



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

November 2022 Newsletter

Upcoming:

December 9: We're going to revive the annual Christmas pitch-in party. **In person at the Salvation Army EDS.**

January 13: Bioenno Batteries presentation **via Zoom.**

February 10: Our annual report from CES, by Dave Arland. (location TBA)

Highlights from the November Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by club president David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were 32 in attendance via Zoom. David thanked all the veterans in attendance. Mark Bailey, AD9BG, was recognized for recently upgrading to Extra.

David reminded those in attendance that the December meeting will be our Holiday Party. It will be held at the Salvation Army EDS Facility. The building will be available starting at 7:00 pm. Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB, is coordinating the party. David also reminded that Club Dues can be paid at any time. David asked that anyone with any ideas for future meeting presentations to send them to board@indyradioclub.org.

The election of officers of the club was next. All of the current officers were willing to continue in their current offices. David asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. Jim Brown, WORLD, moved that nominations be closed, seconded by Jim

Rinehart, K9RU. Voting was accomplished by a “show of hand emojis” on Zoom, with the slate of officers being voted in by acclamation.

Next, David introduced our speaker for the evening, Steve Herman, W7VOA. Steve’s presentation was titled “VOA: The Long Path from Shortwave”. VOA has 14 TV and over 40 radio studios in the US, serving more than 40 language services. Among other things, VOA covers news from the US. Steve said the VOA has its own fact checking site: <https://www.polygraph.info/> VOA is mandated by law to be fair and factual in its reporting. Steve said that over the years, the shortwave presence of VOA has reduced significantly, but it still has a significant amount of programming available in multiple languages on shortwave. A listing of frequencies, languages, and schedules can be found at <https://www.short-wave.info/?station=voice%20of%20america> VOA currently partners with local broadcasters around the world. A map showing VOA’s current coverage is available at <https://www.voanews.com/a/voa-around-the-world/4113370.html> VOA’s web site, <https://www.voanews.com/> offers an unbiased view of the news from the US, as well as the rest of the world. Steve noted that there is a “firewall” that prevents the government from interfering with the message of VOA. The Smith-Mundt Act of 1948 laid the groundwork for the VOA.

At this point, Steve took questions. Mike Sercer, WA9FDO, asked about how VOA gets into Russia. Steve said that the internet in Russia is relatively un-censored, compared to China, for instance. Jim Brown, W0RLD, asked about how the cancellation of visas in the Trump administration affected VOA foreign correspondents. Steve said it was difficult, but they managed since it was fairly late in that administration’s tenure. Dave Gingrich, K9DC, asked about Twitter since Elon Musk’s purchase. Steve said he still is active on Twitter (@W7VOA), and said although there hasn’t been any directive from VOA, NPR had advised their correspondents to NOT close their accounts. Steve said there was speculation that there may be a massive “melt-down” of Twitter due to lay-offs in the technical side. WA9FDO noted VOA was formed the same year as Armed Forces Radio, but Steve said there was no connection between the two that he knew. Jim Rinehart, K9RU, asked if VOA picked up any folks from independent Russian broadcasters after the crackdown by Putin. Steve didn’t know for sure, but wouldn’t doubt it. Jim also asked if Steve works from his home studio now. Steve said that the current policy from VOA is they must be in the field or the office at least once during each pay period. Steve was also asked how much freedom they have to produce their stories as they like. He implied that he hasn’t been affected by any “censorship”. K9DC asked about hams involved in VOA. Steve said there are 12 to 15 in the VOA club (<https://www.qsl.net/k3voa/>), and said most of the hams at VOA are in engineering. David Spoelstra, N9KT, asked if VOA uses any Artificial Intelligence (AI) writer

services. Steve said they did not, to his knowledge. In closing, Steve said he is active on IRLP reflector 9202, and HF. The meeting adjourned around 9:00.

Ham Radio News:

SUPPORT THE IRC VIA YOUR ARRL DUES

For many years, the ARRL has had a “Club Commission Program”, where a portion of any ARRL dues that were paid through a local ARRL affiliated club (such as the Indianapolis Radio Club) could be “kicked back” to that club. Recently, the ARRL has made this program more attractive to clubs, and easier to administer for the clubs. Under the updated program, local clubs can earn \$5 per regular membership renewal, or \$15 per new membership. Only REGULAR memberships are eligible for this program. Life, Family, International, Blind, and Student memberships do not earn a commission. Multi-year renewals only earn one commission. If you’re not currently a member of the ARRL (or haven’t been a member for at least two years), now would be a great time to join! You can download and complete [this form](#), and turn it in at the next club meeting, along with payment. If you want to pay by cash (\$49) at a meeting, that is fine, and the club will send a check on your behalf to the ARRL. I will have a few of the forms with me at club meetings.

ANNUAL RADIO CLUB DUES ARE PAYABLE ANY TIME

Annual dues to the Indianapolis Radio Club are payable any time. Dues are credited per calendar year, so if you are not currently a paid-up member, any payment made now will pay your dues through the end of 2022. If you are currently paid-up, any payment made now will extend your membership by another year. You can always check your current membership status by going to <https://tinyurl.com/radio-club-members>. Individual dues are \$20 per year, family dues (for all family members residing at the same address) are \$30 per year, Student membership (with valid student ID) is \$10. Dues can be paid via PayPal payment addressed to treasurer@indyradioclub.org, cash at a meeting, or check (made out to Indianapolis Radio Club) either at a meeting or mailed to: Indianapolis Radio Club, 7405 E. County Road 900 N, Brownsburg, IN 46112.

PLAN TO ATTEND THE DECEMBER PARTY/MEETING

The Indianapolis Radio Club will host its Annual Holiday Christmas Party on Friday December 9th at 7pm at the Salvation Army located at 4020 Georgetown Road. The Club will provide Fried Chicken and Drinks. We are asking club members to help out by bringing desserts, chips and paper products: plates, napkins, paper towels, plastic cups and cutlery. HOWEVER, bringing something to “pitch in” is NOT A REQUIREMENT. We are just anxious to get together as a club for FUN AND FELLOWSHIP!

There will be drawings for several prizes, including tickets to the Indianapolis Symphony, an ARRL 100th Edition Handbook, several miscellaneous goodies from VOXX, and the grand prize being a Yaesu FT-4X HT! There will also be games, and maybe even an UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER CONTEST. So if you have one please wear it.

Everyone please RSVP YOUR INTENTIONS ON ATTENDING to Kevin Colbert 317-506-3750 or colbert@iquest.net Hope to see everyone there!

BASIC ELECTRONICS CLASS BEING OFFERED

Jon Reeves, WB9CNE, is planning on putting on a Basic Electronics class. The classes will be held in Greenfield, at no cost to attendees. Jon asks that those interested fill out the form found at [this link](#). This will help Jon find out how many are interested and when would be a good time to schedule the classes. Contact Jon at wb9cne@arrl.net with any specific questions.

IRLP NEWS

News from our local IRLP “guru”, Dave Gingrich, K9DC, that Kent Johnson, W7AOR, of Las Vegas became a Silent Key back in September. The IRLP reflectors he sponsored, 9250 and 9090, commonly known as the Western Reflector, were still accessible for a while after his passing, but are no longer.

It is possible someone might bring those machines back on line, but no one has indicated an interest in doing so, to date.

NO MORE OPDX BULLETIN

Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW, editor of the OPDX Bulletin announced the following:

“After just under 32 years of writing the OPDX Bulletin (OPDXB), I have decided to retire. Actually I have been providing DX information for the last 42 years starting on a local RTTY BBS, Packet Radio BBS and an online dial-up BBS called BARF80 (which received global phone calls before adding the InterNet to it). The last 42 years has been fun, but it is time to retire due to my age (I turned 70 this year) and my health (less pressure writing a bulletin each week and my eyes are not what they used to be). Beside the field of providing DX information over the last couple of years has become crowded, and "some" providers have turned it into a competition instead of helping and promoting DXing. I am happy to say that the OPDX Bulletin has been totally FREE for all those years with NO ADS, NO GAMES, NO HYPE, NO BOASTING and NO REQUESTS for donations (but there have been a few [very few] unsolicited donations. Thanks to those donators.

I would like to thank the many individuals who have provided DX information for the OPDXB over the past 31+ years, but it would be just too many to list. However, there are some individuals I have to mention. Thanks to Father Steve Walick/SK, Dave Foran/WB8APD/SK, Rick DeMattia/ KD8WCK and Steve Gregory/W8SKG. They kept the servers that the OPDXB goes out on the InterNet running. Also, thanks to John Papay/K8YSE for hosting the OPDXB all these years on his Web page. Then there is my wife, Linda, OPDXB's Chief Proof-Reader (retired Special-LD teacher and non-ham), who has put up with me all these years and for checking my work.”

POTA SPOTTING CLUSTER AVAILABLE

I recently came across information of a great source of Parks on the Air (POTA) spots available via telnet. KD5RYN provides a POTA feed at dx.cqspot.com port 1234. So, just plug “dx.cqspot.com”, port 1234 into your favorite telnet spotting cluster reader, and you will get POTA spots as they're posted on <https://pota.app/#/> I now have this as one of my spot sources on SpotCollector, part of the DXLab Suite.

W1AW 2022 WINTER OPERATING SCHEDULE

Morning 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 2045 UTC - (10 AM to 3:45 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 50.350 147.555
 DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 50.350 147.555
 VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 50.350 147.555

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

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

Bloomington IN 47401-5337
Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc
Date: Dec 03 2022
Time: 11:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: William F. Wootton
(812) 876-8689
Email: wfwootton@gmail.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: First United Church - Call or email ahead due to COVID-19
2420 E 3rd St
Register at 11:30am
Testing at 12 NOON
Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Indianapolis IN 46208-4718
Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio club W9JP
Date: Dec 10 2022
Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
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 46218-2169

Rushville IN 46173-1846
Sponsor: ARRL
Date: Dec 10 2022
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Michael Dwight. Elder
(765) 570-0381
Email: wj9e42@yahoo.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Rushville Public Library
130 W 3rd St

Rushville IN 46173-1846

Anderson IN 46016-2238
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club
Date: Dec 20 2022
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

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 November, 1952 AMA-CHEWER:

Howard Severeid, W9DPL says he acquired a rare item, that is a command type transmitter covering the range 1300 to 2100 kilocycles and says it looks like an ideal rig for 160 meter cw this winter when the summer static disappears. This should give Sam Taggart W9NH some competition on that band. Hi.

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- Ft. Wayne Hamfest: November 19 & 20, at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum. Go to <http://www.acarts.com/hfmain.htm> for more information.
- Wabash Valley ARA Turkey Fest: November 26, 8:00 am to noon at the Clay County 4-H Fairgrounds. Go to <https://www.w9uuu.org/hamfest.php> for details.
- Hendricks County Hamfest: February 11, 2023, at the Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds Conference Center. Go to <https://n9hc.org/> for more information.

2022 and 2023 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – president@indyradioclub.org
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - vp@indyradioclub.org
- Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - secretary@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – 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