



ARC OVER



The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League
Since 1924

Our 90th Year in Amateur Radio!

February 2014

From President Dawn Williams, KC9LQS



Proud to be an ARRL
Special Services Club

February is always a time of change for members of FRRL. Each year at this time, a new board of directors begins getting its bearings; a new president takes charge, imbuing the position with new ideas and perhaps different ways of doing things; and a new set of challenges and opportunities awaits us. This year is no exception.

Change and challenge often go hand in hand, and we will undoubtedly face our share of both in the coming year. These challenges are some that we've face in the past: balancing the budget, settling into a new club home, bringing in new members, and developing activities that interest long-time hams as well as new operators. We've met these challenges before, and I have no doubt we will do so successfully in the months ahead.

One thing we must remember is that times of change are also filled with potential. The ability to harness the strengths of the group, and a collective willingness to focus on and work for the best possible outcomes, is the key to turning challenges into opportunities. This is the philosophy by which I live, and it is the belief that will guide my actions as your president.

Everyone has something to offer. I believe this fervently, and I believe in the ability of each and every one of you to make a difference in this organization and in the future of amateur radio. Whether you have been a ham for a lifetime, or have just earned your first ticket, your contributions matter. Your ideas matter; your presence matters; your time and efforts matter. The only limits on what you can accomplish are the ones you place on yourself.

I learned this under your tutelage when I first became involved in FRRL, a new operator with a ticket not yet yellowing around the edges, little experience, and a great deal of humility. With your encouragement and patient mentoring over the years, I built on my knowledge and improved my skills; contributing to the club with the strengths I had available along the way. Maybe this is your story, too, that the club embraced you at some point in the past, supported your pursuits, and helped you become the ham you are today. And maybe we can, as a whole and as individuals, make sure this is the story of every member who joins our ranks.

What's Inside

- About FRRL.....Page 2
- HF Challenge.....Page 3
- Special Notice.....Page 4
- President's Traffic (cont'd) Page 5
- ARRL Contest News.....Page 6
- Meeting Minutes.....Page 7
- ARES Information.....Page 8
- Important Links, Repeaters and Net Info.....Page 9

(Continued on Page 5)

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 members to the club!

CALL	Name	License Class
N9JOD	Darrell Coquillette	Advanced
KC9JNQ	Susanne Spencer	Technician
WD9FEL	Sara Beltramelli	General
W9DTX	Henry Treftz	General
N9JZ	James Zacher	Amateur Extra
NU9X	Richard House	Amateur Extra
N9QGV	Thomas Salyers	Amateur Extra

ArcOver FRRL Newsletter

Copyright 2014, FRRL©

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.

Prior permission is required to republish original ArcOver material.

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

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

President
Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

Vice President
William Springer, AB9TA

Secretary
Ron Jahr, KC9SNI

Treasurer
Dean Holste, KC9EOQ

Directors:
Michael Cicchetti, KC9OPV
John Corcoran, N9STK
Dan Harmon, WA9YKK
Brian Stroub, KC9USB

Past President
Harry Jones, K9DXA

License Trustees:
Kermit Carlson, W9XA
Bob Dillon, WB9LTN

Newsletter Editor
Dean Holste, KC9EOQ
newsletter@frrl.org

Webmasters
Chris Kennell, KC9BKS
Neil Potter, KB9RFX
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-January

The HF Challenge for 2013 is underway! Two participants so far have submitted their first reports for contacts as of Jan. 15th. Paul KC9UZV reported 43 QSOs in the Limited Class and 8 rag chews. Eric K9LGE kicked off the year in the Limited Class with 34 contacts. No scores were reported so far in the Operator and QRO classes.

Congratulations to everyone who submitted worksheets for their participation in 2013! Certificates of achievement were presented by Joe Dubeck and Betty Erickson during the FRRL annual banquet last month. Top scores for 2013 were achieved by Paul KC9SEB in the Limited Class, Herb W9DTR in the Operator Class, Larry K9ARZ in the QRO Class, and Paul KC9UZV in the Ragchew Class. The complete list of final scores for all participants in 2013 appears below.

This is the perfect time to get in the game! See the HF Challenge page on the website for details on how it works if you have questions; talk to Joe NA9A during the next club meeting; or send an email to challenge [at] frri.org.

Limited Class		Contacts			
Name	Callsign	States	Provinces	Countries	Total
Paul Mitchell	KC9SEB	73	8	65	146
Paul Fotre	KC9UZV	89	11	38	138

Operator Class		Contacts			
Name	Callsign	States	Provinces	Countries	Total
Herb Pasteur	W9DTR	97	22	192	312
Scott Martin	KC9RGF	23	3	133	159
Bill Muhr	NF9D	64	9	34	107
Harry Jones	K9DXA	41	1	63	105
Tobi Davis	K9TCD	30	4	58	92
Tom Davis	WB9CHY	14	1	58	73
Deborah Gray	WX9VOR	39	1	4	44
Alan Ahasic	W9AN	9	0	13	22

QRO Class		Contacts			
Name	Callsign	States	Provinces	Countries	Total
Lawrence W Stark	K9ARZ	100	26	485	611
Dick Illman	AH6EZ/W9	100	25	382	507
Joe Dubeck	NA9A	78	11	412	502
Dean Holste	KC9EOQ	61	7	91	159
Jim Nevitt	N9XP	42	9	39	90

Ragchew Class		Contacts			
Name	Callsign	States	Provinces	Countries	Total
Paul Fotre	KC9UZV	58	2	4	64
Dick Illman	AH6EZ/W9	37	8	13	58
Herb Pasteur	W9DTR	41	4	5	50
Scott Martin	KC9RGF	15	1	14	30
Joe Dubeck	NA9A	9	1	8	18
Deborah Gray	WX9VOR	9	0	2	11

SPECIAL NOTICE

The FRRL Board of Directors meeting for the month of March 2014 will be held at the Colonial Café Restaurant on West Galena Blvd. (West Plaza Shopping Center)

Please note the new start time.

Date: Tuesday March 4th

Time: 7:00pm

Those attending may order dinner ahead of time before the meeting begins. Please arrive early if you are having dinner.



**STUDY QUESTIONS
OF THE MONTH**

FROM THE TECHNICIAN POOL

Q: T3A09

Which of the following is a common effect of "skip" reflections between the Earth and the ionosphere?

- A. The sidebands become reversed at each reflection
- B. The polarization of the original signal is randomized
- C. The apparent frequency of the received signal is shifted by a random amount
- D. Signals at frequencies above 30 MHz become stronger with each reflection

FROM THE GENERAL POOL

Q: G3C06

What is a characteristic of HF scatter signals?

- A. They have high intelligibility
- B. They have a wavering sound
- C. They have very large swings in signal strength
- D. All of these choices are correct

FROM THE EXTRA POOL

Q: E2B11

What is the function of the Vertical Interval Signaling (VIS) code transmitted as part of an SSTV transmission?

- A. To lock the color burst oscillator in color SSTV images
- B. To identify the SSTV mode being used
- C. To provide vertical synchronization
- D. To identify the call sign of the station transmitting

President's Traffic (cont'd)

Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

You have elected a strong and diverse board of directors to guide FRRL in 2014, and I'm very excited to be working with this talented group of individuals. Collectively, we have varying degrees of experience both in radio and as club leaders. We offer a balance between knowing what has always been, and seeing through new eyes what might yet be. And we stand ready and willing to put our experience and vision to work for the common good.

We can't do this alone, though. Nor should we. You've elected us to fill the role of guides and facilitators. It is *your* privilege and responsibility, as the body of FRRL, to let us know the destination toward which you'd like us to lead. The world has changed substantially since our group was founded 90 years ago, and the hobby has changed along with it. Our mission, to provide for the exchange of information, improvement of operational skills, and enjoyment of the hobby remains constant; but what that journey will look like depends on you – on your interests, your preferences, and your investment in the group. Your board of directors can and will work hard on your behalf; but ultimately, the success of those efforts is up to each of you.

As we face the changes and challenges ahead, I encourage you to think about what you want from your radio club, and just as importantly, what you want to contribute. Together, over the next few months, we'll be creating a new blueprint for the future of FRRL. Be part of that future – by sharing your ideas, investing your time, exploring your interests with fellow members. We'll be working hard this year, and hopefully having a lot of fun along the way.

And with your help, we're going to make good things happen!





ARRL Contest News

CONTEST SUMMARY

February 8-9

- **School Club Roundup (Feb 10-14)**
- NS Weekly Sprint--CW (Feb 7)
- YL-OM Contest (Feb 7)
- YLISSB QSO Party--CW
- CQ WW RTTY WPX
- Worldwide EME Contest
- Asia-Pacific Sprint--CW
- Dutch PACC Contest
- Straight Key Weekend Sprintathon
- OMISS QSO Party--Phone
- New Hampshire QSO Party
- FISTS CW Winter Sprint
- RSGB - First 1.8 MHz Contest
- AM QSO Party
- Classic Exchange--Phone (Feb 9)
- Milwaukee FM Simplex Contest (Feb 9)

NEWS, PRESS RELEASES, AND GENERAL INTEREST

Big changes around the ARRL Contest Branch Manager (CBM) as Mike DeChristopher, N1TA has resigned from the position. Picking up the reins temporarily are a quartet of familiar call signs led by Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager, Dave Patton, NN1N. Dave will be coordinating work by previous CBMs KX9X and N1ND, assisted (or at least entertained) by your editor, to produce the many write-ups, results, and awards of the 19-contest program.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Director's Meeting

Feb 5th, 2014 @7:30pm

St. Rita's Office Annex

Membership Meeting

Feb 11, 2014 @7:30pm

St. Rita's Church

Technician Pool- B. The polarization of the original signal is randomized.

General Pool- B. They have a wavering sound.

Extra Pool- B. To identify the SSTV mode being used.



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 January 14, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Harry Jones K9DXA

Question of the Month Are you aware of the FRRL Members QSO Party

Reports:

Minutes, Meeting Minutes Moved Marty N9NTM, Seconded Denny W9HI, Motion carried
Treasurer, Checking 3295.24, Savings 6028.05, Petty Cash 87.00, Marty N9NTM Move, Bill NF9D Sec, Motion carried

Program, Dick AH6EZ, Raspberry Pi IRLP/Echolink, EZNEC Simple interface future

ARES, Kane & DuPage – Kane-NF9D Next meeting Thur 2

Hamfest, Dawn KC9LQS, Everything on schedule for the July 13 fest. Help needed for setup, WCRA Table at Winterfest

Field Day, Denny W9HI, Need band captains, Cannot reserve site until February (Jericho Lake) Other sites welcome for suggestion.

Old Business:

Status St. Rita, February is last meeting

Status of Search, Dawn KC9LQS and Tobi K9TCD working on the search

YTD Budget 2013, Instead of being \$1490 in the hole we are \$1195 to the good. Still some Banquet items outstanding

Reason for the good report, Hamfest was great, New Members, Careful budget controls

Suggest future rosters all electronic, Hamfest can still be risky

New Business –

Date of Advanced Weather Spotting Class – March 15

Challenge – Sheets due to Joe NA9A, Mail to PO Box

Announcements –

Raffle – Chris KC9IEQ

QSL Bureau – Jack K9JE

2014 FRRL QSO Party – Kermit Any member, any band, any mode, Spreadsheet on Yahoo Group

Renew your Membership

Banquet Tickets - Harry will have tickets until the weekend, Sales closed Next Tuesday

VE Session – Doug W9RD, Next week VE's be there

Some of the forums at Winterfest, Digital Voice, New Yaesu Digital

Thanks to Roger KD1FY for the meeting refreshments

Harry K9DXA thanked the body for the honor of leading the FRRL for 2 yrs.

Mike Voiland KK4GGG leaving the area due to work. Harry K9DXA thanked him for the time spent with the FRRL

Harry Presented a Raspberry Pie to Dick as a thanks for the Raspberry PI program

Adjourned Marty N9NTM moved, Denny W9HI Seconded



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.

IMPORTANT AMATUER RADIO WEB PAGE LINKS

www.frrl.org
www.arrl.org
www.colpage.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) (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:

Ten Meter Net: Monday at 8:00pm 28.150 MHz CW
Monday at 8:30pm 28.720 MHz SSB

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