparingly.
- During the 2012 derecho, severe thunderstorm warnings did not lead people to understand how dangerous the storm was. Many told surveyors that they would have behaved differently, had they known what the storm would do.

Storm spotters, chasers and other weather enthusiasts are in a unique position to help change how people respond to severe weather threats. As I've written before (see "Storm spotters as advocates"), we are often the trusted weather experts in our families and social circles. We can take advantage of that position to help those people understand how to stay safe.

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**Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA**

This year (2016) is my 55th year as a licensed Amateur Radio operator. Sometimes that goes to my head – until I meet someone who has been licensed longer. This humbling experience recently happened again when Jack W9MU drove over from Chicago to have lunch and talk about DX University at this year's W9DXCC Convention in September. Jack was licensed in 1955, so he has 6 years on me.

During lunch, he also told his story about getting licensed in Okinawa when he was a teenager (his dad was the Air Force Quartermaster). It was a funny story, and later that day I started thinking about funny things that have happened to me during my 55 years in Amateur Radio. So that's what I'll relate in this month's column – some of my funny experiences. They may not have been funny at the time they happened, but looking back they now are funny.

The first one was during my Novice days. My Novice buddy Pete WN9BAB lived about a mile away, and one night on the phone (yes, we had phones when I was young – and they weren't even crank-to-operate phones) he said he'd like to come over and get on 15-Meters. When I told him that 15-Meters was closed, he asked "why did the FCC close it?" I didn't know much about propagation back then, but I did know that 15-Meters was not very good at night in the decline of a solar cycle – and that's what I meant by "closed".

During my early General days I gave the Novice exam to a high school buddy. He received his license (WN9HTJ – he used to refer to himself as Jim the Lid) and

## My FUNNY MOMENTS IN HAM RADIO

proceeded to put together a Knight T-60 kit (a typical entry-level transmitter of the era). When he completed building it, it didn't work. So I took it home for troubleshooting (hey, I had a VTVM!). I was sitting in the basement shack with the T-60 on my lap with the cover off – and plugged in and turned on. I'm sure you can see where this went. I touched the 600V, jumped and yelled and the T-60 fell off my lap to the basement floor – breaking all the tubes. So my hard-earned allowance was used to re-tube Jim's T-60.

that happened). We managed to get on an Eastern Airlines flight that left Miami at 3:00 AM and arrived in Antigua at 6:00 AM (with a quick stop in Saint Martin/Saint Marten).

Another funny event happened in 1997 when Dan K1TO, Joe W5ASP, Mike K9MK and I operated as ZF1A in the CQ World Wide CW DX Contest. Vicky, our two sons and I arrived Thursday afternoon, and I immediately went to the Cayman Amateur Radio Society shack to get



Fast-forward to 1981. I was living in Texas then, and K9MK (he had also transferred down from Schaumburg, IL with Motorola) and I decided to do the ARRL International DX Phone contest from Antigua (VP2A at the time – now V2A). We booked our flights, headed to the DFW airport and were soon in Miami heading to the BWIA (British West Indies Airline) gate for our flight to Antigua. But when we got there, there was nothing there. We ultimately found out that the flight we had been booked on had been discontinued a year earlier (still wondering how

with the others to make sure everything was ready to go. The only thing we lacked was a Beverage antenna for low band receiving. So K1TO and I ran a wire through a field that had many bright green leafy plants growing. The next day I had silver-dollar-size welts all over my legs and Dan's hands and eyes were swollen. We later found out from ZF1EJ that we had been in maiden plum, which is akin to poison ivy. After the contest, Dan and I visited the hospital for cortisone shots.

These four episodes aren't the only funny ones throughout my Amateur Radio career. See the February 2014 column for ones tied to actual on-the-air operating. Perhaps a future column will have more of these funny moments (assuming I now consider them funny!).



### FWRC Minutes - Continued from Page 3

wards the Parrott Rd. project. Those purchasing tickets would know they were risking \$10.00 (or hopefully multiples there-of) against a desirable payoff worth \$1,000.00, and they would know their odds of winning since we would limit the sales to 500 tickets. We would like to start the raffle initiative immediately and run it up at least through the Fort Wayne Hamfest. Our initial research indicated that we would not have an issue with the Indiana Gaming Commission (no license required) provided that value of the item is less than \$1,000.00.

*(Editors note: Further research, after the club meeting, indicated that the situation regarding the Indiana Gaming Commission, the Federal government and the FWRC as a Social Club under Section 501(c) 7 of the IRS code, as it relates to our conducting a raffle, is perhaps not so clear-cut. We need to do further research to insure that we can do what we want to do (conduct a raffle) legally and without burdensome tax implications. We may need to get a tax lawyer involved to clarify the potential issues).*

Selling tickets at the Fort Wayne Hamfest would of course also need to be cleared with ACARTS. A show of hands at the meeting indicated that a majority of those present would participate in a raffle.

2. The club is soliciting direct donations for the Parrott Rd. project from club members (and anyone else who might want to participate). As an incentive Bob Streeter has already obtained pledges from certain club members for matching donations, up to a total of \$1,250.00 taken as a whole, and we are hoping to obtain more pledges to increase that total. So we are now soliciting donations. For every dollar in donations we receive, it will be matched, dollar for dollar from the pledge fund up to a total (at present) of \$1,250.00. Thus if we can obtain \$1,250.00 in donations we automatically have a total of \$2,500.00 towards the Parrott Rd. initiative.

The direct donation/matching funds initiative, as of tonight's meeting, is in fact in place. And based upon the show of hands of interest in the raffle, we will likely proceed with it too if it's legal for us to do so.

Following the business meeting, and a short cookie break, Brad Peterson, N9MTF provided an interesting and informative briefing and demonstration of Digital Mobile Radio (DMR). DMR is a form of digital communications technology being employed for amateur use in vhf and uhf repeaters using Motorola based TDMA technology. And it employs the internet as a backbone to enable worldwide communications. Brad is active in the Hoosier DMR group which is an Indiana based organization that has implemented the DMR protocol throughout Indiana, and



Brad Peterson, N9MTF, DMR Presentation



N9MTF Go Box With DMR Installed



N9MTF Go Box, Rear View

## BENT SCREWDRIVER AWARD PRESENTED TO KC4WFN

*This article has been "borrowed" from the July 2005 **The HamCall**, The Official Newsletter of the Kentucky Colonels Amateur Radio Club, Inc., Bowling Green, KY.*

Some awards are self-explanatory while others either need or deserve at least a small explanation. The "Bent Screwdriver" is given to the amateur radio operator who has made some type of error (operating, mechanical, equipment malfunction or otherwise) and has become a dreaded and also revered prize. However, some hams have not been content with merely winning the bent screwdriver by making a straight forward, simple error. Tonight's recipient falls into that category. He has changed the standard and raise the bar so high that he has become the front runner to retain the bent screwdriver (also known as B.S.) in perpetuity! He has done original research in the field of aquatic electronics. He has also written a very learned thesis in the field of physics dealing with the relationship between the speed of a rotating object (an HT) and the centrifugal force produced. And then when the lanyard broke and the HT hit the floor reach the pinnacle of B.S. attainment by having the unmitigated gall of exclaiming "The damn thing don't work".

It gives me great pleasure to present to you tonight's award winner, KC4WFN, George "G.M." Love. Presented by Dr. Carroll Brooks, KC4HDC.

includes a DMR machine operated by Brad on 442.6375 MHz here in Ft. Wayne, and a 442.800 MHz machine at Wolf Lake plus others throughout the state. More information relative to DMR can be found at:

[www.hoosierdmr.net](http://www.hoosierdmr.net), and

[www.dmr-marc.net](http://www.dmr-marc.net)

Respectively submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE

Secretary, FWRC



# THE FOXHUNT CHRONICLES

March 6th was a nice day – low winds, and decent temperatures (48F) for early March in Indiana. The sun was out, and the Foxhunt turnout was good: Five teams were vying for the elusive fox:

- Kim and Jim
- Steve and Linda
- Dave and Robert
- Charles and Fred
- Al, Jim, Carole, and Annie

After participating with the Foxhunt team for over a year now, Deborah and I were trying to figure out a way to be more devious than Charles. We scouted for locations the weekend prior, and came up with a lovely place out of the way: The historic Brunswick bridge in the southeast part of the county. However, it didn't feel devious enough. Sure the location was tricky to get to, due to some road closures that forced you to circle behind the transmitter to get there, but it wasn't quite "Charles-devious". For that, the praise (or scorn) can be given to Deborah, who mischievously suggested that the transmitter shouldn't be anywhere near the bridge. In fact, it should be right next to the high power transmitter.

The hunters got to enjoy the on-air high power transmission recitals of "Green Eggs and Ham" and "The Raven". Surprisingly no comments were made about the recitals.

A decoy was put into a concrete wall, but only Robert and Al found the decoy. The micro fox was slid into a hollow passage on the frame on Jason's truck with

2 inches of its antenna sticking out. It wasn't camouflaged, or buried, it was in plain sight – just so plain that it couldn't actually be that easy to find. Being reminded of where she suggested it be hidden, Deborah is smiling about it now as I type this.

Antenna pieces, a folding chair, a bag, and some other stuff were scattered around the truck and in the bed – all put there to distract the hunters from the den. The bridge was an obvious spot, but was abandoned in less than 5 minutes by each team as they homed in on the truck.

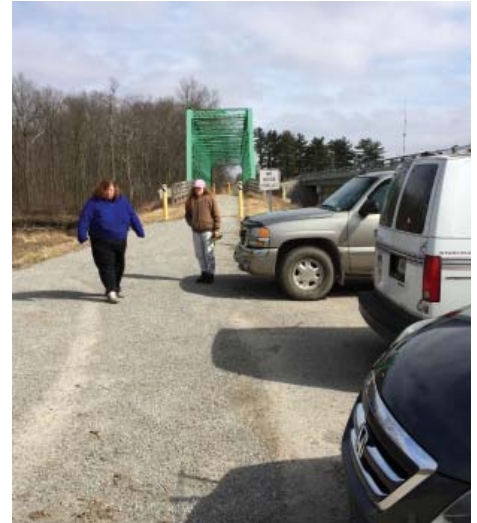
It was certainly enjoyable watching Steve try to figure out where the fox was hidden. At one point, he even kicked the tires; I thought he was going to ask for a test drive and make an offer. I had to remind the hunters that the fox was accessible from outside the vehicle, and it was not in any part of the vehicle that was locked up. Until the first hunter found it, no one believed me.

Linda was the first to find the fox. Followed shortly by Kim, then Charles, Fred, Steve (after a few more tire kicks), and then Dave and Robert. Al and Jim were last on the scene, but didn't take too long to find it once they arrived.

Culvers was our stop afterward, and all in all it was a good hunt, and good company. Looking forward to see if Linda can one-up the devious level for April.

*Jason - KC9UOQ*

Photos provided by Steve W9SAN.



CALL	MONTH SCORE	YEAR-TO-DATE
W9SAN	5	12.8
W9LAN	6	13.8
ALEX	-	7.8
KC9UOQ	6.6	12.6
KK4QXC	6.6	11.6
KC9MUT	3	7
KC9EZP	3	7
AB9IZ	-	3
K9DNU	2	5
KC9UHU	3	3
K9OMA	1	3
KA9YYI	1	3
WB9SSE	1	3
WB9RUS	1	3
KB9DOS	4	5
KB9DOT	4	5





**Severe Weather Symposium - from Page 5**  
**Mobile Home! Duck!**

Well-known storm chaser Jeff Piotrowski discussed how he chased the 2013 El Reno tornado, the widest tornado in recorded history. His presentation included a great deal of compelling video of the storm.

At one point during the chase, a mobile home flew over Piotrowski's car close enough to knock off a roof-mounted camera and antenna. Piotrowski saw it coming just in time to tell his wife to duck.

Piotrowski told the crowd that second-by-second situational awareness — including looking at the sky, not just a radar — is the only reason he survived the tornado. He said that during a chase, he never shuts off his car's engine. And he reminded the audience that debris can travel four miles from tornado.

## 2016 FOXHUNT SCHEDULE

The following is the planned Foxhunt schedule for 2016. All foxhunts start at 1:30 PM on Sunday at the River Greenway Trailhead at Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course.

April 3  
May 1  
June 5  
July 10  
August 7  
September 11  
October 2  
November 6

### A Peek Behind The Curtain

NWS Meteorologists Amanda Lee and Marc Dahmer provided a behind-the-scenes look at how the their Indianapolis office works during severe weather, complete with entertaining video shot in the forecast office. They showed how the NWS WarnGen software creates warnings based on choices the warning meteorologist makes.

They also showed how the general public can access data from post-event damage assessments, sometimes within minutes of data entry in the field. The public-view version of the NWS Damage Assessment Toolkit is at <https://apps.dat.noaa.gov/StormDamage/DamageViewer/>. It requires Adobe Flash, which makes it inaccessible on iOS devices.

### Building a Weather-Ready Nation

Dave Tucek, warning coordination meteorologist for the Indianapolis NWS office, provided an introduction the the agency's "Weather-Ready Nation" (WRN) initiative. His talk included information on severe weather climatology and the value of organizations becoming WRN Ambassadors. Although the Ambassador designation is not available to individuals, Tucek pointed out that "We all have a part in spreading the weather-ready message."

### No Green Screen

Chris Wright of WTTV TV-4, Indianapolis, spoke about his career as a weather broadcaster. Interesting tidbits from his presentation included:

- His station uses no green screen. Instead of chroma key, his weather graphics appear on a bank of nine video monitors.
- During severe weather break-ins, it's

not unusual for a superior to tell him to keep talking. Wright told the crowd that if they see a weather break-in that lasts for more than 30 seconds, it wasn't the weather person's decision.

- News anchors often don't watch the weather segment of a newscast. That's why the weather person recaps the forecast as part of his hand off back to the anchors.
- Social media has significantly increased the workload in TV weather departments. Wright said that keeping up with Twitter, Facebook, blogs, etc. sometimes requires having two people per shift.

### At Colleges, Students Aren't Always The Biggest Emergency Management Challenge

Carlos Garcia, emergency manager for the Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis campus, talked about how the campus prepares for severe weather.

He said federal law requires universities to warn their communities of threats in a timely manner. He pointed out that college students are adults, who need to accept responsibility for their decisions in emergency situations. But he also indicated that students aren't necessarily the biggest challenge with regard to appropriate response to notifications. That's one reason the campus invested in software for all campus computers that can automatically display alerts. The software will even interrupt a professor's Power-Point presentation, displaying a notification to everyone in the classroom of the situation.

[Click here to link to Jay's Web Page](#)



Pictures from the Toledo Hamfest including some of the Fort Wayne hams who attended. Photos provided by Tom Rupp KU8T.

# 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 contests include:

- |                              |  |                                 |   |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|
| ARRL Contest Corral Web page | <a href="http://www.arrl.org/contests">www.arrl.org/contests</a>                           | ARRL's National Contest Journal | <a href="http://www.arrl.org/ncj">www.arrl.org/ncj</a>  |
| ARRL Contest Update          | <a href="http://www.arrl.org/contest-update-issues">www.arrl.org/contest-update-issues</a> | Contesting On-Line              | <a href="http://www.contesting.com">www.contesting.com</a>                                      |
| WA7BNM Contest Calendar      | <a href="http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/">www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/</a>         | Contesting Wiki                 | <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contesting">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contesting</a> |
| DX Zone Contesting           | <a href="http://www.dxzone.com/catalog/Contesting/">www.dxzone.com/catalog/Contesting/</a> | ARRL Contest Calendar           | <a href="http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar">www.arrl.org/contest-calendar</a>                |

MISSISSIPPI QSO PARTY			MISSOURI QSO PARTY			NEW MEXICO QSO PARTY		
APRIL 2, 1400Z		APRIL 3, 0200Z	APRIL 2, 1400Z		APRIL 3, 0200Z	APRIL 9, 1400Z		APRIL 10, 0200Z
3.5-28	ALL	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	1.8-28	ALL	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	1.8-50	-	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL
RS(T), COUNTY OR SPC			RS(T), COUNTY OR SPC			NAME, COUNTY OR SPC		
<a href="http://www.arlmiss.org">www.arlmiss.org</a>			<a href="http://www.w0ma.org/mo_qso_party.htm">www.w0ma.org/mo_qso_party.htm</a>			<a href="http://www.newmexicoqsoparty.org">www.newmexicoqsoparty.org</a>		
GEORGIA QSO PARTY			NEBRASKA QSO PARTY			MICHIGAN QSO PARTY		
APRIL 9, 1800Z		APRIL 10, 2359Z	APRIL 16, 1400Z		APRIL 17, 2300Z	APRIL 16, 1600Z		APRIL 17, 0400Z
1.8-50	-	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	1.8-28	ALL	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	3.5-28	-	PHONE, CW
RST, COUNTY OR SPC			RS(T), COUNTY OR SPC			SERIAL, COUNTY OR SPC		
<a href="http://www.georgiaqsoparty.org">www.georgiaqsoparty.org</a>			<a href="http://www.qcwa.org/chapter025.htm">www.qcwa.org/chapter025.htm</a>			<a href="http://www.miqp.org/Rules.htm">www.miqp.org/Rules.htm</a>		
NORTH DAKOTA QSO PARTY			ARRL ROOKIE ROUNDUP, SSB			FLORIDA QSO PARTY		
APRIL 16, 1800Z		APRIL 17, 1800Z	APRIL 17, 1800Z		APRIL 17, 2359Z	APRIL 30, 1600Z		MAY 1, 2159Z
1.8-28	50, 144	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	3.5-28	50	PHONE	7-28	-	PHONE, CW
RS(T), COUNTY OR SPC			NAME, YEAR LICENSED, SPC			RS(T), COUNTY OR SPC		
<a href="http://w0nd.com/ndqso15.pdf">w0nd.com/ndqso15.pdf</a>			<a href="http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup">www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup</a>			<a href="http://www.floridaqsoparty.org">www.floridaqsoparty.org</a>		

## 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\(at\)ARRL.NET](mailto:AB9ZD(at)ARRL.NET).

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

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

### Eleventh Annual North Central Indiana Hamfest

Sponsored by:

## Kokomo Amateur Radio Club

### Saturday, April 16, 2016

7:00 AM to 1:00 PM ET  
At The  
**Miami County 4H Fairgrounds**  
1029W 200N  
Approximately 2 Miles North of Peru, Indiana on Mexico Road  
TALK IN ON 147.345+ K9ZEV Miami County Amateur Radio Club Repeater

## To Hamvention... And Beyond.

Experience The World's Largest Gathering of Amateur Radio Enthusiasts

May 20-22, 2016

# Membership Application for ACARTS 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.

<b>A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues</b>	
Regular membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$12.00 / year
Additional family members <sup>1</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
Student membership <sup>2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
Associate membership <sup>3</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
(New Regular memberships are \$1/month)	

<b>Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues</b>	
Regular membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 / year
Family membership <sup>1</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00 / year
Student membership <sup>2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5.00 / year
Associate membership <sup>3</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 / year
Mailed newsletter premium	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 / year
(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)	

1. Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.      2. K-12 or full time student      3. Unlicensed member

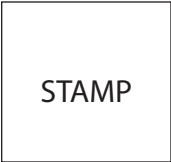
Please attach a check (number \_\_\_\_\_) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

ACARTS	Fort Wayne Radio Club.
PO Box 10342	PO Box 15127
Fort Wayne, IN 46851-0342	Fort Wayne, IN 46885-5127

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

<b>ACARTS AND FWRC REPEATERS</b>		
<b>W9INX</b>		<b>ACARTS</b>
146.880 (-)	No tone	General use / Skywarn priority
147.255 (+)	No tone	General use
443.800 (+)	No tone	General use
144.390 (s)	Digital	APRS - wide
145.530 (s)	Digital	W9INX-1 Digipeater and Node
<b>W9TE</b>		<b>FWRC</b>
146.760 (-)	141.3 Hz optional	General use (Note 1)
146.940 (-)	141.3 Hz optional	General use with auto-patch (Note 1)
146.910 (-)	141.3 Hz optional	EchoLink connection repeater Node number 519521 (Note 1)
444.875 (+)	141.3 Hz	General use (Note 1)
439.25 In, 910.250 Out	ATV	144.340 Audio & control
442.99375	D-STAR	General use (Note 2)
224.780 (-)	No tone	W9FEZ, 1.6 MHz offset
<b>Notes:</b>		
1. Output 141.3 Hz, present		
2. Offset + 5.0 MHz, W9TE ___ B, W9TE ___ G		

<b>AREA NETS</b>					
<b>Daily</b>			<b>Tuesday</b>		
8:00 AM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	8:00 PM	50.580 USB	FWRC 6 Meter Net
8:30 AM	3.940	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	9:00 PM	146.940-	Allen Co. ARES Training Net
6:00 PM	3.940	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	<b>Wednesday</b>		
6:30 PM	146.880-	IMO (alternate is 146.760)	7:00 PM	146.760-	FWRCYL Net
7:00 PM	147.015+	Tri State Two Meter Net	7:30 PM	147.150	21 Repeater Group
8:00 PM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	8:00 PM	145.270	Whitley Co. ARES (131.8 PL disabled)
<b>Week Days</b>			9:00 PM	146.940-	Help and Swap Net
8:30 AM	3.820	Little Red Barn Net	<b>Thursday</b>		
<b>Sunday</b>			7:30 PM	D-STAR	Indiana D-STAR net (Note 3)
8:00 PM	444.550+	Whitley Co. Sunday (131.8 PL)	8:00 PM	50.580 AM	6 Meter AM Net
8:30 PM	1.965 & 146.910-	"No-Name" Net also on EchoLink Node number 519521	8:30 PM	145.510 (s)	Allen County ARES Digital Operations Team Training Net (Note 4)
9:00 PM	145.530	Northeast Indiana Packet Net (Note 2)	<b>Saturday</b>		
			8:00 PM	146.685-	Huntington ARES
<b>Notes:</b>					
1. All times local time. <b>Any changes or corrections should be submitted to the newsletter editor at AB9ZD (at) ARRL.NET.</b>					
2. On 145.530 @ 1200 baud. 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.					
3. 1st and 3rd Thursday, Reflector REF024B.					
4. Net starts using BPSK-31 and switches to BPSK-250 after roll call to pass traffic etc. NBEMS suite of software (FLDIGI, FLMSG, and FLAMP) is preferred.					
5. Indiana HF Traffic Nets Web Site: <a href="http://www.inarrl.org/inhfnet.html">http://www.inarrl.org/inhfnet.html</a>					



To:

## Activities Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Place
04/03/2016	1:30 PM	Foxhunt - River Greenway Trailhead/Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course	GSUMC
04/05/2016	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
04/12/2016	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	GSUMC
04/15/2016	7:00 PM	FWRC Spring Banquet	Hall's Guesthouse
04/19/2016	7:00 PM	ACARTS Spring Banquet	Salvation Army Facility
05/01/2016	1:30 PM	Foxhunt - River Greenway Trailhead/Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course	GSUMC
05/03/2016	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
05/10/2016	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	GSUMC
05/13/2016	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
05/17/2016	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
11/12/2016	9:00 AM	2016 Fort Wayne Hamfest	Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
11/13/2016	9:00 AM	2016 Fort Wayne Hamfest	Allen County War Memorial Coliseum