



ARC OVER



The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League
Since 1924

Our 90th Year in Amateur Radio!

February 2015



Congratulations to the 2014 Ham of the Year!

Mike Urso, K9FE

(You should have seen the look on his face!)

Proud to be an ARRL
Special Services Club

What's Inside

About FRRL.....Page 2
HF Challenge 2014.....Page 3
HF Challenge 2015... .Page 4
Study Questions.....Page 4
President's Traffic.....Page 5
February ContestsPage 6
January Minutes.....Page 7
Important Links, Repeaters and
Net Info.....Page 9



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 newest members to the club!

Call	Name	License Class
WD9CNW	Carol Toman	General
	Peter Miller	
N9CF	Jim Resser	Amateur Extra
W9CLR	Zack Dempsey	General

ArcOver FRRL Newsletter

Copyright 2015, 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 news letter. 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

Mike Urso, K9FE

Secretary

Jack Tofari, KD9CPN

Treasurer

Dean Holste, KC9EOQ

Directors:

Dave Bulkley, W9WDB
Jason Burzynski, KB9MEL
Dan Harmon, WA9YKK
Jim Nevitt, Jr., N9XP

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 \$25.00 a year, Senior Citizen dues are \$15.00. Family dues are \$35.00. Members can help support the FRRL Repeaters by making an annual \$10.00 donation.



Bill Erikson HF Challenge

By Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

HF Challenge 2014 Wrap-Up and 2015 Kick-Off



Congratulations to everyone who participated in the 2014 HF Challenge! Joe NA9A, Challenge Administrator, awarded certificates during the club's winter banquet to everyone who took part in the Challenge. (Participants who did not attend the banquet will receive their awards at the February membership meeting.) Pictured above is the plaque awarded to Larry K9ARZ, who placed first in the QRO class with 582 points.

Final results for the year appear below.

Limited Class	States	Provinces	Countries	Total
Paul Fotre KC9UZV	94	14	72	180
Paul Mitchell KC9SEB	68	10	7	122

Oprator Class	States	Provinces	Countries	Total
Roger Bara W9YU	84	14	129	227
Herb Pasteur W9DTR	97	18	102	217
Jason Burzynski KB9MEL	62	8	80	150
Harry Jones K9DXA	35	9	78	122
Cedrick Johnson WT2P	47	9	31	87
Dan Taddei W9STS	65	5	14	84
Bill Muhr NF9D	44	2	21	67

QRO Class	States	Provinces	Countries	Total
Lawrence W. Stark K9ARZ	100	25	457	582
Joe Dubeck NA9A	80	14	396	490
Dick Illman AH6EZ/W7	50	13	169	232
Alan Ahasic W9AN	68	10	140	218
Dean Holste KC9EOQ	67	12	122	201
Bob Roehrig K9EUI	73	4	118	195
Jim Nevitt N9XP	16	20	51	69

Rag Chewer Class	States	Provinces	Countries	Total
Herb Pasteur W9DTR	25	2	7	34
Dick Illman AH6EZ/W7	24	4	5	33
Paul Fotre KC9UZV	13	0	2	15
Joe Dubeck NA9A	8	1	6	15
Bill Muhr NF9D	3	0	1	4
Dan Taddei W9STS	3	0	1	4
Jason Burzynski KB9MEL	1	0	1	2

**STUDY QUESTIONS
OF THE MONTH**

FROM THE TECHNICIAN POOL

Q: T2C11

What is meant by the term "check" in reference to a formal traffic message?

- A. The check is a count of the number of words or word equivalents in the text portion of the message
- B. The check is the value of a money order attached to the message
- C. The check is a list of stations that have relayed the message
- D. The check is a box on the message form that tells you the message was received

FROM THE GENERAL POOL

Q: G1E04 [97.13(b), 97.311(b), 97.303]

Which of the following conditions require an Amateur Radio station licensee to take specific steps to avoid harmful interference to other users or facilities?

- A. When operating within one mile of an FCC Monitoring Station
- B. When using a band where the Amateur Service is secondary
- C. When a station is transmitting spread spectrum emissions
- D. All of these choices are correct

FROM THE EXTRA POOL

Q: E1E08 [97.509]

To which of the following examinees may a VE not administer an examination?

- A. Employees of the VE
- B. Friends of the VE
- C. Relatives of the VE as listed in the FCC rules
- D. All of these choices are correct



2015 HF Challenge

Six participants reported in as of Mid-January for the start of this year's Challenge. Joe NA9A kicked off the year with QSOs with Sov. Mil Order of Malta, Vatican City, and Ogasawara. He also reported making progress on 160 meters, despite a bit of noise to contend with.

Larry K9ARZ said there has been a lot of good DX out there, and band conditions are improving. He also mentioned numerous DX-peditons to work including Easter Island, The Gambia, Mozambique, American Samoa, Fernando de Naronha, Palau, Ogasawara, Cocos Is., Navassa Is. and Iran EP.

Reporting periods are from Jan. 1st to the 15th of the current month. Send your next update to Challenge [at] frl.org by Feb. 20th for inclusion in the March ArcOver.

73 de KC9LQS

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Coun-	Total
Paul KC9UZV	27	6	5	38
Cedric WT2W	45	6	8	59

Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Coun-	Total
Dan WA9YKK	0	0	12	12
QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Coun-	Total
Larry K9ARZ	26	10	96	132
Joe NA9A	19	1	19	39
Dick AH6EZ/W7	50	6	42	98
Rag Chewer Class	States	Provinces	DX Coun-	Total
Paul KC9UZV	1	0	1	2
Dick AH6EZ/W7				19
Joe NA9A	3	0	1	4

President's Traffic

Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

FRRL's officers and directors were officially installed during the club's winter banquet last month, and our first board meeting of the fiscal year took place Feb. 3rd. It is a privilege to be serving with returning board members Dean KC9EOQ, Dan WA9YKK, Harry K9DXA and Jack KD9CPN; and newly installed members Mike K9FE, Jason KB9MEL, and Dave K9WDB. Our candidate to fill the vacant director spot, Jim N9XP, was also in attendance. This is an amazing group that you have chosen to lead the club in 2015 and I am thrilled to be working with them.

Among the goals we discussed for the coming year, our new Outreach effort is getting a lot of attention. The results of last year's Outreach efforts told us this is an area worth our time, and the board is excited to continue and expand the effort, as a means of generating greater awareness of amateur radio in the community. It is our intention to spread the word about the resources FRRL makes available to current hams as well as to those with a desire to join our ranks. There will be numerous opportunities for you to be part of this effort, so be sure to watch for updates on the Outreach schedule as the warm months approach.

Members who attended the January meeting gave us a wealth of ideas with which to kick off the year. The question of the month was twofold: What topic would you like to explore in 2015; and What topic do you have sufficient expertise to teach other members? We generated about a dozen offers to present on a wide variety of topics, and twice as many ideas for programs and activities in which members expressed an interest. Our new Program Chair, Jason KB9MEL, has a great deal of material to work with, and the board has plenty of ideas for club activities and special interest groups – enough that I regret we only have 12 meetings and a handful of warm-weather months in which to implement them! Thank you all for your input – and in advance for your assistance in bringing these plans to life.

That brings me to an important point. We've started the year with a very strong board of directors, more good ideas than we have time to implement in a single year, and enough enthusiasm and strong leadership to accomplish, very likely, anything we set our minds to. These are essential components, but it's not enough without the most vital ingredient: our members. Those of you who participate in meetings and activities, give a little of your time, share a bit of your knowledge, you are what keeps FRRL strong and moving forward. Your efforts allowed us to create new momentum for the club last year; and with your continued support, we'll accomplish even more in 2015.

On a final note, I'd like to express my appreciation for someone who consistently demonstrates support of the club, our 2014 Ham of the Year, Mike Urso K9FE. Mike was elected to this honor by a significant margin of votes, and I concur with the majority. Mike is someone we can always count on to lend a hand, solve a problem, and offer encouragement. His efforts benefit not only FRRL and its members, but also the amateur radio community at large. Congratulations, Mike!

73 de KC9LQS



February Contest Dates

+ North American SSB Sprint Contest	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 1
+ Vermont QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 7 to 2400Z, Feb 8
+ YL-ISSB QSO Party, CW	0000Z, Feb 7 to 2359Z, Feb 8
+ 10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	0001Z, Feb 7 to 2359Z, Feb 8
+ Black Sea Cup International	1200Z, Feb 7 to 1159Z, Feb 8
+ Minnesota QSO Party	1400Z-2400Z, Feb 7
+ British Columbia QSO Party	1600Z, Feb 7 to 0400Z, Feb 8
+ Mexico RTTY International Contest	1800Z, Feb 7 to 1759Z, Feb 8
+ AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party	2300Z, Feb 7 to 2300Z, Feb 8
+ North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 8
+ ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Feb 9 to 2359Z, Feb 13
+ CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 14 to 2400Z, Feb 15
+ New Hampshire QSO Party	1600Z, Feb 14 to 2200Z, Feb 15
+ ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 21 to 2400Z, Feb 22
+ REF Contest, SSB	0600Z, Feb 21 to 1800Z, Feb 22
+ High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z-1700Z, Feb 22
+ CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 27 to 2200Z, Mar 1
+ UBA DX Contest, CW	1300Z, Feb 28 to 1300Z, Mar 1
+ North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 28 to 0600Z, Mar 1

UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Director's Meeting

February 3, 2015 @7:30pm
Colonial Café—Aurora, IL.

Membership Meeting

February 10, 2015 @7:30pm
Bethany Lutheran Church

VE Testing Session

March 17, 2015 @ 7:30pm
Messenger Public Library
North Aurora, IL

Technician Pool- A. The check is a count of the number of words or word equivalents in the text portion of the message

General Pool- D. All of these choices are correct

Extra Pool- C. Relatives of the VE as listed in the FCC rules



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

Membership Meeting Minutes January 13, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

Question of the Month – In response to the question of the month, members shared topics they would like to explore in the coming year. Several members offered to present on topics in which they have expertise.

Reports

Approval of Minutes - A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes, with the exception of correcting Mike Urso's call sign, which should be K9FE. Motion carried

Treasurer – Dean KC9EOQ reported the account balances as of the end last month:
A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Program – In place of a presentation, a social hour was scheduled.

Education: Mike K9FE reported that plans are in progress for an Amateur Extra upgrade class, to begin in February if classroom space is available.

Old Business

Field Day Chair: Dawn KC9LQS reported that a volunteer was still needed to head this year's Field Day event. Phil W9XAN offered to fill the position.

Upcoming Dates: Members were reminded to mark their calendars for Field Day weekend, June 26-28; and for Hamfest on July 12.

New Business

Board Vacancy: Pursuant to club bylaws, Dawn KC9LQS announced that a vacancy had occurred on the Board of Directors. Jim N9XP was named as a candidate to fill the vacancy. The membership will vote to approve this appointment at the February meeting.

Spring SIG: Harry K9DXA discussed a three-session special interest group he will lead this spring. Interested participants will learn how to build/test their antenna and put together a simple station for portable operating.

2015 HF Challenge – Joe NA9A said worksheets for the 2015 HF Challenge have been mailed to all club members and encouraged members to participate.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the General Membership of the
Fox River Radio League (FRRL) an Illinois not-for-profit Corporation (**cont'd**)

Announcements

FRRL Awards Banquet: January 24, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

St. Charles Place, 2550 E. Main St., St. Charles.

Tickets: Prime Rib \$49; Salmon \$37; Chicken \$34

Speaker: Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

See Harry, K9DXA to purchase tickets!

Membership renewal - in progress. See Dean KC9EOQ

Upcoming Events

Jan. 20 – VE Session

Jan. 24 – Annual Awards Banquet

Feb. 3 – Board of Directors Meeting.

Feb. 10 – Membership Meeting

Adjournment

The motion was made adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Tofari KD9CPN

IMPORTANT AMATUER RADIOWEB 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

Local 6 meter: 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