

Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

June 2008

Volume 9 Issue 6

ARRL VHF QSO Party - Steve Nardin, W9SAN



Join the FWRC for this year's June ARRL VHF QSO Party! One of the ARRL's four premier over 50 MHz contests, it is always two week-

ends before Field Day. This year we will again be on the Continent Divide at Larry Temenoff's (KB9OS) place. Our agenda is as follows:

June 14th, 8:00 a.m. join us for Breakfast at Cosmos' at Lima and Washington Ctr Rd.

June 14th, 10:00 a.m. set up begins at Larry's place on West Wallen Rd.

June 14th, 2:00 p.m., contest starts

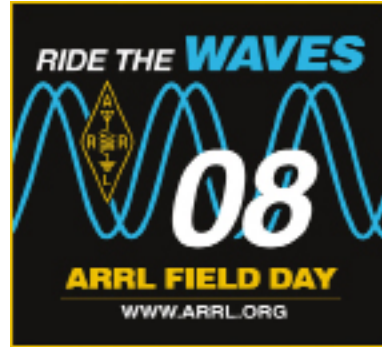
June 14th, 6:00 p.m., join us at Larry's for a cook-out

June 15th, 2:00 p.m., help us tear down and reload the trailer for Field Day

The contest ends at 10:00 p.m. on the 15th.

If you have never done weak signal contesting before, you're in for a treat! See you on the 14th

Field Day Dinner - Carole Burke, WB9RUS



The calendar shows me that Field Day is fast approaching. We will again have our Hog Roast on Saturday evening. The menu will consist of pulled pork, potato salad, green bean casserole,

rolls and butter for a cost of \$10 per person. Please bring a dessert to share and whatever you wish to drink. The club will provide coffee. I would greatly appreciate it if the meals were paid for before Field Day (it will be less hectic that evening). Thank you for all your help and I look forward to seeing you there for a great evening and a great dinner.

- Carole, WB9RUS

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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 the July issue is Friday, 7/4/08.

Please do NOT send anything in all caps!!

Internet Home Pages:

Fort Wayne Radio Club:

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

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FWRC/>

ACARTS: <http://www.acarts.com>

Ft. Wayne DX Assoc.: <http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/>

ARES: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen_Co_IN_ARES/

Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

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President's Corner



The May general meeting was the annual Fort Wayne Radio Club Spring Banquet. I want to thank everyone that participated and a special thanks to Carole Burke, WB9RUS, for the planning. It was a great night; there was an abundance of great food and fellowship. Several people told me that it was one of the best times they had at a club banquet in some time. If you have not been to a banquet in a while mark your calendar for our next one, the Christmas Banquet in December.

This is the June newsletter which means this is your notice that Field Day is upon us. But even before Field Day, we are again planning on participating in the June ARRL VHF contest. The contest will be Saturday June 14th through Sunday June 15th. Hopefully this newsletter will arrive before this fun event so you have time to plan. We will again be on the air from the Larry Temenoff, KB9OS, estate located on the continental divide. We will set up Saturday morning and go on the air for the duration of the contest and tear down immediately afterward. This is a great warm up for Field Day. Contact Steve Nardin, W9SAN, for more details.

Then the June general meeting on Friday June 20th will be our final preparations for Field Day. This is always an essential meeting for anyone wanting to take part in Amateur Radio's most important operating event of the year. Field Day weekend is June 28th and 29th. We will be at the McMillan Girl Scout Camp on Hollopeter Road in northern Allen County. We will again start with our popular, annual "QRP Night" on Friday June 27th at the camp. Arrive at the camp after 6:00 PM and bring your favorite QRP rig or get a chance to operate QRP radios that others have brought. We will also plan on a camp fire; just bring your favorite "goodies" to share. Anyone who wants to spend the night is welcome to come

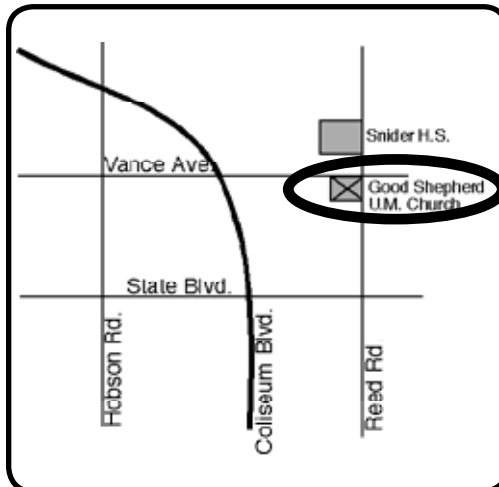
out and set up a tent.

Setup will start Saturday morning around 8:00 AM. We have two towers, and several tents with gear to setup so we can use your help. We will be on the air for 24 hours starting at 2:00 PM Saturday afternoon. This is an opportunity for anyone to get some operating time. Even if you don't have a license we have plenty of control operators so you can get on the air and we are planning a GOTA station. For those that have a license, it doesn't matter your license class, this is your opportunity to get some quality time on HF. We will have from 4 to 6 stations on the air and there is always an opportunity to get some air time. And don't forget that tear down will be after 2:00 PM on Sunday afternoon; we can always use plenty of help for that as well.

This is our busiest time of the year so come on out and take part in the activities.

Tom / N9TB

**June Meeting:
June 20, 7:00 p.m.
Program: Field Day
Prep.**



FWRC Spring Banquet Pictures

photos by Al Burke, WB9SSE



FWRC Repeater Maintenance Pictures

photos by Al Burke, WB9SSE



STATE OF THE ARTS

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

ACARTS Officers

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vberko at comcast.net

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Activities

OPEN

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President's Message



The June program is a Wizard's baseball game. Please make a note that it is on June 24th, which is the fourth Tuesday of the month. The game starts at 7:00 PM, The gates open at 6:00 PM. We will have the use of the Coliseum's luxury suite. The suite holds 18 people. This will be your last chance to see a Wizard's game at the Castle. The team is slated to move to the new stadium downtown next season. We are limited to the capacity of the suite, and tickets are on a first come basis. To make a reservation, contact me, Vic Berko at my e-mail "vberko at comcast.net", or call 456-2012 and leave me a message. We will pick up our tickets at the gate on game day. A reminder of some future dates: There will be no meetings in July. The family picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 23, 2008, at the QTH of Jim Boyer KB9IH.

June is also the month for Field Day. We will not have our own effort as a club. It is a lot of work to put on Field Day, and you need a lot of people to make it work. You are welcome to go to the FWRC site at the Girl Scout Camp. Read about the details in their section of this newsletter. If you have never gone to a Field Day, you should go at least once. The idea of Field Day is a national Emergency Preparedness exercise. You go out to a remote location, set up towers, tents, a generator, and your radio gear. You then operate for a 24 hour period, and see how contacts you can make. You also operate in many different modes. It is a lot of fun and there is something for everyone to do. You may be an operator, and prefer to operate the late night shift. Or you may prefer to do the most important part of Field Day. The setup and tear down. There is also a category for those who wish to operate from home on commercial power.

A word or two from my green thumb. I have my garden ready to plant. I spent the last few days pulling weeds. Hopefully the ground will dry out this weekend and I can plant my tomatoes and peppers. I just picked my first batch of strawberries from my patch. That is all I have for this month. Hope to see you at the game, and the family picnic.

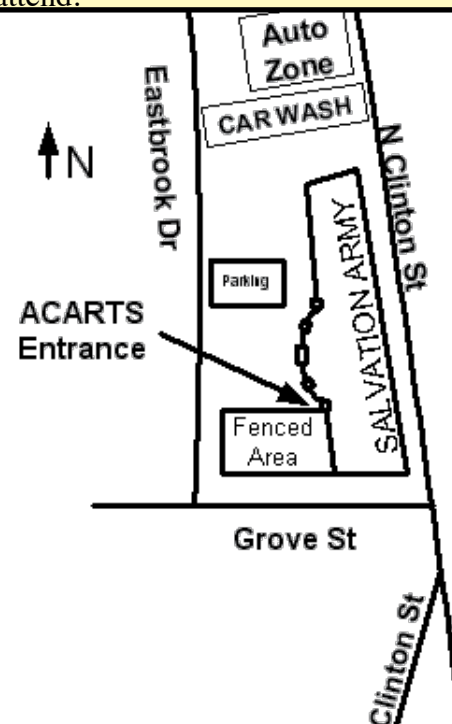
73,
Vic, KA9LTV



Meeting Schedule

General Meeting: June 24, 7:00 p.m.. Wizard's stadium. Program: Wizard's Game

Next Board Meeting: June 10, 7:30 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend.



May 2008 ACARTS Board Meeting Minutes



The meeting was called to order by Vic, KA9LTV.

Vic announced that the May General Meeting was cancelled because of a schedule conflict with the Salvation Army. He added that the June General Meeting would be the Wizards baseball game and that members should contact him to secure a reservation. He also reminded those present that there would be no meetings in July.

Jim, KB9IH, stated that he was having more Hamfest fliers printed and asked the Board if it was OK to have an ad for Phil's Ham Radio Store on the fliers in return for Phil distributing fliers at hamfests and to customers. The Board agreed that the ad would be mutually beneficial to ACARTS and Phil.

No other business was discussed.

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

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

Severe Weather Notes - D-Day For Us

- Joel, KB9RH



This very active severe weather season continues. For the most part, the most severe thunderstorms remained to our west, but in early June the activity shifted into the state of Indiana. Late in the evening of May 30th, four brief tornado touchdowns occurred in Wabash, Adams, Van Wert, and Putnam counties. In addition, from May 30 to June 4, nine tornadoes were confirmed in the central part of the state.

On Friday, June 6 it was our turn. A series of thunderstorm complexes with tornadoes and damaging straight-line winds began in southwest Missouri and caused damage in an arc all the way to Toledo.

Numerous spotter reports of high winds, funnel clouds/tornadoes, and storm damage were called in from Wells, Adams, southern Allen County, as well as Van Wert, Putnam, and Allen counties in Ohio. Many thanks to everyone who participated that evening. Your reports helped confirm some of the tornado and severe thunderstorm warnings issued by the National Weather Service. As of press time, no serious injuries had been reported, but there was extensive property damage and power

outages across those areas.

And it's wasn't over. Storm Prediction Center forecasts indicated the risk of more severe thunderstorms in the following days.

Some operating notes: we are not interested in reports of tornado sirens sounding. Nor are we interested in clear skies or rainbow reports. Also, please remember we have to give priority to the more severe reports such as tornadoes/funnel clouds. Please hold your lower-priority reports (rainfall totals, etc.) until the radio traffic lightens up. It's not that your report isn't important, but we have to prioritize any life-threatening condition.

If you have something to report and there is no official watch or net in operation, please give your call-sign and indicate you have a severe weather report. If severe weather is threatening, we may be in "standby" mode. Someone can take your report and call it in to the National Weather Service. This was the case on May 30 when there were four brief tornado touchdowns and no official watch at the time. In a couple of those cases, there was also no tornado warning in effect.

The biggest concern this year continues to be deaths from tornadoes. As of June 6, 112 people have lost their lives - 3 in Indiana. Almost half of the victims (51) were in mobile homes, and 14 were in vehicles. This should be a reminder to please review your tornado safety rules, especially if you are a mobile spotter. One additional reminder: in a high-wind situation, please point your vehicle into the wind. Car and trucks are designed to drive at high speeds, so your vehicle should not be damaged. However, if the wind hits your vehicle broadside, the outcome could be different. It's not uncommon for 18-wheelers to be blown over in very high winds. It's not necessarily the high-profile vehicle, but the broadside winds.

Thanks again for all your reports, and please be careful out there.

Joel, KB9RH



Where Is Solar Cycle 24 Headed?



- Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

Ft Wayne DX Association

Since the scientific community hasn't agreed on a single-consensus prediction for the magnitude of Cycle

24, we have two predictions. One group believes Cycle 24 will peak in late 2011 with a smoothed sunspot number of 140. The other group believes Cycle 24 will peak in mid 2012 at a smoothed sunspot number of 90. See the accompanying figure for both predictions.

Right now we're mired down in the solar minimum period between Cycles 23 and 24. Although the first sunspot of Cycle 24 was seen on January 4, the second new sunspot of Cycle 24 didn't appear until 3 months later - on April 13. And the third sunspot of Cycle 24 showed up on May 5. But Cycle 23 sunspots are still more abundant than Cycle 24 sunspots, so we still have a long way to go before Cycle 24 really starts ramping up.

Looking at the two predictions indicates we should be able to tell with pretty good confidence in mid 2009 which prediction of Cycle 24 might be most accurate. The prediction of the larger cycle should result in a smoothed sunspot number of around 45 in mid 2009, while the prediction of the smaller cycle should result in a smoothed sunspot number of around 25 in mid 2009.

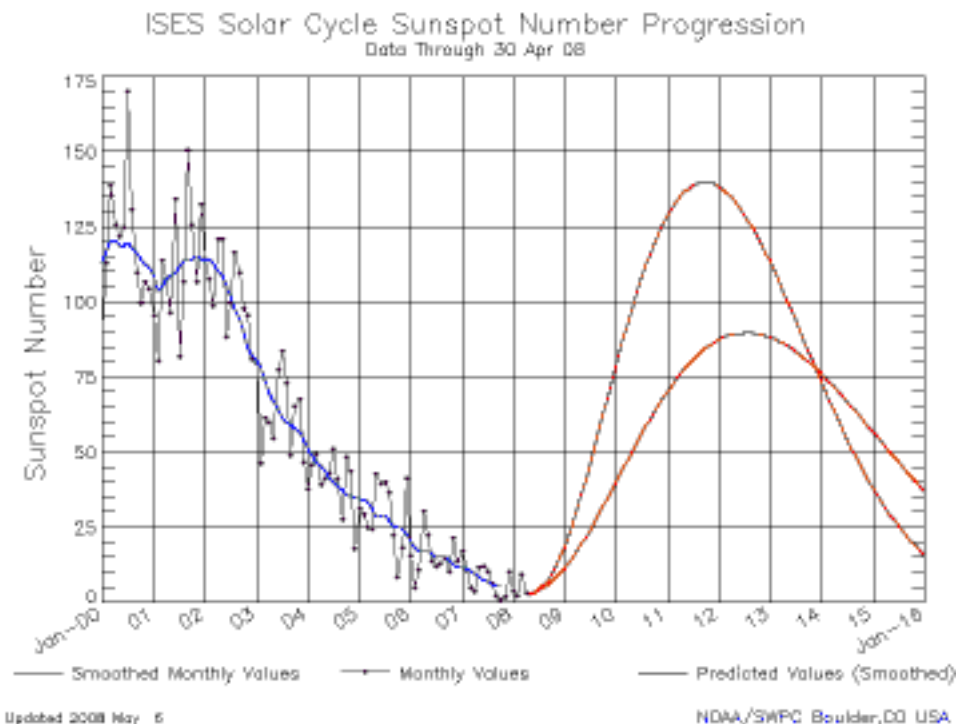
Unfortunately, smoothed sunspot numbers are heavily averaged to remove the daily and monthly spikes from the plot

(hence a smooth curve). The calculation of the smoothed sunspot number for, say, July 2009 requires monthly mean (average) sunspot numbers for the months of January 2009 through January 2010. Thus we won't know the smoothed sunspot number for July 2009 until February 2010. That's about a year and a half from now, and it's how long we'd have to wait to tell what Cycle 24 might do with decent confidence.

Can we take a different approach and come up with an earlier estimate? Yes, we can, but it will result in less confidence. It involves matching the two Cycle 24 predictions to previous cycles, and using historical monthly mean data to estimate a monthly mean in July 2009.

The large cycle prediction best matches Cycle 4. The small cycle prediction best matches Cycle 13. Going through this exercise says we would expect a monthly mean sunspot number from 35 to 40 in July 2009 for the smoothed sunspot number to come out around 45 for July 2009 (large Cycle 24). Likewise, we would expect a monthly mean sunspot number from 15 to 20 in July 2009 for the smoothed sunspot number to come out around 25 for July 2009 (small Cycle 24).

So what's this all mean? It means we'll take a preliminary look at the status of Cycle 24 in the July 2009 column. If anything comes up earlier to pin down where Cycle 24 is headed, it will be reported here. In the meantime, the best thing to do now is get on 6 m to take advantage of sporadic E throughout the summer (there have already been some good nights - even for my 100 W to a halo at 20 feet) and get on the low bands this fall/winter.



Updated 2008 May 6

NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA

Test Points

28-Jun-2008
 Sponsor: UNSPONSORED
 Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins)
 Contact: STEPHEN J KOUTS
 (419)238-5560
 VEC: ARRL/VEC
 Location: VAN WERT COUNTY EMA
 1220 OLD LINCOLN HWY
 BUSINESS US 30 EAST
 HOMELAND SECURITY BUILDING
 VAN WERT, OH 45891



10-Jul-2008
 Sponsor: GOSHEN ARC
 Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
 Contact: PAUL F COREY
 (574)262-4414
 Email: K9MV@ARRL.NET
 VEC: ARRL/VEC
 Location: WWW.GOSHENARC.ORG/VE_TESTING.HTML
 GREENCROFT BLVD
 GREENCROFT RETIREMENTCOMMUNITY
 HOMAN BUILDING
 GOSHEN, IN 46525

26-Jul-2008
 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

27-Sep-2008
 Sponsor: UNSPONSORED
 Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins)
 Contact: STEPHEN J KOUTS
 (419)238-5560
 VEC: ARRL/VEC
 Location: VAN WERT COUNTY EMA
 1220 OLD LINCOLN HWY
 BUSINESS US 30 EAST
 HOMELAND SECURITY BUILDING
 VAN WERT, OH 45891

For Sale & Wanted

The estate of Lloyd Dawson, KD9GJ has the following items for sale:

- Yaesu FT-757GX HF Transceiver with speaker, microphone and manual.
- Amp Supply Co. LK-500ZA Linear Amplifier.
- Amp Supply Co. AT-3000 Antenna Tuner
- Zetagi SWR-102 Forward-Reflected Power meter.
- CDE Ham IV Antenna Rotator with control and manual
- Rohn BX self supporting tower, 48', needs to be taken down.
- Yaesu FT-208R Handheld Transceiver



This equipment is located in Ossian, Indiana. If interested contact: Bessie Smith, 260-758-9252

* * *

For Sale:

- 60' Rohn 25g tower already taken down for sale with all accessories
- 6M5X 6 meter 5 element yagi
- 2M5WL--2 meter 5 wavelengths yagi
- 222 5WL 222 MHz 5 wavelengths yagi
- 432 9WL 432 MHz 9 wavelengths yagi

All prices will be given once you contact me.
 indianaham at gmail.com
 Eric KT8O
 Garrett, IN

2008 Foxhunt Schedule

- June 9 6:30
- July 7 6:30
- Aug 4 6:30
- Sept 8 6:30
- Oct 6 6:30
- Nov 2 1:30
- Dec - No Hunt



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

Regional Hamfests

Date	Location	Contact Phone	URL or E-mail
8 Jun 2008	Wheaton, IL	630-963-4922	http://www.qsl.net/k9ona
12 Jul 2008	Indianapolis, IN	317-261-6658	http://www.indyhamfest.com
14 Jun 2008	Midland, MI	989-689-3477	http://www.qsl.net/w8kea
15 Jun 2008	Monroe, MI	734-242-9487	http://www.mcrc.org/hamfest.htm
21 Jun 2008	Milford, OH	513-831-6255	http://www.qsl.net/wa9txe
12 Jul 2008	Indianapolis, IN	317-261-6658	http://www.indyhamfest.com
20 Jul 2008	Van Wert, OH	419-238-2812	http://www.w8fy.org/

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



**The Foxhunt Chronicals
May 2008 - Al Burke, WB9SSE**

The fourth FWRC foxhunt for 2008 was held on the 5th of May and occurred on a beautiful Monday evening in quite pleasant spring weather (with a little threat of rain). Once again three eager foxhunting teams appeared at the starting point, the Off Track Betting Parlor parking lot near Meijer's on Lima Rd. Team one consisted of Jim & Kim Machamer, KB9's DOT and DOS. Woody Woodbury, KC9CGN formed the 2nd team. The 3rd team consisted of Jim Pliett, K9OMA, and Carole & Al Burke, WB9RUS & WB9SSE. Carl and Renee Thomas, WB9YBI & KC9KTG served as the ever evasive fox.

The fox's first (and subsequent) transmission like to blew the front ends out of everyone's receivers and indicated a bearing to the north of the foxhunt starting point. (It turns out that the Fox was running about 40 watts and was operating into a fairly efficient monopole over a ground plane). Carl and Renee had placed the fox in the back seat of Carl's jeep which was located in the parking lot of Cebolla's Mexican Restaurant on the south-west corner of Coldwater and Dupont Roads. The fox was a base station transceiver activated by a

five minute timer/keizer that sent Carl's (I think it was Carl's) call sign in Morse Code every five minutes. Cebolla's parking lot was REAL crowded as it was Cinco de Mayo and everyone at Cebolla's was celebrating, including Carl and Renee.

First to find the fox were Jim & Kim Machamer. (Kim actually found the fox first, so all the guys had to suffer through the cries of "Girls Rule" boasting as they had the previous month when Renee was first to find the fox). Jim Pliett and Al and Carole Burke were next to find the fox, followed by Woody Woodbury. What with all the drinking and general Cinco de Mayo celebrating going on at Cebolla's, and being a pious group they are, the foxhunters rejected celebrating in Cebolla's and instead went over to Culver's Butter Burger restaurant for a well deserved dessert. (Actually, there were no tables available at Cebolla's).

Jim & Kim Machamer will serve as the Fox for the June hunt which has been RESCHEDULED to occur on the 2nd Monday in June instead of the first, i.e., the hunt will occur on Monday, June 9th starting at 6:30 pm from the Off-track Betting Parlor parking lot. Mark it on your calendar and join in on the fun (and dessert afterwards).

Year to date team member points through May are as follows:

HUNTER	K9OMA	KA9YYI	WB9SSE	WB9RUS	W9SAN	KC9CGN	WB9YBI	KC9KTG	KB9DOS	KB9DOT
POINTS:	8.5	6.5	8.5	8.5	3.5	7.5	7.0	7.0	3.0	3.0



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 (-) EchoLink connection repeater
Node number 16636
- 444.875 (+) General use
- ATV: 439.25 In, 910.250 Out, 144.340 Audio & control

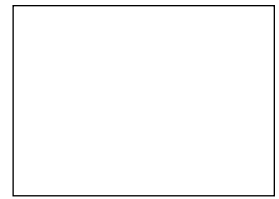
Area Traffic Nets

- (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 p.m. on 147.015+
 - 21 Repeater Group:** meets each Wednesday at 9 p.m. on 147.150
 - Help and Swap Net:** Mondays at 9:00 p.m. 146.94(-)
 - 6 Meter SSB/AM Net:** Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m. EDT or EST on 50.580
MHz Net controls: K9RFZ & W9SAN

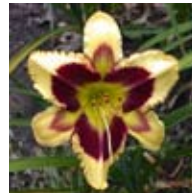
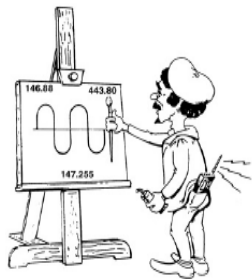
Miscellaneous Nets

- Allen Co. ARES Training Net:** Tuesdays at 9:00 p.m. on the 146.94 W9TE repeater.
- Huntington ARES:** Saturday at 8:00 p.m. on 146.685
- Whitley Co. ARES:** Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. on 145.270 (Note 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)
- Whitley Co. Sunday:** Sundays at 7:45 p.m. on 444.550 +. (The 146.460 simplex crossbanding from both nets has been dropped.)
- 160 Meter "No-Name" Net:** Wed. 9:00 p.m. Indiana time, 1966 kHz, Wednesday 3866 KHz. Everyone welcome! Contact Larry Temenoff, KB9OS for more info.
- Little Red Barn Net:** M, W, F @ 8:30 a.m. on 3820 kHz. Net control is K9ODF

Allen County HamNews
 PO BOX 10342
 FORT WAYNE, IN 46851



TO:



Activities Calendar

W9INX/R	Date	Time	Event	Place
	6/14-15/08		ARRL VHF QSO Party	QTH of KB9OS
	6/20/08	7:00 PM	FWRC Meeting	GSUMC
	6/24/08	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	FW Wizards baseball game
	6/28-29/08		FWRC Field Day	Girl Scout Camp
	7/4/08	--->	deadline for July ACHN items	
	7/7/08	6:30 PM	foxhunt off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.	
			No ACARTS board or general meetings in July	
	7/8/08	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
	7/18/08	7:00 PM	FWRC Meeting	GSUMC
	8/1/08	--->	deadline for Aug. ACHN items	
	8/4/08	6:30 PM	foxhunt off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.	
	8/5/08	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
	8/12/08	7:30 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Center
	8/15/08	6:00 PM	FWRC Tailgate Hamfest	GSUMC parking lot
	8/23/08	1:00 PM	ACARTS Picnic	QTH of KB9IH