



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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## *October 2022 Newsletter*

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### **Upcoming:**

**November 11:** Steve Herman, W7VOA, former Voice of America White House Bureau Chief, currently VOA's Chief National Correspondent. Steve's presentation: "VOA: The Long Path Beyond Shortwave" **This meeting will be via Zoom.**

**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.**

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### **Highlights from the October Meeting:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm by club president David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were 18 in attendance. Newly re-licensed ham Tom Waskom, KD9VWK, was the only new ham present. Tom was licensed in the late 70's, early 80's while stationed in the Panama Canal Zone with the US Army.

David said that we are still looking for good presentations for the club. For the foreseeable future, club meetings will be a mix of in-person and virtual. David yielded the floor to the club's newly appointed Activities Director, Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB, who announced that the club would be hosting a December pitch-in party, after a two year hiatus. Look for more information on the party later in this newsletter.

Ron Beam, KD9ARI, won the drawing for a \$25 DX Engineering gift card.

Next, David introduced Ken Bandy, KJ9B, for a presentation about the DXLab Suite of software for ham radio. The suite is a set of 7 free software applications aimed at making hunting DX and pursuing awards associated with DXing more easy and streamlined. The author of the suite is Dave Bernstein, AA6YQ. Dave offers superb support for the suite via the Groups.io reflector “DXLab”. The 7 apps that comprise the suite include “Commander” (Rig Control), “DXKeeper” (logging), “DXView” (location tracking), “PropView” (propagation prediction), “WinWarbler” (basic digital modes), “SpotCollector” (DX Cluster management), and “Pathfinder” (QSL routes). These 7 apps are managed by another app called “Launcher”. The apps are designed to operate “in concert” with each other. They can (and probably should) be installed individually, so the operator can get accustomed to one app before moving on to another. They can be installed in any order, depending on your main interests. KJ9B said he has used the suite for the past 17 years, and is always blown away by how it makes hunting DX and operating in general easier. There is a bit of a “learning curve” to mastering all of the apps, but it’s worth it. The URL for the suite is <http://www.dxlabsuite.com/>. From there, you can download any or all of the apps, as well as useful and descriptive help files. The two best things about the suite are the support that is available for it, and the fact that it is completely FREE! A PDF version of the slides that Ken used will be made available on the radio club’s website.

The meeting adjourned at 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.

## **SUPPORT THE CLUB WITH AMAZON AND KROGER REWARDS**

If you shop at Amazon, please consider supporting the Indianapolis Radio Club with your purchases. The IRC is one of over a million not for profits that can be selected to benefit from the “Amazon Smile” program. To learn more about the Amazon Smile program, follow [this link](#). To support the IRC with your Amazon purchases, go to the [charity selection page](#), and enter “Indianapolis Radio Club” in the search field. That search will find our club and the “Indianapolis Press Club Foundation, Inc.” (for some reason). Be sure to select “Indianapolis Radio Club”. Once you have made that selection, Amazon will donate .5% of the purchase price of eligible items (most things are eligible) to the radio club in a quarterly donation. Just remember to go to <https://smile.amazon.com/> when making Amazon purchases. You can also make Amazon Smile purchases through the Amazon app. There is no cost to you for using Amazon Smile.

You can also donate to the IRC if you shop at Kroger by utilizing the [Kroger Community Rewards Program](#). If you don’t already have a Kroger Plus card, you can get one at any Kroger. There is no charge to you for acquiring a Kroger Plus card. Once you have your card, go to [this page](#) and search for “Indianapolis Radio Club”. After you have completed this process, when you shop at Kroger, be sure to scan your card, and a percentage of each of your purchases will be donated to the club. An added “plus” of the Kroger Plus card is the discounts you can get on fuel purchases at Kroger fuel stations!

## **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](mailto: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.

## **GET READY FOR 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 Pizzas 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.

To add to the festivities, there will be games, raffles, and the UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER CONTEST. So if you have one please wear it. Prizes will be awarded.

Everyone please RSVP YOUR INTENTIONS ON ATTENDING BY November 10th so we can properly prepare to Kevin Colbert 317-506-3750 or colbert@iquest.net

Also, include what you might bring.

Hope to see everyone there.

## **ARRL ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 2023 SCHOLARSHIPS**

The ARRL Foundation Scholarship Program will award more than 100 scholarships to deserving radio amateurs pursuing higher education. Individual scholarships range from \$500 - \$25,000. All applicants must be active, FCC-licensed amateur radio operators and submit a completed online application by 12 PM Eastern Time on January 4, 2023.

Active foreign amateur radio operators are eligible for the Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) scholarships.

Also, the grants program awards limited funding to organizations for eligible amateur radio related projects and initiatives, particularly those with a focus on educating, licensing, and supporting amateur radio activities. Youth-based projects and initiatives are especially encouraged. The ARRL Foundation grants program accepts proposals on a cyclical model three times a year, in February, June, and October. Proposals for the October grant period are being accepted through October 31. Awardees will be notified approximately one month after the closing of each cycle.

For all the details, point your browser to

<https://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-foundation-accepting-applications-for-grants-and-2023-scholarships>

## **ARISS PROPOSALS SOUGHT**

If you know an educator that would be interested in hosting a radio contact with the crew aboard the International Space Station in 2023, they need to submit their proposal no later than November 13. ARISS is looking for proposals that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate into a well-developed education plan. To assist with the proposals, ARISS has posted information about expectations and guidelines on their website.

For all the details, go to

<https://www.arrl.org/news/proposals-sought-for-amateur-radio-crew-contacts-from-the-international-space-station>

## **INTERESTED IN WORKING A SPECIAL EVENT IN JANUARY?**

Scott, NE9U, has acquired the 1x1 call N9W for a special event station to drum up interest in the WRTC (World Radio Team Championship) 2022 contest, taking place in Italy in July of 2023. Scott says, "I anticipate it will be a lot like the ARRL centennial operations where the world tried to work the 50 states. This time they will try for the 50 WRTC areas.

Everyone will be able to work everyone each day, so pileups should last all month. There will be a competition for the calling stations working the zones."

Operations will be on 10, 15, 20, 40, and 80 meters, in CW and SSB modes. There are no details at this point, but if you have a General class or above license and think you might be interested, contact Scott at [ne9u@arrl.net](mailto:ne9u@arrl.net)

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

Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc

Date: Nov 05 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

Greenfield IN 46140-9654  
Sponsor: Hancock County ARC  
Date: Nov 05 2022  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: David Keiser  
(317) 440-8486  
Email: kc9urp@hrtc.net  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Hancock EMA EOC  
640 South Franklin St  
Greenfield IN 46140-9654

Indianapolis IN 46208-4718  
Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio club W9JP  
Date: Nov 12 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

Anderson IN 46016-2238  
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club

Date: Nov 15 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](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 October, 1972 Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter:**

NEW NOVICES: Tom Chance WN9KWS and Vernon Miller WN9KXL are proud holders of novice licenses. Both were given their tests by Bob W9PSE and waited about 4 weeks watching for the postman. Tom is busy building a 6146 Rig from the 1972 QST Handbook and Vernon is going QRP with an 18 watt transistor rig. Good luck on your first contacts and QSL's.

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## 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.

## 2022 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/Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - [secretary@indyradioclub.org](mailto:secretary@indyradioclub.org)
- Chief Operator: OPEN
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Kyle Bandy, KC9GLR - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org](mailto:w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org)