

Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

November 2025

Volume 26

Issue 11

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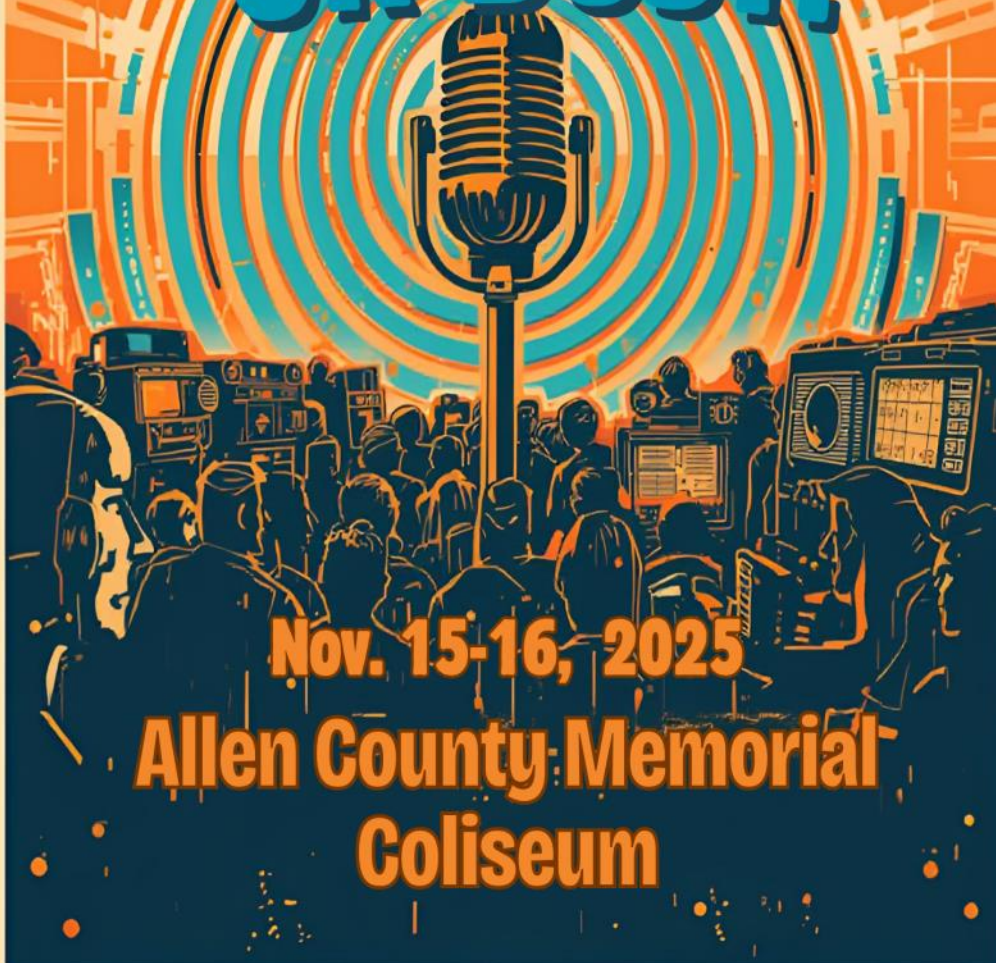
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Fort Wayne Hamfest Flyer

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And much,
much more!

FORT WAYNE HAMFEST OR BUST!



Nov. 15-16, 2025

**Allen County Memorial
Coliseum**



Another month is up in smoke. It's hard to believe that November is here. The weather certainly feels like it.

It's that time of the year again—the **Fort Wayne Hamfest!** This edition of HamNews includes a bunch of information about this annual Fort Wayne event, including a forum schedule. Note that this year includes a special **SKCC/FWDXA banquet** after Saturday's hamfest events. Please check out the column and ad found later in this edition.

Please note that there is one more **ARES event** next month that needs local amateur support. If you are able to help, please contact Jerry, KD9QHI. See the ad on page 14 for more information.

Elections for officers and board members for the Fort Wayne Radio Club are being held during this month's general meeting. There are several individuals who have served on the board for several to many years—thank you for your service. If you are a current member, please consider running for a club leadership position.

Ken N8KR includes a short column this month about **contesting from a casual point of view**. Note that contests are not just for hard-core "contesters."

As usual, there is a bunch of additional, assorted content in this edition of HamNews. If there is anything new or different that you will like to see in an upcoming edition, please do not hesitate to send me a message about your ideas.

As we approach Thanksgiving Day, I want to offer **thanks** to the regular authors who help to

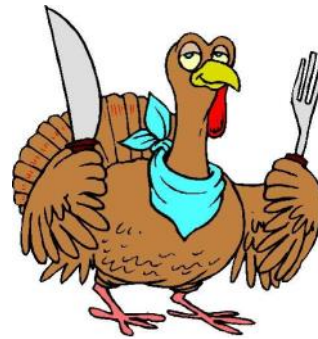
make the Allen County HamNews possible each month. Without the support of local authors, this joint club publication would not be possible.

I hope that you and your families have a very Happy Thanksgiving in a few weeks.

Also, I hope that you are able to make it to the Fort Wayne Hamfest in a few weeks. As the expression says, the Fort Wayne Hamfest or bust!

73,

Josh, W9HT



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

World Space Week! In Review

World Space Day in Indiana and Ontario

On Saturday, October 4th, 2025, operators from the Fort Wayne Radio Club and the Sudbury Amateur Radio Club connected via Echolink to provide a communications link between Science Central in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Science North in Sudbury, Ontario. This connection worked very well once the only "Murphy" moment had been sorted out: It appears that the window in the room that FWRC was using had a layer of Aluminum embedded in the glass. We could not hit any repeaters from inside the room; when we eventually took an HT to the vestibule, there was no problem! Using a spare coax jumper of 20 feet and taping an antenna to the regular glass in the vestibule, we could bring up any machine we wished.

We were set up and running by 10:00 am, which was our desired start time. Sudbury came up and called a few minutes later, and the connection was easily maintained until 2:30 pm when we decided to pull the plug and take down the station. FWRC's station, W9TE, consisted of a Yaesu FT-847 with a modified Heathkit power supply and Yaesu desk microphone. Adam and Meghan, KD9NRT & KD9ODP, were set up outside using a dual band Arrow Antenna in an attempt to contact the International Space Station, which was heard during its pass around noon.

The Echolink connection was solid, and we had the following people that made a conversa-

tion between Fort Wayne and Sudbury:

KN0NHF, Bear, in Fort Wayne via Echolink. (Bear came out to Science Central and joined us for most of the day!)

KF8EIJ, Courtney, Fort Wayne on 146.91

W9LAN, Linda, Fort Wayne on 146.91

Cora, Sudbury

Clara, Sudbury

Tom, VA3TSS, Sudbury, on their repeater

Martin, from L3HARRIS, company talked to Sudbury

Rob, Sudbury

Quinn, Sudbury

Jennifer, Sudbury

Anne, Sudbury

Logan, Sudbury

Cooper, Sudbury

Joe, Sudbury

Chase, Fort Wayne

Emet, Fort Wayne

All in all, not bad for our first attempt at a Space Day museum to museum link via Amateur Radio.

LESSONS LEARNED

Because of the acoustics in the room we were in, a pair of good headphones, for both control operator and visitor would be a major improvement. A speaker for bystanders to hear could also be added to round it out.

To round out 'dead' times, we should have asked for local HAMS to join in on the different repeaters.

Not sure if it would work, until we try it, would be an external

HF antenna to make a direct connection maybe on 40 meter SSB. Not sure if Sudbury has that option.

If you have other suggestions, please be sure to pass them along to me.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ, for bringing this whole concept to our attention and supporting the dialogue with the folks in Sudbury!

Sudbury Amateur Radio Club, thanks to all for jumping in and supporting not only us, but also the Science North operation!

Sarah Vise, at Science Central, for making sure this all was possible! We hope that this is the beginning of more cooperation with our club and Science Central.

Courtney Smith, KF8EIJ, for putting the word out on our Facebook and Instagram pages. Maybe next time, we can do a live stream or Instagram video; etc.

Frank, VA3AC, for manning the Sudbury connection for the whole time, I think.

Adam, KD9NRT & Meghan, KD9ODP, Thanks for the satellite station and ISS try. Also, thanks to Shawn, from the Snider High School Radio Club for helping us.

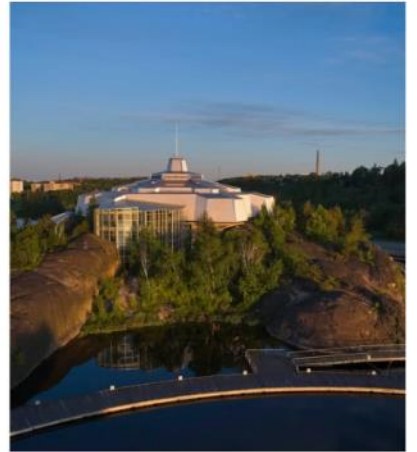
73,

Steve, W9SAN

P.S. See the photos from the event in the collage on the next page.

In Review

World Space Week!



October 2025

LRBN Update

Greetings, fellow hams!

We've had another fantastic month on the Little Red Barn Net (LRBN), held Monday through Friday at 9:00 AM on 3.820 MHz LSB. Early check-ins start around 8:45 AM, and we typically welcome 10 to 15 participants daily. Despite some continuing rough conditions on the 80m band, the net remains lively and fun, with each day's topic sparked by the check-ins themselves—always something new and interesting!

Biweekly Lunch Gatherings

Every two weeks, we host a lunch meet up, alternating between North and South Fort Wayne. Attendance usually ranges from 10 to 15 folks, and it's a great opportunity to enjoy good food and even better company.

This month, we met on:

10/9/25 at Red Lobster, and

10/23/25 at Black Dog Pub

Both were wonderful events filled with camaraderie and conversation.

Upcoming Lunch Dates (All at 11:30 AM):

11/6/25

11/20/25

12/4/25

See below for information on the mobile webpage about upcoming lunch locations.

Stay Connected

Want to join the LRBN email list? Just send your email address and call sign (or name) to:

Email: [gmrepair1\(at\)aol.com](mailto:gmrepair1(at)aol.com)

Text/Call: 260-437-4676

Net Control Schedule

Monday: KU8T – Tom

Tuesday: K9FW – Al

Wednesday: N9TB – Tom or KD9HAV – Norm

Thursday: KE9IWX – Jim

Friday: WB9TYJ – Don (followed by Amateur Radio Newsline—thanks, Don!)

Online Resources

Mobile Web Page: <https://gmrepair1.wixsite.com/mobile> (includes lunch details, dates, photos, and more)

Groups.io Page: groups.io/g/lrbn (Sign up to vote on future lunch locations. Reach out if you need help joining!)

Netlogger Tools

Net Controls use the Netlogger program, available at netlogger.org.

For smartphones, check out:

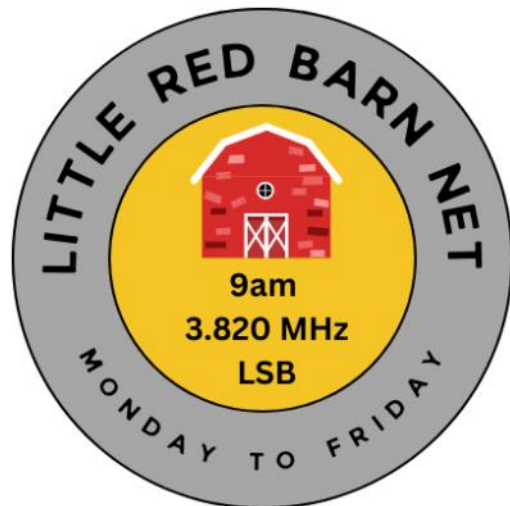
Android: Net Scraper or Netlogger Companion (Play Store)

iPhone: Netlogger Companion (App Store)

Thanks for being part of the LRBN community. Happy Thanksgiving!

73,

KU8T – Tom



Hamsplatter

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



Welcome to November. This year has gone by so fast. It feels like we only started 2025, and we are close to ringing in 2026. The days of outdoor antenna projects are nearing an end for the year. It is getting to the time to get on the air with your creations. Even though the year is wrapping up, there still are a lot of great operating events.

First, I have to mention Fort Wayne Hamfest. FWRC will have a booth where you can renew your membership for the next year. Carl, K9LA, has been working hard to set up some great forums. We are never too old to learn something new. I will be doing a presentation over School Radio Clubs.

Second, there are some great special event stations in November. Being a shipwreck enthusiast, the 50th anniversary of the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald will be a station I'm looking out for. There are also the Marine Corps Birthday and Veterans Day stations to listen out for. Near the end of the month, a special event station will be set up for the 100th anniversary of the first wireless contact between the US and Norway.

Finally, we have our club meet-

ing. I'm still working out the details for the presentation, but the club will hold elections for officers and board members for the next year. It will be on November 21st at 6:30 PM. This is the Friday after Fort Wayne Hamfest. It will be held at the American Red Cross by the Coliseum. We hope to see everyone there.

Thank you for your time. If I don't see you at the meeting, have a great Thanksgiving. Please send me any feedback you have for the club at kd9nrt@gmail.com. I don't reply to every email, but I do read them all, and your feedback is critical in club operation.

Happy Thanksgiving!

73,

Adam, KD9NRT

**The next FWRC
general meeting will
be on Friday, Nov.
21st at 6:30pm at
the American Red
Cross Building in
Fort Wayne on 1212
E. California Rd.
Everyone is wel-
come!**

FWRC Officers 2025

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Vice President

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Secretary

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Special Advertising Section

ARRL Launches Nationwide Grassroots Campaign to Pass Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act



ARRL has launched a nationwide grassroots campaign aimed at securing the passage of federal legislation that would grant Amateur Radio Operators the same rights to install antennas on their property as those enjoyed by users of TV antennas, wireless internet, and flagpoles.

The campaign, announced in an ARRL Member Bulletin on September 17, 2025, follows the reintroduction of the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act in February 2025 (see ARRL News 02/07/2025). The bipartisan bills --

H.R.1094 in the House and S.459 in the Senate -- are designed to prevent restrictive homeowners' association (HOA) rules that currently prohibit or severely limit the installation of amateur radio antennas, even when such antennas are hidden in trees, placed in attics, mounted on vehicles, or look like flagpoles.

"This legislation is about restoring equal rights to licensed Amateur Radio operators," said ARRL President Rick Roderick. "These restrictions hinder not only the enjoyment of Amateur Radio, but also its

vital role in emergency communication during disasters."

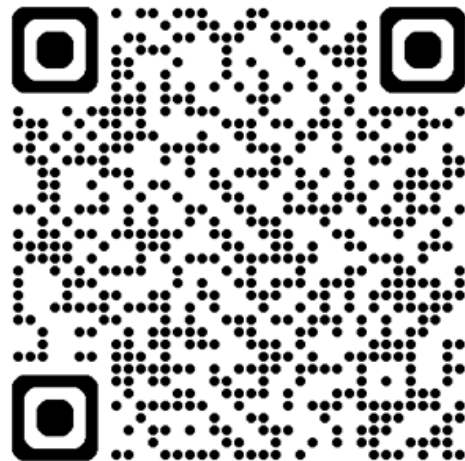
Public Support Needed for Passage

To advance the legislation, ARRL is calling on its members and all licensees of the US Amateur Radio Service to take action by sending letters to their congressional representatives. Through a dedicated online tool at <https://send-a-letter.org/hoa/>, hams can easily generate and submit pre-drafted letters with a few clicks.

Go to — **<https://send-a-letter.org/hoa/>** — and help us by sending your letters to your Representative and Senators.

ARRL has emphasized that every letter matters. "Your Representative and Senators need to know that the passage of this legislation is important to you."

*This article was reprinted with permission of ARRL. Frequently asked questions about the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act and the campaign are available at: **<https://www.arrl.org/current-legislation#FAQ>***



State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN



From the
ACARTS
President

The next ACARTS general meeting will be on Tuesday, November 11th at 7pm at the American Red Cross Building in Fort Wayne on 1212 E. California Rd. Everyone is welcome!



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Fundraising Manager

Fred Gengnagel KC9EZP

IT Manager/Email Admin

Kevin Hecksher W9KMH

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W9INX Trustee

Dan Dahms N9WNH

2025

FORT WAYNE HAMFEST

SM

& Computer Expo

The Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo is fast approaching, and our team members are working to get the final touches taken care of. If are still thinking about helping and haven't put your name in the hat, we are still looking for people to man key locations, by doing so you get into the hamfest for free and a parking pass. If you have been in touch with our team leaders, let them know that you want to help or email myself (Fred - FM@ACARTS.COM) with the time and day that you are available and we will get you on ethe list of volunteers.

This year, we have implemented some major changes in how we are sending out information. This year we have moved everything digitally and not mailing anything out, unless at the expense of the requester. The volunteer badge and parking pass can be picked up at a door between the dock and overhead doors 11 & 12, which can be accessed off Parnell Ave with all the instructions being emailed directly to you.

Entrance #3 of Parnell Ave is where you want to drive in at, here is the Google Maps direct link to the drive in entrance is here: <https://links.acarts.com/parnell>

The RED arrow is for the inbound driving direction (this is a two-way road). The YELLOW arrow points to the MAN door you will want to enter to pick up your volunteer packet from.



Hamfest 2025 (continued)

So, be sure that if you are volunteering this year to have your email address correct or updated from previous years and a cell phone number is very helpful as an alternative way to update information in real time.

We have a full forum schedule that covers a lot of great topics about our hobby and gives some insight into what is happening in the background with programs and rules being talked about.

Don't forget about our youth lounge from 10am to 1pm, where kids can participate in activities with our solar system and the Milky Way galaxy!

If you would like to purchase a table to sell at this year hamfest, please follow the link to our Vendor Information page, click the vendor portal button and reserve your spot. The vendor information page is available at: <https://acarts.com/hamfest/vendors/>

Thanks to everyone that has already committed to a volunteer time slot, being a Team Leader or supporting in the background work that goes into making this Hamfest work. I look forward to seeing everyone there and having a face to face with you.

Until then, 73 and let everyone know about our Hamfest!

Fred Gengnagel, KC9EZP

2025 Fort Wayne Hamfest Chairman

<https://acarts.com/hamfest/>



SM

& Computer Expo

Forums at the 2025 Ft Wayne Hamfest and Computer Expo

White Room

Noon to 1PM – Great Observatories, Astronomy, Cycle 25 – AC9EZ, K9LA

NASA's great observatories, astronomy with modern equipment, Cycle 25 update

1PM to 2PM – RFI from a Cable Emergency Power Box – KR9U, AA9H

How an RFI problem was resolved at KR9U's QTH

2PM to 3PM – Meshtastic: Long Range Off-Grid Messaging – W2TAZ

Joining a 900 MHz mesh network with small, inexpensive LoRa radios.

Archer Room A

10AM to 1PM – Youth Activity – AE9YL, K9TQ

Activities with our solar system and with our Milky Way galaxy

1PM to 2PM – Setting Up Your First HF Station – NT9F

A review of what's needed for your first HF station

2PM to 3PM – Indiana Repeater Council – NF9K, AK9R, WA9FDO

A discussion about coordinating all the Indiana repeaters

Archer Room B

10AM to 11AM – ARRL – N9BA, W9HT, AK9R, KD9EDR

The latest news on ARRL activities and issues

11AM to noon – Parks On The Air (POTA) – KU8T

A review of this extremely popular outdoor ham radio activity

Noon to 1PM – Amateur Radio Satellites for Beginners – N9IP, N9FN

What satellites are available and operating tips

1PM to 2PM – Radio at Schools – KD9NRT

Getting ham radio into the schools for STEAM

2PM to 3PM – YLRL – KC8PKY

A get-together for YLRL and non-YLRL operators



SM

& Computer Expo

SKCC at Fort Wayne Hamfest

Plan to visit the Straight Key Century Club booth at the Fort Wayne Hamfest this November 15 and 16 at the Memorial Coliseum. For the past 5 years, local members of the nearly 31,000 member international SKCC organization have promoted the club demon-

strating mechanical CW and showing the SKCC resources available FREE on their website. This year's table will include a display of K3Y QSL cards as SKCC gets ready to celebrate 20 years. K3Y is the club's special callsign during the month of January. Stop by the booth for more details!



Pictured above are Bruce – N9DGL and Ed - WA9BBN at the 2024 Fort Wayne Hamfest. Bruce and Ed are just two of the 60+ SKCC members in the Fort Wayne/New Haven area!

The annual SKCC/FWDXA Hamfest Dinner is Saturday, November 15 at 4:30 at Dos Margaritas. The restaurant is across Parnell in the Kroger parking lot. Let Ken-N8KR know if you would like to attend. We have plenty of room!





A DX Workshop in Western Kentucky

By Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA

Earlier this year, I received an e-mail from Bill AJ8B. He's the President and newsletter editor for the SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA). He mentioned that there was going to be a DX Workshop in Bowling Green, KY on October 4 put on by the Western Kentucky DX Association. He wanted to know if I would give a presentation on solar issues and propagation. I said "yes", and Bill passed along my acceptance to Jeff WB4JM, the DX Workshop Coordinator.

Vicky and I went to Bowling Green many years ago to attend a general hamfest. We enjoyed the visit: thus, it was not hard to accept this opportunity. It's normally a 5 ½ hour drive, but that would depend on the traffic on I-465 South around Indy to get from I-69 to I-65. We left around 3PM on Friday after Vicky got off from work. Sure enough, there was lots of traffic around Indy due to construction at rush hour time and this added an extra hour or so to the trip.

The DX Workshop was held in one of the branch libraries in Bowling Green. It was in a large room with great audio and video systems. The attendance was around 60, which was a very good turnout for this event. Most of the attendees were from the Bowling Green area. Several DXers from Dayton and Cincinnati came along with AJ8B, so SWODXA was well represented.

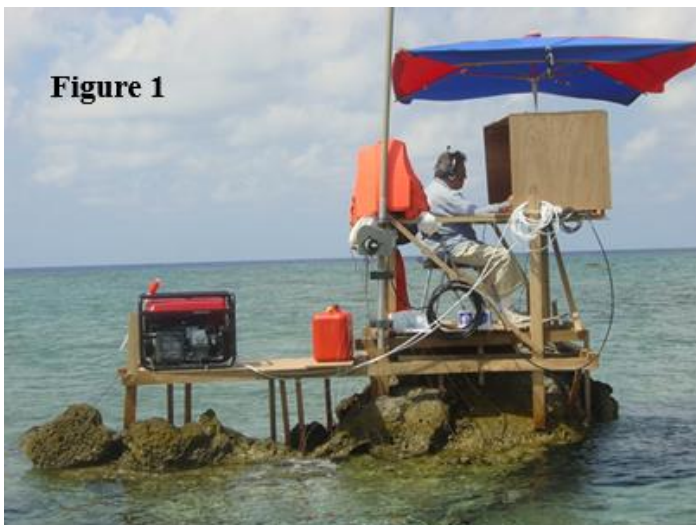


Figure 1

There were three presentations. The first was "DX Basics and Overview" by Glenn KE4KY. Glenn has been on several DXpeditions, including VP8PJ South Orkney in 2020. He covered 'What is DX and DXing', 'What is the ARRL DXCC Awards Program' and

'What is the DX Code of Conduct'. It was a very informative presentation, and it included a discussion of some questionable entities like Scarborough Reef. See Figure 1 – W6RGG operating at Scaffold Scarborough Reef. Glenn finished up with the top 25 Most Wanted entities from Club Log.

Next up was Bill AJ8B with "DX Operating Techniques". In addition to his SWODXA duties, Bill is the "N" letter sorter for the 8th call area incoming bureau. He covered a multitude of topics: logging software, spots, splits & filters, tail ending/partial calls/timing, lists, potpourri and the Silver Bullet (see Figure 2). He also had a nice audience participation event to show how timing could get you through a big pileup. Bill also asked how many have worked all 340 current entities. I was surprised when I was the only one with all 340.

The Silver Bullet

What is the #1 component needed to break a pile-up?

Full power?
Great receiver?
Great antenna?
???

Survey says

Of the 63 DXers that I have interviewed for our club newsletter, 57 stressed that listening is the #1 skill needed to break a pile-up.

I was on last with "Propagation". I mentioned being on several DXpeditions – YK9A in February 2001, OJ0 in July 2002 and ZF many times. I covered an update on Cycle 25, basic propagation issues, using space weather to predict propagation, propagation from the end of 2025 through 2026 and antennas. As for antennas, I asked the question "what is your goal?" and then went through typical antennas for people who are just starting their DX efforts to the serious DXer.

Vicky and I had a great time at the DX Workshop. The Western Kentucky DX Association plans to have it again in two years, so maybe we'll be there again in 2027. Finally, the drive home was the normal 5 ½ hours – traffic was light when we went through Indy Saturday evening.



Searching for the Best Multiband HF Antenna

Hello my fellow radio bugs,

November is just 'round the corner and it's time for another Tuning Up column. Before I forget, an early Happy Thanksgiving to you all! Thanksgiving can sometimes be eclipsed by the hustle and bustle of Christmas, but it's important to take a moment and reflect on what truly has made life so enjoyable. I hope you all have a blessed Thanksgiving season as we prepare for colder weather and cozy evenings at the radio.

It occurred to me this month that Tuning Up has just passed its fifth anniversary. It was in the September, 2020 edition of the HamNews that Tuning Up first became a regular column in the HamNews (although the title of the column would come in later editions).

Over those five years, I've covered a lot of topics, but one subject keeps cropping up – antennas. So, for this "fifth anniversary" edition of Tuning Up, I'm going to give a quick rundown on the antennas I've used at AC9EZ and some of my rationale in using those designs.

So it begins, the quarter-wave vertical

One of the first antennas I ever personally built (without assistance) was the venerable 1/4 wave vertical. This is a simple design but it worked like a charm. All I needed for this kind of antenna was to cut a

quarter-wavelength of wire for the desired frequency, stretch out a few radial wires, hook up some coax, and I was in business!

My first quarter-wave vertical was cut for 40m. It worked well, with good swr and a good takeoff angle. I can distinctly remember working St. Brandon Island in the Indian Ocean on that antenna, both on cw and ssb.

However, the antenna had its drawbacks. I never buried the radials and our lawnmower was hungry, so I ended up with sub-optimal length radials. Also, quarter-wave verticals are single-band antennas (typically), so it was difficult for me to change bands easily without going outside and manually switching my coax to a different antenna.

Another Step in Antenna Evolution

From the quarter-wave vertical, I graduated to the non-resonant doublet. This design looks like a dipole, but instead of cutting the wire according to the standard formula of $468/\text{Frequency (in Mhz.)}$, I cut the legs of the dipole so as to make the antenna non-resonant on every band. I then fed the antenna with 450 Ohm window line, sometimes called ladder line, with the line transitioning to coax cable via a 1:1 current balun. A wide-range Z11 Pro II tuner topped off the system, allowing me to use this antenna on 80 – 10 meters.

The first time I put up this antenna was on December 31, and it was raining a cold drizzle that made the hands feel chilled to the bone. The cold rain, chilly temperatures, and repeated failures in installing the antenna at the target height contributed to an inauspicious introduction to the design. However, after using the antenna for several months, I became enamored of the

doublet, particularly with its flexibility which allowed me to operate on all bands from 80 up to 10 meters.

But the doublet had one flaw – the tuner. Every time I qsy'd, I had to retune the antenna. When the antenna's legs iced up due to cold weather, the impedance would change causing swr fluctuations. I can remember having to retune multiple times in a single evening of operating as snow and ice built up on the antenna. A new antenna design was needed, or so I thought...

The Full-Wave Loop Antenna Enters the Scene

From my experiments with the doublet, I began to think about other wide-range antennas that might have slightly better performance than the doublet. One design I tried was the full-wave loop. Basically, this antenna uses a full wavelength of wire on the lowest operating frequency. Fed with 450 Ohm window line, the antenna can be used on other bands provided the operator uses a wide-range tuner.

I recycled all of my wire, feedline, and LDG tuner and turned my doublet into a full wave loop. For my station, I built two versions of the full-wave loop, one for 80m-10m and the other for 40-10 meters. Both versions were somewhat corner-fed and installed in a very lopsided delta orientation. A 20-10 meter "sky loop" was also built and installed, suspended above the driveway in what should have been a square-shape.

I was very happy with the loop antenna, but the low, drooping leg of the loops and lack of noticeable improvement over the doublet convinced me to switch back to the doublet design.

The EFHW – a Ham Radio Staple

While my experiments were ongoing with loops and doublets, I began hearing about the end-fed half-wave antenna (EFHW). This design uses the same formula as a half-wave dipole for its overall length, but instead of feeding the antenna in the center, the antenna is fed at the end via a 49:1 transformer. Other transformer ratios are used, such as the 64:1 ratio, but 49:1 is the standard usually seen.

I couldn't afford a commercial EFHW, so I opted to go homebrew, wiring the transformer, installing it in a pvc enclosure, and cutting some wire to the appropriate length. I found this antenna to work quite well and the EFHW became my go-to antenna for portable operations since it allowed me to jump between 40 and 20 meters easily with low swr.

An 80m efhw was installed at AC9EZ, but I never used it regularly, so the antenna was taken down. I had noticed a few issues when using the antenna, but it wasn't until after the antenna was removed that I discovered corrosion had built up on some of the terminals inside of the transformer's enclosure. Most likely, the antenna worked fine – it was a simple matter of poor electrical connectivity.

And Everything Else...

The antennas listed above are just a few of the main ones I have tried in the past five years: single-band dipoles, an odd kind of loop in the shape of two intersecting triangles (didn't work), a multi-band vhf/uhf yagi, ham sticks, a two-element 20m roof-mounted yagi (great in concept), numerous 160m inverted L's, including the K2AV Inverted L over Folded Counter Poise (FCP), and other homebrew antenna de-

signs (as well as commercial antennas) were each tried and tested.

In looking back over all of those antennas, I think the most valuable result I ever achieved was not so much an antenna – it was the knowledge and experience I gained in building and installing them. From re-using and soldering a recycled SO-239 chassis-mount connector to recycling 450 Ohm window line, from tossing wires into trees to getting a tennis ball stuck 30 feet in the air, I have had the opportunity to build a mental catalog of designs and installation practices. Those experiences have proven invaluable, both for my own ham radio station and operating as well as my research at the university.

To be perfectly honest, antenna design and ham radio in general have proven fundamental to much of my research in college. Exploring options, testing out solutions, and writing about what had happened has been my modus operandi at PFW for all my years of study. I doubt I would have had the faintest idea on what to do with a collegiate research project if I hadn't had the experiences of building, testing, and reporting on my antenna experiments. The reality was that, even though I was building antennas for my ham radio station, I was actually training my mind in research methodology - training that would help me throughout my college education.

It doesn't feel like five years have gone by since I started writing Tuning Up. Time seems to pass in a blink of the eye. But there are still so many topics to cover, so many subjects to discuss, and so much more to learn. I hope I can continue sharing that excitement and joy of amateur radio with you all in the

years to come with future Tuning Up columns.

*73 and good dx! De Jim
AC9EZ*

ARES Event



Ignite Trail Marathon/Half Marathon

Date: December 13, 2025
Location: Chain O Lakes State Park, 355 E 75 S, Albion, IN 46701

Times: 7:00 am until 4:00 pm
There will be two shifts for this event: 7:00 am until 12:00 (noon) and 12:00 pm (noon) until 4:00 pm.

30 volunteer timeslots open for this event. This is a great opportunity to tune up those disaster response skills.

Contact Jerry, KD9QHI at [kd9qhi\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:kd9qhi(at)gmail.com) to get involved!



Summary for October 2025

Operating activities during the month of October follow.

The SKCC Weekend Sprintathon (WES) aims to bring together operators with different skill levels in a regularly scheduled, informal operating event lasting 36 hours. The event starts at 1200 UTC on the 2nd Saturday of each month and ends at 2359 UTC on Sunday. Participants can operate for the full 36 hours.

For the WES on October 11 & 12, the following local operators participated. QSO count is shown.

N8KR	227
WA9BBN	101
AC9XS	80
WG9K	59
W9GOO	35
KU8T	33
K9FMX	20
W9HT	17
N9DGL	12
N9SE	8
KB9QG	1

The two-hour Straight Key Sprint (SKS) occurs on the fourth Wednesday of each month starting at 0000 UTC. For Indiana operators the start is on Tuesday evening.

For the SKS on Tuesday evening October 21, 8-10 PM local, the following local operators participated. QSO count is shown:

KS9KCC (N8KR & W9HT, ops)	76
WA9BBN	23
W9GOO	15
N9DGL	9
KA9GKE	6
AC9XS/8	5

See this month's operating events calendar for dates for this month's SKCC WES and SKS.

Catch you on the air in November and see you at the Fort Wayne Hamfest.

73!

Ed, WA9BBN



Joint SKCC/FWDXA Banquet

Held right after the end of
the Fort Wayne Hamfest on
Saturday, November 15.

RSVP to Ken, N8KR at
n8kr@hotmail.com

CHIPS! SALSA! QUESO! TACOS! ENCHILLADAS! HAM RADIO STUFF!
RSVP since space is limited.



FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

10 October 2025

The October meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held on October 10th, 2025. It occurred at the Red Cross complex on East California Rd. starting at 6:32 pm. It was hosted by club President Adam Warrix, KD9NRT; there were about 25 attendees

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

Bob Streeter's W8ST Treasurer's report, dated 10 October, 2025 indicated the various account balances as follows:

Checking account balance
\$3,205.99

Savings account balance
\$525.94

Vanguard Fund balance
\$29,081.77

Y-T-D Income
\$1014.00

Y-T-D Expenses
\$1,624.85

Y-T-D Liquid Assets
\$32,813.70

Current Club membership
135

Prepaid memberships for 2026
5

Ken Rogner, N8KR provided a very interesting description of his implementation of remote station operating. Ken has a significant station at his QTH in New Haven where he resides

during the warmer months, and another station located in Florida where he hibernates during the winter months. The New Haven QTH features eight resonant antennas (no antenna tuner required on the frequencies he hangs out on), a state of the art Flex transceiver and a couple of linears and other goodies. Ken controls the transceiver and antenna selection via the internet and is working on extending the span of remote control via the internet.

Adam reminded everyone that elections would occur at the November meeting. Al Burke, WB9SSE, Steve Nardin, W9SAN, Jim Moehring, KB9WWM, and Carole Burke, WB9RUS indicated that they were willing to run for the positions they currently hold and it is assumed that Bob Streeter and Charles Ward, KC9MUT will run for their current positions too. Persons willing to run for President and Vice President are as of yet to be identified.

Steve Nardin reported that the Space Day event at Science Central went well. Steve, supported by Adam Warrix, and Meghan Warrix, KD9ODP, Willie Tucker-Hall, KD9ZFP plus one of Adam's Snider High School students were able to make a number of HF contacts plus vhf contacts with the Science North station in Sudbury, Ontario using 146.910 and Echo-Link. An attempt to make contact with the ISS during an overhead pass was unsuccessful.

Jim Moehring and Jerry Eitner, KD9QHI, discussed recent events that have and will occur

involving ham radio communications support, first during the Fort Wayne Safety Fair by checking out emergency communications equipment at area hospitals, specifically the functionality of antennas at the various sites.

In addition they described communications support and manpower needs for the Indiana Trails (IT-100) race that will occur at Chain-O-Lakes state park October 11-12. It consists of 100 mile, 75 mile and 50 mile runs. Hams provide communications support for the general conduct of the races and safety of the participants and generally involve about 30 ham participants manning various sites along the race trails.

Willi reported that if the club is going to continue the Volunteer Examiner program it will need to invest in the purchase of between 5 to 8 electronic tablets because of a change in data collection and reporting requirements being put in place by the ARRL. They can be inexpensive devices costing about \$80.00 each. Adam proposed we allocate \$1,000.00 towards the purchase of eight tablets. Adam's motion was seconded and voted on, passing with a unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE

Secretary, FWRC

The Casual Contester: An easy way to make some contacts!

By Ken, N8KR

The ham radio contest season is on us. Every weekend is full of a variety of contests. Many folks are reluctant to answer a “CQ Contest” because they are not “in the contest.” The reality is that you don’t have to be “in the contest” in order to make a contact. In fact, the person calling CQ is happy to have you stop by for a contact as your contact will give him a point! If unsure of what you need to send for an exchange, you can ask or start with, “59 Indiana.” You can also visit the WA7BNM contest calendar (contestcalendar.com) online which will give you a listing of contests along with a clickable link to get

more info including exchange information. Below is an 8 day calendar of ham radio contests from that website.

Here’s a sample exchange:

{Station Calling CQ} CQ Contest
N8KR

{You} W9TE
(your call)

{Station calling CQ} W9TE (your call)
59 Florida

{You} QSL ur 59 Indiana

{Station calling CQ} QSL
Thanks

That’s all there is to it!

Log the contact!



Quick P.S. from the Editor:

In addition to the WA7BNM contest calendar, you can always refer to the Operating Events page in the Allen County Newsletter or check the Contest Corral page in the QST magazine.

Have fun in the contests!

-W9HT

OPERATING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 2025

**ARRL
SWEEPSTAKES, CW**

**NOV
1-3**

**NOV
8-9**

**SKCC WEEKEND
SPRINTATHON**

**ARRL
SWEEPSTAKES, SSB**

**NOV
15-17**

**NOV
29-30**

**CQ WW DX
CONTEST, CW**

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.

**FOR
SALE**

This section of the Allen County HamNews is available for local hams to list any ham radio related gear for sale or to place any ham radio related want ads.

Listings are posted for one month, but can be renewed upon request of the editor.

Please see page two for contact information.


ICOM

IC-7610



For Sale: IC-7610 premium HF/6m transceiver. Local sale preferred, but shipping is possible. Very light use. Comes with DC power cord, manual, hand microphone, and original boxes. \$2200. Contact Al, K9FW at [k9fw\(at\)frontier.com](mailto:k9fw@frontier.com) for more information.

Area Nets (updated as of 11/1/25)					
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	145.270-	Whitley Co. ARES (141.3 PL)
8:00 PM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	8:00 PM	50.580 FM	FWRC 6-Meter FM Net
Week-days			Thursday		
9:00 AM	3.820	Little Red Barn Net (NewsLine on Friday after net)	8:00 PM	D-STAR	Indiana D-STAR net (Note 3)
Sunday			8:00 PM	50.580	AM 6-Meter AM Net
8:00 PM	444.550+	Whitley Co. ARC Sunday Night Net (141.3 PL)	8:30 PM	145.510 simplex	Allen County ARES Digital Operations Team Training Net (Note 4)
8:30 PM	146.910-	"No-Name" Net also on EchoLink Node number 519521	Saturday		
9:00 PM	145.53 simplex	Northeast Indiana Packet Net 1200 baud (Note 2)	8:00 PM	146.685-	Huntington ARES(141.3 PL)
Monday					
8:00 PM	224.780-	Fort Wayne 224 Net			

1. All times local time.

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>

6. Please note that this information is provided by the local amateur community—thank you! *If you see any information that is incorrect or out of date, please send any needed additions, deletions, or corrections to the newsletter editor at drjoshlong (at) gmail.com.*

Allen County Area Voice Repeaters (updated as of 11/1/25)								
RX freq.	RX access	TX freq.	TX access	mode	network	callsign	owner	use/nets
145.33000	141.3	144.73000	CSQ/141.3	FM analog		W9FEZ	Mizpah	
146.76000	141.3	146.16000	CSQ/141.3	FM analog		W9TE	FWRC	
146.88000	141.3	146.28000	CSQ/141.3	FM analog		W9INX	ACARTS	SKYWARN, Red Cross, IMO Traffic
146.91000	141.3	146.31000	CSQ/141.3	FM analog	EL 519521	W9TE	FWRC	Echolink, No Name Help & Swap Net
146.94000	141.3	146.34000	141.3	FM/C4FM	Not net- worked	W9TE	FWRC	ACARES
147.25500	141.3	147.85500	141.3	FM analog		W9INX	ACARTS	
224.78000	141.3	223.18000	CSQ	FM analog		W9FEZ	Mizpah	Ft. Wayne 220 Net
442.63750	CC1	447.63750	CC1	DMR	Brandmeister	N9MTF	N9MTF	ACARES DMR Net
442.99375	W9TE-B	447.99375	W9TE-B	D-STAR	D-STAR	W9TE	FWRC	
443.10000	CC1	448.10000	CC1	DMR	Crossroads	K9MMQ	K9MMQ	ACARES DMR Net
443.80000	141.3	448.80000	141.3	FM analog		W9INX	ACARTS	Red Cross
444.25000	141.3	449.25000	141.3	FM analog		W9AVW	W9AVW	
444.80000	CSQ	449.80000	CSQ	FM analog	IRLP 8177	W9FEZ	Mizpah	
444.87500	141.3	449.87500	141.3	FM analog		W9TE	FWRC	

Allen County GMRS voice repeater (updated as of 11/1/25)								
RX freq.	RX access	TX freq.	TX access	mode	Special use	Nets	Callsign	Owner
462.675	141.3	467.675	141.3	WFM ana.	Red Cross	ACARTS GMRS Net	WRDC557	ACARTS

Allen County area data systems (updated as of 10/11/25)											
RX freq.	RX access	TX freq.	TX access	mode	network	BBS/ MBX/ PBBS	owner	net alias	network node	KA-node	digipeater
144.39	141.3	144.39	CSQ	APRS	APRS	W9INX-1	ACARTS	INFW	W9INX-2	W9INX-7	W9INX-8
145.53	141.3	145.53	CSQ	packet	NEIPN	W9INX-1	ACARTS	INALEN	W9INX-6	W9INX-7	W9INX-8

Please note that this information is provided by the local amateur community—thank you! *If you see any information that is incorrect or out of date, please ease send any needed additions, deletions, or corrections to the newsletter editor at drjoshlong (at) gmail.com.*

A fillable version of this form is also available at: <https://new.acarts.com/forms/acarts-app.pdf>



Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society – W9INX

Email to: Sec@ACARTS.com or Tres@ACARTS.com

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

ACARTS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership applications can be sent via Email, Postal, or in person at a member/board meeting. Membership applications & payments via credit card can also be filed out directly online at <https://www.Hamclubonline.com>

New Member ☐ Yes ☐ No / Existing Member ☐ Yes ☐ No / Additional Household Members*: ☐ Yes ☐ No
Change in any contact information? ☐ Yes ☐ No *Attach additional membership forms for each family member
Membership type: ☐ Full Member or ☐ Associate Member or ☐ GMRS Family Group
Do you want the Allen County Ham News Monthly Newsletter Emailed to you? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Amateur Call Sign: _____ Class: _____ GMRS Call Sign: _____

Are you a current **ARRL Member**? ☐ Yes ☐ No ARRL Expiration Date: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Do you use a
Nickname: ☐ Yes ☐ No: If so, what is your Nickname: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Type: ☐ Home ☐ Cell ☐ Work Publish*: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Phone Number: _____ Type: ☐ Home ☐ Cell ☐ Work Publish*: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Email: _____ Publish*: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Each member must have a UNIQUE email address; family accounts cannot use the same email for multiple persons in the Hamclubonline.com system database.

*Website Publication Information is only visible to registered Active members of HCO & ACARTS.

Membership Dues are calculated as follows:

	Quantity	Total
Full Membership \$12 per calendar year (Jan 1 through Dec 31)	_____	\$ _____
Associate Membership* \$6 per calendar year (Jan 1 through Dec 31)	_____	\$ _____
Additional Membership Names: _____		

Total Amount Paid: \$ _____

*Associate Memberships also include Licensed Household members, non-FCC licensed members, and Students (under 18 Y.O.).

ACARTS USE ONLY: Entered Date: _____ HCO Member #: _____ By: _____
Fees Paid: ☐ In Person/☐ Online via: ☐ Cash ☐ Check# _____ ☐ HCO/Square CC Trx#: _____
☐ Full Year/ ☐ Partial Year? _____ HCO Updated? _____ By: _____

FWRC Membership Application for 2025

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	\$20.00 / year
Family membership ¹	\$25.00 / year
Student membership ²	\$5.00 / year
Associate membership ³	\$15.00 / 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.



53rd FORT WAYNE HAMFEST & Computer Expo

Sponsored by Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society



ARRL Representatives

Brent Walls N9BA

ARRL Central Division Director

Josh Long W9HT

ARRL Central Division Vice Director

Bob Burns AK9R

ARRL Indiana Section Manager

November
15 & 16
2025

SAT 9 AM to 4 PM

SUN 9 AM to 2 PM

Admission: \$10 Sat &
Sun (Weekend)

\$5 Sun only

Children under 12 free
(with adult)

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: Starting at \$35 Regular, \$55 Premium, \$40
Electricity

Drive Directly to Your Table for Setup

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



Mobile Guide

Get the latest information at
www.fortwaynehamfest.com

www.facebook.com/FTWAYNEHAMFEST/



Hamfest General Questions:

Email: info@fwhamfest.com

Table Questions:

orders@fwhamfest.com

Mail: PO Box 10342, Fort Wayne,
IN 46851

Phone: (260) 579-2196