



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

November 2016 Newsletter

Upcoming Meeting:

December 2: Christmas Dinner meeting at Primo Banquet Hall. (Note this is the FIRST Friday of the month.)

January 13: Homeland Security

Highlights from the November Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by club President, David Spoelstra, N9KT.

There were 46 present for the meeting. First off, David asked all veterans in the room to stand to be recognized on this Veteran's Day.

David announced that Mark Burke, W9MGB, had volunteered to serve on the board of directors of the club, replacing Bob Osterhous, W9PSE. Also, Jace Thompson, KD9BIG, has volunteered to serve as chief operator of the club, replacing Tom Chance, K9XV. The remaining officers have volunteered to retain their current offices. At this point, David opened the floor for nominations from the floor. There were none. Dave Jarvis, N9KZJ, then made a motion to accept the slate. This motion was seconded and accepted by a voice vote.

David announced that the Christmas Dinner meeting will be on **December 2**, 6:30 pm at Primo Banquet Hall, 2615 National Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46227. Note that this is the

first Friday of the month. The featured speaker at this year's dinner will be Ann Luther, who will give a presentation on her travels to Tanzania, the 13th largest country in Africa. She will be discussing the infrastructure of the country, as it relates to transportation systems, electric and water supply and resources. Tickets are on sale now. Ticket prices are \$20 each for members, and \$30 each for non-members. Tickets can be purchased from the club's treasurer, Rhonda Curtis, WS9H.

Next, Tony Stokes, KU9V, announced the results of the hilltop contest. There were 7 hilltops registered. Of those 7, 4 were single operator hills, and placed as follows:

4th Bear Hill
3rd Flat Fork Creek Hill
2nd Profits Rock
1st place Weed Patch Hill

The unlimited hills placed as follows:

3rd Indian Hill
2nd Weakley Hill
1st Eagle Hill

David announced that at the January 13 meeting, a presentation on Homeland Security is planned, and at the February 10 meeting Dave Arland will be back by popular demand to talk about the Consumer Electronics Show.

Next, David introduced Hank Wolfla, K9LZJ, to give his presentation on Weak Signal Propagation Reporter (WSPR).

Hank said these reports are collected using JT modes K1JT's MEPT_JT Automatic. Very low power, ½ watt to 5 watts.
Can check "dead" bands
Needs internet, not easy to use mobile or portable.

Similar to JT65, software by K1JT. Hank is going to put a beacon on 6 meters.

Very slow 1.4648 baud, occupies 6 Hz bandwidth. The decoder is effective as low as -28 dB s/n, with a maximum drift of 1.5 Hz.

Hank said each message is 50bits long. Message takes 110.6 seconds, and is Forward Error Correcting. The message consists of Call, Grid (4 digit), and power output.

Synchronous:

On even minutes

The PC clocks need to be within 2 seconds. Hank has found the program at <https://dimension-4.en.softonic.com/> to be very effective at synchronizing PC clocks.

The program runs in the background, and locks clock, uses many time servers.

The website for the WSPR network is <http://dev.wsprnet.org/drupal/>

Hank said there are dedicated frequencies on 16 bands. The newest software is “WSPR-X”, and a discussion of this software, as well as a link to download it can be found at <http://wsprnet.org/drupal/node/3891> The set up of this software is very straightforward, and Hank showed some screenshots from the software. Hank said pretty much any soundcard interface will work for WSPR.

Hank also gave a brief update on some recent tower work that had been done at the “Barn” station. This is the club station for the W9VW club, consisting of K9SG, K9LZJ, K9XV, WB9YCZ, W9YE, and W9HBH. One of the highlights of this tower work was new VHF/UHF stacks at 160 feet.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15.

Ham Radio News:

INDIANA ELMER NETWORK UPCOMING CLASS

The Indiana Elmer Network will be holding training classes for General Class (only) ham license on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in January, February, and March of 2017. Training will take place at the Aviation Institute of Maintenance from 7p.m. to 9p.m. The

classrooms are located at 7251 West McCarty Street in Indianapolis. You can contact Wayne at ac9hp@arrl.net if you would like to attend.

2016 WVARA TURKEYFEST CANCELED

Due to a scheduling problem with the venue, the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association has been forced to cancel the 2016 WVARA Turkeyfest scheduled for Saturday, November 26th.

PROPOSED CHANGE FOR VANITY CALL SIGNS

The FCC is inviting comments on a Petition for Rule Making (RM-11775) from a Nevada radio amateur that seeks changes to the rules governing the Amateur Radio Vanity Call Sign Program.

Christopher LaRue, W4ADL, of North Las Vegas, is proposing that any licensee obtaining a vanity call sign be required to keep it for the full license term. LaRue contends in his petition that excessive and frequent vanity call sign filings are hampering the ability of other qualified licensees to obtain vanity call signs in one of the more desirable 1 x 2 or 2 x 1 formats. LaRue said that since the FCC dropped the fee to file for a vanity call sign, some applicants are taking advantage by regularly obtaining new call signs, thereby keeping them out of circulation.

The petition can be found on the web in PDF format at, <https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/file/1004220986407/Petition%20.pdf>

W1AW 2016/2017 WINTER OPERATING SCHEDULE

orning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)

1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)

(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC (4 PM EST) CWf Mon, Wed, Fri
2100 " " CWs Tue, Thu
2200 " (5 PM EST) CWb Daily
2300 " (6 PM EST) DIGITAL Daily
0000 " (7 PM EST) CWs Mon, Wed, Fri
0000 " " CWf Tue, Thu
0100 " (8 PM EST) CWb Daily
0200 " (9 PM EST) DIGITAL Daily
0245 " (9:45 PM EST) VOICE Daily
0300 " (10 PM EST) CWf Mon, Wed, Fri
0300 " " CWs Tue, Thu
0400 " (11 PM EST) 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

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

DIGITAL = BAUDOT (45.45 baud), BPSK31 and MFSK16 in a revolving schedule.

Beginning in January 2017, the voice mode used for W1AW's 40 meter voice bulletins will be full-carrier, double-sideband AM.

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.

All licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1500 UTC to 1700 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM EST), and then from 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur radio license or a photocopy.

The W1AW Operating Schedule may also be found on page 83 in the November 2016 issue of QST or on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule>.

NEW ARRL BUREAU OUTGOING QSL RATES EFFECTIVE NOW

ARRL members — including foreign members, QSL Managers, or managers for DXpeditions — should enclose payment as follows:

\$1.15 per ounce, plus \$7.00 QSL Bureau service fee. For example, a package containing 1.5 pounds of cards — 24 ounces, or about 225 cards — will cost \$34.60. The minimum charge is \$8.15 for one ounce or less. DXCC credits cannot be used towards the QSL Service fee.

More info is available at <http://www.arrl.org/outgoing-qsl-service>

COMMENTS SOLICITED FOR TECHNICIAN QUESTION POOL

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) Question Pool Committee (QPC) is reviewing the 2014-2018 Technician question pool for revisions and updates. The QPC will accept comments and suggestions from the Amateur Radio community via e-mail through March 31, 2017 at, qpcinput@ncvec.org .

The NCVEC QPC will take all comments and suggestions into consideration as it updates the Technician question pool for 2018-2022. Input from the Amateur Radio community may include suggestions for new questions, changes to the topic areas, or changes to existing questions in any of the current Amateur Radio examination question pools.

ARRL CALLING FOR HELP ON AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT

ARRL once again is calling on its members to urge their US Senators to support the Amateur Radio Parity Act (H.R. 1301) when it comes up in the Senate during the "lame duck" session of Congress that adjourns in mid-December. The House of Representatives approved the bill in September, but if the Senate does not follow suit, the bill will die, and the entire process will have to be repeated. ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, who chairs the ARRL Board's Legislative Advocacy Committee and has been heavily involved in efforts to move H.R. 1301 forward, said today, "The clock is ticking."

The task is simple: Go to our Rally Congress page at <https://arrl.rallycongress.net/>, enter your ZIP code, fill in your name and address, press enter, and e-mails will go directly to your Senators. Members may do this, even if they have already contacted their US Senators for support.

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 November, 1966 *Amachewer*:

For the past two years, I have been E.C. of Marion Co., and during that time, a few things have been done. We have been able to have a METROPOLITAN ARED Net on 50.7 MHz every Tuesday at 8:00 pm EST. I am in need of an ASSISTANT E.C. on VHF as well as on UHF. ALL INDIANA NET needed. We would like more participation on the Indiana phone net at 6:00 pm Monday thru Friday, Indiana SSB Net at 4:30 and 7:00 pm Monday thru Friday. Saturdays and Sundays the 7:00 pm net starts at 6:00 pm, there is also a morning net for the ones that work nights, that starts at 8:30 am. ALL INDIANA NETS are on 3.910 MHz, except the VHF and UHF. The RED CROSS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB would like to have more operators, any one that is interested, come to

their monthly meetings the THIRD Monday of each month, at RED CROSS BUILDING, 1126 N. Meridian Street at 8:00 pm. Remember AMATEUR RADIO EXISTS BECAUSE OF THE SERVICE IT RENDERS.

73,
Bill, W9BUQ

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- February 18, 2017: 6th Annual Brownsburg Hamfest. More info at <http://www.hcars.org/hamfest>
- February 25, 2017: Dugger Hamfest. More info at <http://duggerarc.org/>

2016 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – EMAIL davids@mediamachine.com
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - ..EMAIL dmiller@ivytech.edu
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - ..EMAIL kj9b@arrl.net
- Treasurer: Rhonda Curtis, WS9H - ..EMAIL ws9h.indy@gmail.com
- 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 - .. *[Replacing Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB, SK]*
- Dir. at large: Bob Osterhous - ..EMAIL rosterhous@comcast.net
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC

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