



ARC OVER

The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League
Since 1924

Our 91st Year in Amateur Radio!



April 2015



Proud to be an ARRL
Special Services Club

Some DX News this Month!

THE ISLE OF MAN

Word that members from the DX-Interceptors Amateur Radio Club-operating as MS0IXD-will be on a DXpedition to the Isle of Man between May 8th to the 11th.

Operating from Scarlett Point , the team plans to use CW,SSB and RTTY on 80 through 10 meters including the WARC bands. Their aim is to provide as much as possible an all-time-new-one or new band and mode to as many individuals as they can. If you make contact QSL electronically via Logbook of the World or direct to M0OXO only.

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DX0P FROM PAGASA ISLAND APRIL 14 - 20

The exact dates of April 14th to the 20th are now official for the D-X-zero-P operation from Pagasa Island Operation from the Spratley Islands group. Activity is planned for 160 through 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and JT-65. QSL via WA6LOS. Latest updates are on their FaceBook page at facebook.com/DX0P2015.

F5IVC is now active as 5V7SM from Togo. He recently informed the Ohio Penn DX Newsletter that he will be there for professional reasons for upward of 2 years or more. He also notes that he is currently is only on 10 meter SSB but is waiting for a multi-band antenna to arrive. QSL info for now is via his French address on QRZ.com.

5T-zero-JL has confirmed that he has been authorized to use the special callsign 5T2MM to operate from Mauritania between April 17th and the 20th including the CQ MM DX Contest on April 18th and 19th. His QSL Manager is PY4KL.

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 newest members to the club!

Call	Name	License Class
N9DVM	BURT, JOHN	EXTRA
KC9CHD	FARROW, ERIC	EXTRA
WB9FUB	KRAVCAR, TOM	GENERAL
KC9NZW	SPEARE, CLIFF	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: 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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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 \$25.00 a year, Senior Citizen dues are \$15.00. Family dues are \$35.00. Members can help support the FRRL Repeaters by making an annual \$10.00 donation.

Bill Erikson HF Challenge

By Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

We've jumped to 20 participants in the third month of the 2015 Bill Erikson HF Challenge, and enthusiasm is high among those working this year-long activity.

"DX is really rolling in now, even though the solar indices seem to be moving down," said Joe NA9A, Challenge Administrator. "Ten meters is a favored band again; I hope it lasts." Riding this recent wave of good propagation, Joe reported contacts with Cocos Is., Monaco, Kyrgyzstan, Eritrea, Dem. Rep. of the Congo, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan.

Larry K9ARZ echoes Joe's sentiments. "As we move toward spring, the HF propagation seems to be improving," he said. Recent catches include Nunavut (Canadian Territory), Benin, China, So Sudan, Cocos Island, Egypt, N. Cook Islands, Dem. Republic of the Congo, Lord Howe Island, Tanzania, Eritrea, and the Solomon Islands.

Cedric WT2P said February was a busy month contest wise since he last reported in. "It really helped me catch up on much needed states and DX," he said. "Had a blast and reached a personal best in ARRL DX CW which managed to put me over the top for DXCC CW. Also had some fun working the 3G0 DXpedition with a low dipole on 4 bands. Looking forward to seeing how WPX SSB in March shakes out for more DX." (Editor's notes: Scores from mid-March through mid-April will be reported in the next issue of the ArcOver.)

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Paul W9JML	39	6	23	68
Paul KC9SEB	33	4	9	46
Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Roger W9YU	46	7	42	95
Dan WA9YKK	21	1	65	87
Jeff N9JZN	3	1	64	68
Dawn KC9LQS	0	0	53	53
Bill NF9D	27	1	2	30
Jason NX9Y	11	1	12	24
QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Larry K9ARZ	50	12	186	248
Dick AH6EZ/W7	50	10	161	221
Joe NA9A	38	6	93	137
Dean KC9EOQ	28	5	46	79
Cedric WT2P	40	4	83	127
Alan W9AN	19	0	34	53
Marty N9NTM	2	0	29	31
Rag Chewer Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Dick AH6EZ/W7	29	1	5	35
Joe NA9A	4	0	1	5
Jason NX9Y	6	0	0	6
Paul W9JML	1	0	1	2

STUDY QUESTIONS OF THE MONTH

FROM THE TECHNICIAN POOL

Q: T2C11

What is meant by the term "check" in reference to a formal traffic message?

- A. The check is a count of the number of words or word equivalents in the text portion of the message
- B. The check is the value of a money order attached to the message
- C. The check is a list of stations that have relayed the message
- D. The check is a box on the message form that tells you the message was received

FROM THE GENERAL POOL

Q: G1E04 [97.13(b), 97.311(b), 97.303]

Which of the following conditions require an Amateur Radio station licensee to take specific steps to avoid harmful interference to other users or facilities?

- A. When operating within one mile of an FCC Monitoring Station
- B. When using a band where the Amateur Service is secondary
- C. When a station is transmitting spread spectrum emissions
- D. All of these choices are correct

FROM THE EXTRA POOL

Q: E1E08 [97.509]

To which of the following examinees may a VE not administer an examination?

- A. Employees of the VE
- B. Friends of the VE
- C. Relatives of the VE as listed in the FCC rules
- D. All of these choices are correct

Two More Radio Amateurs Join International Space Station Crew

The ISS ham radio population expanded to three, following the arrival of NASA astronaut Scott Kelly and Russian cosmonauts Mikhail Kornienko, RN3BF, and Gennady Padalka, RN3DT, on March 28 (UTC). Kelly, 51, and Kornienko, 54, will remain aboard the ISS for 1 year -- the longest space mission ever assigned to a NASA astronaut.



European Space Agency Astronaut Samantha Cristoforetti, IZ0UDF, will head back to Earth in May, after Kjell Lindgren, KO5MOS; Oleg Kononenko, RN3DX, and Kimiya Yui arrive at the ISS as part of a scheduled crew rotation. Cristoforetti has conducted several Amateur Radio on the International Space Station school contacts during her ISS duty tour.

Young Ham's First Contact is via OSCAR Satellite:



Eight-year-old radio amateur Hope Lea, KM4IPF, in Virginia, [made her first radio contact](#) just 45 minutes after her call sign appeared in the FCC database. The contact with K4YYL via the [FO-29](#) satellite took place on March 11. Hope's older sister Faith, WA4BBC, and her brother Zechariah, WX4TVJ, also worked K4YYL. The older siblings had earned their Technician tickets in February and upgraded to General a couple of weeks later. The youngest sibling is studying for her license. -- *Thanks to AMSAT News Service via AMSAT-UK*

President's Traffic

Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

Once Easter has come and gone, the club's busiest time of the year is just ahead of us, and I'm getting excited about the many projects and activities awaiting – and more so about the number of first-time visitors, new hams and upgrades, and long-time members signing up for these activities!

To recap what the year has in store, mark you calendars for the perennial favorites: Field Day Weekend will be held June 26-28 at Elburn Forest Preserve. This year's Field Day Chair, Phil W9XAN, reported that volunteers were still needed for a number of roles, including several band captain spots; food prep and service volunteers; set up on Friday, and take down on Sunday. See him at the next meeting to express your interest, or email Field Day [at] frrl.org for more information.

Our other main event is Hamfest, scheduled for Sunday, July 12, with set-up crews needed from 5 to 8 p.m. on the 11th, at Aurora Central Catholic High School. Both events are shaping up and are sure to be as successful as they have been in the past. We already have several people signed up to help with set up and take down, and a few seminar presenters looking forward to sharing their knowledge. There remains room for plenty more, so as is my tradition this time of year, the ubiquitous sign up sheets will be on hand at each of our monthly meetings!

But wait – there's more! Harry K9DXA is gearing up for the three-part SIG he is running to address portable operation. If his travel plans allow him to return to town in time for the April meeting, he plans to fill us in on what's in store. Meanwhile, if you wanted to participate but haven't yet signed up, be sure to contact him via email to past president [at] frrl.org to get on board.

Equally exciting for those invested in the club's new Outreach effort is the extensive team already signed up to represent the club and the hobby during our Farmer's Market visits this season. The goal of this effort is to spread the word about this proud, viable hobby, and to let the community know that we are available as a resource to guide those who'd like to join the ranks of amateur radio operators. I expect to be present at each market we visit, and we need at least two additional people per visit – but more are welcome. Stay tuned for more information, or email Outreach [at] frrl.org to express your interest. (And again, look for the sign up sheets at each of our monthly meetings!)

Members expressed interest in other possible activities, too, so watch for news of a possible group operating activity and/or Fox Hunt later in the year.

And with all these enticing events to choose from, don't forget to schedule time for your own radio adventures. No one is guiltier than I am when it comes to falling away from personal radio time when other activities demand my attention. It's easy to put aside the things we most enjoy when time is tight, but remember that the things you do and discovered during your radio time give you a wealth of insight and experience to share when you work with the group. We look forward to learning about your latest reading, experiments, and contacts, as much as we do your company and support.

Spring has a way of recharging me and reminding me that our only limits are the ones we impose on ourselves. If this is even partially true, we've barely begun to scrape the surface, friends! Let's get out there and make it a great year. I can't wait to see what we will accomplish together this season!

De KC9LQS



April Contest Dates

+ Missouri QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 4 to 0400Z, Apr 5 and 1400Z-2000Z, Apr 5
+ Mississippi QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 4 to 0200Z, Apr 5
+ Texas State Parks on the Air	1600Z, Apr 4 to 0159Z, Apr 5
+ Montana QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 4 to 1800Z, Apr 5
+ UBA Spring Contest, 6m	0600Z-1000Z, Apr 5
+ New Mexico QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 11 to 0200Z, Apr 12
+ Georgia QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 11 to 0359Z, Apr 12 and 1400Z-2359Z, Apr 12
+ WAB 3.5/7/14 MHz Data Modes	1200Z-2200Z, Apr 12
+ Hungarian Straight Key Contest	1500Z-1700Z, Apr 12
+ Holyland DX Contest	2100Z, Apr 17 to 2100Z, Apr 18
+ Nebraska QSO Party	1200Z, Apr 18 to 0200Z, Apr 19 and 1700Z-2300Z, Apr 19
+ Michigan QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 18 to 0400Z, Apr 19
+ Ontario QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 18 to 1800Z, Apr 19
+ North Dakota QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 18 to 1800Z, Apr 19
+ ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	1800Z-2359Z, Apr 19
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Apr 20
+ 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital	0001Z, Apr 25 to 2359Z, Apr 26
+ Florida QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 25 to 0159Z, Apr 26 and 1200Z-2159Z, Apr 26

UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Director's Meeting

April 7, 2015 @7:30pm

Colonial Café—Aurora, IL

Membership Meeting

April 14, 2015 @7:30pm

Bethany Lutheran Church

VE Testing Session

May 19, 2015 @ 7:30pm

Messenger Public Library
North Aurora, IL

Technician Pool- A. The check is a count of the number of words or word equivalents in the text portion of the message

General Pool- D. All of these choices are correct

Extra Pool- C. Relatives of the VE as listed in the FCC rules



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 Bethany Lutheran Church, Batavia, IL

Meeting Minutes March 10, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 19:36 by president Dawn Williams KC9LQS

Introductions

Reports

Minutes of February 10, 2015 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Mike, K9FE and seconded by Harry, K9DXA to approve the minutes as published.
Motion carried

Treasurer – Dean KC9EOQ reported the account balances as of February 28, 2015:

Program – Jason, NX9Y announced the program would be on the subject of contesting.

Education – Mike, K9FE mentioned that there would be lots of home study involved the ongoing Extra classes. There will be interruptions to the classes due to the library using the room for other activities.

Net – Dave, N9XU was able to overcome some trouble he had with playing AARRL News audio files. Net control operators are needed and should contact Dave if interested.

VE testing – Doug, W9RD told us testing would be next Monday, March 16, 2015. If you pass your test and want a paper license the FCC now requires that you request it.

ARES – Debbie gave notice that the next meeting of Kane County ARES would be held the fourth Thursday of the month.

Outreach – Dawn, KC9LQS wants to know who is interested in working the club display during area Farmers Markets this summer. Based on available volunteers, she will request dates for Markets in Aurora, Batavia, Geneva and St. Charles.

Old Business

None

New Business

Field Day – Phil, W9XAN gave notice that a few band captains are still needed for this year's event.

MS Walk – Mike, K9FE gave out the information that we would take part in the walk to be held in Potawatomi Park, May 3, 2015. This is located in St. Charles just north of route Ill. 64 on the east side of the river.

Hamfest – Dawn, KC9LQS said mark your calendar. It's July 11 – 12.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the General Membership of the
Fox River Radio League (FRRL) an Illinois not-for-profit Corporation (cont'd)

Announcements

- Hamfest tickets will be available at the April meeting.
- Mike, K9FE mentioned that there will be a two-day cram class for the Technician class exam, at the Lisle police department training room the 11th and 12th.

Adjournment

The motion was made by Cedrick, WT2P and seconded by Marty, N9NTM to adjourn the meeting at 20:15.
The motion carried.

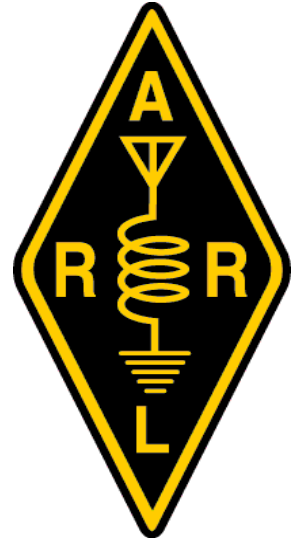
Respectfully submitted,
Jack Tofari KD9CPN

Coming soon to a field near you!
June 27 and 28



IMPORTANT AMATUER RADIOWEB 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

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