



ARCOVER



JULY 2021

The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League
97 Years of continuous service to our communities

1924  **2021**

Who We Are

President:
Gordon Dailey KW0E

Vice President:
Roger Bara W9YU

Secretary:
Dean Holste KC9EOQ

Treasurer:
Dan Harmon WA9YKK

Director 1: NETS / RPTR'S
Terry Todd W9AUV

Director 2: Education
Robert Littler W9DSR

Director 3: Activities
Dave Bulkley K9DWB

Director 4: Technical
VACANT

Past President:
Mike Urso K9FE

License Trustee (W9CEQ):
Kermit Carlson, W9XA

License Trustee (W9NE):
Denny Barfuss W9HI

Newsletter Editor:
Jerry Chapman N9JLC

Webmaster:
Mark Van Daele K9MEV

Membership Database:
Chris Kennell, KC9BKS

Net Coordinator:
Curt Sauer, W9YNP

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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Fox River Radio League

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From The Desk
Of  *The*
Honorable Gordon Dailey



Hi All,

I hope all is well with you and yours. It seems that I blinked my eyes and half of the year is upon us. Albeit a year that no one wants to do over. As we start the last half of 2021 it can only be better. Well, that's what I tell myself.

We had our first in person meeting in June and will continue on Thursday, July 8th and August 19th. Location is Geneva Lutheran, 301 S 3rd St, Geneva, IL. Come join us. If you're still hesitant to attend an in person meeting. We will live Zoom it as well. Please understand that we will do the best we can but none of us are TV or Movie producers.

At the August membership meeting. Bring your projects or completed projects. Think of it as shown and tell. We will have tables in the back and side of the room for your projects. After the business meeting members will come around and you can proudly answer questions about what you did or doing. Your success or your headaches with the project. Should be fun.

I do want to remind you that it is never too early to start thinking about the club election. You can be part of the leadership of your club. Please consider doing so and if you have questions by all means ask me or any member of the board.

Don't forget our club build on August 19th as well.

Until next time, stay radio active.

73, Gordie KW0E





MEETING MINUTES



JUNE 10, 2021

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



Meeting Minutes June 10, 2021-

The June meeting of the Fox River Radio League was conducted, for the first time at Geneva Lutheran Church. There were 31 members in attendance and 6 members present via Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 1935 CST by President Gordon Dailey, KW0E
All Board members were present except Dave, K9WDB.

Minutes: Acceptance of the May 2021 Membership Meeting minutes as printed in the ArcOver were approved by the membership. Motion: Tom, WD9DAU; 2nd: Robert, W9MZ

Treasurer's Report: Dan WA9YKK, reported the account bank balances as of 06-08-2021.
Motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Marty, N9NTM, second, Terry, W9AUV. Approved.

Director: Terry W9AUV, Plans are underway to get coax on the tower. A final proposal from the tower company is being prepared.

Director: Robert W9DSR, (via Zoom) Looking forward to Sunday.

Director: Dave W9WDB, No Report

Director: Vacant

VE Test: Dan, WA9YKK The next session is on June 17th at 6:30PM at the Geneva Lutheran Church.



Repeater: Given by Terry, W9AUV

Membership: Chris, KC9BKS reports that we have 128 members at this time.

Old Business:

Field Day: Mike, K9FE recognized the band captains for the 2021 Field Day on June 26th and 27th.

Build-a-thon: Gordie, KW0E advised the date of August 19th at 7:30PM for the radio build. This will also be an in person meeting that night. In other words, the FRRL August monthly meeting will be held on Thursday August 19th at the Geneva Lutheran Church 301 S. Third St, in Geneva. The build session will take place after a short business meeting. There will be an opportunity to order a kit on line at the FRRL website during the month of July.

VE Update: Dan, WA9YKK The next session is on June 17th at 6:30PM at the Geneva Lutheran Church.

New Business:

Meeting Status: The membership meeting for July will be held on July 8th at 7:30PM at Geneva Lutheran Church.

New Operators Net: All are invited every Sunday at 7PM on the FRRL 2-meter repeater. New or experienced, all are invited to join. Topics can be anything, even if it's not ham radio related. (No politics or religion)

Announcements:

ARRL VHF contest is this weekend.

Adjournment:

Moved by Jim, N9XP- Second by Mark, K9MEV

The meeting was adjourned at 2030hrs CDT.

upcoming Events:

June 8th, Membership Meeting
June 20th, Newsletter Deadline
June 26th & 27th- Field Day!
July 6th, BOD Meeting
July 8th, Membership Meeting
July 20th, Newsletter Deadline

Program:

2021 Field Day information and logistics plan for set up and take down.

Respectfully submitted,

Dean Holste, KC9EOQ













FRRL Secretary



JULY 2021



Fox River Radio League

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 	5 10-10 Net CW Net 	6 1900 FRRL BOD Meeting 1930 FRRL2m Net	7	8 ***** 1930 FRRL MEMBER MEETING	9	10
11 1900 FRRL INFORMAL ALL OPER NET	12 10-10 Net CW Net 	13 1930 FRRL 2m Net	14	15	16	17
18 1900 FRRL INFORMAL ALL OPER NET	19 10-10 Net CW Net 	20  Deadline 1930 FRRL 2m Net	21	22	23	24
25 1900 FRRL INFORMAL ALL OPER NET	26 10-10 Net CW Net 	27 1930 FRRL 2m Net	28	29	30	31
 WCRA 2m Net 8pm 145.31 -6 107.2	 VARA 2m Net 8pm 146.79 -6 107.2	 FRRL 2m Net 7:30pm 147.21 +6 103.5	 Kane County ARES 2m Net 6:30pm 145.47 -6 103.5	 Northern Illinois ARRL 70cm Net 7:30pm 444.875 +5MHz, 114.8	 CW Net 28.150, Monday 8PM SSB Net 28.720, Monday 8:30PM	



For ARRL events please go to <http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>



**** FRRL MEMBER ****
MEETING AT
GENEVA LUTHERN CHURCH
301 S THIRD ST



New Operators Net

"EVERY" Sunday for "EVERY" Operator
New or experienced...ALL are Welcome

1900 hrs (7pm) local time

147.21 103.5PL +600

On the FOX VHF Repeater

Feel free to share your thoughts, experiences, recipes and hobbies etc.

"It does not have to be about radio to talk on the radio!"

For more info about the NET contact:

Mike K9FE 630-327-5164 K9FE@yahoo.com

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CWops has designated the K1USN Radio Club as the 2021 recipient of its Award for Advancing the Art of CW. As CWops noted in making the announcement, the K1USN Radio Club has created and managed the K1USN Weekly Slow Speed Test (SST) that provides a place for new and unpracticed CW operators to gather and operate at relaxed speeds in a friendly and encouraging manner that helps them continue to improve their CW skills.



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The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) launched a new SATERN International SSB Net on June 2 on 14.325 MHz. Net sessions will take place Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 11 AM Central Daylight Time, in cooperation with the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN)

The Salvation Army said SATERN's mission is providing effective emergency communications via amateur radio and other communication modes to provide a wide scope of assistance to disaster survivors during a disaster operation. "In carrying out its mission, SATERN recruits skilled volunteer radio amateurs who have been trained in disaster communications and other emergency disaster response practices," TSA said in its announcement.



Editors Note

Our condolences to those who lost their homes, property and potentially their loved ones...



Heed the warnings

JUNE 20 - 21 2021



FIND SAFE SHELTER RIGHT AWAY

- Go to a safe room, basement, or storm cellar.
- If there is no basement, get to a small, interior room on the lowest level.
- Stay away from windows, doors, and outside walls.
- Use your arms to protect your head and neck.
- If you can safely get to a sturdy building, do so immediately.
- Do not get under an overpass or bridge. You're safer in a low, flat location.
- Watch out for flying debris that can cause injury or death.



Photos copied from WGN news site



Save The Date August 19th 7:30 p.m.



As mentioned above in the meeting minutes for the

BUILD-A-THON

FRRL August monthly meeting will be held on Thursday August 19th at the Geneva Lutheran Church 301 S. Third St, in Geneva. The build session will take place after the business meeting. There will be an opportunity to order a kit on line at the FRRL website during the month of July.

WE make FM Radio DIY
Soldering Kit with Tools |
Soldering Iron | Side Cutters |
Safety Glasses | Lead Free
Solder | Great Stem Project

Mark Your Calendars !!

You can also participate in one (or all) of the Illinois Traffic Nets. Everyone is welcome with or without traffic. The nets are the North Central Phone Net, Daily at 7 a.m. local time, on 3912 kHz LSB; the Illinois Phone Net, Monday – Friday at 4:45 p.m. local time, on 3857 kHz LSB and on Sunday at 8 a.m. on 3940 kHz; and the Illinois Sideband Net, Daily at 6 p.m. local time, on 3905 kHz LSB.



We have a number of hamfest still coming up. They are:

- Central Division Indiana Convention July 9-11
- Kankakee/Peotone July 18
- Hamfesters Peotone August 1
- West Central Illinois, Carlinville August 7
- W9DXCC Convention September 10-11
- Peoria Superfest September 18-19
- Radio Expo Belvidere (Chicago FM Club) September 26





June 10th 2021

**OUR *FIRST*
IN PERSON
MEETING
IN OVER A YEAR !!**

**Thank You
Geneva Lutheran Church**



**Meet The Field Day
Band Captains**



Photo Courtesy of K9LGE



K9FE Talks About Field Day





**WELCOME
To The
FRRL !!**



Call Sign	Name	License Class
K9AML	ALLEN LANHAM	EXTRA
KD9SYV	HENRY BILLSTEN	TECH
KD9SUV	KURT BILLSTEN	TECH
KD9SUY	ELWIN MEHLBRECH	GENERAL
KD9SVB	JASON JOHNSTON	TECH
KD9SUU	RYAN CHURCHILL	TECH
AC9YK	ANDREW ZASADNY	EXTRA
	SHELLY HENDERSON	



BRING BACK "RADIO IN THE PARK"

Harry Jones K9DXA" started "Radio in the Park" years ago. His idea was take your radio out to a local park and set it up and operate. Since we can't have any thing big, just take your rig, wear your mask, set up an antenna, radio and have fun.



The idea of this is bring ham radio to the public. Make a small sign with your name, call sign, and please add FRRL also. Would like some photo of your operation. May get someone to take a picture of you operating. Will try to get your picture into the news letter. Please send a short report to me at my FRRL address. Director3@frrl.org

Dave K9wdb





This great amp and tuner got me through my first year of contesting and held up very well. It has all the Harbaugh upgrades and was tuned by King Conversions just before I got it. Currently wired for 110v but have the soft-start board and plug for 220v.

I would like the amp and the tuner to sell together and go to a good home so I'm asking \$600 for the pair, but the FRRL discount is \$500

I am willing to drive and meet you so I don't have to ship it.

If anyone wants to jump into the QRO world this is a nice start.

Mark Caldwell n9tca@icloud.com



Golden Rules of Borrowing

Return it Quickly

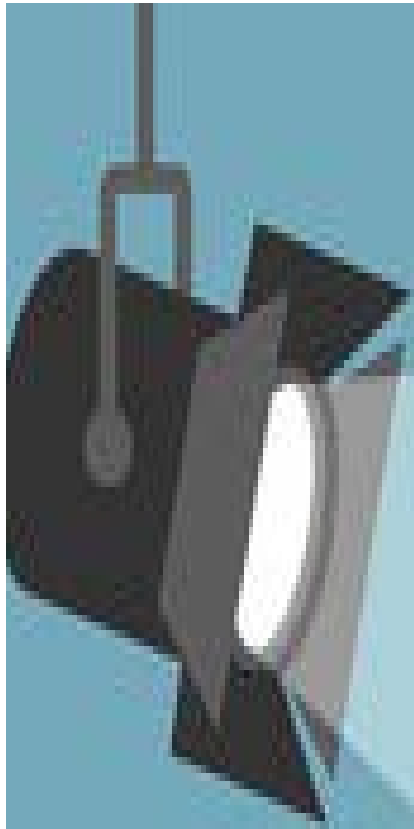
Return it in Great Condition

Break it - Replace it

Return the Favor



FRRL New Member Spotlight



My electronics/radio hobby started with my father and I building a small AM transmitter featuring a crystal microphone and a range of about 10 feet. For me, hearing my voice over the family table radio was exciting. I moved on to 27 mhz walkie talkies that I could talk to the neighbor boy across the street with- probably 50-100 mw. When I was old enough to earn money I bought a Johnson Messenger II CB and could chat with friends in the neighborhood that also had CBs. I think the CB license was in my father's name. One of my friends and I discussed finding a way to earn an Amateur Radio license and we found a club- far away from our homes that was offering a class for Novices. It was the Wyandotte County ham club on the Kansas side of Kansas City and my father drove us over there every week for classes. We practiced code about as well as could be expected for a couple of 14-15 year old boys working almost completely on their own with no real elmers. After a couple months we took the Novice test at the club and we both passed but I'm sure the 5 wpm requirement was the limit of what I was capable of. I don't

think my friend ever secured a Novice station but I managed to rustle up a Hallicrafters SX-96 receiver and a Hallicrafters HT-40 transmitter. Unfortunately I never had much understanding of propagation or antennas at that time and I erected a 15 meter inverted V on the side of my parents house under the eaves. I could hear signals but being crystal controlled and having no understanding of operating practices, other than what I could glean from the ARRL handbook, I never had a real QSO with that station. About the time my non-renewable Novice license was about to expire (WN0ZHM) I was heading off to college and the equipment was sold and that chapter closed for me. After college I was married and starting a family and the radio interest (I still had) became regular reading of Popular Electronics, occasional kit building, doing some electronic repairs of equipment at work and casual SWL with portable radios. Finally, the kids were mostly grown up and I launched back into Ham radio but still operating independently. I passed my technician's test at the Dupage Club VE session. I did the same with General but by then I was living in Dupage county and the test site was the FRRL Hamfest. I learned that the FRRL was offering classes for the Extra license and I signed up. Every week I would come home and remark that the quality of instruction at those classes was really impressive. I took the test and passed as did many of my classmates. I joined the club and have greatly benefited from the knowledgeable people I come to know and the things they've taught me. I've also learned something about myself and that is I enjoy operating but I enjoy building and modifying equipment just as much. I've build several transceivers, SDR receivers, and innumerable small accessories. Recently I started designing PCBs, with Eagle design software, based on modest designs found on the internet. I've built antennas from formulas and calculators, operated on FM satellites and interacted with designers and builders all over the world including some well known people. I've done all the popular digital modes, even on 6 meters. I've been thinking about UHF moonbounce with a modest setup but not sure how to pull that off living in a HOA controlled townhouse. I love Ham Radio with all it's immense diversity and it's a hobby I'll be active in as long as I'm able.

73s!

John
KC9OJV