



# ARC OVER

The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League  
Since 1924



November 2013

## The FRRL is looking for a new meeting place!



Proud to be an ARRL  
Special Services Club



### What's Inside

- About FRRL.....Page 2
- HF Challenge.....Page 3
- Election Information.....Page 4
- By-Laws Information.....Page 5
- President's Traffic.....Page 6
- ARRL News.....Page 7
- Contests.....Page 8
- ARES Information.....Page 9
- Meeting Minutes.....Page 10
- Important Links, Repeaters and  
Net Info.....Page 11

St. Rita Church has informed us that we need to terminate our use of their facilities in the next few months due to increased church activity that requires increased facility use.

The Board of Directors has decided to immediately begin looking for another site, preferably one that does not charge a usage fee.

If you know of any potential sites, please email the board at [frrlboard@frrl.org](mailto:frrlboard@frrl.org). We will organize a search very shortly. Let us know if you can help with this. Our goal is to locate a facility in the Aurora area.

The Board of Directors would like to remove FRRL property from the church site this month. This includes installed HF and VHF antennas at the church building, two cabinets with equipment in the church basement, and outside Wi-Fi components.

We would like to organize work a party(ies) to retrieve our equipment on Saturday, November 16 and/or November 23 at 8:30 AM at the church. Equipment will be moved to our storage locker a few miles away. A pick-up truck and/or a vehicle with a suitable trailer will be needed. We need to empty the cabinets and carry them plus the contents to vehicles for transportation, thus requiring additional people to decrease the time needed.

We will need help from members to handle all these chores. We will go over this again at the meeting at St. Rita Church next Tuesday, November 12.

## 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
W9LSL	Ford, Kenneth	General

## 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](mailto: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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***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.***

**Fox River Radio League**  
Founded 1924

**Mailing Address:**  
P. O. Box 673  
Batavia, Illinois 60510-0673

**Email:**  
[info@frrl.org](mailto:info@frrl.org)

**Web Site:**  
<http://www.frrl.org>

**President**  
Harry Jones, K9DXA

**Vice President**  
Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

**Secretary**  
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**Past President**  
Richard Illman, AH6EZ

**License Trustees:**  
Kermit Carlson, W9XA  
Bob Dillon, WB9LTN

**Newsletter Editor**  
Dean Holste, KC9EOQ  
[newsletter@frrl.org](mailto:newsletter@frrl.org)

**Webmasters**  
Chris Kennell, KC9BKS  
Neil Potter, KB9RFX  
[webmaster@frrl.org](mailto:webmaster@frrl.org)

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-October

As the year winds down, some of the top contenders are putting on the steam! The race to watch right now is in QRO class, where Larry K9ARZ has held the lead through much of this year. With the Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> update, however, Dick AH6EZ pulled into a close second. The game isn't over yet, though – there's still time for Joe NA9A and Gary K9MMS to surpass them both. With two months of the challenge left as of this writing, anything can happen, so stay tuned!

It's not too late for anyone new to the club to join the Challenge! Email challenge [at] frll [dot] org for information, or see Joe NA9A at the next club meeting to get started. The Challenge provides encouragement and a structure within which to pursue contacts on HF in the US, Canada, and DX entities. Some interesting QSOs reported last month include Joe NA9A's contact with Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan; while Larry K9ARZ worked Vietnam, Rotuma Island, Austral Islands, Tonga, El Salvador, Myanmar, Maldives, Chagos Island, the Philippines, Nigeria, Sable Island, Uganda, Papua New Guinea, Fiji Islands, Seychelles, Taiwan, Guyana, and the Republic of the Congo.

And finally, an administrative note. Apologies are due those who sent in HF Challenge updates last month but didn't find their reports included in the ArcOver. The omission was due to problems with email that seem to now be resolved. Please continue to send your reports to challenge [at] frll [dot] org. I will be emailing confirmation from now on to those who submit a report. If you don't receive a confirmation from me, it means your update didn't reach me. My cell number and email address appear in the club roster; please feel free to contact me directly if you don't receive your confirmation within a few days of sending it.

73 de KC9LQS

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Paul KC9UZV	48	7	26	81
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	92	21	166	279
Dean KC9EOQ	31	3	37	71
Bill NF9D	21	0	11	32
Debby WX9VOR	23	2	0	25
Ron KC9SNI	0	0	10	10

QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Joe NA9A	55	7	355	417
Gary K9MMS	50	10	176	236
Dick AH6EZ	100	25	397	522
Larry K9ARZ	100	25	445	570

Ragchew Class	States/Provinces	DX	Total
Dick AH6EZ/W9	41	10	51
Jim W9NJP	17	1	18
John W8ACI	9	1	10
Paul KC9UZV	35	2	37
Herb W9DTR	40	3	43
Joe NA9A	9	8	17
Warren K9IH	19	5	24
Debby WX9VOR	7	0	7



**Fox River Radio League**  
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**W9CEQ PO Box 673 Batavia, IL 60510**

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Each year at the November meeting the election committee selects a slate of officers. The committee is appointed by the president and is comprised of: K9FE Mike (Chair), W9HI Denny, and AH6EZ Dick.

It is important to realize that this is not the final election slate. Nominations from the floor are allowed at the November meeting. **You can nominate any member in good standing, but they must accept before they will be added to the slate. At the December meeting write-in candidates are allowed just before the election.**

The elections are very important since they will be the leaders of the FRRL and help guide the direction the club is going. The committee did not take this task lightly.

**This year's election committee is happy to announce our choices for the 2013 elections.**

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

**Thank you for allowing us to serve as the election committee for 2013.**

# 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:** T1F02

When using tactical identifiers, how often must your station transmit the station's FCC-assigned call sign?

- A. Never, the tactical call is sufficient
- B. Once during every hour
- C. Every ten minutes
- D. At the end of every communication

### FROM THE GENERAL POOL

**Q:** G1D08

Which of the following criteria must be met for a non-U.S. citizen to be an accredited Volunteer Examiner?

- A. The person must be a resident of the U.S. for a minimum of 5 years
- B. The person must hold an FCC granted Amateur Radio license of General Class or above
- C. The person's home citizenship must be in the ITU 2 region
- D. None of these choices is correct; non-U.S. citizens cannot be volunteer examiners

### FROM THE EXTRA POOL

**Q:** E1D01

What is the definition of the term telemetry?

- A. One-way transmission of measurements at a distance from the measuring instrument
- B. Two-way radiotelephone transmissions in excess of 1000 feet
- C. Two-way single channel transmissions of data
- D. One-way transmission that initiates, modifies, or terminates the functions of a device at a distance

## President's Traffic

Harry Jones, K9DXA

The Illinois QSO Party was a blast! According to chatter on one of the reflectors, activity was up this year. I know a few of you worked that contest. So please make sure you turn in your log before November 20, and please designate your "points" for the club benefit of the Fox River Radio League. We might just figure higher in the club scores this year. Next year, I hope to travel to a tri-county point and operate portable. So would all of you who can, please mark your calendars to work the IL QSO Party next year. It's good for phone, CW, or digital.

We will have our election nominees locked in at the November meeting, and of course the election at our December meeting. Next year's leadership will be determined in December. So please be sure to attend the meetings this month and next to have your say in that.

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. Ticket prices will be known shortly.

The leaves are falling... a sign that antennas should be checked or installed before winter sets in.

The FRRL General Class license review class is proceeding nicely. We expect more upgrades later in the month at the FRRL VE session.

We are now well into the contest season. There is lots of activity on the bands using pretty much all the popular modes. Ten meters has been unusually good. You may or may not be a contester. If not, why not give it a try? For example, if you are just starting out as a DXer, you can pick up quite a few new countries for DXCC and the FRRL DX Challenge by jumping in to the DX contests. And you might just post a good score, too. Lots of good DX there! So when it comes to DX or contesting, the most important thing is--- shake up some RF energy and get on the air!!

<dit> <dit>



# ARRL Contest News

## NEW HF OPERATORS - THINGS TO DO

Clearly, the hands-down winner for new HF ops in the U.S. and Canada is to jump into the Phone weekend of November Sweepstakes and have a good time. What better goal than a Clean Sweep of all 83 sections? You can download a certificate from the ARRL Sweepstakes web page and populate it with stickers for various levels of achievement - some serious, some lighthearted. If you're a fan of the digital modes, Worked All Europe will be concluding its fall season with a big RTTY contest this coming weekend.

## WORD TO THE WISE

Off time - be sure you get your off-time right in the Sweepstakes and other contests. To be on the safe side in Sweepstakes, make sure your log includes 30 consecutive "empty" minutes without a QSO. Since the log format does not "know about" seconds, this actually requires you to not log a contact for 1860 consecutive seconds (31 x 60). Note that in Sweepstakes, you may not be listening during off time and that in all contests "adjusting" the times of your logged contacts to satisfy the required duration (a.k.a. rubber-clocking) is definitely not OK and can result in disqualification.

Modulators versus multipliers, what's the difference? This [Analog Devices](#) article explains that while the math looks about the same, practical considerations win the day.

If you are trying to corral unruly cables, try enclosing them in "Split Loom" flexible tubing such as is used in automobile engine compartments. The material is tough, stands up to the weather and sunlight, yet is easy to work with. (Thanks, Ivan WK1W)

**Technical Web Site of the Week** - If you are trying to figure out how to translate lightning-induced transients into the pulse ratings of individual components, try this [lightning transient calculator](#) provided by EDN magazine. I'm not sure I want to be around when you validate it, though!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Board of Director's Meeting

Nov 05, 2013 @7:30pm

St. Rita's Office Annex

### Membership Meeting

Nov 12, 2013 @7:30pm

St. Rita's Church

Technician Pool- C. Every ten minutes

General Pool- B. The person must hold an FCC granted Amateur Radio license of General Class or above

Extra Pool- A. One-way transmission of measurements at a distance from the measuring instrument

# UPCOMING CONTESTS

November & December 2013

Date	Contest	Web Page
11/08/13	NCCC Sprint: 0230Z-0300Z	<a href="http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html">http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html</a>
11/09/13	10-10 Int. Fall Contest, Digital	<a href="http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSO%20Party%20Rules.pdf">http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSO%20Party%20Rules.pdf</a>
11/09/12	JIDX Phone Contest	<a href="http://www.jidx.org/jidxrule-e.html">http://www.jidx.org/jidxrule-e.html</a>
11/09/13	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	<a href="http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/">http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/</a>
11/09/13	OK/OM DX Contest	<a href="http://okomdx.crk.cz/index.php?page=english">http://okomdx.crk.cz/index.php?page=english</a>
11/09/13	Kentucky QSO Party	<a href="http://www.wkdx.com/">http://www.wkdx.com/</a>
11/10/13	EANET Sprint	<a href="http://www.fediea.org/news/?news=20131110">http://www.fediea.org/news/?news=20131110</a>
11/15/13	YO International PSK31	<a href="http://www.yo5crq.ro/Rules2013EN.htm">http://www.yo5crq.ro/Rules2013EN.htm</a>
11/16/13	ARRL EME Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest">http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest</a>
11/16/13	SARL Field Day Contest	<a href="http://www.sarl.org.za/">http://www.sarl.org.za/</a>
11/16/13	ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes">http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes</a>
11/16/13	NA Collegiate ARC Championship, SSB	<a href="http://www.collegiatechampionship.org/rules/">http://www.collegiatechampionship.org/rules/</a>
11/17/13	Homebrew and Oldtime Equipment Party	<a href="http://www.qrpcc.de/contestrules/hotr.html">http://www.qrpcc.de/contestrules/hotr.html</a>
11/21/13	NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	<a href="http://naqcc.info/sprint201312mw.html">http://naqcc.info/sprint201312mw.html</a>
11/23/13	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	<a href="http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm">http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm</a>
11/28/13	QRP ARCI Topband Sprint	<a href="http://www.qrparci.org/content/view/8400/118/">http://www.qrparci.org/content/view/8400/118/</a>

Date	Contest	Web Page
12/6/2013	ARRL 160-Meter Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/160-meter">http://www.arrl.org/160-meter</a>
12/7/2013	NRAU 10m Activity Contest	<a href="http://www.nrau.net/activity-contests/below-30mhz.html">http://www.nrau.net/activity-contests/below-30mhz.html</a>



*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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:w9qa@arrl.net))

Assistant Emergency Coordinator: Chris Kennell, KC9BKS ([kc9bks@arrl.net](mailto: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

Held at St. Rita of Cascia, Aurora, IL

**Meeting Minutes October 8, 2013**

The General membership meeting was called to order at 7:43 PM by Vice-President Dawn Williams KC9LQS

Question of the Month: Will you participate in the 2013 ILQP? **Yes-23 / No-20**

**Reports:**

Minutes: Approve September Meeting Minutes- Moved by Larry W9ARZ, Second by KB0FF, Motion carried

Treasurer: Dean, KC9EOQ presented the Treasurer's report.

Program: Video courtesy Dean KC9EOQ was an episode of Hamnation featuring Tim Duffy, K3LR

ARES: Debbie, WX9VOR from Kane County, SET was last Saturday Phil and Bill NF9D ran one SET net, PSK was tried for messages.

PR Report: Deferred

**Old Business:**

HF Challenge, e-mail alias could be causing some issues with updated results being received.

Election Request – K9FE Mike, asked for members that would like to be considered for the 2014 board.

**New Business:**

None

**Announcements:**

K9JE Jack – DX Bureau QSL cards

W9HI Denny – This year's Field Day Chair is looking into alternate sites since Jericho Lake may be under construction during Field Day in 2014. .

General Class – Started Sept 29. Class is going well

Illinois QSO Party (ILQP) – the 2013 party takes place Sunday October 20th from 12 noon until 8PM. Some strategy was to start on the higher bands and work towards 80m. Phone, CW and Digital can be used. Look for stations that are multi-county. Go to the ILQP website for more info.

Juno Project – Ham signals sent to the Juno probe as it passes over was mentioned.

Motion to adjourn by Randolph, W9HE, Second by Marty, N9NTM @ 8:14pm

## IMPORTANT AMATUER RADIO WEB PAGE LINKS

[www.frrl.org](http://www.frrl.org)  
[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)  
[www.colpage.org](http://www.colpage.org)  
[www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com)  
[www.eham.net](http://www.eham.net)  
[www.twit.tv/hn](http://www.twit.tv/hn)  
[www.dxspots.com](http://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) (Echolink # 230933)

**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 (+ 0.6 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)

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

Input: 52.210 Output: 53.910 Carrier Access FM (W9XA 6-meter repeater)

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