



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

January 2026 Newsletter

Upcoming IRC Meetings and Events:

January 17: W9JP IRC Club POTA activation at Fort Harrison State Park.

January 24: Winter Field Day at Salvation Army EDS Training Facility. 2:00 pm.

February 13: IRC meeting in person. Annual CES recap with Dave Arland.

Highlights from the January Meeting:

The meeting was called to order via Zoom at 7:30 pm by Club President, David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were 28 in attendance. Cathy, W9QKR, shared that she recently upgraded to Amateur Extra. David announced that club dues for 2026 are now due and that the membership roster will be purged of those whose memberships expired at the end of 2025 around the end of January. David also announced the upcoming POTA activation at Fort Harrison on Saturday, January 17. He also announced that the club would again be joining the Salvation Army Team at the EDS Training Facility for Winter Field Day at 2:00 pm on January 25.

Next David introduced the evening's presenter, Steve McVoy, from the Early Television Museum in Hilliard, Ohio. Steve said the museum was founded in 2001, and owns its current building. The museum is self-supporting with over 250 paid members last year. The museum contains 6,000 square feet of exhibits plus a warehouse and workshop area. The museum sells donated equipment and parts to support itself. There are around 200 television sets on display, dating all the way back to a Prismatic disc produced by Jenkins in 1923. The BBC introduced electronic television in 1936, with the US starting

broadcasts in 1939. Steve showed many slides of samples of the museum's collections, with many pre- and post-war sets and prototypes of early television technology. The museum also contains an extensive collection of early broadcast equipment, including a 1939 RCA camera used in the World's Fair. There are also many early studio cameras, from the 40s and 50s. The Museum, located at 5396 Franklin St. in Hilliard is open on Saturdays from 10 to 6 and on Sundays from noon to 5. Admission to the museum is \$10 per adult, seniors over 65 and active duty military are \$8, and children under 12 are \$5. Memberships to the museum are \$50 per year and include free admission to the museum by the member and their family. The website for the museum is <https://www.earlytelevision.org/> The video of the meeting can be found [here](#).

Ham Radio News:

JOIN US FOR WINTER FIELD DAY JANUARY 24

Saturday, January 24, the Indianapolis Radio Club will join SATERN and ARES at the Salvation Army EDS Training Facility to participate in Winter Field Day activities. For those not familiar, [Winter Field Day](#) was started in 2007, and is today run by the Winter Field Day Association. It is similar to the traditional Summer Field Day, just held in the winter time. For those of us that don't really relish the idea of communing with Frozen Mother Nature, we will be operating from the warmth of the EDS building (the same place our meetings are held). We plan on being on the air around 2:00 pm. So, come and join us for some radio activity, fellowship, and Bert Williams' famous chili!

WAYS TO SUPPORT THE IRC

You can support the Indianapolis Radio Club in any, or all, of these four ways:

1. Join the club. Your annual membership dues of \$20 for an individual, \$30 for a family (in the same household), or \$10 for a student, (with valid ID) help support the club in its mission to promote our hobby by sponsoring monthly VE testing sessions, reaching out to new licensees, and welcoming them to the hobby. The easiest way to join is to go to <https://tinyurl.com/irc-dues-payment> and complete the process through PayPal.
2. Pay your ARRL membership dues through the IRC, utilizing the Club Commission program. The club will get a \$5 commission for renewals, or a \$20 commission for new memberships. Fill out the form available at

- <https://tinyurl.com/ARRL-membership-form> and send it, along with payment, to club treasurer, KJ9B. Or fill out one of the forms at an in-person meeting.
3. Join the Kroger Community Rewards program (it's free!) by going to <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards> and designating the Indianapolis Radio Club as the charity you want to support. The club then gets a quarterly donation from Kroger based on a percentage of the amount spent by those supporting the club.
 4. If applicable, donate part or all of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to the Indianapolis Radio Club, a 501(c)(3) charity.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please contact Ken Bandy, KJ9B, at treasurer@indyradioclub.org.

ARRL SPONSORING “AMERICA250” WORKED ALL STATES

To celebrate America’s Semiquincentennial anniversary, the ARRL is having a “Worked All States” event similar to what they did in 2014 to mark the ARRL’s 100th anniversary. There will be week-long activations of portable W1AW/portable stations in all 50 states, and in several US Possessions/Territories, that will generate on-air activity to achieve this unique WAS Award. For this operating event, ARRL will provide a listing of all W1AW/portable stations, who will each operate for 7 days (from a Wednesday through the following Tuesday) for 2 separate weeks in the year (an early week between January and July, and a late week between July and December). Indiana’s weeks will be February 4 through 10 and July 15 through 21. If you’re interested in being one of Indiana’s W1AW/9 stations, contact Indiana Section Manager Bob Burns, AK9R, at ak9r@arrl.org. A PDF of all of the scheduled W1AW/portable stations can be found [here](#).

INFORMATIVE ARTICLE ON HANDHELD RADIO RF EXPOSURE

ARRL members will want to check out the article “Understanding FCC Exposure Rules for Handheld Radios”, starting on page 55 of the February, 2026 issue of QST. The article explains in detail how to safely use handheld radios of various power levels.

IRC VE TEST SESSION RESULTS

2 candidates attended the Indianapolis Radio Club sponsored VE testing on 1/10/2026. 2 new hams earned their first license. Thanks to Dave Jarvis N9KZJ, Paul Brandenburg

KB9MEG, Dave Rogers KB9YYM, Jim Adams KB9JMU, Jim Rinehart K9RU, Steve Tharp K9MD, and Jim Kajder AC9ZL for their help as volunteer examiners!

60-METER BAND CHANGES EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 13

The new 60-meter frequencies approved by the FCC in December will become available to amateurs as of February 13, 2026, along with new power restrictions on those frequencies. It's a bit confusing, as different rules apply to different segments of the band. The changes result from the FCC's action to approve a worldwide 60-meter amateur allocation made by the World Radiocommunication Conference in 2015 (WRC-15). See <https://tinyurl.com/mt8p8jpa>

There are lots of details and technical information regarding this change, so if you're a 60 meter operator, you'll want to check out the article at <https://www.arrl.org/news/new-60-meter-frequencies-available-as-of-february-13>.

NEW TECH CLASS QUESTION POOL EFFECTIVE JULY 1

Following the normal schedule of new test questions going into effect approximately every 4 years, the current Technician Class Question Pool, that went into use in 2022, will be replaced with the new Question Pool, effective July 1, 2026. The complete syllabus and 409 question pool, with illustrations can be accessed by going to <https://www.ncvec.org/index.php/2026-2030-technician-question-pool>

The General Class Question Pool will be updated in 2027 and the Amateur Extra Class Question Pool will be updated in 2028.

ARRL SECTION CONVENTION COMING UP IN FEBRUARY

The ARRL Indiana Section Convention will be held on Saturday, February 7 at the Hendricks County Hamfest. The Hamfest will be held at the Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds and Conference Center, 1900 E. Main St., Danville. For more information, go to <https://n9hc.org/>

HAMVENTION 2026 COMING IN MAY

As we brave the cold of winter, we have Hamvention 2026 to look forward to, coming up May 15 through 17 at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio. Tickets for this year's Hamvention are available now by going to <https://hamvention.org/purchase-tickets/>. Advance sale tickets are \$26 each, and are available through March 1, when they will go up to \$30 each.

With Hamvention being arguably the largest annual gathering of amateur radio enthusiasts in the world, and only being a short drive from Central Indiana, you owe it to yourself to go at least once. With 6 buildings of Commercial exhibitors, including several equipment manufacturers and vendors, and acres and acres of Flea Market vendors, it can be somewhat overwhelming at first, but if you take your time and have a list of things or vendors you want to see, it will be all worth it! In addition to the exhibitors, there are several food trucks available, with seating areas adjacent. Also, don't forget that there are three rooms of forums, typically with presentations by equipment manufacturers, specialty operating areas, and clubs. There are also "spin-off" events in the area during Hamvention, such as "Contest University" and several social opportunities.

AN HISTORIC LOOK AT IRC MEETING TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Continuing a feature started in the October, 2025 newsletter, here is the next installment of the locations of meetings and other historic details of the Indianapolis Radio Club. The information presented in this series was originally compiled by Chuck Crist, W9IH (SK) in 2004, and has been updated as needed.

Year(s)	Meeting locations and other notes
1935-38	Four meeting locations noted: * Liberty Building * Wimmer Building * St.Paul's Episcopal Church * Insley Building, Olney & St Clair St. W9JP back on the air on CW & Phone, on 160, 80, 40, and 20 meters in fall of 1938

1939-44	Cropsey Auditorium First "Women's Program" during IRC Hamfest and Convention.
1943	April, June & July - Warren Hotel (first meeting location that the club rented). Also met at IPD headquarters at New York & Alabama.

More to come from the IRC's 111 year history in the next newsletter.

UPCOMING CENTRAL INDIANA TESTING SESSIONS (check with sponsor before planning to attend)

Franklin IN 46131-9733

Sponsor: Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

Date: Jan 17 2026

Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Jacqueline M. Frederick

(317) 432-7095

Email: vetestingmarc@yahoo.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Johnson County REMC Building

750 International Dr

Franklin IN 46131-9733

Website: <https://midstatehams.org/>

Greenfield IN 46140-9654

Sponsor: Hancock ARC

Date: Jan 17 2026

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

Contact: Sean Waltz

(317) 753-8846

Email: harcexams@gmail.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Hancock County EOC

640 South Franklin St

Greenfield IN 46140-9654

Website: <https://w9atg.org/ve-testing2/>

Anderson IN 46016

Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club
Date: Jan 20 2026
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Stephen M. Riley
(765) 425-4627
Email: wa9cwe@arrl.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Madison County EMA EOC
300 N. Delaware St
GPS LOCATION: 119 N. Jackson St
Anderson IN 46016
Website: <http://www.andersonrepeater.club/>

Noblesville IN 46060-1624
Sponsor: Central Indiana ARA/ HCRACES
Date: Jan 24 2026
Time: 10:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Joseph March
(317) 224-9433
Email: joe.march@hamiltoncounty.in.gov
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Sheriff's Training Room
CALL AHEAD
18100 Cumberland Rd
Noblesville IN 46060-1624
Website: <https://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/908/RACES>

Bloomington IN 47401-5337
Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc
Date: Feb 07 2026
Time: 11:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: William F. Wootton
(812) 327-5457
Email: KC9ACL@ARRL.NET
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: First United Church
2420 E 3rd St
Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Indianapolis IN 46254
Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio Club
Date: Feb 14 2026
Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: James Kajder
(505) 228-3704
Email: testing@indyradioclub.org
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility
4020 Georgetown Rd
Register or Call ahead
Indianapolis IN 46254

Anderson IN 46016
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club
Date: Feb 17 2026
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Stephen M. Riley
(765) 425-4627
Email: wa9cwe@arrl.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Madison County EMA EOC
300 N. Delaware St
GPS LOCATION: 119 N. Jackson St
Anderson IN 46016
Website: <http://www.andersonrepeater.club/>

Franklin IN 46131-9733
Sponsor: Mid-State Amateur Radio Club
Date: Feb 21 2026
Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Jacqueline M. Frederick
(317) 432-7095
Email: vetestingmarc@yahoo.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Johnson County REMC Building
750 International Dr
Franklin IN 46131-9733
Website: <https://midstatehams.org/>

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 January, 1976 *Amachewer*:

HOTTEST ITEM in the amateur world is that Heath has recalled its new HW-2026 synthesized 2 meter transceiver. The reason given was that its spurious outputs were causing troubles and problems in urban areas. Heath decided to recall all 2026s and discontinue the model after it was determined there was no quick fix. Every buyer who completed his 2026 will be reimbursed for the purchase price and shipping costs both ways, plus a \$50 gift certificate. Partially completed kits will receive purchase and shipping costs and a \$25 certificate. Heathkit is very highly regarded by all amateurs and the above decision was a wise one, and very appreciated by all concerned.

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- Hendricks County Hamfest and ARRL Indiana Section Convention: February 7 at the Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds and Conference Center. Go to <https://n9hc.org/> for more information.
- LaPorte Cabin Fever Hamfest: February 28 at the LaPorte County Fairgrounds. Go to <https://lpcarc.org/hamfest/index2026.html> for more information.

2026 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – president@indyradioclub.org
- Vice Pres.: Jim Brown, WØRLD - vp@indyradioclub.org
- Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - secretary@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – board@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Dave Miller, K9RTT – board@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Kyle Bandy, KC9GLR - board@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB - board@indyradioclub.org
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org

To Pay Dues or Donate to the club, go to
<https://tinyurl.com/irc-dues-payment>

Or Scan this QR Code with your smartphone:

