



ARC OVER

The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League
Since 1924



June 2013

CQ CQ FIELD DAY W9NE CALLING CQ WE ARE 6 APHA ILLINOIS!



Proud to be an ARRL
Special Services Club



What's Inside

Member of the Month.....Page 1
 About FRRL.....Page 2
 HF Challenge.....Page 3
 Amateur News.....Page 4
 Event Information.....Page 5
 President's Traffic.....Page 6
 Contests.....Page 7
 ARES Information.....Page 8
 Antenna Maintenance.....Page 9
 Invite a Kid to Field Day..Page 10
 Meeting Minutes.....Page 11
 Important Links, Repeaters and
 Net Info.....Page 12

When: June 21– June 23

Where: Jericho Lake Park, on Jericho Road west of Orchard Rd.

Set up information:

Friday June 21: 12:00 (noon) begin antenna set-up, generator arrives, layout electric cables, set up tents.

Saturday June 22:

8:00am set up stations, station testing begins.

12:00 (noon)- Lunch

1:00pm -Let the fun begin!

6:00pm- Dinner

Sunday June 23:

8:00am- Breakfast

1:00pm– Operations stop and teardown begins!

3:00pm– Exhausted but happy FRRL members go home happy after making hundreds of contacts all over the country and maybe the world!

About the FRRL

The Fox River Radio League, Inc., is a general interest amateur radio club serving the central Fox River Valley area. Records indicate the club has been in existence since at least 1924, and has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, and a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization as specified in IRS Statutes. We sponsor training classes for new hams, license examination sessions, an annual hamfest, and participate in various public service events. If you have a specialized amateur radio interest, chances are you can share it with one or more of our club members.

The Fox River Radio League meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at St. Rita of Cascia Church in Aurora. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM and includes a business portion, social time and a program of interest.

All persons interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Families are welcome.

Please welcome these new members to the club!

CALL	Name	License Class
KC9FWP	DOUGLAS CARROL	TECHNICIAN
KC9YZD	ALLEN FOLEY	TECHNICIAN

ArcOver FRRL Newsletter

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The ArcOver is published monthly by the Fox River Radio League, Inc. Articles and letters are always welcome. The normal deadline for material is the 25th day of each month for the next month's news letter. Articles can be sent by email to: arcover@frrl.org or via U.S.

Mail to: FRRL Newsletter PO Box 673 Batavia, IL 60510.

Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines.

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Fox River Radio League
Founded 1924

Mailing Address:
P. O. Box 673
Batavia, Illinois 60510-0673

Email:
info@frrl.org

Web Site:
<http://www.frrl.org>

President
Harry Jones, K9DXA

Vice President
Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

Secretary
Mike Urso, K9FE

Treasurer
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Directors:
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Past President
Richard Illman, AH6EZ

License Trustees:
Kermit Carlson, W9XA
Bob Dillon, WB9LTN

Newsletter Editor
Dean Holste, KC9EOQ
newsletter@frrl.org

Webmasters
Chris Kennell, KC9BKS
Neil Potter, KB9RFX
webmaster@frrl.org

Annual dues are payable no later than the January Club Meeting each year. New members joining during the year will have their first year's dues prorated to the nearest yearly quarter.

Regular dues are \$20.00 a year, Senior Citizen dues are \$12.00. Family dues are \$30.00. Members can help support the FRRL Repeaters by making an annual \$10.00 donation.

Bill Erikson HF Challenge

By Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

HF Challenge Update as Of Mid-May

There were no surprises among the mid-May reports. Larry K9ARZ brought his QSOs up to 302, and reported DX contacts with VK9/OH1VR, Lord Howe Is.; 9N7SZ, Nepal; 7Q7FOC, Malawi; 8Q7KP, Maldives Is.; EL2BG, Liberia; ZC4LI U.K. Sov. Military Bases in Cyprus; VK9NT, Norfolk Island; and XV9NPS, Vietnam.

Joe NA9A is enjoying the increased activity due to higher sunspot numbers. Total Qs as of mid-May are 215, including contacts with 5V7ZA, Togo; S79VJG, Seychelles Is.; ZK3N, Tokelau Is.; 9V1SV, Singapore; JD1BMH, Ogasawara; 8Q7KP, Maldives; 5U9AMD, Niger; 7Q7FOC, Malawi; 9N7SZ, Nepal; P29FR, Papua New Guinea; TR8CA, Gabon; and V85XD, Brunei.

Just a reminder that if you reported scores at any time between January and June, you will be sent a worksheet for the second half of this year's Challenge. If you haven't reported scores but would like to receive a worksheet for July through December, see Joe NA9A or send an email to challenge@frri.org. It's never too late to get in on the fun!

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Paul KC9UZV	48	7	24	79
Jim W9NJP	25	3	17	45
Paul KC9SEB	41	4	28	73

Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
John W8ACI	17	3	31	51
Tobi K9TCD	25	4	50	79
Tom WB9CHY	7	1	55	63
Jack K9JE	46	8	127	181
Dean KC9EOQ	29	3	52	84
Herb W9DTR	42	10	72	124

QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Joe NA9A	46	6	215	267
Gary K9MMS	50	10	176	236
Dick AH6EZ	50	13	179	242
Larry K9ARZ	50	13	239	302

Ragchew Class	States/Provinces	DX	Total
Dick AH6EZ/W9	17	7	24
Jim W9NJP	17	1	18
John W8ACI	9	1	10
Paul KC9UZV	35	2	37
Herb W9DTR			18
Joe NA9A	5	3	8

News from the Amateur Radio World!

FCC News: FCC Seeks Small Vanity Call Sign Fee Increase:

The FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on May 23, seeking to raise the fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs by 20 cents. Currently, a vanity call sign costs \$15 and is good for 10 years; the new fee, if approved, will go up to \$15.20 for 10 years. The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term.

The ARRL VEC will process license renewals for vanity call sign holders for a modest fee. The service is available to ARRL members and nonmembers, although League members pay less. Routine, non-vanity renewals continue to be free of charge for ARRL members. Trustees of club stations with vanity call signs may renew either via the ULS or through a Club Station Call Sign Administrator, such as the ARRL VEC.

As summer starts to warm up, the VHF bands will be hot for the 2013 ARRL June VHF Contest, June 8-10. Even with a modest station, it's possible to work hundreds of miles on the VHF bands during a good opening. ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, is a VHF enthusiast. "The June VHF Contest occurs at the beginning of summer's sporadic E season, which can produce intense openings on 6 meters, and even 2 meters," he said. "With interesting propagation characteristics like sporadic-E, tropospheric ducting, aurora and even meteor scatter and moonbounce, VHF offers QSO opportunities that HF can never satisfy. The weekend promises to be a tremendous amount of fun on the VHF and UHF bands. Don't miss out! All amateurs -- from Technicians to Extras, experienced VHF operators to the first-time VHF dabblers -- can join in the fun."

+ LoTW: ARRL Announces New Version of LoTW Software

After much testing, the ARRL will release a new version of Trusted QSL, the open-source development project responsible for developing and maintaining the three Logbook of the World (LoTW) client-side applications: TQSL, TQSLCert and the TrustedQSL library. After six weeks of public beta testing, version 1.14 is ready for official release and will be available for download from the ARRL website beginning Monday, May 20.

The February 1984 operation to TI9CCC (Cocos Island) has now been approved for DXCC credit. In the past, radio amateurs who have submitted this operation on a DXCC application had it rejected due to an "incorrect date period." According to DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, the date issue has now been resolved: "If you had this operation rejected, and your confirmation falls within February 15-28, 1984, please send an e-mail so you can be placed on the list for an update to your record."

Proud to be an ARRL Special Service Club!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Director's Meeting

June 4, 2013 @ 7:30pm
St. Rita's Office Annex

Membership Meeting

June 11, 2013 @ 7:30pm
St. Rita's Church

Hamfests

THE SIX METER CLUB

June 16, 2013 @ 8:00am

Location: Wheaton, IL

Sponsor: Six Meter Club of Chicago

<http://k9ona.com>



Online registration for the 2013 [Central States VHF Society Conference](#) is now open. The 2013 Conference will be held near Chicago at the Elk Grove Village, IL, Holiday Inn from Thursday July 25th until Sunday July 28. There will be Antenna Range (144 MHz-24 GHz) measurements, Rover Row, Dish Display, and a Noise Figure Measurement Contest. This year will see the return of the free-admission "VHF-101" introductory session on Saturday morning.

The banquet speaker will be ARRL CEO, Dave Sumner K1ZZ.



We are ready to take reservations!

The W9DXCC website, www.w9dxcc.com has been updated with all info currently known for W9DXCC 2013 - Sept 20-21.

Please take a look at:

- Program loaded with SMC: (K9CT for NH8S and 3D2C, WB9Z for a preview of FT5ZM, and Eric K9GY/T6MO)
- SMC Reception on Friday evening
- Banquet speaker Nobel Prize winner Joe Taylor K1JT, of WSJT fame
- Class schedule for DX University Part 2
- Grand prize FT DX 3000 courtesy of Yaesu
- Registration for the convention and banquet
- Reserving a room at the Holiday Inn

The [W9DXCC convention](#) committee has announced it will offer a six session class on Friday, September 20th, 2013, to help inform all hams interested in DX'ing" about general topics of interest to the DX community. The class will be held the day before the W9DXCC convention and has been designed for both new and experienced DX'ers. Each session will cover a different aspect of DX'ing and features speakers NN1N, K9LA, K9AJ, K9EL, K9NU and W9MU. Please contact [W9MU](#) for additional details and information.

STUDY QUESTIONS

OF THE MONTH

FROM THE TECHNICIAN POOL

Q: T1B06 (B) [97.301(a)]

Which 23 cm frequency is authorized to a Technician Class operator license?

- A:** A. 2315 MHz
B. 1296 MHz
C. 3390 MHz
D. 146.52 MHz

FROM THE GENERAL POOL

Q: G1A15 (D) [97.303]

What is the appropriate action if, when operating on either the 30 or 60 meter bands, a station in the primary service interferes with your contact?

- A:** A. Notify the FCC's regional Engineer in Charge of the interference
B. Increase your transmitter's power to overcome the interference
C. Attempt to contact the station and request that it stop the interference
D. Move to a clear frequency

FROM THE EXTRA POOL

Q: E1A10 (A) [97.11]

If an amateur station is installed aboard a ship or aircraft, what condition must be met before the station is operated?

- A:** A. Its operation must be approved by the master of the ship or the pilot in command of the aircraft
B. The amateur station operator must agree to not transmit when the main ship or aircraft radios are in use
C. It must have a power supply that is completely independent of the main ship or aircraft power supply
D. Its operator must have an FCC Marine or Aircraft endorsement on his or her amateur license

President's Traffic

Harry Jones, K9DXA

This last Dayton Hamvention included an announcement making it a great day for one of our members and for Amateur Radio. Gary Hornbuckle K9MMS and his family made a near last minute trip to Dayton to honor his Grandson, Calvin Darula K0DXC who received the 2013 Goldfarb Scholarship for a young Ham.

The 4-year William R. Goldfarb Memorial Scholarship is the most prestigious award administered by ARRL, which ensures that the winner receives funding to pay the costs of education not covered by other scholarships and awards plus the family share as detailed in an annual FAFSA or SAR report.

A few years ago Gary took his Grandson under his wing and coached him in learning the ropes in Amateur Radio. Cal became quite proficient in high speed CW, in contesting, and in DX-ing to say the least.

There are so many stories about individuals who developed successful careers for themselves because of an early interest in Ham Radio! Cal is barely out of high school. Look what Ham Radio has helped him achieve so far. Do not get me wrong... Ham Radio did not propel Cal. Cal took the Ham Radio tools and made something more for himself. Cal earned this award.

Cal's family takes great pride in what he has done. Fellow Hams also take great pride in what he has done for the hobby. And this accomplishment is another terrific example about how important it is to encourage new comers into the hobby, and to be an Elmer!

So when you see Gary, give him your congratulations.

Better yet, be sensitive for that moment when the next person comes knocking on your door to do them a favor and be an Elmer! And when that happens, make sure they get on the air!

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UPCOMING CONTESTS

June & July 2013

Date	Contest	Web Page
Jun 1 0000Z	10-10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest	http://www.ten-ten.org/oseason/oseason.html
Jun 1 1200Z-2400Z	Maritimes QSO Party	http://www.maritimecontestclub.com/images/2013_MQP_Rules.pdf
Jun 1 1600Z	Alabama QSO Party	http://www.alabamqsoparty.org/2013/2013Rules.pdf
Jun 4 0100Z-0300Z	ARS Spartan Sprint-CW	http://www.arsgrp.blogspot.com/
Jun 7 0230Z-0300Z	NCCC Sprint Ladder-CW	http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html
Jun 8 1100Z-1300Z	Asia-Pacific Sprint- SSB	http://jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt
Jun 8 1800Z	ARRL June VHF Contest	http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf
Jun 12 0030Z-0230Z	NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	http://naqcc.info/sprint201306.html
Jun 15 1600Z	West Virginia QSO Party	http://www.qsl.net/wvsarc/wvqp/2013wvqsorules.html
Jun 15 1800Z-2359Z	Kid's Day Contest	http://www.arrl.org/kids-day
Jun 17 0100Z-0300Z	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/
Jun 17 0030Z-0230Z	NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	http://naqcc.info/contests.html
Jun 22 1800Z	ARRL Field Day	http://www.arrl.org/field-day

Date	Contest	Web Page
Jul 1 0000Z-2359Z	RAC Canada Day Contest	https://www.rac.ca/en/rac/programmes/contests/
Jul 1 0001Z	10-10 Int. Spirit of 76 QSO Party	http://ten-ten.org/Forms/spirit.pdf
Jul 4 2300Z	MI QRP July 4th CW Sprint	http://www.qsl.net/miqrpcclub/contest.html



Kane County ARES®

Kane County ARES News

Bill Muhr, NF9D Kane County ARES Emergency Coordinator

Kane County ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service), is a group of amateur radio operator volunteers who provide emergency communication for the communities of Kane County, IL and surrounding counties when called upon. All licensed amateurs are welcome to join.

We hold monthly meetings at 7 pm on the fourth Thursday of the month at the St. Charles EOC conference room at 112 North Riverside, St. Charles, IL. Our schedule at these meetings includes training on various aspects of emergency communications, weather spotting and reporting, and general amateur radio topics.

Anyone interested in joining Kane County ARES should contact Bill Muhr, NF9D, the ARES Emergency Coordinator for Kane County. He can be reached by email at nf9d@arrl.net.

ARES units are also active in other northern Illinois counties. You can find more information about ARES and public service opportunities on the ARRL website, arrl.org.



Kendall County ARES® is a part of the structure of the [American Radio Relay League's](#) emergency communications organization called the [Amateur Radio Emergency Service](#)®.

Kendall Co. ARES® members are trained in emergency communication and weather-spotting. We are an integral part of the [SKYWARN](#) weather spotting program of the [National Weather Service](#). The Kendall Co. ARES® runs a local net and relays reportable information to the National Weather Service.

Kendall County ARES® Staff:

Emergency Coordinator: Dirk Wolgast, W9QA (w9qa@arrl.net)

Assistant Emergency Coordinator: Chris Kennell, KC9BKS (kc9bks@arrl.net)

NETS: Nets are held weekly at 8:00 PM on Wednesday nights on the Yorkville, IL ARES Repeater (complements of N9FNS). There are no NETS on meeting nights.

The frequency is 147.375 MHz FM, +60Khz with a 103.5 Hz PL.

MEETINGS: Kendall County ARES® meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM. Meetings are held at the Panera Bread Cafe in Yorkville. The location is about one block South of Hwy 34 on Hwy 47 on the East side of Hwy 47.

Keep Your Station Humming Despite Mother Nature's Worst

By Jeff N9JZN and Dawn KC9LQS

Antennas, feedlines, and the structures that support them are constantly, by virtue of their exposure to the elements, in a state of decline. Regular maintenance will prolong the life of your equipment and ensure the efficiency of your station. Here are a few essential maintenance activities to undertake now that warmer weather has arrived.

Structure: Examine the tower for obvious problems like rust, ice cracks and other signs of deterioration. Replace rusty nuts and bolts where tower sections connect and sidearms are attached. Replace any brackets or other hardware that were damaged by wet winter and spring weather. Surface rust can be removed with ScotchBrite pads, a wire brush or by sanding. Check with your tower manufacturer to determine the best type of paint to use.

Guyed towers: Inspect the anchors for signs of corrosion by digging down to the concrete. If there are signs of corrosion on the anchor bars, consider having them professionally replaced. Inspect the preforms for signs of deterioration. Ensure that the turnbuckles are secure and rust-free. Check for loose grounds, as winter snow and ice can cause damage. Check to be sure that proper tension exists in all wires; adjust as needed, taking care not to overtighten.

Fold-over or tilting towers: Inspect and oil the hinges. Ensure the cable and crank are in good condition.

Crank-up towers: Lube the cable. Inspect power cords for signs of wear, such as fraying or cracking, and replace if necessary. **Never climb a crank-up tower when it is raised!** If the tower is stuck in its fully extended position, call a professional to correct the malfunction. Never attempt this yourself.

Wire antennas: If you've experienced unexplained noise or popping, or erratic SWR, consider lowering your antenna and inspecting all connections and repair as needed. Check that ropes are taut and secure. Snow and ice can significantly deteriorate ropes that support dipoles, and the high winds that accompany spring storms can often put great stress on support ropes as well as connections.

Feedline: Examine your feedline for UV deterioration, as well as nicks in the insulation, and replace if necessary. Also check for water ingress at connection points. Electrical tape is not a sufficient barrier to moisture. Use a more efficient protective substance such as Smart Tape or Coax-Seal.

A little effort on a regular basis can keep your station running smoothly and extend the life of your equipment.

Invite a Kid to Field Day

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

If you've been around ham radio for any length of time, you'll notice that ham radio operators like to complain. One of the most frequently heard complaints is, "Kids aren't interested in amateur radio anymore." While I'm not so sure that's true, I do know that now is the time for you to do something about it.

How? Invite a kid to Field Day.

Invite them to help you set up antennas.

Show them how you power the rigs with a generator, or even cooler, by charging a battery with a solar panel.

Let them sit in front of the rig, show them how to make contacts, and log for them. To make it easier for them, make up a cheat sheet with the callsign spelled out phonetically and the exchange, also spelled out phonetically.

Let them operate for as long as they're interested. When they're done, thank them on contributing to your club's total score.

Answer every single one of their questions.

This may not win them over immediately, but I can assure you that it will make an impression on them. To increase your chances of success, find a kid that's already technically inclined. Invite a bunch of them from the high school's robotics team, for example.

If you don't have any plans for Field Day, then make some. Then, go find that kid. If you don't, then you don't have any right to complain that there are no kids in ham radio.

=====

When he's not trying to get kids interested in amateur radio, Dan, KB6NU enjoys working CW on the HF bands and teaching ham radio classes. For more information about his operating activities and his "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides, go to KB6NU.Com or e-mail cwgeek@kb6nu.com.





Fox River Radio League
"Established 1924"
An ARRL Special Service Club
W9CEQ PO Box 673 Batavia, IL 60510



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the General Membership of the
Fox River Radio League (FRRL) an Illinois not-for-profit Corporation
Held at St. Rita of Cascia, Aurora, IL

FRRL Membership Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2013
by Acting Secretary – Dick Illman AH6EZ

Call to Order: 7:31pm

Question of the Month: Will you work Field Day, 34 Yes, 11 No

Reports:

Meeting Minutes: Approved

Treasurer Report: Approved

Program Tonight: RF Exposure by Dick AH6EZ

FD Presentation: Dick AH6EZ acting for Denny W9HI FD Chairman
Orv can deliver the two generators anytime on Friday. He has cable bridges.
No objections to the coax lengths proposed.

Tech Class: 5 people passed

MS Walk: 3 stations manned. Flood shortened the walk, few messages passed.

ARES: Next meeting Thursday May 23. Successful S.E.T.

Old Business:

Discussion of tabled budget motion. Motion not raised at this time.

Board is working on reducing expenses.

Storage fees – inventory and Kermit has offered to store items. Need to check on reimbursement for pre-paid storage fees.

Restated April budget discussion

Perhaps the Roster can go to an email version.

Perhaps the Holiday party can go to a gift exchange.

There was an objection to judging the success of the Hamfest by including member subsidy.

New Business:

AH6EZ described his BBQ fork antenna hoisting technique.

Announcements:

Raffle, QSL Bureau, Cougars Tickets, Youth Activities at FD (3-4pm Saturday) and Hamfest looking for volunteers.
AH6EZ provided a 2m hidden transmitter.

Adjourn: 8:36pm

IMPORTANT AMATUER RADIO WEB PAGE LINKS

www.frrl.org

www.arrl.org

www.colpage.org

www.qrz.com

www.eham.net

www.twit.tv/hn

www.dxspots.com



FRRL Repeaters:

W9CEQ—147.210 MHz +600KHz Offset, 103.5 PL

W9CEQ—444.300 MHz +5 MHz Offset, 114.8 PL (IRLP Node # 4850) (Echolink # 230933)



FRRL Digital Voice/Data Repeaters: (Contact Kermit, W9XA for information)

W9CEQ__B D-Star—442.10625 MHz (+ 5.0 MHz offset)

W9CEQ__C D-Star—147.225 MHz (+ 0.6 MHz offset)

Other Local Area Repeaters:

Owned by Kane County OEM:

KC9OEM—145.470 MHz -600 KHz, 103.5 PL
(2 meter is primary Kane Co. SKYWARN/ARES Frequency)

KC9OEM—444.525 MHz +5 MHz, 114.8 PL

W9DWP—Kane Co. Amateur Public Svc. Repeaters:
(Both repeaters are dual mode APCO-25 NAC-293)

145.270 -600 KHz 107.2 PL

443.025 +5 MHz 114.8 PL

Input: 52.210 Output: 53.910 Carrier Access FM (W9XA 6-meter repeater)

W9ZGP—NIARC:

147.060 +600 KHz, 103.5 PL

Weekly Nets:

FRRL 2 Meter Net: Tuesday Evening at 7:30 pm

ARES & Skywarn Net: Wednesday Evening at 6:30 pm on the KC9OEM 2 meter repeater

Illinois DStar Net - Wednesday Eve. at 8:00 pm on the DStar 2 meter repeater

Ten Meter Net: Monday at 8:00pm 28.150 MHz CW

Monday at 8:30pm 28.720 MHz SSB