

# Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

April 2026

Volume 27

Issue 4



*Hold the date  
for the  
Indiana QSO  
Party on  
5/2/26!*



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**But wait, there's more!**



coverage of the March Skywarn events and stay tuned to the local repeaters during times of inclement weather.

The 2026 Indiana QSO Party is just around the corner on Saturday, May 2nd. Check out Jim AC9EZ's column to learn about operating in this event. Additional information is available at <http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/index.php>. I hope that you are able to join this fun event.

I hope to catch you on the air or at one of the local club meetings soon.

Happy Easter & 73,

*Josh, W9HT*



P.S. Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Indiana QSO Party on May 2nd!

P.P.S. The Michigan QSO Party is also scheduled for Saturday, 4/18.

Last night (3/31/26) I was working on the newsletter when the storm came blowing through. Mercifully, this storm did not include any tornadoes in the Fort Wayne area—as far as I know. I hope that you and your family were also safe from the storm.

Beside the colorful weather last month, March was quite the month in terms of DX (Carl K9LA discussed the 3Y0K Bouvet Island DXpedition in his column last month). Fortunately, I was home during spring break while Bouvet was on the air. After some initial frustration in the first few days, I was able to work 3Y0K on 4 different bands! Later in the month, I got very lucky and was able to contact the XX9W Macau and S21WD Bangladesh DXpeditions too. Three all-time-new-ones in one month is quite a feat after chasing DX for 27 years! The CY0S Sable Island DXpedition was also very present on the bands. The magic of working DX stations does not go away. Now I have to get the QSL cards and/or Logbook of the World confirmations for each of these.

If you know of anyone who is looking to obtain their ham radio license, Jeff, KB9QG and Dennis, KD9KMK are co-hosting a free Technician licensing class. At the conclusion of the class, there is a chance to take the exam. See the flyer on the next page for more information.

Allen County ARES has been busy. See the updates in this edition of the HamNews.

The Skywarn net is back in full swing since spring has arrived. Check out Don WB9TYJ's

## 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

# **Get Your Ham Radio License**

## **Technician License Classes April 2026**

**Instructor:** Jeff DeLucany, KB9QG

*Free classes to be held in at the Town House Retirement Community in  
the Movie Theater at Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-8pm*

### **SCHEDULE**

April 7 - Ham Radio, Call Signs, Control, Mind the Rules

April 9 - Tech Frequencies, Going Solo, Repeaters

April 14 - Emergencies, Weak signals, Talk to Outer Space, Going Digital, Multi-mode, Interference

April 21 - Electrons-Go with the flow

April 23 - M. Ohm, Picture This

April 28 - Antennas, Feed Me Coax, Safety First

April 30 - Review and Questions

**Testing Date: May 2, 1:30 to 3:30pm - in the Craft Room**

*If you pass the test, you will receive a FCC Technician Class Amateur Radio License*

Location: The Town House Retirement Community (2209 St. Joe Center Rd., Fort Wayne, Indiana) in the Theater room.

Parking: Use Campus Drive to parking lot on the west side of the Town House. Enter the building using the West Entrance 2 to the Movie Theater (look for signs)

Book used: Gordon West Technician Class 2022-2026, \$30 + tax from Amazon, R&L Electronics, GigaParts or Ham Radio Outlet.

No cost for the class. W5YI cost for testing is \$14.00. (If you pass the test, then the FCC administrative cost is \$35.00.)

*For more information, contact Jeff DeLucenay, KB9QG via phone at 260-413-5982 or via email at [jdeluce \(at\) frontier.com](mailto:jdeluce@frontier.com) or Dennis Brink, KD9KMK via phone at 260-241-2032 or via email at [Dennis.Brink \(at\) att.net](mailto:Dennis.Brink@att.net)*



## Allen County ARES Update for March 2026

The Allen County ARES team continues to improve its readiness.

In addition to it's ongoing training, public service events and simulated emergency tests, the ARES team has also improved its inventory of equipment.

Thanks to a generous donation from N9KE, Kevin Emenhiser, Allen County ARES added three new go-box kits to the three go-box kits that are currently on loan from Allen County DHS. The new kits are in three parts: the radio box, battery box and the antenna bag.



The radio box contains a Yeasu FTM-150 radio, 30AMP power supply, auto switching from AC to DC power, Win-link system including computer, and a speaker & headphones.

The battery box contains two Lipo4 20Ah batteries, with room for

a third and 8ft of wire to connect to the radio kit

using power-pole connectors.

The antenna bag contains a tripod mast that extends to approximately 17.5ft. that supports a Dimond x-30 antenna. There are three RG-8 high flex and high visibility coax cables (25ft, 15ft, and 10ft), as well as two connectors allowing the operator to adjust the length from 10ft to 50ft depending on their need.

After acquiring all of the parts Jim, KB9WWM, and Dan, N9PAP, coordinated the machining and pre-assembly of the kits. Then as reported last month the team gathered and did the final assembly of the radio boxes.

With these go-kits the ARES team can far better serve the agencies they support.

Thanks to everyone that supported this project and the ARES team in general.

73,

*Dan N9PAP / WSEU894*

Indiana ARES

Third District Assistant Emergency Coordinator

<https://inarrl.org/emcomm/indiana-section-ares>

P.S. To get involved in Allen County ARES, please send an email to either Dan N9PAP or Jim KB9WWM (addresses found on qrz.com).

**READY · RESPONSIVE · RESILIENT**



**90<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

**1935 · 2025**

**ARES<sup>®</sup>**



I have reached out to the event coordinator for the Fort for Fitness Spring Cycle tour about assisting with the event.

They have confirmed they would like Allen County ARES to assist again this year.

There will be a need for about 25 operators for this event.

Event information:

Date: **Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>**

Time: **Approximately 7:00 am until about 4:00 pm. ARES times may be different.**

Location: **This event covers three counties, Allen, Whitley, and Huntington. The starting location is a University of St. Francis parking lot.**

We have agreed to accept an additional support role. We have agreed to provide SAG support for the event. This means the riders will be provided cell phone number to contact when assistance is needed. The support will be provided using the 8 on course sweep vehicles.

Details on this are still in the works.

**If you are interested in providing support for this event, please contact me at kd9qhi (at) gmail.com**

Thank you very much for your support of this event.

73,

*Jerry Etnier, KD9QH1*

260-704-8018  
Allen County ARES  
Assistant Emergency Coordinator



**The next  
FWRC VE  
exam session  
will occur on  
Saturday, 5/30  
at 10am in Fort  
Wayne. Stay  
tuned to the  
newsletter  
next month for  
more details.**



## Skywarn Update for March 2026

Skywarn training is now complete for the season. However, if anyone wants to review the training material, please let me know.



Skywarn activations have begun for the season!

The best way to be aware of changing weather is to have a NOAA weather radio and, of course, to listen to the Skywarn activated repeater systems.

### NOAA WEATHER RADIO FREQUENCIES

- 162.400 MHz South Bend
- 162.425 MHz Angola, Muncie
- 162.450 MHz Adrian (MI), Marion (IN)
- 162.475 MHz Monticello, Lafayette
- 162.500 MHz North Webster, Michigan City, Laporte
- 162.525 MHz Seymour (IN)
- 162.550 MHz Fort Wayne, Indianapolis

### March 10

On 3/10, the Midwest was under a slight-to-moderate threat of severe weather. On Tuesday night into Wednesday morning, hail and tornadoes were approaching western Indiana.

North central Indiana was hit the hardest as the thunderstorms moved along the axis across northern Indiana. This movement spared Allen County and most of the vicinity and kept the hail and tornadoes north and west of us.

Skywarn net control operators remained poised to start as the system approached. This time the system moved northwest of us. The following operators were available during this event: KB9WWM, WB9TYJ, KD9QHI, W9GGA, and AC9XS.

### March 15

On 3/15, a severe thunderstorm watch was issued. W9GGA activated the watch net from 1835-2000 hours. The following operators checked in: WB9TYJ, KB9JR, AC9XU, W9KMH, KD9QHI, KC9TIH, N9PAP, W9HT, N9WNH, and KB9WWM

Allen County was spared again, as weakening wind field moved east.

### March 26

The NOAA Storm Prediction Center issued a severe thunderstorm watch at 1700. WB9TYJ activated the watch net from 1715-2132. Hail, heavy rain, and wind gusts 67 miles per hour were reported. Most of the activity of tornadoes, funnel clouds, and radar signatures were positioned to the east-southeast-southwest of Allen County and vicinity. A frontal boundary moved through the area. This dropped temperatures from 81 to 43 degrees within the space of just a few hours.

The following stations checked in: WB9TYJ, KB9WWM, W9GGA, KB9JR, AC9XU, W9BGJ, KC9SJP, AE9EC, AC9XS, W9KMH, W9YME, KD9QHI, KC9RAC, KC9PVE, KD9ZM, KB9AYS, KD9KDW, KE9BYK, and N9PAP.

Last, but not least, we would like to thank Jay, W9LW for this years of service leading the Skywarn teams, as well as Jim, K9BAT for his contributions, leadership, and training sessions.

73,

*Don, WB9TYJ*

P.S. Updates for the weather events on 3/31 will follow in the next edition of the Allen County HamNews.



# LRBN Update for March 2026

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 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!

## Bi-Weekly 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:

3/5/2026 at Cracker Barrel Old Country, and

3/19/2026 at Don Halls Tavern

Photos from both events are available on the mobile-friendly website found later in this column.

Both were wonderful events filled with camaraderie and conversation.

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

4/2/26

4/16/26

4/30/26

## Stay Connected

If you would like to be added to the LRBN email list, please contact Tom at:

- Email: [gmrepair1@aol.com](mailto:gmrepair1@aol.com)
- Phone/Text: 260-437-4676

Please include your email address and call sign or name.

## Net Control Operators

- Monday – KU8T (Tom)
- Tuesday – K9FW (Al)
- Wednesday – N9TB (Tom) or KD9HAV (Norm)
- Thursday – KE9IWX (Jim)
- Friday – WB9TYJ (Don)

After the net each Friday, we air Amateur Radio Newsline — thank you, Don!

## Online & Net Resources

- Mobile-friendly website: [gmrepair1.wixsite.com/mobile](http://gmrepair1.wixsite.com/mobile) (includes lunch info, dates, photos, and more)
- Groups.io page: [groups.io/g/lrbn](https://groups.io/g/lrbn) (Sign up required — this is where we vote on upcoming lunch locations. Let us know if you need assistance.)

Net Control Operators use NetLogger. You can download the program in the Download Center at [netlogger.org](http://netlogger.org).

For smartphones:

Android (Google Play Store): NetLogger Companion or Net Scraper

iPhone (Apple App Store): NetLogger Companion

Thanks for being part of the LRBN community. Looking forward to hearing you on the air and seeing you at lunch!

73,

*KU8T - Tom*

# Ham splatter

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



## Spring Ham Activities

As the old saying goes, “April showers bring May Indiana QSO Party and Dayton Hamfest and POTA” or is it something like this?? But we don’t need flowers when there is so much Amateur Radio fun to be had!

Please join us on April 10th for the FWRC general meeting. Our presenter for the evening will be Larry, KB9OS, who will talk about “Ghost Communications”. No, this isn’t a discussion on paranormal phenomenon, but information on WiFi and other ‘hidden’ data communication that we have access to today. This promises to be an informative discussion. If there is time at the end, I will present one of my short technical series this time on “War of the Currents” or the difference between AC and DC and how to actually combine the two.

In March, we had our first day of the FWRC trailer clean out at the garage owned by Ken, N9KE. Ken has generously offered a really nice indoor space to work on the trailer. Some pictures of the clean out (with a before-and-after showing dramatic difference) can be found elsewhere in the Ham News. A special thanks to Ken and the other 6 that showed up to help and to KC9MUT for delivering the trailer to the site. Work is not done, but when we can fix the vent on

the roof of the trailer, the rest should be easy and straightforward. Be on the lookout for club emails as we will need more volunteers to finish up.

Since April does lead to May, I want to encourage all out there to be able to get on the air for the Indiana QSO Party, which is on May 2 from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm EDT. The club has won the TOP CLUB award the last 6 years in a row and a total of 8 times so we want to go for that “nine-peat” and do it again! We are planning an incentive this year that may include special T shirts and a free meal for all those who turn in a log for the contest to the Hoosier DX and Contest Club where you declare FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB as your club affiliation. Stay tuned to FWRC club mailings for more details. Mark your calendars now for the first Saturday in May.

May also means the granddaddy of all Hamfest, the Dayton Hamvention! Never mind that it is actually held in Xenia, OH, the new venue at the Greene County Fairgrounds is fantastic and every ham needs to make the journey at least once. We typically have a ‘local’ ham photo at the center of the fairgrounds around 11:00 am on Friday. We hope to see you there!

See you at the meeting on Friday, 4/10 at the Red Cross building at 6:30pm and on the air!

73,

*Steve, W9SAN*

## FWRC Officers 2026

### President

Steve Nardin, W9SAN  
(260) 602-3076  
w9san(at)yahoo.com

### Vice President

Tom Rupp, KU8T  
mmrepair1(at)aol.com

### Secretary

Al Burke, WB9SSE  
(260) 637-1989  
aburke55(at)comcast.net

### Treasurer

Bob Streeter, W8ST  
rdstre(at)yahoo.com

### Communications Manager

Charles Ward, KC9MUT  
(260) 749-4824  
kc9mut(at)yahoo.com

### Directors

Willi Tucker-Hall, KD9ZFP  
(260) 348-1171  
kd9zfp(at)gmail.com

Carole Burke, WB9RUS  
(260) 637-1989  
wb9rus(at)comcast.net

Jim Moehring, KB9WWM  
servo300(at)aol.com

Adam Warrix, KD9NRT  
kd9nrt(at)gmail.com

# Cleaning out the FWRC trailer





Toledo TMRC 2026  
Hamfest Photo  
Highlights



2026 Toledo Hamfest Highlights

# State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN



From the  
ACARTS  
President

# APRIL

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE

# APRIL ACARTS MEETING

APRIL 21, 2026

**STARTS AT  
7PM**

**AT THE RED CROSS  
BUILDING, FORT WAYNE**

MORE MEETING AND EVENT  
INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT  
[WWW.ACARTS.COM](http://WWW.ACARTS.COM)

## ACARTS Officers 2025-2026

### President

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

### Vice President

Fred Gengnagel KC9EZP  
260-704-7801  
vp(at)acarts.com

### Secretary

Jackson Wingeier W2TAZ  
260-443-5126  
sec(at)acarts.com

### Treasurer

Kevin Hecksher W9KMH  
260-755-8784  
tres(at)acarts.com

### Community Manager

Stuart Hall KD9LFW  
260-418-1755  
cm@acarts.com

### Station Manager

Dan Dahms N9WNH

### Fundraising Manager

Fred Gengnagel KC9EZP

### IT Manager/Email Admin

Kevin Hecksher W9KMH

### Directors at Large

Steve Shannon K9SKS  
260-704-5353  
dir2(at)acarts.com

James Bassett W9YME

260-438-6664  
dir3(at)acarts.com

Kelley Clond NT9F

260-579-2588  
dir1@acarts.com

### W9INX Trustee

Dan Dahms N9WNH

## Update About the 146.880 W9INX Repeater

As some members of the community may have noticed, the 146.880 W9INX repeater has learned a new trick: parrot mode. Users of DMR will likely already have some familiarity; this allows the repeater to play back received audio after the transmission has completed, so that the speaking station may listen to and evaluate their own transmissions solo, without requiring a second operator, or station, available to listen and provide feedback. On the 880 repeater, this can be accomplished by any radio with a DTMF keypad (so, almost every HT), as dialing "1#" will cause it to announce "activating parrot," and further transmissions will be parroted back on a delay. Sending a "##" (that's two pound keys in a row) will deactivate parrot mode.

As always, remember to be courteous and respectful to your fellow amateurs, it is good etiquette to announce your intentions to conduct a brief parrot test, just in case the repeater is in use. It is also good practice to not offer advice until after the repeater announces that it has deactivated parrot mode, or else your transmissions will also be subject to the same effect, potentially causing confusion.

If you have any questions to ask or issues to raise, feel free to reach out to me either by email (found on QRZ) or on the W9INX repeater.

73,

*Jack, W2TAZ*

ACARTS secretary





# The ARRL's Clean Signal Initiative - Part 1

By Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA

In the April 2026 issue of QST, George Spatata, W1GKS (ARRL Lab Manager), discussed the launch of the ARRL's Clean Signal Initiative (CSI) to improve transmitter performance in three areas: CW bandwidth (related to key clicks), two-tone intermodulation distortion (IMD – results in splatter) and composite noise (broadband noise). Let's look deeper into each of these.

## CW bandwidth

When you key your radio on CW, the RF takes time to rise to full output and to fall to zero. If the RF rises and falls very quickly, the dits and dahs look like square waves. Figure 1 is an image of this condition with the rise and fall times around 1 msec. The resulting noise of the CW signal (QST Product Review of a QRP HF transceiver) is -60 dBc at 1 kHz from the center frequency. These short rise and fall times can also be the cause of key clicks.

Figure 2 (seen on the next page) is a similar image from a QST Product Review of another QRP HF transceiver, but with the rise and fall times around 4 msec. It's easy to see that the longer rise and fall times result in less noise at offsets from the carrier frequency. At 1 kHz from the center frequency, the noise is now -85 dBc. That's an improvement of around 25 dB. We can argue about how much that helps, but it is simply good practice to have the longer rise and fall times.

Many radios allow the operator to set the rise and fall times. This can be good (if you know what you're doing) or it could be bad (if you don't know what you're doing or leaving it at the factory default without checking what it is). My rise/fall time on my radio is set to 6 msec. Thus, my signal should be very clean – too bad it doesn't address being a QLF operator at times.

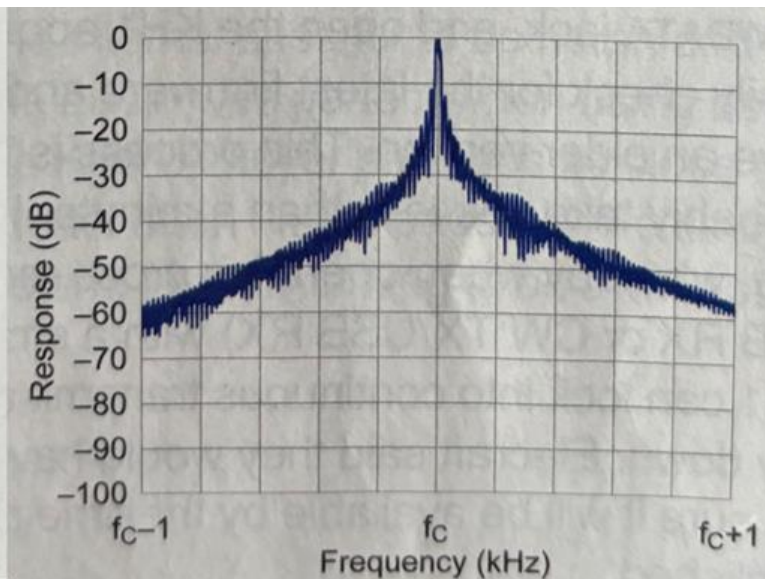
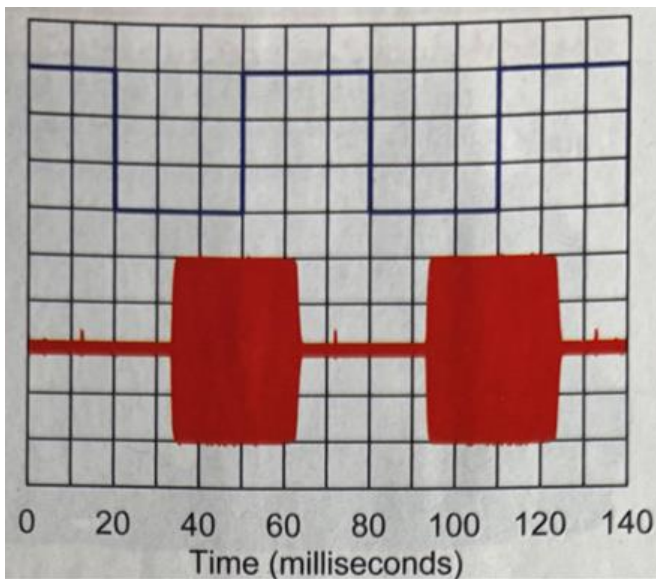


Figure 1 – CW bandwidth with 1 msec rise and fall times

*Continued from previous page*

In the May FWDXA column, two-tone intermodulation distortion and composite noise will be addressed. For more information on CSI, check out the June 2023 issue of QST that has the article *The ARRL Clean Signal Initiative* by Mike Ritz, W7VO. Also check out the May 2024 issue that has the article *ARRL's Clean Signal Initiative Adopts Metrics for Transmitter Performance* by the CSI Working Group.

As a final sidenote, many of you may be aware that HF receiver improvements began many years ago, for all intents and purposes by Rob Sherwood, NCØB. His measurements of critical performance parameters that were essential in a contesting environment resulted in greatly improved receivers with respect to intermodulation distortion, reciprocal mixing and blocking gain compression. I bought my Ten-Tec OMNI VI Plus based on its performance to these critical receiver parameters.

# INDIANA QSO PARTY

## 5/2/26

The purpose of the Indiana QSO Party (INQP) is to encourage contact with Indiana amateur radio stations by other Indiana hams and hams worldwide. Stations outside of Indiana work Indiana stations only. Indiana stations work everybody, including other Indiana stations.

## JOIN THE FUN!

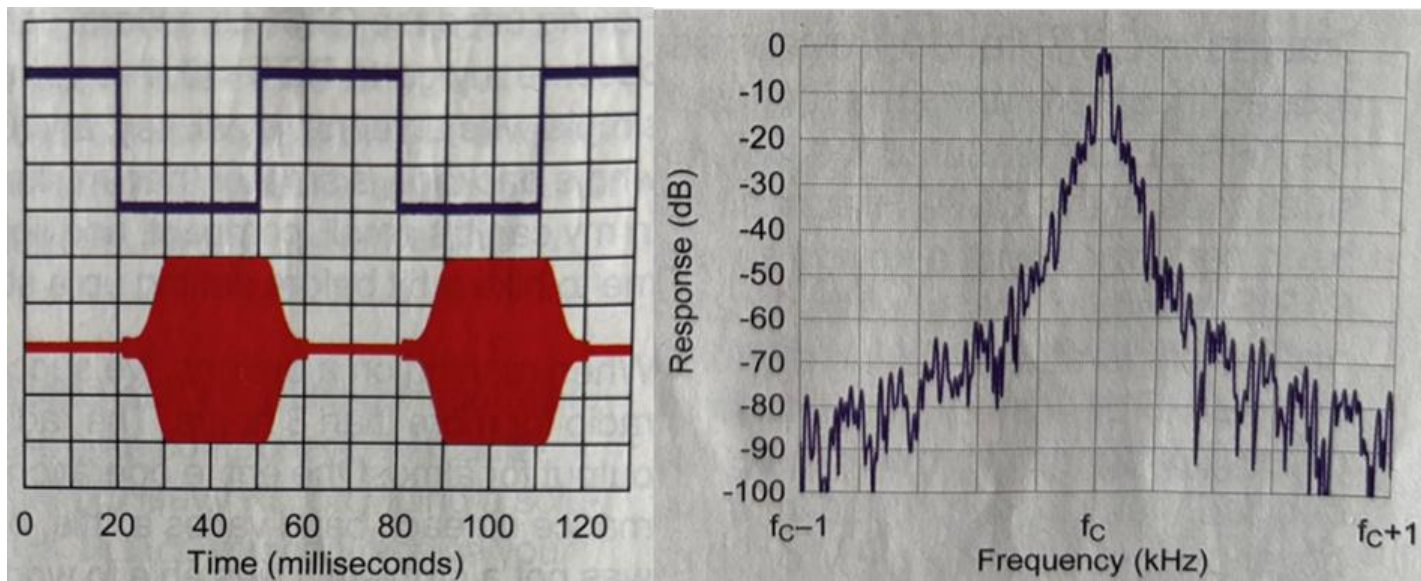


Figure 2 – CW bandwidth with 4 msec rise and fall times



Hello my fellow radio bugs,

Welcome to another Tuning Up column! A very Happy Easter to all of you folks out there.

With the April edition of the HamNews comes thoughts of one of Fort Wayne's (and your author's) favorite radio contests – the Indiana Qso Party.

This month's column is just a quick overview of what one can expect when participating in this year's Indiana Qso Party.

**1. Fort Wayne is the team to beat**

Thanks to the efforts of folks like N8KR, W9HT, AA9H, and KR9U (as well as many others), the Fort Wayne Radio Club has stood at the top of the podium in both the club competition as well as the multi-multi competition. FWRC has won the club competition more times than any other club in the states (check out the scores page on the INQP website to get the number of wins - <http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/scores.php>). That means the FWRC is the team to beat. Folks have taken notice of the radio activity of Fort Wayne and you can be sure other clubs are hoping to top-ple us off that podium this year!

CLUB COMPETITION	
Fort Wayne Radio Club (17 logs) AC9EZ KB9LI K9LA KL8T W5SAN KD8YNG AC9XS W5SA N9ZI WA9BBN KBJMD A9H KR9U N8KR W9HT W8HOM KB9OS KD9ITZ KD9ITZ KD9LFW	824215
Indiana University Amateur Radio Club (2 logs) K9UR KC9ZMA KB9MGU N9OIU N9VKU	138130
NorthWest Indiana DX Club (6 logs) K9KJ A9IC N4SV KC8PKY KC8OBH W3ML	110669

**2. SSB Qsos now worth 2 points**

One of the most recent rule changes was that SSB qsos now count

for the same points values as CW qsos – 2 points per qso. This is an increase from the traditional one ssb qso = 1 qso point (with multipliers being worth more points). There are upsides and downsides to this rule change. However, one fact has not changed – to win a category in the INQP, you need to work the multipliers available on CW.

This means that, although from a points' perspective SSB qsos are now worth the same as CW qsos, if you miss working a multiplier on CW and only work that multiplier on SSB, you will be at a significant score disadvantage. For this reason, I highly encourage you folks to brush up your CW skills and work as many stations on both modes as possible.

**3. What does winning a category mean?**

If you're lucky (and put in a good amount of elbow grease), you can walk away with top-prize in any of the entry categories. Category winners receive a certificate if they win top-score in their entry category for their individual counties. The overall winners of each category (such as high/low/qrp power, multi-single, etc.) win a plaque in addition to their certificate. Plus, you get bragging rights (until next year that is!)

2025 Scores	
Updated August 30, 2025 14:52:00 EDT	
PLAQUE WINNERS	
2025	Top Scoring Indiana High Power Sponsor: Dale Hamer, K9W
2024	Top Scoring Indiana Low Power Sponsor: Steve Zehn, W9KH
2023	Top Scoring Indiana QRP Power Sponsor: Mark K.Cuthbert, AD9VUC
2022	Top Scoring Indiana Portable Sponsor: Dave Smith, K4NR
2021	Top Scoring Indiana Mobile Sponsor: Mike Kazan, A4JC
2020	Top Scoring Indiana Remote Sponsor: Derek Gates, MD7UA
2019	Top Scoring Indiana Multi-Op Sponsor: Indianapolis Ham Club

**4. How to log contacts**

Logging contest contacts can be a bit daunting, especially at the high speed rates one can experience during the contest. Do yourself a favor and pick up some logging

software, either the free N1MM or the low-cost N3FJP software.

Those two programs make logging contest qsos super easy, with separate fields of entry for each callsign and exchange (in our case, a signal report and either a county-state combo or just the state).

**5. When to expect contest activity**

If you only have a few hours to spend in the contest, your best bet is to start contesting at about 3 or 4 p.m. At that point, Indiana stations are eager to work new stations they haven't heard already. Conversely, other state qso parties will just be starting at that point (Delaware and the New England Qso Party will be coming online around then), so you'll be able to work folks just getting on the air.

If you plan on putting in a serious effort, I would recommend starting early and ending late. The contest runs for 12 hours from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., so plan on being in the chair and operating for probably close to 9-10 hours.

So, if you are on the fence or wondering about if you should get on the air and make some contacts, please do! Some category scores are decided by only a handful of contacts and every qso is valuable.

Come join in the FWRC INQP effort! Let's show the Hoosier State what kind of ops call Fort Wayne and northeast Indiana home!

*73 es good dx!*

*De Jim ac9ez*



## Summary for March 2026

Operating activities during the month of March 2026 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 March 14-15, 2026, the following local operators participated. QSO count is shown.

WA9BBN	62
KA9GKE	29
W9SA	22
N9DGL	21
KU8T	14
WB9NOO	4

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, March 24, 2026, 8-10 PM local, the following local operators participated. QSO count is shown:

K9FW	29
WA9BBN	24
W9HT	22
WB9TYJ	20
KA9GKE	9

Catch you on the air in April!

73!

*Ed, WA9BBN*



Mark your  
calendar for  
the Indiana  
QSO Party  
on Saturday,  
5/2/26.  
Make con-  
tacts and  
have fun!

# FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

March 13, 2026

The March meeting of the Fort Wayne Radio Club occurred on 13 March 2026 at the Red Cross complex at California Rd. It was hosted by club President Steve Nardin, W9SAN and there were about 28 members in attendance. It started at 6:32 pm.

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

Steve noted a few upcoming Club happenings:

Work by the Board updating the club's Constitution and By-Laws will occur at special Board meetings on March 17th and again on April 7th with the intent of having the revised documents available for approval by the club membership by this fall.

Clean out, clean up, and general maintenance of the club trailer is scheduled to start on March 21st.

Treasurer's Report:

FWRC account balances as of 13 February, 2026 are as follows

Checking Account Balance  
\$6,828.50

Savings Account Balance

	\$510.04
Vanguard Fund Balance	\$25,136.34
Year-To-Date Income	\$490.27
Year- To-Date Expenses	\$810.95
Year –To Date Vanguard Interest	\$136.65
Year-To-Date Partners 1st interest	\$0.04
Current Club 2026 Membership	120

Larry Temenoff, KB9OS reported status on the 146.91 machine. A two-meter Ringo Ranger antenna was obtained and it will be mounted at the base of the tower at PFW in order to run desense tests that will hopefully determine if the co-linear antenna at the top of the tower is the cause of the de-sense or not.

Steve announced that the Indiana QSO Party event will occur May 2-3, 2026,

starting at 1500 UTC Saturday and ending at 0300 Sunday. The contest encourages radio contact with Indiana stations across 160 -10 meters using both CW and phone modes. The FWRC has been the top scorer in this contest for the past several years and wishes to remain top-dog in the event again this year.

The (8th) May regular club meeting will feature Tom Rupp, KU8T briefing POTA. Then on May 9th Tom will be operating his POTA station in Huntington, Indiana. Everybody is encouraged to join him and have fun with POTA.

Following the business meeting Steve Nardin gave a technical presentation on end fed antennas.

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Al Burke, WB9SSE*

Secretary, FWRC



**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.

For Sale: Baofeng 5RM 2M/1.25M/70CM FM handheld transceiver. Slightly used, like new condition. This radio is like the ubiquitous UV-5R on steroids! Transmitter power rated up to 10 watts. Receives VHF AM aviation band and FM broadcast band signals. Battery charges with USB-C cable or drop-in charger. 1.77-inch color LCD screen. Programmed with all Fort Wayne area repeaters, all standard simplex frequencies and (for monitoring) GMRS and Fort Wayne aviation frequencies. Programming can be easily changed with free CHIRP software and FTDI USB cable (not included). Package includes radio, 2,500 mAh battery with USB-C connector, 8-inch standard antenna, 15-inch extended antenna, drop-in charger, USB-A to USB-C charging cable, USB-A "wall wart" power adapter, standard Baofeng earpiece with microphone, wrist strap and printed manual. \$25. Contact Jay Farlow, W9LW, at [jmfarlow\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:jmfarlow(at)gmail.com).



Your items could be listed here next month.

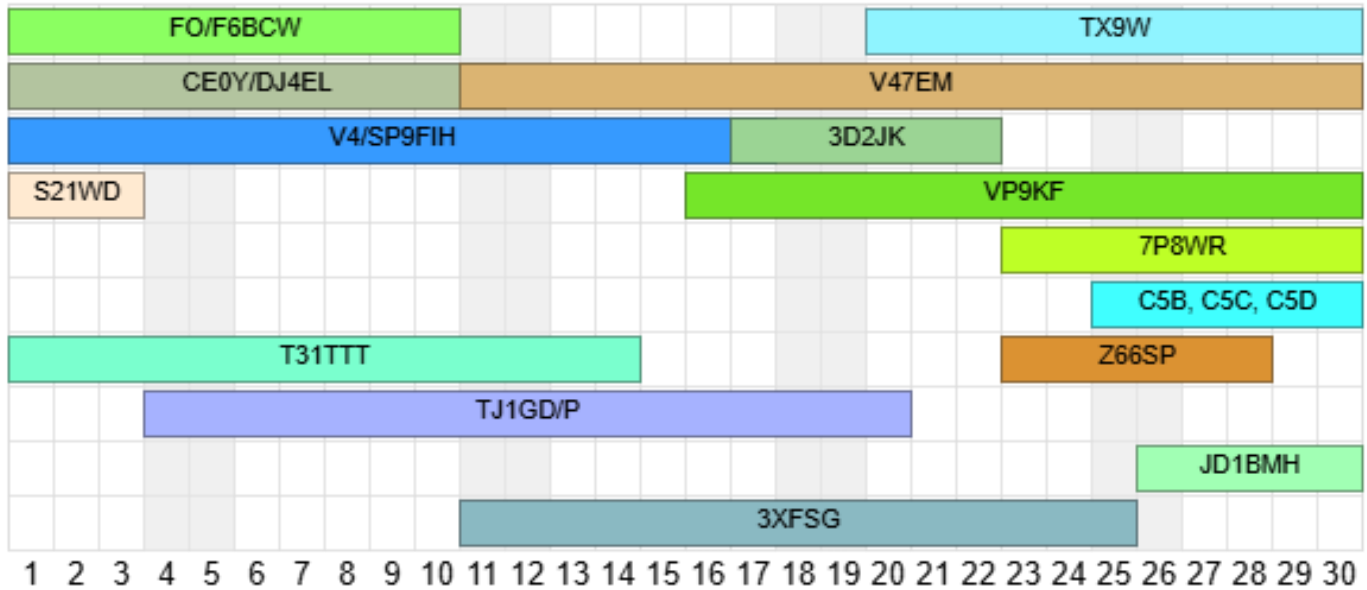
# April 2026 On-Air Events

Monthly Operating Events: April 2026	
4/4-4/5	Louisiana & Mississippi QSO Parties
4/11-4/12	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon
4/17-4/18	WW Holyland Contest
4/18-4/19	CQMM DX Contest
4/18-4/19	Michigan QSO Party
4/19	ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB
4/22	SKCC Sprint
4/25-4/26	Florida QSO Party

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.

## DXWORLD.net FEATURED DXPEDITIONS TIMELINE

Last update: March 30, 2026



Edited by MM0NDX

**APRIL**

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*This DXpedition calendar is a new monthly feature and comes to the Allen County HamNews with special permission from and credit to DXWorld.net.*

Area Nets (updated as of 4/1/26)					
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.inarrl.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 4/1/26)								
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 networked	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 4/1/26)								
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	WRDC557	ACARTS

Allen County area data systems (updated as of 4/1/26)											
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](mailto:Sec@ACARTS.com) or [Tres@ACARTS.com](mailto: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:**

	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Total</b>
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 2026

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 <sup>1</sup>	\$25.00 / year
Student membership <sup>2</sup>	\$5.00 / year
Associate membership <sup>3</sup>	\$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.

# AMERICA

