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Keep Safe With Any  
Planned Outside Work

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630-Meter DXCC

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# Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

March 2016  
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Issue 3

## WHERE THUNDERSTORMS GO TO DIE

By Jay Farlow, W9LW, IMO SKYWARN quadrant director

The husband-and-wife team of Amos and Megan Dodson, both meteorologists at the northern Indiana office of the National Weather Service (NWS), conducted the annual SKYWARN storm spotter training Feb. 16 at the Public Safety Academy of Northeast Indiana.

The content of the training didn't change much from last year's presentation. It focused on the differences between truly threatening weather phenomena and scary-looking, but harmless (and unreportable) conditions.

Here are some highlights:

- **Spotter reports add credibility.** When the NWS issues a warning that includes a reference to a spotter report, members of the general public are more likely to take action than when the warning does not include a spotter reference.
- **Don't wait for activation.** Although our NWS office issues hazardous weather outlooks that indicate whether spotter activation is likely, the office does not "activate" or "deploy" spotters. It welcomes spotters to make reports anytime they see anything reportable.
- **Clouds with ragged edges aren't spinning.** Scary-looking SCUD clouds that are shaped like funnel clouds generate a lot of well-intended but false reports from untrained observers. True funnel clouds and tornadoes spin, giving them sharper, smoother edges.
- **When unsure, send a photo.** NWS encourages spotters who see something that might be reportable (like a possible wall cloud or funnel cloud), to photograph it and send the photo



via Twitter (@NWSIWX) or the NWS office's Facebook page. The office monitors both social networks closely during severe weather events.

- **T.E.L. NWS.** When spotters make reports, they should provide the Time of the observation, a description of the Event, and the Location of the event. The actual time of day is more valu-

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### Internet Home Pages

Fort Wayne Radio Club:	<a href="http://www.FWRC.info/">http://www.FWRC.info/</a>
	<a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FWRC/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FWRC/</a>
ACARTS:	<a href="http://www.acarts.com">http://www.acarts.com</a>
Fort Wayne DX Association:	<a href="http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/">http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/</a>
ARES:	<a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen_Co_IN_ARES/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen_Co_IN_ARES/</a>
IN_PACKET Yahoo Group:	<a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IN_PACKET/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IN_PACKET/</a>

Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN 46885), the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN 46851), and the Fort Wayne DX Association.

Please send any articles, classified ads, or other information to the editor, Ken Helms, AB9ZD, at ab9zd at arrl.net. Please put "For Newsletter" in the subject line. Most text and graphics formats are acceptable. Microsoft Word and JPEG are preferred if separate files are used. For those without computer access, please mail your submission to either of the clubs post office boxes.

The deadline for the each issue is a few days before the end of the preceding month.

# Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Finally, March is here, and with it the changing of the seasons. It is a time for us to shake off the colder weather and start to venture outdoors more. For me, it is a time to look at what the winter has done to antennas and such, and make repairs as needed. One of the things that I always have to remind myself is that being safe while working on repairs is the first priority. It can be real easy in the heat in the moment to overlook simple precautions that could prove to be hazardous to you or others. One of the things I try to do is to never work on an elevated surface unless I have someone to help spot hazards I may not see. It is also helpful to have someone to help with passing up tools, or other materials as needed. Safety is and should always be a priority, whether it be agreed upon hand signals to a ground crew from atop a tower, to verifying there are no buried lines before driving in a new ground rod.

With the warmer weather also comes the opportunity to participate in public service events. It is during these events that we have an opportunity to provide a needed service to a served agency as well as practice our skills as communicators in a semi-formal type drill so that if ever needed, we are able to provide communications in a skilled manner. But even during these events, it is still a good idea to remain aware of your surroundings, and remain as safe as possible.

The first foxhunt of the season was last month, and it went very well, and a good time was had by all. It felt really good to be out and about doing something radio related, and to have fun doing it. The March foxhunt is on Sunday, March 6th,



starting at 1:30 pm, and all are welcome to join in the fun. We have a few hand held tape measure beams that can be loaned out, and there is almost always room for a ride-along or two every hunt so there is no excuse not see what all the fun is about.

For those who like to DX, the ARRL's International DX Contest, SSB will be held on the 5th of March, and running for 24 hours. There are also many state QSO parties during the month, so there are many operating opportunities this month as well. More info can be found on the ARRL's contest corral page.

All in all, looks to be a busy month, with lots to do, but remember, Safety First!

Charles, KC9MUT

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## MARCH HAMFESTS

### Michigan Crossroads Hamfest

Saturday, March 19, 2016

3600 Vanrick Dr., Kalamazoo Township, MI

<http://www.w8df.com>

### Toledo Mobile Radio Association

Sunday, March 20th 2016

30335 Oregon Road, Perrysburg, OH

<http://www.tmrahamradio.org>



**March 18:** Meeting topic to be announced.

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

## SKYWARN Storm Spotter Training - Cont

able than “right now” or “two minutes ago.” And because the local NWS office does not issue spotter credentials, formatting reports in that specific order is one way spotters can demonstrate they attended the training.

### • **Thunderstorms come here to die!**

Spotters provide a valuable service to their communities even if they don't see anything reportable. And climatology data shows that spotters in

Indiana are about half as likely to see something as are spotters in Illinois. Megan Dodson shared that this leads meteorologists to joke that Indiana is where thunderstorms come to die.

Mysteriously, far fewer people attended the training than registered for it, even though weather did not hinder travel that night. Those in attendance, however, included TV meteorologist Hannah Strong, who indicated that the presentation included information not provided in meteorology school.

People who missed the training can get via the Web most of the information they need to be effective spotters. Two options include

- The MetEd two-module course at [https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training\\_course.php?id=23](https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_course.php?id=23)
- YouTube recordings by the northern Indiana NWS office at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLddrIMWR TCirmNiI2OQ7NPvJfCvu6-KNW>



## CENTRAL INDIANA SEVERE WEATHER SYMPOSIUM

The biennial Central Indiana Severe Weather Symposium is scheduled for Saturday, March 5 on the Indianapolis campus of Butler University. This event provides excellent advanced training for spotters, but pre-registration is required and the event usually sells out. As of midday Feb. 26, only 40 seats remained. If you wish to attend and have not yet registered, visit <http://www.weather.gov/ind/2016CISWS> as soon as possible. The speaker list, as always, is impressive:

- Chris Wright - CBS4 Chief Meteorologist
- Jeff Piotrowski - Storm Chaser and Photojournalist
- Dr. Laura Myers - Disaster Preparedness Expert



- Carlos Garcia - IUPUI Emergency Management Director
- David Tucek - NWS Indianapolis
- John Kwiatkowski - NWS Indianapolis
- Amanda Lee - NWS Indianapolis
- Marc Dahmer - NWS Indianapolis

## LEARN WHAT IT'S LIKE AT NWS DURING SEVERE WEATHER

The warning coordination meteorologist of the Norman, Oklahoma NWS office did a very interesting presentation at a national storm chaser convention earlier this year. Rick Smith spoke about what goes on at his office during severe weather events and how chasers and spotters can be of greatest assistance. While some of the information was specific to his local office and does not apply to the northern Indiana office, it was nonetheless a fascinating presentation. You can watch it on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t1CNFSkcgw>



# State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

## ACARTS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My warmest welcome to TJ, W9QHY, as Secretary of ACARTS. TJ had expressed an interest in becoming more involved in club activities and volunteered to be Secretary. The board appointed him to the position at the February board meeting.



so plan on attending and don't miss a good program.

Also, mark your calendars for the ACARTS Spring Banquet, to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19th at Hall's Guesthouse. I will start taking reservations at the beginning of April, when it is closer to the date of the event.

The March meeting on the 15th will be a presentation by Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, on Amateur Radio Contributions to Science, with a brief update on Solar Cycle 24 and beyond. Carl's presentations are always interesting and informative

73,

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

President

## ACARTS FEBRUARY 2016 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Dave, W9LKH.

Dave announced that the February meeting would be replaced by the annual SKYWARN training at the Public Safety Academy. He added that the March meeting would be a presentation by Carl, K9LA.

TJ, W9QHY, had previously indicated that he was willing to fill the vacant Secretary position. He was present at the meeting and introduced himself to the board members that did not know him. A motion was made by Bob, N9PWM, and seconded by Bernie, K9JDF, to appoint TJ to the vacant position. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Dave asked if the board wanted to hold the Spring Banquet at the Guesthouse again, or if anyone had any other suggestions. Everybody was in favor of the Guesthouse, so Dave said that he would make the reservations.

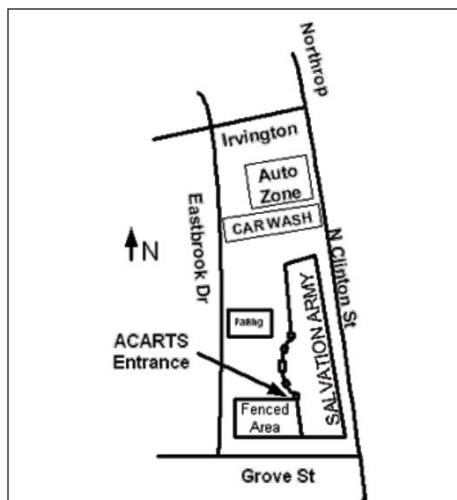
No other business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

**March 15:** The meeting will be a presentation by Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, on Amateur Radio Contributions to Science, with a brief update on Solar Cycle 24 and beyond.

Unless otherwise scheduled, all meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the Salvation Army Center, 2901 N. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN.



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## HAMBYTES - ELECTRONIC TABLETS IN THE HAM SHACK

Among my favorite uses for an electronic tablet is its ability to hold a small library of publications. It doesn't matter if the tablet is an iPad (or other iOS device), an Android tablet, or a Microsoft tablet, they all provide the ability to store books, magazines, and other publications. Amazon's Kindle and the Barnes and Noble Nook can also be used for standard format documents as well (and not just the books purchased from their online stores). Some of the documents that I have on mine include:

- **ARRL's QST Magazine.** Using ARRL's app, copies of QST can be either read on-line or downloaded and stored on the tablet. All members of ARRL have access to the QST library. The electronic versions do have information in them that is not included in the paper versions of the magazine.
- **ARRL's Emails.** Tablets can set up to download and display email which of course includes the ARRL Letter, the ARES E-Letter, and the ARRL Contest Update. I even have a copy of the Allen County HamNews on mine.
- **Equipment User's Manuals.** PDF versions of the user's manual are available for nearly all equipment these days. Adobe provides Acrobat readers for most platforms including tablets. Technology has come a long way and I find



many manuals are easier to read on a tablet than the paper version because of the zoom function. Plus having all of the manuals on one device makes it easier to find the one that I need.

- **Purchased Electronic Books.** Both Amazon and Barnes and Noble have apps for tablets that can download and display books purchased from them. They allow purchased books to be stored on more than one device as well.
- **Archived Magazines and Books.** The Internet Archive at <https://archive.org/> has many thousands (perhaps millions) of free documents and other files that can be downloaded including past issues of "73" magazine and other ham radio related books, articles, and media files. Nearly all of these are scanned documents so the file sizes can be large and the quality will not be as sharp as newer documents.



<https://archive.org/details/73-magazine&tab=collection>

- **Web pages.** As long as the tablet has a network connection, it can be used to surf the web. Tablets come with a web browser but there are versions of Chrome and Firefox for iOS and Android.

### Getting the Files onto Your Tablet

Some are easy, just follow the app's instructions. With QST, just pick the issue that you want and tap either the "read" or the "download" button and you are all

set. The same can be said for books from Amazon or Barnes and Noble. The apps make it very easy to select and download the document that you want.

Copying a PDF or a Word file to a tablet is not difficult either, the procedure varies from one device to another, and there is always more than one way that it can be done. It can be as easy as connecting the tablet to your PC and copying the file the same way you would to copy a file between disk drives. Amazon has a program that when it is installed on a PC makes it very easy to copy files from the PC into the Kindle app on a tablet wirelessly. I've tried it and it works very well.

### Picking a Tablet

If you don't have a tablet but have been thinking of getting one, there are buyer's guides and plenty of reviews on the internet to help match your needs with the tablets on the market. If the plan is to use one to store a modest library, going with a tablet that has more than the minimum available storage capacity would be a good idea. The storage capacity of most Android based tablets can be expanded using inexpensive SD or microSD cards. The battery life varies but I usually recharge mine a couple of times each week. A protective cover is also a good idea.

### Some Other Uses

There are ham radio specific apps for tablets. Just check the "app store" that is included on the tablet. These include:

Numerous apps that are available to help study for an amateur radio license. From what I've seen, there are dozens of apps to pick from, some are free, others cost from a couple of dollars to around \$20.

The EchoLink app is available for iOS and Android. It allows licensed Amateur Radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet, using streaming-audio technology. Free.

The RepeaterBook app is a database of amateur radio repeaters which when used with the position location feature in a tablet will provide information on all of the nearby repeaters. Free.

Ken AB9ZD



**Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA**

Okay, I admit it – that title is kind of bogus. Amateurs in the USA only have experimental license status in the 472-479 KHz band. So we can only transmit with beacon transmitters, and those running the beacons depend on reception reports to find out how their signal is doing.

But Canadian Amateurs have full privileges. They can call CQ, QSO each other, ragchew, QSO other countries that have full privileges, etc. So when I saw the posting on the topband reflector by Steve VE7SL about the “Midwinter 630m Activity Event”, I figured I should give it a whirl.

I don’t have a dedicated 630-Meter station, but my Ten-Tec OMNI 7 receives down to 100 KHz. I have a Shared Apex Loop (SAL) low-noise receive antenna for 160-Meters, 80-Meters and 40-Meters to improve signal-to-noise ratios (SNRs). I also have a two-direction Beverage-on-Ground (BOG) oriented for E/W operation. I figured those two systems would allow me to hear something on 630-Meters.

The Midwinter 630m Activity Event was in early February, and was six Canadians (VO1NA, VE7SL, VE7BDQ, VA7MM, VE7CNF and VE3OT) calling CQ on 630-Meters and listening for replies on either 160-Meters, 80-Meters or 40-Meters. I assumed my best shot of hearing any of the VEs was with VE3OT in London, Ontario. So when his announced time slot rolled around, I listened for his CQ.

Sure enough, I heard him just fine on 477 KHz. VE3OT went into the log at 0143 UTC on February 6. I gave him a 559 report, and he gave me a 589 report for my transmitted signal on 80-Meters.

# ON MY WAY TO 630-METER DXCC

A good question is “how do signals of such a low frequency, low power and relatively inefficient antennas propagate so well?” The answer lies in the fact that the amount of refraction by an electromagnetic wave that goes through an electron density gradient is inversely proportional to the square of the frequency. In other words, the lower the frequency, the more the bending and thus the lower frequency doesn’t get as high into the ionosphere as higher frequency waves. In fact, RF at 630-Meters barely gets high enough to get into the absorbing region – thus less loss than expected.

While I was “down in the basement” frequency-wise, I tuned the 200-415 KHz aeronautical band. See the list of stations heard. There are many dedicated SWLs who DX these generally low power beacons. Many of these beacons are NDBs (non-directional beacons) at little airports for navigation purposes. Listening to them reminded me of the NARCO ADF-31A (ADF stands for automatic direction finder) system in my Cessna 170B in which the needle on the unit pointed



**NARCO ADF-31A**

to the station. Not only did the ADF-31A cover the 215-400 KHz aeronautical band, it also covered the AM broadcast band. On long flights I’d listen to AM stations to pass time.

So take a listen to the basement frequencies – you may find you enjoy the challenge.



Station	Freq (kHz)	Location
HKF	239	Middleton, OH
YQA	272	Ontario, Canada
ADG	278	Adrian, MI
UMP	338	Indianapolis, IN
YY	340	Quebec, Canada
PN	360	Quebec, Canada
AK	362	Akron, OH
YMW	366	Quebec, Canada
YBV	370	Manitoba, Canada
LC	376	Columbus, OH
7B	375	Ontario, Canada
IRS	382	Sturgis, MI
HFY	398	Indianapolis, IN
XW	400	Flemingsburg, KY
FNB	404	Falls City, NE
ZHU	407	Quebec, Canada
YHD	413	Ontario, Canada
HHG	417	Huntington, IN
RYS	419	Detroit, MI



## D.I.Y. IT! ELECTRONICS STORE IN GLENBROOK DESERVES A LOOK

By Jack Dold, W9OWO

I've been meaning to pay a visit to D.I.Y. it! Ever since they opened in Glenbrook Square. Going to "the mall" isn't something that I regularly do but I finally made the trip and was pleasantly surprised at what I found.

First off, the location is excellent for quick access. Just enter Glenbrook Square off Coldwater Road across from Tire Barn. Traffic signals make it "easy in and easy out." D.I.Y. it! Is right inside the Mall entrance, just north of J.C. Penney's door (where the Radio Shack store was located).

Inside was a neat, well organized shop with a variety of hobby and electronic kits as well as a telephone section. (Some



neat looking drones lined a set of shelves facing the window.) But, I digress.

After a brief chat with Todd, I learned that he and Zac, the owners, are planning to increase their ham radio accessories inventory as traffic and interest grows. They are very much interested in hearing what

products most interest Amateurs. At this time, they have an impressive supply of connectors, switches, rheostats, resistors, capacitors and various electrical parts, terminals, etc. Presently, the parts inventory represents mostly Radio Shack products but will gradually be replaced with stock from their other vendors.

Hams are invited to stop in and get acquainted with Todd and Zac. Call 260-209-6266 and check out their website:

<http://www.diyitelectronics.com/>



The featured product for February was an Arduino Upgraded Learning Kit for those interested in experimenting with the Arduino microcontroller.



### A Cautionary Tale

Ardent ham Tom decided to tie the knot with his longtime girlfriend. One evening, after the honeymoon, he was assembling a go-bag for a weekend of mountain-top QRPing.

His wife is standing there in his ham shack watching him. After a long period of silence she finally speaks.

"Honey, I've been thinking, now that we are married I think it's time you quit this amateur radio thing. Maybe you should sell your radios, antennas, tower and all that test equipment."

Tom gets this horrified look on his face.

She says, "Darling, what's wrong?"

"There for a minute you were sounding like my ex-wife."

"Ex wifel!", she screams, "I didn't know you were married before!"

"I wasn't."

(Thanks to WB9SSE)

## CALLING ALL YL'S!!

Join the FWRC YL group every Wednesday night until summer at 7:00 pm local time on the 146.76 repeater. If the '76 is down, then the 146.91 machine is the backup (including EchoLink).

Put your amateur radio license to use! Join the FWRC ladies for fun and fellowship on the air.

## Say Again?

"Mr. Capp, do you believe there is intelligent life on other planets?"

"I certainly hope so, there is precious little of it here."

**Al Capp**

American cartoonist and humorist best known for the satirical comic strip **Li'l Abner**, which he created in 1934 and continued writing and (with help from assistants) drawing until 1977.

# THE FOXHUNT CHRONICLES

On February 7th, the weather was sunny but there was still a bite in the air when the Fort Wayne Radio Club began its first Foxhunt of the year at 1:30 PM. The turnout was a good one: Five teams were gathered at the start point at Carrington Field on the city's east side near the old K-Mart store. The foxes for this hunt was W9LAN, her hubby, W9SAN, and their grandson, Alex, and they had hidden in a rare commercial place (with special permission of the owner of course).

The fox's lair was relatively close by the start, located at the Books, Comics, and Things store in Georgetown Square. With Linda's minivan as the high power fox parked in the lot behind the store, we were certain that the hunters would make multiple passes around our site before the light bulbs in their heads would turn on and localize us. Boy, were we wrong! Several hunters homed in on us pretty quick. The first on the scene were Jason and Deborah, KC9UOQ & KK4QXC, followed closely by Charles, KC9MUT, and Fred, KC9EZP, with Phil Hooper, AB9IZ tagging along.

As the hunters swarmed around BCT looking for the low power micro fox, the property's owner, Tracie, and my daughter, Courtney, were inside watching the insanity that was unfolding outside. Some of the store's patrons thought that Homeland Security was hunting for a North Korean satellite, but were amused none the less!

Shortly, Robert, KC9UHU, and David, K9NDU arrived on the scene, followed by Jim, K9OMA and Al, WB9SSE with Carole, WB9RUS and Anne, KA9YYI. The last to arrive was the couple that lived the closest to the fox, Kim, KB9DOS and Jim, KB9DOT. The micro fox was hidden on a piece of structural aluminum that was part of one of the business signs. All quickly localized and found the fox. Unfortunately, nobody took up the offer for riding along with any of the teams. If you are interested in finding out just what this Fox Hunting business is all about and how much fun it can be, why not consider riding along? It is a fun way to learn and become part of the action!

It didn't take too long for all to decide to retire to the Culver's restaurant in the



Maplewood Shopping Center for food and refreshment. (Let's face it, for many hunters this is the best part!!!) The Fox for the next hunt, coming up on March 6th will be Jason, KC9UOQ, and Deborah, KK4QXC. This I believe is their first time as foxes, so we will see what kind of diabolical hiding place they can come up with.

Remember that all our Foxhunts are "Ride Along" hunts, so if you would like to join the fun or see what it is all about, come out and join us!

Steve Nardin, W9SAN



Standings and scores for the February Foxhunt are:

CALL	MONTH SCORE	YEAR-TO-DATE
W9SAN	7.8	7.8
W9LAN	7.8	7.8
ALEX	7.8	7.8
KC9UOQ	6	5
KK4QXC	5	5
KC9MUT	4	4
ALEX	4	4
KC9EZP	4	4
AB9IZ	3	3
KC9UHU	3	3
K9OMA	2	2
KA9YYI	2	2
WB9SSE	2	2
WB9RUS	2	2
KB9DOS	1	1
KB9DOT	1	1







Foxhunt photographs provided by Steve Nardin, W9SAN.



## AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE TESTING

On Saturday, March 5, the Dekalb County W5YI group will be conducting a testing session for all classes of amateur radio license. I'm here by putting out the call for VE's to assist. Any and all are invited!

Please note that the location and times have changed. The new testing site is the Eckhart public library, 2nd floor meeting room, and the room is handicap accessible. New times will be 10am-Noon, due to the library's operating hours. Thanks Dave, KC9YY, for arrangements!

Thank You!

73

Jim Norris ( KC9ZSO )

Dekalb County W5YI group CVE

## 2016 FOXHUNT SCHEDULE

The following is the planned Foxhunt schedule for 2016. All foxhunts start at 1:30 PM on Sunday at the River Greenway Trailhead at Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course.

- March 6
- April 3
- May 1
- June 5
- July 10
- August 7
- September 11
- October 2
- November 6

## FCC SEEKS COMMENTS ON PETITION TO GRANT LIFETIME AMATEUR RADIO LICENSES

The FCC is seeking comments on a Petition for Rule Making (RM 11760) that asks the FCC to grant lifetime Amateur Radio licenses. Mark F. Krotz, N7MK, of Mesa, Arizona, filed his request with the FCC last November. He wants the FCC to revise § 97.25 of its rules to indicate that Amateur Radio licenses are granted for the holder's lifetime, instead of for the current 10 year term. Krotz noted that the General Radiotelephone Operator License (GROL) already is issued on a lifetime basis, and he maintained that not having to renew licenses would lighten the FCC's workload.

"It would be mutually beneficial for the FCC and Amateur Radio operators to update Part 97 to grant operator licenses for lifetime, Krotz said in his filing. "The FCC would benefit by reducing administrative costs."

In 2014 the FCC granted lifetime credit for examination elements 3 and 4, but applicants seeking relicensing under that provision still must pass examination element 2.

Individuals may submit comments via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).

<http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?name=RM-11760>

# CONTEST CALENDAR

Here are a few of the contests that will be held in the next few weeks. Please refer to the contest web sites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Some of the places on-line with information on contests include:

ARRL Contest Corral Web page	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/contests">www.arrl.org/contests</a>	ARRL's National Contest Journal	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/ncj">www.arrl.org/ncj</a>
ARRL Contest Update	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/contest-update-issues">www.arrl.org/contest-update-issues</a>	Contesting On-Line	<a href="http://www.contesting.com">www.contesting.com</a>
WA7BNM Contest Calendar	<a href="http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/">www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/</a>	Contesting Wiki	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contesting">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contesting</a>
DX Zone Contesting	<a href="http://www.dxzone.com/catalog/Contesting/">www.dxzone.com/catalog/Contesting/</a>	ARRL Contest Calendar	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar">www.arrl.org/contest-calendar</a>

ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX CONTEST, SSB			OKLAHOMA QSO PARTY			IDAHO QSO PARTY		
MARCH 5, 0000Z	MARCH 6, 2359Z		MARCH 12, 1400Z	MARCH 13, 2000Z		MARCH 12, 1900Z	MARCH 13, 1900Z	
1.8-28	-	PHONE	3.5-28	50	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	1.8-28	-	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL
W/VE: RS, SP. NON-W/VE: RS, POWER			RS(T), COUNTY OR SPC			RS(T), DISTRICT OR SPC		
<a href="http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx">www.arrl.org/arrl-dx</a>			<a href="http://k5cm.com/okqp2016rules.pdf">k5cm.com/okqp2016rules.pdf</a>			<a href="http://idahoncj.info/qsoparty/rules.htm">idahoncj.info/qsoparty/rules.htm</a>		
NORTH AMERICAN SPRINT, RTTY			WISCONSIN QSO PARTY			LOUISIANA QSO PARTY		
MARCH 13, 0000Z	MARCH 13, 0400Z		MARCH 13, 1800Z	MARCH 14, 0100Z		MARCH 19, 1400Z	MARCH 20, 0200Z	
3.5-14	-	DIGITAL	1.8-28	50+	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	1.8-28	50, 144	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL
OTHER'S CALL, YOUR CALL, SERIAL, NAME, SPC			COUNTY OR SPC			RS(T), PARISH OR SPC		
<a href="http://ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf">ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf</a>			<a href="http://www.warac.org/wqp/wqp.htm">www.warac.org/wqp/wqp.htm</a>			<a href="http://laqp.louisianacontestclub.org">laqp.louisianacontestclub.org</a>		
VIRGINIA QSO PARTY			SKCC SPRINT			UKEICC 80 METER CONTEST		
MARCH 19, 1400Z	MARCH 20, 2359Z		MARCH 23, 0000Z	MARCH 23, 0200Z		MARCH 30, 2000Z	MARCH 30, 2100Z	
1.8-28	50+	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	3.5-28	-	CW	3.5	-	CW
SERIAL, COUNTY OR SPC			RST, SPC, NAME, MBR OR POWER			4-CHARACTER GRID SQUARE		
<a href="http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party">www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party</a>			<a href="http://www.skccgroup.com">www.skccgroup.com</a>			<a href="http://www.ukeicc.com/which-contest">www.ukeicc.com/which-contest</a>		

## Classified Ads

Items for Sale

Want to Buy



If you have something you would like to have listed in the classified section then please send an email to the newsletter editor at [ab9zd@arrl.net](mailto:ab9zd@arrl.net).

The Allen County HamNews is prepared using Adobe's InDesign software along with PhotoShop and Acrobat on an i7 PC running Windows 7.

Articles, photographs, and classified ads for publication in the Allen County HamNews should be emailed to the newsletter editor at [AB9ZD@ARRL.NET](mailto:AB9ZD@ARRL.NET) several days before the first of the month.

## Why Modern Makers Are Bringing Back Ham Radio

Wayne Rash  
February 15, 2016



More than a hundred years ago, a few intrepid amateurs began experimenting with a new means of communications known then as "wireless." These protohackers — soon to be known as *hams* — for etymologically obscure reasons — began building their own electronics gear, hoping to use it to communicate with others. By the early 1920s, amateur radio operators were talking with and even transmitting images to complete strangers on the other side of the world.

I came across this article in the **Technology Section of Yahoo News**. It briefly discusses some recent advances in amateur radio thanks to new devices like the Raspberry Pi and Arduino. To read the complete article, go to the Yahoo News section at:

<https://www.yahoo.com/tech/why-modern-makers-are-bringing-1363811879927862.html>



# Membership Application for ACARTS OR FWRC

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call sign: \_\_\_\_\_ License class: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Unlisted?  Yes  
 Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member?  Yes

(ARRL membership helps your club maintain affiliation.)

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site?  Yes  No

Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. For FWRC a mailed paper newsletter is a \$20.00/yr. premium.

How would you like your newsletter delivered?  by snail mail  download from web site.

<b>A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues</b>	
Regular membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$12.00 / year
Additional family members <sup>1</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
Student membership <sup>2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
Associate membership <sup>3</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
(New Regular memberships are \$1/month)	

<b>Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues</b>	
Regular membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 / year
Family membership <sup>1</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00 / year
Student membership <sup>2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5.00 / year
Associate membership <sup>3</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 / year
Mailed newsletter premium	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 / year
(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)	

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

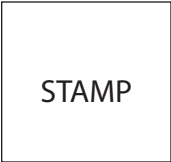
Please attach a check (number \_\_\_\_\_) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

ACARTS	Fort Wayne Radio Club.
PO Box 10342	PO Box 15127
Fort Wayne, IN 46851-0342	Fort Wayne, IN 46885-5127

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

ACARTS AND FWRC REPEATERS		
W9INX		ACARTS
146.880 (-)	No tone	General use / Skywarn priority
147.255 (+)	No tone	General use
443.800 (+)	No tone	General use
144.390 (s)	Digital	APRS - wide
145.530 (s)	Digital	W9INX-1 Digipeater and Node
W9TE		FWRC
146.760 (-)	141.3 Hz optional	General use (Note 1)
146.940 (-)	141.3 Hz optional	General use with auto-patch (Note 1)
146.910 (-)	141.3 Hz optional	EchoLink connection repeater Node number 519521 (Note 1)
444.875 (+)	141.3 Hz	General use (Note 1)
439.25 In, 910.250 Out	ATV	144.340 Audio & control
442.99375	D-STAR	General use (Note 2)
224.880 (-)	No tone	W9FEZ, 1.6 MHz offset
<b>Notes:</b>		
1. Output 141.3 Hz, present		
2. Offset + 5.0 MHz, W9TE ___ B, W9TE ___ G		

AREA NETS					
Daily			Tuesday		
8:00 AM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	8:00 PM	50.580 USB	FWRC 6 Meter Net
8:30 AM	3.940	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	9:00 PM	146.940-	Allen Co. ARES Training Net
6:00 PM	3.940	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	Wednesday		
6:30 PM	146.880-	IMO (alternate is 146.760)	7:00 PM	146.760-	FWRCYL Net
7:00 PM	147.015+	Tri State Two Meter Net	7:30 PM	147.150	21 Repeater Group
8:00 PM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	8:00 PM	145.270	Whitley Co. ARES (131.8 PL disabled)
Week Days			9:00 PM	146.940-	Help and Swap Net
8:30 AM	3.820	Little Red Barn Net	Thursday		
Sunday			7:30 PM	D-STAR	Indiana D-STAR net (Note 3)
8:00 PM	444.550+	Whitley Co. Sunday (131.8 PL)	8:00 PM	50.580 AM	6 Meter AM Net
8:30 PM	1.965 & 146.910-	"No-Name" Net also on EchoLink Node number 519521	8:30 PM	145.510 (s)	Allen County ARES Digital Operations Team Training Net (Note 4)
9:00 PM	145.530	Northeast Indiana Packet Net (Note 2)	Saturday		
			8:00 PM	146.685-	Huntington ARES
<b>Notes:</b>					
1. All times local time. <b>Any changes or corrections should be submitted to the newsletter editor AB9ZD (at) ARRL.NET.</b>					
2. On 145.530 @ 1200 baud. Use unconnected converse mode to communicate for a roundtable net setting. Use your "UNPROTO" command or equivalent to set Digi path(s) through the strongest station(s) needed between you and your destination. Only use those that are necessary! Have all your "Monitor" settings on so you can see everyone.					
3. 1st and 3rd Thursday, Reflector REF024B.					
4. Net starts using BPSK-31 and switches to BPSK-250 after roll call to pass traffic etc. NBEMS suite of software (FLDIGI, FLMSG, and FLAMP) is preferred.					
5. Indiana HF Traffic Nets Web Site: <a href="http://www.inarrl.org/inhfnet.html">http://www.inarrl.org/inhfnet.html</a>					



To:

## Activities Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Place
03/06/2016	1:30 PM	Foxhunt - River Greenway Trailhead/Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course	GSUMC
03/08/2016	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
03/08/2016	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
03/15/2016	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	GSUMC
03/18/2016	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	GSUMC
04/03/2016	1:30 PM	Foxhunt - River Greenway Trailhead/Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course	GSUMC
04/05/2016	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
04/12/2016	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	GSUMC
04/15/2016	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	Hall's Guesthouse
04/19/2016	7:00 PM	ACARTS Spring Banquet	
<b>11/12/2016</b>		<b>2016 Fort Wayne Hamfest</b>	<b>Allen County War Memorial Coliseum</b>
<b>11/13/2016</b>		<b>2016 Fort Wayne Hamfest</b>	<b>Allen County War Memorial Coliseum</b>