



ARC OVER



The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League
Since 1924

Our 90th Year in Amateur Radio!

May 2014



Proud to be an ARRL
Special Services Club



Congratulations to Larry Stark, K9ARZ for being named to the ARRL Honor Roll. The Honor Roll requires an operator have a minimum of 331 current entities confirmed. Larry has **346** confirmed entities!

(Honor Roll: Attaining the DXCC Honor Roll represents the pinnacle of DX achievement:

To qualify, you must have a total confirmed entity count that places you among the numerical top ten DXCC entities total on the current DXCC List (example: if there are 340 current DXCC entities, you must have at least 331 entities confirmed). Deleted entities do not count towards the DXCC Honor Roll.)

Congratulations to Gary Hornbuckle, K9MMS for achieving 9-Band DXCC for the bands of 160-10 meters!

Our best wishes to Dick, AH6EZ and Becky, KB9UBU on their journey to Washington state. By the time you read this, they will be well on their way to their new home. They will be missed!

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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 Bethany Lutheran Church at 8 S. Lincoln St in Batavia.. 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
WA9VQY	Vern Reher	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 year 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

As of the April 15th reports from participants, two new participants joined this year's Challenge, with Jack K9JE and Jason KB9MEL, both in the Operator Class, submitting their first updates for 2014. Welcome!

Larry K9ARZ (QRO Class) reported that propagation dropped off a bit following a major solar storm, but he reports several new contacts including Easter Island, Seychelles, American Samoa, Tonga, San Andres Is., St. Pierre and Miquelon, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Iran, Mellish Reef/Australia, Laos, So. Cook Is., Chatham Is., Galapagos Is., Eastern Kiribati, Haiti, Andaman Is., Pakistan, Austral Is., Myanmar, and Nepal. Joe NA9A worked asterisked entities Mellish Reef, Ethiopia, Cameroon and Qatar. Jack K9JE made the honor roll with contacts in Amsterdam and St. Paul Islands, Christmas Island, and Mellish Reef/Australia.

Interested in joining the fun, but still have questions? See Joe NA9A at the next club meeting, or send an email to challenge [at] frrl.org. Good DXing!

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Paul KC9UZV	49	9	46	104
Eric K9LGE	25	5	4	34
John AG9D	45	5	20	70
Paul KC9SEB	36	6	19	61

Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Dean KC9EOQ	19	6	81	106
Jack K9JE	47	10	122	179
Bill NF9D	12	1	13	26
Dan W9STS	20	1	4	25
Ron KC9SNI	9	1	16	26
Jason KB9MEL	8		25	33
Dawn KC9LQS	1	0	2	3
QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Joe NA9A	9	0	52	61
Dick AH6EZ	49	11	69	129
Larry K9ARZ	50	13	235	298
Alan W9AN	26	3	84	113
Jim N9XP	19	0	91	110
Rag Chewer Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Paul KC9UZV	12	0	1	13
Joe NA9A	3	0	1	4
Dick AH6EZ	6	0	1	7
Dan W9STS	0	0	0	3

President's Traffic

Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

I mean no offense when I say we hams remind me a lot of brown bears, but I can't help being amused by the similarities between our behavior and that of our furry counterparts. Throughout the long winter months, we hibernate in our respective shacks, operating mostly solo and waiting patiently for the world to thaw. And like the bear leaving his cozy cave after his winter's sleep, we hams emerge each spring to enjoy our warm-weather operating events outdoors.

There is no shortage of those events in any year. As always, Hamfests with outdoor tail-gating attract us in great numbers. Quite a few faces from FRRL were spotted at the Kishwaukee Hamfest at the Sandwich Fairgrounds May 4th. Coming up are the Starved Rock Radio Club's Hamfest in Princeton on June 1st, the Six Meter Club of Chicago's Hamfest in Wheaton June 15th, and of course, Dayton Hamvention May 16-18. Also don't forget our own Hamfest July 13th. As always, we'll be looking for volunteers to participate in set-up from 5 to 8 p.m. on the Saturday before the event and from 6 to 8 a.m. Hamfest morning.

Field Day is the event of the year in the ham community, and if you haven't talked to Denny W9HI or one of the band captains about how you can get involved, please do so soon. Field Day weekend is June 28 and 29, and we'll be holding our activities at the Elburn Forest Preserve. I hope to see many of you there.

Several other events are coming up for FRRL this year as well. Dan W9STS is heading FRRL's participating in the Boy Scout STEM-O-Rama event. He's still looking for volunteers to assist. Also new this year, as part of the board's new outreach effort, we have requested a booth at several local Farmers Markets. We'll be in Aurora, Batavia, and possibly one other town this summer and fall. When dates are confirmed, I'll be looking for members who would enjoy spending a morning in the sun with me, operating a demo station, and talking to members of the community about amateur radio. Watch the Yahoo list and the website for more information.

After one of the longest winters in recent memory, it feels good to get outdoors, take our hobby on the road, and enjoy the companionship of fellow hams. There are numerous opportunities for those of you who enjoy group operating events, and I look forward to seeing you there.

73 de KC9LQS

STUDY QUESTIONS OF THE MONTH

FROM THE TECHNICIAN POOL

Q: T3A05

When using a directional antenna, how might your station be able to access a distant repeater if buildings or obstructions are blocking the direct line of sight path?

- A. Change from vertical to horizontal polarization
- B. Try to find a path that reflects signals to the repeater
- C. Try the long path
- D. Increase the antenna SWR

FROM THE GENERAL POOL

Q: G9B08

How does the feed-point impedance of a 1/2 wave dipole change as the feed-point location is moved from the center toward the ends?

- A. It steadily increases
- B. It steadily decreases
- C. It peaks at about 1/8 wavelength from the end
- D. It is unaffected by the location of the feed point

FROM THE EXTRA POOL

Q: E4B11

How should a portable antenna analyzer be connected when measuring antenna resonance and feed point impedance?

- A. Loosely couple the analyzer near the antenna base
- B. Connect the analyzer via a high-impedance transformer to the antenna
- C. Connect the antenna and a dummy load to the analyzer
- D. Connect the antenna feed line directly to the analyzer's connector

ARRL Centennial: Convention Forums to Feature Presentation by Nobel Laureate Joe Taylor, K1JT

Nobel Laureate Joe Taylor, K1JT, will be the featured speaker for a large-group presentation at the ARRL [Centennial Convention](#), July 17-19, in Hartford, Connecticut. Taylor's Saturday, July 19, noon presentation, "Gazing into the Future -- DXing with Weak Signals and Beyond," will take place in the large meeting hall at the Connecticut Convention Center.

"We are pleased that a technological innovator of Joe Taylor's stature has agreed to be part of our program schedule," ARRL Centennial Convention Program and Forum Chairman Dan Henderson, N1ND, said. "His work in weak-signal detection has helped revolutionize many aspects of Amateur Radio, and his forum is a 'can't miss' opportunity for Convention-goers."

FCC Enforcement Bureau Showing More Bite than Bark:

The FCC has proposed fining a Florida man, Jason R. Humphreys, \$48,000 for using a cell phone jammer in his car during his daily commute. Humphreys claimed he did so to keep other motorists from using their cell phones while driving. Humphreys' illegal jammer operation apparently continued for up to 2 years, causing interference to cellular service along a swath of Interstate 4, and also disrupting police and other emergency communications, the FCC said this week, in a [Notice of Apparent Liability](#).





May Contest Dates

+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0200Z-0230Z, May 9
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, May 9
+ VK/Trans-Tasman 80m Contest, Phone	0800Z-1400Z, May 10
+ VOLTA WW RTTY Contest	1200Z, May 10 to 1200Z, May 11
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, May 10 to 2400Z, May 11
+ HPC World Wide DX Contest	1200Z, May 10 to 1159Z, May 11
+ CQ-M International DX Contest	1200Z, May 10 to 1159Z, May 11
+ Portuguese Navy Day Contest	1500Z, May 10 to 1500Z, May 11
+ Nevada Mustang Roundup	1700Z, May 10 to 1700Z, May 11
+ FISTS Spring Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, May 10
+ 50 MHz Spring Sprint	2300Z, May 10 to 0300Z, May 11
+ RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, May 14
+ Slobzhansky Sprint Contest	1800Z-1959Z, May 16 (SSB) and 2000Z-2159Z, May 16 (CW)
+ UN DX Contest	2100Z, May 16 to 2100Z, May 17
+ Portuguese Navy Day Contest, Digital	0800Z-2359Z, May 17
+ His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	1200Z, May 17 to 1200Z, May 18
+ Aegean RTTY Contest	1200Z, May 17 to 1200Z, May 18
+ EU PSK DX Contest	1200Z, May 17 to 1200Z, May 18
+ Feld Hell Sprint	1600Z-1800Z, May 17
+ Baltic Contest	2100Z, May 17 to 0200Z, May 18
+ UA2 QSO Party	1300Z-1659Z, May 18
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, May 19
+ NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, May 22
+ RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	1900Z-2030Z, May 22
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, May 23
+ CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 24 to 2359Z, May 25
+ The Day of YLs	0600Z, May 24 - 1800Z, May 25
+ SARL Digital Contest	1300Z-1600Z, May 25
+ MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint	2300Z, May 25 to 0300Z, May 26
+ QRP Minimal Art Session	1600Z-2200Z, May 29
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, May 30

UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Director's Meeting

May 6th, 2014 @7:30pm
Colonial Café—Aurora, IL.

Membership Meeting

May 13th, 2014 @7:30pm
Bethany Lutheran Church

Technician Pool- B. Try to find a path that reflects signals to the repeater

General Pool- A. It steadily increases

Extra Pool- D. Connect the antenna feed line directly to the analyzer's connector



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 Bethany Lutheran Church, Batavia, IL

Meeting Minutes April 8, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 PM by President Dawn Williams KC9LQS

Question of the Month – What does it take to be a good ham?

Reports

Minutes of March 11, 2014 Regular Meeting

Mike K9FE motioned to approve the minutes. Marty N9NTM seconded. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Dean KC9EOQ reported account balances of the checking, savings, and petty cash accounts.

Program

Dawn KC9LQS presented Dick Illman AH6EZ with a plaque recognizing his considerable service to the club over several years as Program Chair. Dick AH6EZ announced that the program for this meeting, his last as Program Chair, would present methodologies for remote radio operation.

ARES

No reports.

Field Day

Denny W9HI reported that the use fees for the Elburn Forest Preserve have been paid for June 27, 28, and 29. Since the site has only one restroom, an additional portable lavatory and hand-washing station will be required. CW operations and phone operations will be grouped respectively at the site. Jackie N9ASL will be caring for food preparation. Band captains are still needed for 80/15m CW, 40m CW, 20m phone, VHF/UHF, and GOTA operations. He requests that volunteers contact him as soon as possible.

MS Walk

Mike K9FE reported that the MS Walk this year occurs on Saturday, May 4. Volunteers are needed for this event. Although on-line registration is possible, it is much easier to register directly with Mike. The time commitment lasts from 7 AM to 2 PM. Volunteers will need to bring an HT and will be assigned to a team of two, three, or four individuals. Volunteers should report to Pottawatomie Park, 8 North Avenue, St. Charles, IL at 7 AM.

New Business

Hamfest Tickets

Dawn KC9LQS announced that tickets for the club Hamfest to be held on Sunday, July 13 are now available from Dean KC9EOQ.

Licensing Classes

Although several persons have inquired about a licensing class, the club continues to need a volunteer to serve as Education Chair. Please contact Dawn KC9LQS if you are interested in this position.

Swap and Shop

Dawn KC9LQS announced a new "Swap and Shop" opportunity for members to sell their excess equipment and accessories prior to club meetings. This event is intended to benefit members and the club at the same time. Members may bring items for sale to club meetings and transact business from 7 to 7:30. The meeting break time may also be used for sales activity as required. Any unsold items must be removed at the end of the evening. To benefit the club, sellers are asked to contribute ten-percent of his/her total sales to the club. This new program is a trial and will be evaluated on an on-going basis.

Outreach Efforts

The Boy Scouts STEM-O-Rama, is slated for May 17 at the Kane County Fairgrounds in St. Charles. A volunteer is needed for the FRRL to participate and represent amateur radio at this event. If interested, please contact Dawn.

Board of Directors Vacancy

Dawn KC9LQS reported the resignation of Director John Corcoran N9STK. At this time there is one candidate for this position: Dan Samaras NE9G. Per the club bylaws, a special election will be held at the May General Membership meeting to fill this position.

Announcements

Dawn KC9LQS has a list of club participants in the 2013 Illinois QSO party.

Dean KC9EOQ announced that the FRRL roster-book will be made available for downloading as a PDF file on the club Yahoo group.

QSL Bureau Policy--

Jack K9JE requested that QSL cards submitted to the bureau be presorted first according to the destination country prefix and then according to any secondary prefix. Some countries have a parent prefix and use additional prefixes, i.e. G (parent prefix) = M, 2E, 2I, 2M, 2W, etc. When sorting countries that have multiple prefixes, keep that country's prefixes grouped with the parent prefix in an alphabetical stack. Examples: cards for England such as G, M and any other prefix for England should be put together--not all the G's put in one area and not all the M's put in another. Similarly, all Russian cards should be put together according to Russian region. As a final example, all USA cards should be put together such as K9, W9, KA9, etc.

Bill AB9TA announced that 2m net control operators continue to be needed. Please contact Bill to volunteer.

Marty N9NTM announced the Madison Area Repeater Association will hold its Hamfest & Computer Fair on Saturday, April 12. General admission tickets are \$5.00 per person.

Roberto WA9E announced that he has tickets for the DeKalb Hamfest, which will be held at the Sandwich Fairgrounds on Sunday, May 4th.

Adjournment

Marty N9NTM motioned to adjourn, and Kermit W9XA seconded. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Jahr KC9SNI

FRRL Secretary

Amateur Radio Items For Sale:

1. Hallicrafters SX-100 Receiver with Operator and Service Manual. - The receiver is in working condition.

\$100.00

2. Hallicrafters S-95 Receiver with Operator and Service Manual. This is an FM receiver, from the late 50's to early 60's, in working condition. It covers the police, fire, taxicab, bus, railroad, private telephone, forestry and other industrial services operating in the 152 to 173 MHz band at that time. **\$30.00**

3. Kenwood SM-220 Station Monitor with BS-8 Pan Display Option installed and Instruction Manual. - This item is in working condition and has the original box. The BS-8 Pan Display uses the 8.830 MHz IF frequency to produce a pan display and is compatible with Kenwood TS-180, TS-820 and TS-830 series transceivers. **\$100.00**

4. High Sierra HS-1800DXB Screwdriver Antenna with automatic controller and complete installation package. - The antenna and all accessories were purchased new several years ago, and have never been installed or used. **\$500.00**

This antenna package includes the following:

A. HS-1800DXB - Screwdriver Antenna.

B. HS-201C/SS - Stainless steel, powder coated antenna bracket.

C. HS-110A/PC - 6 foot stainless steel powder coated extension whip for working the low bands.

D. MM-SSQD - Stainless steel powder coated quick disconnect connector for the extension whip.

C. HS-WFO - Whip fold over connector - allows whip to be folded over the top of the vehicle so it does not need to be removed when parking the vehicle in a garage.

E. HS-202CL - Lay-Back antenna mounting bracket for 2 inch trailer receiver hitch. This installs in the trailer hitch and the HS-201c/SS antenna bracket (above) is attached to it. The trailer hitch bracket can be tilted away from the back of the vehicle to allow for easy opening of the hatch or trunk.

F. HS-302D - Installation Kit which includes coax, control cable, grounding strap, connectors, etc.

G. Controller - AM-COM Automatic Antenna Controller automatically tunes the screwdriver antenna. When the controller is connected to the radio, pressing the TUNE button on the radio will activate the controller causing it to tune the antenna. The controller works with ICOM and ALINCO radios. The antenna can also be manually tuned using the manual tune control switch.

5. COMET GP-15 - Tri-Band 52/146/446 MHz vertical base Antenna. This antenna was purchased new several years ago, and has never been installed or used. It is still in original box. **\$100.00**

6. W2IHY 8 Band Audio Equalizer and Noise Gate- This item was purchased new several years ago and has never been installed or used. It is still in the original box. **\$200.00**

7. CUSHCRAFT A50-3S 3 element 6 meter beam.- This antenna was purchased new and used for 9 years. It is in good condition and has been stored in my garage. **\$30.00**

8. CUSHCRAFT 13B2 13 element 2 meter beam. - This antenna was purchased new and used for 9 years, It is in good condition and has been stored in my garage. **\$50.00**



Contact:

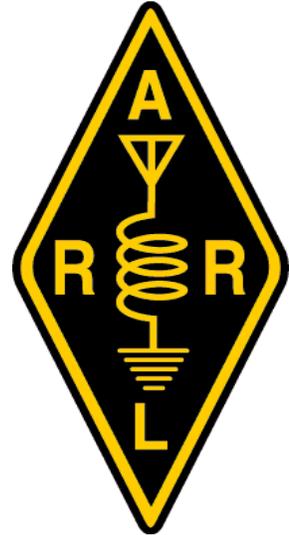
Alan Ahasic, W9AN

w9an@arrl.net

815-493-9161

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

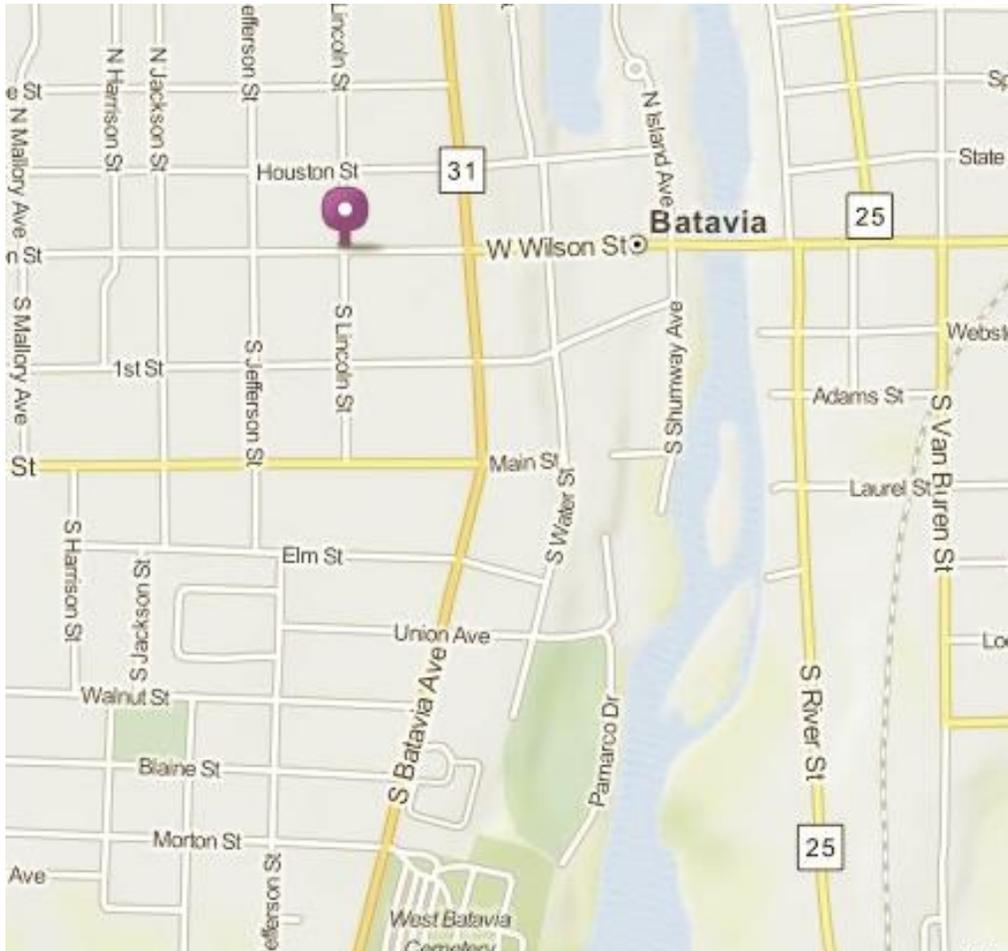
Illinois DStar Net - Wednesday Eve. at 8:00 pm on the DStar 2 meter repeater

Bethany Lutheran Church 8 S. Lincoln St. Batavia, IL 60510

1/2 block South of Wilson St.

Rt. 31 From Geneva / St. Charles

West Wilson St.
From Randall
Road



East Wilson St.
From Kirk Rd.

Rt. 31 From Aurora / I-88

Rt. 25 From Aurora