



Short Skip

Volume 68 Issue 3

March 2019

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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



Thank you to both Tom W9FIB and Nick W9UM who presented programs revolving about using Log Book of The World for electronic QSLs and building credit to receive awards as well as how to exchange paper QSL cards via "The QSL Bureau" for confirming your radio contacts.

The March LCARC program will be a creepy 2017 trespasser/voyeur video look inside the now abandoned Dayton Hara Arena in Dayton Ohio the former home of the famous Dayton Hamvention. We may have to keep room the lights on!

Yea! The US Amateur Ra-

dio population once again grew by about 1%, based upon 2017 and 2018 year-end FCC database statistics provided by Joe Speroni, AH0A. The 755,430 total licensees represent nearly 7,300 more license holders than those that were in the database at the end of 2017. Nearly 51% of the Amateur Radio population in the US -- 384,145 -- hold a Technician license. Generals are second with 175,949, and Amateur Extras number 147,369. Advanced and Novice licensee populations continue to decline, with 39,607 Advanced and 8,360 Novices, as the FCC no longer issues Advanced or Novice licenses. A more significant statistic is 31,576 new FCC licenses issued in 2018.

Our free LCARC Technician class starts March 7th 2019. Please spread the word.

2019 is the 100 year anniversary for time standard broadcasting by WWV, WWVB, and WWVH. They are THE world's

oldest continuously operating radio stations. There will be a Special Event ham radio station operating this fall to celebrate with a unique QSL card and call sign.

Microsoft, which transitioned to its new browser, "Edge", several years ago, is now advising enterprise users to avoid its legacy browser, Internet Explorer (IE). Microsoft no longer supports IE with new web standards, which is at the core of the problem.

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) is back on the air as of February. The packet system operates continuously on 145.825 MHz. ARISS is an official back-up system for astronauts to talk with Mission Control in the unlikely failure of the station's primary communication systems. In 2017, hams relayed nearly 89,000 packet messages via the ISS.

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Each year the LCARC presents the HAM of the Year award to a member who meets or exceeds the following criteria:



- Must be well rounded in the hobby.
- Must have served as an officer of the club.
- Must be above reproach.
- Must not have received any admonishments from the club.
- Must be public service oriented.
- Must have made significant contributions through amateur radio to/for the club.
- Must conduct himself in an exemplary manner at all times.

The nominee must be nominated by and agreed to by a majority of previous Hams of the Year.

This year's recipient is Dr. Tim McGillen, N9CA our own LCARC president. CONGRATULATIONS TIM. Job well done! For a list of all Hams of the Year see our web site, W9LJ.ORG, AWARDS

MEETING MINUTES

February 8 , 2019— Russ, KB9HO

Meeting called to order at 7:30PM

Introductions were made with 16 attending meeting.

Minutes were read and accepted with amendments made.

The treasury's report was made. The club insurance has been paid. A donation to the Red Cross and the Salvation Army for \$25.00 each.

Two tickets for the LaPorte Ham fest will be raffled off.

Someone called Tim about setting up an FM transmitter at a church to give information about the church. Mark has found information about a small FM transmitter that are legal to use for this application.

The net has started back up again now on Wednesday at 7:00PM. Mark will add this to the Club Facebook page.

Classes for the Technician license will start up on March 7 for 2 hours every Thursday until April 25 which will have VE testing for all who took the classes and anyone else hoping to upgrade or get their Amateur Radio license.

The Government shut down has caused a backlog for Amateur Radio license. The ARRL which is 1 of 13 VEC's has 2700 pending applications.

Jim talked about the Ham of the Year award and what is required. After that Jim gave Tim the Ham of the Year Award.

Two passwords are now needed to get into the club roster program.

The program for tonight is about Log Book of the World. Nick will give a short talk about QSL cards and using the Bureau. Also mentioned was using E-QSLs.

The 2 tickets for the LaPorte Ham fest was awarded to N4GIX and KD9IRH

Meeting adjourned at 8:51PM

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

QSL CARD CHECKING

From NWI DX Club Newsletter

DXCC CARD CHECKING

Doctor Richard Lochner, K9QA is our Official ARRL DXCC Card Checker. Contact Rich to schedule an appointment for card checking.

You may email him k9qa@arrl.net for details on how to mail your cards to him, if you desire to go that route.

INDIANA HAMS TAKE NEW LICENSEES TO NEXT STEP

for Amateur Radio Newline, this is Jack Parker W8ISH

After a new ham gets their first license the big question looms, "Okay, I've got my license -- now what?" A western Indiana amateur radio club is addressing that question and a class on February 2nd may end up teaching all ham clubs a good lesson.

As winter snow and freezing winds grip the mid-west, hams in western Indiana are heading to Terre Haute for Ham Camp next week. This will be the fourth winter camp where members of the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association will spend the Saturday exposing new hams to many of the facets that make our hobby fun.

According to Jerry Cockrell, W9GWC, the one-day workshop provides the newly-licensed operator practical instruction in basic electronic measurements, setting up an amateur radio station, building and erecting antennas, making contacts and other aspects of amateur radio. Each student will make at least one VHF and one HF contact during the workshop. Following their successful Technician license classes the Wabash Valley hams saw a need to provide additional "hands on" experience to the new hams so they become more involved with the hobby and their club.

Cockrell says the one day workshop comes with lunch and the class is limited to the first fifteen participants. Pre-registration is required. There will be plenty of elmers on hand with over 200 years of amateur radio experience. The class will cover what equipment to purchase, what modes are possible and for the over-achievers, what contests and special events they can participate in after upgrading to the General class license. This seminar is geared to get the new hams beyond the "mic fright" phase and onto the fast lane of Amateur Radio DX.

MARCH PROGRAM

March LCARC program will be a creepy 2017 video look inside the now abandoned Dayton Hara Arena in Dayton Ohio the former home of the famous Dayton Hamvention

You will not believe how the place has deteriorated but you should find an interesting look, "behind the scenes" at an iconic ham radio venue.



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

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, to Oversee Volunteer Monitors Development and Implementation

from Feb 14, 2019 ARRL Letter



Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, will oversee the development and implementation phases of ARRL's new Volunteer Monitors (VM) program, which will replace the Official Observers (OO) program. Hollingsworth, who once handled Amateur Radio enforcement for the FCC, has stepped down as ARRL Atlantic Division Vice Director to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest. The development phase of the program is already under way.

"I am grateful for the Atlantic Division ARRL members supporting me, but I think I can better serve the Atlantic Division and all ARRL divisions by working in the Volunteer Monitors program,"

Hollingsworth said in his resignation letter. A new Atlantic Division Vice Director will be appointed.

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, said that Hollingsworth was the ideal person to lead ARRL's efforts in the development and implementation of this joint program with the FCC.

"I support Riley's decision to concentrate his efforts on this very valuable project on behalf of the ARRL," Roderick said.

Approved by the ARRL Board of Directors last July, the Volunteer Monitors will work in cooperation with the FCC. Volunteers trained and vetted by ARRL will monitor the amateur bands for possible instances of misconduct or to recognize exemplary on-air operation. Cases of flagrant violations or noncompliance will be directed to the FCC for action, in accordance with FCC guidelines. The program, which aims to re-energize Amateur Radio enforcement efforts, was proposed by the FCC following the closure of several FCC regional offices and reductions in field staff.

Hollingsworth has identified three phases to the program -- development, solicitation and training, and implementation. The development phase will include drafting a mission statement, clearly defining ARRL's and the FCC's requirements and needs as part of the program, drafting a Volunteer Manager job description, and developing a training manual for volunteers.

The solicitation and training phase will involve identifying the geographical locations where volunteer monitors will be most needed, soliciting applications, and screening applicants. Current Official Observers will be invited to apply for appointment as Volunteer Monitors (VMs). The ARRL Board has expressed its appreciation to the OOs for their dedicated volunteer service over the years.

Implementation will involve having the volunteers provide field reports, and ARRL staff offering guidance to volunteers to ensure that the information gathered meets FCC requirements. Continuing education will be provided to the volunteers as part of the program.

Hollingsworth has committed to ensure training adequacy for new VMs, to review the quality and utility of Volunteer Monitor submissions to the FCC for enforcement action, and to advocate for rapid disposition of cases appropriately submitted to the FCC.

ARRL officials estimate that it will take 9 - 12 months before the first Volunteer Monitors begin filing reports.

Parade Stand - continued from 1

HF propagation is stable. An amazing 2 hour long 6 meter opening between North America and Australia - yes Australia - occurred this January 2nd 2019. Communication modes were JT65 (many Australian and New Zealand stations use JT65) while most QSOs used FT8. Six meters opened up between Hawaii Australia and North America again a few days later. Total distance... 7,000 miles! What are you waiting for? * 50.313 MHz 73, Tim/N9CA

Napoleon may not have designed the coat he wore...

But he did have a hand in it.

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.

WWV 100TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EVENT OPERATION IN THE PLANNING STAGES

from Feb 14, 2019 ARRL Letter

Looks as if WWV is going to stay on the air for at least another year!! — ed.

It's a celebratory year for the WWV stations. The fiscal year (FY) 2019 budget -- once signed -- will include full funding for the stations, which also mark their 100th year this fall. The **WWV Centennial Committee** has a tentative agreement with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (**NIST**) to mount a special event station this fall adjacent to the **WWV** site in Colorado to mark the 100th anniversary of the time and frequency standard station, the world's oldest continuously operating radio station. A memorandum of understanding is in the works.

Dave Swartz, W0DAS, of the Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club (**NCARC**) heads the committee, which is developing plans for an NCARC special event from September 28 through October 2, with a NIST centennial observance tentatively set for October 1.

The NIST budget for WWV, WWVH, and WWVB will remain level for FY 2019. With the funding suspense over, Swartz told ARRL, "our committee is moving forward."

Swartz and committee members Darren Kalmbach, KC0ZIE, and Kevin Utter, N7GES, met on February 8 with WWV/WWVB/WWVH Station Manager John Lowe, WWV Electronics Technician Glenn Nelson, and WWV Chief Engineer Matt Deutch, N0RGT.

The WWV Building near Fort Collins, Colorado. [Photo courtesy of NIST]

"This was the first meeting for the committee and the first to include NIST upper management," said Swartz, who called the meeting "very productive." Swartz said NIST management is "on board"



with the celebration, and Deutch plans to attend Hamvention May 17 - 19 to promote the centennial event.

Although the US government cannot fund any Amateur Radio special event expenses, the club members will be allowed to use a 15-acre parcel on WWV property, Swartz explained on the WWV Centennial website. "The operating site lies outside the security fence and simplifies logistics," he said.

Swartz hopes that other clubs in Colorado will be able to pitch in to make the WWV Centennial a success.

RXING AM STEREO

by Mark, K9MQ

Many years ago, I used to chase AM Broadcast band DX. At the time, I heard about how great AM Stereo sounded, but was never able to experience it due to the lack of compatible equipment that was available. I recently found out that the **SordiraSDR** program was able to decode AM Stereo in the Motorola C-QUAM format. After some experimentation with sample rates, I was successfully able to decode two AM Stereo stations with Sodira and my Flex-6300. The AM Stereo sound quality is excellent.

On my quest to decode AM Stereo, I accidentally discovered the community of KiwiSDR receivers. I was able to connect to several different receivers across the country and send an IQ stream back to the Sodira software on my computer. I was able to listen to a few more stations running AM Stereo, even though I was not able to receive them directly at my location. The KiwiSDR platform runs right in your web browser and has some cool extensions built in such as being able to decode Fax, CW, WSPR, etc. I ended up giving a 15-minute demonstration on KiwiSDR at the last Lake County Amateur Radio Club meeting. I encourage you to check these receivers out at: <http://ve3sun.com/KiwiSDR/>

WEBSITE OF INTEREST

Click on the links to go to the website

How did Cell Phones Begin

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rMQa9AgDmCU>

Mr Carlson's Lab

<https://tinyurl.com/y2gk2ddv>

How many antennas are on a Boeing 787

It is amazing to see just how many various antennas are installed on modern commercial aircraft.

<https://swling.com/blog/2018/12/boeing-787-antennas/>

Lots of publications about commercial radio and TV

<https://www.americanradiohistory.com/>

Thanks to Ben, KC9UNS for keeping these links updated:

LIST of 2019 Hamfests:

<http://tinyurl.com/chihamfests>

Chicago Land NETS

<http://tinyurl.com/chicago-ham-nets>

ANTENNA
\$69.99
Cut an element too short? No problem! Hand antenna stretcher clamps to air surface, pat screw lock copper, a steel up

VACUUM TUBE DSP
Reduces noise and adds analog "warmth" and mellow tones. RIAA equalization. Specify mic connector.
(Processing unit contains 25,000 tubes and requires dedicated 400-amp service. Consult your local power company.)
\$395,999.99

Hambaudot Schmittrigger
7388 Inverse Square, DEPT CQ, Nicad, IL 60599

And you guys though digital signal processing (DSP) was only possible with ICs and microprocessors!! — ed.

Ninth District QSL Bureau Changes Leadership

by Kermit W9XA

Dear ARRL Central Division Member,

I am pleased to announce that Erik Anderson, K9EU has agreed to assume the role of Manager for the Ninth District Incoming QSL Bureau. Mr. Anderson of Naperville, Illinois is a long time volunteer with the Bureau as well as a noted and accomplished DX'er and Contester. Please join me in welcoming Erick, K9EU, to this new role.

All of the Ninth District operators do owe Mr. John Meyers, K9QVB, a great debt of gratitude for his two decades of service to the Amateur Community as the Ninth District Bureau Manager.

John has been an active card dispatcher for over 45 years and has decided to retire from the management of the 9th Bureau.

When you hear John on the air, please do not forget to say, "Thank You!". Although K9QVB is stepping down as Manager of the Bureau, John does plan to continue to remain active as a sorter and a letter dispatcher.

John has been aided over the past two decades by scores of dedicated volunteers but I would be remiss if I did not mention and give a special note of thanks to Norm Meyer, KC9ARR and Bill Smith W9VA for their outstanding efforts with John in the operation of the QSL Bureau.

The Ninth District QSL Bureau is operated by the Northern Illinois DX Association - NIDXA. The staff of volunteers includes twenty-six letter dispatchers and card sorters. This Bureau

handles over 45,000 DX QSL cards each month. Please do your

part to help the Bureau system work effectively and efficiently by insuring that you have envelopes and postage on file.

You can find more information about the 9th District QSL Bureau with instructions of how to establish an account of envelopes and postage at <http://qsl.nidxa.org>.

Due to this change, effective immediately, all Ninth District Incoming QSL Bureau correspondence should be sent to ;

NIDXA
PO Box 125
Naperville, Illinois 60566

Also, if you currently are on file with Bureau, please take this opportunity to insure that your QSL Bureau account is up to date, especially on account of the new increase in USPS postage rates that became effective on the 27th of last month.

The recommendation is to send \$12.36 by check to cover 12 envelopes and postage (including stamps for the second ounce) to the new address.

Again, thank you to Mr. John Meyer, K9QVB, for all of his hard work and dedicated service on the behalf of all of us "9's".

73, Kermit W9XA

CHAIRMAN PAI CONTINUES TO PRESS FOR CALLER ID AUTHENTICATION FROM CARRIERS

from *Wireless Messaging News* - <https://tinyurl.com/y3ofq9b9>

On February 13, FCC Chairman Ajit Pai issued a Press Release calling for the nationwide carriers to implement "a robust caller ID authentication system to combat illegal caller ID spoofing." As we reported in a previous edition of the BloostonLaw Telecom Update, Chairman Pai sent letters demanding that the large carriers begin providing caller ID authentication for consumers in 2019. According to the Press Release, several telecom companies—including wireless companies, traditional landline providers, and tech companies offering VoIP—outlined their plans. The carriers' responses can be found here.

Chairman Pai indicated that he believes that wireless providers, interconnected VoIP providers, and telephone companies should make real caller ID authentication – known as the SHAKEN/STIR framework – a priority, and that major carriers can meet his 2019 goal. The SHAKEN/STIR framework is a set of protocols and a multi-phase framework in which calls traveling through interconnected phone networks would have their caller ID "signed" as legitimate by originating carriers and validated by other carriers before reaching consumers. The framework digitally validates the handoff of phone calls passing through the complex web of networks, al-

lowing the phone company of the consumer receiving the call to verify that a call is from the person making it.

"American consumers are sick and tired of unwanted robocalls, this consumer among them. Caller ID authentication will be a significant step towards ending the scourge of spoofed robocalls. It's time for carriers to implement robust caller ID authentication. Uniform adoption will help improve authentication throughout the network and make sure no consumer gets left behind. I applaud those companies that have committed to deploy the SHAKEN/STIR framework in 2019. This goal should be achievable for every major wireless provider, interconnected VoIP operator, and telephone company—and I expect those lagging behind to make every effort to catch up. If it appears major carriers won't meet the deadline to get this done this year, the FCC will have to consider regulatory intervention," said Chairman Pai.

BloostonLaw Contacts: Ben Dickens, Gerry Duffy, and John Prendergast.

CAN LEARNING HAM RADIO MAKE FOR BETTER ENGINEERS AND SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS ?

by by Eric Tegler on *Electronic Warfare News in CAISRNET*

When a group of Navy engineers and software developers took time away from their day jobs in December, they spent the time pursuing a task long considered passe: they became licensed amateur radio operators.

Some 23 employees from Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD) took a week-long class in amateur radio at Point Mugu, California culminating with an FCC amateur radio license test. All passed and are certified at the “technician” level for amateur radio operation.

Now, Navy officials say the move may make the workers better at their jobs. The staff gained an understanding of radio frequency (RF) propagation that’s essential to what they do, said Brian Hill, electromagnetic maneuver warfare experimentation lead and collaborative electronic warfare supervisor at NAWCWD.



Retired Senior Chief Information System Technician Lee Moburg, a wireless amateur radio (HAM) operator, manned the HAM radio at Naval Hospital Bremerton during a 2016 exercise. Some Navy leaders are turning to ham radios to improve understanding of electronic warfare. (Douglas H Stutz/ U.S. Navy)

Hill, who earned his amateur radio license in high school, noticed that while most of his department’s recent hires had degrees in computer science, many had little background in RF theory or operation.

“You can explain antenna patterns and concepts like omnidirectional vs directional using Smith charts, but it’s helpful to add a demonstration to really convey the concept,” Hill said. “You can explain modulation as a concept, but for a demo... let them listen to how modulated digital signals with audio frequencies sound... For those who never knew the joy of hearing a 2400 bps modem connect over a telephone line, it was a new concept!” These concepts are central to electromagnetic maneuver warfare.

“We need to be able to have awareness of all threats and opportunities from [zero frequency] to light within an integrated system,” Hill said. “Our adversaries are looking at the entire spectrum to use against us, and we need to do the same. Having awareness of how the atmosphere changes from daylight to night and how that affects propagation of [high frequency] is important.”

This can be critical for young developers/engineers whose experience is typically limited to the UHF/EHF-based systems now in vogue across communications, guidance and ISR technologies.

When Ian Mann, the division’s target design engineering branch head, heard about Hill’s class, he wanted his team to attend as well. Having earned his own license, when he previously worked at drone-maker Aerovironment, Mann knew the course could help inspire ideas among engineers.

“When I talked to Brian and found out his small class was already on a waiting list, I knew we needed to make the class bigger,” he said. “Many of our engineers know their specializations, but rarely does an aeronautical engineer think about how he changes the polarization of the C2 antenna when the airplane banks for a turn. They are not just moving the airplane but the antenna too. This has already started conversations and I hope many more continue.”

Taught by a local amateur radio instructor, students enjoyed the course, he said.

“It was worth the effort and people are already asking to go to the next class offering,” Mann said.

“We are looking at doing a fox hunt soon,” Hill said. “The team will design a directional antenna, actually build it in class, and then use their antennas to find a hidden RF beacon somewhere on base.”

Similar plans for developers to get hands-on experience performing basic electronic warfare support functions are in the works as are potential cross-disciplinary classes in additive manufacturing.

AMATEUR RADIO IS ABOARD DURING ATTEMPT TO BECOME OLDEST CIRCUMNAVIGATOR

ARRL Letter 02/18/2019

Jeanne Socrates, VE0JS/KC2IOV, is used to solitude. The lone 76-year-old yachtswoman passed the southern tip of Africa — some 300 miles to the north — on Valentine’s Day as she forged on toward Australia and New Zealand in her 38-foot sailing vessel Nereida. While underway, Socrates keeps in touch with a community of friends via Amateur Radio — although she had to yield to the ARRL International DX CW activity over the weekend — and she’s sticking to a schedule of 7.160 MHz at 0230 UTC daily. Socrates reported making contact with some ham radio friends on the US west coast on February 17. She’s been blogging her progress.

For the complete story click on this link: <http://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-is-aboard-during-attempt-to-become-oldest-circumnavigator>