



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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

April 2011 Newsletter

Upcoming Meetings:

May 13: The Sea Adventures of club president, Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB

June 10: Annual auction

Highlights from the April Meeting:

Club President Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB, called the meeting to order at 7:15.

Two recent silent keys were recognized. W9SU, Mike Koss, passed away on March 28. Mike hosted W9IMS, which is internationally known, and spearheaded W87PAX in honor of the Pan Am Games in 1987. K9GEL, Richard Lieber, was also remembered.

New or upgraded hams started the introductions, followed by the remaining members and guests. There were 48 present for the meeting.

It was reported that the ITC building will be closed sometime after 5/8 due to asbestos removal. We will need to pull down the station due to the closure, mostly to be sure to keep dust and particles from harming the equipment. Also due to the closing, the June 6th auction may be held in the IVY Tech parking structure. This will provide cover in case of rain, and there is plenty of lighting.

There are still spots left on the bus for Dayton.

Regarding the new ham project, a work paper for instructions will hopefully be prepared for next month's meeting.

Chuck Crist, W9IH, talked about the Oh Dark 30 swapmeet coming up. It will be held rain or shine, and will start at 6:00 a.m.

Jim Reinhart, K9RU, announced the next VE testing will be at the Salvation Army facility 3100 North Meridian Street to replace W9IMS temporarily. They are hopeful it can be worked out to use in the future.

Dr. Jay Wright, KK9L, reviewed the class and testing in Hendricks County. Twelve tests were given and 11 passed.

Bill Schini, N9JPS, had a brief presentation about a new event coming up in Hendricks County. The Park-to-Park inaugural event will be held Saturday, June 25th from 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. As with other events, hams are needed to assist with emergency communications and to keep track of interest points along the course. (Note – this is the same weekend as Field Day and the N.I.T.E. Ride in Indianapolis.) Any hams interested in volunteering can reach Bill at n9jps@aarl.net or wschini@sbcglobal.net. He can also be reached by phone at 317-837-7593, before 8 p.m. please.

Ken Sullivan, N1HQH, announced he has resigned as ARES EC of Marion County. If anyone is interested in the position, applications are being accepted.

Tom Chance, K9XV, presented the Technical Award to Rich Meiss, WB9LPU.

Tom spoke of Field Day. Again this year he has secured the Sheriff's Building at the Marion County Fairgrounds. He was advised we would be sharing the grounds with a 4-H group, so he suggested we have signage to promote Field Day and invite any interested to come see what amateur radio is about.

At this point, the evening's featured presentation on HF Receiving antennas was presented by Tom Chance, K9XV, and Mike Wetzel, W9RE.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

*[Editor's note: Special thanks to K.C. Corbin, KC9MTL, and Sam Carter, WA9VBG, for taking notes at this meeting and the board meeting in my absence.
KJ9B]*

Ham Radio News:

NCVEC DELETES QUESTION FROM AMATEUR EXTRA QUESTION POOL

Due to the FCC revising the rules concerning Spread Spectrum, the Question Pool Committee of the National Council of Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (NCVEC) has decided to delete a question from the Amateur Extra class question pool. According to QPC Chairman Rol Anders, K3RA, when the Spread Spectrum rule change goes into effect, the answer to question E1F13 in the Amateur Extra class question pool will no longer be correct.

In March 2011, the FCC -- acting upon a 2006 Petition for Rulemaking filed by the ARRL -- eliminated the requirement that amateur stations transmitting Spread Spectrum use Automatic Power Control (APC) to reduce transmitter power. At the same time, the Commission reduced the maximum power of a Spread Spectrum emission from 100 to 10 W PEP.

Anders encouraged those who administer Amateur Radio license exams to remove question E1F13 as soon as possible, but advised that it must be removed when the rules change goes into effect. The changes to Sections 97.311 and 97.313 of the Commission's Rules will be effective 30 days after the Report and Order is published in the Federal Register. The current Amateur Extra class question pool is effective through June 30, 2012.

MIKE KOSS, W9SU (SK)

Mike Koss, W9SU, of Indianapolis, Indiana, passed away Monday, March 28. He was 57. According to his friend Brian Smith, W9IND, Koss was found on his workshop floor and paramedics were unable to revive him. Industrial Communications Engineers (ICE) is well known in the amateur community for surge protectors, line filters, RF switches and more.

“Besides being the heart and soul of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, Mike was also the proprietor of ICE,” Smith told the ARRL. “He also owned, designed and maintained one of the best Amateur Radio stations in the Midwest -- the one responsible for cranking out the big signals of Indy 500 Special Event Station W9IMS. Mike was also the driving force behind Special Event Station W87PAX, which commemorated the 1987 Pan American Games in Indianapolis. The station logged more than 23,000 QSOs.”

For the complete article, including a picture of Mike receiving the 2005 IRCC Technical Excellence Award, point your browser to <http://www.arrl.org/news/owner-of-industrial-communications-engineers-mike-koss-w9su-sk>.

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

REVISED SPREAD SPECTRUM RULES TO GO INTO EFFECT APRIL 29

The revisions to the FCC rules affecting Spread Spectrum transmissions will go into effect April 29, 2011. The Report and Order was published in the March 30 Federal Register.

Details on the revisions can be found on the web at,
<http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-adopts-spread-spectrum-rules-changes>

Adopted February 22 and released March 4, 2011, the Report and Order eliminates the requirement that amateur stations transmitting Spread Spectrum use Automatic Power Control (APC) to reduce transmitter power. The Commission also reduced the maximum power of a Spread Spectrum emission from 100 W to 10 W PEP.

The Question Pool Committee of the National Council of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators has removed a related question, E1F13, from the Amateur Extra Class Question Pool.

NIST CONDUCTING SURVEY ABOUT WWV

The National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Time and Frequency Division is conducting a survey to learn more about its users, seeking to determine how

the agency can make its services more useful in the future. NIST services include WWV, WWVH and WWVB, which provide reference time and frequency signals via radio. The NIST also provides the Internet Time Service -- which provides accurate time synchronization to computer systems -- and several other services to offer accurate time information via telephone or web pages. Radio amateurs are encouraged to complete the survey.

“If you use any of these services, we want to hear from you,” said WWVH Electronic Technician Dean Takamatsu. “The survey should take just a few minutes to complete and your input will be greatly appreciated.” The survey is located at <http://www.tf.nist.gov/survey/>

WWV and WWVB in Fort Collins, Colorado, along with WWVH on Kauai, Hawaii, broadcast continuous time and frequency information to millions of listeners worldwide. Information broadcast includes time announcements, standard time intervals, standard frequencies, UT1 time corrections, a BCD time code, geophysical alerts, marine storm warnings and Global Positioning System status reports.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE FROM KG9NY (SK)

I have received a note from Aaron Sheets, son of Albert Sheets, KG9NY (SK), who is trying to sell Albert's ham gear off. I have seen the gear, and it all looks to be in very good shape. The gear is located on the far west side of Marion County. Aaron can be contacted at (317) 248-0257, or by email at avn73@hotmail.com. Following is a listing of the gear available:

HEATHKIT VLF CONVERTER HD 1420
HEATHKIT ANTENNA NOISE BRIDGE HD 1422A
HEATHKIT SBA 1400-41 POWER SUPPLY
HEATHKIT HF TRANSCIEVER SB 1400
HEATHKIT MOD SA-5010
MICRONTA FIELD STRENGTH/SWA TESTER CAT. NO. 21-525B
MICRONTA 3 RANGE POWER/MODULATION/SWR TESTER CAT. NO. 21-522
SWAN 117 XC POWER SUPPLY
SWAN 500 CX SSB TRANSCEIVER
MFJ ANTENNA SELECTOR MOD. 1701
MFJ VERSA TUNER 11 MOD. MFJ-945C
MFJ 2 POSITION COAXIAL SWITCH CENTER GROUND MFJ-1702BN
MFJ DIFFERENTIAL T TUNER 3 KW ROLLER INDUCTOR TUNER MOD MFJ-986
ICOM IC-718 HF TRANSCIEVER
DSP NOISE REDUCTION SYSTEM

VISTA XX-R POWER SUPPLY
RADIO SHACK 25 AMP SWITCHING POWER SUPPLY
RADIO SHACK FREQUENCY COUNTER CAT. NO. 22-305
RADIO SHACK HYPERSCAN PRO 2032
CAR RADIOS
REALISTIC TRC 465
RADIO SHACK HTX 212
REALISTIC 10 METER HTX 100
MIKES
ASTATIC CORP T-UG9 STAND
SHURE BROTHERS MOD. 44D

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Word has been received that a long time member of the club, Bill Bancroft, W9EDE, is in failing health, and in the memory care unit of the Stratford Retirement Home in Carmel. As reported by Don Hemenover, N9DOO, Bill is still interested in the progress of the club. Don also reports that Ron Williams, W9YZ, hasn't been very well lately, and probably won't be able to attend meetings for a while.

I am sure both Bill and Ron would appreciate calls or cards from their friends in the local radio community.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Albert Ammons, II, WA6SRP
Lee Durrwachter, KA5NHU
Erick Fisk, K0UGR
James Fisk, KD9DO

UPCOMING TESTING

May 2, **6:30 pm** Amateur Radio Testing – sponsored by W9IMS Amateur Radio Club
Location: Salvation Army – Indiana Divisional Headquarters, 3100 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, 46218 (Use rear entrance)

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 April 10, 1972 *Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter*:

Alvey Pittman, W9EL, was a judge of the Science Fair at Butler March 23 – 25 and awarded the Club certificate on workmanship to Tom Chance who brought his crystal radio and amplifier and explained it after Hank's talk.

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- May 7: Indiana QSO Party.
- May 21: Annual IRC Bus trip to Dayton.
- June 11: South Bend Hamfest
- July 9: Indianapolis Communications and Technology Expo

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