



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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## *February 2021 Newsletter*

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### **Upcoming Meetings:**

**March 12:** John Kruk, N9UPC, National Sales Manager of Yaesu USA, Amateur Division, **VIA ZOOM.**

**April 9:** John Portune, W9NBC, presentation on slot antennas.

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### **Highlights from the February Meeting:**

The meeting was called to order via Zoom at 7:30 pm by club president David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were 29 in attendance.

David asked if there were any new hams present. Newly licensed Cathy Harris, KD9RPN, from Plainfield, introduced herself. Cindy, KD9NNZ, wanted to publicly thank Steve, KB9RDS, for his help with her antenna.

In announcements, David announced that Mark Burke, W9MGB, has stepped down as club treasurer, and is moving to Florida (what, and miss all the snow?!). David thanked Mark for all of his work as treasurer over the last 2 years, especially taking the initiative to set up the 501(c)(3) for the club. Ken Bandy, KJ9B, is assuming the duties of treasurer, and has set up a new PayPal account ([treasurer@indyradioclub.org](mailto:treasurer@indyradioclub.org)) for the receipt of club dues of \$20, which are now due. For those that don't have a PayPal account, they can send a personal check made out to "Indianapolis Radio Club" to Ken at 7405 E. County Road 900 N, Brownsburg, IN 46112.

Ken also announced getting an email requesting radio support for the OPSF 50/50 race (more on that later in this newsletter). Mike Sercer, WA9FDO, announced that the Indy Hamfest is needing some new people to step into leadership roles for the Hamfest. Jay Kraus, W9TC, announced that next weekend (February 20 & 21) is the ARRL CW contest.

David next introduced our speaker for the evening, Dave Arland. This was Dave's 30th year covering the CES show, except it was all virtual this year. The show was basically a 2 day TV show run on Microsoft Teams from Redmond, WA. There were 100 hours of conferences. Several pandemic related products were unveiled. As usual, there were tons of new ideas, including the announcement of an autonomous vehicle race at the IMS. There were several robots announced, including the "Bot-Handy", also an automated vacuum that doubles as a security camera.

Dave also talked about the KDKA Pittsburgh, 100 year celebration. KDKA started in 1920 with election returns that were phoned in and then broadcast from the station that was located on top of the Westinghouse plant. A replica has been built of this original station.

Dave talked about the Indiana Broadcasting centennial coming up next year. There will be a celebration starting on 12/31/21. There was interesting conversation and a "show and tell" of the RCA Aeriola receiver that Dave owns. The Indiana broadcasting centennial may have a place for the Indianapolis Radio Club, since many of the early radio stations were put up by amateurs, including one by the Indianapolis Radio Club predecessors. Mike Sercer suggested the book "From Crystal to Color", a history of early TV in Indy, WFBM. It is a somewhat hard to find book, but Cathy, KD9NNZ, found it on-line at AbeBooks (<https://www.abebooks.com/>). Jay, W9TC, recognized Dave's loss of weight, Dave says he has lost over 100 pounds in a little over a year. He says he has done it by basically eating less, as well as not drinking liquor any longer. Dave talked about his collection of early electronics. He has one of the first TVs manufactured by RCA, as well as an RCA Theremin. Only 500 were made, and 132 of those still exist. He is learning to play it.

Meeting adjourned to casual conversation at 8:30.

## Ham Radio News:

### **CLUB DUES ARE DUE, AND PAYABLE VIA PAYPAL NOW!**

Club Dues for 2021 are due now. Individual dues are \$20 per year, or Family dues are \$30 per year (all family members need to live in the same household). With the departure of Mark Burke, W9MGB, we have set up a new PayPal address. It is [treasurer@indyradioclub.org](mailto:treasurer@indyradioclub.org). Be sure to send the payment as a “friend”, **not for** “goods and services”. This will prevent any fees being assessed to the payment. For those that don’t have a PayPal account, you can send a check made out to “Indianapolis Radio Club” to Ken Bandy, 7405 E. County Road 900 N, Brownsburg, IN 46112.

### **TECHNICIAN CLASS COMING UP IN KOKOMO**

There will be a Technician class starting on Thursday, February 25, at 6:30 pm, and meeting every Thursday for 8 weeks. If interested, contact Bill McAlpin by phone at (765) 244-0511, or email at [billmcAlpin@comcast.net](mailto:billmcAlpin@comcast.net) by **February 17**.

### **2021 SKYWARN SPOTTER TRAINING TO BE ON LINE**

All NWS Indianapolis spotter talks this Spring will be held virtually and live. The *GotoWebinar* platform will be used, which can host up to 1000 people per session. There are 6 public sessions scheduled, scattered across various days and times in March. Those times are listed below. Pre-registration will be required.

Anyone can attend any of these 6 sessions as the training will be identical in content. Each webinar will last around 90 minutes. Unfortunately, due to copyright issues and privacy concerns, these webinars will not be recorded. Other opportunities for online training exist and will be shared during this training.

Below are the dates, times and registration links for each training opportunity. People only need to attend 1 of these sessions, but they must make sure they register using the unique URL for the date they wish to attend.

For the Mar 6, 2021 10:00 AM EST session, go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7199577262341979664> to register.

For the Mar 8, 2021 6:30 PM EST session, go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1006691268592279824> to register.

For the Mar 10, 2021 4:00 PM EST session, go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2011932968426083600> to register.

For the Mar 13, 2021 10:00 AM EST session, go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7925758513000692496> to register.

For the Mar 22, 2021 6:30 PM EDT session, go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3726590565617200144> to register.

For the Mar 24, 2021 2:00 PM EDT session, go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/892252998861824272> to register.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

## **LATEST CANCELLATIONS**

As of the writing of this newsletter, the following area hamfests have been canceled:

LaPorte County ARC Hamfest, previously scheduled for February 26;

Dugger Hamfest, previously scheduled for February 27;

Columbus Hamfest, previously scheduled for April 3.

## **HAM RADIO SUPPORT REQUESTED FOR OPSF 50/50**

*The following was received from Jim Baughn, K9EOH:*

March 27th once again the OPSF 50 50 will be run and I am looking for a few good operators.

Over the years we have played an important role, in the run, assisting the organizers by relaying runner check ins to Start/Finish and Aid Stations. Also reporting any Aid Station needs, such as low supplies, runner assistance, injury and/or runner dropping or changing race selection and any other critical information.

We will be working shifts from 8:45AM to 2:00PM and 1:45 to 7:00 PM.

If you wish to join us or request further information, please reply to [jim@k9eoh.com](mailto:jim@k9eoh.com) or with the phone numbers listed below.

Best Regards and 73,

Jim Baughn K9EOH

P.S. More information can be found at  
<http://www.owencountyara.org/OPSF%2050%2050.php>

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Jim K9EOH  
Home: 812 828 9086  
Cell: 812 585 1385  
e-mail: [jim@k9eoh.com](mailto:jim@k9eoh.com)

## **INDIANAPOLIS HAMFEST AND STATE CONVENTION**

The 50th Indianapolis Hamfest will be held July 9 & 10 at the Marion County Fairgrounds. The ARRL Indiana State Convention will be held in conjunction with the Hamfest. Check <http://indyhamfest.com/> for more details as they become available.

## **CINCINNATI HAMFEST AND W8DXCC THIS SUMMER**

The 2021 Cincinnati Hamfest, and W8DXCC Convention will be held on Saturday, August 28, 2021. The events will both be held at the Clermont County Fairgrounds, in Owensville, OH. For more information, go to <https://cincinnatihamfest.org/>.

## **2021 FIELD DAY RULES MODIFICATIONS RELEASED**

The ARRL announced the extension of the Field Day Rule Waiver similar to 2020, and a power limitation for Class-D and Class-E stations of 150 Watts PEP has been established.

The full story appears at

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-to-extend-field-day-rule-waivers-from-2020-add-class-d-and-e-power-limit>

## **QSO TODAY VIRTUAL HAMFEST RETURNING IN MARCH**

The QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo will return March 13 – 14 for a full 48 hours, QSO Today host Eric Guth, 4Z1UG/WA6IGR, announced this week. ARRL is a QSO Today Expo Partner. Guth said the inaugural QSO Today Expo last August attracted more than 16,000 attendees, and he anticipates that the March 2021 event will be even more successful.

Registration is required, and to help cover the costs of staging this event, there will be a charge to attend. Advance tickets are \$10 (\$12.50 at the “door”) and include entry for the live, 2-day show as well to the 30-day on-demand period.

Go to <https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/> for more info on this event, and to register.

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

Greenfield IN 46140-1100

Sponsor: Hancock ARC

Date: Mar 13 2021

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Jill Schaumloeffel

(317) 363-4674

Email: n2jlc@yahoo.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Park Chapel Christian Church

1176 E McKenzie Rd

Greenfield IN 46140-1100

Indianapolis IN 46254-2407

Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio Club-W9JP  
Date: Mar 13 2021  
Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: James K. Rinehart  
(317) 721-1458  
Email: k9ru@arrl.net  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility  
4020 Georgetown Rd  
Indianapolis IN 46254-2407

Rushville IN 46173-1846  
Sponsor: Michael Elder  
Date: Mar 27 2021  
Time: 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or 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](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](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)

## Signals from the Past:

From the January February, 1951 *Amachewer*:

Sam Taggert, W9NH, has been quite active on 160 meter CW and is piling up a good score on 160 meter CW and is piling up a goodly number of the 48 states on that band. Sam who runs about 75 watts to an 807 tube, and uses an older model HRO receiver, says the noise level in his vicinity is terrific at times, but goes after them on the air anyhow. Any old time CW operator like Sam no doubt goes better with a bit of noise and QRM, etc. for background effect.

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## Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- Wabash Valley Hamfest & Computer Expo: March 20. Brazil, IN <https://www.w9uuu.org/hamfest.php> for more info.
- ~~Dayton Hamvention: May 21-23.~~ **CANCELED** Go to <https://hamvention.org/>.
- Indianapolis Hamfest: July 9-10, 2021 Watch <http://indyhamfest.com/> for more info.
- Cincinnati Hamfest and W8DXCC: August 28. Owensville, OH. Go to <https://cincinnatihamfest.org/> for more info.

## 2021 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – [president@indyradioclub.org](mailto:president@indyradioclub.org)
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - [vp@indyradioclub.org](mailto:vp@indyradioclub.org)
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - [secretary@indyradioclub.org](mailto:secretary@indyradioclub.org)
- Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - [treasurer@indyradioclub.org](mailto:treasurer@indyradioclub.org)
- Chief Operator: OPEN
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Jeff Hammer, N9NIC - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: George Taylor, KC9IKD - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Kyle Bandy, KC9GLR - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org](mailto:w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org)