



# Arc Over

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

**December, 2006**

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## **President's Traffic**

By Dick Illman, AH6EZ

I have been traveling so much, it has been hard to stay in touch with ham radio. I was ready to present a program in November on how and why to tune in SSB signals, but the FRRL update on D-Star by Kermit W9XA took more time than expected. There was a lot of interest by the club members on the use of the 2m, 70cm, and 1.2GHz D-Star repeaters that will be run by the FRRL. Please check our club website for current information about the status of the D-Star repeaters.

As seen in the last ArcOver, the FRRL has published a set of Repeater Operating Guidelines to help remind all of to be more professional operators. We have also developed a new Tuesday night net format that starts with a more formal section meant to help us become more proficient in emergency communication net operations. We will still conduct the second portion of the net in an informal way, with the usual opportunity for swap and shop trading.

An important part of the November meeting was the solicitation of nominations for all of the club offices and the finalization of a slate of candidates that will be voted upon at the December meeting. Please look closely at the list of candidates on page 3, and then come to the meeting and vote.

We now have a new Membership Chairman, Joe, KC9FPD. He will be working on better ways of recruiting and orienting new members and capturing more renewals.

We also have five new call signs from the education class put on by Greg N9CHA (see page 7 for their names and calls). If you hear them on the air, please greet them in our normal friendly FRRL way.

## **December Program Notes:**

The December meeting will include our annual Christmas Party put on by Lou K9LU and Jack K9JE. This is always a fun time for the whole family. Please remember to bring a canned food item or two for donation to Hessed House. The January meeting program will probably be the How and Why of tuning in SSB stations.

73,  
Dick, AH6EZ

## **D-Star Repeaters On The Air**

By Kermit Carlson, W9XA

As of November 27, the FRRL D-Star Repeaters are on the air, and the gateway is operational. The first gateway QSO took place between Jim, N5MIJ, in Dallas and myself here in Batavia.

Because things are moving so fast, I have started a blog on the FRRL website to provide frequent updates on the operational status of the repeaters and the results of our testing. Please check in to the blog at <http://www.frrl.org/repeaters/whatsnew.html> for the latest information.

Right now I am working on material that will help explain the details for setting the "callsigns" required for gateway operations on the IC91AD and ID-800 transceivers. Please contact me if you acquire a D-Star transceiver and I'll help you get it set up.

Thanks again to everyone involved in the building process.

Kermit, W9XA

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## **Membership Renewals/Dues Collection Continues**

By Bill Muhr, KB9YSI

The month of December continues the annual dues collection period for the FRRL. This year we are trying something new in order to speed up the collection process and improve the accuracy of our database. We are providing all current members a printed data sheet containing the information that is currently on file in our database. We ask that you review the datasheet and note any corrections on it before you approach the Treasurer with your dues money. The datasheet is a 3 part form. One part will be kept by the Treasurer, one part will be given to the Database Manager for input and the third part will be given back to you as a receipt (if you want one).

Blank fields on the datasheet do not have to be completed, but if you want to fill in the blanks, please feel free to do so. The only fields we really need completed are your Call, your name, address and a phone number, an email address, and your ARRL membership status. The ARRL membership field is important because we need to be able to provide a count of ARRL members in order to retain our status as a Special Service Club. The datasheet forms were printed in late September, so there may be some information that is not current. Please mark all changes, as the information on the form will be the basis for the 2007 Club Roster.

We hope you will find this year's renewal process to be both easier and faster. If you have any comments or questions about the process, please see either Bill, KB9YSI, or Larry, W9OKI.

**Fox River Radio League  
Nominating Committee Report  
November, 2006**

The Nominating Committee for the Fox River Radio League presented the following list of candidates for consideration as club officers. This slate of nominations will be voted on at the December meeting.

**President:**

Greg Braun, N9CHA

**Vice President:**

Denny Barfuss, W9HI  
John Spasojevich, K9COE

**Secretary:**

DJ Jensen, KF9OW  
John Spasojevich, K9COE  
Bill Stamps, Jr., KC9GZX  
Kent TeVault, W9NDW

**Treasurer:**

Knute Dresden, WB9NJL  
Larry Shaw, W9OKI

**Directors: (Vote for 2)**

Craig Crozier, AB9IV  
Tobi Davis, KC9GDL  
Eric Gustafson, KB9IDT  
Dean Holste, KC9EOQ  
Chris Kennell, KC9BKS  
Tom Kmiotek, AB9IN  
Joe Machan, KC9FPD  
Robert McKnight, N9BTF  
Jim Nevitt, N9XP  
Bruce Plumer, N9OUN  
Lloyd Stringer, KC9DMS

See page 4 for more voting and absentee ballot information.

## Annual Elections: Voting and Absentee Ballots

By Bill Muhr, KB9YSI

The FRRL Bylaws contain the following provisions concerning election of Officers and Directors:

**Article VII — Section 2. Election:** The annual election of all officers and the directors shall take place at the December meeting. The balloting shall allow for write-in names. A candidate shall be declared elected if that candidate receives the most votes cast by the members.

**Article VII — 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 Callsign 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.

## 2006 Bill Erickson HF Challenge Update

By John Spasojevich, K9COE

This is the last update for the 2006 Bill Erickson FRRL HF Challenge. The contest ends December 31st. Tally your scores and get the score sheets in to Joe, NA9A for verification. Winners will be announced at the FRRL Banquet on January 27th, 2007.

While the mystery builds, here's a reminder that January 1st kicks off the 2007 version of the Challenge. Set your counters back to zero and get your scores in to me so I can start a new chart. We have been having problems with spam from the FRRL mail forwarding system. If you don't see an update it's probably because I'm not getting the forwarded e-mails. Look me up in QRZ or the club roster and feel free to send me your update info directly.

Maurice, W4CEO sent me the following note about his results in this weekends CQ WW CW Contest: "On 80 meters worked the 5A (Libya) and HK0/a (San Andres Island). On 40 meters worked 5A (Libya), 5B (Cyprus), KH6 (Hawaii) and VK, I can't ever remember working Australia on 40 meters. Conditions were good on all bands with some better than others."

So that's it for 2006. Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays & Good Luck in the New Year!

Scores are on page 5, or on the web at <http://www.frrl.org/activities/challenge.html>.

## Bill Erickson HF Challenge – November, 2006 Standings

Here are the current standings for the 2006 HF Challenge. If you did not submit a score sheet your score has not been updated. Remember to email your updates to challenge@frl.org by the 15th of each month.

Ragchew Class	States/Provinces	DX Countries	Total
W9DTR	-	-	66
AH6EZ	-	-	31
K9FBI	-	-	25
N9CHA	-	-	19
AL9A	-	-	19
K9IH	-	-	16
K9COE	-	-	16
NA9A	-	-	2

Operator Class	States/ Provinces	DX Countries	Total
W9DTR	49/10	118	177
K9JE	42/4	125	171
K9FBI	50/8	96	154
N9YA	50/11	82	143
KB9YSI	45/5	48	98
N9CHA	44/7	41	92
W9YBH	29/1	21	51
KC9JNP	24/2	24	50
K9IH	11/4	3	18

Limited Class	States/ Provinces	DX Countries	Total
K9ARZ (PSK)	49/9	104	162
K9COE (RTTY)	50/10	84	144

QRO Class	States/ Provinces	DX Countries	Total
AH6EZ	50/12	173	235
AL9A	50/15	118	183
W4CEO	50/10	117	177
NA9A	32/6	131	169
J68AR	46/7	71	124
J68MS	38/5	34	77

## New Members (November Meeting)

By Bill Muhr, KB9YSI

The November meeting brought a flood of new FRRL members, thanks in part to the Technician Classes, and also because of the D-Star excitement. Please welcome the following new members:

Name	Call	License Class
Paul Dumdie, Jr.	W9DWP	G
Ken Ford	W9LSL	G
Richard Gulbrandsen	WD9DBJ	A
Catherine Hanson	KC9KJU	T
Jesse Harper Tony Denton *	KC9BKU AD9L	T E
Randal Ligocki	KC9KAX	T
Lee Nordstrom	KC9JQX	T
David Rosenstein Amy Rosenstein *	N9FDR KC9KBN	T T
Patrick Skerrett	KC9JYB	T
Pat Smith	KC9KJS	T
Mark Thompson	WB9QZB	G

\* Family membership.

## FRRL Repeater Guidelines Noted in Section News

By Bill Muhr, KB9YSI

The recently released FRRL Repeater Guidelines received a complimentary notice in the ARRL Illinois Section News. Illinois Section Manager Tom Ciciora, KA9QPN, noted that the guidelines were available, and commented:

*"I have read these Guidelines and am struck by how universal they really are. These could stand as any machine's guidelines, as they are thoughtful and run to the heart of good operating practices. Appended to the Guidelines is the venerable Amateur's Code, which a few of us of us have sadly forgotten. If you only pop over to the FRRL website to reread the Code, it will be worth your time. If you review their new Guidelines, I think that you'll agree that they recall a simpler and more gentlemanly (and ladylike) time. They are worth emulating as an example of A-1 Operating."*

The guidelines are available from a front page link on our website at <http://frrl.org/>.

## FRRL Technician Class a Success!

By Greg Braun, N9CHA

The FRRL License Class held the last of its four sessions in November, and I am pleased to announce that five of the class members passed their tests and now hold Technician class licenses. They are: KC9KJS, Pat; KC9KJT, Cris; KC9KJU, Catherine; KC9KJV, Marilyn; and KC9KJW, Brenden. In addition, Frank, KC9HRL, passed the Morse Code test and gained a Tech Plus license.

Overall, the class had eleven participants in the license portion, and nine who attended the Morse Code practice. Several of the members plan to complete their tests at future VE sessions, so we may have even more hams in the near future.

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## FRRL Winter Banquet Schedule

By Kermit Carlson, W9XA

The 2007 FRRL Winter Banquet has been scheduled for Saturday, January 27, 2007 at the Fishermen's Inn at the corner of Rte 47 and Main Street in Elburn, Illinois. The festivities will start at 5:30 PM (note the earlier start time).

Menu choices will be:

Prime Rib	\$38
Chicken Kiev	\$36
Trout Almondine	\$34
Vegetarian Lasagna	\$32

Prices include gratuity and tax. There will be a Cash Bar.

The evening's entertainment will feature the music of Dick Gulbransen's Highly Acclaimed 16-piece Orchestra, along with the usual awards and installation of officers.

To listen to music from the Orchestra's CD's, please visit:

<http://www.frrl.org/activities/banquet.html>

For tickets, call Kermit Carlson at (630) 879-0983. FRRL members, along with their family and guests are all welcome.

## 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 January 18, 2007, at the Prisco Center.**

## FRRL Dues

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 \$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 an additional \$10.00.

Check with the Treasurer for details and additional dues rates.

## 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 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.frri.org>

## Fox River Radio League

Founded 1924

### Mailing Address:

Box 673  
Batavia, Illinois  
60510-0673

### Email:

[info@frri.org](mailto:info@frri.org)

### Web Site:

<http://www.frri.org>

### President

Dick Illman, AH6EZ

### Vice President

Greg Braun, N9CHA

### Secretary

John Spasojevich, K9COE

### Treasurer

Larry Shaw, W9OKI

### Directors:

Dick Anderson, W9YBH

Denny Barfuss, W9HI

Mike Bentley, K9FBI

Charles Penninger,  
KC9DAO

### Past President

Bill Schaben, W9AX

### License Trustees:

Kermit Carlson, W9XA  
Bob Dillon, WB9LTN

### Newsletter Editor

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Send Address Corrections to:  
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 40W981 Bridle Creek Drive  
 St Charles, , Illinois  
 60175

## FRRL Event Calendar

### December, 2006

FRRL Board Meeting ..... 6  
 FRRL Meeting/Party .....12  
 Christmas .....25  
 Straight Key Night.....31

### January, 2007

FRRL Board Meeting ..... 2  
 FRRL Meeting ..... 9  
 VE Testing.....18  
 FRRL Banquet .....27

## Handy Web Links

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

## 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 [arcover@frri.org](mailto:arcover@frri.org) or via U.S. Mail. Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines.

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## Local Area Repeaters/Nets

### **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—147.060 Mhz. (New Freq.)**

+600 KHz, 103.5 access tone  
 Owned by NIARC

### **KC9OEM—145.470 Mhz. (Kane Co. SKYWARN)**

-600 KHz, 103.5 access tone  
 Owned by Kane County OEM

### **W9XA — 224.40 Mhz, +1.6 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 on the FRRL 2 Meter repeater.
- KC OEM Amateur Net— Wed. Eves, 7:00 pm on the KC9OEM repeater.