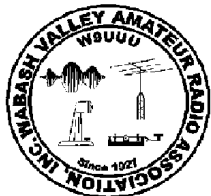


REGULAR EVENTS

Friday, NO GENERAL MEETING!
Aug 5 or 12
Saturday, Board Meeting, After the Meal, WV Amateur
Aug 13 Picnic (see article)
Every The Club Station is open, 7:00 - 9:00 PM,
Thursday Downstairs, Red Cross Bldg., 700 S. 3rd.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Picnic .. 13 Aug 05
Cory Apple Festival Special Events Station,
Cory, IN..... 24 Sept 05



THE

BANDSPREAD

Summer 2005



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

FCC: DROP CODE FROM ALL LICENSE CLASSES

FCC Proposes to Drop Morse Code Requirement for All License Classes (Jul 20, 2005) -- The FCC has proposed dropping the 5 WPM Morse code element as a requirement to obtain an Amateur Radio license of any class. The Commission recommended the change to its Part 97 Amateur Service rules in a *Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)* in WT Docket 05-235. Any rule changes proposed in the NPRM would *not* become final until the FCC gathers additional public comments, formally adopts any changes to its rules and concludes the proceeding by issuing a *Report and Order (R&O)* spelling out the changes and specifying an effective date. That's not likely to happen for several months. The FCC declined in its NPRM to go forward with any other suggested changes to Amateur Service licensing rules or operating privileges beyond elimination of the Morse requirement.

For further information, go to www.arrl.org

The Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Picnic

As always, there is *no* general meeting on the first Friday of August. Instead, the second *Saturday* of August is the annual picnic.

This year the WVARA Annual Picnic will become the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Picnic. All licensed radio amateurs from the area are invited to attend the yearly event, held at the home of Gary, K9ERE, and Pat,

KA9ALI, in Seelyville, on Saturday, August 13. (A talk-in will be held on 146.685 from 3:30 until 5:45.)

The event will begin with swimming from 3:30 'til around 5:45. The meat, provided by the WVARA board, goes on the grill at 6. Donations to help offset the cost of the meat will be gratefully accepted. Please bring a dish to pass and *your own lawn chairs*. There will be ice tea and lemonade available - also coffee, if it's cool enough. If you wish, bring your own soft drinks.

Swimming may continue after the meal as well. The pool is lighted.

Clubs may hold meetings if they wish. So far we know that the QCWA will have a brief meeting at 5 PM and the WVARA board will meet after the meal.

Again, *all* area hams are invited. CU There! -ed.

Field Day 2005 Point Results

We scored 3,792 QSO points. That's after taking into consideration all multipliers. We had a total of 1388 QSO's. That's a bunch of QSO's. We had 880 phone QSO's and 508 CW QSO's.

The band with the most QSO's was 40 meter phone with 450 QSO's. Having a 40 meter beam might have had something to do with that.

We scored 1990 bonus points. Our total score is 5,782 points. Here's the data from years past to compare.

Year Score QSO's

2005	5,782	1388
2004	5,316	1,319
2003	4,102	1,028
2002	3,848	944
2001	2,718	585
2000	1,712	404
1999	2,496	581
1998	1,420	349
1997	2,436	612

So, once again it was the best Field Day ever.

Thanks,

Jim, WD9EYB

LOCAL NETS

Wednesday Evening	9:00 pm CT
Clark Co. ARES Net	146.520/S
Thursday Evening	9:00 pm ET
CAARLA Net	146.685/R
Sunday Morning	8:20 am ET
Vigo Co. ARES Net	146.685/R
Sunday Evening	9:00 pm ET
WVARA Net	146.685/R*

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



General Meeting Minutes 06/03/05

The June 3, 2005 meeting of the WVARA was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Club President Gary Adams. Following the Pledge of Allegiance led by Kevin K9HX, introductions were made. It was announced that Melanie Cloutier KC9JMC has upgraded to General; congratulations were given.

Announcements: (1) The next Board meeting will be June 6 @ 6:30 at Glas-col.; talk-in will be on 146.595 (2) Field day T-shirts with name and call sign are \$9 (S-XL), \$10 (XXL-XXXL). June 10 is the deadline. Money is to be turned in to Chuck W9COD; your payment is required for the order to be complete (3) CAARLA/QCWA meetings will be held June 11 at the Illiana Skywarn yard sale. Lunch will be "bring your own item to grill" and a dish to pass. Items for sale should be brought to Dave N9YNF's Friday evening if possible. Clothing will be sold in categories, unless otherwise marked. (4) VE testing will be Sunday at the Red Cross at 1:00 p.m. Testing will also be held at the Field Day site Saturday, June 25 at 2:30 pm. (5) Extra License Upgrade class beginning Tuesday at Corporate Square: 6:30 for Code, 7:00 for class. See Jim WD9EYB for details. (6) Field Day will be June 24-26. Set up will be Friday evening and Saturday morning. (7) There will be a Fox Hunt Sunday at 2:00 P.M. at Hawthorne Park. (8) Pagers were discussed. The cost will be \$10 and orders are being taken at this time. Debbie KC9AOR moved that the Secretary's Report be approved as published in *The Bandspread*; Ray K9DUR seconded the motion and the motion carried. Gary W9EEU presented the Treasurer's Report and moved that it be approved; Steve NT9T seconded the motion and the motion carried. Old Business: (1) Digipeater - Kevin K9HX reported that all parts have been ordered and will hopefully be on the air by Field Day. (2) Bison Stampede - Ray K9DUR reported that there have been many comments on the Reflector with compliments on the process. Of 200+ stations, 93 have requested certificates. Dave N9FMD announced that he is missing two 50 foot orange extension cords. (3) The possibility of a special event station was discussed for the Covered Bridge Festival was discussed. (4) The Jay Leno clip showing the Morse Code competition with text messaging was shown. Following the break/half-pot drawing, the program on Field Day plans and logging refresher was presented.

- Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter KC9AOR, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes 06/06/05

The June 6, 2005, WVARA Board Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Club President Gary Adams, W9EEU. Also present were Past President Kevin Berlen, K9HX; Trustee, Dave Pifer, N9YNF; Past President, Steve Shorter, NT9T; Secretary, Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR; Vice President, Don Pine, K9DRP and guests Jim Osburn, WD9EYB, and Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD. Announcements: (1) Jim, WD9EYB, won the fox hunt yesterday. Secretary's Report: Debbie KC9AOR moved that it be approved as published in *The Bandspread*; Kevin seconded the motion and the motion carried. In Chuck's absence, Kevin moved that the Treasurer's Report be app-

proved as presented with a balance in all accounts of \$4,917.85; Dave, N9YNF, seconded the motion and the motion carried. Old Business: (1) Packet Digipeater: Kevin reported that the duplexer is on its way and should be up and running by Field Day. (2) Field Day Planning: Gary, W9EEU, will be serving a pancake breakfast on Sunday at 8:00 a.m. We will have a weather balloon for 160 meters. Plans are to meet at the Red Cross to load up on Friday afternoon. Operating PSK was discussed. (3) Club name badges were discussed. They will be blue with the ARRL logo on the badge with Wabash Valley ARA, name and call sign. Dave, N9YNF, moved to spend up to \$200 to order the badges for those who meet the attendance criteria and for life members. Badges will be delivered at the meeting. Kevin K9HX seconded the motion and it carried. Badges will be ordered two times a year. Club members can also order from the vendor. New Business: (1) Meeting programs were discussed. Future topics include propagation, traffic handling, and equipment auction. (2) August 13 will be the combined picnic and pool party. This will be open to all Wabash Valley Amateur Radio operators. Board members will pay for the meat and we'll have a carry in. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

-Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter KC9AOR, Secretary.

Board Meeting Minutes 07/11/05

The July 11, 2005 W.V.A.R.A. Board meeting was called to order at 6:11 p.m. by Club President Gary Adams W9EEU. Also present were Trustee, Dave Pifer, N9YNF; Past President, Kevin Berlen, K9HX; Vice President, Don Pine, K9DRP; Treasurer, Chuck Procarione, W9COD; Secretary, Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR and guests Jim Osburn, WD9EYB and Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD. Debbie moved that the Secretary's Report be approved as e-mailed to the Board; Dave N9YNF seconded the motion and it carried. The Treasurer's Report was presented by Chuck who reported a balance in all accounts of \$4,510.99; the only outstanding bills are the \$50 hall rental for Field Day and our Club insurance. Chuck moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved as presented. Dave, N9YNF, seconded the motion and the motion carried. Announcements: (1) Jim announced that the Eastside Outdoor Ham Club earned the top score in Indiana in the Hoot Owl Sprint. He also reported that the WVARA earned 1,950 bonus points during Field Day. Old Business: (1) Packet Digi report by Kevin: He reported having a problem with the TNC. He should be able to fix it this week. He has all the necessary hardware. (2) Club name badges have been purchased. New Business: (1) Field Day Recap/Planning was discussed. There was discussion regarding beginning tear-down at 11:00 a.m. Sunday, interference between phone and CW stations, maybe changing the main meal time to noon on Saturday to encourage more continuous operation of stations, PSK, power supplies and operation as 8A. Location for next years' Field Day was also discussed. (2) Dave announced that we will be hosting a special event station for the Cory Apple Festival on September 24, 2005. We will try to set up on the north end of the basketball court. We will need at least two people at all times, one to work



the radio and one to talk to people about what we are doing. Also, Family Learning Day at the Vigo County Library will be the same Saturday morning. (3) Santa at the Mall was discussed. Since the QCWA/CAARLA meetings will be December 10, the 17th would be the best day for us to have the event. Kevin will check with Chad to see if that date is available. (4) Dave, N9YNF, discussed the Club Auction and the Club inventory purge. He said that we would provide a list of Club inventory with items for disposal circled. These will be sold in December. Dave is to get a current list to Chuck for insurance purposes. The Club inventory is to be published in the September issue of *The Bandspread*. It was suggested that we include pictures of some of the items for sale. (5) Dave, N9YNF, presented information regarding the NIM system. In order for the Club to be allowed to assist in emergencies, the members participating must be FEMA certified by October 1, 2005. There is an on-line course for certification. We must have NIMS certification to be approved as a responder in an emergency or disaster. He included the information about the on-line course in an e-mail. More information will follow. (6) Club picnic was discussed. It will again be a carry-in with the Board providing the meat. (7) Dayton bus reservation is due by August. Steve NT9T will follow up on this. (8) Chuck said that he would like to see the Club participate in more operating events and contests. This was discussed and we'll be open to additional events as they come up. (9) An amateur radio antenna has been installed at Union Hospital; Regional is also working on getting one up. (10) Club meeting programs were discussed. Ted, K9SGL, will do one on Propagation in September. (11) The August Board meeting will be held at the Club Picnic. (12) The Club Christmas party was discussed. It will again be a carry-in with the Club providing the meat. It will be in the Gathering Room (the large room on the main level) at World Gospel Church December 10, if that date is available. Dave, N9YNF, will make the reservations. There being no further business, Kevin moved and Chuck seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

- Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter KC9AOR, Secretary

The MonstIR Antenna



One of this year's featured attractions at Field Day was the MonstIR by SteppIR™ <www.steppir.com>. As its name implies, it is nothing less than a "Monster" antenna and tower system.

Provided by Joe and Melanie Clotier, it was an imposing addition to the landscape at the Cory Field Day site. (See accompanying pictures.)

Mounted on its own trailer - nothing else is big enough to carry it - it is truly the largest multi-band ham antenna yours truly has ever seen "in the flesh."

It provides 3 Elements on 40M and 30M, 4 Elements on 20M, 17M, 15M, 12M and 10M and 6 Elements on 6M. Unlike most antennas which are "tricked" into thinking that they are different lengths by the use of traps or inductive matching devices, this antenna really IS all these different antennas rolled into one; a monobander on every band - no mean feat!

Weighing in at 215 lb, its longest element is 70 feet on a 34 ft. boom. All this sits on a trailer equipped with its own telescoping tower and built-in generator, all on top of a dual-axle chassis built to hold it all.

Joe told me that he and Melanie wanted to provide a meaningful addition to the WVARA Field Day effort and they certainly did!

See more pictures, next page.

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	Gary Adams, W9EEU
Vice-President	Don Pine, K9DRP
Secretary	Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR
Treasurer	Chuck Procarione, W9COD
Trustee	David Pifer, N9YNF
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Past President	Steve Shorter, NT9T

Bandspread Editor: Gary Wheeler, K9ERE

Bandspread Facilitator: Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD

Bandspread Circulation: David & Mary Pifer, N9YNF & KB9NLJ

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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



VE Testing

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

For further information, contact Steve
Shorter, NT9T, Terre Haute, IN., at
(812) 232-4788 or nt9t@arrl.net

MARSHALL: 2nd Saturday
of odd-numbered months

8:30 AM Illinois time
1st Christian Church
902 N. 6th Street
Marshall, IL 62441
- Walk-Ins Welcome -

For further information, contact
John Van Sandt, N9YRX (217) 826-8821

Sep 10 Marshall

Oct 2 Terre Haute

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SUMMER 2005

2005= 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 join the
Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association
in September. Your membership will
include the rest of this year plus all of 2006.