



Arc Over

May, 2012

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

President's Traffic

By Harry Jones K9DXA

By now, everyone who joined/renewed membership in FRRL by the cut-off date should see their name and info in the printed roster. Any current member who has an account set up on Yahoo Groups should be able to locate the roster file which includes all members as of the date the roster file was placed at that site. If there are any revisions later this year, the file will be updated then as well. So we should all be able to locate each other as necessary. Thanks to Dean KC9EOQ and Chris KC9BKS for that chore. And again, a big thank you to Jack Needles (Eric AB9OS) for the fantastic cover artwork!

Four "newer" hams gathered at the club station on April 15, 2012, not to file their taxes, but to run W9CEQ in the ARRL Rookie Roundup. They are Debby WX9VOR, Paul KC9UZV, Paul KC9SEB, and Paul AC9BS. Visit the ARRL website and get the final results. W9CEQ placed 6th in the Multioperator category. Dick AH6EZ, Michael KC9OPV, Denny W9HI, Fr. Cesar N9CCP, Dean KC9EOQ and Harry K9DXA played the role of Elmers and control operators during the afternoon. The Rookies say they are ready for more contesting. Keep an eye on those call signs. A club station sure does open up new doors!

Dawn KC9LQS has worked hard to analyze the survey results to learn what topics might be appropriate for new, limited-time FRRL Special Interest Groups (SIG). Well, one of the leading topics is antennas for "newer" hams. So I stepped up and decided to lead a short (two Saturday mornings) Antenna SIG. We have seven members signed up so far. We'll be building "budget" antennas, both a single band wire dipole and a 10M vertical. We will review some of the very basics and work with an antenna analyzer. And all participants will install them at home and report back the details of their success. Stay tuned, Dawn has more stuff coming!

Dave's N9XU Wednesday evening two meter digital net has picked up a few more members. If you have not tried digital modes, I want you to know the cost is minimal. You really need to talk to Dave and he will help you get started. We had an FRRL Saturday morning activity a few years ago where all the participants built their own digital interface. It's not just limited to two meters.

Chuck Krezwick WV9C has joined with Rep. John Bradley to get our state PRB-1 passed out of the Rules Committee in Springfield. If the bill is passed, this will give us a state-level preemption of local antenna ordinances and mandate 'reasonable accommodation' of our antennas. This bill may be up for a full House vote as early as this week. There may be additional requests from our ARRL Illinois Section Manager, to write to our state legislature to help push this bill along. Just prior to writing this, I heard a number of other state legislators have asked to join sponsorship of the bill. Previous messages to Springfield seem to be working. Last meeting Bill NF9D, Emergency Coordinator - Kane County ARES announced he was looking for more Hams to step up and give their organization a hand. They do weekly nets and public service activities. Everything focuses on public service, which is one reason why amateur radio exists. I had a chance to attend one of their monthly meetings at a St. Charles fire station the other day. It was my introduction into emergency communications. If you want to help ARES at the county level, locate someone involved and ask questions like I did.

(Continued on page 3)

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 April 10, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Harry Jones K9DXA – President with 53 attending.

- Harry K9DXA welcomed all, and asked that each attendee introduce him/herself as Name/Call/QTH. The question of the month was how many antennas do you have.
- Reports:
 - Secretary's Report: Randal KC9KAX reported that there were no suggested modifications to the minutes. Marty N9NTM moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Mike K9FE. The motion carried.
 - Treasurers Report: Dean KC9EOQ provided the treasurer's report.
Checking \$ 662.62
Savings \$ 6,004.62
CDs \$18,334.24
Petty \$ 70.00
Roster: Dean KC9EOQ has tickets (\$5ea) for the Hamfest (July 15) for members to take with. There was a presentation to Jack who drew the cover of the Roster.
 - 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 in June 22, 23, 24. Mike announced the Band Captains. Setting up antennas on Friday after 1pm. Checkout Saturday morning. 4th full weekend of Rain in June.
 - MS Walk – Mike K9FE shared that registration is online Illinois MS Society (can also still register at the event). Have 4-5 stops to man. May 6, 7:30am.
 - Wireless Mike – Mike K9FE said the donated mike is being repaired. The option is still to buy a pro unit.
 - Newsletter – Harry reported for Tobi K9TCD she needs articles by the 25th. Send articles!
 - ARES – Debby WX9VOR for Bill (Kane County) reported quotes 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.
 - Short Term SIGs – Dawn KC9LQS : Kit Building, Antennas, PSK (i.e. PSKNet Dave W9XU 144.9 Wed after 9 pm Check in on voice.), CW, ?
 - HF Antennas – Harry K9DXA Proposed two Saturday morning meetings for a beginning Antenna SIG: a little math, build a single band wire dipole, build a 10M wire vertical, check things with an analyzer, take them home, put them up, you must use it !!! How did they work?

Old Business

Dick W9GIG, gave an update on statewide political happenings. Our liaison is very qualified. The distracted driving law has been amended to exclude us and is being worked through the system. PRBI law in committee.

New Business

Dick AH6EZ talked about the need for new webmaster. He demonstrated a sample website.

Announcements –

- QSL Bureau, Jack K9JE anyone with bureau cards, give them to him and he'll mail them in!
- Cougar Night Ken announced tickets are available.
- Raffle, Chris KC9IEQ none tonight.
- Liaison to St. Rita Eric AB9OS to handle FRRL meeting facility requests to St. Rita (10 days minimum advanced notice).
- Tour de Cure, Eric Lorenz K9LGE Bike Ride support – July 10. Contact Mike KC9QLT.
- W9CEQ station manual, Dick AH6EZ introduced the initial draft.
- FRRL to host station for ARRL Rookie Roundup, Sunday April 15, 11:00am – 4:30pm, here.
- Technical@FRRL.org Denny W9HI announced send technical questions
- Saturday Tom Skilling weather presentation.
- Sandwich Hamfest in May.
- April 28, Ill Repeater association at Bloomington/Normal.

It's that time of the year where 20,000-plus ham operators migrate to the Dayton Hamvention, Dayton, OH to participate in the many, many activities that local hams organize every year for quite a few years. There is likely every facet of ham radio there. Talk to a friend. Read the Ham periodicals. It is an interesting excursion.

Field Day and Hamfest are coming up in June and July. Field Day is likely the biggest operating event of the year. Hamfest provides a great time for all, as well as eases the burden on the FRRL budget. Do what you can to get involved. For example, those four Rookie Roundup members should be great operating somewhere at our Field Day site. See Mike K9FE about Field Day, and Dawn KC9LQS about Hamfest.

73, Harry K9DXA
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- New license upgrades last month

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Ken N9WCS and seconded by Dave K9WDB. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:53 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:
Randal Ligocki KC9KAX
FRRL Secretary

New Members

Welcome to the following new member:

CALL	NAME
WD9DBJ	Richard Gulbrandsen

Program Notes

The May program will be a DVD of the recent South Orkney DXpedition.

Bill Erikson HF Challenge Update — Mid-April 2012

By Eric Needles AB9OS

As summer approaches, there is talk of antenna projects, summer trips and Field Day. All great opportunities for building up your HF Challenge scores. But with the warm weather come storms, so be sure and unplug equipment when lightning is expected!

Glad to have Warren K9IH in the Challenge again, he is a great operator. FB to Jim N3XP who worked OD5QB Lebanon and 9K2VO Kuwait for the first time ever since he started working HF!

Larry K9ARZ says "conditions have been pretty good this month picking up: A25JR Botswana, 3W2LI, 3W2BB, and XV2RZ in Vietnam, 9M2/R6AF/P in Sabah, No. Borneo, A61QQ, UAE, OJ0MC, Market Reef; A45XR, Oman; RI1FJA, Franz Josef Land, CE0Y/NL8F, Easter Island, 4S7BRG, Sri Lanka, XU7SSB Cambodia, J52HF, Guinea Bissau, XT2AEF, Barking Faso, TO7BC, Mayotte, Y11RZ, Iraq; AP2NK, Pakistan, RA2FB; Kaliningradsk, E51M (Manihiki) No. Cook Isls., 5T0JL Mauritania, and a number of former Soviet Republics: EX8MAT, EY7AD, 4L3Y, UA0YAY (Tanu Tuva for DXCC Jubilee) and finally VK0TH Macquarie Island."

There were many updates this month so keep up the good work! And now for the numbers...

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Gary K9MMS-CW	50	9	160	219
Steve N5EP-CW	43	6	89	138
Jeff K9BQL-CW	3	1	124	128
Eric K9LGE-Digital	27	3	14	44
Jerry KA9VMD-PSK31	5	1	5	11
Eric AB9OS-CW	3	0	0	3

Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Herb W9DTR	50	11	87	148
Jim N9XP	32		104	136
Tobi K9TCD	33	5	73	111
Tom WB9CHY	40	4	38	82
Warren K9IH	20	3	18	41

QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Larry K9ARZ	50	13	222	285
Dick AH6EZ	50	12	194	256
Joe NA9A	36	8	207	251
Maurice N4LZ	40	7	82	129

Ragchew Class	States/Provinces	DX	Total
Dick AH6EZ	39/7	5	51
Herb W9DTR			21
Steve N5EP	12/1	1	14
Warren K9IH	9/1	1	11
Eric K9LGE			7
Joe NA9A	4	1	5
Eric AB9OS	1	0	1
Jerry KA9VMD	1	0	1

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 May 15 at St. Rita of Cascia church. 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

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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

May, 2012

FRRL Board Meeting 1
FRRL Meeting 8
VE Session 15

June, 2012

FRRL Board Meeting 5
FRRL Meeting 12

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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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.