



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

"The oldest continuously operating Amateur Radio Club in the United States"

March 2011 Newsletter

Upcoming Meetings:

April 8: Annual Antenna Meeting

Highlights from the March Meeting:

Meeting called to order at 7:23 by Tom Chance, K9XV. There were around 50 in attendance at the meeting. Chuck Crist, W9IH, introduced a new tech from the class that he had, KC9TTZ, George Taylor. Tom said the bus tickets are going fast, with half of the bus already sold. Jay, K9LJW went over the pick ups, south at 6:30, east at 7:00. Leaving Dayton at 4:00 pm. Mike, N9FEB, talked about the events that he is working to find volunteers for. Mike said he will have 84 hams for the mini-marathon. He said the air show is in May this year. Bob, W9FIM, reminded folks about the spotter seminar, coming up the following day, the 12th. Bob also announced that on Wednesday, the 16th around 10:15 and 7:30 will be the test nets for weather spotters on the 146.76 machine. Chuck, W9IH, talked about the Oh-Dark-Thirty hamfest coming up on April 16th at the American Legion post just west of the speedway starting at 6:00 am. Chuck reminded folks that there will be a 50/50 drawing, and lunch will be available starting at 11:00. Chuck said classes have been going great. He said that the mentor committee that Rhonda, WS9H, chairs is going to start a new plaque that Chuck has donated, recognizing elmers or mentors. Chuck went over some probable names that could be put on the plaque. Rhonda will be taking names to be considered for the plaque. The plaque will be presented at the December meeting. Next meeting will be the antenna forum.

Tom asked for input from the floor, or email, from folks for presentation at the meeting. His part will be on listening arrays. Tom gave the frequencies that are listed on the ARRL web site for the Japan earthquake. Mike Palmer said he had been contacted by WISH TV-8 for input about ham radio involvement in the earthquake. Eventually, the W9IMS group was contacted, and will be featured. Tom said there was renewed interest in CW. Sam, WB9VBG, talked about the ICN slow code net that has been re-started. For more information, go to <http://indianaslow.net/>. Jay Wright, KK9L, said the Hendricks county classes are drawing to a close, and testing will be on March 30, starting around 8:00 pm. Rhonda said the testing the last couple of months has exceeded her expectations. The next session is April 2, at 9:00 am. She invites any VE that wants to show up, to do so. Hank Wolfla, K9LZJ, talked about Don Alsop, K9SHP, that had recently passed away, and how Don had just worked a contest not too long before passing and was very pleased with his performance in it.

Chuck introduced Hank Wolfla, K9LZJ. His topic was antennas. He was showing how he and Gary, K9SG, have created and utilized antennas. He covered how high dipoles have to be related to their frequency coverage. He compared Yagis to dipoles, talking about their gain and front to back ratios. He then compared vertical antennas to dipoles. Verticals have less gain than dipoles. Radials are needed for verticals, and they function better over good earth ground, and are best over salt water. He has found that on the lower bands (40 and down), verticals operate better than a dipole. The larger the diameter of the vertical element, the wider the bandwidth. He talked about his 4 square receive antenna that is made from 4 CB whips on poles, going into a DX Engineering network.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30

Ham Radio News:

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ABOUT HR 607:

A note from ARRL Section Manager, John Poindexter, W3ML:

Hello everyone,

At the request of ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, we are asking ARRL members to contact their local Representative asking them to oppose HR 607 in its current form.

If you go to <http://www.arrl.org/sample-letters> you will find resource tools to assist you in your letter writing. These include:

A sample letter opposing HR 607 in its current form

A link to the ARRL Webpage that gives the ARRL member the contact information for their Members of Congress

A couple of key points to remember when discussing our opposition to HR 607:

We understand and support the principle that Public Safety and First responders should have the D-Block frequencies.

Our opposition to the bill stems from the inclusion of the 420-440 MHZ Amateur allocation as part of the proposed "frequency swap".

Time is of the essence on this request, as the bill is gathering steam in Congress.

Once you have finished editing your letter, we request that you send it to our Washington representative at Chwat & Co. This allows your letter to be hand-delivered to the appropriate legislative offices without a lengthy delay. It takes between 6 and 8 weeks for letters mailed through the regular US mail to clear security screening off-site before being delivered to Congressional office.

By US Mail - Send to:

John Chwat
Chwat & Co.
625 Slaters Lane
Suite 103
Alexandria, VA 22314

By Fax - Send to: 703-684-7594

You may also send a signed letter via email to: arrl@chwatco.com

Due to the urgency of this matter, I would recommend that you either send it by Fax or E-mail as this would be faster.

Thanks and 73
John, W3ML
Indiana Section Manager

W1AW 2011 SPRING/SUMMER OPERATING SCHEDULE

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1400 UTC to 1600 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM ET)
1700 UTC to 1945 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET)

(Station closed 1600 to 1700 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM ET))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2000 UTC (4 PM ET)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2000 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2100 " (5 PM ET)	CWb	Daily
2200 " (6 PM ET)	DIGITAL	Daily
2300 " (7 PM ET)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
2300 " "	CWf	Tue, Thu
0000 " (8 PM ET)	CWb	Daily
0100 " (9 PM ET)	DIGITAL	Daily
0145 " (9:45 PM ET)	VOICE	Daily
0200 " (10 PM ET)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0200 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0300 " (11 PM ET)	CWb	Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675 28.0675 147.555
DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 147.555
VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Digital at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1400 UTC to 1600 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM ET), and then from 1700 UTC to 1945 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur license or a photocopy.

The complete W1AW Operating Schedule may be found on page 103 in the April 2011 issue of QST or on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule> .

INDIANA QSO PARTY IS COMING UP

From Mel, KJ9C:

Don't forget the Indiana QSO Party starting at 1600 Z on Saturday May 7, lasting for 12 hours. Website is <http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/>

New for 2011 is a Multi-operator, multi-transmitter class... perfect for clubs to try out their Field Day setup with all the signals they can muster.

Also.... mobiles, portables and rovers the County Hunter contest has moved to a different weekend this year... so why not operate in Indiana on May 7? Post plans for your counties now!!! There are only 92 Indiana counties so don't delay.

Stations planning to operate from Indiana can post plans on the INQP reflector (sign up from the website) or send them to KJ9C@arrl.net.

Mel KJ9C

OH-DARK-30 HAMFEST RETURNS (ON THE WEST SIDE)

Indy West

"Oh Dark 30" Ham radio , Tailgate Swap meet, the 2nd year

Date: 16 April 2011 Sat Times: 0630 am to 11:00 am "RAIN or SHINE" event, (Bring your own cover)

Location: Speedway IN
American Legion Post 500..1926 N Georgetown Rd.(west side of the 500 Race Track)
West side of street 1/2 way between 16th & 30 street on Georgetown Rd north of 16th
street (Indy West side)

Details:

[1] There is no charge for setup or parking.

[a]There's plenty of parking; Location is entirely asphalt, Lighted & flat,.

[b] "Bring your own chair & Flashlights" & stuff to sell or swap!

[2] Talk-in use 146.67/r W9JP/9

[3] Food:

[a] Donuts & coffee at 06:30am while they last!

[b] Lunch will be served at 11AM ! (Menu TBA)

[c] There will be a 50/50 Blind Draw Donation.. cost TBA.

Understandings:

This function intended as a spring outing of those wishing to gather for food,
conversation and trading of ham radio equipment & gear.

ARES HF NET CHANGES

From Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ, ARRL Indiana section ARES EC:

A message to all Indiana ARES members and operators interested in emergency
communications

For some time, Indiana ARES has used 3910 kHz for monthly nets and emergency
operation nets. ARES has experienced the following problems;

- 1) Frequent intentional and malicious interference on 3910 kHz
- 2) Net duration restrictions due to the Indiana Traffic Net schedule on 3910
- 3) General QSO popularity surrounding 3910

For the past four weeks, I have monitored the area around 3900 kHz for informal QSO's
and scheduled nets. I have found very few operators on 3900 and only one net on 3897.5
that is just at the very edge of the SSB passband and cause negligible interference.
Therefore, with the Section Manager's concurrence, all Indiana ARES HF nets on 75m

will move to 3900 kHz effective this Sunday March 27. Additionally, the monthly ARES net that has traditionally occurred only on the 4th Sunday of the month will become a weekly event. Many operators have complained that a monthly net is too easy to forget. I hope to make it easier for all operators to remember since the net will now occur every Sunday. The increased number of ARES nets will necessitate additional operators to serve as Net Control Stations. This will give other operators an opportunity to develop NCS skills and provide greater depth in leadership. No one wants to hear me run the net every Sunday.

This Sunday, March 27, the ARES HF net will begin at 8:00am (Eastern) as usual. I am aware that conflicts with some operators' church commitments. We will discuss options for changing the scheduled time during the net. Other midwest state ARES nets occur around 5pm on Sundays. I'm proposing that Indiana follow that lead and I want to hear feedback on this proposal during the net. All ARES Field Organization appointees are requested to check into this upcoming net or delegate a team member to check in and represent your county.

NOTE: If you are a moderator of a Yahoo group that sends out ARES HF net reminders, please disable that reminder for this week or update it so that it correctly lists the frequency as 3900 kHz.

As always, thanks for your efforts in support of ARES and your communities that you serve.

73,

Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ
ARRL indiana Section ARES EC

(h) (260) 373-1986

STATEMENTS FROM EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS REGARDING JAPANESE DISASTERS

In a letter to the Amateur Radio community, Vertex Standard Chief Executive Officer and President Jun Hasegawa expressed his "sincere appreciation to all of you for your kind words and thoughts about us" after the devastating 8.9 earthquake that struck Japan last week. Vertex Standard is the parent company of Yaesu. All Vertex Standard employees and their families are safe and unhurt, Hasegawa said, but the company has not been able to reach many of their dealers and subcontractors who are located on the coast area: "We just hope that they are alive." Hasegawa said that a Vertex Standard factory in Fukushima was damaged in the earthquake. Even though the factory is not located near the coast and the damage was minimal, he said that Vertex Standard has

decided to "disable the operation at this moment." Saying that they are working very hard to get the factory back to its normal operation, Hasegawa said that "it may take one to two weeks to restart operation in the Fukushima factory. I would like to ask for your understanding and cooperation at this time."

According to a press release, no one from ICOM is known to be injured. No damage has been reported at ICOM's headquarters in Osaka, or at either of their two main factories in Wakayama; both Osaka and Wakayama are located far south of the most severely affected areas. The branch offices in Tokyo and Sendai, however, did suffer some minor damage. "Most of ICOM's facilities and systems are ready to get back to normal business, but supplier logistics, commuting issues and future power disruptions will affect our company," the press release said. "It is too soon to tell how big an impact the earthquake and its aftermath will have on ICOM. We appreciate your interest and concern."

"Thankfully, our staff in Japan is safe due to earthquake preparedness and the special construction of our buildings," said Kenwood USA President Junji Kobayashi on the Kenwood website. "Power outages and interruption of mass transit have kept most of Kenwood's staff at home since the earthquake; however, we expect the infrastructure to improve in the coming week and our operations to fully resume accordingly. We appreciate the concern for our employees expressed by all those who have contacted us." Kenwood's primary office facilities in Yokohama and Hachioji were not damaged, due to their proximity further south and west of the quake's epicenter. Since Kenwood's primary manufacturing facilities are in Malaysia, electronics production is unaffected.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Brad Knapp, K9MHZ

UPCOMING TESTING

April 2 Amateur Radio Testing – IRC, 9AM, Indianapolis Training Center, 2820 N Meridian St, Indianapolis, IN 46208, Contact: Rhonda Curtis, e-mail: WS9H@comcast.net

FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at <http://www.indyradioclub.org/rqstnewsletter.htm>.

SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at kj9b@arrl.net

Signals from the Past:

From the March, 1950 *Amachewer*:

This one came from the grape-vine, W9CKP, Bob Flanders, who works with Al Lovell, W9DAG, at WFBM, says Al is going to sell his beam antenna and all to W9OXM, who is Tom Yott, a member of the Indianapolis city police force. Al is therefore looking for a new place to live, preferably complete with ten meter beam antenna. Hi.

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- March 26: Columbus Hamfest <http://www.qsl.net/carc> for more information
- April 16: 2nd annual "Oh Dark 30" hamfest, American Legion Post 500, Speedway
- May 21: Annual IRC Bus trip to Dayton.

2011 Officers:

- President: Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB - ..EMAIL gskoll@msn.com
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - ..EMAIL dmiller@ivytech.edu
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - ..EMAIL kj9b@arrl.net
- Treasurer: Jay Willever, K9LJW - ..EMAIL k9ljw@arrl.net
- Chief Operator: Tom Chance, K9XV - ..EMAIL k9xv@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – EMAIL k9ru@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Ron Cooper, WB9DKL - ..EMAIL wb9dkl@sbcglobal.net
- Dir. at large: Bob Begeman, W9KVK - ..EMAIL w9kvk@juno.com
- W9JP Trustee: Don Hemenover, N9DOO – EMAIL don9doo@lightbound.com