



# ARC OVER



The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League  
Since 1924

Our 92nd Year in Amateur Radio!

December 2016

## 2016 Banquet Information

FRRL's annual winter banquet will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, January 21, 2017 at Prairie Landing Golf Club, 2325 Longest Drive in West Chicago. Tickets for the banquet will be on sale during the December and January membership meetings, and we're in the process of making them available for online purchase as well. Instructions for online orders will be posted on the club's website as soon as this process is in place.

Entrees will include the following:

Filet with red-wine peppercorn sauce - \$38

Prairie Chicken, stuffed with wild rice, vegetables and dried cranberries and a light cream sauce - \$35

Vegetable Lasagna - \$33

All entrees come with a house salad, dessert, and your choice of ice tea, hot tea or coffee. The meat entrees include garlic mashed potatoes and a vegetable medley. A cash bar will be available throughout the evening.



Proud to be an ARRL  
Special Service Club

## 2017 Slate of Candidates for Officer and Director Positions Election to be held December 13, 2016

Candidates are:

### SAMPLE FRRL BALLOT

#### Officers:

**President** W9HI, Denny Barfuss

**Vice President** W9YU, Roger Bara

**Secretary** W9BOO, Dave Booher

**Treasurer** KC9EOQ Dean Holste

#### Director -- Select only 2 --

KB9VO, Allen Nelson

NX9Y, Jason Burzynski

W9STS, Dan Taddei

WD9DAU, Tom Churchill

### What's Inside

About FRRL.....Page 2

HF Challenge .....Page 3

President's Traffic.....Page 4

October Minutes.....Page 5

Future Events.....Page 6

Important Links, Repeaters and  
Net Info.....Page 7

City of Lights Nets: Every Monday

CW Net: 28.150MHz at 8:00pm

SSB Net: 28.720MHz at 8:30pm

Join the fun!

## 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 Federal 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 member to the club!

CALL	Name	License Class
No	New	Members
	This Month	

## ArcOver FRRL Newsletter

Copyright 2016, 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](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.

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](mailto:info@frrl.org)

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

**President**  
Dennis Barfuss, W9HI

**Vice President**  
Mike Urso, K9FE

**Secretary**  
Dan Harmon, WA9YKK

**Treasurer**  
Dean Holste, KC9EOQ

**Directors:**  
Roger Bara W9YU  
Dave Bulkley, K9WDB  
Jason Burzynski, NX9Y  
Jim Nevitt, Jr., N9XP

**Past President**  
Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

**License Trustee:**  
Kermit Carlson, W9XA

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

**Webmaster**  
Chris Kennell, KC9BKS  
[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 \$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

This will be the final reporting of scores for the 2016 HF Challenge. The January ArcOver will introduce next year's event, summarizing the classes, reporting procedures, and any changes that Administrator Joe NA9A may have in store for us. Final scores for the 2016 Challenge will be announced at our annual winter banquet next month and in the February edition of the ArcOver.

There are still a few weeks left to boost your score, and participant Larry K9ARZ encourages everyone not to give up on the higher bands. He reported working Swaziland, Madagascar, Barbados, Ghana, Andorra, Sable Island, Greenland, Western Kiribati, Central Kiribati, Corsica, Antigua, Micronesia, Montserrat, Bermuda, and Chatham Island during the last reporting period.

Out in the northwest, participant Dick AH6EZ/W7 is busy on the other end of the bands. "Just put up my highest and longest antenna ever to get ready for the lower bands," he said. "I have been very active on 60m with 100 watts in advance of the possible downgrade to new FCC rules only allowing 15w. A non-resonant tuned dipole with ladder line, 160 feet long 90 feet high. I will be using a Palstar BT1500 balanced tuner for the lowest loss. I can use a Wellbrook loop antenna for lower receive noise if I need to."

Joe NA9A reported working two new entities for the year, Central Africa and Sable Island. He also offered a heads-up on rare DX coming up soon, JD1/M\*\* - Minami Torishima. "This will be a rare one," he said, "having two asterisks in the FRRL Challenge. JG8NQJ/JD1 is planning to be on the air just before Christmas with activity through the first quarter of 2017. This gives us opportunities in 2016 and again in the first half of 2017. Point your antenna to 306° and work him. QSL via JA8CJY."

Instructions for submitting your 2016 worksheets will be provided in the next ArcOver. Questions can always be directed to Joe during our monthly meetings, or via email to Challenge [at] frrl.org.

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Eric K9LGE	53	4	11	69
Jim W9NJP	68	11	55	134
Herb W9DTR	45	7	13	65
Chris KC9BKS	6	0	0	3
Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Jeff N9JZN	2	0	44	46
Jack K9JE	24	5	86	115
Herb W9DTR	81	11	15	107
Roger W9YU	72	10	53	135
Jason NX9Y	53	9	80	142
QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Larry K9ARZ	100	25	376	501
Joe NA9A	100	8	333	441
Cedric WT2P	99	18	195	220
Dick AH6EZ/W7	100	25	308	433
Dean KC9EOQ	33	5	86	124
Rag Chewer Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Roger W9YU	4	0	0	4
Joe NA9A	13	1	3	17
Jason NX9Y	9	2	0	11
Herb W9DTR	0	0	0	10
Eric K9LGE	1	0	0	1
Dick AH6EZ/W7	0	0	0	87
Jim W9NJP	25	0	2	27
Dean KC9EOQ	1	0	0	1

# President's Traffic

Dennis Barfuss, W9HI

Welcome to December. I hope everyone had a terrific Thanksgiving. Over the holiday I again had an opportunity to put up my portable Alpha antenna and try it out again with a new ground wire. I was portable in Northern Wisconsin (a no noise location for me). The results were really great. The Antenna performed well and allowed me to have some great Qso's with Florida, Ohio and Arizona on 40 and 12 meters. 80 was awesome and so quiet in the mornings I could talk to all the locals in upper Wisconsin with no noise. I operated this time with a battery pack which is something new I wanted to try for emergency and portable operation. The battery unit utilizes two SLA batteries, but I am saving up for some new Lithium Iron Phosphate batteries. The LiFePO4 batteries have a different discharge curve than SLA and they are much lighter for about the same amperage. Time will tell.

And now that we are in December and have already had our first major snow it's time to plan for the next holiday, Christmas and our banquet in January. I don't know how you all go about sending your wishes to Santa Clause, but I am sure that DX Engineering or HRO might have just the thing for Santa to bring on Christmas Day. But before Christmas we can all look forward to next week's meeting and our Christmas party. Dan and Dave are coordinating our grab bag gift swapping. Everyone that brings something from the shack in a paper bag will be able to enter the grab bag swap. You have to give a prize to get a prize.

In addition to bringing a grab bag item, some sweets to pass would be good along with some canned goods, paper items or even cash for the food bank. We will have a vehicle outside with a light flashing where the items will be collected.

Don't forget to renew your membership this month along with your support for our repeater. Kermit and the repeater team have been feverishly working on improvements. The web PayPal function is working well if you chose to renew that way or you can see Dean at the next meeting and he will gladly accept your renewal. In addition we will have banquet tickets at the meeting so you can pick them up there or again, we will have the web modified to give you the opportunity to utilize PayPal for your banquet tickets. Such a deal!!

So enjoy the month and stay warm as I am told by the weather guessers that we are going to get a very cold spell in a couple of days. Take care and see you all at the December meeting.

73, Denny W9HI

President FRRL

---

Hello to all FRRL members,

So 'tis that time of year again for our annual elections of Officers and Directors for the Executive Board. We at the nomination committee (Mike K9FE, Harry K9DXA and Paul AC9BS) were happy to help out with recruiting the nominees for leadership officers in our club for 2017. Please attend the club's meeting on December 13th to cast your vote, and for those who can't attend, there is a ballot at the bottom of the page to cut out and submit to our current officers. Just follow the directions in the copy of Bylaws.

See the following:

Article VII-Election of Officers and Directors, 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 call-sign 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.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Mandrik AC9BS, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee



**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 November 8, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 PM CST by President Denny W9HI. Audience introductions: call, name, QTH and: Are you a new member/first time or newly licensed/recently upgraded attendee? Did you vote today?

Approval of September 2016 member meeting minutes. Motion to approve by Kermit W9XA. Motion seconded by Doug W9RD. Membership approved the motion.

**Treasurer's Report, Dean KC9EOQ**

Dean reported the balances as of November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. (Congrats to Dean for the DXCC award he received today.)

Pay Pal is ready for member renewal. Thanks to Roger W9YU and Chris, KC9BKS

**Program, Jason NX9Y**

November-Gary Johnson and Applications for Crystals (yes, the crystals we use in Amateur Radio!), December, Christmas Party. January, a talk on smart grids David Turner

**Education, Mike K9FE / Paul AC9BS**

Mike is working with other clubs to coordinate general Class Exam reviews. New Technician class FCC exam review will be held from Saturdays October 15 to November 12 at the Messenger library North Aurora from 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Refer to the FRRL.ORG website for more details.

**Net Dave N9XU**

Interference heard on last three FRRL net sessions. Dave invited new members and guests to the FRRL 2-meter net. Net meets on every Tuesday at 7:30 pm except for FRRL club meetings. Several hams helped out with net control.

**VE (Volunteer Examiner) Doug W9RD/Paul AC9BS**

Doug announced the next VE Session is third Tues in November 20<sup>th</sup> at the North Aurora Library. Bring a picture ID and your license (for upgrades). Details are available on the FRRL.org website. FCC license fees due to the VE are \$15.

**ARES Debbie WX9VOR/Bill NF9D**

Contact Debbie for details of her announcement or check the FRRL.org website. 10/9 Chicago marathon Contact Debbie for details. Atlantic Hurricane season is here. 14.342 MHZ is a HF net frequency for emergencies.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Mike K9FE, presented the 2017 slate of officers and Directors.

The Nominating Committee is Paul Mandrik AC9BS, Mike Urso K9FE, and Harry Jones K9DXA

**Slate of Officers:**

President W9HI, Denny Barfuss

Vice President W9YU, Roger Bara

Secretary W9BOO, Dave Booher

Treasurer KC9EOQ Dean Holste

**Directors:**

KB9VO, Allen Nelson

NX9Y, Jason Burzynski

W9STS, Dan Taddei

Per the FRRL constitution, members can nominate another member outside the recommendation of the nominating committee.

Secretary - Nominated from the floor WD9DAU Tom Churchill

Marty N9NTM made the motion to close nominations and Dick W9GIG seconded. Membership voted to close nominations.

December Christmas Party Meeting – Dave W9BOO and Dan WA9YKK. Mike K9FE explained the White Elephant gift process. Bring a gift, from your Ham shack. Some examples are that tired, old signal generator or equipment that did not sell at the last Hamfest. We will place each gift in a paper bag, randomize the gifts and hand them out.

January Banquet Update –Dawn KC9LQS Dawn Explained the banquet details Cash bar and musical entertainment. Details at FRRL.org. Cost will be within a few dollars of the 2016 Banquet.

PayPal for member Dues – Roger W9YU

Joining FRRL Yahoo group is easy. Contact the FRRL data base manager Chris KC9BKS at [database@frrl.org](mailto:database@frrl.org) for details

**Announcements**

From Denny W9HI, we need Chair Persons for the Field Day and the FRRL Hamfest. We like to start early to help insure the planning and plan execution goes well.

CQ-WE contest will be held the weekend of November 12-13. Details can be found at <http://cqwe.cboh.org/>

Fort Wayne hamfest this weekend. Details can be found at [www.fortwaynehamfest.com](http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com)

Dick W9GIG has free stuff on the table

**Upcoming Events**

November 15th VE session

December 6th Board Meeting

December 13th Christmas meeting

Jan 3rd Board Meeting

Jan 13th Member meeting

Jan 17th VE Session

Jan 21st FRRL banquet

**Adjournment**

Denny W9HI declared the meeting adjourned at 20:19 CDT PM.

Respectfully submitted

Dan Harmon WA9YKK

FRRL Secretary

## IMPORTANT AMATEUR RADIO WEB PAGE LINKS

[www.frll.org](http://www.frll.org)

[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

[www.colpage.org](http://www.colpage.org)

[www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com)

[www.dailydx.com](http://www.dailydx.com)

[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

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