



Arc Over

Fox River Radio
League
PO Box 673
Batavia, IL
60510-0673

August, 2012

President's Traffic

By Harry Jones K9DXA

I want to thank Mike K9FE and Chris KC9IEQ for their leadership in pulling off another successful Field Day for FRRL. Everyone I talked with had a great time at Jericho Park, and the meals and snacks were terrific. I've had my DXpedition absence now for 2012, and I am looking forward to pounding brass at the 2013 edition of Field Day with FRRL. It's not too early to start thinking about stepping forward and becoming part of the leadership for the next Field Day.

The 2012 FRRL Hamfest was quite successful this year due to the leadership efforts of Dawn KC9LQS. We had our usual array of commercial vendors inside, and a very nice group of tail gaters in the parking lot outside. Of course, we had VE testing. And this year, we had several FRRL member presentations on various topics that provided extra value for the price of a ticket. Mike K9FE set up a digital station so newcomers could operate and take notes. The early estimate is we cleared about the same revenue as last year to support the 2012 operating budget. Give Dawn and her volunteers a big "thank you" for the effort for another great Hamfest.

CQ magazine just started running an article written by, Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH, the retired FCC attorney in charge of enforcement of amateur radio regulations. His first column had some interesting items. First, he wanted to assure us that his replacement at FCC has not missed a beat in enforcement activity, but is dealing with two issues that were not such a factor previously. Now, the rules for restricting information through the Privacy Act are more demanding, and the travel budget for enforcement activities is more limited. The good news is the enforcement job is getting done. Another interesting issue challenging FCC enforcement is an FCC staff person's conclusion that "you cannot regulate 'stupid' and you cannot legislate 'common sense'". Think about that one. I expect he will provide more interesting insights in upcoming issues of CQ magazine.

I am a member of ARRL, and I always take advantage of the opportunity to review Directors' meeting minutes twice a year, and Executive Committee minutes also twice a year. It is important to me to understand the issues facing the ARRL leadership and the manner in which they handle the business. I have always been impressed with the way they handle the best interests of amateur radio at state level, nationally and internationally. The dues and other contributions I make to ARRL are well worth the results achieved for the benefit of our hobby. I encourage those of you who are ARRL members to spend a little time periodically to review the ARRL business minutes. And if you are not an ARRL member, I encourage you to consider joining. ARRL needs your support. ARRL does a great job. Remember, lots of organizations camp out in DC trying to convince our Federal government that they need more frequencies, including ours. What will you do about that?

A few times a year, I generally like to set up a portable station at a nearby forest preserve to operate a 2-4 hour HF CW QRP contest. It's great fun. Most of the time, I am alone, except for those hikers, picnickers, and dog walkers. Once I chatted with a curious Forest Preserve Police Officer. I generally raise a long wire vertical in a tree, and connect a battery and my paddles to a QRP rig. The QRP frequencies start buzzing as the contest starts, and runs pretty much straight through the end of the contest without too many dupli-

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D R A F T

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

Meeting Minutes July 10, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by Harry, President with 55 attending.

- Harry Jones K9DXA welcomed all, and asked that each attendee introduce him/herself as Name/Call/QTH. The question of the month was "Did you work VYO?"
- **Reports:**
 - **Secretary's Report:** Minutes from June were tabled until August meeting.
 - **Treasurers Report:** Dean KC9EOQ provided the treasurer's report.
Checking \$ 659.63
Savings \$5686.82
 - **Roster:** Dean KC9EOQ has tickets (\$5ea) for the Hamfest (July 15) for members to take with.
 - **Media:** Debby WX9VOR Talked about media activities. There was a mention in the St Charles paper about FRRL and ARES at Field Day.
 - **Program:** Dick AH6EZ will be talking about the VYO DXpedition ~95 slides. (Pictures this time, technical insights next time.
 - **Field Day** – Mike K9FE gave an overview of Field Day.
 - **Hamfest:** Dawn KC9LQS still need a few volunteers, especially at the gate. Sunday Morning at 6 for set up.
 - **ARES** –No report.
 - **Antenna SIG** - Harry Jones K9DXA talked about the workshop and showed pictures. Next time we'll build a 10 meter vertical.

Old Business

- **Emergency simulation:** Dawn KC9LQS gave an update of the Board's efforts to explore this area.
- **Ham Nation:** Harry - no date yet set.
- **Social Media:** There was a continuation of the discussion about changing our mix of social media. No decision was reached.

New Business

- **Winter Banquet:** Dick W9GIG talked about preparations. Have the entertainment lined up.
- **Illinois HB1390 (PRB-1)** done deal!
- **Cougars' tickets** – 7/27/12 See Ken N9WCX 4 tix left
- **QSL Bureau, Jack K9JE** anyone with bureau cards, give them to him and he'll mail them in by end of the month.
- **Raffle,** Chris KC9IEQ.

Announcements

Pins available from last year and this year.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mike K9FE and seconded by Randolph W9HE. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:
Randal Ligocki KC9KAX
FRRL Secretary

DRAFT

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

Meeting Minutes Jun 12, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Dawn KC9LQS, Vice President with 55 attending.

- Dawn KC9LQS welcomed all, and asked that each attendee introduce him/herself as Name/Call/QTH. The question of the month was "What is your favorite Ham activity during summer?"
- **Reports:**
 - **Secretary's Report:** Randal KC9KAX reported that there was one suggested modification to the minutes from Larry W9OKI. Mike K9FE sent me the corrections. Randolph W9HE moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Mike K9FE. The motion carried.
 - **Treasurers Report:** Dean KC9EOQ provided the treasurer's report.
Checking \$ 255.63
Savings \$5,686.82
Petty \$ 70.00
 - **Program:** Dick AH6EZ will be introducing the Ham Shack including an operating checklist, plus 2 videos. Two possible future programs Easy Pal and Airlink Express.
 - **Field Day:** Mike K9FE and Chris KC9IEQ shared that Field Day is emergency preparedness, food, etc. Site is at Jericho Lake Park in June 22, 23, 24. Mike Friday afternoon will be putting up the antennas. Saturday starts early. Announced the Band Captains. System checkout Saturday morning. Dick said he will be up in northern Canada for field day on a DXpedition.
 - **Hamfest:** Dawn KC9LQS said she will need volunteers to help with set-up, take-down and working the gate at Hamfest July 15. She and Dean KC9EOQ will be accepting payment for advance tickets during this and the July meeting. Tickets were distributed to members along with rosters.
 - **ARES:** Debby WX9VOR for Bill (Kane County) reported that 'the reason Amateur Radio has the frequencies is because of their support of Emergency Communications.' Chris KC9BKS announced Kendall County www.KC-ARES.org meeting times Wednesday nights.

Old Business

- **Ham Nation:** Dawn KC9LQS gave an update and continued the discussion to see if the club wants to follow up. Dean said the rumor is they (Ham Nation) are moving to another night. Information is available at www.twit.tv/hn.
- **Social Media:** Debby WX9VOR invited feedback via email from members regarding the use of social media. Our communications efforts are being re-evaluated and she will consider members' comments as plans are developed.
- **Emergency simulation:** Dick AH6EZ gave an update of the board's exploration of this activity.
- **VY0 Dxpediton:** on track. <http://ah6ez.yolasite.com> go to www.qrz.com and search for AH6EZ or K9DXA. Dick AH6EZ talked about their preparations and limitations on how much they can take.

New Business

- **Winter Banquet:** Dick W9GIG talked about preparations. The banquet will be held on Saturday, January 26 at St. Charles Place. Prices from \$24 to 40 including tax and gratuity, with cash bar.
- **Illinois HBI390 (PRB-1):** passed the Senate and is now pending the governor's signature.
- **QSL Bureau:** Jack K9JE invited anyone with bureau cards to give them to him and he'll mail them in.
- **Raffle:** Chris KC9IEQ none tonight.
- **Hamfest:** 7/15/12 See Dawn KC9LQS to help out.
- **Cougars' tickets:** 7/27/12 See Ken N9WCX
- **Tour de Cure:** Eric K9LQE reported 1100 riders, 2 injuries, 30 radio Ops, success!
- **Nets:** Dave W9XU reported Wed 7:30pm PSK FM net 144.9

Announcements

There was a request for info on making QSL cards. The suggestion was to look for one of the ads in the back of QSL magazine.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mike K9FE and seconded by Randolph W9HE. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:
Randal Ligocki KC9KAX
FRRL Secretary

cates! I generally have short contest QSOs with all parts of the country and a few Canadians. It's like a "mini" Field Day. Your ability to set up a station and operate is tested. And it is amazing what you can do with 5 watts.

We are coming up to the third quarter of the year. Two big FRRL events are just over. I am looking forward to an activity this Fall that will give us a first look into emergency communications. There may be a few more activities in store, too. In the meantime, keep those rigs warmed up, and keep driving those antennas with RF. Enjoy the bands! Tell me what ham activities you would like to do with other FRRL members.

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Free Class for General to Extra Upgrade

By Eric Needles AB9OS

General Class hams wanting to upgrade to Extra are in luck! The Fox River Radio League is offering a free nine week upgrade class, open to all Generals. Classes start September 22nd and will meet 9am-12:30pm on Saturday mornings. Although classes are free, space is limited, so please reserve your place with an e-mail to education@frrl.org as soon as possible. Students will need to get their own copy of The ARRL Extra Class License Manual, Tenth Edition.

The class will end in time for the VE session scheduled for Tuesday November 20th. This Extra class will prepare students for the new Question Pool that took effect on July 1st of this year. For more information visit <http://www.frirl.org/> and click on education. Also, please feel free to pass the word about this class. There is a flyer available to download in the education section on the website. Send it to anyone you think will have an interest in upgrading. 73!

Bill Erikson HF Challenge Update — Mid-July 2012

By Eric Needles AB9OS

The brave explorers have returned from the Nunavut wilderness and they bring with them amazing stories of DX pileups! Hopefully you made it to the last FRRL monthly meeting where Dick AH6EZ talked about his DXpedition to VY0 with Harry K9ARZ. It was very interesting to hear how the two of them were able to get there, the living conditions they experienced and a little about the life of the locals. Next month, Dick will share some tips on contacting rare DX and busting through pileups. If you love chasing DX on HF, you won't want to miss this!

As far as HF Challenge totals, it is easy to see we are in the summer vacation months. Most everyone has been busy with work and family responsibilities and Ham Radio activity has suffered. However, there are a few updates to report. Larry K9ARZ says "outside of an outstanding DXpedition effort by Dick, AH6EZ and Harry, K9DXA at VY0, this has been a rough month for DX...my only new one this month was 1A0C (Sovereign Military Order of Malta)."

Larry isn't the only one to work 1A0C. Joe NA9A also worked this Asterik entity. 1A0C belongs to The Order of Malta's Italian Relief Corps (CISOM) Amateur Radio Station. As part of the 1A0C DXpedition, donations were collected to be used to finance a project tied to emergency communications operations of CISOM, the civil defense arm of the Order of Malta. Malta is a Southern European country consisting of an archipelago situated in the center of the Mediterranean, about 50 miles south of Sicily. The Sovereign Military Order of Malta is an interesting contact for many radio amateurs around the world, especially as a new one on certain bands for a DXCC challenge or as a new one for Hams in Asia and in the western part of the United States.

Also, congratulations to Dave KB9MNM who joined the HF challenge last month and has since worked Israel, Moldova and Sardinia. Dave adds "never heard of the last 2!" That's a fun benefit of chasing DX, you'll learn about world geography!

Now for the numbers...

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Gary K9MMS-CW	50	10	175	235
Steve N5EP-CW	43	6	89	138
Jeff K9BQL-CW	3	1	124	128
Eric K9LGE-Digital	27	3	14	44
Dave KB9MNM-Digital	13	1	9	23
Jerry KA9VMD-PSK31	5	1	5	11
Eric AB9OS-CW	3	0	0	3

Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Jack K9JE	36	9	145	190
Herb W9DTR	50	11	110	171
Jim N9XP	32		104	136
Tobi K9TCD	35	5	73	113
Tom WB9CHY	42	4	38	84
Warren K9IH	25	5	37	67

QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Larry K9ARZ	50	13	244	307
Dick AH6EZ	50	12	202	264
Joe NA9A	41	8	229	278
Maurice N4LZ	40	7	82	129

Ragchew Class	States/Provinces	DX	Total
Dick AH6EZ			52
Herb W9DTR			21
Steve N5EP	12/1	1	14
Warren K9IH	12/2	0	14
Eric K9LGE			7
Joe NA9A	4	1	5
Eric AB9OS	1	0	1
Jerry KA9VMD	1	0	1

New Members

Welcome to the following new member:

CALL	NAME
KC0GIJ	Stuart Henn

Program Notes

The August FRRL program will be about Both Sides of the DX Curtain... Lessons learned about the planning of simple to more complex DXpeditions and strategies for managing a pileup or breaking through one.

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 social time,

a business portion and a program of interest.

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

We hope to see you there!

License Exams

The Fox River Radio League, Inc., in conjunction with the ARRL VEC, conducts amateur examinations on the 3rd Tuesday of January, March, May, September and November at St. Rita of Cascia Church in Aurora at 7:30 PM. A special session is held at the club's hamfest, usually in July each year. No advance registration is required, but please be sure to bring your license (if you have one) and a photocopy

of it, some form of photo identification and the fee of \$15.00. (The FRRL receives no portion of this fee.)

The next exam session is scheduled for September 18 at St. Rita of Cascia Church in Aurora. Please see the frrl.org website for details.

FRRL Dues

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.

Check with the Treasurer for details and additional dues rates.

Nets

Net Name	Freq.	Day	Time
FRRL	147.210	Tuesday	7:30 PM Local
10-10 CW	28.150	Monday	8:00 PM Local
10-10 SSB	28.720	Monday	8:30 PM Local

Fox River Radio League

Founded 1924

Mailing Address:

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Batavia, Illinois
60510-0673

Email:

info@frrl.org

Web Site:

<http://www.frrl.org>

President

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Vice President

Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

Secretary

Randal Ligocki KC9KAX

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FRRL CLUB MEETINGS ARE HELD AT ST. RITA OF CASCIA IN AURORA, IL, BUT LOCATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CHECK THE FRRL WEB SITE FOR THE ADDRESS AND A MAP TO THE MEETING LOCATION.
<http://www.frrl.org>

Send Address Corrections to:
Fox River Radio League, Inc.
3023 Scenicwood Lane.
Woodridge, IL 60517

FRRL Event Calendar

August, 2012

FRRL Board Meeting 7
FRRL Meeting 14

September, 2012

FRRL Board Meeting 4
FRRL Meeting 11
VE Session 18

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 20th day of each month for the next month's newsletter. Articles can be sent by email to arc-over@frri.org or via U.S. Mail. Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines.

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The opinions expressed in the ArcOver are strictly those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the FRRL, Inc. or its sponsors.

Local Area Repeaters/Nets

W9CEQ—147.210 Mhz.
+600 KHz, 103.5 access tone
Owned by FRRL

W9CEQ—444.300 Mhz. IRLP Node # 4850
+5 Mhz, 114.8 access tone
Owned by FRRL

W9CEQ_B D-Star—442.10625 Mhz (+ 5.0 Mhz offset)
W9CEQ_C D-Star—147.225 Mhz (-6.0 Mhz offset)
FRRL Digital Voice/Data Repeaters
Contact W9XA for information

KC9OEM—145.470 Mhz. -600 KHz, 103.5 access tone
KC9OEM—444.525 Mhz + 5 Mhz, 114.8 access tone
(2 meter is primary Kane Co. SKYWARN /ARES freq)
Owned by Kane County OEM

W9DWP—Kane Co. Amateur Public Svc. Rptrs.
145.270 -600 KHz, 107.2 access tone
443.025 +5 Mhz 114.8 access tone
Both repeaters are dual mode APCO-25 NAC-293

W9ZGP—NIARC
147.060 +600 KHz, 103.5 access tone

- Weekly ARES/Skywarn Net—Wed. Eve. at 6:30 pm local time on the KC9OEM 2 meter repeater
- Weekly FRRL Net—Tues. Eve. at 7:30 pm local time on the FRRL 2 Meter repeater.
- Monthly Simplex Net—4th Tues following weekly FRRL Net on the FRRL 2 Meter repeater.
- Illinois DStar Net - Wed. Eve. at 8:00 pm local time on the DStar 440 repeater.