



Short Skip

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REPEATERS

Freq	Location
147.000	Merrillville
147.240	St. John
442.075	Merrillville

All Lake County ARC Repeaters are open to all amateurs. All repeaters must have a PL of 131.8 set in order to access.

FROM THE PARADE STAND

by Tim, N9CA, LCARC President



Hello everyone.

WSPR: Last month's meeting was on WSPR. There are two halves to WSPR which uses yet another clever piece of software written by Joe Taylor K1JT. WSPR is included in the software bundle downloadable for free at: "WSJT-X download".

On one side are the low power beacon transmitters running WSPR software. The other half are volunteer hams with WSPR programed receivers listening for the beacons and reporting back what they hear and from whom and on which bands via the internet.

When you look at the website "WSPRnet.org", you will find a constant stream of ALL ham radio band live-time propagation reports just waiting for you to look over. Each ham band can be isolated to show, against a world map the various beacon and reporting stations and the radio path. Each band now has a 6kHz wide "channel" for the beacon's transmission. You can zoom into each location to reveal call signs.

HAMFESTS: Sunday August 8th is the Hamfesters ARC annual Peotone Illinois hamfest. For sellers, the gates open at 6am and buyers are welcome after 8am. Tickets are \$10.00. It is at the Will County Fairgrounds on Willimington Rd. just as it has been for decades. Plenty of easy parking, commercial vendors, door prizes, drawings, food and refreshments.

Saturday August 10th - Angola Indiana. Land of Lakes ARC. Location is at the Gateway Community Church just east of downtown Angola. 2572 S. 800 E, Angola Indiana. Remember, they are an hour ahead of us on EST.

ARRL CONVENTION: W9DXCC returns to Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles Illinois. September 13th (Friday) and September 14th (Saturday). There will be many guest speakers on: "DX Techniques" and DX Expeditions. Prizes and certificates to be awarded. Tickets need to be purchased.

Pheasant Run Resort rooms are available ranging from \$109/night to a two story room with a hot tub for \$189/night. There also an indoor/outdoor pool, golfing, and sometimes a theatrical play.

FT-4: WSJT-X download now has the latest updated version of FT4 and other digital mode software free to download. The new version should download seamlessly over the older versions.

AMSTAT: Two things. You are encouraged to donate to their fund to upgrade and repair the International Space Stations Amateur Radio station. Two, they have a new category of cubesat called GOLF. Golf stands for Greater Orbit Larger Footprint. The cubes will be launched into higher orbits than current LEO. MEO or HEO (medium earth orbit, high earth orbit). This will give longer transit times and a larger footprint on Earth's surface for more opportunity for hams to work through the GOLF. NASA has OKed the design and the first one is scheduled to launch in fall 2019 called: GOLF-TEE. TEE stands for Technology Evaluation Environment.

False News ??? New lawsuit against TGI Friday's restaurant. The claim is their potato skin appetizer side dish does not have any potato skins in it. Surprisingly, it is still OK to sell French Fried potatoes that don't actually come from France.

73, Buzz/N9CA

MEETING MINUTES

July 12, 2019— Russ, KB9HO

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM.
Introductions were made with 26 attending meeting

Minutes were read and accepted as read with the exception of my mispronouncing GOTA as GOTO which is Get On The Air station.

Wednesday net has been discussed. The net last about ½ hour and talks about events coming up. The net is used to check out equipment in case of emergencies.

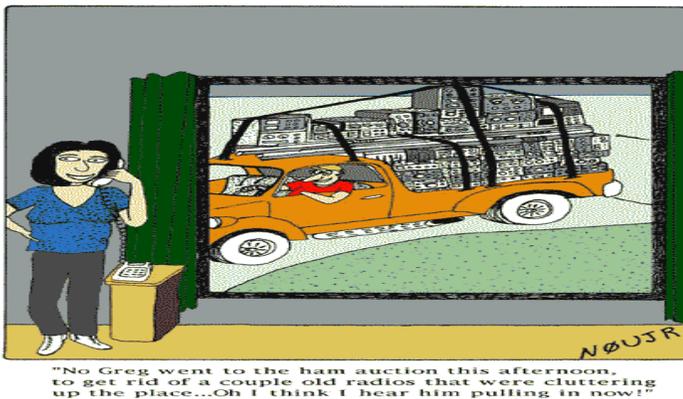
The treasurer's report was read. Jim advised the tower inspection and new antenna expenditure will be coming up. The report was accepted as read.

Tim was asking how many people check into the club web site. John did not have the answer but will check into the answer. *John checked the statistics and for the week of July 14-20 we had the following web page views: 141 unique visits (the week after the newsletter is posted is heavier). and 347 page views. - ed.*

The program was about WSPR Weak Signal Propagation Reporter.

7:45 Program start. WSPRnet.org is the web site for the propagation map, downloads, forums and kits.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30PM



NEED HELP? CALL ON THESE ELMERS

Tim N9CA
Bill N4GIX
Bill Young N9QLS
Russ KB9HO
Andy W9FXT.

Also it was mentioned Mark K9MQ is an ARRL Tech Specialist and can be called on.

The club has been informed that Bowman Electronics in Valparaiso will do tower climbing and antenna repair. Give them a call at: (219) 462-7933 or stop and see them at: 504 Marquette St, Valparaiso, IN 46383

HISTORIC AMATEUR RADIO CONTACT VIA MOON ORBITING SATELLITE

ARRL Letter 7/3/2019

Historic Amateur Radio Contact Reported via Moon-Orbiting Satellite

07/03/2019

A contact between a radio amateur in Germany and China took place on July 1 via the moon-orbiting LO-94 satellite, DSLWP-B, launched in May 2018. The two-way exchange between Reinhard Kuehn, DK5LA, in Soerup, Germany, and Harbin Institute of Technology club station BY2HIT (operated by Wei Mingchuan, BG2BHC), in Harbin, China, occurred between 0551 and 0728 UTC, according to reports. The GMSK-to-JT4G repeater onboard DSLWP-B was used to make the contact, the first ever made via a lunar-orbiting repeater.

“Using the GMSK-to-JT4G repeater is not easy, in terms of the signal power needed for the uplink,” commented radio amateur and engineer Daniel Estévez, EA4GPZ, whose blog includes images of the lunar surface downloaded via DSLWP-B. “There were plans to make a QSO between BY2HIT and Reinhard since many months ago, but previous attempts didn’t work out. My congratulations to the people at both sides of the QSO, who have achieved it a month before DSLWP-B crashes against the lunar surface.”

As Estévez explained it, the GMSK-to-JT4G repeater works by sending commands to the satellite that embed a 13-character message, using the same frequency and a similar protocol to the one that commands the camera and other satellite functions. He said sending a message in this fashion takes a little longer than 1 minute.

An open telecommand protocol allows radio amateurs to take and download images, and DSLWP-B transmitted images of the moon and Earth during this week’s solar eclipse. DSLWP-B was launched as a secondary payload with the Queqiao relay satellite as part of the Chang’e 4 mission to the far side of the moon. Last September, some earthbound radio amateurs and sky watchers received images from the tiny satellite as it orbited the moon.

DSLWP stands for “Discovering the Sky at Longest Wavelengths Pathfinder,” and was designed to test low-frequency radio astronomy and space-based interferometry. The repeater uplink is on 2 meters and the downlink is on 70 centimeters.

AUGUST PROGRAM



Scan this code to go
directly to our web page
w9lj.org

Passive Audio Amps For Smart Phones

by The Wireless Messaging News

These are acoustic amplifiers for smartphones. They don't need electric power to operate and there are no moving parts. It works like a megaphone (speaking-trumpet, bullhorn, blowhorn, or loud-hailer). Everyone that I have shown it to has said something like "Wow, I want one of those!" So I am building a few of them.

Of course there are more "Hi-Fi" ways to listen to audio on your smartphone but who would want to plug an elegant smartphone into some cheap, plastic gadget? Or even use Wi-Fi or Bluetooth, which are a pain in the neck to set up, even on a smartphone.

These will be made with hardwood bases and some of them will be exotic hardwoods with interesting grain patterns. The horns are polished brass — made from mostly old horns that had rubber bulbs on the ends and were used in "times gone by" by taxis and even clowns in circuses. These horns have been re-purposed, reshaped, and re-polished.

Of course when not listening to music or other interesting audio, you can appreciate it for its beauty, it looks just plain cool. This is a work of art.

Sorry to say that I didn't design this myself. It was designed by Daniel Jansson in Sweden. He is a graduate of Umeå Institute of Design with an MFA degree in Interactive Design.

There are tons of designs and they all look great plus if you have a horn he will build it into a base. —ed.



NWI DX Club Special Guest Speaker - Craig K9CT

Steve Mollman <kd9hl@yahoo.com>



The Northwest Indiana DX Club will have a special guest for their August 10th luncheon meeting-noted contester and DXpetitioner Craig Thompson-K9CT.

Craig will be talking about contesting and also about the upcoming VP6R Pitcairn Island DXpedition. (October 18-November 1, 2019)

An experienced DXpetitioner, he has been on at least eleven DXpeditions including such exotics as Swains Island, Conway Reef and Amsterdam Island. He was a member of the dangerous and aborted 3Y0X Bouvet Island DXpedition of 2018.

Craig Thompson has been licensed since 1967 and has been a Contester and DX'er ever since. He is currently on the Honor Roll with 360 DXCC Entities and DXCC Challenge with 2970 entities. His station has logged 491,710 QSOs between 1967 and 2019.

An extremely active and able contester, he is known for his huge contest station near Peoria, IL. Besides running a very busy business he is also President of the Society of Midwest Contesters, serves as the Central Division's representative to the ARRL Contest Advisory Com-

mittee and is an emcee at the annual W9 DX Convention.

The K9CT Contest Station near Trivoli, Illinois (note two of the eleven towers visible on the left)

He will be joined by Anthony Willard, AB9YC, a board member of The Society of Midwest Contesters.

This will be a very enjoyable and informative meeting and one that you will not want to miss. All Amateurs are welcome. The luncheon is at 12 Noon CDT, August 10th at the Round The Clock Restaurant, 1607 S Calumet Rd, Chester-ton, IN.

As always the luncheons are open to all hams. Dutch treat off of the menu.

The photo below shows the K9CT Contest Station near Trivoli, Illinois. Notice two of the eleven towers visible on the left. Seems like a nice little station!



Local Ham Needs Help

Wanted.... Looking for someone to put up an inverted V on my tower... Anyone interested please contact Kenny KE9TC @ 219-730-7661 Thanks Kenny.

For those not familiar with an inverted V, it is a simple wire antenna that is hung sort of the shape of the letter V. Should not be too hard a job for a young ham. - ed

FOR SALE: Got some radio gear for sale? Looking for some radio gear to purchase? Check out the new FOR SALE page on the club's website — <https://lcarc.weebly.com/> -sale. Scroll down to see the most current items or click on the ARCHIVE section to see items for sale in previous months. If you have something that has been sold, be sure to contact John, W9WY for information to have your listing removed. There is no charge for club members to list their items. This is a service for members.

HORRIBLE FIELD DAY REPORTED BY LOCAL HAM RADIO OPERATOR

By WBØRUR, on the scene - <https://hamhijinks.com/>

JOHNSON, Montana – A local ham radio operator says he had a “terrible and horrific” Field Day this year, all due to his lack of planning.

Dick Longfellow, a ham radio operator since 1963, says it’s not the emergency preparedness training or the radio operating which excites him.

“I go for the food. And I like to make a day out of it. I top off the fuel tank in the F-150 and I visit a minimum of five or six local amateur radio club Field Day operations so I can treat myself to a smorgasbord of flavorful goodness. I travel all over the state.”

“I go for the food,” says Longfellow, seen here on his way to the food tent at the Creek County Communicators field day event.

But this year, Longfellow – who weighs in at well over 300 pounds – says he left the loose leaf binder with his food plan somewhere in his shack and couldn’t find it when it came time to depart. So he set out on his annual pilgrimage with only memory to guide him.

“My first stop was at the Golden Spike Amateur Radio Club set up in Glacier National Park. They had just set out the salad table fixin’s when I arrived. So that’s a great way to start the day. Not everyone likes macaroni salad at 9 a.m., but I’m not really adverse to it.”

The day took a sour turn, says

the retired oil pipeline supervisor, when he got to his second stop.

“Upon arriving at the Big Sky Amateur Radio Club event just outside of Butte, I knew something was wrong. It was 11 a.m. and they only had desserts out. I intended to align my arrival with the cooking of burgers and brats, but I was about two hours too early. It was only then I realized the shocking truth: I was supposed to be in Missoula.”

Longfellow says it was “physically impossible” to get back on schedule after his travel faux pas; particularly disappointing was his last stop of the day – Bozeman, Montana – just as the last slice of meatloaf was being eaten.

“I have no one to blame but myself,” he admits. “Good Field Day execution relies on weeks of planning followed by flawless execution. I dropped the ball, plain and simple.”

Longfellow says he may have found a solution for next year’s Field Day.

He will be setting up a GOTA station next to the chocolate fountain at the Golden Corral in Bozeman.

“I can visit with people between the banana pudding and the ‘endless’ beef tips. I think it will be a great way to attract new people into the hobby,” he declares.

[### HamHijinks.com](https://hamhijinks.com/)

BIG CHANGES COMING TO FIELD DAY

By WBØRUR, on the scene - https://hamhijinks.com



Yes, Field Day is over but some of you may not be aware of the new rules changes for submission of logs. Details Below: - ed.

NEWINGSTEAD, VT — In a controversial decision, the National Radio Retransmission Legion (NRRL) will no longer accept Field Day score summaries on paper beginning this year.

The organization had no choice, says NRRL Director of Contests and Promotions Dr. Johnson Longville.

“Last year we received over 1,200 hand written log entries,” says Longville. “And about 80% of were are illegible.”

The contest director says it’s not poor hand writing which creates the issue, but food.

“We saw it all. One club entry was complete with smeared apple pie and Cool Whip. Another included BBQ sauce. One club even submitted an entire chicken salad sandwich with their entry...and the mayonnaise ran all over the bonus

point section. Completely illegible.”

Longville provides this breakdown of “foreign particulates” submitted with entries.

1. Coffee and or creamer stains: 462
2. Cherry pie (or other fruit) filling: 276
3. Mustard/ketchup/alternative condiment: 194
4. Bacon grease and fried egg: 143
5. Fosters Beer: 1

Longville says in the future, clubs must download a 4.5 terabyte logging and score-keeping app, submit a pass code request from NRRL, and run Linux Red Hat version 2.8 on a 8GB ram desktop computer.

Additionally, uploads to the NRRL computer must be made with a Level 4 VPN secure connection similar to those used in the NORAD Command Center.

“We know it’s a bit of a difficult process for most clubs to get this set up,” says Longville.

“But it’s still easier than setting up Logbook of the World.”

FREE!!

I was cleaning my shack the other night (it needed it!) and found an unopened/sealed package of #564 ink cartridges.

These are for an HP scanner/printer/copier that I no longer own.

If you can use a set of #564 HP (color/b & w) ink cartridges, let me know.

They’re free/gratis/on the house/ or “nothing down and nothing a month.”

Bill, N9QLS

SIGNAL IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

Ever hear a signal on the radio and you don’t know what it is? Check out this website for audio files of over 377 different digital signals, both amateur and commercial. Most interesting.

https://www.sigidwiki.com/wiki/Signal_Identification_Guide