



ARC OVER



The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League
Since 1924

Our 92nd Year in Amateur Radio!

February 2016



Proud to be an ARRL
Special Services Club

Congratulations to our 2015

Ham of the Year!!

Denny Barfuss, W9HI



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Congratulations!

2016 FRRL Executive Board

Denny Barfuss W9HI, President
Mike Urso K9FE, Vice President
Dean Holste KC9EOQ, Treasurer
Dan Harmon WA9YKK, Secretary

Board of Directors

Roger Bara, W9YU
William Bulkley, K9DWB
Jason Burzynski, NX9Y
Jim Nevitt N9XP

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 members to the club!

Call	Name	License Class
KB9E	Sperling, Gregg	Amateur Extra
WA9YHX	Sperling, Robyn	Amateur Extra
N9WBJ	Williamson, Dennis	General
WB8FAX	Wolford, Jim	Amateur 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. Mail to: FRRL Newsletter PO Box 673 Batavia, IL 60510.

Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines.

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Fox River Radio League
Founded 1924

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Dave Bulkley, K9WDB
Jason Burzynski, NX9Y
Jim Nevitt, Jr., N9XP

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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 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 – the results are in!

Participants in the 2015 HF Challenge were recognized last month during FRRL's annual awards banquet. Everyone who participated in the Challenge received a handsome certificate commemorating their efforts.

Top operators were honored in each of the three main categories: Paul Fotre W9JML reported 71 contacts in the Limited Class; Roger Bara netted 229 contacts in the Operator Class; and Larry Stark K9ARZ earned 550 contacts in the QRO Class.

Of the 16 participants in last year's event, five also entered the optional Rag Chewer Class. Dick Illman AH6EZ/W7 reported 76 confirmed contacts, making him the top scoring entrant in that class.

Each of these participants received an attractive plaque commemorating their accomplishments.

Updates on the 2016 Challenge will be published in the ArcOver each month. If you'd like to be included, send your year-to-date scores as of the 15th of each month to me. Be sure to include your name, call sign, the class you're participating in, and a breakdown of your contacts – states, provinces, and DX entities from Jan. 1st through the 15th of the month you're reporting in.

Worksheets for the 2016 Challenge were mailed to all members last month. If you didn't receive one, see Challenge Administrator Joe NA9A at the next club meeting, or send an email to Challenge [at] frrl.org.

de KC9LQS

Final Results 2015 Bill Erikson WA9TPQ FRRL HF Challenge					
Limited Class					
Name	Call	States	Provinces	DX	Total
Paul Fotre	W9JML	41	6	24	71
Paul Mitchell	KC9SEB	49	5	14	68
Eric Lorenz	K9LGE	1	1	2	4
Operator Class					
Name	Call	States	Provinces	DX	Total
Roger Bara	W9YU	94	15	120	229
Herb Pasteur	W9DTR	98	20	71	189
Jason Burzynski	NX9Y	57	7	53	117
Jeffrey Bussie	N9JZN	6	3	71	80
Harry Jones	K9DXA	9	11	49	69
Dawn Williams	KC9LQS	0	0	53	53
Christopher Kennell	KC9BKS	2	0	1	3
QRO Class					
Name	Call	States	Provinces	DX	Total
Lawrence W. Stark	K9ARZ	100	26	424	550
Joe Dubeck	NA9A	82	17	376	475
Dick Illman	AH6EZ/W7	100	24	343	467
Dean Holste	KC9EOQ	41	9	134	184
Alan Ahasic	W9AN	69	5	93	167
Jim Nevitt	N9XP	46	10	74	130
Rag Chewer Class					
Name	Call	States	Provinces	DX	Total
Dick Illman	AH6EZ/W7	62	4	10	76
Jason Burzynski	NX9Y	31	2	7	40
Herb Pasteur	W9DTR	21	6	7	34
Joe Dubeck	NA9A	13	0	3	16
Paul Fotre	W9JML	2	0	1	3

**STUDY QUESTIONS
OF THE MONTH**

FROM THE TECHNICIAN POOL

Q: T2C08

What is usually considered to be the most important job of an amateur operator when handling emergency traffic messages?

- A. Passing messages exactly as written, spoken or as received
- B. Estimating the number of people affected by the disaster
- C. Communicating messages to the news media for broadcast outside the disaster area
- D. Broadcasting emergency information to the general public

FROM THE GENERAL POOL

Q: G4A09

Why is a time delay sometimes included in a transmitter keying circuit?

- A. To prevent stations from talking over each other
- B. To allow the transmitter power regulators to charge properly
- C. To allow time for transmit-receive changeover operations to complete properly before RF output is allowed
- D. To allow time for a warning signal to be sent to other stations

FROM THE EXTRA POOL

Q: E6C02

What logic state do the inputs of a TTL device assume if they are left open?

- A. A logic-high state
- B. A logic-low state
- C. The device becomes randomized and will not provide consistent high or low-logic states
- D. Open inputs on a TTL device are ignored

**Last Chance to Pay Your
2016 Membership Dues**

2016 Membership Dues will be collected between the November 2015 meeting and the February 2016 Meeting. **Please bring exact cash or a check made out to FRRL.** I do not have much cash available to make change. Once you get your renewal form, please review the information and make any changes needed. Again exact change will be greatly appreciated.

02/04/2016

The ARRL IT Department will conduct overnight maintenance on its network this weekend, between 0100 UTC and 1100 UTC on Sunday, February 7.

During this period some or all systems may be temporarily inaccessible. The website will remain up, but online purchasing will not be available. E-mail will not be available, but all messages will be queued for later delivery.

We apologize for any inconvenience.

02/03/2016

The list of cosponsors for the US House version of the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 (H.R. 1301) continues to grow. The addition of Rep Stevan Pearce, KG5KIQ (R-NM), and Rep Beto O'Rourke (D-TX) as cosponsors on February 1 raises the total to 120 cosponsors. They are among four cosponsors to sign on to the bill since the start of the year. The other two are Reps Robert Brady (D-PA) and Mary Kaptur (D-OH), who became cosponsors on January 12 and 13 respectively.

02/03/2016

The ARRL Board of Directors has adopted an updated [Strategic Plan](#) that defines the League's vision and guides its direction over the next 5 years. ARRL COO Harold Kramer, WJ1B, a member of the Strategic Planning Working Group, said the revised plan represents more than 8 months of work on the part of the group's seven members. Now-Honorary ARRL Vice President Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF, chaired the panel, which met some 2 dozen times, mostly via webinar. Kramer said input to the Strategic Plan was considerable and comprehensive.

President's Traffic

Dennis Barfuss, W9HI

As we move out of January, look forward to February and the coming of spring, it's going to be another great year for Amateur Radio. I am excited that the ARRL is forging ahead with the Senate and the House on the Amateur Radio Parity Act better known as H.R. 1301. I personally don't know when the Congress will vote on this bill, but we are so close that you all better start thinking about that tower you really would like to have in your yard. On another front for those of you that might not feel like getting on the air or don't have the means yet, I have to tell you about the wonderful Plaques and Certificates that Joe NA9A awarded at the annual banquet for the clubs Bill Erickson HF Challenge. They were spiffy. As it turns out anyone can be in the challenge so pay attention at the next meeting when Joe tells you about how you can receive your awesome Plaque. And for those of you that would like to get on HF and don't yet have the means, this year we will make a concerted effort to help club members reach that goal.

And speaking of goals, well there is plenty of operating going on. Just take a look at the National Parks on the Air. This sounds like something Harry K9DXA came up with so he can operate QRP portable. If that isn't enough we have all the QSO parties and Islands the Air... Oh yea and remember the DXpeditions. Holy smokes no want for operating.

And believe it or not it just keeps getting better. We have already reserved our field day site for this year so mark your calendars so you don't miss that wonderful weekend. Oh yes, June 24 is Friday setup and June 25, 26 is Field Day at the Elburn Forest Preserve. Mike K9FE and Phil W9XAN are co captains and your help is always needed. Our club has done well every year and your efforts will make it even better.

And lastly mark your calendar for our clubs hamfest, July 10th. Dave K9WDB is our Hamfest Chairperson so make sure you stop by and sign up to help him as hamfest is a great event and a large undertaking.

As I conclude this first set of notes I would like to take the opportunity to thank our outgoing President Dawn KC9LQS for the outstanding job she has done for our club for the past two years. She has accomplished a great deal and has raised the bar for future leaders of our club. When you see her please congratulate her on a job well done.

Denny W9HI President



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 January 12, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Dawn Williams KC9LQS. Audience introductions: call, name, QTH and: are you a new member/first time or newly licensed/recently upgraded attendee?

Reports

Approval of December, 2015-member meeting minutes. Motion to approve by Mike K9FE. Seconded by Roger W9YU. Membership approved motion.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Dean KC9EOQ reported the end of the month account balances for the club. Dean is accepting 2016 member dues. Harry, K9DXA is accepting ticket money for the 2016 Annual FRRL awards banquet.

Program

Director Jason NX9Y. January program changed to a presentation by the Kane County Coroner.

The March 2016 program will be presented by Harry K9DXA: "How I found a portable site for the Illinois QSO Party, how I planned it and how I did it". Planned for February 2016 program by Vice President Mike K9FE is "Arduino is your friend!!"

ARES

Debbie WX9VOR announced the regular Kane County ARES meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2016. This Sunday, January 17th ARES presents Winterfest outdoors. Dates for winter field day are January 30 & 31.

Education

Vice President Mike K9FE announced Amateur Radio license exam review sessions. Six General Class exam reviews will start January 30th and Extra Class reviews tentatively in February. All review sessions will meet on Saturday mornings 9 am at the North Aurora Library.

Net

Dave N9XU reported that the 2-meter Net meets on every Tuesday at 7:30 pm except of the FRRL club meetings. Dave needs additional net controllers. 20 checked in the last net.

VE (Volunteer Examiner) Testing update and info

Doug W9RD announced that an FCC Amateur Licensing session will be conducted on Tuesday January 19, 2016. 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. Next 2 exams are scheduled for Wednesday January 20 and Wednesday March 16

Old Business

2015 HF Challenge Worksheets are due! Joe NA9A promoted and explained the HF Challenge. Tech licensees can work 10-meter band. The goal is to make contacts! Not a contest!

Banquet tickets, Harry K9DXA reported

Date: January 23 Saturday from 5pm to 9pm at the Prairie Landing Golf Course Club House. The program will **not** include a HAM guest speaker. Dress is business casual. Please refer to the FRRL.org website for details. Harry is selling tickets tonight and at the January 12 meeting. Steak, chicken, salmon are the choices

Deadline tonight for FRRL membership renewal for inclusion in the roster. Contact Dean or go to the FRRL website for membership details.

New Business

- Field Day Location Reserved:
Elburn Forest Preserve, Hwy. 38, half mile west of Rt. 47, June 24-26
Phil W9XAN, Field Day co-chair and Mike K9FE co-chair
- Hamfest confirmed at Aurora Central Catholic High School, July 10th
Dave K9WDB, Hamfest co-chair and co-chair Tom KC9PHX

Announcements

Illinois QSO Party results came in 4th in Illinois. In addition to the club call, W9CEQ, our club had 6 participants

- Changing of the Guard (A message from the pres.) From Dawn KC9LQS "we are amazing!!" Best wishes to Denny W9HI

Denny W9HI announced upcoming program presentations

Doug W9NJM has WCRA hamfest tickets

Upcoming Events

Feb 2nd BOD Meeting

Jan 19th VE Test session

Jan 23rd Awards Banquet

Jan 30th General Class Exam review

Adjournment

Dave K9WDB motioned for adjournment and Eric K9LGE seconded. Membership approved motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:59PM.

Respectfully submitted

Dan Harmon WA9YKK

FRRL Secretary



February Contest Dates

+ YLRL YL-OM Contest	1400Z, Feb 5 to 0200Z, Feb 7
+ Vermont QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 6 to 2400Z, Feb 7
+ 10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	0001Z, Feb 6 to 2359Z, Feb 7
+ Minnesota QSO Party	1400Z-2400Z, Feb 6
+ British Columbia QSO Party	1600Z, Feb 6 to 0400Z, Feb 7
+ Mexico RTTY International Contest	1800Z, Feb 6 to 1759Z, Feb 7
+ North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 7
+ ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Feb 8 to 2359Z, Feb 12
+ NAQCC CW Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Feb 19
+ RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	2000Z-2130Z, Feb 10
+ CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 13 to 2359Z, Feb 14
+ SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Feb 13 to 1000Z, Feb 14
+ OMISS QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 13 to 1500Z, Feb 14
+ New Hampshire QSO Party	1600Z, Feb 13 to 2200Z, Feb 14
+ Balkan HF Contest	1200Z-1800Z, Feb 14
+ RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	2000Z-2130Z, Feb 18
+ ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 20 to 2400Z, Feb 21
+ Russian PSK WW Contest	1200Z, Feb 20 to 1159Z, Feb 21
+ CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 26 to 2200Z, Feb 28
+ REF Contest, SSB	0600Z, Feb 27 to 1800Z, Feb 28
+ UBA DX Contest, CW	1300Z, Feb 27 to 1300Z, Feb 28
+ South Carolina QSO Party	1400Z, Feb 27 to 0059Z, Feb 28
+ North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 27 to 0559Z, Feb 28
+ High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z-1100Z, Feb 28 and 1500Z-1700Z, Feb 28
+ North Carolina QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 28 to 0059Z, Feb 29

UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Director's Meeting

March 1, 2016 @7:00pm
Colonial Café—Aurora, IL

Membership Meeting

March 8, 2016 @ 7:30pm
Bethany Lutheran Church

VE Testing Session

March 16th, 2016 @ 6:45pm
Messenger Public Library in
North Aurora

Technician Pool- A. Passing messages exactly as written, spoken or as received

General Pool- C. To allow time for transmit-receive changeover operations to complete properly before RF output is allowed

Extra Pool- A. A logic-high state

IMPORTANT AMATEUR RADIO WEB PAGE LINKS

www.frrl.org

www.arrl.org

www.colpage.org

www.qrz.com

www.dailydx.com

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