



ARC OVER

The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League
Since 1924



December 2013



Proud to be an ARRL
Special Services Club

DECEMBER MEETING NOTICE! REMEMBER YOUR FOOD PANTRY DONATION!

Meeting Date: 12/10/2013

**Please bring nonperishable item(s) for our annual
donation to the Aurora Area Food Pantry.**

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Our December meeting will include the election of 2014 officers, our traditional Christmas Party meeting, and the Food Pantry donation. Hope to see you all there.



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 our new member to the club!

CALL	Name	License Class
	No new members this Month	

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 newsletter. Articles can be sent by email to: arcover@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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Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

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Dean Holste, KC9EOQ

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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

By Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

HF Challenge Update for Mid-November

If you've heard it once, you've heard it a dozen times this year – it's never too late to get in on the fun of the HF Challenge! Reporting scores for the first time as of mid-November is John KC9OJV – welcome! Another late-start participant, Debby WX9VOR, reported her first DX contacts last month. “One pile-up took me over an hour to work through,” she said, “but even with just 100 watts and a dipole, I made it.”

Long-time participants are reporting QSOs with rare DX entities and say activity has been high. “Lots of new stuff on now,” wrote Joe NA9A, “and sunspots are unbelievable.” Among his contacts as of Nov. 15th were Congo, Andorra, Yemen, Juan Fernandez Is., Wake Is., Ogasawara, and Myanmar (Burma).

“The solar flux has been high and the DXing has been great!” said Larry K9ARZ. His recent QSOs included Wallis Island, Sierra Leone, South Cook Islands, Lesotho, Mauritania, Kyrgyzstan, Grenada, Socotra Island (Yemen), Bahama Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands, Montserrat, Tanzania, Ogasawara Is., Madagascar, San Andreas and Providencia, Pascua Is. (Easter Island), Wake Is., Monaco, Banaba Is., Juan Fernandez Is., Vanuatu, and Antarctica.

There's still time to become part of the 2013 Challenge, so what are you waiting for? If you need forms or more information, see Joe NA9A at the next club meeting, or email challenge [at] frrl [dot] org.

73 de KC9LQS

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Paul KC9UZV	77	9	29	115
Jim W9NJP	25	3	17	45
Paul KC9SEB	62	8	62	132
Warren K9IH	24	3	36	63

Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
John W8ACI	17	3	31	51
Tobi K9TCD	25	4	50	79
Tom WB9CHY	7	1	55	63
Jack K9JE	46	8	127	181
Herb W9DTR	100	21	188	309
Dean KC9EOQ	31	3	37	71
Bill NF9D	21	0	11	32
Debby WX9VOR	27	2	1	30
Ron KC9SNI	9	0	10	19
John KC9OJV	20	2	15	37

QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Joe NA9A	57	8	404	469
Gary K9MMS	50	10	176	236
Dick AH6EZ	100	25	397	522
Larry K9ARZ	100	26	467	593

Ragchew Class	States/Provinces	DX	Total
Dick AH6EZ/W9	41	10	51
Jim W9NJP	17	1	18
John W8ACI	9	1	10
Paul KC9UZV	44	4	48
Herb W9DTR	40	4	44
Joe NA9A	10	8	18
Warren K9IH	19	5	24
Debby WX9VOR	8	0	8



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"Established 1924"
An ARRL Special Service Club
W9CEQ PO Box 673 Batavia, IL 60510



Final Election Slate For December 2013 Election of 2014 FRRL Officers/Directors

Based on action at the November 2013 FRRL Meeting, here are the members up for election:

For President: KC9LQS Dawn Williams, Batavia
For Vice President: AB9TA Bill Springer, West Chicago
For Secretary: KC9SNI Ron Jahr, Naperville
For Treasurer: KC9EOQ Dean Holste, Aurora

For Board Members –'Directors' (2yr term), Need 2, Vote for 2

KC9USB Brian Stroub, Montgomery
NE9G Dan Samaras, Geneva
WA9YKK Dan Harmon, Campton Hills

Please refer to Article VII of the Bylaws on page 5 for issues involving the election.



THE FOX RIVER RADIO LEAGUE, INC.

BYLAWS

Amended May 9, 2006

ENACTMENT

The final draft of this document was read and approved by the membership present at the Fox River Radio League, Inc. meeting held on November 11, 1997 and was duly recorded in the minutes of that meeting by the Secretary. Subsequent amendments are recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which they were passed.

(Editor's Note: the section shown below was taken from the club by-laws for members who are not familiar with the club election procedures.)

Article VII - Election of Officers and Directors

- Section 1. Nominations: The Nominating Committee shall present, at the November meeting, a slate of candidates consisting of a minimum of one (1) name per office. Nominations shall also be accepted from the floor at only the November meeting. All nominations shall be published in the next issue of the FRRL Newsletter, or failing said publication, a list of same shall be sent to all members via First Class U.S. mail, a minimum of one week ahead of the December meeting.
- Section 2. Election: The annual election of all officers and the directors shall take place at the December meeting. The balloting shall allow for write-in names. A candidate shall be declared elected if that candidate receives the most votes cast by the members.
- Section 3. Absentee Ballots: Absentee ballots are allowed only for the election of officers and directors. The absentee ballot shall be prepared by the voter and delivered to any officer prior to the start of the meeting at which the annual election of officers and directors is held. All absentee ballots shall be drafted in ink. The office being voted on with the first and last names or the callsign of each candidate shall be listed on this ballot. The completed ballot shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope that is both printed and signed in ink using first and last name of the voter. The ballots shall be opened and tallied at the election.

STUDY QUESTIONS OF THE MONTH

FROM THE TECHNICIAN POOL

Q: T7C07

What happens to power lost in a feedline?

- A. It increases the SWR
- B. It comes back into your transmitter and could cause damage
- C. It is converted into heat
- D. It can cause distortion of your signal

FROM THE GENERAL POOL

Q: G5B05

How many watts are dissipated when a current of 7.0 milliamperes flows through 1.25 kilohms?

- A. Approximately 61 milliwatts
- B. Approximately 61 watts
- C. Approximately 11 milliwatts
- D. Approximately 11 watts

FROM THE EXTRA POOL

Q: E4A03

Which of the following parameters would a spectrum analyzer display on the vertical axis?

- A. Amplitude
- B. Duration
- C. SWR
- D. Q

President's Traffic

Harry Jones, K9DXA

We have our final slate of nominees for the election at our December meeting. Next year's leadership will be determined in December. So please be sure to vote at the December meeting. If possible, bring goodies for our annual Holiday Party again this year after the business meeting. Chris, KC9IEQ promises to have another extra length raffle and door prizes.

Bring your checkbooks/money to the next meeting because we are accepting FRRL membership renewals for 2014. We are also selling tickets for our annual banquet later in January. We'll have another fine party in January.

We have had some luck finding places to move our meetings in the Aurora area. A few require an hourly fee. A few are free, but may require us to move our meeting night to another night of the week. I know the thought of moving our meeting night is not popular. The Board will be discussing the pros and cons. I may need to bring up the matter of a meeting night change at our meeting in December. If so, please consider the alternatives and let me know what you think. It will be very difficult to extend our meetings at St Rita Church.

We did successfully move our equipment, antennas, and such from the St. Rita Church a few Saturdays ago as planned. It is now very easy to vacate that property.

Contests and cold weather: Have we all been able to endure lately? Remember, we used to supplement heating our shacks with a few well-placed final amplifier tubes. As we progressed further into the contest, the shack temperature would climb. It's just like a reward for running up the score. How about you? Have you warmed those finals (Yes, solid state gets warm, too) sufficiently to run the ambient up in your shack? If not, what are you waiting for? Fire up the rig and get on the air!!!

<dit> <dit>



ARRL Contest News

A tip from the Volunteer Examiner community alerting us to be sure the study guides of our students are up to date. Hand-me-down copies and out-of-date books in libraries and stores can cause a lot of problems. The [question pools](#) are updated every four years. The dates for which the material is valid are usually printed on the cover - why not check what's available in your library and offer to update it if necessary?

Here's another anniversary - the WLS tower in Illinois has reached the advanced age of 75 years as described in this [story from Radio World](#). Given the number of ice storms, such longevity is pretty amazing! (Thanks, Eric W3DQ)

Six meter operators were treated November 9 to an F₂ opening from approximately 1500 until 1630 UTC. "These have been very rare in Solar Cycle 24," said QST "The World Above 50 MHz" Editor Jon Jones, NØJK. He described the opening as "mostly single-hop F₂" from the East Coast, Midwest, Gulf Coast, and to the West Coast to Central America, Northern South America and Caribbean.

Jones said the geomagnetic field was active, with a K of 4, due to what [Spaceweather.com](#) called "a gusty stream of solar wind buffeting Earth's magnetic field, sparking auroras around both of our planet's poles." Jones said he was "late to the show" because he'd worked the night before. He didn't get into the fray until 1550 UTC after he saw all the 6 meter spots showing up.

"I turned on the radio, and FM5AN, P43A, PJ4NX, etc were all blasting in loud here in eastern Kansas," he said. "I worked FM5AN and P43A from home using a M² loop in the attic. Jean, P43A said I was S-9. Nothing new or rare, but any F₂ on 6 meters in solar cycle 24 is a treat."

UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Director's Meeting

Dec 03, 2013 @7:30pm
St. Rita's Office Annex

Membership Meeting

Dec. 10, 2013 @7:30pm
St. Rita's Church

Technician Pool- C. It is converted into heat

General Pool- A. Approximately 61 milliwatts

Extra Pool- A. Amplitude



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.

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.



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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 St. Rita of Cascia, Aurora, IL

Meeting Minutes November 12, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by President Harry Jones K9DXA

Question of the Month: If you could get help with design or construction what antenna would you want?

Reports:

Minutes: The October meeting minutes were presented, Moved by- Paul AB9BS, Second by- Marty N9NTM, Motion carried

Treasurer: the Treasurer’s report was presented to the membership.

Program: Dick AH6EZ, will speak of his experiences working from 3 county borders in the IL QSO Party

ARES: The Kane & Kendall ARES representatives (Bill NF9D & Chris KC9BKS) reported there will be no meetings for the rest of the year.

PR Report: NC17 (Naperville Public Access) Looking for Naperville residents who are hams for the Naperville Extra program. Contact Debbie WX9VOR

Old Business:

Budget 2013 update was presented by President Jones. K9DXA.

New Business:

Annual Nominating Committee Mike K9FE, Denny W9HI, Dick AH6EZ
 Election slate from the election committee

President	KC9LQS	Dawn Williams	Batavia
Vice President	AB9TA	Bill Springer	West Chicago
Secretary	KC9SNI	Ron Jahr	Naperville
Treasurer	KC9EOQ	Dean Holste	Aurora

Board Members (2yr term) Need 2

KC9USB	Brian Stroub	Montgomery
NE9G	Dan Samaras	Geneva
WA9YKK	Dan Harmon	Campton Hills

No nominations were offered from the floor.

Motion to accept and close the slate as presented, made by Dick, W9GIG Seconded by Bill, KC9UTT

