Spring Banquet Is This Month Plus Another Auction Is Being Planned

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Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club Fort Wayne DX Association Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

April 2018
Volume 19
Issue 4

The Foxhunt Chronicles for March

The second foxhunt of 2018 occurred on 4 March, 2018 on a brisk but sunny afternoon. Three teams arrived at the starting point at Cobin Memorial Park in anticipation of the hunt beginning at 13:30 hours. The first team included Charles Ward, KC9MUT, Fred Gengnagel, KC9EP and Kevin Loughin, KB9RLW. The second team included Steve and Linda Nardin W9's SAN & LAN. And the third team consisted of Don Glick, W9LI and newcomer Rudy Wilfong.

The fox function was provided by Jim and Annie Pliett, K9OMA & KA9YYI plus Carole and Al Burke, WB9's RUS & SSE. They located the high-power fox on the grounds of Carroll High School off Carroll Rd just west of the Carroll High School Natatorium. It pumped about 30 watts into a cubicle quad mounted on the roof of Jim's van.

The microfox was the standard microprocessor driven cw transmitter producing about 10 milliwatts into a monopole. Ultimately the microfox was hidden under one of the seats in the tennis courts aluminum bleacher stands in such a way that it was almost impossible to see.

But before they hid the fox, Jim and Al, having been witness to the evil shenanigans perpetrated in past hunts by the Ward/Gengnagel team when they were the fox, and goaded on by Carole and Annie, they thought they'd have a little fun by attaching the microfox to Jim's fancy new Quad Copter and flying the Quad Copter and active microfox about 100 feet above the tennis court for about five minutes, shortly after the hunt started. They hoped that the hunters would hear it and think they were right on top of the fox when in fact they were still miles away.

But alas, none of the hunters heard the microfox, so the Ward/Gengnagel gambit, as Jim and I liked to refer to it, didn't work. (After the fact, when I described what we attempted to Charles and Fred, I noticed subtle but evil grins forming on their faces).

It took a while for the hunters to wend their way to our hideout and localize the fox. Steve and Linda were first to arrive 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, 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.

Hamsplatter
Fort Wayne Radio Club P.O. Box15127, Fort Wayne, IN

Fort Wayne Radio Club Meeting Minutes

The March meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church (GSUMC) on 16 March, 2018. The meeting was presided over by President Charles Ward, KC-9MUT, there were about 40 folks attending.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance each person introduced themselves via their call sign.

Charles announced that he was contacted by the wife of Dave Campbell, K9RYJ who wanted to donate items from his estate to the club, including an AL811 PA, an FT817 multi-mode portable transceiver, a buddy-pole antenna, an auto-tuner, a Diamond SWR bridge, a Astron power supply and several other items including HT's and scanners. These items will be offered in a club auction which we will likely implement using Paul Prestia's (KA3OPZ) on-line auction site.

Treasurer Bob Streeter (W8ST) provided numbers concerning the club's financial status as of 16 March, 2018. The income year-to-date is $2,334.95, expenses $221.84. Cash-on-hand equals $55.00, our checking account contains $4,277.55 and our savings account is at $7,827.42. The club currently has 118 members. Plans are afoot to move a portion of the savings account into a Certificate of Deposit.

Al Burke, (WB9SSE) provided the fox-hunt report for March. There were three hunter teams, Charles Ward, Fred Gengnagel and Kevin Loughin, (KC9MUT, KC9EZP & KB9RLW), Steve & Linda Nardin (W9's SAN & LAN), and Don Glick (K9LI) plus helper Rudy Wilfong. Jim & Annie Pliett (K9OMA, KA9YYI) plus Carole & Al Burke (WB9's RUS and SSE) served as the fox. They hid out on the campus at Carroll High School. This hunt featured videos captured by Kevin, both on the ground, and from a quad-copter provided by Jim. Kevin's video is posted on You Tube see:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3RY4gt4oq0c

Jim showed his video during the club meeting, and it will likely also be posted on You Tube.

Kevin was first to find the fox, so the Ward, Gengnagel, Loughin team will serve as the fox for the April hunt. More details can be found in the March Foxhunt Chronicles which will be posted on the FWRC website and in the Allen County HamNews.

It was noted that Echo-Link function on the 146.910 machine was not available, and its output signal seemed a little low. (After the fact it was determined that the hard-drive in the Echo-Link computer had died, and also that the 146.910 power amplifier had given up the ghost. Several repair trips to the IPFW site concluded with the installation of new 146.91 repeater hardware, and a new experimental Echo-Link computer and associated peripherals. It seems to be functioning normally now).

Charles noted that the April meeting will be the Spring Banquet. It will occur on 20 April at GSUMC starting at 7:00 pm. As usual the club will provide both fried and baked chicken, plates, cutlery, coffee and soft drinks. Attendees should bring in a supplemental dish or dessert. Al Burke noted that in accordance with long standing traditions, originating in the 1920's and purportedly initiated by Hiram Percy

April 20: The Spring Banquet will be at GSUMC starting at 7:00 pm.

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Carole Burke, WB9RUS

Webmaster
Jay Farlow, W9LW

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

himself, meat balls and/or deviled eggs would make a nifty carry-in dish. Just saying.

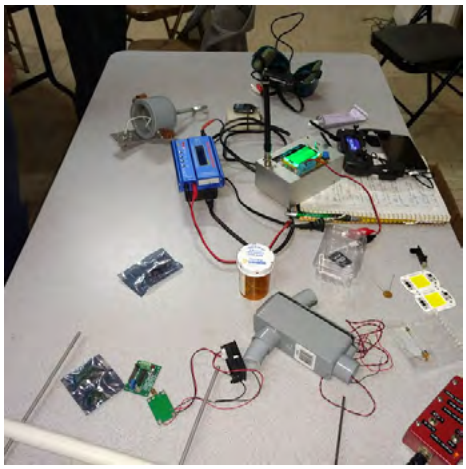
Speaking of food, Brenda Plummer (KD9GDY) noted that the next FWRC-YL luncheon is planned to occur at Sara's on Coventry at noon on the 28th of April. YL's and XYL's are encouraged to attend.

Steve Nardin announced that the May meeting is intended to include presentations on "Small antenna projects", perhaps 10-minute discussions on a pet antenna project that a member has executed. Please contact Steve if you would like to provide a presentation.

Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ announced that he will be providing a presentation describing the capture of weather satellite image telemetry using a software defined radio USB dongle, at the upcoming ACARTS club meeting on 20 March at the Red Cross complex on Coliseum. Joseph will provide details on the SDR hardware and the software used to capture the telemetry and convert it to images. Following the ACARTS business meeting and the presentation, there will be a follow-on meeting of the Fort Wayne Hamfest Steering Committee to discuss planning for the ARRL Central Division Convention and dinner which will be hosted at the Fort Wayne Hamfest this November.

Following the business meeting Jim Pliett (K9OMA) gave a presentation on the various interesting electronics related toys one can find on eBay with a little prudent searching. Most of the items source from the Far East, many from mainland China. He showed simple (315 MHz, keychain type) remote control transmitters and receivers that can be put to all kinds of uses. He demonstrated one such use that he used to trigger a remote release mechanism from a quad-copter that he flew inside our meeting hall. He also demonstrated several very high intensity led light assemblies that can be used for spot lights, work lights, etc. Then he demonstrated a very low cost LCR meter assembly he purchased off eBay for a couple of bucks that works surprisingly well. Jim offered some advice on how to research these type items on eBay and how to arrange for the payment and shipping. All in all an interesting and informative presentation.

Respectfully submitted,
Al Burke, WB9SSE
Secretary, Fort Wayne Radio Club



FWRC Members at the Toledo Hamfest on the 18th of March

State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

ACARTS President's Message

Many thanks to Joseph, K9RFZ, for his interesting and in-depth presentation on Receiving Weather Satellite Images using a SDR Dongle at the March Meeting. He covered the hardware and software necessary and showed samples of received images.

ACARTS will again be sponsoring the FM VHF/UHF Simplex contest this year. Mark your calendars for April 7th, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. The rules are pretty much the same as last year. Updated rules, a township map of NE Indiana, and a log sheet are available for download from the club website. Let's see if we can have even more participation this year.

The April meeting is the annual Spring Banquet, to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17th, at Hall's Guesthouse. The club will pay a portion of member's dinners while guests, which are highly encouraged, will have to pay for their own meals. Contact me at w9lkh (at) comcast.net or 260-485-6135, to make reservations, which are necessary to attend. Reservations must be made by Sunday, April 15th, so the restaurant knows how to set the room. Please plan on joining us for an evening of good food and conversation. I hope to see you there.

The May meeting will be a presentation on the FT-8 Digital Mode by Jack, W9GT.

73,

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

President

ACARTS March 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Dave, W9LKH.

Dave announced that the March meeting would be a presentation by Joseph, K9RFZ, on receiving satellite images using a SDR dongle. A Hamfest Steering Committee Meeting will follow.

He added that the April Meeting would be the Spring Banquet at 7:00 p.m. on the 17th, at Hall's Guesthouse.

He reminded everyone that the VHF/UFH FM Simplex Contest would be held from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. on April 7th.

Jim, KB9IH, gave an update on the status of the Hamfest.

Howard, N9ADS, stated that the lease on the storage unit is up at the end of April. He wanted to know when it would be convenient for everyone to meet and clean it out so that a smaller unit can be rented.

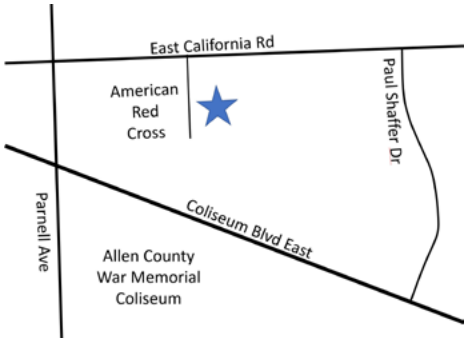
No other business was discussed.

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

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

April 17: The April meeting is the annual Spring Banquet, to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17th, at Hall's Guesthouse.

Unless otherwise scheduled, all General meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the Red Cross Center, 1212 E California Rd, Fort Wayne, IN. Board meeting are held at the Salvation Army Facility.



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ACARTS March 2018 General Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Dave, W9LKH.

After introductions, Dave asked if there were any new hams with a membership letter present. No one responded, however, Jeff, KD9KDR, had presented a letter before the meeting.

Dave announced that the VHF/UHF FM Simplex Contest would be held from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 7th.

He also announced that the April meeting would be the Spring Banquet, at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17th, at hall's Guesthouse. He added that he would begin taking reservations after the first of the month.

Joseph, K9RFZ, gave a presentation on Receiving Weather Satellite Images using a SDR Dongle.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m., and a Hamfest Steering Committee Meeting followed.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH.

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

2018 ACARTS VHF/UHF FM Simplex Contest
Saturday April 7, 2018
7 – 10 PM EDT

Operate 2m, 1.25m, and 70cm FM Simplex Frequencies ONLY

Base – Portable – Rover Categories

Score Bonus Multipliers for Each Unique Township Contacted

Complete Rules, Log Sheet, and Helpful Map Download at;

ACARTS.COM

FORT WAYNE HAMFEST & Computer Expo

46th Year

Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
4000 Parnell Ave
Fort Wayne, IN
73,000 sq. ft. all indoors
(Coliseum Parking $5 per vehicle)

Admission: $6 Sat & Sun
$3 Sun only
Children under 12 free (with adult)

NOV
17&18
2018
SAT 9 AM to 4 PM
SUN 9 AM to 2 PM

- Ham Radio License Testing ($14) 9 AM till 12 PM Saturday
- WAS & DXCC Checking
- New & Used Ham Dealers
- Main & Hourly Prizes
- Equipment Check-out table
- Talk-in 146.880-
- Forums Saturday only
- Tables: $25 Regular (8ft)
  $50 Premium (8ft)
  $30 Electricity

2018 ARRL CENTRAL DIVISION CONVENTION

Get the latest information at
www.fortwaynehamfest.com
www.facebook.com/FTWAYNEHAMFEST/

The Explosion of FT8

Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA

I hope you're aware that FT8 is making a run for the most popular mode on HF (and on 6-Meters, too). A good example showing the explosion in FT8 is the logs submitted to Club Log (https://clublog.org/loginform.php). The number of QSOs throughout the year that were submitted to Club Log during 2017 were plotted by their mode – CW, Phone, FT8, Other, RTTY and PSK. See the accompanying plot (and it will be interesting to see the 2018 data). The broad spikes in the CW and Phone QSOs at certain times of the year are likely due to major contests and DXpeditions.

It's easy to see the increasing popularity of FT8 (the green line). I think there are three reasons for FT8 gaining in popularity. First, it allows no-code hams to take advantage of the worldwide capabilities of HF. Second, it allows those with deed restrictions (also known as CC&Rs – covenants, conditions and restrictions) or small lots to get on HF with stealth or compromise antennas. Third, it offers a propagation advantage over CW.

The first two reasons are self-explanatory. The third reason is not too hard to understand if we understand signal-to-noise ratios (SNRs). Why SNRs? That's because FT8 reports signals in terms of SNR in a 2500 Hz bandwidth. For the record, 2500 Hz is used with FT8 to be able to decode many very narrow FT8 signals (each is only 50 Hz wide) in a relatively large swath of frequencies

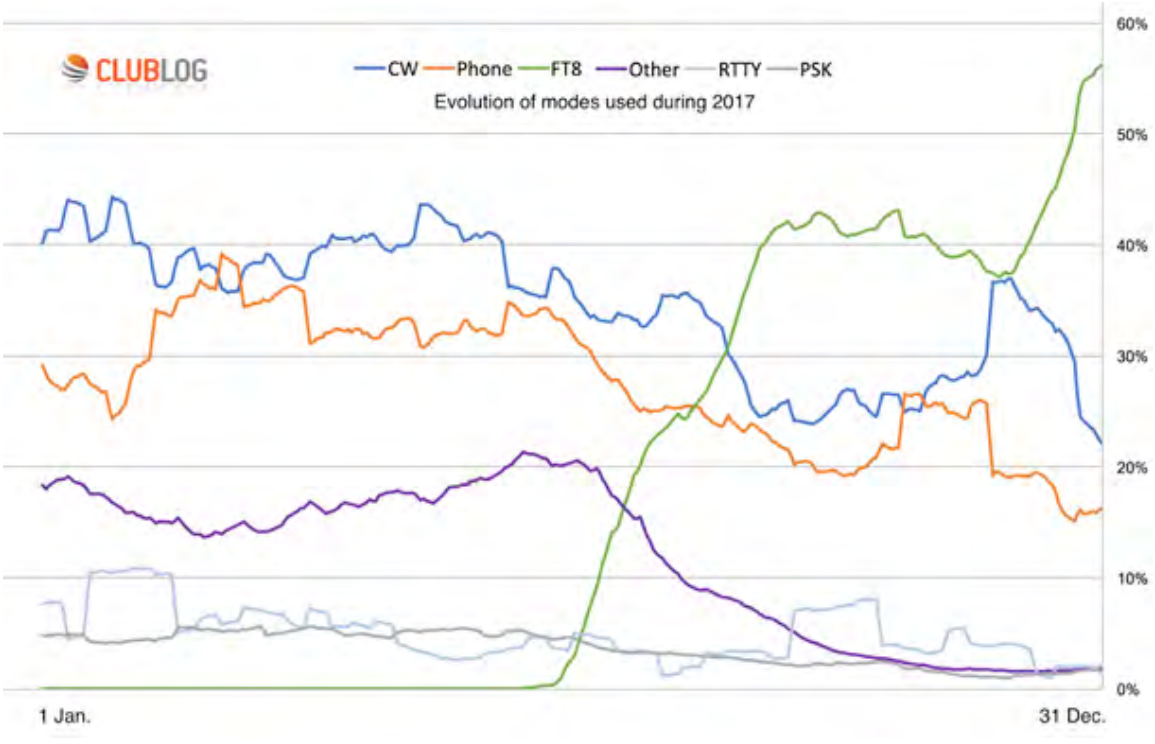
From the "JT65 Communications Protocol" and the "WSJT-X User Guide", we see that FT8 can decode at an SNR of -19 dB at a 100% probability in the 2500 Hz bandwidth. This means the FT8 signal can be 19 dB below your noise level in the 2500 Hz bandwidth.

At what SNR can a CW signal be decoded? I used my homebrew signal generator and a step attenuator to determine the SNR at which I could copy a CW signal. It was at a -2 dB SNR when using the 250 Hz filter in my OMNI VI transceiver. If you work through the SNRs and bandwidths for CW and FT8, you'll determine that FT8 has a nominal advantage of 7 dB over my ability to copy CW. In other words, FT8 can copy a signal 7 dB weaker than CW.

But this is under ideal CW conditions – no QRM from other stations. And of course some people may copy a bit better than me and others may not copy as well. Another issue is that I've looked at FT8 spots at the hamspots.net web site, and many times I see reported SNRs of -24 dB. All of this says that your mileage may vary with the advantage of FT8 over your ability to copy CW.

What does this advantage buy us? On the low bands, where ionospheric absorption is the critical issue, it says you should be able to make an FT8 QSO when an FT8 signal in a 2500 Hz bandwidth is up to 7 dB weaker than a CW signal in a 250 Hz bandwidth (remember that's based on my ability to copy weak-signal CW). On the high bands, where the MUF (maximum useable frequency) is most important, you might be able to make a QSO when the MUF is not high enough for making a CW QSO. This last statement will be discussed in the May FWDXA column.

For more details of much of this, read my October 2017 article in QST. And read my March 2018 Monthly Feature and my March 2018 Bonus Monthly Feature at https://k9la.us.



SKYWARN Net Runs Successful Tornado Drill Exercise

By Jay Farlow, Net Manager, Allen County SKYWARN

The National Weather Service (NWS), in cooperation with state and other agencies, conducted a statewide tornado warning drill March 20. Only one drill occurred that day, at approximately 10:15 a.m. EDT, unlike previous years, when morning and evening drills occurred. The Allen County SKYWARN net took advantage of the drill as an opportunity to practice net procedures.

Several minutes before the drill began, net control station (NCS) operator Chad Beach, W9GGA placed the ACARTS 146.88 MHz repeater in SKYWARN "standby mode." Chad reminded operators that this mode normally indicates implementation of a weather watch that affects Allen County. During standby mode, stations are welcome to use the repeater normally and are requested to keep transmissions short and leave large breaks between transmissions. During standby mode, a SKYWARN NCS is usually on frequency to receive informal check-ins from storm spotters and answer questions about the weather situation.

When the NWS issued a test tornado warning, Chad began a directed net, during which stations are normally requested to remain off the frequency unless they have weather to report that meets NWS needs (e.g. wind damage, rotating wall cloud, funnel cloud, tornado, etc.). Chad reminded operators of the suggested check-in procedure to make such reports and then encouraged them to make simulated reports in the "time-event-location" format recommended during spotter training.

Including Chad, a total of 15 stations participated in the operation and seven stations transmitted simulated reports. As net manager, I greatly appreciate the participation and stations' willingness to practice effective net procedures.

I'm a storm spotter, NOT a storm chaser!

I can't count the number of times I've gone out of my way to make sure people know I'm not a storm chaser. It's well known that the behaviors of some storm chasers have created a negative image of that hobby. We frequently see stories of chasers taking risks that we might consider unacceptable, driving recklessly and/or causing traffic problems. It's this negative image that made me want to distance myself from the chaser community.

In March, however, renowned tornado researcher Dr. Chuck Doswell posited during a podcast that there's real value in storm chasing, even for (perhaps especially for) storm spotters.

"I've never had a problem with spotters who want to be chasers. In fact, I think it's a great idea," Doswell said on episode 635 of "WeatherBrains," the weather podcast hosted by Alabama television meteorologist James Spann.

"Every time I go out (as a chaser), I see something I've never seen before," Doswell continued. "If you're just an 'ordinary spotter,' the number of storms that you would see in any given year is fairly small, unless it's just a fantastically busy year in your neighborhood that year. But, as a chaser, you can sample more storms. If I'm out for two weeks, I'll probably see 20, 30 different storms. And of those, maybe some fraction will be supercells and some fraction of those will produce tornadoes. But every year, then, I see a fairly large sample of storms. So, I've been doing this for more than 45 years, and so I've seen a lot of storms, and I'm still seeing things that I've never seen before."

"So, chasing and spotting are not necessarily opposed to one another," Doswell added. "I would recommend anyone who's a serious spotter to go ahead and chase, if for no other reason than to expand their vocabulary of storms."

WeatherBrains panelist Rick Smith, who works as warning coordination meteorologist at the National Weather Service office in Norman, Oklahoma, agreed. "The best spotters, I think, are the ones that are kind of the hybrid chasers and spotters."

Doswell makes an interesting point. There's only so much a storm spotter can learn by looking at photos and video. Seeing the real thing in person would logically make it easier for a spotter to later recognize important storm features as a storm approaches the spotter's home jurisdiction.

I'm now seriously thinking about asking one of the accomplished chasers I know if I can go along on a chase sometime. Heck, if I ever have the spare cash, I might even buy a seat on a well-regarded storm chasing tour, like those offered by Tempest Tours (some of which Doswell himself leads) or the College of DuPage (which allows anyone to easily register as a student for that single class).

Free General Level Amateur Radio License Classes

The Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Club will be conducting free classes on the general level amateur radio license in preparation for taking the exam.

Times: **Mondays and Thursdays from 6:00 to 8:00 PM**

Dates: **April 9th to April 30th**

Where: **Red Room – Court House Annex (215 E 9th St.), Auburn Indiana.**

The class will use the Gordon West book "General Class" which can be purchased from the club for $25.

Exam Date: May 3rd

Cost for the Exam: $14

Contact : Jeff DeLucenay at jdeluce@frontier.com and use the subject "Ham Class" or Phone 260-357-4041. Please leave a message and Jeff will return your call. Preregistration is preferred (for ordering books).

http://w9ou.org/

The Foxhunt Chronicles - Continued

the scene followed by Charles, Fred and Kevin.

As I understand it Don was employing a new handheld yagi (out the door window of his vehicle) and was not able to localize us by the time everyone else had found the microfox, so he elected to not complete the hunt.

The hunters crawled over, under and through the bleachers trying to find the microfox which was very difficult to locate because of the design of the bleacher seats.

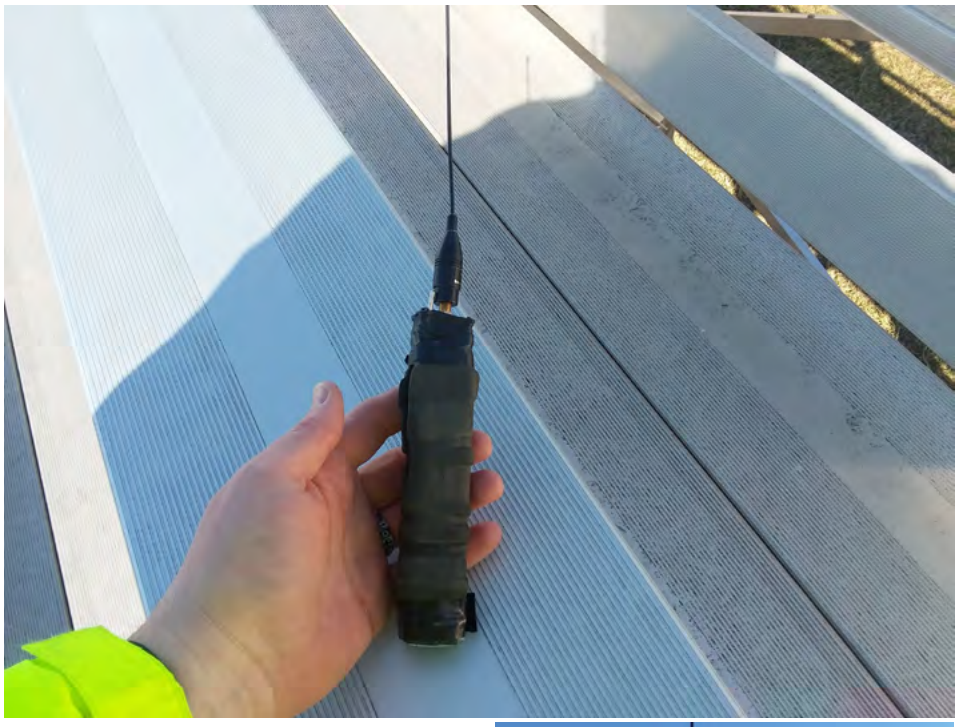
All during their search the hunter's efforts and frustrations were captured in video by Kevin Loughin on the ground and captured from the air by Jim Pliett via his Quad Copter. Kevin is planning to produce a video featuring foxhunting on You Tube for everyone's edification. You can check out the foxhunt video he captured at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3RY4gt4oq0c

Jim Pliett is planning to show the video he captured with his Quad Copter at the Fort Wayne Radio Club March meeting on Friday, 16 March at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church.

As it turned out Kevin was the first to find the microfox's hiding spot, and he was followed by Steve Nardin. Thus Kevin (and Charles and Fred) will serve as the fox for the April hunt, and we can expect Kevin to film another video during that hunt that will show fox hunting from the fox's point of view. Should be interesting.

Following the hunt we bopped over to the I-HOP at West Washington Center and Lima Roads to enjoy a well-deserved meal. Some had pancakes, some had a salad, some soup, and some a sandwich. But everyone enjoyed themselves.

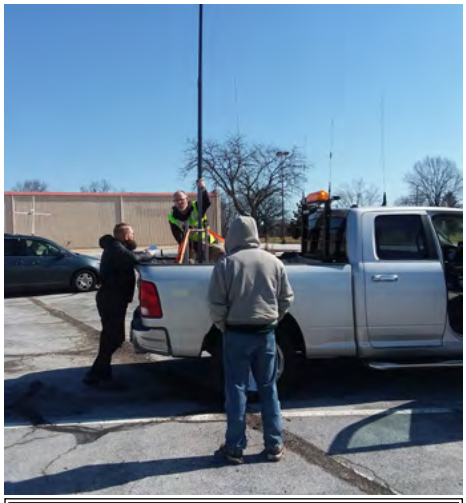


The scores from this month's contest and for the year-to-date are as follows:

Call	Score This Month	Year to Date
WB9RUS	2	2
WB9SSE	2	2
K9OMA	3	3
KA9YYI	2	2
KC9MUT	5.5	5.5
KC9EZP	5.5	5.5
W9SAN	1	1
Alex	1	1

73's,

Al, WB9SSE



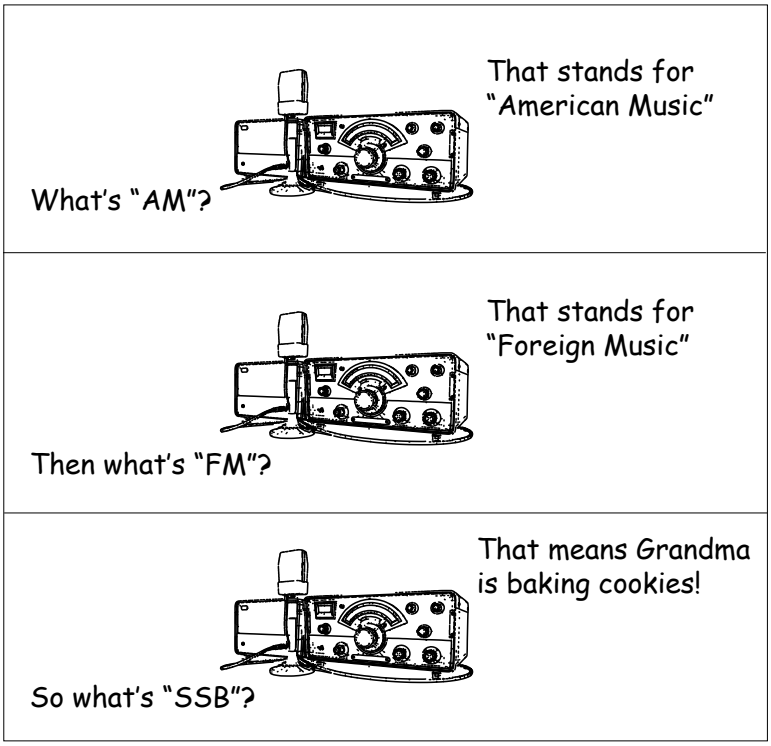
2018 Foxhunt Schedule

The following is the planned Foxhunt schedule for 2018 for the remaining foxhunts. All foxhunts start at 1:30 PM on Sunday at the River Greenway Trailhead at Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course.

April 8
May 6
June 3
July 8
August 5
September 9
October 7
November 4

This hunt featured videos captured by Kevin, both on the ground, and from a quad-copter provided by Jim. Kevin's video is posted on You Tube see: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3RY4gt4oq0c

ONE AFTERNOON IN THE HAMSHACK



Children Tangled in Dipole After Special Event Station Becomes Pokéstop

By K5KAC, on the scene

VERMILION, OREGON – The Vermilion City Amateur Radio Club awoke early yesterday morning to the cries of local children tangled in their 80m dipole. "From far away I could see the screens of their iPhones glowing as they called out for help in getting untangled. It was the loudest racket I've ever heard," said Ash Allman, who lead the effort in freeing the kids. The children were caught in the dipole after the S.S. Anne Park and Marina was named a Pokéstop in the popular mobile game Pokémon GO. A Pokéstop is an area, typically a landmark or park, where Pokémon Trainers can converge to get prizes and set lures to attract rare Pokémon characters. A player must physically visit these locations to collect the rewards. "We were all set up to work into the night, but the band conditions went south so we decided to get some rest," lamented Misty Brock, the event organizer. "It wasn't until morning that we found about a dozen kids wrapped up in the legs of the dipole." At press time, the special event station had been forced to cease operation due to lack of participation, with one member finding a high-level Charmander character in his tent and the rest wandering the nearby tree line looking for a Clefairy.

www.hamhijinks.com

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*** .

14th Annual – North Central Indiana Hamfest

Saturday, April 28nd, 2018 - 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Miami County 4H Fairgrounds

1029 W. 200 North, Peru, IN

Hosted by the Cass County, Grant County, Miami County & Kokomo Amateur Radio Clubs

http://nci-hamfest.net/

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	**www.arrl.org/contests**	ARRL's National Contest Journal	**www.arrl.org/ncj**
ARRL Contest Update	**www.arrl.org/contest-update-issues**	Contesting On-Line	**www.contesting.com**
WA7BNM Contest Calendar	**www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/**	DXNews	**http://dxnews.com**
DX Zone Contesting	**www.dxzone.com/catalog/Contesting/**	ARRL Contest Calendar	**www.arrl.org/contest-calendar**

Mississippi QSO Party		
April 7, 1400Z		April 8, 0200Z
3.5-28	50+	Phone, CW, Digital
RS(T), county or SPC		
www.arrlmiss.org		

Missouri QSO Party		
April 7, 1400Z		April 8, 2000Z
1.8-28	50	Phone, CW, Digital
RS(T), county or SPC		
www.w0ma.org		

New Mexico QSO Party		
April 14, 1400Z		April 15, 0200Z
1.8-28	50	Phone, CW, Digital
Name, county or SPC		
www.newmexicoqsoparty.org		

North Dakota QSO Party		
April 14, 1800Z		April 15, 1800Z
1.8-28	50, 144	Phone, CW, Digital
RS(T), county or SPC		
www.kg0yl.net/QSO.html		

Georgia QSO Party		
April 14, 1800Z		April 15, 2359Z
1.8-28	50	Phone, CW, Digital
RS(T), county or SPC		
www.georgiaqsoparty.org		

ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB		
April 15, 1800Z		April 15, 2359Z
3.5-28	50	Phone
Name, 2-digit year first licensed, state/province/XE area/DX		
www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup		

Nebraska QSO Party		
April 21, 1300Z		April 22, 2200Z
1.8-28	50+	Phone, CW, Digital
RS(T), county or SPC		
http://qcwa.org/chapter025.htm		

Michigan QSO Party		
April 21, 1600Z		April 22, 0400Z
3.5-28	-	Phone, CW
Serial, county or SPC		
www.miqp.org/Rules.htm		

Florida QSO Party		
April 28, 1600Z		April 29, 2159Z
7-28	-	Phone, CW
RS(T), county or SPC		
http://floridaqsoparty.org/rules/		

ACARTS (W9INX) Repeaters

Freq/Offset	Input Tone	
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

Notes:

General Note: Standard 0.6 MHz (2-meter), 1.6 MHz (1.25-meter) and 5.0 MHz (70-cm) frequency offsets are used for all repeaters unless otherwise indicated.

FWRC (W9TE) Repeaters

Freq/Offset	Input Tone	
146.760 (-)	No tone	General use (Note 1)
146.910 (-)	No tone	General use (Notes 1 and 4)
146.940 (-)	**141.3 Hz required**	General use (Notes 1 and 3)
444.875 (+)	**141.3 Hz required**	General use (Note 1)
442.99375	D-STAR	General use (Note 2)

Notes:

1. 141.3 Hz output tone present
2. Offset + 5.0 MHz, W9TE _ _ _ B, W9TE _ _ _ G
3. Yaesu System Fusion repeater, supports both FM (analog) and C4FM (digital) voice
4. EchoLink connection repeater Node number 519521

Other Area Repeaters

Call	Freq/ Offset	Input Tone	
W9FEZ	145.330 (-)	No tone	Fort Wayne
W9FEZ	224.780 (-)	No tone	Fort Wayne (Note 1)
W9FEZ	444.800 (+)	No tone	Fort Wayne (Note 1)
K9MMQ	443.100 (+)	N/A	Fort Wayne, DMR
K9MMQ	443.275 (+)	**141.3 Hz required**	Fort Wayne
N9MTF	442.6375 (+)	N/A	Fort Wayne, DMR
W9AVW	444.250 (+)	**141.3 Hz required**	Fort Wayne
W9OU	147.015 (+)	No tone	Auburn
WC9AR	145.270 (-)	**141.3 Hz required**	Columbia City
WC9AR	444.550 (+)	No tone	Columbia City
K9OMA	147.375 (+)	No tone	Columbia City
K9HC	146.685 (-)	**141.3 Hz required**	Huntington
N9BCP	147.150 (+)	**97.4 Hz required**	Ligonier

Notes:

Articles, photographs, and classified ads for publication in the Allen County HamNews should be emailed to the newsletter editor at **AB9ZD(at)ARRL.NET** several days before the first of the month. If you notice information that needs changed, please contact the newsletter editor by email.

The Allen County HamNews is prepared using Adobe's InDesign software along with PhotoShop and Acrobat on an i7 PC running Windows 10.

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 $25.00/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	☐ $20.00 / year
Family membership [1]	☐ $30.00 / year
Student membership [2]	☐ $5.00 / year
Associate membership [3]	☐ $20.00 / year
Mailed newsletter premium	☐ $25.00 / year
(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)	

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

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

ACARTS
PO Box 10342
Fort Wayne, IN 46851-0342

Fort Wayne Radio Club.
PO Box 15127
Fort Wayne, IN 46885-5127

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

Special Event Stations This Month		
Activation of Texas State Parks		
Apr 7-8	1500Z-2100Z	K5LRK
https://www.k5lrk.com		
Wings of Freedom Tour		
Apr 7	1600Z-2300Z	W7AI
www.tucsonhamradio.org		
World Amateur Radio Day		
Apr 18	1200Z-1230Z	W2W
www.narri.org		
Morse Day		
Apr 21-29	1300Z-1800Z	W2M
https://qsysociety.org		
2018 West Point Campooree		
Apr 27-30	0000Z-0000Z	W2P

For a complete listing of special event stations (and latest updates), check the listing in QST and the ARRL web page:

www.arrl.org/special-event-stations

Area Nets

Daily			**Tuesday**		
8:00 AM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	8:00 PM	50.580 USB	FWRC 6-Meter SSB 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	**Wednesday**		
6:30 PM	146.880-	IMO (alternate is 146.760)	7:00 PM	146.760-	FWRC YL 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 (141.3 PL)
Week Days			8:00 PM	50.580 FM	FWRC 6-Meter FM Net
8:30 AM	3.820	Little Red Barn Net	9:00 PM	146.940-	Help and Swap Net
Sunday			**Thursday**		
8:00 PM	444.550+	Whitley Co. ARC Sunday Night Net	7:30 PM	D-STAR	Indiana D-STAR net (Note 3)
8:30 PM	1.965 & 146.910-	"No-Name" Net also on EchoLink Node number 519521	8:00 PM	50.580 AM	6-Meter AM Net
9:00 PM	145.530	Northeast Indiana Packet Net (Note 2)	8:30 PM	145.510 (s)	Allen County ARES Digital Operations Team Training Net (Note 4)
Monday			**Saturday**		
8:00 PM	224.780-	Fort Wayne 224 Net	8:00 PM	146.685-	Huntington ARES

1. All times local time. **Any changes or corrections should be submitted to the newsletter editor at AB9ZD (at) ARRL.NET.**
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: http://www.inarrl.org/index.php/public-service/indiana-nts

Allen County HamNews
P.O. Box 10342
Fort Wayne, IN 46851-0342

STAMP

To:

Activities Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Place
04/07/2018	7-10:00 PM	ACARTS FM VHF/UHF Simplex Contest	http://www.acarts.com
04/08/2017	1:30 PM	Foxhunt - River Greenway Trailhead/Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course	
04/10/2018	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
04/10/2018	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
04/17/2018	7:00 PM	ACARTS Spring Banquet	Don Hall's Guesthouse
04/20/2018	7:00 PM	FWRC Spring Banquet	GSUMC
05/01/2018	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
05/06/2017	1:30 PM	Foxhunt - River Greenway Trailhead/Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course	
05/08/2018	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
05/11/2018	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	GSUMC
05/15/2018	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Red Cross Center
11/17/2018	**9:00 AM**	**Fort Wayne Hamfest and Computer Expo**	**Allen County War Memorial Coliseum**
11/18/2018	**9:00 AM**	**Fort Wayne Hamfest and Computer Expo**	**Allen County War Memorial Coliseum**