



# ARC OVER



The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League  
Since 1924

Our 93rd Year in Amateur Radio!

April 2017



Proud to be an ARRL  
Special Service Club

Check out this website. I found this while clicking on different ham radio related links.

[www.dx-qsl.com/famous-ham-radio-operators.html](http://www.dx-qsl.com/famous-ham-radio-operators.html)

## Famous Ham Radio Operators and their Callsigns

### Board of Director's Meeting

May 2nd @7:00pm  
Colonial Café—Aurora, Il.

### Membership Meeting

April 11th, 2017 @ 7:30pm  
Bethany Lutheran Church

### VE Session

May 21st, 2017  
Messenger Public Library in  
North Aurora

A list of [Famous Radio Rooms](#) (Titanic, Hindenburg, etc.)

"Famous Hams and ex-Hams" from [qsl.net](http://qsl.net)

"The Original Famous Hams and ex-Hams List" from  
[WA6FAH](#)

"The Original Famous Hams and ex-Hams List" by [N2GJ](#) and  
[W2SG](#)

[Astronaut \(and Former Astronaut\) Hams](#)

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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 members to the club!

CALL	NAME	LICENSE CLASS
K9FBI	Michael Bentley	Amateur Extra
W9QB	Lance Clarke	Amateur Extra
K9NAX	Cyndi Gilles	General
KD9ICS	Priscilla Miller	Technician
N1NSA	Samuel Pagan, Jr.	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: [arccover@frrl.org](mailto:arccover@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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Roger Bara, W9YU

**Secretary**  
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**Treasurer**  
Dean Holste, KC9EOQ

**Directors**  
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Allen Nelson, KB9VO  
Jim Nevitt, Jr., N9XP  
Daniel Taddei, W9STS

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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

Welcome to new participants in the 2017 HF Challenge! Reporting for the first time last month were Cedrick WT2P, Jason NX9Y and Eric K9LGE. Also please note the category change for Roger W9YU. He has officially been moved to the QRO class.

Joe NA9A, Challenge Administrator, made an encouraging presentation at a recent FRRL meeting, along with distribution of 2016 awards for participants who weren't in attendance at the club's winter banquet. Remember, it's never too late to join the fun! See Joe at the next monthly meeting, or contact us via email if you need a work sheet or more information.

Joe reports that "only a couple of DX countries on the top 100 most wanted list are expected to be active in April, but there will be plenty of the more common ones. Even those most common still give you a point in the Challenge, just like working the P5."

A few to listen for include H44MS\* - Solomon Islands, which is expected to stay on the air through April from the location of the historic WW-2 battle of Guadalcanal in November 1942; and E44WE\* - Palestine, which is going to be active from "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem" in the latter half of April. "The three operators from Poland call themselves 'the three wise men.' Too bad they aren't doing this around Christmas," Joe quipped.

Updates for the next issue of the ArcOver are due by April 20th and should cover year-to-date scores from Jan. 1st through April 15th. Send us your update with contacts broken down by number of states, number of provinces, and number of DX entities. Please submit rag chew reports in the same manner. All updates, along with questions on the Challenge, requests for worksheets, or other concerns, can be sent via email to Challenge [at] FRRL.org.

de KC9LQS

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Jim W9NJP	32	5	69	106
Eric K9LGE	34	4	5	43
Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Alan W9AN	12	8	57	77
Jason NX9Y	16	2	32	50
Ron KC9SNI	16	2	17	35
QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Cedric WT2P	50	11	95	156
Dick AH6EZ/W7	50	9	86	145
Roger W9YU	30	5	28	63
Joe NA9A	8	1	41	50
Rag Chewer Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Dick AH6EZ/W7	0	0	0	16
Jim W9NJP	9	0	0	9
Joe NA9A	4	0	1	5
Roger W9YU				4
Eric K9LGE				2

# President's Traffic

Dennis Barfuss, W9HI

This past weekend I had the opportunity to attend the Fermi lab/WGN Tornado and Severe Storms Seminar. What an exciting opportunity. Tom Skilling as always, put together a great day of topics and speakers. There are too many highlights to go over, but we did hear from the Director of the National Weather service, learned about the impressive things that the University of Wisconsin is doing with GOES 16 and we heard about what is happening with our climate from a Professor of Atmospheric Science at the University of Illinois. I also won a weather radio. Whichever side of climate change you might be on, the take away from the seminar for me is that our storms appear to be getting more severe and as hams we should all rethink what we would do in a weather emergency. We should also rethink how we might prepare for emergency operation. I am confident that any Skywarn ham or ARES member would be glad to help out with any questions you might have about emergency preparedness.

Each month I get the ARRL Contests list which is quite a list. There is something for everyone. And as I was reading this month's list I received a pleasant surprise from our own Dick Illman AH6EZ/W7. Dick won first place in Washington State for the Illinois QSO Party. What a great job!! Please congratulate him via email or a call. I am sure he would appreciate it... I am very proud of his efforts as I am sure the propagation didn't make it easy to win.



**ILLINOIS**  
Land of Lincoln

**ILLINOIS QSO PARTY  
2016  
OPERATING  
ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD  
FIRST PLACE  
WASHINGTON  
STATION  
AH6EZ/W7**

HAS SUBMITTED A LOG FOR 1,976 POINTS

SPONSORED BY THE  
WESTERN ILLINOIS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Don't forget about the ARRL / IEEE meeting this April 19<sup>th</sup> at FERMI lab. The Meeting Program: "Man-Made Noise and the Impact to Radio Communications – The Changing Environment".

Check the [www.FRRL.org](http://www.FRRL.org) web page for details and times.

73, Denny



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

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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

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**Meeting Minutes March 14, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 19:30 CDT by President Denny W9HI. Audience introductions: Call, Name, QTH and: "Is there a digital mode you prefer for a new radio?"

Approval of February 2017 Member Meeting minutes: Motion to approve by Cedrick WT2P, seconded by Mike K9FE. Members approved the motion.

There were 62 people present at this meeting.

**Treasurer's Report, Dean KC9EOQ**

Dean reported on the state of the club treasury.

**Program, Jason NX9Y**

Tonight's program by Dan W9STS on Antenna Analyzer. April's program will be from Harry K9DXA – "So, I got my license, now what do I do?". Cedrick WT2P will do the May program on SO2R setup. Mark Thompson WB9QZB will do the July program on VHF/UHF Digital Voice Mode and Fusion. June will be reserved for Field Day stuff.

**Education, Alan KB9VO**

General class is moving along – but there is a lack of numbers. Information will be coming soon from Alan on future programs.

**Net, Dave N9XU**

Net on Tuesdays 7:30pm. Attendance is improving (15 check ins).

**VE (Volunteer Examiner) Testing, Paul AC9BS**

The next VE Testing will be March 21<sup>st</sup>, 7PM at the Messenger Library in North Aurora. The fee is \$15.00. Everyone is requested to bring a copy of their FCC license. People testing for the Tech license need some form of identification.

**Membership, Chris KC9BKS**

Chris reported a total of 127 active members. The membership has dropped off because some people have not renewed their memberships.

**ARES, Debby WX9VOR**

ARES has been busy with the recent severe weather. Debby thanked all for their help on 2/28. NWS Spotter training is about done – check [weather.gov/chicago](http://weather.gov/chicago) for details. The next meeting will be Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm at The St. Charles Fire Department Training Room (Questions? Ask Debby WX9VOR). April 8<sup>th</sup> is the Tom Skilling Severe Weather Seminar at Fermilab. There will be one session at 12:00pm. There are no tickets this year.

## **Old Business:**

### **Repeater Update, Kermit W9XA**

Working on putting up system in Plano – waiting for better weather. Obtained a link to backhaul into the area. The voter system is not stable. UDP packets not playing well in hauling the digital around. The DMR site at Elburn is working well – lost power supply, PA problem. D-star is online. IRLP not avail on UHF system. D-star users will not need to re-register. E-mail Kermit if you need password reset info.

### **Field Day Chair, Dan Harmon WA9YKK (Denny W9HI)**

Dan WA9YKK was absent tonight, so Denny W9HI filled in with some details. There is currently no band captain for UHF/VHF. Paul AC9BS is working on getting the generator. Jackie N9ASL and others have volunteered to help with food.

### **Hamfest Chair, Dan Taddei W9STS**

Tom Churchill W9DAU is the new co-chair. July 9<sup>th</sup> is the date. Tickets will be here next meeting. People will be able to pay online with PayPal. Dan needs volunteers for setup and take down. Bill WB9LPW will be accepting tickets. Hamfest Topics: Digital on HF, remote station operation, microwave operation opportunities, mesh networking, DMR, Arduino and Raspberry Pie.

## **New Business:**

**NONE**

## **Announcements**

Your Field Day and Hamfest Chairs need helpers. Please see them during the break to support our exciting events.

Hamcation Presentation on the Comparison of digital modes can be found at:

<http://www.livefromthehamshack.tv/2017/02/28/episode-83-comparison-digital-modes-amateur-radio-hamcation-2017/>

Mark your calendar for April 19<sup>th</sup> at Fermilab: Meeting between IEEE Chicago EMC Society and Amateur Radio Operators. Kermit W9XA would like people to e-mail him at [kermit@arrl.org](mailto:kermit@arrl.org) if they plan to attend.

Mike K9FE is coordinator for this year's MS Walk. There will be more information on the FRRL website. Mike needs someone to volunteer this year. The Walk will be in St. Charles and starts at 7:30AM. 147.6 repeater frequency. Mike will have registration forms available and they will be at future Membership Meetings.

Joe NA9A presented awards for the HF Challenge.

## **Upcoming Events**

April 11<sup>th</sup> Member Meeting

April 19<sup>th</sup> IEEE/Ham Radio meeting at Fermi Lab

May 7<sup>th</sup> MS Walk (see Mike Urso K9FE or FRRL website for more details)

## **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Mike K9FE, seconded by Cedrick WT2P. Members passed unanimously. Denny W9HI declared the meeting adjourned at 20:22 CST. Program by Dan W9STS on Antenna Analyzer followed.

Respectfully submitted,

David Booher W9BOO

FRRL Secretary

## IMPORTANT AMATEUR RADIO WEB PAGE LINKS

[www.frll.org](http://www.frll.org)

[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

[www.colpage.org](http://www.colpage.org)

[www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com)

[www.dailydx.com](http://www.dailydx.com)

[www.twit.tv/hn](http://www.twit.tv/hn)

[www.dxspots.com](http://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