

REGULAR EVENTS

Friday, General Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross Bldg.,
June 6 700 S. 3rd. (1st Friday of each month.)

Monday, Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, Glas-Col., 7th &
June 9 Hulman (Monday following the Gen. Mtg.)

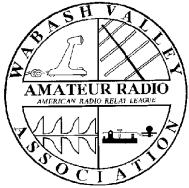
Every The Club Station is open, 7:00 - 9:00 PM,
Thursday Downstairs, Red Cross Bldg., 700 S. 3rd.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Field Day Weekend ----- June 27 - 29

On or about July 5: Repeater changes over to 146.685

Tailgate Party - Marine Corps League Bldg ----- July 19



THE

BANDSPREAD

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

JUNE 2003



SEVERE WX STRIKES WABASH VALLEY

THIS WAS NOT A DRILL

The weekend weather damaged a large telephone cable in the Allendale area, knocking out phone service and creating a communications emergency responded to by amateur radio operators from the Wabash Valley.

When the telephones quit working at Bethesda Gardens, a retirement home just north of Allendale, the staff was faced with no reliable way to contact local 911 services. Staff members started asking questions after the storm, and were eventually referred to the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES).

One of Bethesda's existing cellular telephones was working but others were not, and the staff was concerned that they would not meet their needs to contact an ambulance during the night.

ARES operators set up a two-meter radio station in a guest room inside the facility, and scheduled operators to staff the station for the next four days. In addition, other local operators were scheduled to maintain a listening watch on the local 146.850 MHz repeater, and instructed on what would be needed to get help from 911.

By the time telephone service was restored on Wednesday evening, local

Continued, see **Severe WX**, p. 5



Chuck, KC9CKK, At Dayton, in a wild moment of fantasy. Photo - N9YRX

**Hmmm,
I think I
want...
this
one!**

Wet but Wonderful! Rain or Shine, Dayton is Always a Lot of Fun!

It was a cold and rainy day at Dayton on Saturday, this year. But all of the Hamvention is not outside; only about two thirds is outside. And there's plenty to do inside. PLENTY!

As the Bus pulled up, there was a sagacious entrepreneur from the local Skywarn organization selling rain ponchos. How convenient and what better a cause to donate to?

But even with all the attractions inside, there were many respites in the rain showers which afforded those so

Continued, see **Dayton**, p. 5

Frequency Change has been Approved!

As some of you know, July 5th our repeater will change frequency. The new frequency will be 146.685 MHz, minus 600 KHz offset, and we will use the same PL tone of 151.4 Hz. I would like to review how we arrived at this decision and why this is being done.

Late in 1993, we moved our machine from the WTWO tower in Farmersburg to the Commercial Radio Service tower, owned by the Doty family, just southwest of Terre Haute. We had been at WTWO since the repeater first went on the air back in the early

Continued, see **Changeover**, p. 5

NETS

146.850*
W9UUU/R

Sunday Morning ARES Net	8:20 A.M. EST
Sunday Evening WVARA Net*	9:00 P.M. EST

* First Sunday of the month is Simplex night. The WVARA Net meets on 146.595



General Meeting Minutes 05/02/03

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by Kevin, K9HX. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Gary, W9EEU, those present introduced themselves. There were 24 members and 5 guests present. ANNOUNCEMENTS: (1) The CAARLA tea will be hosted by Pat, KA9ALI, from 2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. Sunday, May 4. Those planning to attend are requested to RSVP to Pat as soon as possible. (2) The WVARA Board meeting will be held Monday, May 5, at 6:30 at Glas-Col Apparatus at 7th and Hulman. Anyone interested in attending is welcome; talk-in will be available on 146.595 (3) The program for the June WVARA meeting will be a presentation by Ray, K9DUR, and Jim, WD9EYB, on Operating Procedures. (4) The deadline for submission of articles to be published in The Bandspread is May 15th. (5) VE testing will be held Saturday, May 9, at the First Christian Church in Marshall, IL at 8:30 A.M. (6) The WVARA Tailgate Party will be Saturday, July 19 inside the facility at the Marine Corps League. (7) The QCWA/CAARLA meetings will be Saturday, May 9 at 12:30 at the Comfort Food Company in the Plaza North Shopping Center. (8) Tickets for the Dayton Bus are available at a cost of \$30 per person. Talk to John, N9YRX, for further information. (9) The Terre Haute Triathlon will also be held Saturday, May 17. Dave, N9YNF, needs ten additional people to help with the Triathlon; anyone available to help is encouraged to contact him as soon as possible. (10) Changes in operation of Illiana Skywarn: Gary K9ERE reported that, Keith, WA9DRO, has decided to step down as one of the primary net control operators. We plan to utilize several additional net controls; training classes will be available for them as soon as they can be organized; further information will follow as it becomes available. Gary asked for patience during this transition time. Dave, N9FMD, reported that we are using a combination of repeaters to allow us to communicate with the National Weather Service in Indianapolis. We need to emphasize that our repeater should not be used for non-weather communications without first asking for permission during active weather nets. We also need to limit our conversations on the 444.35 repeater when we have weather events. Gary, K9ERE, added that this is the 3rd major upgrade of equipment and procedures for Skywarn in the last ten years. The 444.35 provides (almost too) excellent coverage; it now has the capability of full-quieting communication with Indianapolis for us as well as numerous other central and southwestern Indiana counties, not to mention counties in eastern Illinois. Now, we are not only responsible for having our repeater up for Skywarn but also the 444.35 should there be any possible severe WX in the greater surrounding area. The UHF process was explained by Kevin. He stated that anytime you key up and get the "W" for the courtesy tone, the weather link is active. If you hear an "R", you will hear Indianapolis, but they will not hear us. The primary intention for the 444.35 is for county Skywarn nets to communicate with Indy, not individual spotters. Individual reports are to go to the local nets. We're still working out the "kinks." (11) Jim, WD9EYB, announced that the Eastside Ham Club will be at Hawthorne Park to participate in the QSO Party. There will be a talk-in on 146.52 for anyone who would like to participate. He also announced that next week-end, May 10 and 11 is National Fox-Hunt week-end. Don, K9DRP, is hosting the fox hunt Sunday at 1:00 P.M. The number of transmitters to be hidden is still to be determined. There will also be an international style fox hunt Sunday, May 25, at 1:00 P.M. at Hawthorne Park. (12) Jay, AB9CG, announced that the Club station will be available if anyone wants to work the QSO Party from that

location. However, the rotor is not currently operational; NT9T reported that one of the wires is broken. The rotor has to come out and have parts replaced; this will be done sometime after Dayton. We now have the capability of using all bands without a tuner. (12) Jim, KA9DIF, has raised money for a ham station for Ryves Hall. Any assistance by other hams in serving as elmers to the new hams would be appreciated. He also may call on members of the Club for assistance in installing some of the new gear. (13) Jay, AB9CG, announced that we have members of the Rose Hulman Radio Club visiting tonight; they are very welcome to attend our meetings and activities whenever possible. **BUSINESS MEETING:** The Secretary's Report was presented by Debbie, KC9AOR as published in The Bandspread. Kay, KB9HYH, seconded the motion to approve the minutes as published in Bandspread. The Treasurer's Report was presented by Don, K9DRP. He reported that the Club had a balance of \$3,375.49 prior to tonight's meeting. He has received twenty reservations for the Dayton bus and said that we must have the payment for the bus in to Turner by Monday, May 5. Don, K9DRP, moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved as presented. Chuck, KC9BBJ, seconded the motion. The motion carried. **OLD BUSINESS:** (1) Status of APRS Digipeater/upgrades: John, N9YRX, reported that the APRS has been down for four days. The new system will be more stable. (2) Repeater Issues: Ray, K9DUR, reported that we have received the paperwork for the coordination for the new frequency. The plan is to make the change to 146.685 effective July 5. Kevin, K9HX, plans to have a recording on the current repeater announcing the change prior to the Dayton Hamvention. The new repeater directory lists both the old and new frequencies. (3) Electronic distribution of The Bandspread: for those who have signed up to receive *The Bandspread* electronically, the May issue was the last printed issue they will receive. Kevin asked if there were any problems with the electronic distribution of The Bandspread; there were none voiced. Anyone who has not yet done so and who would like to receive *The Bandspread* electronically was requested to put his or her e-mail address on the sign-in sheet. (4) People wanting to ride the Dayton Bus need to make their reservations very soon. (5) Field Day – Dave, N9FMD, reported that the Field Day planning committee held a meeting at the Field Day site. We will be holding the 2003 Field Day at the Cory Community Center, which will offer us new challenges and opportunities as well as increased visibility. He reported that there are excellent capabilities for both indoor and outdoor operations. We plan to have four or five antennas and a flying weather balloon. We have invited QCWA to sponsor a nostalgia station and we will be operating 4A. We will take one station down when the nostalgia station is operating. We will also have a GOTA station again this year. Ray, K9DUR, announced that the Airport requires seven days advance notice prior to flying the balloon. Diane, KB9PAV, is the Club's publicity chairperson and is working on lining up publicity for Field Day. We will do the preliminary set-up on Friday evening. Camping is also available on site for those who would like to bring their tents/campers. **NEW BUSINESS:** (1) Vigo County Civil Defense Generator: Kevin, K9HX, announced that the Vigo County CD has a large generator which they can make available to the Club on "semi permanent loan" basis. This is an old military surplus generator, thirty-five years old, but has had little use. It has an electric start. We can put it on the old ARES trailer. Jim, K9VDQ, has agreed to be the facilitator for this project. We will also have a tower on the trailer. Kevin just needs to finalize plans with the CivilDefense. Unfortunately, this will probably not be available for this Field Day but will be a valuable asset to our Club in emergency



operations as well as future Field Days. (2) Tail Gate, July 19, will be from 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. Ray, K9DUR, asked if we could have flyers prepared to have Ray distribute at Dayton. He thought we would need at least 500. The cost for Tailgate will be \$3 per person to get in; an option this year: anyone paying his/her 2003 membership at tailgate, will get in free. Club setup will be at 7:00 A.M. with members setting up their tables with sale items at 8:00 A.M. INTERMISSION: The half-pot winner this month was Patty, KB9TJW. PROGRAM: Presentation on 13 CM Amateur Radio Band by Jim, WD9EYB. Following the program, the meeting was adjourned. - Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes 05/05/03

Board Members present were: President Kevin Berlen, K9HX; Vice President Gary Adams, W9EEU; Trustee Ray Andrews, K9DUR; Past President Steve Shorter, KB9RQH; Board Member at Large Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD; Treasurer Don Pine, K9DRP; Secretary Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR. Guests: Natalie Andrews, K9CAT and Jay Sotak, AB9CG. The meeting was called to order at 6:36 P.M. Debbie, KC9AOR, moved that The Secretary's Report be approved as published in The Bandspread. Ray, K9DUR, seconded the motion. The motion carried. Don, K9DRP, distributed copies of The Treasurer's Report; the balance on hand is \$3,108.78 after paying for the bus. He reported that we have received 27 reservations for the Dayton bus; we need to have eight additional reservations in order to "break even." Don moved that the report be approved as presented; Steve, NT9T, seconded the motion; the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: (1) The meeting schedule was discussed. Gary, W9EEU, reported that we have a full slate of programs through the end of 2003. The plan for programs in the fall include "Live Line Demo" in September and "Home Brew" in October. (2) Repeater issues: Kevin, K9HX, reported that Ray received the paperwork for our coordination for the 146.685 frequency. Kevin will record an announcement on the repeater prior to Dayton week-end. He noted that we still need to order the crystals but we have the money budgeted for this. (3) APRS and TNC: Dave, N9YNF, planned to install the new digi today. (4) Club volunteers: Kevin announced that we still need someone to relieve Dave, N9YNF, as Public Service Event Chair. Dave, N9FMD, volunteered to assume that duty. Also needed is assistance with set-up and clean-up for the meetings and various events. Gary, W9EEU, will assist with coordination in that area. (5) Electronic distribution of The Bandspread: Ray reported that 24 people have signed up so far to receive The Bandspread electronically. For those who have signed up, the May issue was the last printed issue they will receive. There was discussion regarding how people can sign up for electronic distribution if they do not attend the Club meetings. It was decided that we should do an insert for the Bandspread to encourage people to sign up for the electronic Bandspread. They can send us an e-mail to sign up. The e-mail address will be included on the insert. (6) Generator repairs: Kevin had nothing to report at this time. He reported that John, N9YRX, has a generator available for loan for Field Day. Steve, NT9T, also has one available. Also available is a small one from the Red Cross and the small one that is on the ARES trailer. (7) B & W Antenna progress report by Steve, NT9T. (8) Field Day: Dave, N9FMD, had nothing new to report beyond what was reported to The Club on Friday evening. He said that he feels it is good to move the location periodically in order to simulate true emergency planning. This site is very visible. Dave has talked to two television stations regarding coverage. Kevin reported that

Chad offered to do a live remote spot. John, N9YRX, has a 14 foot weather balloon that will lift 58 pounds. As long as we notify flight services and limit the teather, Ray said we shouldn't have a problem with the balloon. (9) Vigo County Civil Defense Generator: Kevin hasn't been able to see the generator yet but will keep the Board posted as he receives additional information. (10) Tail Gate Party: Don, K9DRP, reported that all plans are in place. He will talk to Ron Diehl or send him a letter regarding our plans. Gary, W9EEU, volunteered to print flyers to advertise the Tail Gate Party. Don will design the flyer and send to Gary electronically. Steve will get two reams of paper to Gary tomorrow. **NEW BUSINESS:** (1) Club Picnic: Kevin announced that Gary and Pat Wheeler have volunteered to host the picnic. It was decided that the Board will provide the meat for the picnic and have a carry-in for the rest of the meal. Steve moved and Ray seconded the motion to accept the Wheeler's offer. Final details will be announced after confirming the date and time with the Wheelers. (2) Don requested that the Club sponsor more activities in the Illinois area to encourage their participation. In an eight county area, there are approximately 600 licensed hams. Our Club membership is approximately 15% of that. Ray will generate a list from the FCC of all licensed hams in our area; Don would like to see a list of those specifically in Edgar County. (3) Debbie requested that people advise either her or Natalie if a Club member or their family member is hospitalized or passes away so that the Club can send a card or flowers as appropriate. The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 P.M.

- Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR, Secretary



Last month's luncheon meeting of the QCWA was abruptly cancelled by a storm, so we'll try it again this Saturday, June 14, at 12:30 P.M., at the Comfort Food Company in the Plaza North shopping center.

On the docket will be the patches which have arrived and will be given out. As usual, we will eat jointly with the CAARLA group (see article, p. 4 of this issue). All amateurs and interested persons are welcome to participate.

The **Bandspread** is the official publication of the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. Organized around 1927, as a non-profit public service organization, it was affiliated with the ARRL on April 5, 1934.

Board Of Directors:

President	Kevin Berlen, K9HX
Vice-President	Gary Adams, W9EEU
Secretary	Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR
Treasurer	Don Pine, K9DRP
Trustee	Ray Andrews, K9DUR
Past President	Steve Shorter, NT9T
Member at Large	Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD

Bandspread Editor: Gary Wheeler, K9ERE

Bandspread Facilitator: Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD

Bandspread Circulation: Ray, K9DUR & Natalie, K9CAT, Andrews

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Or e-mail the Editor at: k9ere@earthlink.net

Or e-mail the Club at: w9uuu@arrrl.net

Or e-mail the Discussion Group at: wvara@mailman.qth.net

Also, see our web page at... <http://www.w9uuu.org>

Webmaster: David Pifer, N9YNF

The President's Corner

Well hello once again. Thinking back over the events of May all I can say is wow! It is difficult to remember a time when Amateur Radio in our area was busier than we were last month. As some of you know, we had several activations of Illiana Skywarn, the communications emergency at Bethesda Gardens, and the Triathlon. On each occasion Amateur Radio operators met the challenge presented and provided needed services to our community. I would like to personally thank each one who participated in these events. One of the primary reasons hams have the resources that we have is our willingness to do exactly what we did for our community last month.

Also last month, some of us went to Dayton for the Hamvention. The club again this year sponsored a Turner Coach to the event. We came very close this year to breaking even, and the shortfall was within what we had budgeted. I would like to thank John, N9YRX, and all the others who worked to help spread the word and get folks on the bus. Unfortunately the weather on Saturday this year was only fit for ducks, but there were good deals to be had inside.

Field Day is right around the corner. It is hard to believe that it is already upon us. As you know, this year we are going to a new location at the Cory, IN Community Center. This appears to be one of the best sites to operate Field Day from those we have been to. We have access to the modern restroom facilities in the community center and a very nice shelter to operate from. The club will sponsor a pitch-in dinner Saturday night featuring brats cooked by John, K9GBO. If you can't come out to help set up or operate, bring your favorite covered dish and join us for dinner.

I look forward to seeing you at the Club meeting and at Field Day.

Until then 73,

Kevin, K9HX

MAY TESTING RESULTS

While the tornado sirens were going off, we had the following results at the testing session in Marshall on May 10.

3 candidates upgraded to General
5 candidates earned Technician licenses (4 from same family)

In total 8 candidates were served (100% pass rate).

VE's assisting were: Ray Andrews, K9DUR;
Gary Adams, W9EEU; Howard Eads, K9HSE;
& Steve Shorter, NT9T.

73, Ray, K9DUR

WHO (OR WHAT) IS CAARLA?

CAARLA stands for Crossroads of America Amateur Radio Ladies Association and has been formed to meet the needs of the ladies in the amateur radio community. We have applied to become an affiliate of YLRL. Several members of CAARLA met on Sunday May 4 at the home of Pat Wheeler, KA9ALI for a get acquainted tea. I would like to take a moment to say a big "THANK YOU" to Pat for serving as such a gracious hostess. As with any group of hams, the areas of interest are as diverse as the ladies participating in the Club. The coming months promise to be exciting as we explore the many contributions we can make to the amateur community. Possibilities are numerous, from building projects, to participating in public service events, to fox hunts, to social activities (for which hams are famous!) to... (well, you get the idea)! Any female amateur (regardless of age) is welcome to join our group. Any interested non-ham or OM is also welcome to join as an associate member. We meet on the second Saturday of the month in conjunction with the QCWA meeting at 12:30 at the Comfort Food Company at Plaza North Shopping Center. We look forward to seeing YOU there on June 14. You and your ideas are WELCOME!
33. Debbie KC9AOR

THE BANDSPREAD ON THE WEB

The Bandspread is now available in an alternative form, via the Web. A significant number of members are already availing themselves of this feature. For those who have not, here are some reasons why this might be a consideration.

1. The Bandspread is available earlier on the Web, since there is no delay time for printing and snail mail delivery.
2. Pictures are in color. The printed version would cost too much to do this.
3. Pictures can be enlarged to their original sizes for easier viewing.
4. Occasionally, extra material that could not be included in the printed copy due to space or time constraints will be available on the Web version.
5. For those who want a printed copy, you need only go to the print command on your Acrobat reader and print out your own copy.
6. And last but not least, you save the Club money in that we don't have to pay any printing and mailing costs for your Web version Bandspread.

- Ed.

Severe WX - Cont'd from page 1

hams had donated more than 127 hours of labor to the project, including several all-night shifts manning the station and while another one listened all night from home in case a 911 call needed to be made.

Once again our local amateur radio community responded to the needs of the Wabash Valley by extending the helping hand of ham radio to meet their communications emergency.

Dave, N9FMD

Dayton - Cont'd from page 1

equipped to venture out amongst the endless stalls whose vendors were only too interested in providing a bargain. But if there were among us those who were so sweet that they feared dissolving in the spring precipitation, they could rest assured that there was a *veritable plethora* of things to do by remaining inside the arena all day; there was ample availability of food, drink, restrooms and places to sit and rest one's legs when the need arose, so the rain might only be a distant nuisance.

Contrary to the information in the Hamvention flier, there were no "restrictions" on luggage carts or backpacks. This was good because ours was full to overflowing by day's end.

Due to the inclement weather, however, there were those who eagerly wended their way back to the bus somewhat before the 4:30 deadline. Greatfully, we saw that the driver was there early and helped us load our goodies too.

John, N9YRX, our bus supervisor for the day, determined by count that we were all back by 4:00 which allowed us to depart for Shapiro's early!

Yes, Shapiro's is again open and doing a booming business. Since the fire was confined to the kitchen, there was no visible change either in the look of the dining area or the quality of the food. As usual, half the meal was more than enough and many of us took food home including yours truly who purchased a large sack of their delicious cookies.

Everyone has his favorite part of the trip, but the trip back, where one can play with his/her goodies and/or sleep, is our high point.

All in all, notwithstanding the rain, a good time was had by all. What more can one ask?

Club Treasures

Do you have old minutes, newsletters, pictures or documents stored away? The WVARA wants to recapture some of its history before it is all forgotten. Contact any Board member if you have anything which might help build our archive. BTW, we'd be happy to copy what you have and give it right back.

Changeover - Cont'd from page 1

1970's. The antenna system at WTWO was 20 years old and in bad condition. Originally club volunteers had installed the antennas, but due to changing insurance requirements, repairs would have to have been contracted to a commercial tower crew. This put the repair of the antenna system at WTWO beyond the club's budget. The CRS tower allowed us to move the repeater about 15 miles closer to town. Also, we were able to get the antenna and coax installed at the new site at no cost by the crew that was erecting the tower. When all of these factors were looked at it made good sense to relocate the system to the new site.

At the old site, we were 102 miles from another 146.850 repeater in Loda, IL. Moving to the CRS tower put us 88 miles from this system. Frequency coordinators today maintain 120 mile spacing between repeaters, but can usually be talked into accepting 100 mile spacing. 88 miles put us too close to the system in Loda to remain coordinated. The original coordination for the new site has been lost, and the repeater councils in both Indiana and Illinois could not and would not coordinate us for the "new" location again.

One option to get this behind us was to talk to the folks at Loda and see if they would agree to being short spaced with us. If we could secure their cooperation, then the repeater coordinators would grant us coordination. Late in 2002 we made contact with the trustee of the Loda system. N9FMD and I went to Champaign, IL, in December and had a meeting with Skip, K9UXC, and another member of their club. They would agree to our coordination at the "new" site, but asked for our help correcting an interference problem with our repeater. A number of their members had stopped using their system because they hear our system very well in a large portion of their intended coverage area.

After lengthy discussion, and discovering that a different frequency was available that could be coordinated at our present site, the decision was made to leave the current frequency in favor of 146.685 MHz. Being able to find a new frequency that would allow us to be coordinated at the current site is something that is most unusual. The 2-meter band is very congested and it is very difficult to find frequencies. This new frequency had been coordinated to Jeff Tucker, K9KIX for a system in Terre Haute that did not go on the air. When he learned of the problem we were having with our coordination he gladly made it available for our use. The closest repeater to us on the new frequency is in Springfield, IL, and is 120 miles away. A signed copy of our coordination for the new frequency will be kept in the club safe deposit box.

Thanks for all of the support and understanding that you have given the Board during this difficult process. Changing our repeater frequency that we have been on for 30 years is not something that anyone is happy about doing. However when everything is considered, it is the most logical choice. If you have any questions regarding this change please get in touch with me and I will be happy to answer them. 73,

Kevin, K9HX



Dave, N9YNF, sets up station at Bethesda.



Dave, N9FMD, is our legendary antenna specialist.



A power pole was destroyed here.



Trees here were twisted and topped along the road.

Here is a collection of pictures from the recent storm and another from Dayton. Photos Courtesy of N9YNF & N9YRX



Straight-line winds probably did this.



Your's truly and my 'ol buddy Bob, KC9UU

Amateur Radio: A Quiet But Valuable Community Resource

The recent storms and communications emergency demonstrated the ability of the amateur radio community to rise to local needs and be a valuable service. The coordination and execution of the two related events was well managed using our shared resources. As one not too much involved in the operations, I made some observations of the control and conduct of the activities which seemed to run smoothly. Having three net controllers for the weather net worked well. I monitored both the 25/85 and 444.35 repeaters and found that keeping track of both would be confusing for one person. It would be, in my opinion, difficult to do the work of three and have acceptable efficiency in handling information to and from the National Weather Service while keeping touch with the spotters in the field.

I have listened to severe weather nets while traveling through or visiting in several cities. I believe that our net compares favorably to the best of them. The one in Omaha was a lot more regimented and disciplined and at that time seemed not to have a radio link into NWS. Their corps of spotters were deployed to assigned posts upon watch conditions being declared and few reports were accepted from non-assigned spotters and the repeater was closed to all other traffic. On the other hand one in Georgia was so casual it was difficult to tell an organized net was in progress. They never mentioned passing anything along to the NWS in Atlanta.

We should all realize the service and assistance the amateur radio community provides for our families, our fellow hams and the our communities. It should motivate each of us licensed amateurs to prepare ourselves for whatever emergencies may arise. Provide short term emergency power (hours; be sure batteries are charged for H.T.s and base station) and longer term (days; generators and spare stabilized fuel and fused hook up provisions) for radios, lights, computers, etc. which may be needed along with power distribution and compatible connectors. Auxiliary, portable antennas with mounting bases, coax, connectors and adapters might be necessary if wind damages our more permanent installations. Be prepared to operate simplex if repeaters fail because of damage or interference.

We each should have our personal emergency plan to cover contingencies and support a broad amateur radio community emergency plan so all can anticipate operational alternatives and watch frequencies to call for and render assistance to our families, each other and the community.

Our survival and the Amateur Radio Service may depend upon how useful, versatile and indispensable we make ourselves in this era of many competing communications services. Others outside our group must also realize our value and wide availability to cover many types of communications modes and needs.

Ted Brentlinger, WB9QFE

Rev.May 03

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2003

Please complete this form and include your dues with it. You may return this application in person or mail to:

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 81
Terre Haute, IN 47808-0081

Name: _____ Call: _____ License Class _____ ARRL member?

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ - _____ E-mail address _____

Date of Birth (Mo/Dy/Yr) ____/____/____ Year first licensed _____ Year of last renewal _____

ARES member? QCWA? RACES member? MARS member? New member?

Please describe any employment or other special skills that might benefit Amateur Radio.

If you are applying for a family membership, please list below, the licensed family members living at home, that you wish to include.

Name: _____ Call: _____ License Class _____ ARRL member?

Name: _____ Call: _____ License Class _____ ARRL member?

Name: _____ Call: _____ License Class _____ ARRL member?

Add \$5 per family member above to the Single rate below. To include ARRL membership, see QST for amount.

Dues options: Single (\$20) Family: ARRL membership Total pmt: \$ _____

Note: 1. Payments made Sept. - Dec. apply to membership for the following year; 2. ARRL also has a family membership program. See QST.

Shorts



No, Not Right At Midnight!

For those of you who might want to be the first station to use the new frequency, Kevin assures me that he will NOT be poised at the stroke of midnight to "flip the switch" to convert the repeater to the new frequency of 146.685.

At some time on the 5th, he will journey out to the repeater and go through the process which will involve, among other things, changing the crystals and realigning the transmitter and other adjustments. This will probably take some time during which the repeater will be off the air entirely.

So sometime on the 5th, if you find no repeater response on either frequency, you'll know that the changeover is in progress. -Ed.

Summer Issue

Just a reminder that in the Summer, *The Bandspread* is printed only once, in a "Summer" edition, which will be published just prior to the Tailgate Party, or the week of July 13. - Ed.

Don't Forget Field Day!

This year it will be held at the Cory, IN, Community Center.

Setup begins 4:30 P.M. Friday, at the Red Cross garage. We then will caravan to Cory for setup.

A meal will be provided for those who show up at Cory to help set up Friday night. If you can't meet at the Red Cross for loading you can meet us at Cory shortly thereafter.

Talk-in will be on 146.85 and 146.595. Cory is on S.R 46, about half-way between Riley and the junction of S.R. 46 and S.R. 59. WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Final setup will take place on Saturday morning with ops commencing at 1 P.M. Saturday, continuing non stop for 24 hours, so we'll need overnight ops for Saturday night.

Don't forget the annual Saturday evening pitch-in featuring K9GBO on the brats. CU there! - Dave, N9FMD, F.D. Coordinator

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P.O. Box 81
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JUNE 2003

2003= year; NL= Newsletter only;
COMP= Complimentary Membership;
LIFE=Life Membership If there is no symbol showing on your mailing label, this is a one-time complimentary copy of The Bandspread. If so, we invite you to fill out the enclosed membership form to join the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association.

VE Testing

TERRE HAUTE: 1st Sunday of even-numbered months
1 PM local time
Red Cross Bldg.
700 S. 3rd St.
Terre Haute, Indiana

Further information may be obtained from Steve Shorter, NT9T, Terre Haute, IN., at (812) 232-4788 or nt9t@arrl.net

MARSHALL TESTING HAS BEEN CANCELLED FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

For further information, contact:
John Van Sandt, N9YRX (217) 826-8821
Ray Andrews, K9DUR (812) 535-3222

Aug 3 Terre Haute

