





The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League 98 Years of continuous service to our communities

1924



2023

Who We Are

President: Terry Todd W9AUV

Vice President: Eve Schneider W9EVE

Secretary:
Art Shuter NN9I

Treasurer:
Dan Harmon WA9YKK

Director 1: NETS / RPTR'S Ruben Noceda K9ARN

<u>Director</u> John Greusel KC9OJV

Director
Paul Mitchell KC9SEB

<u>Director</u> Jim Brady W9JB

Past President:
Gordon Dailey KW0E

Programs:
Gordon Dailey KW0E

Education / VE: Dennis Barfuss W9HI

License Trustee (W9CEQ): Kermit Carlson, W9XA

License Trustee (W9NE): Denny Barfuss W9HI

Newsletter Editor / PR: Jerry Chapman N9JLC

Webmaster

Mark Van Daele K9MEV

Membership Database: Chris Kennell, KC9BKS

Net Coordinator: Curt Sauer, W9YNP

About Us

The Fox River Radio League, Inc. is a general interest Amateur Radio club serving the central Fox River Valley area in Illinois. Club records indicate the club has been in existence since at least 1924, and it 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 those seeking a new or upgraded Amateur Radio license, license examination sessions, and participation in various local Public Service events. Our membership covers a broad variety of interests - if you have a specialized amateur radio interest, you will likely find camaraderie with one or more of our club members.

We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at Bethany Lutheran Church, located at 8 S. Lincoln St. in Batavia, III. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM and includes a short business portion, social time and a program presentation of interest.

Meetings are open to the public. Anyone interested in the amateur radio hobby are invited to attend. Family members are welcome.

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Fox River Radio League

Mailing Address: P. O Box 673

Batavia, IL 60510-0673

Email: info@frrl.org

Website: http://www.frrl.org





From -/-/---

____ The Esteemed _



I hope everyone is having a good start to the new year. I have certainly been having a blast with the Winterheat simplex event. We have many good ideas to pick from for upcoming ptograms this year thanks to all of yout answers to the question at the December meeting. I look forward to seeing everyone at the February meeting on the 9th.

Terry





Name	License Type		
Mike Leal	Technician		
Michael Bentley	Amateur Extra		
Andrew Zasadny	Amateur Extra		
Scott Kurbyun	General		
Steve Dziatkowiec	Amateur Extra		
	Mike Leal Michael Bentley Andrew Zasadny Scott Kurbyun		









FOX RIVER RADIO LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 10, 2023

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the <u>General Membership</u> of the Fox River Radio League (FRRL) an Illinois not-for-profit Corporation

Meeting Minutes: January 10, 2023

The January 10, 2022 meeting of the Fox River Radio League was conducted at Bethany Lutheran Church in Batavia, IL. The business meeting was preceded with the FRRL annual banquet.

The meeting was called to order at 19:46CST by President Terry Todd, W9AUV

Minutes: Acceptance of the December 6, 2022 Membership Meeting minutes as printed in the ArcOver were approved by the membership. Motion: Dave Bulkley K9DWB 2nd: Eric Lorenz .K9LGE

Reports:

Director 1 RPTR'S: Kermit Carlson W9XA: Kermit reported that a new repeater is needed to get the 220 mhz repeater operational. All other repeaters are in good working condition.

Education: Denny Barfuss W9HI: Denny reported that Tech and General classes are starting January 11th and 12th and all volunteer instructors are in place.

VE Update: Denny Barfuss W9HI: VE session will take place on January 12, 2023.



January 10, 2023 Meeting minutes continued

Newsletter: Jerry Chapman L9JLC: The club brochure has been revised and will be available soon.

Old Business: The new officers were introduced and are as follows:

President: Terry Todd W9AUV

Vice President: Eve Schneider W9EVE

Secretary: Art Shuter NN9I

Treasurer: Dan Harman WA9YKK
Director 1: Ruben Noceda N9ARN

Director 2: Jim Brady W9JB

Director 3: John Greusel KC9OJV Director 4: Paul Mitchell KC9SEB

Terry Tood W9AUV: Bylaws will be reviewed by committee before the next meeting.

Adjournment: Motion: Dean Holste KC9EOQ 2nd: Kermit Carlson W9XA The meeting was adjourned at 20:17 CST

Respectfully submitted, Art Shuter – NN9I FRRL Secretary

Congratulations
Bob Naegele W9MZ
on Winning
The Kenwood
TM-V71A









FOX RIVER RADIO LEAGUE



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nansletter Deadline	FEBRUAF 20TH	SY	1	HAPPY 2	3	4
5 INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900	6 CW NET 28.150 2000 ⊕ SSB NET 28.720 2030	7 1900 FRRL BOD Meeting 1930 FRRL 2m Net	8	9	10	11
12 INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900	13 CW NET 28.150 2000 SSB NET 28.720 2030	14 1930 FRRL Membership Meeting No Net	15	16	Rypon 17 Knones	18
19 INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900	DAY	21 1930 FRRL 2m Net	22	23	24	25
26 INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900	27 CW NET 28.150 2000 SSB NET 28.720 2030	28 1930 FRRL 2m Net				
				MEMBER MEETING BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH 8 SOUTH LINCOLN ST. BATAVIA IL		
WCRA 2m Net 8pm 145.31 -6 107.2	VARA 2m Net 8pm 146.79 -6 107.2	FRRL 2m Net 7:30pm 147.21 +6 103.5	Kane County ARES 2m Net 6:30pm 145.47 -6 103.5	Northern Illinois ARRL 70cm Net 7:30pm 444.875 +5MHz, 114.8	28.150, N SS	W Net Monday 8PM B Net onday 8:30PM





NEWS AND INFORMATION CENTER

Local - National - International

Installation of afficers



Thank You
For Your
Extra
Time & Effort
In Support
Of The
FRRL

Your 2023 FRRL Officers and Directors



President Terry W9AUV



Vice President Eve W9EVE



Treasurer Dan WA9YKK



Secretary Art NN9I



Director John KC9OJV



Director Paul KC9SEB





Director Jim W9JB













Thank you for those who joined us. For those who didn't, we missed you.



A Big Thank you to Denny for putting this banquet together!!



Art provided us with some soothing pre-dinner music























Rep. Bill Johnson Introduces Bill to Eliminate Private Land Use Restrictions on Amateur Radio



Congressman Bill Johnson (OH-6) introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives (H.R.9670) on Thursday, December 22, 2022, to eliminate private land use restrictions that prohibit, restrict, or impair the ability of an Amateur Radio Operator from operating and installing amateur station antennas on property subject to the control of the Amateur Radio Operator.

Click below for more information

<u>efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.arrl.org/files/file/HR9670/HR9670-Amateur-Radio-Emergency-Preparedness-Act.pdf</u>



I have for sale a Motorola XPR4550 UHF DMR mobile radio.

I am the second owner and it was used mobile. Everything works as it should!

Comes with:

Radio
Face separation kit
Face plate mounting bracket
I believe I have the radio bracket
Plastic face plate removal tool
And anything else I can find associated with the radio!



I am asking \$300 or I would consider trading it toward \$\$ off a purchase if anyone has the following for sale:

A Yaesu C4FM mobile such as FTM-200DR or 400DR

Or a Yaesu HT FT5DR or 3DR

Or a dependable mobile HF rig that I could either use for mobile or portable operations.

I have included photos.

Thanks for considering! Jason NX9Y

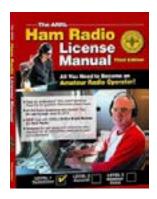








Technician/General Classes:

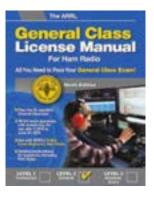


Technician Class

Wednesday Evenings 6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.

Start: Janury 11, 2023 End March 8, 2023

Location: <u>Zoom</u> Meeting [Link to be distributed prior]



General Classes:

Thursday Evenings 6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.

Start January 12, 2023 End: March 9, 2023

Location: <u>Zoom</u> Meeting [Link to be distributed prior]

The Fox River Radio League (FRRL) presents regular training classes focused toward new Amateurs interested in gaining their Technician class license or upgrading to the General and Extra class licenses.

These are free courses where you will learn everything you need to receive or upgrade to the appropriate FCC radio license.

The textbook for the class will be the official ARRL License Manual. Books are available for purchase via the club at a discounted rate by emailing education [at] frrl.org.

Classes are instructor-led, and you can expect engaging conversations to ensue around the topics of discussion.

In addition to our regularly scheduled bi-monthly testing we will be scheduling a dedicated VE session after discussing best availability with the class participants. For more information on VE sessions, please see <u>VE Test Sessions</u>.

We are in need of

Instructors

If you are willing to teach a section or two contact education@frrl.org

Please Note that classes are 9 weeks long..
You can contact Dennis Barfus at:

W9HI@arrl.net

if you have any questions





VE Testing

The FRRL, in conjunction with the ARRL VEC, sponsors regular amateur examinations the third Thursday of every March, April, May and June. Ad-hoc sessions are planned during major events and will be added to the schedule here as well.

Upcoming Testing Schedule:

January 12, 2023 March 9,2023

Testing Location: Geneva Lutheran Church 301 S 3rd St, Geneva, IL 60134





No Walk-ins. All events subject to COVID-19 venue availability and restrictions. Please pre-register by emailing or calling Dan Harmon 630-272-1768

Please also be sure to bring:

- Photo identification
- Your FCC generated FCC Registration Number (FRN).
- The fee of \$15.00. (The FRRL receives no portion of this fee.)



- If upgrading bring your original FCC HAM Radio License (or the documentation you received) and a photocopy of your license.

If you have questions about the testing program, please email the Chairman at: ve@frrl.org

Looking to Ditch Twitter? Morse Code Is Back

Strangely enough, while the number of ham operators is declining globally, it's growing in the United States, as is Morse code, by all accounts. ARRL (formerly the American Radio Relay League), based in Newington, Connecticut, the largest membership association of amateur radio enthusiasts in the world, reports that a recent worldwide ham radio contest—wherein hams garner points based on how many conversations they complete over the airwaves within a tight time frame—showed Morse code participants up 10 percent in 2021 over the year before.

This jump is remarkable, given that in the early 1990s, the Federal Communications Commission, which licenses all U.S. hams, dropped its requirement that beginner operators be proficient in Morse code; it's also no longer regularly employed by military and maritime users, who had relied on Morse code as their main communications method since the very beginning of radio. Equipment sellers have noticed this trend, too. "The majority of our sales are [equipment for] Morse code," says Scott Robbins, owner of ham radio equipment maker Vibroplex, founded in 1905, which touts itself as the oldest continuously operating business in amateur radio. "In 2021, we had the best year we've ever had ... and I can't see how the interest in Morse code tails off."

Quoted in part see: https://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/morse-code-back-looking-ditch-twitter-180981309/











February 10 - 12 | Orlando HamCation, hosting the ARRL Southeastern Division Convention, Orlando, Florida

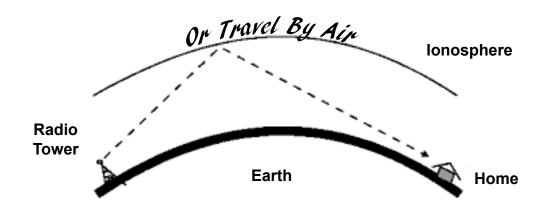
https://www.hamcation.com/



February 25 | HAM-CON, hosting the ARRL Vermont State Convention, Colchester, Vermont

http://www.ham-con.org/







All Operators Net



"EVERY" Sunday for "EVERY" Operator New or experienced...ALL are Welcome

> 1900 hrs (7pm) local time 147.21 103.5PL +600

On the FOX VHF Repeater



Feel free to share your thoughts, experiences, recipes and hobbies etc.

"It does not have to be about radio to talk on the radio!"

For more info sbout the NET contact:

Mike K9FE 630-327-5164 K9FE@yahoo.com

Calling all newly licensed hams.

Remeber the old Radio Shack slogan "You've got questions, We've got answers"?

Well, I know new hams have a lot of questions and those of us that have been hams for a while have the answers.

I will be adding a new segment to our Tuesday Night Net called "ask Elmer" If you have a question about ham radio, ask it on the air and someone will give you the answer over the air.

Now, for this to work properly we need lots of questions and lots of people who know the answers.

Don't be afraid to ask a simple or "stupid" question, we all had them when we started. Would you like to be an "Elmer" whithout getting out of your chair? Well, this is the opportunity you have been waiting for.

I want to invite all the club members to check-in to the net and either ask a question or provide an answer.

You never know what you might learn or what fun you will have if you don't join the net. For those who may need a reminder, The net meets on our club 2-meter repeater (147.21 MHz, 103.5 Hz PL tone) Every Tuesday at 7:30PM except on our meeting nights.

Hope to hear you on the net soon.





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T3B08

What are the frequency limits of the VHF spectrum?

- A. 30 to 300 kHz
- B. 30 to 300 MHz
- C. 300 to 3000 kHz
- D. 300 to 3000 MHz

000000

T3B09

What are the frequency limits of the UHF spectrum?

- A. 30 to 300 kHz
- B. 30 to 300 MHz
- C. 300 to 3000 kHz
- D. 300 to 3000 MHz



00000

T3B10

What frequency range is referred to as HF?

- A. 300 to 3000 MHz
- B. 30 to 300 MHz
- C. 3 to 30 MHz
- D. 300 to 3000 kHz

T3B11

What is the approximate velocity of a radio wave as it travels through free space?

- A. 3000 kilometers per second
- B. 300,000,000 meters per second
- C. 300,000 miles per hour
- D. 186,000 miles per hour

Answers on Page 19



I have been aware of the Crozet Is. DXpedition station for quite a while. The island is just north of Antartica and number 3 on the all time wanted list. I was looking at stations and antenna pictures thinking "beams, big amps, towers oh well". I could see the station being called but for days could not even see the FT8WW station on my screen. Last week I was on 30m and tuned down to where they were supposed to be at 10.131 Mhz on FT8 (normal 30m FT8 frequency is 10.136 Mhz) Was I surprised to be able to see the station, weak but they were there! Weak in FT8 is a Signal to Noise ratio of -19 dB. (-24dB it the weakest that can be decoded) Along with a 30 station calling pile up! They were running 2 decoders to maximize their Q count.

OK, let's give it a try. I had read the notes from the station telling everyone they are NOT Fox and Hound, the offset range they would like to see and the approx AUDIO freq they were going to run. The kicker still was my "less than a little pistol" station, more of a pop gun. Check power at just under 100 watts, reverse power around .1 watt. Radio should be happy, antenna resonant. So I picked an audio freq up between 900 and 1000 Hz and started calling them. After 15 minutes I was amazed to see the K9FE FT8WW -05 on my screen! MY VERTICAL WORKED and I received a good report!

From my early days in radio the old timers always told us "verticals just don't work, put up a wire". That was in the early 70's. But I always had a vertical up even with my early tower. It was usually a Hustler 4BTV. Inexpensive (I think it was \$49.95 in 1973) and seemed ok to me. I could not afford the big aluminum of the new verticals or new beams.

Jump forward some 25 years. Moved 3 times, sometimes never unpacked any gear. Now to set up a station and get really active again. I had an old Yaesu FTdX570, which in its day was great, just not as great a radio in 1995. I had a Heathkit HW-101 that worked fine, well it was a little soft on 10m and could get this deafness on 15m. The antenna I picked up at a garage sale, not a hamfest, was a HyGain 14AVT, a 5 band 19 foot vertical. Got it for \$5 after I offered to take it down for the woman who was anxious to move, hence the garage sale. Put it up after spending 2 days cleaning it. Worked but somewhat deaf. Meanwhile I was on to find a new radio. I went in to Amateur Radio Toy Store in Wheaton and met WA9E, Roberto. I liked the Yaesu FT-840. Doing research on equipment back then was a bit harder than it is now. (No Google!) Through some word of mouth I found out it was an OK radio. No filters, but did have a processor, dual bandstacking VFO and some memory positions. Good audio, decent receive, and no toys. My first Solid State radio!

Turns out the FT-840 was a highly used radio for missionary stations across the word mainly because of its stability and simplicity. I set it up with some 40 year old coax, on the ground with a 3 foot pipe 18 inches in the ground. No antenna analyzer then, just an old swr bridge to work with.

Turned the radio on and went to my favorite band 40m. Tuned around and found some stations. Made a call to a ham in Ohio, he did not answer...Called again and again no response. He was an S2 so not strong. My vertical is not working....but I read in a QST about the magic of radials. Going into the garage I grabbed any wire, any gauge and anything over 20 feet long. Cobbling together enough for 3 35 foot radials. Installed them and just tried to spread them out. An hour had gone by and the Ohio station was still there! However now he was S7. Some antenna, some propagation. Waiting for a rag chewer to take a breath is agony at times. He finally signed and I called him right away. He came back and I had made a QSO, on a vertical, junk wire for radials, using 40 year old coax at about 40 watts.

Moved again, setup the HyGain and old coax. My HyGain had seen better days since it was over 50 years old and the aluminum was corroded through at spots. Ordered a Hustler 5BTV to get my 5 bands back. Compared to other multi-band antennas it was the cheapest, but my old 4BTV was good and even cheaper. OK, longer pipe to mount it to. In the ground over 6 feet now so I will have a more secure mount. This time I put lots of radials for 10/15/20. Over 200 feet of radials. The radio was filled with signals now and a different animal than it was before. It only got better after I picked up some good LMR-400 coax at the next hamfest.

The years rolled on, radios were added, I tried different antennas but always ended up going back to my easy to tune Hustlers, now a Hustler 6BTV with added DX Engineering 12m and 17m addons. Over 500 feet of radials on the ground does wonders. I just keep hearing from the cobwebs of my mind...remember Verticals Don't Work. DXCC on 6 bands,and WAS on 8 bands all on my vertical. I find that setting up the BTV antennas almost a hobby now. (Just in case you were wondering BTV = Band Trapped Vertical)

This long drawnout story is to point out that hearing something all the time does mean it is true. You even starting to doubt yourself after hours and hours of calling DX and getting skunked. DO NOT GIVE UP! My wife calls me stubborn, I prefer persistant.

Gud DX my friend de K9FE Mike





The Radio Amateur's Code

The Radio Amateur is...

CONSIDERATE... He never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...He offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in his country through which Amateur Radio in his country is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE... He keeps his station up to date. It is well build and efficient. His operating practice is above reproach.

FRIENDLY... He operates slowly and patiently when requested; offers friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED... Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC... His station and skills are always ready for serice to country and community

...adapted from the original Amateur's Code, Written by Paul M Sega;I, W9EEA, in 1928

©

John Devoldere 0N4UN and Mark Demeuleneere 0N4WW

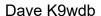
Taken from: Ethics and Operating Procedures for the Radio Amateur.

Bring back "RADIO IN THE PARK"

Harry Jones K9DXA" started "Radio in the Park" years ago. His idea was take your radio out to a local park and set it up and operate. Since we can't have any thing big, just take your rig, wear your mask, set up an antenna, radio and have fun.

The idea of this is bring ham radio to the public. Make a small sign with your name, call sign, and please add FRRL also. Would like some photo of your operation. May get someone to take a picture of you operating. Will try to get your picture into

the news letter. Please send a short report to me at my FRRL address. <u>Director3@frrl.org</u>













There are plenty of volunteer organizations that could use your radio skills.



Consider volunteering you can make the difference!!









The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible to apply for membership in ARES. Training may be required or desired to participate fully in ARES. Please inquire at the local level for specific information. Because ARES is an amateur radio program, only licensed radio amateurs are eligible for membership. The possession of emergency-powered equipment is desirable, but is not a requirement for membership.

ARES

Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible to apply for membership in ARES.

ARES Resources

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Download the ARES Manual [PDF]

- ARES Field Resources Manual [PDF]
- ARES Standardized Training Plan Task Book [Fillable PDF]
- **Emergency Communications Training**

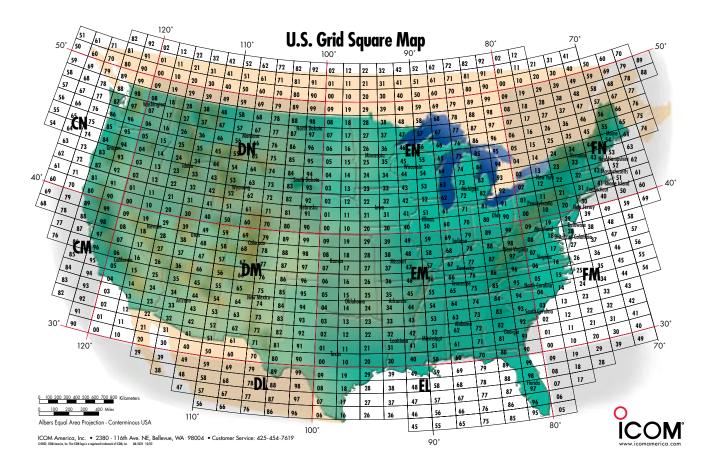


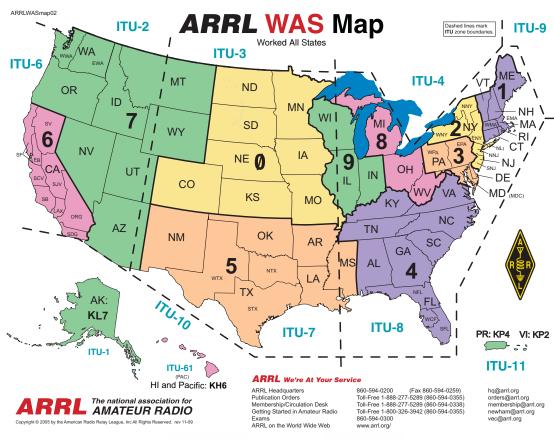
Kane County ARES

Information

Click Here



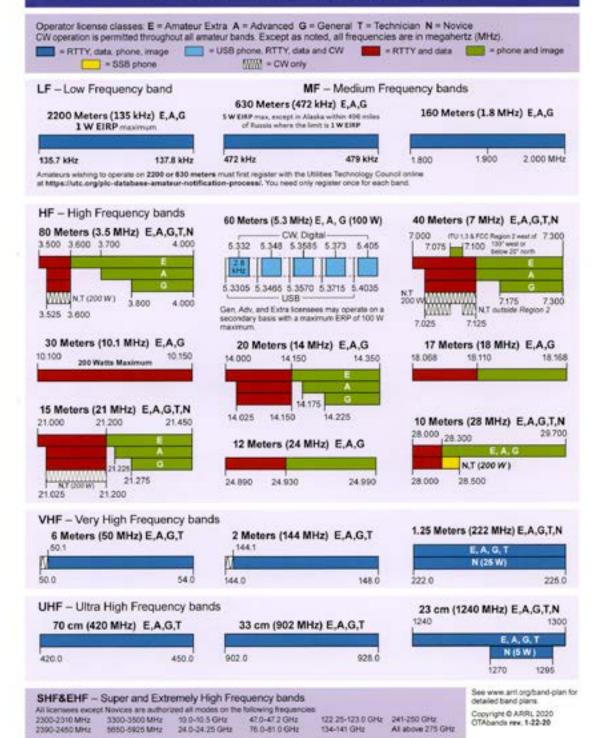








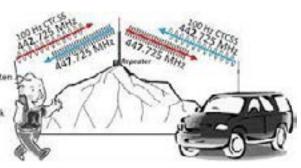
US Amateur Radio Bands











AND OTHER TERS

FRRL Repeaters- W9CEQ

147.225 MHz - Plano

Mode: Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X

+600 KHz Offset, 100.0 Access Tone

147.21 MHz - Elburn

Mode:FM (Echolink Available)W +600 KHz Offset, 103.5 Access Tone

444.300 MHz - Elburn

Mode: FM

+5 MHz Offset, 114.8 Access Tone

442.10625 MHz (B) - Elburn

Mode: D-Star +5 MHz Offset

Other Area Repeaters W9XA

53.910 - Batavia

-1.0 MHz offset PL 114.8 Hz

224.4 MHz - Batavia

-1.6 MHz offset PL 103.5 Hz

443.64375 MHz - Elburn

+5 MHz offset DMR 311759

443.65625 MHz - Plano

+5 MHz offset DMR 311760

1292.00 MHz - Batavia

-20 KHz 114.8 Access Tone

927.625 - Batavia

+25 MHz offset PL 114.8 Hz

W9DWP

145.270 MHz - Elburn

-600 KHz offset PL 107.2 ARES APCO P25 NAC 293



147.06 MHZ - Batavia

Mode FM +600 kHz offset PL 103.5.

Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X Repeaters

K9IIK/R

442.275 MHz - Schaumburg

Mode: Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X

+5 MHz, 114.8 Access Tone

W9CHI

444.600 MHz - Channahon

Mode: Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X 30024

+5 MHz, 136.5 Access Tone

KD9FA

443.600 MHz - Oswego

Mode: Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X

+5 MHz, 107.2 Access Tone

KC90EM Primary Kane County SKYWARN / ARES

145.470 MHz -St Charles

Mode: FM

-600 Offset, 103.5 KHz Access Tone



444.525 MHz -St Charles

Mode: Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X +5 MHz Offset, Access WWTone114.8



T3B11 B T3B10 C T3B08 D