

Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

October 2024

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And much, much more!





Sometimes people comment on certain trends regarding the Hamfest (size, attendance, etc.). Do you want to see this year's Hamfest be a success? Volunteer your time. Get a table or two. Attend a forum. Get involved. With your help, the Hamfest can be a success and a lot of fun.

As the colors on the trees begin to change, I hope that you have a great month.

73,

Josh, W9HT/VP9 (looking forward to working you this month!)

P.S. If you want to join our VE team, please let me know!

Yikes, another month is gone—and October is here! (And you can wake me up now that September has ended...)

In the first article, Steve AC9XS tells about ham radio at the 2024 Allen County Safety Fair. Thanks to AC9XS, KB9WWM, KD9IWX, K9BAT, K9FMX, N9PAP, KC9MUT, and KB9YWG (and KD9ZFP) for attending and/or supporting the event!

The Fort Wayne Radio Club VE team held another successful VE session on Saturday, September 21st. Congratulations to our latest hams and special thanks to AE9YL, K9JFG, K9BAT, and KD9ZFP (our newest VE!) for making this event a success.



In the future, the FWRC VE team plans to hold in-person during February, May, and August/September. The 4th quarter VE session is traditionally held at the Fort Wayne Hamfest.

While we are on the topic of next month's Fort Wayne Hamfest, I encourage you to read Dan's ACARTS president's column this month. The Fort Wayne Hamfest is just around the corner next month on the weekend of Nov. 16-17th.

ALLEN COUNTY HAMNEWS

HamNews is a monthly, joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club, the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society, and the Fort Wayne DX Association.

Articles are written by members and friends of the three clubs. New submissions for HamNews are always welcome. Please send your information to the editor within two days of the end of the month for inclusion in the next edition.

HamNews Editor
Josh Long, W9HT
drjoshlong (at) gmail.com

Ham Radio at the Fort Wayne Safety Fair: Showcasing Community and Emergency Preparedness

by Stephen Clower, AC9XS

On September 14, 2024, the Fort Wayne Safety Fair took place at the Fort Wayne Safety Academy on the south side of town, and after an absence of several years, amateur radio made a significant appearance. Numerous agencies were represented, each sharing their role in community safety and emergency preparedness. This year, the Fort Wayne Radio Club set up a booth, attracting interest with a live demonstration of amateur radio operations and the presence of local ham radio groups.

The club's tent hosted representatives from the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), Skywarn, and Morse Code (CW) enthusiasts, highlighting the various ways amateur radio supports both emergency services and communication in times of crisis. Club members included Jim (K9BAT) and his grandson, Terry (K9FMX), Jim (KE9IWX), Dan (N9PAP), and Jim (KB9WWM) along with his wife. The team brought an impressive setup, including a VHF radio tuned to a local repeater for live demonstrations. Terry showcased his Kenwood TS-570 transceiver with a bazooka antenna, tuned to the 20-meter band, providing a clear demonstration of CW operation.

As part of the event, attendees were given punch cards that encouraged them to visit all agency booths, which brought a steady stream of curious visitors to the amateur radio tent. The timing couldn't have been better: the monthly sprint from the Straight Key Century Club, a group with nearly 29,000 members dedicated to preserving and practicing Morse Code with mechanical keys, was active that weekend, providing plenty of live signals to demonstrate the art of CW. Both Terry and I took turns calling CQ, and while we didn't maintain formal logs, we made notes of who we contacted, creating an engaging and lively atmosphere for on-lookers.

One particularly memorable moment came as I sat at the rig, making a CW contact. In the background, I could hear the VHF radio chatter, the soft thrum of a nearby generator, and the steady pulse of the Lutheran Health helicopter as it flew overhead. Amid the hum of activity, it was the best kind of noise—a vivid reminder of the beauty and utility of amateur radio in action.

Throughout the day, many people stopped by while

we were mid-contact, intrigued by the idea that we were talking to other hams in real-time across the country. From our setup, we managed to reach stations as far west as California, as far east as Connecticut, and from Minnesota in the north down to Texas in the south. Several visitors, especially kids, were surprised to learn that our radios weren't just props but were fully on the air as we chatted with them. They were fascinated to hear their names spelled out in Morse Code with the rhythmic combination of "dits" and "dahs." Many called it "SOS," a common (if inaccurate) association, and it sparked genuine interest.



AC9XS and K9FMX at the 2024 Allen County Safety Fair

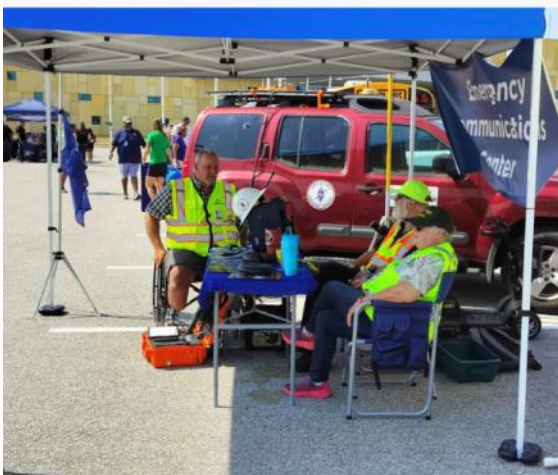
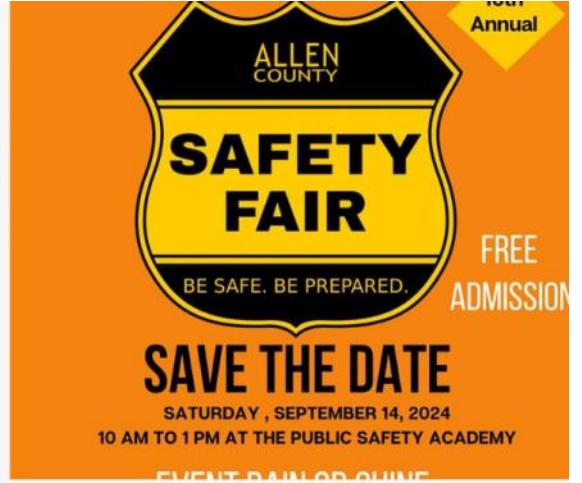
Visitors frequently commented, "I had no idea Morse Code was still around," and "I'm so glad you all are here because we may need you one day." Hearing these sentiments was a powerful reminder of the importance of amateur radio in emergency preparedness, which is exactly what inspired me to get my license back in 2020. To be able to represent the facets of the hobby that mean the most to me—emergency communications, weather preparedness through Skywarn, and Morse Code—at a public event like this was incredibly fulfilling.

A total of 421 people attended the Fort Wayne Safety Fair, and I hope some of them left with a newfound interest in amateur radio. It was a great success, and I look forward to future opportunities to showcase the continued relevance of ham radio in today's world. Who knows? Perhaps a few future hams were among the crowd.

It's events like these that remind us why we do what we do—keeping the airwaves alive, fostering community, and ensuring we're ready when needed most.



2024 Allen County Safety Fair



The Kalamazoo Hamfest and Vintage Electronics Expo

Saturday October 5, 2024

Open 9AM to 4PM

Admission: \$8 adult
Children 12 and under
free (with adult)



Kalamazoo County Expo Center and
Fairgrounds

2900 Lake Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49048

GPS: N 42 16.674 W 085 32.585



Expanded Space:

We've added a second hall in the expo center. Now
with over 30,000 square feet of selling area!

Extended Time:

All day Saturday, 9am to 4pm!



We have HELP for vendors to load/unload
Talk-In 147.040 (PL 94.8) K8KZO Repeater
Featuring the Kalamazoo Makers Guild
Door Prizes (must be present to win)
Amateur Radio License Testing starting at 10am

For more information see our web-site at: <http://www.kalamazoohamfest.com> or

Email us at: info@KalamazooHamfest.com



LRBN September Update

We had another great month on the Little Red Barn Net (LRBN) which meets on Monday thru Friday at 9:00am on 3.820 MHz LSB. We have about 10 to 15 check-ins per day (80m has been bad), with self-generated topics each day by the check-ins.

Also, we have a lunch every two weeks alternating from north Fort Wayne to south Fort Wayne. We usually have 10 to 15 participants at each lunch.

We had several lunch this month on 9/12 at Casa on West Jefferson and on 9/26 at Red Lobster. It's always a great time to eat and socialize with friends.

The next upcoming lunch dates would be 10/10, 10/24, and 11/7 at 11:30am on each date. Please join us.

If you want to be on the LRBN email list, let me know at gmrepair1@aol.com, or message me at 260-437-4676 with your email and call sign or name.

Net control operators are also follows: Monday KU8T Tom, Tuesday K9FW Al, Wednesday KD9HAV Norm, Thursday KE9IWX Jim, and Friday WB9TYJ Don. Friday includes Amateur Radio New-line after the net.

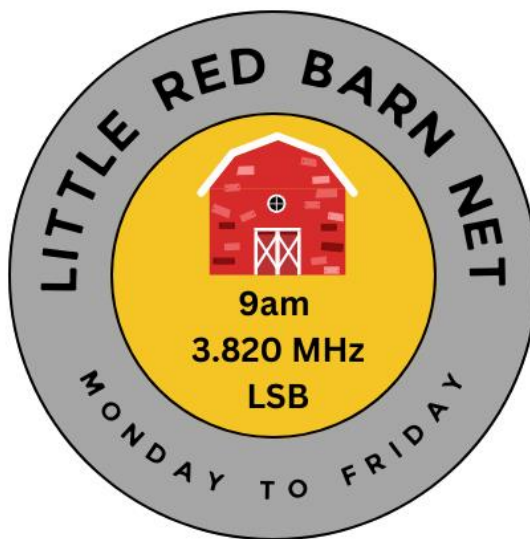
We have a web page at <https://gmrepair1.wixsite.com/mobile> that works with mobile and desktop browsers. The page includes lunch information (times & dates), pictures of previous lunches, and other information.

Also we have at lrbn@groups.io | Home, but you will need to sign up. This is where we vote for the next lunch. Let me know if you need help .

Also, our net controls use Netlogger. You may download the program at the Download Center (netlogger.org). Also, for smartphones, there is Net Scraper. On the Android go to Play Store, and on iPhone, go to App Store and download this app.

73,

KU8T Tom



Ham splatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN



From the President

Welcome to fall. This is a busy time of the year, and that doesn't include everything outside of radio. October always seems like a rush to finish up everything I need to do before the weather turns. The recent high winds have reminded me that I need to make sure my antenna is secure before the winter.

A few things to keep on your radar for the next few months. October has two events to participate in. The first is the Collegiate QSP Party this weekend (Oct 5 - 6). The second is School Club Roundup (Oct 21 - 26). Both are a great way to make contacts with the future of radio. We have a few local school based clubs. Purdue Fort Wayne, Snider High School, and Memorial Park Middle School all have clubs. All three would love to have you in their logs. It only takes a few minutes of your time, but has a lasting impact on the students.

On November 16th, the Fort Wayne Hamfest will be held at the Coliseum. This is a great way to add to the junk drawer. I've only purchased one thing at a hamfest. For me, it is about connecting with others. I enjoy seeing everyone each year. It is also a great time to renew your membership, which has dropped to \$20.

That is all for this month. I would love to hear from you. I can be reached at kd9nrt@gmail.com. While I can't respond to every email, I do read them all, and your feedback is critical for guiding the club.

73,

Adam, KD9NRT

The next FWRC meeting will be held on Friday, October 11th at 6:30pm at Good Shepherd Church. Hope to see you there!

FWRC Officers 2024

President

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Secretary

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Terry Bowman, K9FMX
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[tjbowman\(at\)frontier.com](mailto:tjbowman(at)frontier.com)

Jim Stephens, K9BAT
[kd9nyz\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:kd9nyz(at)gmail.com)

Larry Temenoff, KB9OS
(260) 490-3089
[temenoff\(at\)pfw.edu](mailto:temenoff(at)pfw.edu)

State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN



After about eight months of hard work by the By-Laws, Constitution and Policies Committee consisting of Stuart Hall KD9LFW Secretary & Committee Chairman and members Vice President Chris McCullough W9TSB, Kevin Hecksher W9KMH Treasurer, Fred Gengnagel KC9EZP Fundraising Manager and myself along with other board members and club members at times. We have hopefully finished with the latest version. A vote was taken by the members who casted votes online or in person and it passed. A motion and seconded and it was agreed to take our document to an attorney specializing in non-profits to look it over to make sure it will be accepted by the IRS to transfer our organization from a 501(c)4 to a 501(c)3. While we needed to also insert proper language for IRS purposes, we also spent more time updating our inner workings of the organization to catch us up since last time it updated by date in 1996. It had been updated since then but it was not rewritten officially. We also moved some positions and items to policies to be more fluid without having to have multiple readings to tie things up. Once the final version is acceptable by the attorney we will forward to the IRS, DOR and the Secretary of State. With the former status we

were limited in what we could apply for grants and services. It will enable us to more easily apply for things and be able to provide for tax deductions with donations. We aren't done yet, but we see light at the end of the tunnel now.

Some of the changes we have made were moving our election to January from November. The Hamfest being in November each year as well as the monthly board meeting and the general meeting with elections just was causing to many issues over the years.

Other changes were creating an IT Manager position. And folding the Activities Manager position that doesn't exist anymore into shared duties as the new Community Manager. We are hoping members will step up nominate and or run for positions.

Now is the time for you to be thinking if it's you or someone else that you would like to give a chance. There has been a lot of changes and will be more in the last couple of months of this year and more to come for the next year. I'm not sure that the membership is aware of the accomplishments that have been completed in the last nine months?

Hamfest has taken a lot of time up and will continue as always until the end. The work doesn't stop on Sunday night after the Hamfest closes! There are many changes that will occur this year having more to do with vendors but some for attendees also. We are trying to modernize things and some other things will have to wait until the beginning of next

ACARTS Officers 2024	
President	Dan Dahms N9WNH 260-503-4163 n9wnh(at)yahoo.com
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	Howard Pletcher N9ADS 260-747-5252 hrpletch(at)gmail.com
W9INX Trustee	Dan Dahms N9WNH 260-503-4163 n9wnh(at)yahoo.com

year. But above all pre-planning and marketing is going to start earlier and more aggressively.

We are bringing in more members but we still need help at the Hamfest. Staffing is not as easy as it used to be but we are making strides. A deadline has been set for the end of October to ensure worker packets get to workers via USPS (It takes 3-5 days for mail to go outside Allen Co.)

Here are benefits if you help out this year:

When you sign up to volunteer you will receive a Worker Pass good for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. This same pass will make you eligible for the worker prize drawings if you turn it in the last time you leave the Coliseum! Please write your name and callsign on your yellow worker pass! If you wish to enter for grand prize drawings you will need to purchase a regular admittance ticket. You will also receive a parking pass for those three days as well.

Anyone who is a current ACARTS member or joins is eligible for a free (callsign@acarts.com) email account. If you a current member send an email to eadmin(at)acarts.com

Anyone that isn't a current ACARTS member that signs up and is scheduled through ACARTS and works their shift at the Hamfest for ACARTS will receive a free one year ACARTS membership.

All new or upgraded licenses that successfully test at Saturday's VE Session who aren't already ACARTS members will receive a free one year ACARTS membership with documented proof of CSCE

If you are able to help out at the hamfest, please contact Fred Gengnagel KC9EZP Hamfest Chairman at fm(at)acarts.com or 260-704-7801 or Dan Dahms N9WNH pres(at)acarts.com or 260-503-4163

ACARTS Club Tables Manager:

Jim Bassett W9YME, trrrbo(at)aol.com

Announcer Manager:

Jay Farlow W9LW, arsw9lw(at)gmail.com

Forums Manager:

Kelley Clond NT9F, clond(at)jpa.net

Hamfest Chairman:

Fred Gengnagel KC9EZP, fm(at)acarts.com

Information Display Manager:

Charles Ward KC9MUT, kc9mut(at)gmail.com

IT Manager:

Kevin Hecksher W9KMH, it(at)acarts.com

Inside/Outside Traffic Manager:

Dan Dahms N9WNH, pres(at)acarts.com
260-503-4163

Security Manager:

John Lazaro KD9NIV, Kd9niv(at)acarts.com

Talk-In Manager:

Steve Clower AC9XS, ac9xs(at)outlook.com

Vendor Check-In Manager:

Al Burke WB9SSE, aburke55(at)comcast.net

Vendor Table Manager:

Howard Pletcher N9ADS, n9ads(at)acarts.com

Volunteer Examiner Manager:

Roger McEntarfer N9RM, rlmcen55(at)gmail.com

Youth Forum Manager:

Vicky Luetzelschwab AE9YL, vluetzelschwab(at)gmail.com

The next ACARTS General Meeting will be held on Tuesday October 15th at 7 PM at the Northeast Chapter of American Red Cross 1212 E. California Rd. Fort Wayne, Indiana. The presentation will be on FLDigi and FLAMP Operation given by Jackson Wingeier W2TAZ All are welcome to attend as always.

73,

Dan N9WNH



Upcoming ACARTS Events in October 2024

ACARTS Board Meeting	10/8/24 (Tuesday)	MS Teams (Online)	Monthly Board Meeting
ACARTS General Meeting	10/15/24 (Tuesday) 7:00 PM	At Red Cross & MS Teams (Online)	Monthly General Meeting, plus FL Digi & FLAMP Ops by W2TAZ
ACARTS Hamfest Committee Meeting	10/21/24 (Monday) 8:00 PM	MS Teams (Online)	Hamfest Committee Manager Meeting



ACARTS is now a Weather Ready Nation Ambassador! For more information see, https://www.weather.gov/media/wrn/WRN_Ambassador_Flyer.pdf

PLEASE PROGRAM ALL YOUR RADIOS TO TRANSMIT A 141.3 HZ TONE ON THE INPUT FREQUENCY (146.280) FOR THE ACARTS 146.880 (-) REPEATER IN CASE OF LIMITED FUTURE NEED.

52nd FORT WAYNE HAMFEST & Computer Expo

Sponsored by Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society



Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA
ARRL Central Division Director

Brent Walls N9BA
ARRL Central Division Vice Director

Bob Burns AK9R
ARRL Indiana Section Manager

Mike Alley W9MSK
ARRL Indiana Section Emergency
Coordinator

Ham Radio License Testing All Classes (\$14)
9 AM till 12 PM Saturday

WAS & DXCC Card Checking and CQ
Awards

Youth Lounge (under 12 accompanied by adult)

New & Used Ham Equipment Dealers
Main & Hourly Door Prizes

2 Rooms of Special Interest Forums All Day
Saturday

Talk-in Radio Frequency 146.880 (-) PL 141.3

Tables: \$30 Regular, \$50 Premium, \$35 Electricity
Drive Directly to Your Table for Setup

November 16 & 17 2024

SAT 9 AM to 4 PM
SUN 9 AM to 2 PM

Admission: \$8 Sat &
Sun
\$4 Sun only
Children under 12 free
(with adult)

**Allen County
War Memorial Coliseum
4000 Parnell Ave
Fort Wayne, IN
73,000 sq. ft. all indoors
(Coliseum Parking \$8 per
vehicle)**

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

Hamfest General Questions:
Email: FM@acarts.com
Table Questions:
tables@fortwaynehamfest.com
Mail: PO Box 10342, Fort Wayne,
IN 46851
Phone: (260) 579-2196



DXING AND CONTESTING EVENTS

BY CARL LUETZELSCHWAB, K9LA

This month was going to be about noise measurements at my QTH (see the September column), but instead I decided to report on three events that I attended in August and September.

SMC Fest – This is an annual gathering of members of the Society of Midwest Contesters. For the past couple years it's been held in the Chicago area (Naperville). It's only on Saturday, but usually there is an informal dinner on Friday. Despite heavy traffic going through Northwest Indiana, I made it just in time for the dinner.

This event is a great way to personally meet many of the contesters you run into during the North American QSO Parties (NAQPs) and the Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana State QSO Parties. There were many presentations that covered a variety of contesting topics. My topic was antenna interaction, as many contesters have multiple same-band antennas on their antenna farm.

FRRL 100th Anniversary – This year the Fox River Radio League (Batavia, Illinois – near Naperville) celebrated 100 years as a club. In 2028 they will celebrate 100 years as an ARRL Affiliated club – that will be a big achievement. The current President of the FRRL is Kermit W9XA (former Central Division Director).

I was the keynote speaker – I gave a quick history of Amateur Radio (which included pointing out that the first ARRL National Convention was held in the Chicago area in 1921). The FRRL also put together an entertaining video about the history of their club. I also personally met Jim

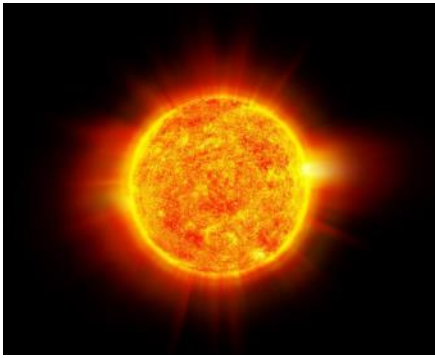
W9RB, one of the regulars who checks into 9RN (the ARRL's Ninth Region CW traffic net).

W9DXCC Convention – This was the 71st year of the W9DXCC Convention. Vicky and I have been going to this one since we moved to Ft Wayne. I believe our first visit was in the early 1990s. On Friday, a combination DX University and Contest University was held. The presentations alternated between contesting and DXing to keep everyone happy.

Presentations included DXing/Contesting - Pick Two by Anthony AB9YC, the ARRL DXCC Card Checker Program by Mike WØVTT, Digital Contesting by Tim K9WX, Introduction to Club Log by John K9EL, DX/Contest Roundtable by K9CT and KO8SCA and space weather parameters and how they affect propagation by yours truly.

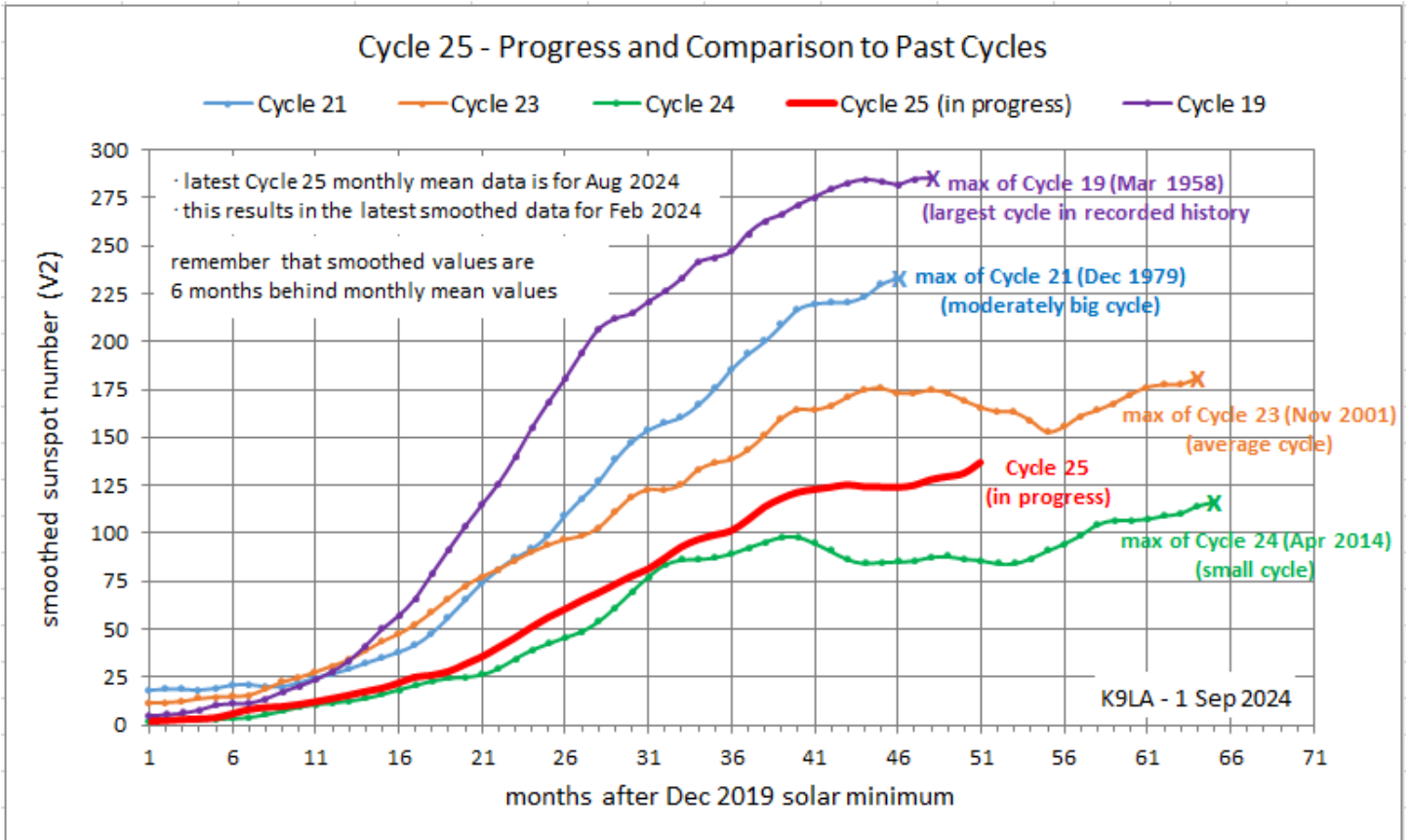
Saturday had a full day of presentations. There were three presentations on DXpeditions (CY9C, N5J and TX5S), Antennas for Little Pistol DXers, and my update on Cycle 25 (see the accompanying figure) that included a brief ARRL update. The day program ended with the CW Pile-Up Contest. The Saturday night banquet featured Bernie W3UR (of The Daily DX and Weekly DX publications) as the keynote speaker talking about the Top 20 DXCC entities.

Summary – I certainly enjoyed the three events that I attended. But I have to admit that driving to the Chicago area and back home three times was a grind at times.



Solar Cycle News

2019 CYCLE NEWS



Everyone has a smile after selling *many* storage boxes of parts from Jack's (W9GT sk) estate at the Findlay Hamfest last month. Special thanks to Terry K9FMX and Rich N9HRA for helping with this early morning effort!



September Update

On a nice sunny, warm, and pleasant day, the 15th of September, the Fort Wayne Radio Club held its monthly Fox Hunt. Usually, we try to hold hunts on the first Sunday of each month, but September is different. The first Sunday is always Labor Day weekend, so no one wants to hunt on that weekend. The second Sunday is the popular Findlay, OH, Hamfest, so again people like to go to that and snub the hunt. So here on the third Sunday, a brand new Fox, Jerry, K9JFG, was ready to start the hunt with plenty of help from Charles, KC9MUT, and his friend Angie, and they were ready to go right at 1:30 pm EDT.

Their chosen location was an obscure parking area for the Lions Park tennis courts. Lions Park is located near the intersection of Anthony Blvd and Vance Ave, but is down a side street and is not visible from either of those mentioned major city streets. It is a small park, but the Tennis courts were considered a good walk from the principal park lot, so a small lot was constructed many years ago that is accessible from behind a church at the west side of Lions Park. I always knew about

Lions Park, and indeed several hunts were conducted there, but this 'extra' parking area was unknown to me, but not my spouse, W9LAN, who grew up a few blocks away.

At 1:30, the hunt was under way! Several teams did not show up due to personal issues, but the foursome of W9LAN, W9SAN, Courtney and grandson Wyatt heard the rather powerful signal of KC9MUT and the bearings pointed towards Johnny Appleseed Park, the hunters headed that direction! A second bearing from the office park just north of Mike's Car Wash on State Street, again seemed to confirm the direction of Appleseed. But a bearing taken at IVY Tech parking lot showed a different story. With 50 db of attenuation, it was now difficult to get a bearing the fox was so strong, but we immediately all said "Lions Park!!".

When we got to Lions Park, however, we could not see Charles or Jerry's vehicles. We drove around the parking lot and did not see the foxes, but we stayed long enough to get another bearing. With over 100 db of attenuation, we pointed our antenna to the south west, and there they were!! And we could now hear the micro fox as well! I looked at the parking lot that Charles was sitting in and couldn't work out in my head how to get there, but Linda knew and drove straight there.

Once in the parking lot, Linda

stayed in the car and used the directional antenna to point to the micro fox signal. This made the zeroing in on the micro fox much easier, and quickly we were standing in front of a tree that seemed to be emitting RF on 146.430 MHZ. The micro fox was not showing itself, that is until W9SAN grabbed a stick and started moving leaves and twigs. Bingo!! The micro fox was laying on the ground in between the roots of the tree.

After finding that Jerry drove his truck (which I was unfamiliar with) we started talking about a place to consume some yummy food. Culvers on Stellhorn Road was once again chosen, and the group drove there. All in all, a good way to spend an afternoon with Amateur Radio! Due to personal constraints we are tentatively planning the October hunt for Sunday, October 20th (although Halloween was discussed).

If you have never Fox Hunted before, why not plan on joining us and team up with an expert hunter to learn the ropes? We would love to show everyone how it done and how much fun it can be.

73,

Steve, W9SAN



September
Foxhunt
photos



**OCT
20
2024**

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

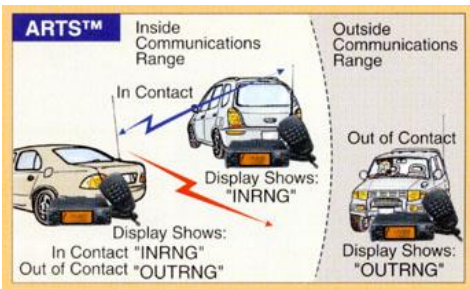
**NEXT
FOXHUNT**





Fine ARTS - in Ham Radio!

Happy October my fellow radio bugs. Another month has come and gone already and we are getting ready to break out the cold-weather jackets and warm soldering irons. However, winter is a perfect time to test out and research new technology for use in the warmer months (or perhaps all year around.) This month's column is a cursory look at a unique feature offered in Yaesu radios – A.R.T.S.



A.R.T.S. is an acronym standing for either “Automatic Range Transponder System” or “Auto Range Transpond System” (it depends on what radio’s manual you are reading). Yaesu has a propensity for using acronyms for many of their radios’ features, but in this case, the acronym is appropriate and descriptive. The feature is simple, but let’s use an example of two ARTS equipped radios.

Suppose Radio A has the ARTS feature active. Radio A will transmit a subaudible signal of a specific frequency (set by the

user) whenever the push-to-talk button is depressed (or at other time intervals set by the user). If another ARTS-equipped radio, Radio B, receives that subaudible signal, Radio B will alert its user that an ARTS-equipped radio is within communications range.

This constant transmitting/listening pattern between ARTS-equipped radios is why the system is called ARTS. The users of ARTS radios can automatically generate a signal that will determine whether or not other ARTS radios are within communication range (**A**utomatic **R**ange **T**ransponder **S**ystem). Theoretically, there could be many ARTS-equipped radios all using this feature, creating in effect an entire system of radios checking constantly to make sure that they are within communication range of one another.

The subaudible signal utilized for ARTS operation is what is called a “Digital Code Squelch” signal or DCS. Some brief research online indicates that DCS is actually the creation of the radio manufacturer Motorola. In Motorola’s case, this system was known as “Digital Private Line.” (see the following weblink to the San

Francisco Radio Club W6PW for more info on setting up DCS for many radios. [https://www.sfarcc.org/dcs-instructions.html#:~:text=Digital%20Code%20Squelch%20\(DCS\)&text=DCS%20is%20a%20two%20way,and%20to%20receive%20a%20signal.](https://www.sfarcc.org/dcs-instructions.html#:~:text=Digital%20Code%20Squelch%20(DCS)&text=DCS%20is%20a%20two%20way,and%20to%20receive%20a%20signal.)) The users of ARTS-equipped radios will not actually hear the DCS or “ARTS” signal being transmitted and received, since that signal is sub-audible. Instead, ARTS radios are designed to audibly beep whenever they hear a DCS signal sent by an ARTS-equipped radio, thus alerting the user to the presence of another ARTS-equipped radio.

Yaesu mentions in the manuals for ARTS-equipped radios that this feature is useful for search and rescue operations (see the manuals for the Yaesu FT-8900r vhf/uhf mobile transceiver or the Yaesu FT-60r transceiver). Although this is a worthy use of the feature, there are a few observations which should be made.



1. Yaesu does not define what “...within communications range” actually means. We know as hams that what makes for effective communication ranges depends on the situation. If one is trying to contact a rare dx station, just barely hearing a signal above the noise level long enough to get one’s call sign and signal report is considered effective communication. To others, effective communication range means being able to carry on a conversation with a fellow ham without having to strain one’s ears through static and noise. Thus, the term “effective communications range” is really dependent on the “ears” of the beholder.

2. I have not yet tested this feature, so I can only provide a general description of the feature and how it is implemented. Ergo, I cannot provide any distance calculations for how far these ARTS transmissions can be received versus ordinary fm-voice communications (if there is a difference), nor can I provide an analysis of how effective the feature is in signal-dense or rf-dense environments.

All that being said, I know of at least one, non-emergency use

of the ARTS feature. Over the past several years, my older brother Chuck, KC9IPR, has engaged in biological research in the upper peninsula of Michigan with faculty, students, and alumni of PFW. During some of these research trips, Chuck has been one of several licensed hams. During the course of their fieldwork, Chuck and his fellow researchers used their handheld transceivers to maintain communication over longer distances where visual line of sight was not possible, due to dense undergrowth, sand dunes, etc.

The terrain where Chuck was assisting with field research was quite rugged. There are some semi-treacherous drop-offs within the area of field research, and wildlife includes animals such as black bear. Cellular coverage, though not entirely absent, is by no means reliable or consistent.

Where there to be an accident of any kind, it would be providential to have a radio that was always remaining in “effective communications range” with other handheld units. I believe that this ARTS feature is perfect for such field research. ARTS-equipped radios can be utilized by researchers to ensure that no member of the field research team is wandering beyond communication range, without constantly

needing to transmit and audibly ask “Can you hear me?” ARTS automates the “wellness check” procedure, and provides the researchers with a peace of mind as to how far away they might be from the main group.

To be fair, Yaesu has come up with more modern features than the ARTS system. The new System Fusion technology and the inclusion of gps units within radios has given the Yaesu lineup a more modern touch with greater precision than audible beeps. However, the ARTS is a simple system that provides field researchers and search-and-rescue team members with an effective means of carrying out their objectives without spending large dollar amounts on brand-new equipment.

73 and good dx!

de Jim, ac9ez





W9GOO	15
WG9K	12
KA9GKE	8
K9FMX	6

I hope that you can participate during the October Weekend Sprintathon (October 11-12) and the 2 hour Sprint (October 23 at 0000z).

73,

Ed, WA9BBN

Awards last month include the following:

AC9XS, Senator x4

Operating activities during the month of September follow.

For the Weekend Sprintathon (WES) on September 14-15, the following local operators participated. QSO count is shown.

KS9KCC (N8KR op.)	137
AC9XS	90
KU8T	64
WD7G (W9HT op.)	60
WA9BBN	55
W9SA	50
KA9GKE	16
WG9K	11
KB9QC	9
W9GOO	8

For the Two Hour Straight Key Sprint (SKS) on Tuesday evening, September 24 (8-10 PM local), the following local operators participated. QSO count is shown.

W9TE (N8KR & W9HT ops.)	87
WA9BBN	22
AC9XS	18
N9DGL	15

The Indiana Trail IT-100 trail run occurs on the weekend of October 12th and 13th. There is a need of volunteers to participate in the event, especially for overnight operators and Sunday shifts. Also, there is a particularly need of Net Control operators. If you can help, please contact Jim Moehring, KB9WWM at [servo300\(at\)aol.com](mailto:servo300(at)aol.com).

Heathkit SB-200 amplifier \$400

Available from Ken – N8KR at hotmail.com



10-80 Meters – 120v – with manual

2 - 572B American Cetron Tubes

New Power supply board with new diodes and electrolytic caps

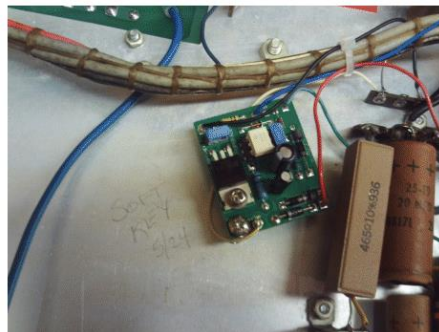
New soft key internal module

Test Results with Yaesu FT-1000mp into dummy load:

3.850	85w input	550w output (cw)
7.200	75w input	550w output (cw)
14.275	85w input	600w output (cw)
21.350	85w input	400w output (cw)
28.400	85w input	250w output (cw)



Amplifier was totally cleaned in May of 2024. Also during that time, a soft key module was installed along with a new power supply board with new diodes and caps. No warm up time needed – easy to tune!



FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

13 September 2024

The September meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held on September 13th, 2024. It occurred at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church starting at 6:30 pm. It was hosted by club President Adam Warrix, KD9NRT and there were about 30 attendees.

Adam led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and invited all present to introduce themselves with their name and call-sign.

Bob Streeter, W8ST, provided the Treasurer's report dated 13 September, 2024 as follow:

Checking:	\$21,576.90
Savings:	\$10,503.90
Vanguard:	\$8,074.37
Year-to-Date income:	\$12,928.37
Year –to-date expenses:	\$2,831.51
Members Year-to-Date:	141

Members, pre-paid for 2025 2

Al Burke WB9SSE provided a brief repeater status. All five machines are operating normally. No one has reported any issues with any of them.

Al is soliciting help to coat the roof of our building at Robison Park with a coat or two of sealing material. The last treatment occurred four years ago so it's time to apply another coating to the topside of the

roof in order to seal it against leaks. The effort is essentially that of painting the roof and should take about three hours to accomplish. Kevin Emenhiser, N9KE signed up to help out and Al needs to recruit about two more volunteers to round out the crew.

Al is also soliciting help to determine why there is a discrepancy between the I&M watt-hour meter readings at Robison Park and the instrumentation we have installed out there to collect the same data. Clark Derbyshire, KG9FM offered to lend a hand.

Josh Long, W9HT noted that another in-person VE testing session will occur on Saturday, September 21st at the Cunningham Business Center at Indiana Tech. from 10:00 AM to noon. If you're looking to upgrade this is an opportunity to try your hand at the test. Contact Josh for details.

Following the business meeting Adam Warrix gave a presentation on the new technologies involved in the AREDN (Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network), a robust, high-speed, reliable, universal mesh network technology that amateur radio can offer to the community as a public service. The presentation included examples of hardware from Adam and Charles Ward, KC9MUT, which can be utilized to implement the capability.

The meeting concluded around 7:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE

ACARTS Board Meeting (online via Microsoft Teams)

Tuesday, September 10, 2024
7:04pm – 8:44pm

Attendance (9):

President: Dan Dahms (N9WNH)

Absent: Vice President: Chris McCullough (W9TSB)

Secretary: Stuart Hall (KD9LFW)

Treasurer: Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH)

Absent: Station Manager: James (Jim) Sampiere (KD9NPL)

Fundraising Manager (Hamfest Manager): Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP)

Board Member: Howard Pletcher (N9ADS)

Absent: Board Member: Steve Shannon (K9SKS)

Board Member: James (Jim) Bassett (W9YME)

Korry DuMont (KD9ZDW)

Josh Long (W9HT)

Recording started.

Secretary Stuart Hall (KD9LFW)

Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) reviewed the minutes of the August 13, 2024 Board Meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes made by Dan Dahms (N9WNH). Seconded by Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP). Passed by unanimous vote.

Jim Bassett (W9YME)

Jim noted that Howard sent him a clear image of the easel logo and Jim will take it around to some printers as well as the other logo to see what the printers can do with them. Dan Dahms (N9WNH) took an informal vote on which logo the Board preferred. The logo with the radio tower was selected as the main logo with the other logos kept for incorporating as desired.

Motion: To accept the logo with the radio tower. Made by Jim Sampiere (KD9NPL). Seconded by Stuart Hall (KD9LFW). Passed by unanimous vote.

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) is waiting on Chris for a copy of the FM Simplex Contest winner certificate. Dan will contact Chris to get him to send Kevin a copy of the certificate for printing.

Hamfest

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that Kelly Clond (NT9F) is mostly committed as the Forum Manager but needs to talk with the previous Forum Manager, Carl Luetzelschwab (K9LA). Dan is still working on the Youth Forum.

Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP) notes that he needs help on that Friday night of Hamfest with vendor check-in. Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) notes he will be there to help all day that Friday. Fred confirmed that Jay Farlow (W9LW) will be handling announcements. Tom Rupp (KU8T) will be doing door prizes. Fred encouraged people to get the word out about the Hamfest.

Dan set Tuesday, September 24 at 7pm for an online Hamfest organizational meeting. Dan encouraged people to use the google.io ACARTS group to communicate between members as HCO does not allow this.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) has not heard anything from Jennifer Sexton of the Red Cross since meeting with them during last month's General Meeting. Josh Long (W9HT) who is on the Red Cross Board noted that he met with another Board member who is also a licensed radio amateur. He notes there is an old Kenwood 2-meter mobile radio and another ICOM dual-band radio connected to antennas on the existing tower. Both radios were tested and worked. There is also a 47MHz commercial radio as well. Though that frequency is a defunct service, it may be usable on the 6-meter band.

Josh Long (W9HT) queried what is being done to promote the Hamfest. Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) notes exploring Constant Contact to reach out with an e-mail marketing campaign to the desired market for vendors. Dan Dahms (N9WNH) notes reaching out to some larger vendors who may send promotional material but are not expected to show personally.

Korry DuMont (KD9ZDW) notes he is willing to help out wherever needed. Dan Dahms (N9WNH) recognized given Korry's work in I.T. that he reach out to Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) for helping with I.T. Korry noted he was open to helping out in I.T. once in a while. Kevin noted the need for a backup administrator.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that Howard Fletcher (N9ADS) is still in need of someone to take over the Table Manager position for the Hamfest.

Constitution & By-Laws Revision Committee

Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) noted that there are some suggested changes to the role of the Community Manager as listed in the proposed Policies document. It was agreed that changes to the Policies document does not invoke the protocol required for changes to the text of the Constitution & By-laws and so voting on acceptance of the changes can go ahead at the next General Meeting on September 17.

Stuart reviewed and the Board discussed the proposed changes to the role of the Community Manager as listed in the proposed Policies document.

Motion: To accept the changes to the Policy concerning the role of the Community Manager as discussed. Made by Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH). Seconded by Fred. Motion passed by voice vote.

Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) noted some minor changes to the title pages of the Constitution & By-laws to include removing the reference to “Indiana” and deleting the “and” included in the club’s name on the title pages. It was discussed about whether such minor changes invoke the protocol required for changes to the text of the Constitution & By-laws.

Motion: To proceed with voting on the proposed Constitution & By-Laws at the next General Meeting on September 17 including the minor changes to the title pages. Made by Dan Dahms (N9WNH). Seconded by Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP). Passed by voice vote.

Stuart will e-mail PDF copies of the Final Proposed Drafts of the Constitution & By-laws and Policies to Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) and Dan Dahms (N9WNH). Kevin will send out notifications through HCO for the online vote. Dan will send out copies via the ACARTS google.io group. Stuart will post the documents as PDF files on HCO available to all members.

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) noted that the drapes and piping offered through the Coliseum are half the price of those offered from Muttons. Dan Dahms (N9WNH) will confirm whether the pricing from the Coliseum also includes setup.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that he needs three volunteers for the Nomination Committee immediately.

Recording stopped at 8:41 pm.

Treasurer Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH)

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) provided a report on current activity and balances for the club’s financial accounts. (Exact numbers are available to all members upon request to the Treasurer and on Ham Club Online.)

Kevin noted the club gained a new member last month, bringing the total membership to 84 members.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:44pm. Made by Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH). Seconded by Stuart Hall (KD9LFW). Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Upcoming Meetings:

General Meeting: Tuesday, September 17, 7pm, American Red Cross 1212 E. California Rd., Fort Wayne, IN. Also online via Microsoft Teams. Recordings of meeting video will be posted on Ham Club Online, ACARTS YouTube channel, and the ACARTS Facebook page.

Hamfest Organizational Meeting: Tuesday, September 24, 7pm, via MS Teams online.

ACARTS General Meeting
American Red Cross building
1212 E. California Rd., Fort Wayne, IN

Tuesday, September 17, 2024
7:00pm – 8:27pm
Meeting also streamed online via MS Teams

Attendance:

President: Dan Dahms (N9WNH)
Online: Vice President: Chris McCullough (W9TSB)
Secretary: Stuart Hall (KD9LFW)
Online: Treasurer: Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH)
Absent: Station Manager: James (Jim) Sampiere (KD9NPL)
Fundraising Manager (Hamfest Manager): Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP)
Board Member: Howard Pletcher (N9ADS)
Absent: Board Member: Steve Shannon (K9SKS)
Board Member: James (Jim) Bassett (W9YME)
Attendance: 14 (12 in person, 2 online via MS Teams)

Treasurer Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH)

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) provided a report on current activity and balances for the club's financial accounts. (Exact numbers are available to all members upon request to the Treasurer and on Ham Club Online.)

President Dan Dahms (N9WNH) opened the meeting, having everyone introduce themselves.

Secretary Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) reviewed the minutes of the July 16 General Meeting. Motion to accept minutes made by Jim Bassett (W9YME) seconded by John (W9NEG). Passed by unanimous vote.

Secretary Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) reviewed the minutes of the August 20 General Meeting. Motion to accept minutes made by John Nash (W9NEG). Seconded by Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP). Passed by unanimous vote.

Constitution & By-laws Revision

Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) presented the most recent changes to the Policies document concerning the role of the Community Manager.

Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) presented the final draft of the Constitution & By-Laws and the Policies for a voted by the members present.

Five members voted in person. Twenty-nine voted online. Of 85 active members, 34 total voted.

Thirty-three members voted yes to accept revised Constitution & By-laws and Policies. One member voted no.

The revised Constitution & By-laws and Policies have been adopted.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that there was only one vote to accept both the Constitution & By-laws and the Policies. He surveyed whether anyone present had a problem with that. No one noted any problems.

John Nash (W9NEG) noted from his experience forming a 501(c)(3) organization that the IRS has specific wording they look for and that ACARTS would benefit from hiring a lawyer to provide a template. The club can then compare the current Constitution & By-laws with the template and make changes as needed. The benefits of being a 501(c)(3) were noted, including free services from Microsoft Teams & Office 360.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) is open to taking over the Table Manager position, shadowing the current Table Manager, Howard Pletcher (N9ADS).

Hamfest Manager Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP) noted the need for people to operate the call-in frequency and help with announcements, traffic assistance both outside and inside, and setting up Friday afternoon. Kelly Clond (NT9F), Forum Manager noted he will need help in setting up the rooms for each of the forums. The need for projectors and backup projectors was discussed. Kelly will touch base with the previous Forum Manager Carl Leutzelschwab (K9LA) about available projectors. Chris McCullough (W9TSB) noted that the Trans Siberian Orchestra is performing at 7pm that Friday night and the vendors may need to be notified of the increased traffic at the loading bays later Friday night.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that the new By-laws hold that the club elections now take place in January.

Motion: “Get the standardized constitution and by-laws for a 501c3 organization expeditiously from a lawyer who does it and then have him/her merge in our changes.” Made by John Nash (W9NEG). Seconded by Kelly Clond (NT9F). Passed by voice vote.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that Jackson E Wingeier (W2TAZ) is our newest member. Jackson confirmed that he is available to do a presentation at the October 15th General Meeting. Jackson also agreed to Kelly Clond’s (NT9F) request for him to do a forum teaching at the Hamfest.

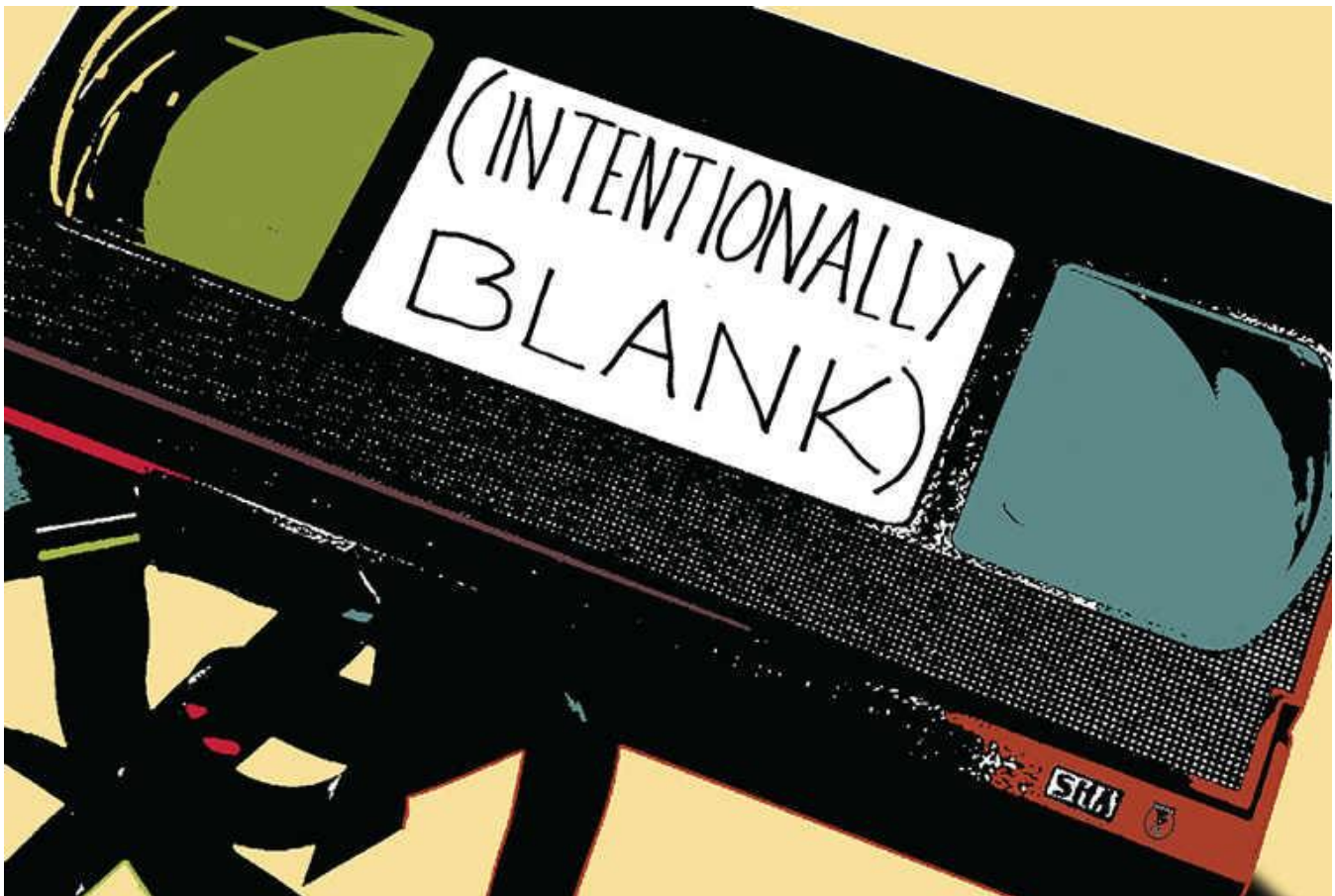
Jim Bassett (W9YME) noted he has selected one vendor, Eighteen Threads Embroidery, and supplied them with logos. They will print samples that Jim will show the club. Members will then be able to go into the shop and select what they would like.

Motion to adjourn at 8:27pm made by John Nash (W9NEG) seconded by Jackson E Wingeier (W2TAZ). Passed by a voice vote.

Next meeting(s):

Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 8, 7pm, online via Microsoft Teams

General Meeting: Tuesday, October 15, 7pm, American Red Cross 1212 E. California Rd., Fort Wayne, IN. Also online via Microsoft Teams. Recordings of meeting video will be posted on Ham Club Online, ACARTS YouTube channel, and the ACARTS Facebook page.



OPERATING EVENTS 2025

OCT
5-6

COLLEGIATE
QSO PARTY

OCT
5-6

CALIFORNIA
QSO PARTY

OCT
12-13

OCEANIA DX
CONTEST, CW

OCT
19-20

ARRL EME
CONTEST

OCT
26-27

CQ WW DX
CONTEST, SSB

This information comes from the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at contestcalendar.com and is gratefully acknowledged. It is deemed accurate as of the time of publication.

Area Nets (updated as of 10/1/24)					
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	3.912	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	8:00 PM	50.580 USB	FWRC 6-Meter SSB Net
6:00 PM	3.910	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 146.940)	Wednesday		
7:00 PM	147.015+	Tri State Two Meter 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
9:00 AM	3.820	Little Red Barn Net (NewsLine on Friday after net)	--	--	--
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	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.inarrl.org/index.php/public-service/indiana-nts>

Area Repeaters (updated as of 10/1/24)							
Frequency	Offset	Tone/Notes	Callsign	Frequency	Offset	Tone/Notes	Callsign
				442.6375	+5 MHz	MDR CC1	N9MTF
145.330	-0.6 MHz	141.3	W9FEZ	442.99375	+5 MHz	D-Star W9TE-B	W9TE
146.880	-0.6 MHz	--	W9INX	443.100	+5 MHz	DMR CC1	K9MMQ
147.255	+0.6 MHz	--	W9INX	443.275	+5 MHz	P25 NAC # 293	K9MMQ
146.760	-0.6 MHz	141.3	W9TE	444.250	+5 MHz	141.3	W9AVW
146.910	-0.6 MHz	--	W9TE	444.800	+5 MHz	--	W9FEZ
146.940	-0.6 MHz	141.3	W9TE	444.8750	+5 MHz	141.3	W9TE
224.780	-1.6 MHz	--	W9FEZ				

FWRC Membership Application

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____
 License Class: _____
 Street address: _____ City: _____
 State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone #: (_____) _____
 * Email address: _____
 * (@arrl.net domain is unreliable. Please use an alternate email address if you have one).
 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? Yes or No

Fort Wayne Radio Club dues:

Regular membership	\$25.00 / year
Family membership ¹	\$35.00 / year
Student membership ²	\$5.00 / year
Associate membership ³	\$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

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

ACARTS Membership Application

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? Yes or No

ACARTS 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 \$1.00/month)

Please attach a check to this form (paying by check is strongly encouraged) made out to:
 Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (check number _____) and bring to a club meeting or mail to:
 A.C.A.R.T.S.
 P.O. Box 10342
 Fort Wayne, IN

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