



# ARC OVER



The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League  
Since 1924

**Our 90th Year in Amateur Radio!**

August 2014

**Field Day 2014 was a great success for the Fox River Radio League**

**Denny Barfuss, W9HI**



Proud to be an ARRL  
Special Services Club



The Elburn Forest Preserve was the site picked for this years Field Day and what a great site and event. Over 57 people participated and operated for the 24 hour period. Thanks to the many club and non-club members that came out on Friday afternoon and over the weekend to help setup tents and antennas, to all the operators and guests that came out to visit and in great part to the band captains, Welcome Tent and Gourmet Culinary Expert:

- Mike Urso K9FE, 80/15 Phone
- Phil Van Heurck W9XAN, 80/15 CW
- Ron Jahr KC9SNI, 40 Phone
- Bill Capper WB9LPW, 40 CW
- Jim and Jim Sr. Nevitt N9XP/W9XP, 20 Phone
- Larry Shaw W9OKI, 20 CW
- Kermit Carlson W9XA, VHF/UHF
- James KC9RVP and Scott Martin, KC9RGF GOTA
- Dawn Williams, KC9LQS and Jeff Bussie, N9JZN - Welcome Tent
- Jackie Urso N9ASL Culinary Expert
- Goeff Bock KB9QFP Grill master

## What's Inside

About FRRL.....Page 2

HF Challenge.....Page 3

President's Traffic.....Page 4

Test Questions..... Page 5

FCC Enforcement.....Page 5

August Contest Dates.....Page 6

June Meeting Minutes.....Page 7

July Meeting Minutes.....Page 9

Field Day (continued).....Page 11

Important Links, Repeaters and Net Info.....Page 15

A great time was had by all!!

See Page 11

## 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 new members to the club!

CALL	NAME	LICENSE CLASS
WA9AWO	Terry Berg	Amateur Extra
W9JB	Jim Brady	Amateur Extra
KA9VP	Frank Rasmusson	Advanced
KD9BID	Douglas Treftz	Technician

## ArcOver FRRL Newsletter

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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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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 year quarter.

Regular dues are \$20.00 a year, Senior Citizen dues are \$12.00. Family dues are \$30.00. Members can help support the FRRL Repeaters by making an annual \$10.00 donation.

# Bill Erikson HF Challenge

By Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

Band conditions remain less than optimal, according to Challenge participants, but they are slowly improving. Larry K9ARZ, who maintains his lead in the QRO class as of mid-July, reported some "recent goodies" including Fiji, Antarctica, S. Cook Island, India, China, Western Sahara, Gabon, Rodriguez Is., Samoa, Marshall Is. and Namibia.

"The bands are still noisy but beginning to make a comeback," he said.

Joe NA9A, who holds firm in second place as of last month, reported contacts with Singapore and Qatar.

Welcome to newcomer Robert K9EUI who has been working the Challenge in the QRO class since May and submitted his first report this month. He's off to a great start with 93 contacts, which just goes to show it's never too late to get in the game!

So here's the requisite reminder to anyone who wants to be part of the Challenge. Please contact Joe NA9A or email me at Challenge [at] frll.org to request a worksheet for the second half of the year. Those already participating are keeping track of their contacts on a second worksheet; however, the totals that yearlong participants report should include ALL contacts from Jan. 1, 2014 through Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> for the next update.

73 de KC9LQS

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Paul KC9UZV	59	11	49	119
Eric K9LGE	25	5	4	34
John AG9D	45	5	20	70
Paul KC9SEB	37	7	26	70

Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Jack K9JE	47	10	122	179
Dean KC9EOQ	19	6	81	106
Jason KB9MEL	15	1	32	48
Bill NF9D	12	1	13	26
Ron KC9SNI	9	1	16	26
Roger W9YU	34	4	60	98
Dan W9STS	28	1	5	34
Herb W9DTR	47	8	55	110
Dawn KC9LQS	1	0	2	3

QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Larry K9ARZ	75	24	348	447
Dick AH6EZ	49	11	69	129
Alan W9AN	44	6	91	141
Jim N9XP	19	0	91	110
Joe NA9A	46	4	251	301
Robert K9EUI	42	2	49	93

Rag Chewer Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Paul KC9UZV	13	0	2	15
Dick AH6EZ	6	0	1	7
Joe NA9A	4	0	4	8
Herb W9DTR	5		2	7
Dan W9STS	3	0	1	4

# President's Traffic

Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

Traditionally, FRRL recognizes individuals who have made a strong contribution to the club in January during our annual awards banquet. I'm going to break from tradition briefly to offer a widespread, mid-year thank you to all of you. Now that our busiest season is behind us, I've been able to take a moment to think about the many hours that you have invested in making club events fun and successful. With such an active and willing membership, my time so far as president has been far easier than it might have been, thanks to those of you who say "Yes, I can!" more often than not when asked to be part of FRRL's latest effort. Your high level of involvement makes me wonder what other new things we might try, because it feels right now as if anything is possible.

That said, I encourage you to attend our August meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup>, when we'll be talking about low-key, high-interest activities for the remainder of the year. Some possibilities on the table right now include a combination Radio in the Park/club picnic, purely social activities, and hands-on workshops, based on information you provided in some of the FXpeditions earlier this year.

More than anything, though, I hope now that the busy season as a club is behind us, that each of us will be able to spend more time doing what brought us together in the first place: getting on the air. Two major contests are ahead, the CQ Worldwide DX and the ARRL Sweepstakes. As band conditions seem to be improving, albeit still a bit noisy, perhaps DXing or some good, old-fashioned rag chews are the way to go. And those who expressed an interest in learning Morse code will have an opportunity to get started early this fall; I'm working on plans for a code practice net to begin in early September.

Your board of directors and I will continue to brainstorm ways to keep club life interesting, and as always, we welcome your input. Together, there are no limits to what we can do.

Again, my thanks to all of you who attend meetings, hold responsibility in the club, volunteer when needed, and participate in FRRL activities. You're the lifeblood of this organization, and I am grateful for all you do to keep the club active, fun and educational.

73 de KC9LQS



## STUDY QUESTIONS OF THE MONTH

### FROM THE TECHNICIAN POOL

**Q:** T5A11

What is the basic unit of electromotive force?

- A. The volt
- B. The watt
- C. The ampere
- D. The ohm

### FROM THE GENERAL POOL

**Q:**

G1A04 [97.303 (s)]

Which of the following amateur bands is restricted to communication on only specific channels, rather than frequency ranges?

- A. 11 meters
- B. 12 meters
- C. 30 meters
- D. 60 meters

### FROM THE EXTRA POOL

**Q:** E4A10

Which of the following tests establishes that a silicon NPN junction transistor is biased on?

- A. Measure base-to-emitter resistance with an ohmmeter; it should be approximately  
6 to 7 ohms
- B. Measure base-to-emitter resistance with an ohmmeter; it should be approximately 0.6 to 0.7 ohms
- C. Measure base-to-emitter voltage with a voltmeter; it should be approximately  
6 to 7 volts
- D. Measure base-to-emitter voltage with a voltmeter; it should be approximately  
0.6 to 0.7 volts

The FCC Enforcement Bureau came down hard on two radio amateurs this week, proposing substantial fines for alleged deliberate interference with other Amateur Radio communications -- in one case by transmitting music and animal noises -- and failure to properly identify. In similar *Notices of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NALs)* released July 22, the Commission proposed fining Michael Guernsey, KZ8O (ex-ND8V), of Parchment, Michigan, \$22,000, and Brian Crow, K3VR, of North Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, \$11,500. In both cases, the FCC said the evidence indicated that the transmissions at issue were aimed at interfering with other radio amateurs with whom each "has had a long-standing and well-documented dispute" that had spilled out onto the air.

The FCC in both instances responded last March to "several complaints of intentional interference" on 14.313 MHz. Commission agents used radio direction-finding techniques to pin down the source of the transmissions. According to the [NAL issued to Guernsey](#), the FCC agents monitored transmissions from his station for approximately 40 minutes on March 7, 2014, "and heard him transmit a pre-recorded song and various animal noises on the frequency."

According to the [NAL issued to Crow](#), FCC agents monitored transmissions from his station for approximately 3 hours on the morning of March 14, 2014, and heard him transmit slow-scan television (SSTV) signals and "a pre-recorded voice transmission of another amateur station on the frequency."

"These transmissions prevented other amateur licensees from communicating over the frequency," the *NALs* said, adding that neither Guernsey or Crow transmitted their assigned call signs while the agents were listening.

The FCC agents later the same day visited Crow's residence and asked to inspect his station, which they confirmed was capable of operating on 14.313 MHz. Crow denied operating his station that morning, however, and claimed that he was not at home when the interfering transmissions occurred.

The Enforcement Bureau has warned both Guernsey and Crow in the past regarding interference to other Amateur Radio operators. In Crow's case, the FCC said the fact that he subsequently interfered with other amateur operators "demonstrates a deliberate disregard for the Commission's authority," and warranted an upward adjustment of \$3500 to his proposed base forfeiture. Guernsey first came to the Enforcement Bureau's attention in the late 1990s and, the FCC said in the *NAL*, "has a history of causing interference to the communications of other Amateur Radio operators and has been warned repeatedly in writing." Guernsey's lengthy history with the Commission warranted an upward adjustment of \$14,000 to his proposed base forfeiture.

The Commission gave both licensees 30 days to pay their fines or to file written statements "seeking reduction or cancellation of the proposed forfeiture."



# August Contest Dates

## August 2014

+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Aug 8
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 8
+ WAE DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Aug 9 to 2359Z, Aug 10
+ Maryland-DC QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 9 to 0400Z, Aug 10 and 1600Z-2400Z, Aug 10
+ 50 MHz Fall Sprint	2300Z, Aug 9 to 0300Z, Aug 10
+ MMonVHF/DUBUS 144 MHz Meteorscatter Sprint Contest	0000Z, Aug 12 to 2400Z, Aug 13
+ NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Aug 13
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Aug 15
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 15
+ SARTG WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Aug 16 to 1600Z, Aug 17
+ ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Aug 16 to 2400 local, Aug 17
+ North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Aug 16 to 0559Z, Aug 17
+ SARL HF Digital Contest	1300Z-1630Z, Aug 17
+ ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY	1800Z-2359Z, Aug 17
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Aug 22
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 22
+ Hawaii QSO Party	0400Z, Aug 23 to 0400Z, Aug 25
+ Ohio QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 23 to 0400Z, Aug 24
+ RSGB 80m Club Sprint, SSB	1900Z-2000Z, Aug 28
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Aug 29
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 29
+ SCC RTTY Championship	1200Z, Aug 30 to 1159Z, Aug 31
+ YO DX HF Contest	1200Z, Aug 30 to 1200Z, Aug 31
+ SARL HF CW Contest	1300Z-1630Z, Aug 31

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Board of Director's Meeting

August 5th, 2014 @7:30pm  
Colonial Café—Aurora, IL.

### Membership Meeting

August 12th 2014 @7:30pm  
Bethany Lutheran Church

### VE Testing Session

September 16th @ 7:30pm  
Messenger Public Library  
North Aurora, IL

Technician Pool- A. The volt

General Pool- D. 60 meters

Extra Pool- D. Measure base-to-emitter voltage with a voltmeter; it should be approximately

0.6 to 0.7 volts





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**FRRL Membership Meeting June 10 2014 730 pm**

The meeting started off with the "Question of the Month" which was to name one thing you want to learn to improve your operating abilities.

The Expedition program is on hiatus for now as the board is currently reviewing all the excellent suggestions received so far.

Approval on the minutes: Motion by K9FE, second by KB9QFP, Minutes were approved

**Treasurer's Report:**

Checking: \$1866.60  
Savings: \$6028.64  
Petty Cash: \$89.00

**ARES Report:**

Debbie WX9VOR; Kane County ARES meeting occurs 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month, the topic at the last meeting was about emergency power.

**Programs:**

Bill AB9TA discussed future programs.

**Old Business:**

Dan W9STS talked about his experience at the Boy Scout STEM-O-Rama, where Scouts were introduced to Ham Radio.

**Field Day Report, Denny W9HI:**

Friday 27th June, site setup at 12pm at Elburn, the schedule is in the presentation.  
Saturday 28th June, setup tents.  
Jackie Urso will be in charge of food operations.  
City of Aurora is bringing out their generator.  
Denny briefed us on antenna placements.  
We will be renting a truck from a company in Aurora  
Everything is already reserved and paid for.  
Denny briefed us on the current assignments  
Mike K9FE discussed needs for food service.

**Hamfest Report, Dawn KC9LQS:**

Discussion of hamfest, also discussion of Michael KC9OPV running the youth lounge.



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**W9O Special Event Station:**

This event runs from July 13th to July 27th 2014.

Tobi K9TCD will keep the schedule for the station.

The station will be in operation during hamfest from 8am to 12pm, looking for operators in ½ hour increments.

Tobi will be in charge of the sign-in sheet for hamfest as well as the two week special event period.

Dawn reminded the membership that we are looking for a Raffle Chairman; Chris is looking to move on to do other projects.

**Announcements:**

Michael KC9OPV: Hamfesters Hamfest August 3.

Paul W9DWP: Repeater worked flawlessly during Tour de Cure public service event.

Harry K9DXA: DuPage County Fairgrounds Hamfest.

Marty N9MTM: We should post information on the special event station on the website.

Joe NA9A: has HF Challenge forms ready for people to use.

Larry: Has FRRL lapel pins form anyone who wants one at a very low cost.

Mike K9FE: Education Schedule

September, Technician Class

October, General Class

January and February, Extra Class

Classes will be 4 hours on Saturdays.

A code class has been discussed, but nothing has been decided yet.

Motion to Adjourn: by Larry, second by Chris. Meeting Adjourned 8:30 pm.





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## Meeting Minutes July 8, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Dawn Williams KC9LQS

**Question of the Month** – What are you most looking forward to during our Hamfest this year?

### Reports

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Dean KC9EQ reported account balances of \$2011.60 checking, \$6028.64 savings, and \$89 petty cash.

#### **Program**

Bill AB9TA announced that this evening Harry K9DXA would discuss SOTA (Summits on the air). Bill further announced that he continues to seek both program presenters and control operators for the club's Tuesday night net. Members are asked to see Bill to volunteer for either of these roles.

#### **ARES**

Debby WX9VOR reported that Kane County ARES meets monthly on the fourth Thursday at 7 PM. She also thanks the many volunteer weather spotters who assisted during the recent storm activity.

### Old Business

#### **Field Day**

Dawn KC9LQS announced that the Field Day report by Denny W9HI is deferred until next month's membership meeting.

#### **Hamfest**

Dawn KC9LQS reminded that the 2014 FRRL Hamfest will be held the upcoming Sunday, July 13. Eight seminars will be conducted. Set-up will run from 5 PM to 8 PM Saturday. Volunteers are still needed especially at the gate between 7:30 and 9:30 AM. Gate workers should be on site at 6 AM Sunday.

#### **W9O Special Event Station**

Dawn KC9LQS reported that the W9O Special Event station operation will run for two weeks beginning with the Hamfest and continuing for the following two weeks. During the Hamfest, two stations will be operating at the Hamfest site from 8 AM until noon – one HF station and Kermit's 2/6m van. Help is needed at 7 AM on Hamfest Sunday to put up a vertical antenna and a dipole.

Tobi K9TCD is setting up a schedule for operators and their stations to use the W9O Special Event call sign during this two-week event. Stations that contact W9O and desire a QSL card will be required to mail-in a SASE. Dawn is covering the cost of the QSL cards. Tobi is arranging a notice of the special event operation for QST and eHam.net. Volunteer operators and their stations are needed. Tobi K9TCD has prepared sign-up



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sheets which she will distribute and make available on the website. Also, Tobi will send out a script for those signing up to participate.

### **New Business**

#### **WSPY Interview**

Regional television station WSPY (UHF Channel 30) based in Plano had asked that one or more representatives of the FRRL appear for an on-the-air interview at 8 AM on Tuesday, July 8. The purpose of the interview was to explain the upcoming Hamfest and amateur radio in general. Dawn KC9LQS represented the club at this interview, and she has created a YouTube channel for this interview and placed a link to the interview on the club Facebook page.

#### **Outreach**

Dawn KC9LQS reported that she has reserved a location for the club at the Batavia Farmers Market on Saturday, July 26 from 8 AM to noon. A demonstration HF station is planned and Kermit's rover vehicle may also be available to participate. Dawn requests a couple of volunteers to assist her with this outreach event.

#### **Invitation to FRRL Members: Special Event Station in Sandwich**

W9L, Tuesday September 16th

Please contact Robert N9EF@arrl.net or 815-786-5164

### **Announcements**

Member Pins – Larry W9OKI continues to have FRRL member pins available.

FRRL Challenge – Joe NA9A has mailed out application sheets for the second half of the annual Bill Erickson HF Challenge.

Raffle Chair - Chris KC9IEQ has resigned his position as Raffle Chair and is awaiting a volunteer to fill his spot. Any member willing to serve in this capacity is asked to contact Dawn. If no one steps forward, the raffle will be discontinued.

QSL Bureau Policy – Jack K9JE requested that QSL cards for submission to the bureau be handed to him at this meeting.

### **Upcoming Events**

Hamfest Set Up, July 12, 5pm to 8pm

Hamfest, July 13 8am to 1pm

W9O operation, July 13-27

August Board Meeting, Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>

August Membership Meeting, Aug. 12th

### **Adjournment**

Larry K9ARZ motioned to adjourn, Tobi K9TCD seconded. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Jahr KC9SNI

FRRL Secretary

Field Day Activities-Continued from Page 1



The City of Aurora provided two generators which gave us ample power to run all of the stations including some of the stations that had air conditioning which included the City of West Chicago's Mobil Emergency Operations Center. Great for such hot days!!



The pavilion provided a wonderful meeting place for the event as well as our location for meals. Hams don't do well without sustenance and thanks to Jackie and many of the spouses we fed at least 60 folks at our Saturday evening 6:00pm break. The food was spectacular and a fed ham is a happy operator...





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During the operating period we had the pleasure of being visited by Joe Jones the Emergency Management Director for the City of Aurora EMA and Tom Ciciora, KA9QPN, ARRL Illinois Section Manager.



City of Aurora EMA Director Joe Jones and Bill Springer AB9TA FRRL Vice President

At our 6:00p.m. dinner break, Field Day Chairman Denny Barfuss, W9HI and FRRL President Dawn Williams, KC9LQS received recognition and were each awarded the ARRL 100 year Centennial Challenge coins by Central Division Director Dick Isely, W9GIG and Central Division Vice-Director Kermit Carlson W9XA.



After dinner all the operators continued making contacts until Mother Nature decided to throw in some lightning to brighten up the sky. On the good side the pavilion provided great shelter as the tents sat empty, but through the torrential rain only one tent received some water and no equipment or operators was harmed. Sunday dawned as a beautiful day and we ended yet another successful Field Day. All the field day pictures will be available on the FRRL Web site.



The submitted scores by station are as follows:

Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:

	<b>CW</b>		<b>Digital</b>		<b>Phone</b>	
	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)
160m						
80m	322	100			382	100
40m	326	100			316	100
20m	250	100			107	100
15m	322	100			382	100
10m						
6m	4	100			43	100
2m	1	5			6	100
1.25						
Other	4	5				
Satellite						
GOTA					68	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>1229</b>		<b>0</b>		<b>1304</b>	

**Score Summary:**

	<b>CW</b>	<b>Digital</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Total</b>	
<b>Total QSOs</b>	<b>1229</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1304</b>		
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>2458</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1304</b>	<b>3762</b>	<b>Claimed Score = 7,524</b>



## IMPORTANT AMATUER RADIO WEB PAGE LINKS

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

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

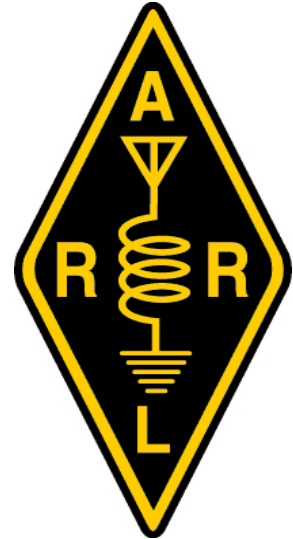
[www.colpage.org](http://www.colpage.org)

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

[www.eham.net](http://www.eham.net)

[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