



ARC OVER



The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League
Since 1924

Our 90th Year in Amateur Radio!

June 2014

Field Day 2014—Elburn Forest Preserve



Proud to be an ARRL
Special Services Club



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Setup for Field Day will begin Friday afternoon, June 27, which includes truck loading at the storage locker, unloading at the Elburn Forest Preserve site, and tent setup. Antenna setup will also be conducted from noon to dusk on that day. Two generators, a light truck, portable toilet, and a wash station will be available. Setup will continue on Saturday morning with equipment testing conducted between 11 AM and noon. Field Day operations formally commence at 1 PM Saturday and continue until 1 PM Sunday.

Band Captains:

Phone: 80/15m Mike K9FE, 40m Ron KC9SNI, 20m Jim N9XP & Jim K9XP, 6/2m Kermit W9XA

CW: 80/15m Phil W9XAN, 40m Bill W9LPW, 20m Larry W9OKI, 6/2m Kermit W9XA

GOTA: James KC9RVP & Scott KC9RGF

Jackie N9ASL will be caring for food preparation. Dinner Saturday is scheduled for 6 PM and Sunday breakfast will be at 7 AM. Site cleanup will be conducted from 1 PM to 5:30 PM on Sunday.

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
No call	David Booher	
KD9AUM	Steven Hall	General
WA9MNF	Edward Healy	Amateur Extra
K6UNO	Peter Middleton	General

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 newsletter. Articles can be sent by email to: arccover@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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Vice President
William Springer, AB9TA

Secretary
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Treasurer
Dean Holste, KC9EOQ

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Michael Cicchetti, KC9OPV
Dan Harmon, WA9YKK
Brian Stroub, KC9USB

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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

HF Challenge Report for Mid-May

We're nearing the halfway point in this year's HF Challenge, with 23 participants as of mid-May. It's not too late to get in the game, so be sure to see Joe NA9A during the next membership meeting for more information, or visit the Challenge page on the club's website for details.

Band conditions still aren't great following a massive solar flare in late April, according to Challenge participant Larry K9ARZ, but they are slowly improving. He reports that 15 meters has been especially cooperative. New contacts since the last update include Micronesia, Uganda, Malawi, Rep. of South Sudan, Mt. Athos, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Ogasawara, and Sable Island.

Joe NA9A is back in the game after a slow start this year due to rotator problems, reporting QSOs with Andorra, Bahrain, Ogasawara, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Malawi, and Saudi Arabia. And even though it isn't an asterisked country, Germany gets a shout out this month. Joe worked Tom DF2BO, a ham who uses an Optibeam OB18-6 just like Joe's. Tom and his XYL built the antenna, Joe said.

Ready to join the fun? See Joe or email Challenge [at] frri.org for help with any questions you may have.

But most importantly, simply get on the air!

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Paul KC9UZV	49	9	46	104
Eric K9LGE	25	5	4	34
John AG9D	45	5	20	70
Paul KC9SEB	36	6	22	64

Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Jack K9JE	47	10	122	179
Dean KC9EOQ	19	6	81	106
Jason KB9MEL	13	1	30	44
Bill NF9D	12	1	13	26
Ron KC9SNI	9	1	16	26
Roger W9YU	30	4	23	57
Dan W9STS	28	1	5	34
Herb W9DTR	45	8	47	100
Dawn KC9LQS	1	0	2	3

QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Larry K9ARZ	50	13	245	308
Dick AH6EZ	49	11	69	129
Alan W9AN	26	3	84	113
Jim N9XP	19	0	91	110
Joe NA9A	21	2	143	166

Rag Chewer Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Paul KC9UZV	12	0	1	13
Dick AH6EZ	6	0	1	7
Joe NA9A	3	0	4	7
Herb W9DTR				4
Dan W9STS	3	0	1	4

President's Traffic

Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

This is a big year for the club. FRRL was founded in 1924, making this our 90th anniversary year. That's 90 years of service to amateur radio enthusiasts in the Fox River Valley area; 90 years of work toward the betterment of the hobby; and 90 years of elmering, education, and friendships. That's something to celebrate!

I'm very excited to fill you in on how we're celebrating this milestone! The board felt it was important to mark this event in some meaningful way. What could be more appropriate than a celebration built around operating? To commemorate the club's dedication to amateur radio and to the generations of hams who have kept the hobby vibrant through the decades, we have applied for and were granted the use of the special event call sign W9O, and every member of the club is invited to participate in the celebration.

W9O will be in operation beginning at our Hamfest on July 13, and continuing for two weeks, through July 27. Tobi K9TCD, our new Special Projects Manager, has agreed to be in charge of this event. She is setting up an HF station at Hamfest, which will be operated by members from 8 a.m. to noon.

But it doesn't end there. For the two weeks following Hamfest, operation of our special event station will rotate among members. Tobi will discuss scheduling during our June meeting, and will be contacting members via email to give you an opportunity to claim a time slot during the two weeks. You can operate from your own station for a period of time of your choosing. Tobi will manage the master log; individual operators will send logs to her to be incorporated into the master list. Chris KC9BKS is working on ways we can create an online log on the website. This is going to be a fun event, and I hope to see the names of many of you on the operating schedule!

While we certainly should celebrate the club's anniversary, it is also an important time to consider where FRRL can go from here. Our strengths and resources are as many and varied as our members. It seems logical that with assets such as these, no goal is unreachable. I encourage you to think about how we might use these resources in the future to continue supporting amateur radio and those who use it.

The enthusiasm of those who attended our May meeting left me excited about the future of the club, and very grateful for the talented and active group we are. To those who signed up to participate in the numerous activities scheduled this summer, or to assist with events, programs, and to head committees, thank you for your interest and support. Your involvement tells me the board is moving in the right direction, and we intend to continue this momentum into autumn. This anniversary year will truly be one to remember!

And if you haven't been to a meeting in awhile, why not come out June 10th, reconnect with old friends, and see what all the excitement is about?

STUDY QUESTIONS OF THE MONTH

FROM THE TECHNICIAN POOL

Q: T2A09

What brief statement is often used in place of "CQ" to indicate that you are listening on a repeater?

- A. Say "Hello test" followed by your call sign
- B. Say your call sign
- C. Say the repeater call sign followed by your call sign
- D. Say the letters "QSY" followed by your call sign

FROM THE GENERAL POOL

Q: G5A11

Which of the following describes one method of impedance matching between two AC circuits?

- A. Insert an LC network between the two circuits
- B. Reduce the power output of the first circuit
- C. Increase the power output of the first circuit
- D. Insert a circulator between the two circuits

FROM THE EXTRA POOL

Q: E9D12

What is one advantage of using a trapped antenna?

- A. It has high directivity in the higher-frequency bands
- B. It has high gain
- C. It minimizes harmonic radiation
- D. It may be used for multiband operation

Contesting Hint

Nap - don't be afraid to take one during a contest if you find yourself unable to focus on making and logging QSOs. You're doing your score no favors and may be incurring additional penalties for busting calls. Better to close your eyes for 10 minutes or so than to make a lot of errors! If you decide to take a longer nap, stay with an approximately 90-minute cycle to avoid waking up in the middle of deep sleep, which leaves you disoriented and groggy.

WRTC2014

Chris KL9A, a WRTC2014 competitor, was recently [interviewed](#) by K3LR about his contest experiences in and out of WRTC. Click on the blue link to watch.

Hamvention Photos from N6TV

Bob N6TV has generously posted a lot of excellent photos from the Dayton Hamvention on his Picasa [website](#). He asks, "Feel free to publish this link and re-use any of these photos in club newsletters or web sites or blogs as long as the source is indicated. For other publications, or for high resolution originals without watermark, please contact me directly."



ARRL Central Division Director Dick Isely, W9GIG, presented Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, with the 2013 Bill Orr, W6SAI, Technical Writing Award. [Becky Schoenfeld, W1BXY, photo]





June Contest Dates

+ ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 3
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 6
+ 10-10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest	0000Z, Jun 7 to 2400Z, Jun 8
+ DigiFest	0400Z-1200Z, Jun 7 and 2000Z, Jun 7 to 0400Z, Jun 8 and 1200Z-2000Z, Jun 8
+ VK Shires Contest	0600Z, Jun 7 to 0600Z, Jun 8
+ SEANET Contest	1200Z, Jun 7 to 1200Z, Jun 8
+ Alabama QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 7 to 0400Z, Jun 8
+ NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jun 11
+ Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z-1300Z, Jun 14
+ Portugal Day Contest	1200Z, Jun 14 to 1159Z, Jun 15
+ GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	1500Z, Jun 14 to 1500Z, Jun 15
+ REF DDFM 6m Contest	1600Z, Jun 14 to 1600Z, Jun 15
+ ARRL June VHF Contest	1800Z, Jun 14 to 0300Z, Jun 16
+ NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jun 19
+ All Asian DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Jun 21 to 2400Z, Jun 22
+ Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2359Z, Jun 21
+ His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	1200Z, Jun 28 to 1200Z, Jun 29
+ Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	1200Z, Jun 28 to 1200Z, Jun 29
+ ARRL Field Day	1800Z, Jun 28 to 2100Z, Jun 29
+ 10-10 Int. Spirit of 76 QSO Party	0001Z, Jun 30 to 2400Z, Jul 6

UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Director's Meeting

June 3rd, 2014 @7:30pm
Colonial Café—Aurora, IL

Membership Meeting

June 10th, 2014 @7:30pm
Bethany Lutheran Church

Technician Pool- B. Say your call sign

General Pool- A. Insert an LC network between the two circuits

Extra Pool- D. It may be used for multiband operation



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
Held at Bethany Lutheran Church, Batavia, IL

Fox River Radio League (FRRL) an Illinois not-for-profit Corporation

Meeting Minutes May 13, 2014

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

Question of the Month – Are you going to Dayton this weekend?

Reports

Minutes of April 8, 2014 Regular Meeting

Mike K9FE motioned to approve the minutes. Dave K9WDB seconded. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Dean KC9EOQ reported on the account balances of club finances.

Program

Bill AB9TA announced that this evening he would present a "program on programs" meaning that, as the club transitions from Dick AH6EZ's long service as Program Chair, he will ask members to evaluate their own amateur radio-related skills and interests with the goal of having members develop concise program presentations on topics of their choice. Plenty of support and resources are available to anyone interested in preparing a short presentation.

Bill further announced that control operators continue to be needed for the club's Tuesday night net and that a sign-up sheet was available for volunteers to serve in this capacity.

ARES

Debby WX9VOR reported that the next meeting of the Kane County ARES is scheduled for at 7 PM, Thursday, May 22nd.

Field Day

Denny W9HI reported that setup for Field Day will begin Friday afternoon, June 27, which includes truck loading at the storage locker, unloading at the Elburn Forest Preserve site, and tent setup. Antenna setup will also be conducted from noon to dusk on that day. Two generators, a light truck, portable toilet, and a wash station will be available. Setup will continue on Saturday morning with equipment testing conducted between 11 AM and noon. Field Day operations formally commence at 1 PM Saturday and continue until 1 PM Sunday.

Band Captains:

Phone: 80/15m Mike K9FE, 40m Ron KC9SNI, 20m Jim N9XP & Jim K9XP, 6/2m Kermit W9XA

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GOTA: James KC9RVP & Scott KC9RGF

Jackie N9ASL will be caring for food preparation. Grills will be used for some cooking, and it is requested that anyone with an available extra grill should inform Denny. Dinner Saturday is scheduled for 6 PM and Sunday breakfast will be at 7 AM. Site cleanup will be conducted from 1 PM to 5:30 PM on Sunday.

Hamfest

Dawn KC9LQS reported that a few more volunteers are needed to make mini-presentation/seminars in their areas of expertise. Gate workers and cleanup personnel are also needed. Those interested in volunteering to assist with these Hamfest needs may use the available sign-up sheets or notify Dawn.

Old Business

Board of Directors Vacancy

Dawn KC9LQS announced that Dan Samaras NE9G has volunteered to fill the board vacancy left by the resignation of Director John Corcoran N9STK, and she requested a motion to approve his nomination. Eric K9LGE so motioned and Dave K9WDB seconded. A voice vote of the membership present confirmed his election to the position of Director.

Education Chairman Update

Dawn KC9LQS noted that the position of Education Chair remained unfilled, but the demands of this function requires two persons; therefore, two members willing to serve as Education Co-Chairs are needed. Debby WX9VOR and Mike K9FE volunteered to accept the Education Co-Chair positions.

STEM-O-Rama

The Boy Scouts STEM-O-Rama will be held on Saturday, May 17 at the Kane County Fairgrounds in St. Charles. The event runs from 9 AM to 4 PM and volunteers are asked to be present at 8 AM. To date, club volunteers for this event include Dan W9STS, Mike K9FE, Dan WA9YKK, and Michael KC9OPV. It is intended that several aspects of amateur radio will be demonstrated and explained including digital modes, CW, HT's, etc. Harry K9DXA mentioned that he is familiar with Boy Scouts Radio Merit Badge requirements and can assist with questions related to this.

New Business

Special Projects Manager

Dawn KC9LQS requested a volunteer to assist her with research, making calls, and co-coordinating various club activities. Tobi K9TCD volunteered for this ad hoc position.

Outreach

Dawn KC9LQS reported that she has initiated an outreach effort to increase public awareness of amateur radio and the FRRL within the surrounding communities. Both the Aurora and Batavia farmers markets have welcomed the club to attend. This project will provide information about and a demonstration of amateur radio. Dawn intends to contact other area farmers markets, e.g. Geneva, Naperville, and St. Charles, with the same objective. Dawn seeks three or four volunteer assistants for this project.

Raffle Chair Needed

After serving several years as the Raffle Chairman, Chris KC9IEQ has asked to step down in the near future; therefore, Dawn KC9LQS announced that a volunteer is needed for this position. Any member willing to serve in this capacity is asked to contact Dawn.

Small Group Status

Dawn KC9LQS has prepared a spreadsheet summarizing FXpedition survey results, which lists respondents topics of interest and knowledge. These results also indicate each respondents willingness to teach, provide information, participate in a group, or lead a group in their designated topics. This data will be used to determine the possible structure of small groups of members interested in exploring specific topics.

FRRL 90th Anniversary

In recognition of the 90th anniversary of the FRRL, Dawn KC9LQS has secured the 1x1 special event call-sign W9O for use on the beginning day of the Hamfest. A special event station is planned for the Hamfest, and the call-sign will be available for two weeks following the Hamfest. During this time window, members will be able to operate with this call from home; however, contacts made using this special call must be logged. A sign-up sheet for members wanting to participate is available. Please contact Dawn.

Eric K9LGE inquired about the possibility of the club receiving proclamations from area communities recognizing the FRRL's anniversary. Dawn said that there is a procedure for accomplishing this, and Debby WX9VOR offered to handle the matter.

Announcements

MS Walk – Mike K9FE said that five individuals assisted with the May 4th MS Walk event: Debby WX9VOR, Dave K9WDB, Harry K9DXA, Keith N9YA, and Mike K9FE.

Swap and Shop – Dawn KC9LQS noted that the pre-meeting “Swap and Shop” activity continues.

QSL Bureau Policy – Jack K9JE requested that QSL cards for submission to the bureau be presorted according to the destination country, and QSL cards should be given to him.

On the DXCC Honor Roll: Larry K9ARZ, Jack K9FE, and Gary K9MMS has received the 9-Band DXCC Honor Roll recognition.

Member Pins – Larry W9OKI has FRRL member pins available for \$3 each.

Tour de Cure – Eric K9LGE announced that this benefit cycling event sponsored by the American Diabetes Association still has room for amateur radio volunteers. So far 1075 riders have signed up with a goal of 1400. Eric asked for interested members to contact him.

HF Challenge – Joe NA9A noted that 2014 marks the eighteenth year for the FRRL Bill Erickson HF Challenge. Joe has application sheets available for members interested in participating in this event. Certificates are awarded to participants at the annual club banquet.

VE Session – Doug W9RD announced that the next VE session will be conducted on Tuesday, May 20, at the North Aurora Messenger Library. Volunteer Examiners are asked to be at the venue by 6:45 PM.

Upcoming Events

Dayton Hamvention, May 16-18

FRRL VE Session, May 20, 6:45-8:45 PM

Adjournment

Several members motioned to adjourn, the motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

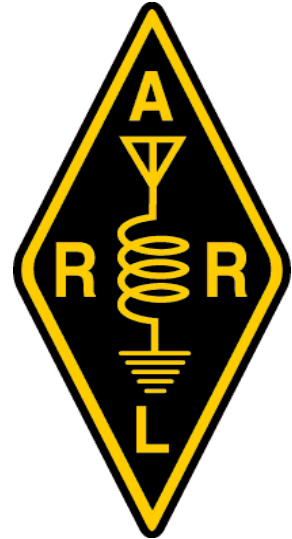
Respectfully submitted,

Ron Jahr KC9SNI

FRRL Secretary

IMPORTANT AMATUER RADIO WEB PAGE LINKS

www.frrl.org
www.arrl.org
www.colpage.org
www.qrz.com
www.eham.net
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

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

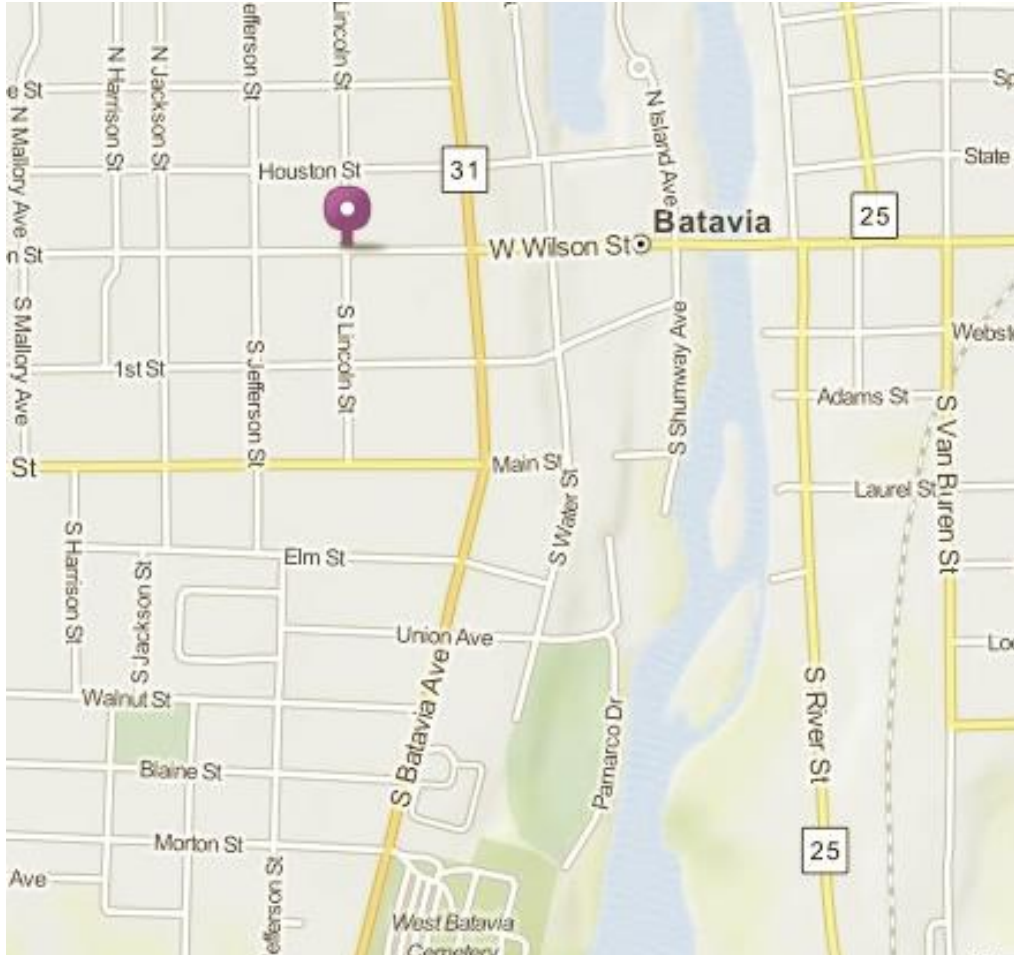
Illinois DStar Net - Wednesday Eve. at 8:00 pm on the DStar 2 meter repeater

Bethany Lutheran Church 8 S. Lincoln St. Batavia, IL 60510

1/2 block South of Wilson St.

Rt. 31 From Geneva / St. Charles

West Wilson St.
From Randall
Road



East Wilson St.
From Kirk Rd.

Rt. 31 From Aurora / I-88

Rt. 25 From Aurora