



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

April 2024 Newsletter

Upcoming IRC Meetings and Events:

April 27: Indy Radio Club POTA event. Noon at Fort Harrison State Park.

May 10: Presentation on High Altitude Balloons. 7:30 PM via Zoom.

June 14: Annual Auction. 7:30 PM at Salvation Army EDS Facility.

Highlights from the April Meeting:

[Unfortunately, due to unavoidable circumstances, I was unable to attend the meeting. The following information is mostly from N9KT. Special thanks to Ron Cooper, WB9DKL for manning the check in table at the meeting. - Ed.]

Meeting called to order at 7:30 by Club President, David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were 32 in attendance.

KE9AAJ and KD9ZRN were recognized as new hams in attendance.

David reviewed the ways everyone can help benefit the club financially. He also reviewed the club's March POTA activation, and announced our next one, coming up on April 27. David also reminded everyone of the Indiana QSO Party coming up on Saturday, May 4.

Next, Jeff Hammer, N9NIC unveiled the plans for this year's W9JP Field Day, coming up on May 22 & 23. This Field Day event will be essentially a disaster exercise, working

with Marion County RACES and some other area groups. It will also be a “public facing” event to highlight amateur radio to the public. *[More info in this newsletter.]*

Next, the ARRL, via Central Division Director Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA; Central Division Vice Director, Brent Walls N9BA; and Indiana Section Manager Bob Burns, AK9R presented Bob Begeman, W9KVK with the ARRL Centurion Award. The ARRL Centurion Award is for Amateurs who have reached 100 years of age (technically Bob’s birthday is in August, but we took advantage of our ARRL representatives being at this meeting). Bob has been an ARRL member for 64 years, and he has been very active in the Volunteer Examiner arena. He was first licensed in the early 1950s. Also the Indianapolis Radio Club, via President David Spoelstra, N9KT presented Bob with a certificate thanking him for his loyal service to the VE program, and awarded him with a Lifetime Membership in the club. Following these presentations, cake was enjoyed by those present while our ARRL representatives fielded questions regarding the ARRL.

Special thanks to Jim Brown, W0RDL for taking the following photos of the evening:



Ham Radio News:

INDIANA QSO PARTY COMING UP MAY 4

On Saturday, May 4, Indiana gets to be a “center of RF activity” for the Indiana QSO Party. This is when all the hams in the world (more or less) are wanting to make contact with all 92 Indiana counties.

The INQP runs from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm local time (1500 to 0300 UTC). Get on the air on SSB or CW on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter bands to make as many contacts as you can. Remember, if you are a Technician class operator, you can still operate SSB on the lower part of 10 meters, as well as CW on parts of 15, 40, and 80 meters. If you are a Parks on the Air fan, this is a good opportunity to “kill two birds with one QSO”, activating a POTA park while working INQP. Once again, the HDXCC (the club that sponsors the INQP) has designated 10 counties as “Rare Counties”, giving the opportunity to get special plaques for operating from these counties that haven’t had too much activity in past INQPs. There are also lots of other plaques and certificates available for several different categories.

Don’t worry if you don’t have much contesting experience. State QSO Parties are great places to “get your feet wet” in contesting. The INQP is one of four QSO Parties going on May 4th, so there should be lots of activities on the bands. Don’t forget that it’s also “Star Wars Day”!

Go to <http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/index.html> for all of the details on the INQP. Even if you only make a handful of QSOs from your home station, be sure to submit your log, and put “Indianapolis Radio Club” as your club, and maybe we can give the Fort Wayne club a run for their money (or at least make the list...).

IN PERSON TECHNICIAN CLASS COMING UP

Putnam County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will host a Technician class May 4th and 18th, at the Putnam County EOC, 1600 W CR 225S, Greencastle. Class will be from 900a-300p on May 4, and May 18 900a-100p, with testing at 200p. Those who would like to upgrade to General or Extra may show up for testing on May

18. For information or to register, e-mail Jeff Wonser at JWonser@gmail.com, or call him at 317-955-5645.

INDIANAPOLIS RADIO CLUB POTA EVENT NEWS

The Indianapolis Radio Club held another Parks On The Air (POTA) activation at Fort Harrison State Park on Saturday, March 23. We had 15 operators attend, and of those, 9 operators made 132 contacts using 2 HF stations. Even though it was around 30 degrees, thanks to Gordon and Ellen Brock's (KD9RUE and KD9RUD) enclosed tent, we had comfortable operating conditions.

We have another activation scheduled for Saturday, April 27, starting around noon at the same place, in front of the Visitor Center at Fort Harrison State Park. Right now the weather looks like we should have a high of 74 degrees, so we should have fun. We will have donuts, coffee, and water on hand.

As on any club activation, everyone will use the club's call (W9JP), but anyone that is registered in the POTA systems will get credit for contacts they make. If you're new to the POTA program or new to HF this is a great chance to get some experience. If you are currently a Technician, or not even licensed, come on out. There will be control operators to help you out.

NEW VENUE FOR ARRL CENTRAL DIVISION CONVENTION

This year the Central Division Convention will be held in conjunction with the Elkhart East Hamfest (in Elkhart, Indiana) on Saturday August 3.

This is a new venue for the Central Division Convention. Visit <https://elkharteasthamfest.com/convention.html> for a brief overview of the event. VE testing, forums, a flea market and W1AW/9 are some of the planned activities that will take place.

The Hamfest is right along Interstate I-80/I-90 (a.k.a. the Indiana Toll Road) about 15 miles east of South Bend (a 30 minute drive). There are lodging facilities, restaurants and non-ham attractions available in the area (for example, the RV Hall of Fame & Museum and, of course, the University of Notre Dame).

ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY CROSSBAND EXERCISE

The US Department of Defense (DoD) will host this year's Armed Forces Day (AFD) Crossband Test on May 11, 2024. This annual event is open to all licensed amateur radio operators and will not impact any public or private communications. For more than 50 years, military and amateur stations have taken part in this event.

The AFD Crossband Test is a unique opportunity to test two-way communications between military communicators and radio stations in the Amateur Radio Service (ARS), as authorized in 47 CFR 97.111. These tests provide opportunities and challenges for radio operators to demonstrate individual technical skills in a tightly controlled exercise scenario that does not impact any public or private communications. Military stations will transmit on selected military frequencies and will announce the specific ARS frequencies monitored.

For all the details, go to

<https://www.dodmars.org/mars-comex-information-website/armed-forces-day>

FCC CORES SYSTEM NOW REQUIRES 2FA

Effective March 29th, the FCC has started requiring 2-factor authentication to access the Commission Registration System (CORES). This is where licensees pay any application or regulatory fees, manage or reset a password on an existing FRN, or request a new FRN. After you enter your user name and password at <https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do> you will be notified to enter the temporary PIN that has been sent to your email address on file. After you do that, it's business as usual. When I tried it, on a Friday evening at 7:00 pm, within 30 seconds or less I had received my temporary PIN from the system. Anyone who does on-line banking or accessed any government web sites is already used to this extra layer of security, but resources are available for those who need assistance with the system. For inquiries or assistance regarding the implementation of multifactor authentication on CORES, submit a help request at <https://www.fcc.gov/wtbhelp>, or call the FCC at 877-480-3201 (Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 6 PM ET).

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

Franklin IN 46131-9733

Sponsor: Mid State Amateur Radio Club

Date: Apr 20 2024

Time: 9:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

Contact: Jacqueline M. Frederick

Email: vetestingmarc@yahoo.com

VEC: LAUREL VEC

Location: Johnson County REMC

750 International Dr

Franklin IN 46131-9733

Noblesville IN 46060-1624

Sponsor: Central Indiana ARA/ HCRACES

Date: Apr 20 2024

Time: 10:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

Contact: Joseph March

(317) 224-9433

Email: jmarch54@att.net

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>

Gas City IN 46933-1155

Sponsor: GCARC

Date: Apr 23 2024

Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

Contact: Mitchell D. Miller

(765) 661-5893

Email: mitchmiller55@gmail.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: EMA Building

3921 S Garthwaite Rd

Pre-register only, contact ahead
Gas City IN 46933-1155
Website: <https://www.grantarc.net/>

Bloomington IN 47401-5337
Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc
Date: May 04 2024
Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: William F. Wootton
(812) 876-8689
Email: KC9ACL@ARRL.NET
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: May 04 2024
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
Website: <https://w9atg.org/ve-testing2/>

Lafayette IN 47901-1141
Sponsor: Tippecanoe County VE Team
Date: May 11 2024
Time: 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Elizabeth M. Flowers
Email: tippecanoeveteam@gmail.com
VEC: LAUREL VEC

Location: The Bindery Artist Studios
Pre-Registration Required
Visit Website to Pre-Register
511 Ferry St
Lafayette IN 47901-1141
Website: <https://www.tcvet.info/>

Anderson IN 46016-2238
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club
Date: May 21 2024
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Jeffrey L. Dyer
(317) 775-3415
Email: k9dyr@arrl.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Madison County EMA EOC
200 N Delaware St
Anderson IN 46016-2238
Website: <http://www.andersonrepeater.club/>

Gas City IN 46933-1155
Sponsor: GCARC
Date: May 28 2024
Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Mitchell D. Miller
(765) 661-5893
Email: mitchmiller55@gmail.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: EMA Building
3921 S Garthwaite Rd
Pre-register only, contact ahead
Gas City IN 46933-1155
Website: <https://www.grantarc.net/>

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 March, 2001 *Amachewer*:

Last month, the FCC designated the ARRL-VEC, the W5YI-VEC and the W4VEC Volunteer Examiners Club of America as Club Station Call Sign Administrators. Club station applicants may file via any of the three FCC-designated CSCSA's using either NCVFC Form 605 or W4VEC Form CSCSA to file. The new CSCSA's receive and process hard-copy applications and submit the information electronically to the FCC.

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- Indy Radio Club POTA event: April 27, Noon at Fort Harrison St. Park (in front of Visitor Center)
- Indiana QSO Party: May 4, 11:00 am to 11:00 pm. Details at <http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/index.html>
- North Central Indiana Hamfest: May 4, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Details at <http://www.ncihamfest.com/>
- “Dayton” Hamvention: May 17 - 19. Details at <https://hamvention.org/>
- Monroe County Hamfest: June 8, 8:00 am to noon. Details at <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/monroe-county-in-hamfest-1>

2024 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

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

Or Scan this QR Code with your smartphone:

