



ARC OVER



The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League
Since 1924

Our 92nd Year in Amateur Radio!

September 2016

CITY OF LIGHTS CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF NETS
TUNE IN MONDAY SEPTEMBER 12TH AT 8:30PM

The 10 Meter SSB frequency is 28.720 MHz



Proud to be an ARRL
Special Service Club



City of Lights Nets: Every Monday
CW Net: 28.150MHz at 8:00pm
SSB Net: 28.720MHz at 8:30pm

Join the fun!

The City of Lights Chapter of [Ten-Ten International](#) was started on Monday (CST), November 8, 1976 by members of the Aurora, Illinois local ham radio club, [The Fox River Radio League](#) (FRRL). Aurora Illinois was the first city to have electric street lights, which led to its slogan and our chapter name, "The City of Lights." The Monday night nets have continued in an unbroken string to date. The SSB net started on 28.70 MHz, but soon after, moved to 28.720 MHz, where it remains today.

The first Net Control and Chapter Head was Jerry Frieders, W9ZGP (SK) 10-10 #12847. In mid-1995, and then in ill health, Jerry turned the Net over to Joe Dubeck, NA9A, 10-10 #31121. Joe remains the Chapter Head and is usually Net Control for the SSB nets.

Other nets were added at different times. In the 90s, an SSB "Early Net" ran for quite a while at 28.430 MHz (7:30 PM CST) headed up by Ron Kennedy N9KBJ, 10-10 #58638. That net went QRT when Ron moved to California.

Also in the 90s, the City of Lights CW Net was started at 28.280 MHz by Lee Fenton, WS9F (SK), 10-10 #60236. When Lee suddenly passed away, the CW net was taken over by Bill Schaben, WA9AUW (now W9AX) 10-10 #62915. When Bill's time was restricted by evening work commitments, Robert "Benny" Benson, W9CZA, 10-10 #62970 stepped up to the key and moved the CW Net to 28.150 MHz - where it remains today. In April, 2009, Benny's health forced his retirement as the CW Net Control (W9CZA SK 10/24/10) and the CW net is now run by Kermit Carlson, W9XA, 10-10 #73844.

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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 Federal 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 Bethany Lutheran Church at 8 S. Lincoln St in Batavia.. 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 our newest member to the club!

CALL	Name	License Class
AC9OY	Adam Giera	Amateur Extra
KC9ZSC	Francis Uy	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

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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 \$25.00 a year, Senior Citizen dues are \$15.00. Family dues are \$35.00. Members can help support the FRRL Repeaters by making an annual \$10.00 donation.

Bill Erikson HF Challenge

By Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

As summer winds down, interest in getting on the air seems to be rising, at least among Challenge participants. We learned of some interesting catches as well as some upcoming events that members might want to pursue.

Larry K9ARZ reported that despite continuing difficult band conditions, we're beginning to see some openings. His recent catches include Mali, Western Sahara, Saudi Arabia, Market Reef, Guam, Thailand, New Zealand, Macedonia, Tuvalu and an assortment of others. "It will be nice to get out of the summer doldrums," he commented.

Cedric WT2P commented that most of his contacts reported this month came during NAQP contests during the summer. "Band conditions from this humble station continue to be challenging, even with 1KW," he said. "Highlight was getting CY9C on 5 band/ mode slots as well as a lot of European countries in the Worked All Europe contest."

Challenge Administrator Joe NA9A shared some good news. He made a contact with YV0 for an all-time new CW country! Joe also offered information on upcoming opportunities for those interested in rare DX, including the Bird Island station. "For the first time in almost ten years, YV0* Aves Island (Bird Island), IOTA NA-020 is on the air," Joe explained. "After an uncertain approval from the Venezuelan Navy, they started 8/28 UTC and plan to be operating for 7 to 10 days. Aves Island is #30 on Mid America's most wanted list and being in the Caribbean only 2400 miles away, it might be workable on all HF bands plus 6 meters. They were very loud on 8/28 0200 Z at 10.107 MHz.

"Then on Sept. 8-17, another asterisked country and #25 on Mid America's most wanted list will be on. A5A* in Bhutan will be running 3.5 through 28 MHz working SSB, CW and RTTY. When over, they will have a OQRS activated on Club Log or by direct mail. If you haven't tried OQRS yet, you'll find it much faster and cheaper to get a QSL card and LOTW confirmation than by using direct mail. Check out OQRS at Club Log: <https://secure.clublog.org/loginform.php>."

As a reminder to all current participants, please send your Challenge update to me via email to challenge [at] frrl.org by Sept. 20th for publication in the October ArcOver. Your scores should include all contacts from Jan. 1st through Sept. 15th. If you're new to the club or a longtime member who wants to be part of this on-air activity, request a Challenge worksheet via email, or see Joe at the next club meeting.
de KC9LQS

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Eric K9LGE	36	4	9	49
Jim W9NJP	45	5	25	75
Herb W9DTR	45	7	13	65
Chris KC9BKS	6	0	0	3
Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Jeff N9JZN	2	0	44	46
Jack K9JE	24	5	86	115
Herb W9DTR	81	11	15	107
Roger W9YU	45	7	30	82
Jason NX9Y	53	9	80	142
QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Larry K9ARZ	98	24	299	421
Joe NA9A	46	5	190	241
Cedric WT2P	99	18	195	220
Dick AH6EZ/W7	95	21	231	347
Dean KC9EOQ	27	2	12	41
Rag Chewer Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Roger W9YU	4	0	0	4
Joe NA9A	12	1	3	16
Jason NX9Y	9	2	0	11
Herb W9DTR	0	0	0	10
Eric K9LGE	1	0	0	1
Dick AH6EZ/W7	0	0	0	68
Jim W9NJP	0	0	0	21
Dean KC9EOQ	1	0	0	1

President's Traffic

Dennis Barfuss, W9HI

Like most months, time seems to fly and here we are in September. Public school and college students have gone back to studying and we should be planning on that final antenna work before it gets too cold to climb trees or towers. There are a lot of contests coming up as well as the NIDXA 64th W9DXCC DX Convention and Banquet. The conference is scheduled for Friday thru Saturday, September 16-17, 2016. I have had the pleasure of attending in the past and plan to be there again this year. Many of the major equipment vendors will be there so it is a great opportunity to see new equipment. You can attend Dx University and also hear great stories of recent dxpeditions.

Speaking about equipment, HRO Milwaukee is open and is the largest HRO store in the nation. We should all support the store as it is the only equipment store around. I think I will have to plan a trip up to just check out the new remodeled digs.

Here is a link to their web page: <http://www.hamradio.com/>

There is a link to a short video from Dan, N9LVS on the HRO home page and posted on YouTube featuring a short tour of the new Ham Radio Outlet in Milwaukee:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_jrjyVV2MMg

The club's outreach program is continuing with a planned Farmer's Market visit later in September. Our Batavia day was scrubbed due to the weather forecast of lightning and thunderstorms. We are continuing to look around for other opportunities to share the fun and enjoyment of Amateur Radio.

Speaking of fun, I had the opportunity of checking in to the phone portion of the City of Lights Net held every Monday night on 10 meters. Joe, NA9A has dutifully, and eloquently run the net each week and is coming up to a 40-year milestone on September 12th. The City of Lights Net is part of 10-10 International. All hams are welcome. There is a CW net at 8:00 pm and the phone net at 8:30. Here is a link for your handy browser. <http://www.colpage.org/>

As for other enjoyment, Jason NX9Y continues to schedule exciting programs for our meetings. This month Dan WA9YKK is going to enlighten us with a program focused on grounding and lightning. In November we will have Gary Johnson discuss quartz crystals. And don't forget, for the latest updates check the FRRL web page at FRRL.org. I look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting.

73, Denny W9HI President FRRL



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 Bethany Lutheran Church, Batavia, IL

Meeting Minutes August 9, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:39 PM by President Denny W9HI. Denny announced the donation of ham equipment available for a monetary donation to the club. Audience introductions: call, name, QTH and: Are you a new member/first time or newly licensed/recently upgraded attendee? What are your fall plans or Ill QSO Party Plans?

Approval of July 2016 member meeting minutes. Motion to approve by Larry, K9ARZ. Motion seconded by Marty, N9NTM. Membership approved the motion.

Treasurer's Report Dean KC9EOQ

Dean reported the following balances as of August 2,

Program, Jason NX9Y

Education, Mike K9FE / Paul AC9BS

Mike will hold exam review classes for the Elburn SERC group as soon as the Elburn SERC provides dates. Paul AC9BS will assist Mike. Mike is working with other clubs to coordinate general Class Exam reviews.

Net Dave N9XU

Attendance on the 2 meter net is down. Dave reported that the 2 meter Net meets on every Tuesday at 7:30 pm except for FRRL club meetings. Dave needs additional net controllers. Technical problems with "net mode" and system timeouts. Seven hams helped out with net control.

VE (Volunteer Examiner) Doug W9RD/Paul AC9BS

Doug announced the next VE Session is third Tues in Sept 20 at the North Aurora Library. Bring a picture ID and your license (for upgrades). Details are available on the FRRL.org website. FCC license fees due to the VE are \$15.

ARES Debbie WX9VOR/Bill NF9D

Contact Debbie for details of her announcement or check the FRRL.org website. Bill, NF9D reported on the Kane County Simulated emergency test last weekend. It was well received by hams. Bill reports on rides Cystic Fibrosis ride and Egyptian ride in DeKalb County.

Old Business:

No old Business

New Business:

No new business

Announcements

W9DXCC on September 19. Info on W9DXCC web site. Short explanation talk given by George W9GIG.

Outreach at Farmers markets Batavia on Saturday September 23rd or 30th and at St. Charles on August 27th.

PayPal functionality is being tested by Roger W9YU and should be available for annual membership renewal at the end of the year.

Chicago Marathon needs amateur radio support. Contact Rob Orr K9RSC

Upcoming Events

September 6th FRRL Board meeting

September 13th Membership Meeting

September 20th VE Session

September 27th Farmer's Market Outreach

October 16th Illinois QSO Party

Adjournment

Denny W9HI declared the meeting adjourned at 20:10 CDT PM.

Respectfully submitted

Dan Harmon WA9YKK

FRRL Secretary



Be sure to register for Contest or DX University
on Friday September 15th. Check out the website below!

September 16th & 17th

<http://www.w9dxcc.com/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Director's Meeting

October 4th, 2016 @7:00pm

Colonial Café—Aurora, Il.

Membership Meeting

October 11th, 2016 @ 7:30pm

Bethany Lutheran Church

VE Testing Session

September 20th, 2016

FRRL VE Testing at Messenger Library in North Aurora at 7pm.

IMPORTANT AMATEUR RADIO WEB PAGE LINKS

www.frri.org

www.arrl.org

www.colpage.org

www.qrz.com

www.dailydx.com

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)

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

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

W9ZGP—NIARC:

147.060 +600 KHz, 103.5 PL

Weekly Nets:

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

Monday at 8:30pm 28.720 MHz SSB

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