



Arc Over

Fox River Radio League
PO Box 673
Batavia, IL
60150-0673

June, 2005

President's Traffic

by Dick Illman, AH6EZ

With the ArcOver deadline being May 20, I am writing this before Dayton, where the ham world is refreshed for another year. I hope that the weather is decent without too much rain. It was thinking about raining and was windy today when I was starting to assemble my full wave horizontal loop antenna for field day. I decided to wait but maybe that would have been good practice for the real event. No reason to get wet in the rain if you don't have to.

Besides Field Day, there are several other events to be getting ready for. Please contact Bill Schaben to help out with the Mid-American Canoe Race on June 5. The week after that, we will be looking forward to your help with the Peyton Run. Contact Lou Petkus for that event. These two events help pay for our rent at the Prisco Center. N9CHA put together a really nice video of the MS walk that was chaired by K9FE. Thanks Mike and Greg.

If you missed the wonderful and heartwarming program at the May meeting by AJ9N and his team who conduct communications between schoolchildren and the International Space Station, there are several copies of PowerPoint presentation and the DVD of the Fairview Elementary QSO floating around.

Before the May meeting, you may have seen me fooling around with software that let me zoom in from outer space, almost into your backyard. This has higher resolution than Microsoft's teraserver that you may have used before. This new software is named World Wind and it is created for and by NASA with direct internet links to USGS databases. I made the map of the Field Day site with this software. <http://worldwind.arc.nasa.gov>

The June Program will focus on preparations and training for Field Day. I believe that Denny W9HI will have several different HF rigs in the basement with their front panels projected up on the wall so that we can learn about them before we try to operate them sleepy eyed at 3am at Field Day. Our new Next Gen committee will be busy entertaining and educating the next generation of hams at Field. That should be fun.

The July meeting AND program will be different in several ways. The meeting will NOT be at the Prisco Center. It will instead be at the QTH of Kermit, W9XA in Batavia at 1150 McKee St.

If you don't have your copy of the club roster yet, contact K9FE.

See you next month when there will be tales to be told about Dayton...

73,
Dick Illman AH6EZ
FRRL President

Bill Erickson HF Challenge - June, 2005 *by Mike Urso, K9FE*

There was a special event this month. It was call the HAMVENTION. Were YOU there? Many from the FRRL made their presence known. Some we even "on stage", but I will not say who. Find out who it was. The reason I bring up the Dayton Hamvention is the amount of RF in the air was totally overwhelming. Much more than probably anywhere else in the world.

This year the weather was actually very good. True, it rained on Thursday, nut Friday and Saturday and most of Sunday were fantastic. I saw a lot of HF gear changing hands. Some new antennas that you just have to see. Maybe Joe NA9A and give us a description for this article of his "large" purchase.

The number of updates this month was fewer than most months, but the past month has been up and down in terms of propagation. There have been periods of terrible static. (Maybe someone has set up a BPL service without telling anyone?)

On the way back from Ohio Greg, N9CHA, was working the USA on 20 mobile and having a great time. Contacts from California to Maine and Wyoming to Florida all participating in a county contest. Working HF while mobile is a great way to pass the time. Just be careful. It is better to be a passenger on the radio than the driver.

Here is Gary, AL9A, from beautiful Alaska –

"The past month has been much slower up here for DX. Solar noise is rapidly increasing the noise level from S5 - S7 on many days making it virtually impossible to work any but the strongest signals. The main focus has thus been on trying to rack up a few more contacts for the RCC category.

Oh well, the weather is getting progressively nicer so it's time to start focusing on some outdoor activities for a few months. We just took delivery of our 19 foot pontoon boat about two weeks ago and are busy trying to break in the engine and figure out how to handle it out on the lake. Next task, figure out how to catch fish! The Kings will start running this month and the Silvers and Reds will be running in June and July. Oh boy, summer in Alaska!

Old Alaska saying – 'Give a man a fish and you'll feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and he'll disappear on you for three months!"

This month the following were heard - ZL7 EW3 4X4 VK9N, TY3V, TZ9A Benin and YI9B4E Iraq,

Good Hunting!
73 de K9FE Mike Urso

Scores are on page 5.

Next Gen Net Ready to Go June 22

by Bill Muhr, KB9YSI

The *Next Gen Hams*, an FRRL sponsored club for anyone under age 18, will kick off the *Next Gen Hams Net* on Wednesday, June 22, 2005. The net will be held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, from 8 PM to 8:30 PM. Everyone under age 18 is welcome to participate, licensed or unlicensed. If you do not have a license, ask a licensed operator to join you when you check in to the net.

The net will be conducted on the NIARC repeater on 146.580 MHz. This repeater uses a non-standard offset, so your input frequency should be set to 147.660 MHz (+ 1.08 MHz, no PL).

The *Next Gen Hams* are also sponsoring several special activities during Field Day, June 25th and 26th. The plans include games, prizes, craft activities, and a Scavenger Hunt.

For more information, contact the Next Gen group by email at tngiams@frrl.org.

KC9OEM Weekly Net Continues

by Bill Schaben, W9AX

The Kane Co. Office of Emergency Management weekly check-in net on the KC9OEM repeater (145.470, - offset, 103.5) has been on the air for several weeks now, and a number of local amateurs have been checking in. The purpose of the net is to allow area ham operators/spotters to check their signal capability into the KCOEM repeater and to keep the local ham community up to date on the activities of the Kane County OEM.

The net will continue on a weekly basis every Wednesday at 7 pm, unless pre-empted by activation of the EOC due to a severe weather or disaster situation.

All hams are welcome.

Roster Corrections Needed?

If you would like to have your personal information in the 2005 roster changed, please notify the Database Manager, KB9YSI, by email to database@frrl.org.

Our current plan is to publish some type of roster correction/update sheet after the summer busy season. This update would include new members and corrections to data for existing members.

As always, if you have questions about your club records, or if you need to change your information, please contact KB9YSI.

Field Day 2005

By Bill Muhr, KB9YSI

Two words pretty much say it all — Field Day. Field Day is the most popular event in amateur radio, and it takes place this year on June 25 and 26. The FRRL site will be at Jerico Park in Aurora. Setup activities will begin on Friday afternoon, June 24. Setup will continue on Saturday morning, and the operating will start at 1:00 PM on Saturday. Operating runs for 24 hours, followed by clean-up on Sunday afternoon.

Please try to stop by some time during the weekend. You don't need to be licensed to participate, and there will be plenty of opportunities to try all of the different aspects of ham radio.

The Kids Committee has some great plans in the works to get young people involved. Among the activities for kids will be games, prizes, crafts, and food.

The Purpose of Amateur Radio—by the Rules

There has been some discussion recently about the purpose of Amateur Radio. Here is what the "official rule book" (FCC Reg. Part 97.1) has to say: (emphasis added)

The rules and regulations in this part are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a *fundamental purpose* as expressed in the following principles:

- (a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a *voluntary noncommercial communication service*, particularly with respect to providing *emergency communications*.
- (b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to *contribute to the advancement of the radio art*.
- (c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for *advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art*.
- (d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of *trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts*.
- (e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to *enhance international goodwill*.

Bill Erickson HF Challenge Scores - June, 2005

Ragchew Class	States/Provinces	DX Countries	Total
AL9A	-	-	43
AH6EZ	-	-	15
NA9A	-	-	11
W9DTR	-	-	4
K9FE	-	-	1

Operator Class	States/ Provinces	DX Countries	Total
K9JE	46/10	115	171
W4CEO	48/7	112	167
K9MMS	50/10	79	139
W9DTR	22/7	81	110
K9FBI	43/5	42	90

Limited Class	States/ Provinces	DX Countries	Total
KB9YSI	35/2	31	68

QRO Class	States/ Provinces	DX Countries	Total
AH6EZ	48/9	144	201
AL9A	50/10	129	189
NA9A	9/2	155	166
WOHED	50/7	77	134
K9FE	15/0	4	19

Solar Flux

by Bill Muhr, KB9YSI

Our Club Database needs a bit of updating of the VE field. If you are a VE, please let me know that, either by signing the sheet I'll have available at the next meeting, or sending me a short piece of email. We have several VEs listed, but I think I'm missing some and I'd like to have a complete list.

Thanks & 73,

Bill, KB9YSI

FOR SALE:

Items for sale by Lance, AI9U

1. Heathkit SB-220. Includes all manuals, documentation and magazine articles for all modifications. Mods include numerous circuit improvements from QST, CQ and Worldradio magazines, plus Harbach Electronics Mods. Price: \$650.00.
2. Drake TR-3 Transceiver and RV-3 Remote VFO. Additions include Drake Speaker and Enclosure, Autek Research QF-1A SSB/CW/AM Audio Filter, Turner M+3 Microphone, and extra tubes. Price \$300.00
3. Customized Headset, Microphone and Footswitch for the Drake TR-3 by Warren Gregoire & Assoc. Includes Model TR-2000, Model PRE-2000, Model FT-2000, and the Drake TR-3 Connector Kit. \$159.60 list price, Price \$75.00. Will sell with the TR-3 above for \$25.00.
4. Browning LTD 10 Meter QRP Transceiver (CB Conversion). Covers the entire 10 Meter band, 10 watts SSB output. Price \$75.00.
5. Astatic Model T-UP9-D104 Silver Eagle Power Microphone—\$100.00.
6. Hallicrafters SW-500, partially restored—\$75.00
7. Diamond 6 Meter 21' Vertical Antenna DP-GH62—\$75.00
8. Cushcraft Model ATB-34 Tri-Band Beam. 4 Element (Extra 10M reflector), 17 1/2' boom, full legal power, \$450 list price, - \$200.00.
9. Cushcraft Model A3WS Beam (12M & 17M). 14' boom. \$370 list, like new, for \$225.
10. Hex Beam (Traffie Technology) Model HX-1721i. 12M & 17M, Full Legal Power, like new. \$559 list price, - \$375.00.

All antennas include manuals.

Contact Lance by calling (630) 968-1842 (Downers Grove, IL). He can also be reached at his Wisconsin cabin by calling (715) 476-3848.

If you have FOR SALE items you would like to list in the ArcOver, please contact KB9YSI at one of the addresses in the club roster or on the page 7. Listings of for sale items should be in electronic form, such as a text file or Microsoft Word .doc file, and should be submitted by the 20th of the month preceding the publication date.

The FRRL and/or the ArcOver Editor is not responsible for errors in the for sale listings or for the accuracy of the information presented.

If you want to include picture with your listing, please contact KB9YSI. Pictures will not be included in the print copy of the ArcOver, but can be included in the web page version if space allows.

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©(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 the Prisco Community Center in Aurora, Illinois. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM. After conducting business, coffee and

snacks are served while we socialize. Following the break, a program of interest will be presented. All persons interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Families are welcome. *We hope to see you there!*



License Exams

The Fox River Radio League, Inc., in conjunction with the ARRL VEC, conducts amateur examinations on the 3rd Tuesday of January, March, May, September and November in the basement of the Prisco Community Center, 150 W. Illinois Street, (South East corner of Lake and Illinois) in Aurora, IL. at 7:30 PM. No advance registration is required, but please be sure to

bring your license (if you have one) and a photocopy of it, original CSCEs and a photocopy (if needed), some form of photo identification, and the fee of \$14.00. (The FRRL receives no portion of this fee.)

The next exam session is scheduled for during the FRRL Hamfest on July 10, 2005, at Aurora Central Catholic High School.

Nets

Net Name	Freq.	Day	Time
FRRL	147.210	Tuesday	7:30 PM Local
10-10 CW	28.150	Monday	8:00 PM Local
10-10 SSB	28.720	Monday	8:30 PM Local

FRRL Dues

Annual dues are payable no later than the January Club Meeting each year. Persons 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. You can also help support the FRRL Repeaters by joining as a combined Club/Repeater member for \$30.00. Repeater dues are \$20.00.

Check with the Treasurer for details and additional dues rates.

Fox River Radio

League

Founded 1924

Mailing Address:

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Batavia, Illinois
60510-0673

Email:
mail@frrl.org

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

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FRRL CLUB MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE PRISCO COMMUNITY CENTER AT 150 WEST ILLINOIS STREET IN AURORA. PLEASE CHECK THE FRRL WEB SITE FOR A MAP TO THE MEETING LOCATION .

<http://www.frrl.org>

Send Address Corrections to:
Fox River Radio League, Inc.
40W981 Bridle Creek Drive
St Charles, , Illinois
60175

FRRL Event Calendar

June, 2005

Canoe Race.....	5
FRRL Board Meeting.....	7
Peyton Run	12
FRRL Meeting	14
FRRL Field Day	25/26

July, 2005

FRRL Board Meeting.....	5
FRRL Hamfest	10
FRRL Meeting	12

Important Dates To Remember!

Field Day—June 25th & 26th

FRRL Hamfest—July 10th

Next Gen Ham Net June 22!

Don't forget the Next Gen Hams Net starting on Wednesday, June 22, 2005, from 8 PM to 8:30 PM. Everyone under age 18 is welcome to participate, licensed or unlicensed.

The net will be conducted on the NIARC repeater on 146.580 MHz. This repeater uses a non-standard offset, so your input frequency should be set to 147.660 MHz (+ 1.08 MHz, no PL).

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 six days prior to the end of the previous month. Articles can be sent by email to kb9ysi@arrl.net or via U.S. Mail. 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.

Local Area Repeaters

W9CEQ—147.210 Mhz. *
+600 KHz, 103.5 access tone
Owned by FRRL

W9CEQ—444.300 Mhz. IRLP Node # 4850
+5 Mhz, 114.8 access tone
Owned by FRRL

W9ZGP—146.580 Mhz.
+1.08 Mhz (147.660)
Owned by NIARC

KC9OEM—145.470 Mhz.
-600 KHz, 103.5 access tone
Owned by Kane County OEM

W9XA — 224.40 Mhz, +5 Mhz, IRLP Node #4846
— 443.65 Mhz, +5 Mhz
— 1292.00 Mhz, -20 Mhz (1272.00)

* Weekly FRRL Net—Tues. Eve. at 7:30 pm local time.

Announcing a "Family Ham-Camping Weekend"

We are currently looking to find out who may be interested in camping with us in Bristol, WI (about 20 min. north of Great America) at Happy Acres Campground.

One of the following weekends will be chosen based on the number of people interested:
<http://www.happyacres.com/themes.html>

1. July 15-16-17 ... weekend theme is "Vegas Weekend" with all of the regular kid's activities plus an adult mini-Vegas night on Saturday
2. July 29-30-31 ... weekend theme is "Brat & Brew". \$2.00 Brat & Beverage and 50 cent ears-of-corn. Karaoke night too!

Cost is \$30.00 per night for a tent site; \$34.00 - \$37.00 for a site with electric & water; or there may be cabins available for \$72.00 per night. Visit for the day for \$5.00 per person/\$2.50 per child. Showers are available!! Family store on premises with snacks, pizza, ice cream and camping supplies. Lots of activities, including fishing, swimming (in a pool and/or pond), paddle boats, petting zoo, mini-golf, game room, 3 playgrounds, horseshoes, etc.

Don't forget your Ham gear/QRP!!

When the weekend is selected, we will need to know the names, addresses, phone #'s and the number of adult/children per site. A one-night deposit is required. Refundable with 5 days notice of cancellation. Please R.S.V.P. A.S.A.P. with number in your party and the type of site you will be needing (tent, regular or cabin), so we can make the necessary reservations. (Preliminary results have indicated an interest for the July 29-30-31st weekend.)

Additional information can be provided at www.happyacres.com. Or call/email us with any questions:

Ken Powell (N9QPE)
Michelle Powell (KC9HDB)
630-643-4729
email: n9qpe@aol.com

TAKE YOUR HT TO WORK DAY

From the ARRL

The very best Amateur Radio recruiter is a ham.

On June 21st we are encouraging all hams in the US that have an HT to take it with them to work. Wear it on your belt, put it on your desk or some other place where your co-workers can see it. We hope that it will raise curiosity and questions. This is a chance for you to talk to them about ham radio! At lunchtime, show them how it works. Make some contacts while they are watching. Even better, let them talk on the radio! Then invite your co-workers to come see you at Field Day weekend. There they can meet even more hams, see a full station in simulated emergency operations, learn more and get information so that they too can get their Technician license.

When it's all done, just mail in a report to:

HT Workday
ARRL
225 Main St
Newington, CT 06111

(Continued on page 10)

HT To Work Day

(Continued from page 9)

List four things:

1. your call sign
2. how many non-hams watched you make a contact during the day
3. how many non-hams were you able to get to talk on your radio
4. how many non-hams said they would come to your Field Day site

The people with the highest activity levels will be eligible for prizes including the new ARRL Handbook, or Antenna Book or Operating Manual.

What else?

There will be monitors on various repeaters randomly scattered throughout the country. If you are heard during the lunch hour of 12 to 1 (your local time) participating in HT Workday, showing your radio to a non-ham, you just might have one of the special monitors come back to you telling you you've just won a new ARRL Repeater Directory.

And...

W1AW will be running via echolink and also checking into repeaters and sites across the country during their lunch hour of 12 to 1 p.m. local time. Bear, from the Christmas Toy Drive, and his friends will be giving away Repeater Directories to hams participating in HT Workday.

Summary

This is a chance to have a lot of fun, recruit new hams, invite people to Field Day, get publicity, and show off Amateur Radio. Many people would like to have the capabilities of ham radio in a crisis but don't know where to start. The best recruiter is another ham who can show, guide and explain how to get their Technician license, then link them to the right people in your area. I hope you have fun and make the most of it!

Handy Web Links

FRRL Web Site	http://www.frrl.org/
ARRL Main Site	http://www.arrl.org/
ARRL Central Div. Site	http://www.central.arrl.org/
ARRL IL Section Site	http://www.central.arrl.org/illinois.html
ARRL IL Section News	http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=IL
ARRL Contest Page	http://www.arrl.org/contests/
Contest Calendar	http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/
Callsign Lookup (QRZ)	http://www.qrz.com/
Vanity Callsign Info	http://www.vanityhq.com/
IRLP Main Page	http://www.irlp.net/
AMSAT	http://www.amsat.org/
FCC Services	http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur
SMC Contest Club	http://www.w9smc.com/