

Allen County HamNews

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

March 2020

Volume 21

Issue 3

Hardcopy Allen County HamNews No Longer Available

Hardcopies of the Allen County HamNews will no longer be available as of the start of this year. In the past ACARTS had arranged for the newsletter printing and mailing to hams that opted for a hard copy version when paying their club dues. ACARTS provided this service for ACARTS and the FWRC.

In recent years the number of requests for hardcopies had dwindled down to just a few while the production and mailing costs rose significantly. After the cost to provide hardcopies rose to \$35.00 per year ACARTS took the decision to cease the service as of the start of CY 2020. Of course the HamNews will remain available electronically via the ACARTS web page as well as the FWRC webpage.

Editor's Note

The month of March is now here! I hope that February went well for each of you. I had the chance to operate during a few contests and to chase some DX contacts. I have been working at updating the appearance of the HamNews for this month. Stay tuned for some more updates in April.

If you would like to include any information or a column in the April edition, please have your information to me by the end of March 31st. 73,

Josh Long, W9HT

drjoshlong (at) gmail.com

In this edition:

Skywarn Event
Page 2

Carole's Corner
Page 3

FWRC Meeting
Minutes
Page 4

Celebrating 100
years with 100
Contacts
Page 6

ACARTS Presi-
dent's Colum
Page 7

ACARTS
Minutes
Page 8

FM Simplex
Contest
Page 9

The Good, the
Bad and
the Ugly
Page 10

Operating Port-
able while Vaca-
tioning: N8KR/4
Page 11

Foxhunt
Chronicles
Page 12

Allen County
Severe Weather Seminar

March 28, 2020
Allen County Public Library

AMATEUR RADIO
EMERGENCY SERVICE

OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY
ALLEN COUNTY, INDIANA

SKYWARN

Register for Allen County Severe Weather Seminar

By Jay Farlow, W9LW, SKYWARN net manager

The Allen County chapter of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, in collaboration with the Allen County Office of Homeland Security, invites all interested persons to attend their 2020 Allen County Severe Weather Seminar, **Saturday, March 28, 2020.**

This seminar offers the two sessions described below (all times EDT). Anyone may register for either or both sessions.

- **10 a.m. to noon:** Basic storm spotter class, using the National Weather Service (NWS) SKYWARN® basic spotter curriculum. The NWS does not plan to teach another spotter class in Allen County until spring of 2021.
- **Noon to 1 p.m.:** Lunch on your own off site (food is prohibited in the seminar venue).
- **1 p.m. to 3 p.m.:** Advanced storm spotter presentations, including how to find and interpret forecast data, how to safely and effectively observe quasi-linear convective systems (squall lines), and what it was like spotting the 2016 Woodburn tornado.

Scheduled speakers include:

- ABC 21 Weekend Meteorologist **Matthew Bullock**
- WANE 15 Chief Meteorologist **Nicholas Ferreri**
- WFFT FOX 55 Weekend Meteorologist **Caleb Saylor**
- Fort Wayne's NBC Weekend Meteorologist **Jon Wilson**
- Storm spotter/chaser **Michael Enfield**
- Storm spotter and ham radio operator **Steve Nardin**, W9SAN
- Allen County ARES team leader **Jim Moehring**, KB9WWM
- Allen County SKYWARN ham radio Net Manager **Jay Farlow**, W9LW.

This event will be valuable to anyone who is interested in severe weather, including those who have previously received storm spotter training.

Advanced registration strongly recommended

There is no admission charge. ARES cannot guarantee seats to those who have not registered in advance. To guarantee a seat, [follow this link to register](#). (Editor's note: This link is accessible through the PDF version of the newsletter). For more information, send email to Jay Farlow, W9LW, arsw9lw@gmail.com.



Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

CAROLE'S CORNER



It is time to start planning our spring and summer projects. Since we are into our Centennial Year, we are going to be operating a Special Events station at a Tin Caps home game. We will be confirming a date this week. Tin Caps management is very excited for us and will help make it special. We are also hoping to get a proclamation from the City regarding our Centennial Year, presented by the Mayor at the Old Fort during Field Day.

The March meeting is March 20th and our program will be presented by Steve Nardin, W9SAN, on Filters and Interference Reduction techniques. I don't know how much of a problem this is these days but it used to be a huge problem, us getting into things and other electronics getting into our radios.

I know this is mentioned in another part of the newsletter, but it bears repeating, the church DOES NOT want us using the kitchen door! I know it is closer in bad weather, but it is their building, their rules and God is watching!

See you on the 20th!

73's

Carole, WB9SSE

FWRC Officers

President

Carole Burke, WB9RUS

Vice President

Paul Prestia, KA3OPZ

Secretary

Al Burke, WB9SSE

Treasurer

Debbie Jenks, KB9DEB

Communications Manager

Charles Ward, KC9MUT

Board of Directors

Steve Nardin, W9SAN
Clarke Derbyshire, KG9FM
Brian Jenks, W9BGJ
Spencer Cassady, KD9NRS

FWRC March/April Events

Fox (Hidden Transmitter) Hunt
March 1 @ 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm EST

FWRC Board of Directors Meeting
March 10 @ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm EDT

FWRC General Meeting
March 20 @ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm EDT

Fox (Hidden Transmitter) Hunt
April 5 @ 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm EDT

FWRC Board of Directors Meeting
April 7 @ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm EDT

FWRC Spring Banquet
April 17 @ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm EDT

FWRC Board of Directors Meeting
April 28 @ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm EDT

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

21 February, 2020

The February meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church (GSUMC) on 21 February, 2020. The meeting was hosted by President Carole Burke, WB9RUS.

There was a large turn-out for this meeting, about 55 folks in attendance. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, each person introduced themselves via their call sign. Carole took the opportunity to introduce our new HamNews editor, Josh Long, W9HT to the membership. Josh has graciously taken over the task of producing the Allen County Newsletter (the HamNews) and has already produced his first (February) edition.

Treasurer Debbie Jenks, KB9DEB provided details on the club numbers of interest as of 21 February, 2020:

Checking account balance \$3,494.88, Savings account balance \$1830.89, Fidelity account balance \$11,289.20. The CY2020 membership headcount currently sits at 111.

Al Burke, WB9SSE gave the February Foxhunt report. Three teams participated in the hunt, Steve and Linda Nardin, W9's SAN & LAN, Don Glick, K9LI plus his wife Julie, and Charles Ward, KC9MUT plus Fred Gengnagel, KC9EZF.

Al & Carole Burke, WB9's SSE & RUS served as the fox. They hid the microfox underwater at a boat ramp on the west bank of the St. Joe River near the foot of the PFW Student footbridge. Don and Julie found the microfox first, followed by Steve and Linda, followed by Charles and Fred. This hunt had an interesting twist to it. Details can be found in the February edition of the Foxhunt Chronicles.

Al Burke reported on the clubs repeater status. The 146.91 machine is operating on low power and without access to the internet which means it has no EchoLink capability at present. We are in negotiations with the IT group at PFW to regain internet access and expect to accomplish this soon. Tom Rupp has examined the operation of the system's power amplifier on the bench at his QTH and reports it seems to be functioning normally, so we plan to reinstall it at PFW soon. Al noted that the 146.76 machine was down earlier in the week. Al attempted to cycle power remotely using the command link but that was not successful. So he made a trip out to Robison Park and found that the Bridge-Comm controller was stuck in "transmit". The assumption is that the controller glitched in transmit and then timed out and would not recycle, a condition we've seen with the Bridge-Comm unit before. So Al cycled power manually and that restored the system to operation.

It turns out that the command link receiver had gone bonkers (a technical term) and thus would not respond to command tones sent to it. So Jim Pliett, K9OMA wound up making a separate trip out to Robison Park and replaced the command link receiver thus returning the command link system to operation.

Carole addressed the attendees about a proposition to change the FWRC regular meeting start times from 7:00 pm to 6:30 pm. This is recommended by the Board as it will provide us an additional half hour to get through club business and presentations. A hand vote was taken with a unanimous vote of "yes". Thus regular meeting start times will change to 6:30 pm beginning with the March meeting.

Charles Ward discussed the possibility of the club taking part in this year's Three Rivers Festival parade as a component of one of the Special Events activities planned to celebrate the FWRC club's centennial year. The parade will occur on Saturday, 11 July and we have the choice of participating as "walkers" or by entering a float, or potentially both. Charles is soliciting for persons who would like to participate. We need to submit our application to the TRF Parade Committee by no later than 31 March in order to ensure a spot near the front of the parade. Contact Charles at (260)-749-4824, kc9mut@yahoo.com if interested.

Charles announced that the FWRC will be operating a Special Events station activity during the Indiana-QSO Party (2-3 May, 2020) held at Larry Temenoff's QTH located on West Wallen Rd. The special events stations will be active from 10 am to 6 pm on the 2nd and we expect to identify four frequencies to operate on. Larry's estate provides a lot of room to spread out so co-channel interference is not expected to be an issue especially since we are also expecting to employ some of the other co-channel interference mitigation techniques that Steve Nardin has researched.

Carole reported that she has discussed with Tin-Caps President Mike Nutter the setting up a Special Events station activity at Parkview Field during a Tin-Caps home game most likely in June. He is fully supportive of the idea. Carole has also arranged an on-the-air interview with the Tin-Caps play-by-play announcer Mike Mauss on ESPN 1380 during the game. And she is approaching Ft. Wayne mayor Tom Henry's office about his presenting a proclamation regarding our 100th year celebration at the Old Fort during Field Day. Steve Nardin noted that he is developing the certificates as well as 100th year celebration QSL cards we intend to provide folks who work W9TE during our Special Event activities. Steve said that the QSL cards can also be made available to club members with their callsign on the card. Contact Steve at (260)-602-3076, w9san@yahoo.com if interested.

Clark Derbyshire, KG9FM reported that he was putting on the finishing touches to the "100 years / 100 contacts during 2020" awards program he has been working on in support of our 100th year celebration. Details regarding the operation of the awards program are being posted on the fwrc.info web page.

Brian Jenks, W9BGJ announced that he is throwing his name in the hat for the position of ARRL Central Division Director when the voting for this office occurs in 2021. He would appreciate club member's support.

Following the business meeting Carole invited all in attendance to partake in some snickerdoodle and chocolate chip cookies she brought in. It was reported that following the stampede, one cookie remained. (You would have thought that they were meatballs or deviled eggs, yeesh).

Following the cookie event, Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA our Central Division Vice Director gave a presentation entitled "Many Topics" that encompassed issues before the ARRL, a discussion of the Solar Cycle, especially cycles 24 & 25 with the expected impact upon propagation in the near term, and then a discussion of vintage ham equipment that he has been working with. All in all it was a thoroughly interesting and informative presentation. Well done Carl!



Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE

Secretary, Fort Wayne Radio Club

**Your article could be here next
month.**

Fort Wayne Radio Club W9TE

Celebrating 100 years with 100 Contacts

The Fort Wayne Radio Club in the year 2020 is celebrating its Centennial Birthday as it was organized 100 years ago. The Club has planned at this time no less than 4 Special Event W9TE operating activities throughout the year.

There is also a Centennial event contacting FWRC members during the year of 2020. This event is not a contest but it is an event to celebrate the spirit of Amateur Radio and our Centennial. The event name is **Celebrating 100 Years with 100 Contacts**.

Event open all year, Ends January 1, 2021 05:00 UTC. Anyone can make 100 contacts with any FWRC member using any band, any mode, any amateur equipment. May contact same member multiple times per day only if different band, mode, or combination of both. Must make contact with minimum of 25 different FWRC members. Exchange info: Call, Name, City and, State or Providence or Country; Signal report, Rig and Antenna. Rag chew is encouraged.

Logs may be saved using a logging program. A file, containing only the Fort Wayne Radio Club members contacted, with contact information, date, time, mode and band, to be emailed to kg9fm@arrl.net. Paper logs as done 100 years ago absolutely accepted. Certificates will be emailed. There are Special Certificates and QSL cards for all of the events.

State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

ACARTS March 2020 President's Message



Many thanks to Jim, KB9IH, for his presentation on SimSmith at the February meeting. Jim explained the use of the Smith Chart and went on to demonstrate how the computer program SimSmith drastically simplifies the use of the Smith Chart.

The March meeting on the 17th, will be a presentation by Tom, KU8T, on "Parks on the Air."

April is the ACARTS Spring Banquet. It had been suggested that the banquet be held at the Liberty Diner rather than the traditional location of Hall's

Guesthouse. An e-mail poll of the membership as to which location that they preferred was held. Most members that responded would go to either place but favored the Liberty Diner. There were a few direct votes for the Liberty Diner, but no direct votes for the Guesthouse. There were a couple of members that would not go to the Guesthouse. There was one negative comment about the Liberty Diner. The Liberty Diner is the choice of the members so the ACARTS Spring Banquet will be held on Tuesday, April 21st, at 6:00 p.m. at the liberty Diner on Goshen Road at West Coliseum Blvd. I will begin taking members' and guests' reservations in early April.

Another April event is the ACARTS sponsored FM VHF/UHF Simplex Contest. It will be held this year on Saturday, April 4th, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. As in the past, there will be three categories, Base, Portable, and Rover. Those of you that have participated in the past have expressed how much fun it was for a few hours on a Saturday night. But we need more participation. Last year, only seven people submitted logs. Even if you only have a few minutes, stop by the FM simplex frequencies on two meters, 1.25m, and 70cm and make a couple of contacts. Those contacts can make a difference in the final results. Submit your log so we know that more than a handful of people participated. The contest is a good way to test the capabilities of your station using simplex rather than a repeater, so you know what to expect in an emergency situation if the repeaters were down. You could then make improvements so that you would be prepared. Complete contest rules, logs, and a township map are available on the club website, www.acarts.com. Remember to mark your calendars for Saturday, April 4th, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. for an evening of fun.

Another date to mark on your calendar is Saturday, August 8th. ACARTS will again hold the ACARTS Picnic at Jefferson Township Park. The picnic is open to members and their families of ACARTS, the Fort Wayne Radio Club, and the Fort Wayne DX Association. Let me know if you have any suggestions for changes to the picnic, or any ideas for activities that you would like to be held.

73,
Dave Lindquist, W9LKH
President

ACARTS Officers

President

Dave Lindquist W9LKH
260-485-6135
[w9lkh\(at\)comcast.net](mailto:w9lkh(at)comcast.net)

Vice President

Jim Boyer KB9IH
260-489-6700
[kb9ih\(at\)arrl.net](mailto:kb9ih(at)arrl.net)

Secretary

Chris McCollough W9TSB
260-312-2750
[kd9lrw\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:kd9lrw(at)gmail.com)

Treasurer

Howard Pletcher N9ADS
260-747-5252
[n9ads\(at\)arrl.net](mailto:n9ads(at)arrl.net)

Acting Station Managers

Dave Lindquist W9LKH
260-485-6135
[w9lkh\(at\)comcast.net](mailto:w9lkh(at)comcast.net)

Jim Boyer KB9IH
260-489-6700
[kb9ih\(at\)arrl.net](mailto:kb9ih(at)arrl.net)

Fundraising Manager

Joseph Lawrence K9RFZ
260-373-1986
[k9rfz\(at\)arrl.net](mailto:k9rfz(at)arrl.net)

Directors at Large

Bob Erb N9PWM
260-466-7772
[roberterb\(at\)hotmail.com](mailto:roberterb(at)hotmail.com)

Fred Gnegnagel KC9EZP
260-704-7801
[kc9ezp\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:kc9ezp(at)gmail.com)

Steve Shannon K9SKS
260-704-5353
[k9sks\(at\)aol.com](mailto:k9sks(at)aol.com)

W9INX Trustee

Dave Lindquist W9LKH
260-485-6135
[w9lkh\(at\)comcast.net](mailto:w9lkh(at)comcast.net)

ACARTS February 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Dave, W9LKH.

Dave announced that the February program would be a presentation by Jim, KB9IH, on SimSmith. he added that the March meeting would be a presentation by Tom, KU8T, on Parks on the Air (POTA.)

Dave said that April would be the Spring Banquet. It had been suggested that the banquet be held at the Liberty Diner. Dave said that he would poll the membership for their preference as to which venue to use, the Liberty Diner or the Guesthouse, so that reservations could be made.

Dave asked if ACARTS should continue to sponsor and hold the FM VHF/ UHF Simplex contest this year. The board agreed that it was a worthwhile activity, so Dave stated that he would begin the publicity for the April 4th date.

Dave also asked if the board felt that we should continue holding the ACARTS Picnic in August, and, if so, that Jefferson Township Park should continue to be the location. The board also agreed that the picnic was a good ACARTS activity and that the park should be reserved for the August 8th date.

No other business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

ACARTS March/April Events	
March 10	Board Meeting
March 17	General Meeting (Presentation: Parks on the Air by Tom, KU8T)
April 14	Board Meeting
April 21	Spring Banquet (See the President's Column for more details)

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

**2020 Northeast Indiana VHF/UHF
FM Simplex Contest**

Saturday April 4, 2020

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



The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

Carl Luetzelschwab,
K9LA

Being an old guy, I enjoy vintage equipment as it takes me back to my early Amateur Radio days. Resurrecting vin-

tage equipment is fun, but putting them on the air is even more fun. Thus I used my Viking Ranger II (about 50 Watts output) and Drake 2-B (see accompanying image) in the ARRL International DX CW Contest on the weekend of February 15 and 16. My goal was to work as many DXCC entities (commonly called countries) at solar minimum on 40m and 20m.

The antenna for 40m was an inverted-vee with its apex at 45 feet. The 20m antenna was my Tenadyne T6 log periodic dipole array (6 elements on a 12 foot boom). The T6 is equivalent to a small tri-bander. I also used an electronic T/R switch (built from the 1963 ARRL Handbook using a 6C4 tube). Rounding out the station was an old Hallicrafters T.O Keyer.

THE GOOD

I ended up with 79 DXCC entities – 33 on 40m and 46 on 20m. Not bad for 50 Watts to modest antennas at solar minimum. I had to spot the Ranger II VFO to the 2-B frequency for each contact, but I got used to that quickly. The 2-B and Ranger II (especially the Ranger II) really warmed up the shack – which included the great smell of tube equipment.

THE BAD

I heard a number of weak signals (JT, DU, P3, 4X and others) that were running a kilowatt (I knew their power as the exchange for the DX station in this contest is 599 and power). There was no hope for my 50 Watts. I also couldn't work a number of "common" entities (PJ7, FJ, YV, GI, OX and others) – 50 Watts just wasn't enough to get through the pileups. I worked very few stations on the first call – most were after many tries.

THE UGLY

On 20m, all of the signals were very raspy – not a T9 tone. I think I have a ground problem that the 2-B and my HQ-170 don't like. My Ten-Tec OMNI

VI and OMNI 7 don't have this problem.

Initially I had the T.O. Keyer in a not-well-ventilated area. With 4 tubes (and two OA2 regulators) in a small package, it gets hot. The dahs turned into dits. So all I could send were dits. Moving it out in the open mostly cured that problem. I'm thinking of putting a small fan on it.

Every once in a while 40m would go away on the 2-B. All the other bands (80m, 20m, 15m and 10m) were okay, so I think there's a problem either with the band switch or with the 11.0000 MHz crystal that is mixed with 40m to the first IF frequency.

Finally, every once in a while the Ranger II would not transmit on the VFO frequency – it would transmit elsewhere in the band. I have no clue what's going on here – but it's likely in the VFO.

SUMMARY – I had fun. But I've got more work to do on my Ranger II, 2-B and T.O. Keyer.



Operating Portable while Vacationing: N8KR/4

Ken Rogner, N8KR

Taking Amateur Radio with you when vacationing can be lots of fun. For many hams who have assembled "go Boxes," it's an opportunity to use them. For me, I assemble a little box with needed accessories and choose a radio and power supply. Coming up with those needed accessories takes a well thought out list. Probably the biggest concern deals with antennas. Since I'm an HF CW guy, it's pretty simple. If I'm gone for a short period of time, I can use hamsticks and a magnetic mount on the car. An extension piece of coax and a barrel connector allows you to operate inside your room or cottage. If you stay in one place for a longer period of time, consider hanging a dipole or end fed from a tree or pole. It really doesn't take much to access 20 and 40 meters.

My installation in Florida is in a 55+ community of double-wide mobile homes. Very little property but 4 sections of military fiberglass mast plus my extended crappie fishing pole gets my antenna up 23 feet. I solder a 20 meter and 40 meter dipole at the end of rg-8x and configure them at right angles to each other. (I use 22 gauge insulated stranded wire) They serve as guy wires to my little "tower." (I cut my dipoles to be resonant on the frequencies I operate so no tuner is needed!) All I need, now, is the radio, power supply, and key. This year I brought the Kenwood TS-590S and the Samlex sec-1223 switching power supply. Since I do a lot of operating, often in contests, I bring my laptop and usb cable to make connection with the radio. Winkey USB interfaces my cw paddles and radio cw with the logging program to allow computer generated cw for contest exchanges. N1MM+ Logger is used for all non-SKCC events/contests. It's free, easy to use, and the majority of testers use it.

So how does this simple station and humble antennas work? Thanks to "southern propagation" (and propagation is great in Florida), I worked 300 DX stations and 92 countries on 40 meters in this year's

ARRL DX contest in February. Not bad for 100 watts and a 23 foot high dipole! I've made hundreds of SKCC contacts on 20 and 40 meters PLUS the rig's tuner tunes my antennas for 30, 17, and 15 meters for even more contacts!

Back in December, I strung out 123 feet of wire to a 9:1 unun as an end-fed antenna for the ARRL 160 meter contest. I strung it up behind the neighbor's (with their permission) after dark and before sunrise! It was an adventure but I managed to work 32 states and 3 countries! Nothing too great but a great time!



MARCH 2020 FOX HUNT CHRONICLES

On March 2nd, the Fort Wayne Radio Club once again prepared to hold its monthly Fox Hunt (hidden transmitter hunt) starting at 1:30 pm local time. Since the winners of the last Fox Hunt, Don, K9LI, was not available to be the fox, the second-place team of W9LAN, W9SAN, and their grandson Alex Smith went off in search of a suitable hiding place somewhere in Allen County, IN. Linda and Steve had been surveying sites for the past 2 weekends and decided to re-activate a site that was previously used many years ago, the Hanson Quarry Observation Tower on Sandpoint Road, not far from former Elmhurst High School site on the cities' southwest side. The weather was unusually warm, and the sun was shining; it was looking like that ground hog in PA was right this year!! The mood of the Foxes was also unusually wacky, as the hunters were about to discover!

Back at the starting location, two veteran teams, WB9SSE, WB9RUS, K9OMA, & KA9YYI were ready along with Charles, KC9MUT and his young daughter. Then some newbies showed up. It was the OM and YL team of Adam and Meghan, KD9NRT & KD9ODP along with new FWRC BOD member Spencer, KD9NRS. The Pliett/Burke team took Spencer on board their vehicle, and Meghan and Adam joined KC9MUT and daughter as ride along in his truck.

At 1:30 pm EST (last one this year; daylight saving springs ahead March 8th) the foxes, apparently high on life started transmitting at the 25-watt level. It must have been the sunshine making us giddy, but we had fun giving signals on 146.430, imitating the dastardly communists Boris and Natisha from the **Rocky and Bullwinkle** cartoons of the late 50's and Alex doing his best jungle bird calls. Several visitors swung into the observation parking lot only to quickly roll up their windows and leave promptly! OK, we weren't THAT bad, but we had fun with it. The microfox meanwhile was transmitting away hidden by a chain link fence (we hoped would spread the sig-

nals and make it more challenging) and we listened to it at 2.5-minute intervals and made high power transmissions every 5 minutes.



The initial transmissions were done with Linda's little quarter wave vertical on the car at 25 watts. Charles could hear the signal, very weak, and the Pliett/Burke team could not. So, I quickly dug out a mag mount 5/8 wave vertical, placed it on the car roof, and that did the trick! If it didn't, I had a colinear antenna and a fiberglass 20-foot mast with a tripod to help with the strength of the fox. Be prepared! Charles' extendable mast in the bed of his pickup was an advantage here, as it gave him an edge in antenna gain!



After about 40 minutes of our goofy and animated "fox talk", we noticed Charles' silver RAM come zipping down Sandpoint Road. We knew we had been found! Charles later told us he had believed the fox was at Eagle Marsh and even went by Foster Park to get a better bearing. Shortly after Charles and Adam and Meghan arrived, the second team with Pliett/Burke/Cassady showed up. The race to find the microfox was on!

Initially, everyone went up the stairs into the huge metal observation tower that the quarry company had erected to allow safe viewing of their giant hole in the earth. We thought about hiding it there but realized that there were no good hiding spots inside, so we placed the fox along the chain link fence around the outside of the property. Newbie Adam and Charles spotted the fox almost simultaneously, but Adam was given the 1st place! So, he is now charged with being the fox for the April hunt.



After the second team found the fox, we adjourned to the Azar's Big Boy in Waynedale for tall tales, and discussions of radios, fox hunting, and other unrelated topics. We were joined by former hunters Kim and Jim, KB9DOS & KB9DOT, who were in the area, and had helped out with directions from their home QTH. All in all, a good time was had by all, and we look forward to more hunts during our centennial year. Again, we extend an invitation to all those interested to come out, learn the craft, and join us for future fun!



73, Steve & Linda, W9SAN & W9LAN (& Alex)

FOXHUNTER	MARCH POINTS	YEAR-TO-DATE POINTS
WB9RUS	1	5.33
WB9SSE	1	5.33
K9OMA	1	1
KA9YYI	1	1
KD9NRS	1	1
KC9MUT	2	3
KC9EZP	0	1
W9SAN	5	7
W9LAN	5	7
ALEX	5	5
K9LI	0	4
JULIE	0	3
KD9NRT	3	3
KD9ODP	2	2

Area Nets					
Daily			Tuesday		
8:00 AM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	7:30 PM	147.150+	21 Repeater Group Net (97.4 PL)
8:30 AM	3.940	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	8:00 PM	50.580 USB	FWRC 6-Meter SSB Net
6:00 PM	3.940	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	9:00 PM	146.940-	Allen Co. ARES Training Net (141.3 PL)
6:30 PM	146.880-	IMO (alternate is 146.760)	Wednesday		
7:00 PM	147.015+	Tri State Two Meter Net	7:00 PM	146.760-	FWRC YL Net
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 (141.3 PL)
Sunday			Thursday		
8:00 PM	444.550+	Whitley Co. ARC Sunday Night Net (141.3 PL)	8:00 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	145.53 simplex	Northeast Indiana Packet Net 1200 baud (Note 2)	8:30 PM	145.510 simplex	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(141.3 PL)
1. All times local time. Any changes or corrections should be submitted to the newsletter editor at DRJOSHLONG (AT) GMAIL.COM. 2. NEIPN is direct accessible via any BPQ Chat Node (or through Node hopping etc.) via other packet frequencies in this area and other areas through other nodes (it is locally direct accessible on 145.53 in NC & NE Indiana/NW Ohio and SE Michigan using KA9LCF-11, KC9VYU-11, N9LCF-11, N9PXO-11, K9BIF-11) Most BPQ Nodes use an SSID of -11. 3. 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.inarri.org/index.php/public-service/indiana-nts					

Membership Application
FWRC ____ ACARTS ____

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____
 License Class: _____
 Street address: _____ City: _____
 State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone #: (____) _____
 Email address: _____ ARRL Member? _____
 (ARRL membership helps the club maintain ARRL affiliation)
 May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster & on our club web site? ____

Fort Wayne Radio Club dues:

Regular membership
 \$20.00 / year
 Family membership¹
 \$30.00 / year
 Student membership²
 \$5.00 / year
 Associate membership³
 \$20.00 / year
 (Memberships for July-December are ½ the stated amounts)

Please attach a check to this form (paying by check is strongly encouraged) made out to:
 Fort Wayne Radio Club (check number _____)
 and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

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

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

²K-12 or full time student.

³Unlicensed member.

ACARTS dues:

Regular membership
 \$12.00 / year
 Additional family members¹
 \$6.00 / year
 Student membership²
 \$6.00 / year
 Associate membership³
 \$6.00 / year
 (New regular memberships are \$1.00/month)

Please attach a check to this form (paying by check is strongly encouraged) made out to:
 Fort Wayne Radio Club (check number _____)
 and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

A.C.A.R.T.S.
 P.O. Box 10342
 Fort Wayne, IN

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

²K-12 or full time student.

³Unlicensed member.