



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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

March 2012 Newsletter

Upcoming Meetings:

April 13: Tom Chance, K9XV, will give his antenna presentation.

May 11: Kit building.

June 8: Annual auction

Highlights from the March Meeting:

Club president Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB, called the meeting to order at 7:20. There were over 70 present for the meeting. Jerry recognized recent upgrades and new licensees. Rhonda Curtis, WS9H, reported on testing sessions. She had 8 out of 8 of a one day class pass their license exams. She also reported that on March 23, 4:30 pm, there will be a testing session at the Lighthouse Readiness team facility. Dr. Jay Wright, KK9L, reported on the recently completed Hendricks county classes and testing. They had a 100% pass rate.

Mike Palmer, N9FEB, announced the upcoming events for central Indiana that will need ham radio volunteers. He went through all the events, saying that he draws volunteers from 9 counties for the mini-marathon. Mike said if anyone would like to volunteer for any events, to contact him at n9feb@comcast.net or via his web site, <http://indyhams.org/>. Bob Blake, N9FIM, reminded those present that March 24 is the Marion County severe weather seminar, held at 7502 E. 56th St., at the Masonic Lodge, just east of North Central High School. Wednesday March 21st will be the state severe weather drill. Bob said if the state calls for nets during this test, he will run the nets. All Marion County severe weather nets are on the 146.76 repeater. Bob said it's best to use 151.4 hz tone to prevent interference with other repeaters on that frequency in the region.

The 146.700 repeater will be the back up if the .76 goes down. The 443.25 KM9E 70cm repeater will be linked to the 146.76 during weather nets. Ron Cooper, WB9DKL, talked about the keyer kit that will be built at the May meeting. The kit is available at http://www.hamgadgets.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=21&products_id=89&zenid=r21lrs39jlojvq0ipavaq237t6. Ron said to buy the optional box with it. He suggested that everyone buy their own kit for this. The kit is \$17.99, and the box is \$8.01, plus shipping. Jerry talked about the membership decline that has been noticed. Jerry said a survey will be sent out to find out what the membership thinks about questions such as, Is Friday night the right night? Are programs good, need something other? Other activities? Foxhunt, shootout? Do we need another meeting location? Monthly show and tell was mentioned as was the possibility of having trade and/or sale items at meetings. The survey will be sent via email.

Jerry Read a note he received from a lady who is conducting research for a paper she is writing about her father, who was a ham around the 20s. Dave Spoelstra, N9KT, took her information, and will follow up with her. Jerry reminded everyone about the bus trip to Dayton, \$30 per person [**SEE REGISTRATION FORM AT END OF NEWSLETTER**]. Jerry gave an update on Field Day. Camp Belzer is out, since we wouldn't be able to get in until 1:00 pm. Jerry solicited the group about what they were looking for in a facility. Greg Herman, KC9NRO, mentioned the Interstate battery discount available at the Avon store, just west of Raceway, and the 21st and Shadeland store will do 10% discounts for club members, with valid membership card.

Next Jerry introduced Dave Gingrich, K9DC, for his presentation on VoIP and IRLP. Dave was first licensed in 1965. He is representing the Digital Radio Experimenters Group (DREGs). Dave gave a basic block diagram for a basic repeater and talked about methods of linking multiple repeaters together. Methods from basic telco line to RF linking, to VoIP via Internet. This became IRLP (Internet Linking Radio Project), in 1996, by David Cameron, VE7LTD. There are currently in the neighborhood of 2800 nodes/repeaters registered on IRLP. IRLP is 100% radio, "keeping radio in amateur radio". Dave went over the 3 codecs for VoIP set up, ranging from GSM to HD (good quality to best quality). All that is required to use IRLP is a radio with a touchtone pad. Dave stated there are no restrictions on putting a node on the air. The PC needed for the node is very low quality, any speed Pentium II or so with minimum RAM (128MB). The only special item is the IRLP interface board from IRLP.net and the software needed. Dave showed a couple of "all in one" boxes that have computer and radio interface, or radio in one box. Dave went over the basics of operation, dial 4 digit code to connect, dial "73" to disconnect. He talked about IRLP "Reflectors", where more than two nodes can be connected together. Most reflectors in IRLP are located in commercial servers due to the increased bandwidth needed for the reflectors. There are a total of 30 reflector sites in the world for 300 unlimited capacity channels of conferencing. There are lots of

nets on IRLP, including the “New Years Eve around the world” net that Dave initiated a few years ago. Dave runs a couple of repeaters in Indy, K9IP 443.425, and K9DC on 147.315. Dave went over the meanings of the different courtesy tones on his local repeaters. Dave talked about the IRLP/Echolink interface, utilizing the lowest codec. Dave next demonstrated the IRLP status web page (<http://status.irlp.net/>), and then demonstrated how to connect utilizing his hand-held radio. Those present showed their appreciation for Dave's great presentation.

Next month, Tom Chance, K9XV, will be making his annual presentation on antennas. Door prizes and adjournment at 8:55 pm.

Ham Radio News:

PAYROLL TAX BILL INCLUDES PROVISION FOR AMATEUR RADIO STUDY

The ARRL reports on a bill that could result in recommendations to remove unnecessary restrictions on amateur radio residential antenna installations. A bill that has passed both the House and the Senate includes a provision for a study of the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio Service communications in emergencies and disaster relief.

If passed into law, Section 6414 of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 mandates the completion of the study, with a report of the findings to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

This study would “use the expertise of stakeholder entities and organizations” to recommend how to best use radio amateurs in emergency communications and disaster relief efforts, and how to best utilize the Amateur Radio Service in coordination with the federal government in these efforts. In addition, the study would also discuss the effects of unreasonable or unnecessary private land use restrictions on residential antenna installations and recommend ways to remove such impediments.

Read the full ARRL story at:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/payroll-tax-bill-includes-provision-for-amateur-radio-study>

HELP NEEDED FOR EVENTS IN HAMILTON COUNTY

Hamilton County has two events that need some volunteer amateur radio operators. The Sam Costa Marathon on March 24th <http://samcosta.com/> has an expected need of 15 operators.

The Carmel Marathon on April 21st. <http://carmelmarathon.com/pages/home> has an expected need of 28 operators total.

If you're interested in helping to provide communications for these events your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Russ Simpson, EC Hamilton County to volunteer for these events.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CW OPERATION

Note From Brian Murrey, KB9BVN:

Are you a CW Op looking for something to do? The Indiana Section of the ARRL National Traffic Service is a great place to hone skills, build speed, and learn the ropes of traffic handling.

Visit: <http://indianacw.net> And read all about it. QIN welcomes you to the NTS, and it is a whole lot of fun.

If you are a bit gun shy about using your CW skills to handle traffic, the Indiana Section also runs a slow speed NTS traffic net called ICN. You can learn more about it by visiting their website at <http://indianaslow.net>

73 de KB9BVN
Brian Murrey

ECI-QRP MEETING FEATURING RICH MEISS, WB9LPU

I received word about the ECI-QRP meeting coming up in Muncie, and saw that the presenter was an IRC member, Rich Meiss, WB9LPU. Quoting from the note that Donnie Garrett, WA9TGT, sent out, "Featured speaker for the first half of the meeting will be Richard Meiss WB9LPU who will give a unique presentation on the topic of custom made CW Keys.

If you have never seen Rich's keys you will simply be amazed at his designs and craftsmanship. In case you did not know Rich designs all his keys and does his own machining.

Anything from hand keys to bugs to iambic paddles. If you have never seen his creations you will truly enjoy his presentation. Rich last spoke to the group about 5 years ago and has since developed several new models."

The meeting will be on April 17, from noon to 3:00 at the Maring Hunt Library in Muncie.

DXCC NEWS

According to the Finnish Ministry of Transportation and Communication, the Saimaa Canal Treaty between Finland and Russia has been finalized by relevant Finnish and Russian authorities through ratification.

The Treaty has entered into effect with a date of February 17, 2012.

Malyj Vysotskij Island (MVI), R1M, is no longer included in the Treaty. Thus, MVI will be deleted from the DXCC list as of February 17, 2012, and added to the Deleted Entities List.

Administratively at HQ, we will not make the necessary changes to the DXCC system until after the final data processing for 2011 is complete -- this includes the tables shown in Logbook of The World. (The 2011 DXCC Annual and Honor Roll listings will contain M-V Island as it stood in 2011, a current entity). This change will affect the Honor Roll numbers as follows:

#1 Honor roll will drop to 340 (down from 341)

The entry level Honor Roll number will drop to 331 (down from 332)

DXCC members will see their current entity totals drop by one on their Mixed awards, and on the bands and modes where MVI credit is given. They will also see their DXCC Challenge totals drop commensurately.

73 es DX!

Bill Moore NC1L

Awards Branch Manager

ARRL - The national association for Amateur Radio™

MORE DXCC NEWS

On and after April 2, 2012, here is how the DXCC fee system will change:

- No more hybrid applications. Each DXCC application -- be it paper QSLs, LoTW or Online DXCC -- will be considered separate applications with separate application fees.

- There are no limits on the number of applications that can be submitted. There will be no more surcharges added to the second or subsequent applications.
- A traditional, paper QSL application will have an application fee of \$15 for ARRL members, and \$25 for non-members. These applications will be allowed to include up to 101 QSOs. Additional QSOs in this sort of application will continue to cost 15 cents each.
- A DXCC application submitted using LoTW will have an application fee of \$5 for ARRL members and \$10 for non-members. There are no limits on the number of QSOs that can be included as part of a LoTW application. Each QSO used in LoTW for an award will cost 12 cents, down from a minimum of 15 cents in 2011. We will no longer sell LoTW “credits” in bulk. If you have credits stored, you will still be able to use them.
- DXCC staff will not mail any paperwork for LoTW applications (credit matrix or application summary), as all application information will be available online in the LoTW User account.
- An Online DXCC Application will have an application fee of \$7.50 for ARRL members and \$12.50 for non-members and will be allowed to include up to 101 QSOs. Additional QSOs will cost 8 cents. This application is primarily intended to be used in conjunction with field checkers, but can be used by applicants who do not have access to a card checker and are willing to ship cards to ARRL HQ.
- Certificates will still cost \$14 delivered in the USA, and \$16.50 delivered outside the USA. Pins will continue to cost \$7 delivered anywhere.
- The fee for an initial DXCC award will now be the same as for any DXCC application.
- The free DXCC Yearbook that was sent to ARRL members will now be made available electronically, and it will appear in an edition of Digital QST. For those who want a League-printed Yearbook, it will still be available at a modest cost.

Read the full story here:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/view/arrl-announces-new-dxcc-fee-structure>

MARION COUNTY TESTING SESSIONS

According to Rhonda Curtis, WS9H, starting in April, Marion County testing sessions are going to go back to alternating Monday night test sessions with Saturday test sessions. “We were pleasantly surprised at how many folks came out for Monday evening testing.”

NEW 60 METER RULES

As of March 5, US amateurs have new privileges on the 60 meter band. In addition to an increase in effective radiated power from 50 to 100 W, hams can now transmit CW and PSK31 on the following channel-center frequencies:

- Channel 1: 5332.0 kHz
- Channel 2: 5348.0 kHz
- Channel 3: 5358.5 kHz
- Channel 4: 5373.0 kHz
- Channel 5: 5405.0 kHz

Amateurs can also transmit USB voice and PACTOR III on the following suppressed carrier frequencies (the frequencies typically shown on transceiver displays):

- Channel 1: 5330.5 kHz
- Channel 2: 5346.5 kHz
- Channel 3: 5357.0 kHz
- Channel 4: 5371.5 kHz
- Channel 5: 5403.5 kHz

For more information, point your browser to <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-publishes-new-guidelines-for-60-meters>. Also look for the article "New Privileges on 60 Meters" by ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, in the April 2012 issue of QST.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Alex Chabra, KC9VLV
Chris Frederick, KQ9Y
Don Hornback, W8MEZ
Lance Winn, KC9VCV
Nick Nickerson, K9NQW

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 1976, *Amachewer*:

A BOOTLEGGER that had many Indy amateurs very concerned was finally arrested near Indianapolis and is serving time in the county jail, after area amateurs alerted authorities to keep an eye out for him. Using the call K9OME at Indy and WB9SLZ at Ft. Wayne hamfest, he was caught selling CB sets to truckers in a truck stop, with a number of stolen rigs in his van.

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- March 24: Marion County Severe Weather Spotter Training, 9:00 at 7502 E. 56th St. Masonic Lodge
- March 31: 29th Columbus Hamfest Info at <http://www.carcnet.org>
- May 5: Indiana QSO Party
- May 19: Bus trip to Dayton Hamvention. Bus ticket order form at the end of this newsletter. Tickets to the Hamvention available at <http://www.hamvention.org/>
- July 14: Indianapolis Hamfest Info at <http://www.indyhamfest.com/>

2012 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@aol.com
- Dir. at large: Bob Begeman, W9KVK - ..EMAIL w9kvk@juno.com
- W9JP Trustee: Don Hemenover, N9DOO – EMAIL don9doo@lightbound.com

IRC BUS TO DAYTON HAMVENTION

MAY 19, 2012

AVOID ALL THE TRAFFIC AND HIGH GAS PRICES • NO PARKING PROBLEMS OR FEES
DROP OFF AT HARA ARENA FRONT DOOR • BUS AVAILABLE ALL DAY TO DROP OFF
YOUR GOODIES OR JUST TO REST

TWO CONVENIENT PICK UP AND DROP OFF POINTS:

Southern Plaza Shopping Center • 4200 South East Street • Pick up at 6:30am
Peddler's Mall • 7803 East Washington Street. • Pick up at 7:00am

SCHEDULED STOPS:

- US-40 and I-70, Richmond, IN for breakfast
- Drop off at Hara Arena front door at 9am
- Bus leaves Hara Arena at 4pm
- MCL, Richmond, IN for dinner
- Return/drop off at Peddler's Mall at approximately 7:30pm
- Return/drop off at Southern Plaza at approximately 8:00pm

TICKETS ARE \$30 EACH AND WILL BE SENT TO YOU BY MAIL.

TICKETS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT IRC MEETINGS UNTIL ALL ARE SOLD.

PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK FOR THE NUMBER OF TICKETS WANTED ALONG WITH THIS
FORM TO:

IRC DAYTON BUS TICKETS
12701 WHISPER WAY
FISHERS, IN 46037-7505

FOR LATEST DETAILS AND ANY QUESTIONS: e-mail k9ljw@arrl.net or
CHECK IN TO THE MARION COUNTY INFO NET, WEDNESDAYS AT 7PM, 146.700.

NOTE: Please fill in all of the items below, legibly, so that we can accurately process your
reservation. DON'T FORGET THE CHECK! An early reservation would be wise since the bus
may fill up fast due to fuel prices.

NAME _____ CALL _____ NUMBER OF
TICKETS _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL OR STREET
ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PICK UP (CIRCLE ONE) SP or
PM

[NOTE: BUS TICKET SALES ARE FINAL. THERE ARE NO REFUNDS. THE COST OF THE
BUS TICKET DOES NOT COVER BREAKFAST, DINNER AT RICHMOND OR ADMISSION TO
THE HAMFEST.](#)