



ARC OVER

The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League
Since 1924



October 2013



Proud to be an ARRL
Special Services Club

Announcing the Illinois QSO Party

Sponsored by
The Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Date/Time: 1700Z October 20 until
0100Z October 21, 2013

Bands: 160 through 2 meters,
(excluding 60, 30, 17, and 12 meters)

See pages 4 and 5 for Details

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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 St. Rita of Cascia Church in Aurora. 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
KC9ZND	Campbell, Gordon	General
No Call	Coleman, William	
KC9ZCE	Fikejs, John	Technician

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: 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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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. Members can help support the FRRL Repeaters by making an annual \$10.00 donation.

Bill Erikson HF Challenge

By Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

HF Challenge Update for Mid-September

Only three updates were received last month, but we also welcomed another new participant to this year's Challenge. Ron KC9SNI joined the fun, reported contacts with Austria, Canary Islands, Columbia, Germany and state-side stations, all while operating portable. That's the spirit, Ron!

It's not too late to get in on the fun! If you'd like to participate, see Joe NA9A at the next club meeting, or email Challenge@frrl.org to request a worksheet. For those already participating, please remember to send in your total scores for the year-to-date as of October 15th. Questions? Email or talk to Joe or me at the next meeting.

73 de KC9LQS

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Paul KC9UZV	48	7	26	81
Jim W9NJP	25	3	17	45
Paul KC9SEB	51	5	53	109
Warren K9IH	24	3	36	63

Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
John W8ACI	17	3	31	51
Tobi K9TCD	25	4	50	79
Tom WB9CHY	7	1	55	63
Jack K9JE	46	8	127	181
Herb W9DTR	92	21	166	279
Dean KC9EOQ	31	3	55	89
Bill NF9D	21	0	11	32
Debby WX9VOR	21	1	0	22
Ron KC9SNI	0	0	5	5

QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Joe NA9A	51	7	301	359
Gary K9MMS	50	10	176	236
Dick AH6EZ	76	25	311	412
Larry K9ARZ	100	24	407	531

Ragchew Class	States/Provinces	DX	Total
Dick AH6EZ/W9	17	9	26
Jim W9NJP	17	1	18
John W8ACI	9	1	10
Paul KC9UZV	35	2	37
Herb W9DTR	40	3	43
Joe NA9A	7	8	15
Warren K9IH	19	5	24
Debby WX9VOR	7	0	7

Illinois QSO Party Rules

Special band activity times: IL stations are encouraged to spend some time on 20 meters in the early afternoon to work DX stations seeking IL counties and to check 15 meters and 10 meters at 1800Z, 1900Z and 2000Z.

Exchange: IL stations give RST and county; others give RST and state, province, or country.

Scoring: Count 1 point per phone QSO, 2 points per CW/digital QSO. No repeater QSOs. Stations may operate only one transmitter at a time. Stations may be worked once per band and mode (phone and CW/digital), and once per band/mode/county for IL Mobile and Rover stations. Each Mobile or Rover vehicle is considered one station and must use only one call. Contacts with/by stations at the border of 2 counties count as 2 counties and 2 QSOs; the border of 3 (or 4) counties count as 3 (or 4) counties and 3 (or 4) QSOs. IL stations multiply points by the sum of states, IL counties, VE provinces, and a maximum of 5 DXCC countries (W/K, Alaska, Hawaii and VE *excluded*). Count additional DX as points but not multipliers. Non-IL stations multiply points by number of IL counties worked.

Entry Classes:

Illinois Fixed Station: Permanent station location, single county.

Illinois Portable: Not a permanent station location; antennas erected for the purpose of the contest; may be on a county line or corner.

Illinois Mobile: Stations capable of motion while operating though may be stationary. *Entrants are encouraged to utilize a separate driver and to choose operating procedures with safety uppermost in mind!* Mobile entrants may operate from only one county at a time. Simultaneous operation from more than one county will result in reclassification to "Rover" category.

Illinois Rover: Stations operating from more than one non-permanent location. Single county, county line and county corner operation is permitted. Any type of mobile or portable antennas may be used. Any power source may be used (auto, generator or commercial mains). Rover stations may operate while moving or stopped.

Outside Illinois: Any fixed, portable or mobile station operating from outside the state of Illinois.

QRP Competition: A QRP entrant shall certify that operation was with 5 watts or less at all times by checking the QRP box in the Entry Class column on the summary sheet. QRP stations should also indicate an Entry Class. QRP competition is independent of Entry Class.

Awards:

Plaques will be awarded to the highest-scoring IL Fixed Station, IL Mobile, IL Rover, IL Portable, and Outside Illinois station. Plaques will also be awarded, regardless of entry class or station location, to the station reporting the highest raw Phone only QSO total, the highest raw CW only QSO total and the highest raw Mixed Mode QSO total. (Note: Illinois county line or county corner QSO multipliers do not apply for the raw QSO awards.)

Certificates will be awarded to the top 10 IL Fixed Stations, the top 5 IL Mobiles, the top 5 IL Rovers, the top IL and Outside Illinois QRP stations, and the highest scoring station (reporting at least 25 IL contacts) in each state, province, and country. Certificates will be awarded to the top 3 IL single county Portables, the top 3 two county line Portables, the top 3 three county line Portables and the top 3 four county line Portables.

Illinois Club Competition: Illinois entrants are encouraged to include the name of their local club on their entries. A traveling plaque sponsored by the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club will be given for the top IL club aggregate score.

Illinois Edible Award: Any Outside Illinois operator who makes at least 200 IL QSOs or works at least 75 IL counties will receive an „Illinois Edible Award“.

Logs: Entrants who use computerized logging programs are requested to submit logs in electronic format. Do not submit computer printed log from a logging program without also submitting the electronic file (i.e. Cabrillo file) as the scoring and verification process starts by transferring all log data into a master Excel file. Hand written paper logs which are accompanied by a completed ILQP Summary Sheet will be accepted for manual transcription by the Committee.

Electronic logs: Cabrillo format is preferred. Those entrants using a program that does not produce a Cabrillo file for submission should contact the ILQP Contest Committee concerning acceptable formatting. Electronic logs should be sent as an e-mail attachment to n9jf@arrl.net . Participants without e-mail access wishing to submit an electronic log should send the Cabrillo file on a DOS formatted 3-1/2 inch floppy disk or 5 inch CD-ROM by mail. Disks should be mailed to WIARC, P.O. Box 3132, Quincy IL 62305-3132. Disks will not be returned unless accompanied by an SAE with sufficient return postage.

Paper logs: A paper log may be hand written and must indicate the entrant's QTH, the band and mode, UTC, the call of the station worked, RST sent and received, and the state, province, IL county, or DX country. By submitting a hand written log, entrants agree to accept the Committee's interpretation and transcription of the log data. New multipliers must be marked in the log. Any station with over 100 QSOs must submit a dupe sheet. Mobile and Rover entries send dupe sheet only for counties from which you make 100 or more contacts. Paper log submissions must be accompanied by a properly completed ILQP summary sheet. Paper logs should be mailed to WIARC, P.O. Box 3132, Quincy IL 62305-3132.

Logs that do not comply with submission requirements will be classified as Check Logs and will not be eligible for awards.

Submission deadline: Logs sent by e-mail must be received by and logs sent by mail must be postmarked by midnight (CST) November 20, 2013. A list of all logs received will be posted to the ILQP Reflector prior to the deadline. Electronic logs received by e-mail will also be acknowledged by return e-mail. Entrants assume responsibility for contacting the event sponsor if they do not receive confirmation or if their call is not included in the “logs received” listing.

Disqualification: Participants are expected to follow good Amateur practices and operate within the restrictions of their license and in accordance with ILQP Rules. Compelling evidence to the contrary may serve as grounds for disqualification. The decision of the Illinois QSO Party Committee shall be final. Rules, summary sheet, and other information are available for download at <http://www.w9awe.org/ILQP2013.html> . You are invited to join the ILQSO email reflector at <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/ilqso> .

STUDY QUESTIONS OF THE MONTH

FROM THE TECHNICIAN POOL

Q: T2B09

Which of the following methods is encouraged by the FCC when identifying your station when using phone?

FROM THE GENERAL POOL

Q: G2B06

What is a practical way to avoid harmful interference when selecting a frequency to call CQ on CW or phone?

FROM THE EXTRA POOL

Q: E2A09

What do the terms L band and S band specify with regard to satellite communications?

Editor's Note:

Due to a request from several members, the answers to the questions are now located on another page in the ArcOver. You will find it elsewhere in the issue.

President's Traffic

Harry Jones, K9DXA

I hope some of you are preparing to operate the 2013 Illinois QSO Party later this month. You can operate fixed (at home), portable, mobile, or rover class. Just Google IL QSO Party and open their website for all the rules. I believe it runs eight hours Sunday, Oct. 20, 2013 (about noon to 8 PM). Don't forget to have the contest administrator credit your points to FRRL for the club rankings.

Last weekend, the W9DXCC event far exceeded my expectations. If you did not attend, mark your calendar for next September. "DX University" was exceptionally good. There was a lot to learn, even if you are a seasoned DXer. The main event included presentations of notable DXpeditions by one or more of the crew involved. The banquet speaker was Dr. Joe Taylor, K1JT, who gave some interesting background about key issues in his development of WSJT. ICOM, Kenwood, Yaesu, and Ham Radio Deluxe people were there both days. NIDXA did a great job. Their chair this year was Kermit, W9XA. Thank you, Kermit!

October means we are starting membership renewal at the meeting. Please bring a check and get that item over with.

Now would be a good time to check your antenna systems before the weather turns bad. Although, they say an antenna installed or repaired in the middle of winter performs extremely well.

The first day of the FRRL - General Class license course was just this last weekend. Quite a few students are off to a good start. Ron tells me all the instructors are ready to go! We will ship all the students to our VE group afterwards.

I just wrapped up another QRP two hour sprint called "Peanut Power." It was a lot of fun. You know - whether you are thinking about working DX, contests, rag chews, or other activity ---- The important thing is: Get on the air!

<dit> <dit>

Regulatory: FCC -- "We Regret the Disruption." Commission Shutdown Complete

The FCC appears to have ground to a complete halt for all intents and purposes beyond emergencies, as the Federal Government shutdown continues. This includes functions at the Commission's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, facility, which handles all Amateur Radio licensing transactions, as well as the FCC's main website and the Amateur Radio call sign database (ULS).

"We regret the disruption, but during the Federal Government-wide shutdown, the FCC is limited to performing duties that are immediately necessary for the safety of life or the protection of property." a message on the FCC website says. "FCC online systems will not be available until further notice." The Commission refers anyone calling regarding an emergency "affecting the safety of life or the protection of property" to a Washington, DC, number, 202-418-1122, or an e-mail address.

Assistant ARRL VEC Manager Perry Green, WY1O, said October 1 that the FCC appeared to have accepted "a small number" of modification and renewal applications, apparently as the shutdown was in process, but it took "far longer than usual" for that to happen. The ARRL VEC did not attempt to file additional applications, and it will hold for filing any applications resulting from Amateur Radio Volunteer Examiner-administered examination sessions.

"We have not submitted any VE sessions, which require batch filing and are assigned an FCC filing number," Green added. "At this point, we are unable to file any applications with the FCC, because it has shut down its servers. We do not expect the FCC to resume granting applications until it reopens." Green stressed that the ARRL VEC remains open for business and continues to monitor the situation. The ARRL VEC also is still processing International Amateur Radio Permit ([IARP](#)) applications.

While the FCC has stopped processing new, renewal or vanity call sign applications for the duration, it is still possible to reserve a 1 × 1 special event call sign, since that is not an FCC function. Green points out that ARRL VEC exam sessions will go on as scheduled, at the option of the sponsors, but the ARRL VEC will not be able to file session paperwork for processing until the shutdown ends and the FCC is back in business again. Green notes that exam session candidates have to put an FCC Registration Number (FRN) on their applications, if they have one. FRNs for current licensees are available via the ARRL's "Call Sign/Name Search" utility on the League's [home page](#). If the FRN is not available or has not yet been issued, applicants may use their Social Security numbers, which candidates must provide to obtain an FRN. "So in this time of shutdown, they will need to submit their SSN on the VE session paperwork and gain their password at a later time," Green explained. "If that is not to their liking, they will have to wait for the FCC to open up again, which I'm sure at some time it will."

Radio amateurs whose licenses expire between October 1 and the day after normal FCC operations resume may continue to operate until then, even if they have not yet filed a renewal application. Pending an official FCC announcement that states otherwise, renewal applicants should apply no later than one day after the FCC reopens, if they want to continue to operate. Amateur Radio applicants who passed an upgrade examination may still operate with their new privileges, even if their applications have not been accepted for filing by the FCC. Applicants must have a *Certificate of Completion of Examination (CSCE)*, issued by the VE team. When using their new privileges, such applicants should continue to identify by appending the appropriate designator to their current call signs, ie, /KT for Technician, /AG for General and /AE for Amateur Extra, as noted on the back of the *CSCE*.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Director's Meeting

Oct 1, 2013 @7:30pm

St. Rita's Office Annex

Membership Meeting

Oct 08, 2013 @7:30pm

St. Rita's Church

What do the terms L band and S band specifically with regard to satellite communications?

Extra Pool-A.

General Pool-A. Send "QRL?" on CW, followed by your call sign; or, if using phone, ask if the frequency is in use, followed by your call sign

Technician Pool-A. Use of a phonetic alphabet

UPCOMING CONTESTS

October & November 2013

Date	Contest	Web Page
10/05/13	Oceania DX Contest, Phone	http://www.oceaniadxcontest.com/rules.pdf
10/05/13	California QSO Party	http://www.cgp.org/Rules.html
10/09/13	NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html
10/09/13	432 MHz Fall Sprint	http://www.svhfs.org/2012fallsprintrules.pdf
10/10/13	10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint	http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSO%20Party%20Rules.pdf
10/10/13	Oceania DX Contest, CW	http://www.oceaniadxcontest.com/rules.pdf
10/12/13	Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB	http://www.sactest.net/blog/rules/
10/12/13	Pennsylvania QSO Party	http://www.nittany-arc.net/pqppdf/pagsorules12.pdf
10/12/13	Arizona QSO Party	http://www.azqsoparty.org/rules.htm
10/12/13	FISTS Fall Sprint	http://www.fists.org/operating.html
10/13/13	North American Sprint, RTTY	http://www.ncjweb.com/sprintrules.php
10/19/13	10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW	http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSO%20Party%20Rules.pdf
10/19/13	New York QSO Party	http://www.nyqp.org/rules.php
10/19/13	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	http://www.kkn.net/stew/
10/19/13	Worked All Germany Contest	http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest/waq/en/rules/
10/20/13	Illinois QSO Party	http://www.w9awe.org/ILQP%202012%20Rules.pdf
10/21/13	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/
10/21/13	ARRL School Club Roundup	http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup
10/26/13	ARRL EME Contest	http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest
10/26/13	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm

Date	Contest	Web Page
11/2/2013	ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW	http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
11/3/2013	High Speed Club CW Contest	http://www.highspeedclub.org/



Kane County ARES®

Kane County ARES News

Bill Muhr, NF9D Kane County ARES Emergency Coordinator

Kane County ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service), is a group of amateur radio operator volunteers who provide emergency communication for the communities of Kane County, IL and surrounding counties when called upon. All licensed amateurs are welcome to join.

We hold monthly meetings at 7 pm on the fourth Thursday of the month at the St. Charles EOC conference room at 112 North Riverside, St. Charles, IL. Our schedule at these meetings includes training on various aspects of emergency communications, weather spotting and reporting, and general amateur radio topics.

Anyone interested in joining Kane County ARES should contact Bill Muhr, NF9D, the ARES Emergency Coordinator for Kane County. He can be reached by email at nf9d@arrl.net.

ARES units are also active in other northern Illinois counties. You can find more information about ARES and public service opportunities on the ARRL website, arrl.org.



Kendall County ARES® is a part of the structure of the [American Radio Relay League's](#) emergency communications organization called the [Amateur Radio Emergency Service](#)®.

Kendall Co. ARES® members are trained in emergency communication and weather-spotting. We are an integral part of the [SKYWARN](#) weather spotting program of the [National Weather Service](#). The Kendall Co. ARES® runs a local net and relays reportable information to the National Weather Service.

Kendall County ARES® Staff:

Emergency Coordinator: Dirk Wolgast, W9QA (w9qa@arrl.net)

Assistant Emergency Coordinator: Chris Kennell, KC9BKS (kc9bks@arrl.net)

NETS: Nets are held weekly at 8:00 PM on Wednesday nights on the Yorkville, IL ARES Repeater (complements of N9FNS). There are no NETS on meeting nights.

The frequency is 147.375 MHz FM, +60Khz with a 103.5 Hz PL.

MEETINGS: Kendall County ARES® meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM. Meetings are held at the Panera Bread Cafe in Yorkville. The location is about one block South of Hwy 34 on Hwy 47 on the East side of Hwy 47.



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 St. Rita of Cascia, Aurora, IL

September 10, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:31pm by President Harry Jones K9DXA

Question of the Month: What do you do for a living or what did you do and what hobbies do you have?

Monthly Reports:

Minutes- Approval, Motion by Marty, N9NTM, Seconded by Dan, WA9YKK- Motion carried

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Dean, KC9EOQ Motion to Accept by Bill, NF9D, Seconded by Dawn, KC9LQS- Motion carried

Program- Dick, AH6EZ presented information on the new Chinese HT's that are being sold.

ARES-Bill NF9D from Kane Co. - Next meeting Thursday September 26th at St Charles Fire Dept.
Chris KC9BKS from Kendall Co. – No meetings scheduled at present

Old Business:

YTD FRRL Budget status was presented to the membership.

Considering an electronic roster next year

Parish Status – No update, but looks good so far

Education – Class for General license starts Sept 28th to Nov 16th from 9am to 12:30pm at Rasmussen College

Raffle – KC9IEQ

QSL Bureau – K9JE Jack

New Business:

Nominating Committee Announced – Mike, K9FE Chairman, Warren, W9HI & Dick, AH6EZ (Explanation of the election process by Harry, K9DXA)

Illinois QSO Party – Oct 20-21

Volunteers for the Chicago Marathon, see KC9OPV for volunteer process, registration closes 9-11-13

VE Session – September 17 @ 7:30pm Parish Center

Looking for 2014 Field Day Chairman- See K9DXA if interested

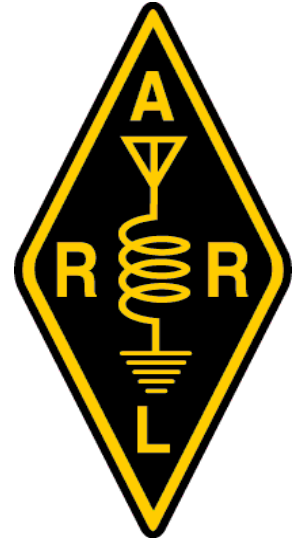
Historic Egyptian Theater in DeKalb 100 mile bike ride from 7am–4pm, 9-14-13, call Bob Yurs 815-895-7584

WX9DXCC Banquet later this month.

Motion to Adjourn, Moved by Marty N9NTM, Seconded by Jack, K9JE @ 8:15pm

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)

KC9OEM—444.525 MHz +5 MHz, 114.8 PL

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:

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

Ten Meter Net: Monday at 8:00pm 28.150 MHz CW
Monday at 8:30pm 28.720 MHz SSB