



ARC OVER

The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League
Since 1924



February 2013



Proud to be an ARRL
Special Services Club



George "Dick" Isely, W9GIG

FRRL Ham of the Year for 2012!

At the club's annual winter awards banquet, FRRL President Harry Jones, K9DXA announced that Dick Isely, W9GIG was the recipient of the 2012 FRRL Ham of the Year award. President Jones cited Dick's dedication to the amateur radio hobby through his election as the ARRL Central Division Director. Dick has been the director for 12 years, and is also a member of the ARRL Executive Committee.

In the past, he has served as FRRL President, FRRL Board Member and Chairman of the FRRL Hamfest. Dick has been an active amateur for over 35 years, during which he has exemplified the amateur spirit through an unwavering devotion to the promotion of the amateur radio hobby. de W9XA

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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 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
no call	William Degorski	
KC9YHF	Deren Plant	General
KC9TNG	Christopher Anderson	General
KC9IRZ	Clif Houchin	Amateur Extra

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.

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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 \$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 Year End Results and What's New for 2013

By Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

Participants in last year's HF Challenge were recognized during FRRL's Winter Banquet. Program Administrator Joe Dubeck NA9A awarded certificates to all who reported contacts in 2012. Final results appear on the next page. Top performers in each category received a plaque commemorating their achievement. They were Gary K9MMS with 289 entities in the Limited Class; Jack K9JE with 238 entities in the Operator Class; Larry K9ARZ with 328 entities in the QRO Class; and Dick AH6EZ/W9 in the Ragchewers Class. Congratulations to all who participated!

New for the HF Challenge this year, the contest will be conducted in two parts. Any entity worked during the first half of the year can be worked a second time from July through December, effectively giving you the opportunity to earn two points for each entity instead of one. The new rules were sent out along with worksheets for the first half of the Challenge. Everyone who reports contacts between now and June will automatically be sent a worksheet for the second half of the year. Email challenge@frrl.org or see Joe if you haven't received the worksheet or have questions about the new format.

Reporting in as of Jan. 15th were Paul KC9UZV with 32 entities in the Limited Class and 6 Ragchews; Gary K9MMS in the QRO Class with 155 entities; Debbie WX9VOR with 7 entities in the Operator Class; John AG9D in the Limited Class with 28 entities and 10 Ragchews; Joe NA9A with 5 entities in the QRO Class and 4 Ragchews; John W8ACI with 13 ragchews; and Eric K9LGE with 14 entities in the Limited Class.

To report your progress for inclusion in Challenge updates each month, send us an email that includes a breakdown of states, provinces and DX entities as of the 15th of the month; the class in which you've entered, and of course your name and call sign. If you are also participating in the Ragchew Class, include the total number of contacts that were ragchews (lasting 10 minutes or more).

Congratulations to last year's participants and to those who have gotten a start on the 2013 Challenge. Getting on the air is what it's all about!

Limited (All CW)**2012**

Name	Callsign	States & Provinces	DXCC Countries	Total Entities
Gary Hornbuckle	K9MMS	62	227	289
Jeff Ekstrom	K9BQL	6	159	165
Steve Westfall	N5EP	49	91	140
Harry Jones	VY0/K9DXA	60	52	112

Operator Class**2012**

Name	Callsign	States & Provinces	DXCC Countries	Total Entities
Jack R. Ekstrom	K9JE	61	177	238
Herb Pasteur	W9DTR	62	125	187
Scott Martin	KC9RGF	49	131	180
Jim Nevitt	N9XP	47	114	161
Bill Muhr	NF9D	47	86	133
Tobi Davis	K9TCD	41	87	128
Warren Geary	K9IH	49	57	106
Tom Davis	WB9CHY	46	41	87
James Martin	KC9RVP	11	35	46
Alan Ahasic	W9AN	0	8	8
Deborah Gray	WX9VOR	4	2	6

QRO Class**2012**

Name	Callsign	States & Provinces	DXCC Countries	Total Entities
Lawrence Stark	K9ARZ	63	265	328
Joe Dubeck	NA9A	57	257	314
Dick Illman	AH6EZ/W9	63	230	293
Dick Illman	VY0/AH6EZ	63	67	130
Dean Holste	KC9EOQ	36	75	111

Ragchewers Class**2012**

Name	Callsign	Total Entities
Dick Illman	AH6EZ/W9	72
Warren Geary	K9IH	36
Scott Martin	KC9RGF	34
Herb Pasteur	W9DTR	26
Steve Westfall	N5EP	16
Joe Dubeck	NA9A	7
Dick Illman	VY0/AH6EZ	5
James Martin	KC9RVP	5
Bill Muhr	NF9D	5
Jim Nevitt	N9XP	3
Deborah Gray	WX9VOR	2

News from the Amateur Radio World!

The ARRL Board of Directors held its 2013 Annual Meeting January 18-19, 2013 in New Orleans, Louisiana, under the chairmanship of President Kay Craigie, N3KN. The Board welcomed two newly elected members to the Board family: Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, and Northwestern Division Vice Director James Pace, K7CEX; Lisenco and Pace were elected in November 2012. At its meeting, the Board set its legislative objectives for the 113th Congress, approved the organization's amended financial plan, elected members to the Executive Committee and ARRL Foundation, bestowed awards and more.

Click this link to read more: <http://tinyurl.com/am5zq6k>

On January 28, the FCC denied a Petition for Reconsideration (PFR) filed by James E. Whedbee, N0ECN, of Gladstone, Missouri. Whedbee filed the PFR in May 2012 in response to the FCC denying his Petition for Declaratory Ruling (PDR) filed in April 2012 that urged the FCC to address covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs).

In his PDR, Whedbee argued that CC&Rs restrict Amateur Radio facilities in violation of Section 310(d) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. He also asserted that there is a "controversy of CCR enforcement against Amateur Radio operators," and "requested a declaratory ruling terminating the controversy by holding that such CC&Rs are unenforceable."

The FCC concluded that the Mobility Division "properly acted" on Whedbee's PFR: "Given the opportunity for public comment already afforded by the Public Notice and the opening of GN Docket No. 12-91, and in light of the pendency (and later release) of the Commission's report to Congress and the statutory purpose of that report, your Petition was moot, premature, repetitive and frivolous."

Read the letter to Whedbee here: <http://tinyurl.com/aqaaaava>

Tim N6WIN posted this video of Dan N6MJ operating CW as Single-Operator, Two Radio in the recent North American QSO Party. Oh, and browsing the Internet (non-ham materials, contesters!) with a smartphone at the same time. Oh, and running at a rate of well over 100 QSOs per hour. This is why Dan was on one of the USA's WRTC-2010 operator teams!

See the video here: http://www.n6win.com/index_files/contesting.htm

Check out this video with Donald Duck. Do you recognize the sounds? Watch closely at the 2:11 minute mark. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPsyioVsau8>

Proud to be an ARRL Special Service Club!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Directors Meeting

February 5, 2013 @ 7:30pm
St. Rita's Office Annex

Membership Meeting

February 12, 2013 @ 7:30pm
St. Rita's Church Basement

Board of Director's Meeting

March 5, 2013 @ 7:30pm
St. Rita's Office Annex

Membership Meeting

March 12, 2013 @ 7:30pm
St. Rita's Church

VE Testing

March 19, 2013 @ 7:30pm
St. Rita's Office Annex

Hamfests

THE DEKALB HAMFEST
May 5, 2013 @ 8:00am

Location: Sandwich, IL

Sponsor: Kishwaukee Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.karc-club.org>

THE SIX METER CLUB

June 16, 2013 @ 8:00am

Location: Wheaton, IL

Sponsor: Six Meter Club of Chicago

<http://k9ona.com>

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Harry Jones, K9DXA, President

There are some big news items to report. First, we had a very nice annual Banquet on Jan. 26, 2013. Leading the event was the presentation of the Ham of the Year award to a very deserving Dick W9GIG. We had two very nice program presentations from Ward Silver N0AX, one was a "Dr. Balda" routine and the other was an extreme presentation to promote interest and new Elmers in getting involved with Contesting. The certificate presentations were very numerous due to the many contributions to FRRL's success by its members. Joe NA9A very ably handled as he always does the awards for those hardy HF Challenge folks. Becky KB9UBU and Kim KC9EIF did a great job handling many "Kodak" moments! The new Board was installed as well. Oh, by the way, the dinner choices at the St. Charles Place were excellent. A big thanks to Kermit W9XA and Dick W9GIG for a banquet very well done.

The day after the banquet, Kermit W9XA gave Ward N0AX a tour of portions of Fermi Lab. Ward got a kick out of the big Klystron and the big dummy load there. Those of you who are ARRL members and subscribe to the ARRL weekly contest report via email can see a couple pictures taken on the tour.

Leaving the Board were Neil KB9RFX, Paul AC9BS, and Randal KC9KAX. They are missed on the Board. I know we will see them both working hard on other FRRL activities this year. Thank you for serving on the Board of FRRL in 2012.

The last news item is that a relative newcomer to FRRL, but a very experienced repeater builder and operator, Mike KK4GGG has taken over the lead for our Tuesday night net on 2M. The new net has had three weeks activity so far, and the number of check-ins each week is skyrocketing. If you have 2M capability, you need to do two things: 1. Check in to the Tuesday night net, and 2. tell Mike you will volunteer to occasionally take control of the net like Paul KC9UZC did on Jan. 29.

Plans are underway in preparation for our Field Day and Hamfest. There will be more news to come on those events.

Get on the air!

<dit> <dit>

STUDY QUESTIONS

OF THE MONTH

FROM THE TECHNICIAN POOL

Q: T1A01 (D) [97.3(a)(4)]

For whom is the Amateur Radio Service intended?

- A:** A. Persons who have messages to broadcast to the public
B. Persons who need communications for the activities of their immediate family members, relatives and friends
C. Persons who need two-way communications for personal reasons
D. Persons who are interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest

FROM THE GENERAL POOL

Q: G1A02 (B) [97.305]

On which of the following bands is phone operation prohibited?

- A:** A. 160 meters
B. 30 meters
C. 17 meters
D. 12 meters

FROM THE EXTRA POOL

Q: E1A08 (B) [97.219]

If a station in a message forwarding system inadvertently forwards a message that is in violation of FCC rules, who is primarily accountable for the rules violation?

- A:** A. The control operator of the packet bulletin board station
B. The control operator of the originating station
C. The control operators of all the stations in the system
D. The control operators of all the stations in the system not authenticating the source from which they accept communications

Make Time For Radio

By Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

The bad news is, time flies. The good news, according to motivational speaker Michael Altshuler, is that you're the pilot.

What do motivation and time management have to do with amateur radio? Quite a lot; based on discussions with a number of FRRL members in the last few months. While the value of the services we as hams can provide our communities in time of crisis is understood, finding time to practice the craft for our own pleasure is sometimes difficult.

Remember, though, that "difficult" doesn't mean "impossible."

Time is finite, and for some of us, other commitments seem to fill the limited amount we have available in the course of the day. Demanding work schedules, maintaining a home, caring for young children or aging parents, church and civic events, and yes, even service to our club, are all important and necessary. Taking an entire weekend to work a contest or an evening for DXing may be tough to justify when priorities demand otherwise. Such busy schedules call for extreme creativity. Following are some ideas to help the dedicated but over-committed ham get back on the air.

Keep the station ready. It's easier to make use of small pockets of time if all you need to do is flip a few switches and open the logging program to get on the air. Designate a space for your radio if you don't have a dedicated shack, and make sure your equipment is set up, properly connected and ready to operate.

Use "stolen" time. No one likes waiting, but unexpected delays can be put to good use. Get comfortable with being spontaneous, and use unexpected downtime when it occurs – even 15 minutes is enough for a short ragchew or a handful of quick DX contacts.

Put it on the calendar. Treat your radio time with the same respect given to your other commitments.

Join the HF Challenge. There's nothing like being accountable to motivate us! The Challenge offers the added bonus of some friendly competition, and the satisfaction of seeing your progress as you send in your updates each month.

Get the spark back. Long days and excessive stress eventually drain us of energy and enthusiasm. Reignite your excitement by focusing on the aspects of radio that first drew you to the hobby. Get on your favorite frequency at the time of day most suitable to capture some rare DX; work a few hours of a contest if you love radio sport; buy a kit that you can work on whenever you have a little time; or call CQ and enjoy a ragchew. It may seem counterintuitive, but taking time for the things you love actually reduces stress and helps us be more effective and resilient. If finding time for radio has been a challenge lately, don't let another year fly by. Get creative, get determined, and most importantly, get back on the air!

UPCOMING CONTESTS

February and March 2013

FEBRUARY 2013

Date	Contest	Web Page
Feb 8 1400Z	YL-OM Contest	www.ylrl.org
Feb 9 0000Z	YLISSB QSO Party	www.ylssystem.org
Feb 9 0000Z	CQ WW RTTY WPX	www.cqwprrty.com
Feb 9 1500Z	Louisiana QSO Party	laqso.w5yl.org
Feb 9 1500Z	OMISS QSO Party	www.omiss.info
Feb 9 1600Z	Hampshire QSO Party	www.w1wqm.org
Feb 9 1700Z	FISTS CW Winter Sprint	www.fists.org
Feb 11 1300Z	School Club Roundup	www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup
Feb 16 0000Z	ARRL Int'l CW DX Contest	www.arrl.org/contests
Feb 22 2200Z	CQ WW 160 Meter SSB	www.cq160.com
Feb 23 1500Z	Mississippi QSO Party	www.arrlmiss.org
Feb 23 1800Z	NA QSO Party RTTY	www.ncjweb.com
Feb 24 1500Z	North Carolina QSO Party	www.ncqsoparty.org
Feb 25 0100Z	CQC Winter QSO Party	www.cqc.org

MARCH 2013

Date	Contest	Web Page
Mar 2 0000Z	ARRL Int'l Phone DX Contest	www.arrl.org/contests
Mar 5 1900Z	YL CW Party	www.agcw.de
Mar 9 1900Z	Idaho QSO Party	www.idahoarrl.info/qsoparty
Mar 10 1800Z	Wisconsin QSO Party	www.warac.org
Mar 16 1300Z	Oklahoma QSO Party	www.k5cm.com/okqp.htm
Mar 16 1400Z	Virginia QSO Party	www.qsl.net/sterling
Mar 16 1800Z	North Dakota QSO Party	www.w0nd.com
Mar 17 0000Z	North American Sprint	www.ncjweb.com
Mar 23 0000Z	Lighthouse Spring Lites QSO party	www.arlhs.com
Mar 30 0000Z	CQ WPX SSB Contest	www.cqwpix.com

ARISS- School Contacts From Then Until Now.....

John Spasojevich, AG9D- ARISS School Contact Mentor

ARISS - Amateur Radio aboard the International Space Station is the name given to a program supported by ARRL, AMSAT, NASA and the other space agencies worldwide. ARISS traces its history back to the SAREX or Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment as well as amateur radio aboard the MIR space station. The purpose of the program is to encourage education in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) subjects and to increase interest in amateur radio. The main target audiences for these scheduled contacts are elementary and high schools as well as universities and other organizations. There have been some major changes in how the program operates to let you know about.

First an update, in the twelve years since operations began on ISS we have successfully completed 771 ISS to School contacts and a total of 788 ISS to School events which include multiple schools during the same contact. Generally we try to conduct one school contact per week sometimes more depending on scheduling.

The way get a contact was to find a ham who went to a school where you might know a teacher or where your child went to school and pitch the idea or a teacher somehow found out about it and sent an application to the ARRL. Typically the wait time from application to contact was eighteen months to two years. Scheduling the contact is done by NASA but depends upon the willingness of the astronaut and the amount of free time they wish to commit to making contacts. Contrary to popular ham belief they are not up there to talk on the radio. In the years since the end of MIR astronauts now take iPads, iPods, musical instruments and have access to the Internet, Skype and an IP phone so the need to get some human contact outside of their crew mates (the psychological reason for ham radio being there originally) is all but gone, that's why you seldom hear astronauts on the radio outside of scheduled school contacts. Some of the equipment will be moved to the Columbus module and we should start to see more regular packet and cross band repeater operation. The Europeans will be sending up their HAM TV system shortly which will provide ATV during various times and planned one way image transmissions for ISS to the schools for ARISS contacts.

The biggest change to the program is in school selection. The NASA Teaching From Space office now plays a major role in ARISS. They handle program publicity and have a hand in school selection. Rather than sending in applications constantly there are specific application windows. A school must download a proposal package from the Teaching From Space website and complete the forms and return them by the deadline for the window they are competing for. Warning to anyone wishing to make a proposal, your education plan will make or break you. Gone are the days of saying you will teach and then doing nothing until contact day. NASA will check periodically on what you are doing and be prepared to send photos. In return, if your proposal is accepted you will be selected as either a primary or a back up school. If you are a primary school you WILL have a contact in that six month window. If you are a back up you MIGHT have a contact, generally the mentor group will take everyone on both lists so it will come down to the NASA mission planners to fit everyone in but again if you are selected as a primary school, you will have a contact scheduled in the six month window you applied for, no more waiting for years.

Once selected, you will attend a teleconference with the TFS office and after that you will quickly be given the target week for contact. What happens after that depends on whether your contact will be direct or a te- lebridge which is outside the scope of this article.

Apply for a contact and you'll find out! Or contact me for more information.

These are exciting and challenging contacts, I've had the pleasure of participating in many both directly and long distance in the six years I've been involved with the program and have found it to be very rewarding.

Organizations within the United States and its territories that wish to host an ARISS contact should contact the NASA Teaching From Space (TFS) office. Information about the requirements and schedule for submitting an ARISS contact proposal can be found on the TFS Web site at:

<http://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/teachingfromspace/students/ariss.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 through a liaison station.

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.



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

Meeting Minutes January 8, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by President Harry K9DXA.

Reports

- Minutes from the December Membership Meeting were presented by Secretary Paul AC9BS. Mike K9FE moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Doug W9RD. Motion carried.
- Treasurer Dean KC9EOQ presented the Treasurer's report to the membership. Mike K9FE moved to accept Treasurer Report, second by Larry W9OKI. Motion carried.
- Program Dick AH6EZ reported that the evening's program would be on SMD soldering, recent kit build 500kHz transceiver and operating video on Flex Radio 6000.
- Kendall, DuPage, Will and Kane Counties ARES representatives gave updates on their respective organizations.

Old Business- None

New Business

- Harry K9DXA announced that Mike Voiland, KK4GGG, will be new Net Control Operator starting Jan.15,2013 and we are still looking for members stepping up to be Control Operators.
- Dick AH6EZ announced that the 2-meter has been firmware updated that handles hourly voice bulletin board announcements.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mike K9FE and seconded by Joe NA9A. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Paul Mandrik AC9BS FRRL Secretary

IMPORTANT AMATUER RADIO WEB PAGE LINKS

www.frrl.org
www.arrl.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)

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 (-6.0 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

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