



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

September 2020 Newsletter

Upcoming Meetings:

October 9: To Be Announced

Highlights from the September Meeting:

Meeting called to order via Zoom at 7:35 pm by club president David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were 33 in attendance. Announcements: Club treasurer, Mark Burke, W9MGB, has completed the first step in acquiring the club's 501(c)3 status, making the Indianapolis Radio Club a not-for-profit corporation. Mike Sercer, WA9FDO, announced that the Route 66 special event starts September 12. Dave Miller, K9RTT announced that the VHF contest starts on September 12. David, N9KT, talked about the new radio package on board the International Space Station. There is now an FM repeater on board (see article later in this newsletter). Also, there will be some more satellites launched, including a 15/10 meter repeater. The club's webmaster, Ron Cooper, WB9DKL, asked for input for the website, he mentioned that he has placed DMR codeplugs on the site.

Next, David introduced Steve Van Frank, W9TN, to speak about the Frequency Measuring Test. Steve started out in Indy, and now is in Lafayette. The first Frequency Measurement Test was done in 1931, sponsored by ARRL. Amateurs were the state of the art back then, with some broadcast stations off by over 1 KHz. Today, propagation effects dominate the accuracy of measurements. It's possible to get doppler shifts due to the movement of propagation layers. The indirect method of measurement utilizes a

“lossy T”, or “ISO-TEE” injecting signal generator for reference. Steve uses a cheap GPS disciplined oscillator for Frequency Reference. Has 10 MHz output that is very accurate. K5CM normally runs the FMT test. Steve uses “Spectrum Lab” software, which is free. The next FMT is November 12.

Meeting adjourned at 9:19.

Ham Radio News:

FORT WAYNE HAMFEST CANCELED

The Fort Wayne Hamfest Steering Committee has closely followed the progression of CDC, Indiana State, and local Health Dept individual recommendations and large gathering guidance. Consultation with annual volunteers and long-time loyal vendors indicates a growing consensus their attendance would be limited due to pandemic concerns. Our host venue is going to great lengths to minimize infection risk, recently published recommendations stating, “Individuals 65 years of age or older, or those in high-risk categories with underlying health conditions, should consider not attending any event at the facility.” The Indiana Governor has extended the mandatory mask-wearing order through the end of October.

In the face of this much credible pandemic risk, the Steering Committee has decided to cancel this year’s Fort Wayne Hamfest for the health safety of our valued guests, vendors, and volunteers. We share your disappointment and hope for a swift end to the pandemic so we may again meet for eyeball QSO’s and support favorite ham gear vendors at hamfests across the country.

We look forward to hosting a healthy and safe Fort Wayne Hamfest on November 13 & 14, 2021. See you next year!

73,

Joseph, K9RFZ, 2020 Fort Wayne Hamfest Chairman

REFUND INFO: Please contact tables@fortwaynehamfest.com to request reservation refunds.

FCC APPLICATION FEE PROPOSAL OPEN FOR COMMENTS

Comments are being accepted on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in MD Docket 20-270, which proposes application fees for radio amateurs. Formal deadlines for comments and reply comments will be determined once the NPRM appears in the Federal Register.

Comments may be filed now, however, by using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), located at, <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings> , and posting to MD Docket No. 20-270. The docket is already open for accepting comments, even though deadlines have not yet been set.

The NPRM can be found online in PDF format at, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-20-116A1.pdf> .

AMATEUR RADIO PACKAGE UPDATED ON ISS

The initial element of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) next-generation radio system has been installed onboard the ISS, and amateur radio operations using the new gear are now under way. The first element, dubbed the InterOperable Radio System (IORS), was installed in the ISS Columbus module. The IORS replaces the Ericsson radio system and packet module that were originally certified for spaceflight in mid-2000.

Initial operation of the new radio system is in FM cross-band repeater mode using an uplink of 145.99 MHz (CTCSS 67 Hz) and a downlink of 437.800 MHz. System activation was first observed at 01:02 UTC on September 2. Special operations will continue to be announced, ARISS said.

For more info, point your browser to <http://www.arrl.org/news/first-element-of-ariss-next-generation-radio-system-installed-and-operating-on-iss>

SES TO HONOR AMATEUR RADIO SOFTWARE AWARD RECIPIENT

The K1A special event September 25 – October 5, 2200 – 0500 UTC, headquartered in Ames, Iowa, will be sponsored by the Amateur Radio Software Award Committee. Frequencies planned are 7.190 and 14.260 MHz.

“The special event station promotes innovative, free and open amateur radio software,” the sponsor says. “The 2020 Amateur Radio Software Award recipient Anthony Good and his K3NG Arduino CW Keyer software project will be honored during the event. Nominations for the 2021 awards will also be encouraged.

For more info, go to

<http://www.arrl.org/news/special-event-operation-to-honor-amateur-radio-software-award-recipient>

PAUL GILBERT, KE5ZW, INSTALLED AS ARRL DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

As another step in ARRL’s increased focus on strengthening its emergency communications capabilities and long-standing working relationships with federal and state agencies and private emergency response organizations, ARRL has hired Paul Z. Gilbert, KE5ZW, of Cedar Park, TX as its first Director of Emergency Management.

Gilbert brings more than 30 years of experience in public service in both his professional and amateur radio endeavors. Beginning with his appointment as Emergency Coordinator in 1987, he has held multiple positions in the ARRL Field Organization. Currently in his second term as South Texas Section Manager, he has also served for more than a decade as the West Gulf Division’s Assistant Director for Public Service, acting as liaison between Division leadership and local, state, and federal emergency management organizations.

For more information, go to

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-hires-paul-z-gilbert-ke5zw-as-director-of-emergency-management>

ARRL SEEKS CHANGES IN 3.4 GHZ FCC PROPOSAL

ARRL met by telephone with FCC staff members the week of September 21 to emphasize its opposition to the FCC proposal (Docket No. 19-348, in response to which ARRL filed comments in February 2020) to delete amateur radio from the 3.3 – 3.5 MHz band. The FCC will take final action in the proceeding when it meets on September 30.

ARRL urged that the secondary status for amateur radio in the band be continued. In a series of meetings with Commissioner legal advisors and staff members, ARRL explained how continued secondary use by radio amateurs will not impair or devalue use of this spectrum by future primary licensees, including those intending to provide 5G or other services. ARRL also stressed the various public-benefit uses of the spectrum by amateurs, including ongoing use of television and mesh networks on the west coast of the US as part of efforts to contain wildfires.

For the complete ARRL release, go to

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-seeks-changes-in-fcc-proposal-to-delete-3-4-ghz-amateur-b-and>

UPCOMING INDIANAPOLIS AREA TESTING SESSIONS (check with sponsor before planning to attend)

Bloomington IN 47401-5337
Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc
Date: Oct 03 2020
Time: 11:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)
Contact: William F. Wootton
(812) 876-8689
Email: wfwootton@gmail.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: First United Church 08-01 session full
2420 E 3rd St
Register at 11:30am
Testing at 12 NOON
Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Indianapolis IN 46218-2169
Sponsor: Indianapolis RC
Date: Oct 10 2020
Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)
Contact: Kenneth J. Bandy
(317) 446-3312
Email: ken.kj9b@gmail.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility
4020 Georgetown Rd
CALL AHEAD!!!
Indianapolis IN 46218-2169

Franklin IN 46131-2443
Sponsor: Mid-State ARC
Date: Oct 17 2020
Time: 9:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)
Contact: Scott W. Nelson
(812) 320-2790
Email: scott@w9dba.com
VEC: LAUREL VEC
Location: Franklin Law Enforcement Center
1 Caisson Dr
Franklin IN 46131-2443

Noblesville IN 46060-1624
Sponsor: Central Indiana ARA
Date: Oct 17 2020
Time: 10:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)
Contact: Joe March
(317) 224-9433
Email: jmarch54@att.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Hamilton Cty Emer Operations Ctr
18100 Cumberland Rd

Sheriff's Campus Training Room
CALL AHEAD
Noblesville IN 46060-1624

Anderson IN 46016-2238
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club
Date: Oct 20 2020
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Stephen M. Riley
(765) 425-4627
Email: wa9cwe@arrl.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Madison County EOC
200 Delaware St
Anderson IN 46016-2238

Columbus IN 47201-7477
Sponsor: SCICSG
Date: Oct 20 2020
Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Michael D. Tanksley
(812) 350-5175
Email: kd9eau@gmail.com
VEC: LAUREL VEC
Location: Columbus Twp. Fire & Rescue
935 Repp Dr
Columbus IN 47201-7477

Rushville IN 46173-1846
Sponsor: Michael Elder
Date: Oct 24 2020
Time: 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)
Contact: Michael Dwight. Elder
(765) 389-0166
Email: wj9e42@yahoo.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Rushville Public Library
130 W 3rd St
Call 4-5days in advance
to schedule appointment
Rushville IN 46173-1846

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://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews_indyradioclub.org.

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 September 1976 *Amachewer*:

WN novice prefixes will be dropped Oct. 1976 due to computer complications at FCC. Present novices continue using their WN calls as is. Due to the rapid growth of Ham Radio, FCC will start issuing WD calls in the call areas 2, 4, 6, and 8. So don't expect your first WD to be a rare island. Not atoll. *[get it?]*

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- October 17: ~~Hamtober Fest, Lynnville, IN~~ **CANCELED**
- November 7: Hoosier Hills Hamfest, Lawrence Co. 4-H Fairgrounds. Go to <http://www.w9qyq.org/pdf/hamfest.pdf> for more info.
- November 14 and 15: ~~Fort Wayne Hamfest.~~ **CANCELED**

- November 28: Wabash Valley ARA Turkeyfest, Clay County Fairgrounds. Go to https://www.w9uuu.org/hamfest/turkeyfest_2020.pdf for more info.

2020 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – davids@mediamachine.com
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - dm0584213@gmail.com
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - kj9b@arrl.net
- Treasurer: Mark Burke, W9MGB - w9mgb@arrl.net
- Chief Operator: Quinton Ritter, KD9MVK - qritter@ivytech.edu
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – k9ru@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Jay Kraus, W9TC - W9TC@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Jeff Hammer, N9NIC - n9nic@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: George Taylor, KC9IKD - jr9554@sbcglobal.net
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - W9TC@arrl.net