



# ARC OVER



The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League, Est. 1924  
Our 95th Year in Amateur Radio!

## Who We Are

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Vice President:  
Roger Bara, W9YU

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David Booher, W9BOO

Treasurer:  
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John Miller, W9JDM  
Priscilla Miller, AE9PM  
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Kermit Carlson, W9XA

License Trustee (W9NE):  
David Booher, W9BOO

Education Chair:  
Vacant

Newsletter Editor:  
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Chris Kennell KC9BKS



## About Us

The Fox River Radio League, Inc. is a general interest Amateur Radio club serving the central Fox River Valley area in Illinois. Club records indicate the club has been in existence since at least 1924, and it 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 Federal IRS Statutes.

We sponsor training classes for those seeking a new or upgraded Amateur Radio license, license examination sessions, and participation in various local Public Service events. Our membership covers a broad variety of interests - if you have a specialized amateur radio interest, you will likely find camaraderie with one or more of our club members.

We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at Bethany Lutheran Church, located at 8 S. Lincoln St. in Batavia, Ill. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM and includes a short business portion, social time and a program presentation of interest.

Meetings are open to the public. Anyone interested in the amateur radio hobby are invited to attend. Family members are welcome.

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The FRRL ArcOver Newsletter is published monthly by the Fox River Radio League, Inc. Submission deadline for all news articles, items, and information is the 3rd Tuesday of each month for inclusion by the next publishing date. Please submit any such requests to [newsletter@frrl.org](mailto:newsletter@frrl.org).

## 2019 Membership Dues

Regular Dues: \$30 | Family Dues: \$40 | Sr. Citizen / Active Military / Student (full time under 22): \$25  
Repeater Support: \$10 donation

FRRL Dues and Repeater Support 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. Copyright © 2019, FRRL. Prior written permission is required to republish material present in the ArcOver.

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# President's Traffic

From the President's Desk

October's presentation on ARES by Tom N9HSJ was excellent. He summarized the history of the program and how it fits into the big picture of emergency response. I also learned that I can't just show up to help during an emergency. I have to apply, get screened, and get trained. It was a lot to take in. I learn something at every meeting I attend even though I sometimes like to think I know it all. I don't.

At the last meeting, I met a first-time attendee named Amy and I did not write her call sign down. She needs help programming her hand held radio. She committed to attend the November meeting to get help. So I would like to ask

someone to come prepared to program a Baofeng handheld.

We still need a person to run for secretary. In this role you keep the minutes of the Board and Membership meetings and handle any correspondence (very little).

The election slate will be announced at the November membership meeting with the election in December. If you have not attended in a while, these meetings are a must. We need you to vote on your club leadership for the next year (or two). Also, the December meeting will be the Holiday party. We will have pot luck snacks [*ed. note: tradition is holiday cookies*] and a



social hour after the election.

At present I am scheduled to be away on a work project during the November Membership meeting and may miss the December meeting as well. It is a pain when work get in the way of fun but it happens.

73, Dan W9STS

## Test Your Knowledge!

Each month the ArcOver will post 3 Exam Test Pool Questions to challenge you - one from each of the Technician, General, and Extra Class License Exams. Answers will be hidden throughout the ArcOver.

### Technician - T1A08

**Which of the following entities recommends transmit/receive channels and other parameters for auxiliary and repeater stations?**

- A. Frequency Spectrum Manager appointed by the FCC
- B. Volunteer Frequency Coordinator recognized by local amateurs
- C. FCC Regional Field Office
- D. International Telecommunications Union

### General - G1A13

**What is the appropriate action if, when operating on either the 30-meter or 60-meter bands, a station in the primary service interferes with your contact?**

- A. Notify the FCC's regional Engineer in Charge of the interference
- B. Increase your transmitter's power to overcome the interference
- C. Attempt to contact the station and request that it stop the interference
- D. Move to a clear frequency or stop transmitting

### Extra - E1A09

**What is the first action you should take if your digital message forwarding station inadvertently forwards a communication that violates FCC rules?**

- A. Discontinue forwarding the communication as soon as you become aware of it
- B. Notify the originating station that the communication does not comply with FCC rules
- C. Notify the nearest FCC Field Engineer's office
- D. Discontinue forwarding all messages



# Member Traffic

*A place for you, our FRRL members, to come share your thoughts, voice your opinions, and talk about any topics that may be of general interest to the FRRL club or Amateur Radio in general.*

To All FRRL Members,  
As you know the nomination committee is looking for candidates who are interested in serving on the Executive Board. The following positions are available:

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director (x2)

You can read about the duties of each position in the club by-laws available on the groups.io web page. Please consider taking an active role in guiding the club for the next year. Please contact any of the committee members below.

Dean Holste KC9EOQ (Chair)  
Ken Miller KE9NM  
Lance Clark W9QB

Thank you for your consideration!  
73, Dean KC9EOQ~

All,  
A mini hamfest style sale will be held to sell the radio and electronics items from the estate of Lou Petkus K9LU. Many items will be available: radios, antennas (wire, aluminum tubing, traps, baluns, mobile, HF, VHF, UHF), assorted antenna hardware, various station accessories, test equipment, wire and cable, connectors (RF, audio, computer), various cable assemblies (radio, power, computer), various parts, and more.

See the accompanying list [*ed. note: available on groups.io*] for many of the items. Cash sales are highly preferred. All sales are final.

The pricing on some items may be negotiable. Some items are priced as TBD, and the associated pricing may be listed or determined at the time of the sale.

Date: Saturday October 26  
Time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM  
Location: K9LU QTH, 2S872 Wagner Road, Batavia, IL 60510

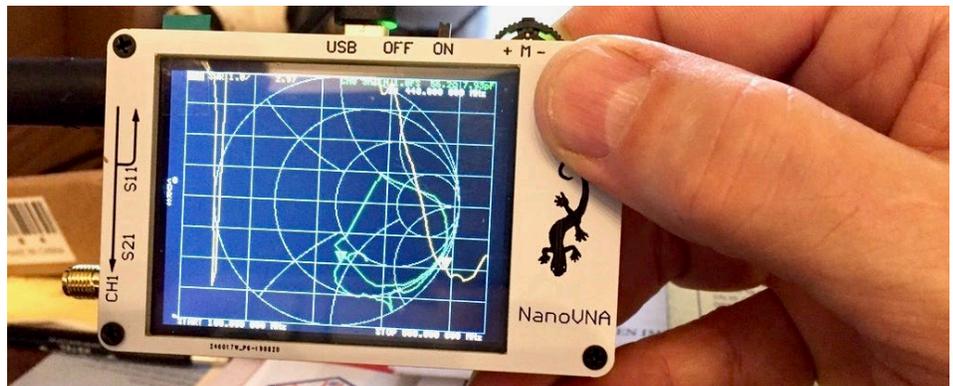
For questions or more information, contact me.  
73, Gary K9MMS~

Hi All,  
Well I did indeed order the Chinese NanoVNA.

After a few hours of watching Utube videos and fiddling with it I can say it absolutely does work

as promised. This is a true lab type mini instrument so not quite as plug and play as an MFJ antenna analyzer but if you don't have an analyzer and willing to slough through some videos you can absolutely use this \$50 device to make good SWR measurements (and many other "device under test" measurements). Additionally you can make said measurements up to 900 mhz accurately. I've been looking at VHF/UHF whips this morning and it's a bit shocking to find that they're often resonant on the business band portion of 2 meters and "not so much" on the ham frequencies. Not surprisingly my FT-60 Yaesu supplied whip is right on the money- Jetstream not so much.

73, John KC9OJV



New Members		
Please welcome our newest members to the club!		
Call	Name	License Class
In Memoriam (Silent Keys)		
Call	Name	Location



# Upcoming Events

Come join us at an event - some are on the airwaves, and some are in person.

This format is designed to be easy to print and hang on your fridge.

NOVEMBER 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2 <b>C</b>
3	4	5 <b>B</b> <b>N</b>	6	7	8	9 <b>C</b>
10	11	12 <b>M</b>	13	14	15	16 <b>C</b>
17	18	19 <b>N</b> <b>T</b>	20	21	22	23 <b>T</b>
24	25	26 <b>N</b>	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3 <b>B</b> <b>N</b>	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 <b>M</b>	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 <b>N</b>	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 <b>N</b>	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 <b>N</b>				

JANUARY 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 <b>B</b> <b>N</b>	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 <b>M</b>	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 <b>N</b>	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 <b>N</b>	29	30	31	

**C**Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23: General Class

- 9am-noon
- Golden Corral in Aurora, Ill.

**B**Nov. 5: Board Meeting

- 7:00PM
- Colonial Cafe in Aurora

**N**Nov. 5, 19, 26: Regular FRRL Net

- 7:30PM
- W9CEQ 2M Repeater

**M**Nov. 12: Member Meeting

- 7:30PM
- Bethany Lutheran Church in Batavia, Ill.
- Program: Jaye W9CY Building Your First HF Station

**T**Nov. 19: VE Testing

- 7:00PM
- Messenger Library, N. Aurora

**T**Nov. 23: VE Testing

- 9:00AM
- Golden Corral in Aurora, Ill.

**B**Dec. 3: Board Meeting

- 7:00PM
- Colonial Cafe in Aurora, Ill.

**N**Dec. 3, 17, 24, 31: Regular FRRL Net

- 7:30PM
- W9CEQ 2M Repeater

**M**Dec. 10: Member Meeting

- 7:30PM
- Bethany Lutheran Church in Batavia, Ill.
- Program: Holiday Party

**B**Jan. 7: Board Meeting

- 7:00PM
- Colonial Cafe in Aurora, Ill.

**N**Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28: Regular FRRL Net

- 7:30PM
- W9CEQ 2M Repeater

**M**Jan. 14: Member Meeting

- 7:30PM
- Bethany Lutheran Church in Batavia, Ill.
- Program: TBD



# Event Information

If you have an idea for an event, or would like to share details on an upcoming event, please reach out to John W9JDM at [director2@frrl.org](mailto:director2@frrl.org) or Priscilla AE9PM at [director3@frrl.org](mailto:director3@frrl.org).



## General Class

The Fox River Radio League (FRRL) is joining together with Northern Illinois Amateur Radio Testing and Training (NIARTT) to present an Amateur Radio General Class license training course this fall. NIARTT is a collaboration established by FRRL members to run the regularly-scheduled Technician, General, and Extra license classes in coordination with other area clubs. Currently, this collaboration includes the FRRL as well as the BARS and CSRA area clubs.

This course is a free 10 week course where you will learn everything you need to receive your new Amateur (Ham) Radio General Class FCC radio license.

This class is designed for people who are new and experienced alike, and are interested in finding out more about the world of the Amateur Radio. There is no prior license required. There is no age limit. There is only the need of interest in the Ham Radio hobby, and a willingness to learn. Be prepared for both interactive, group and individual study. There will be a VE test license exam on the last week of the course. Anyone is

invited to join the class or “sit in” as a refresher.

For more information and to sign up, please visit [frrl.org/education](http://frrl.org/education).

## Banquet

The FRRL Board is investigating options for the yearly Banquet. Traditionally, this is held in January on the same night as the regular monthly membership meeting. In an effort to allow more club members to participate, last year's banquet reduced member costs by catering food at the regular meeting location. One common point of feedback the board has received is that the Banquet is too close to the Holiday Party. It is under consideration to move the party forward a couple of months to split the difference between the Holiday Party and Field Day.

## Technician - T1A08

**Which of the following entities recommends transmit/receive channels and other parameters for auxiliary and repeater stations?**

B. Volunteer Frequency Coordinator recognized by local amateurs

If you have any feedback on what you liked from last year, or what you might like to see changed, please reach out to the board at [frrlboard@frrl.org](mailto:frrlboard@frrl.org) or stop by our next meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Other Events

As is clear from the calendar on the previous page, December and January are looking to be pretty light for Ham Radio events. If you know of any other events that are running at this time, please let me know at [newsletter@frrl.org](mailto:newsletter@frrl.org).

Thanks! John W9JDM  
**Repeater Information**

Club sponsored or club affiliated local repeaters are listed below.

KC9OEM 2M

- 145.470 MHz, -600 KHz offset
- 103.5 Hz tone
- Net: Wed. 6:30PM
- Owned by Kane Co. OEM

W9CEQ 2M

- 147.210 MHz, +600 KHz offset
- 103.5 Hz tone
- Net: Tues. 7:30PM (except second Tues. of month)
- Owned by FRRL

W9CEQ 70CM

- 444.300 MHz, +5 MHz offset
- 114.8 Hz tone
- IRLP #4850, Echolink #230933
- Owned by FRRL

W9CEQ\_B D-Star 70CM

- 442.10625 MHz, +5 MHz offset
- Contact W9XA for information

W9CEQ\_C D-Star 2M

- 147.225 MHz, +600 KHz offset
- Net: 8:00PM Wed.
- Contact W9XA for information

More repeater information can be found at [frrl.org/repeaters](http://frrl.org/repeaters).



# Meeting Minutes October 8, 2019

*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, Ill.*

The meeting was called to order at 19:30 CDT by President Dan W9STS. Audience introductions: Name, Call, and QTH. Approval of September 2019 Member Meeting minutes: Motion was moved, seconded and accepted. There were 37 people present at this meeting.



## Reports

### Treasurer's Report

#### Dan WA9YKK

Dan reported the balances as of 10/01/2019.

### Repeater

#### Jim N9XP

No report. Dave N9XU reported that the Monday net is in need of net control operators.

### Classes/Programs/VE

#### John W9JDM

The classes are going well at the Golden Corral in Aurora. 11 students have attended. ARRL is testing an electronic submission method which is yielding very fast turn-around time (next day in some cases).

### Outreach/Newsletter/PR

#### Priscilla AE9PM

No report.

### Tech/Membership/Groups.io

#### Mike WX9SPL

Chris KC9BKS reported 133 active members with 90 members subscribed to groups.io.

### ARES

#### Terry W9AUV

Debby WX9VOR updated the club on the current ARES events. ARES is getting ready for a state-wide exercise. Please see the Kane County ARES website for information on when and where they meet.

### Repeater

#### Kermit W9XA

No report.

### VE

#### Paul AC9BS

No report.

### Old Business

### Nominating Committee

Dean KC9EOQ is chairing the nominating committee. Dean has nominees for all positions, except Club Secretary. Please see Dean if you are interested.

### IL QSO Party

If you are interested in operating HF, please consider coming to the IL QSO Party, Springbook Prairie, Naperville, IL. It starts on Sunday, October 20th at around 9:00am for antenna setup. It will operate until dark.

### General - G1A13

**What is the appropriate action if, when operating on either the 30-meter or 60-meter bands, a station in the primary service interferes with your contact?**

D. Move to a clear frequency or stop transmitting





*Come join the camaraderie at one of our monthly meetings! The social hour following the business portion is a great opportunity to meet your fellow hams.*

**New Business**

**December Meeting**

Member meeting elections will be followed by a pot luck with a blind gift exchange.

**January Meeting**

The annual banquet is currently scheduled for January. There is some discussion about moving this event.

**Field Day 2020**

The Club needs a new Field Day Chair. The event will be at LeRoy Oakes in St. Charles.

**Announcements**

Dan W9STS has equipment for sale at this meeting.  
 Dave N9XU mentioned some upcoming events. Also, Happy Birthday Dave!  
 Dave K9WDB mentioned Citizen Band Radio Day.

**Upcoming Events**

October 8th Membership Meeting  
 October 12th, 19th and 26th General Classes  
 October 20th IL QSO Party  
 November 5th Board Meeting

November 2nd, 9th and 16th General Classes (Testing on November 23rd)  
 November 12th Membership Meeting  
 November 19th FRRL VE Session

**Program**

ARES – Tom Westerfield N9HSJ

**Adjournment**

The member meeting was adjourned at 19:56 CDT.

Respectfully submitted,  
 David Booher W9BOO  
 FRRL Secretary

**Extra - E1A09**

**What is the first action you should take if your digital message forwarding station inadvertently forwards a communication that violates FCC rules?**

A. Discontinue forwarding the communication as soon as you become aware of it





# ARRL News

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## ARRL to Launch New On the Air Magazine

ARRL is launching a new magazine, *On the Air*, in January 2020. To be published on a bimonthly basis, *On the Air* will offer new and beginner-to-intermediate-level radio amateurs a fresh approach to exploring radio communication. Each issue will include advice and insights on topics from the variety of Amateur Radio interests and activities: radio technology, operating, equipment, project building, and emergency communication. The goal of this new magazine is to be a vital resource in helping new and newer radio amateurs get active and involved in radio communications.

“On the Air responds to the brand-new and not-so-brand-new radio amateur seeking ideas and answers,” said QST Managing Editor Becky Schoenfeld, W1BXY. Schoenfeld is part of the ARRL staff team that developed the new magazine. The planning included an extensive national-level study of new Amateur Radio licensees, identifying their motivations for getting licensed and their experiences of getting started. A focus group responded positively to a trial sample edition of the magazine.

“Too many new licensees never take the next step,” says Schoenfeld. “We’re excited to introduce a new Amateur Radio magazine for this audience, aimed at getting them active, getting them involved, and getting them on the air.”



The first issue of *On the Air* will be published in January 2020 (January/February issue) and will be introduced as a new ARRL membership benefit. Effective November 1, when eligible US radio amateurs join ARRL or renew their memberships, they will be prompted to select the print magazine of their choice -- *On the Air* or QST. Current members receiving the print edition of QST, upon renewal, may choose to continue receiving the print edition of QST (monthly) or the print edition of *On the Air* (bimonthly).

All ARRL members, including international members, will be able to access digital editions of both QST and *On the Air*. Members who already access QST on the web or from the mobile app will be able to access QST and *On the Air* starting in January.

## NASA Spacecraft Launches on Mission to Explore Frontier of Space

NASA’s Ionospheric Connection Explorer (ICON) spacecraft is in orbit for a first-of-its-kind mission to study a region of space where changes can disrupt communications and satellite orbits, and even increase radiation risks to

astronauts. ICON was launched on October 11 after a Stargazer L-1011 aircraft from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida carried it to about 39,000 feet. Then, a Pegasus rocket fired the roughly refrigerator-sized ICON into space.

The spacecraft’s solar panels successfully deployed, indicating it has power with all systems operating, NASA reported. ICON will start sending back its first science data in November.

ICON will study changes in the ionosphere, where, in addition to affecting radio signal propagation, space weather can prematurely decay spacecraft orbits and expose astronauts to radiation-borne health risks. “Historically, this critical region of near-Earth space has been difficult to observe,” NASA explained. “Spacecraft can’t travel through the low parts of the ionosphere and balloons can’t travel high enough.” ICON’s orbit around Earth places it at a 27° inclination at an altitude of about 360 miles, from which it can observe the ionosphere around the equator.

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) veteran Will Marchant, KW4WZ (ex-KC6ROL), is part of the ICON team.

