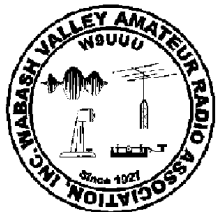


REGULAR EVENTS

Friday
Sep. 5 General Meeting: 7:00 P.M., 1st Friday of Mo.
7th & Idaho, just south of the Main Glas-Col
building. Talk-in - 146.685 RPT; PL 151.4
The Board meeting immediately follows the
General meeting. Visitors are welcome.
Every
Thursday The Club Station is open, 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.,
Downstairs, Red Cross Bldg., 700 S. 3rd.

SPECIAL EVENTS

EOHC Annual Foxhunt and Picnic Oct 12
Covered Bridge Special Event Oct 10-19
Illinois QSO Party Oct 19
Peoria Superfest Oct 20-21



THE

BANDSPREAD

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION INC.

SEPTEMBER 2008



June Flood Ravages Wabash Valley

This has been a very eventful summer, meteorologically speaking, for many parts of our country. From Cedar Rapids to Des Moines to the towns lining the upper Mississippi River to our very own Wabash Valley, flooding created a lot of misery for thousands of families. For many nights we were glued to our TVs or computers watching first hand video and audio coverage by reporters who got very little sleep.

Also getting very little sleep were the many amateurs in those areas who were members of Skywarn, ARES and just individual hams who heard that help was needed for sandbagging or evacuation and just showed up to give of their time and effort to help make others' lives a little bit better.

Here in the Wabash Valley, the airwaves were full of emergency communications, dispatching help where it was most needed.

Following are a couple of stories submitted by a couple of those individuals.

I remember waking up Saturday June 7th, thinking that I would sneak out early and grab some breakfast. That didn't happen. I remember turning on the 2 meter and talking with David, NT9I and Dan, W9OOT. We were talking about the creek being up. And in a very short amount of time, things got worse! The creek turned to a raging river, destroying things in its path, as the area known as Toad-hop was quickly being engulfed in water.



L-R Dave, WT9I, Jerry, W9TWR and Dave, KC9JNZ

Meanwhile, areas on the south side of town had rivers running through homes.

I was only made ARES EC for Vigo county a few days earlier, so I thought I should give Dave Pifer, N9YNF, a buzz and maybe get some quick advice but Dave was out of town. So I winged it. And an ARES emergency net was called. Keith WA9DRO, and Gary, K9ERE, both very skillfully handled the Net as Net controls, and I really was impressed

Cont'd, see **June Flood, p. 2**

This Month's Program

Jeff Tucker, W9TLT, will give a presentation on the shift from analog to digital television scheduled for next February.

Did We hear You Say...

Did we hear you say you would like more operating events for the Club? Well here is one to dig your rig into. The WVARA is hosting special events stations for the Parke County Covered Bridge Festival. Go poke around on the Club web site to see the details:

(<http://www.w9uuu.org/bulletins.html>).

The possibilities are endless for your operating pleasure. You do not have to be on site at a bridge for operating. You can operate from your home. You can also set up in groups at a park, maybe in someone's back yard or maybe you like to operate specific times, like late at night, afternoon, or early morning. You must be on the list before you can operate under these special event call signs and you must keep a log to be submitted to me by Oct. 30, 2008.

Don't want to operate SSB? That's OK. Just stay within the General portion of the band and operate CW, PSK 31, SSTV, RTTY, or any other mode available. Cont'd, see **Did We Hear, p. 2**

Local Nets

Tuesday Evening	8:00 P.M. ET
Parke Co. Em. Svs. Net	146.745/R
Wednesday Evening	9:00 P.M. CT
Clark Co. ARES Net	146.520/S
Thursday Evening	9:00 P.M. ET
CAARLA Net	146.685/R
Sunday Morning	8:20 A.M. ET
Vigo Co. ARES NET	146.685/R
Sunday Evening	9:00 P.M. ET
WVARA Net	146.685/R*

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

June Flood Cont'd from p. 1

with just how many amateurs came out of the woodwork! Ginger, WB9ZHC and Dan, W9OOT, headed to the Red Cross building to help start setting up communications there while John, N9YRX, David, WT9I, Dave, KC9JNZ and many others (too many to name!) helped relay traffic, flood and weather reports, sand-bag needs, rescue information, and so much more. All the while all members of Skywarn stepped up and joined in. We had communications set up at the Red Cross shelter at North High, as well as amateurs volunteering for other Red Cross needs. We had a station set-up at the Vigo county EMA office, and worked with them, again with help from the guys and gals of Skywarn.

In summing everything up, so as not to ramble on, the flood was a very bad time for many, including several of our own amateurs and families. But with everyone working together, as well as they did, with communications set up and maintained as well as they were, We did a FANTASTIC job, and should all applaud each other. It was an honor to work with each and every one of you!

Jerry Boling, W9TWR
Assistant ARES EC for Vigo County

Wabash Valley ARES members once again "answered the call", when June floods forced many local residents out of their homes and set in motion various local disaster plans and operations.

Local Red Cross officials discovered the (lack of) value in their dependence upon cell phones for emergency communications, and ARES members were on hand to solve their problem. The problem became particularly acute when they began setting up an emergency shelter at North High School. Cell phone service was available in the area of the school, but quickly became overloaded and unreliable.

Local hams, led by N9YRX and N9FMD, set up a temporary VHF station inside the shelter and established communications with WVARA club station, W9UUU, in the basement of the Red Cross building. That operation, led by NT9T, worked well into the night providing reliable, instant communications between Red Cross workers in the field and their headquarters.

Local hams should use the example to ask themselves basic questions about their participation in emergency operations. One of the most important steps is the inventory process: we should ask ourselves what equipment do we have easily available to take somewhere, easily and quickly set up and leave for several days on a "right now" time schedule. Where is that extra antenna, power supply, fuses, extra cable, etc. that could be moved today? Is that extra radio ready to go, and can the next guy figure out how to work it while we take a nap?

We will be called upon again, maybe tomorrow, to provide these services to the community. Today is when we should get ready for that call.

Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD

Did We Hear... cont'd from page 1

able. Just send me the frequency, mode and times you will operate under these call signs. You will be added to the above website and you can confirm, view others and watch the fun develop.

The special event operating hours are open 24/7 from Oct 10th till Oct 19th. There is no excuse for not operating individually or in a group of your choosing. Just ask others and form your own group. Sign up by sending me your operating times, mode and frequencies at <mailto:n9yrx@hotmail.com>.

This event is listed here:

<http://www.arrrl.org/contests/spev.html#oct> and will be published in QST next month so it has a lot of visibility in the ham community. We need to make a good showing.

Don't know how to operate a special events station? Listen to others that are listed on the website:

<http://www.arrrl.org/contests/spev.html#oct> It's a lot of fun to cause a pileup. Just work the stations you hear the loudest and work your way down to the weak ones. Don't have a good station? Call Ginger, WB9ZHC, she may open the Club station at your request.

Don't want to operate alone? Get a group together and work different bands at the festival or a park or in someone's back yard. Fire up generators, the BBQ grill, experiment with different antennas, get non-WVARA involved and work as a team. The possibilities are endless.

Go have some fun.

73

John Van Sandt, N9YRX

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	Ginger Downing, WB9ZHC
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Bandspread Printing:	Gary Adams, W9EEU
eBandspread Posting:	David Pifer, N9YNF

Submissions: e-mail the editor at k9ere@earthlink.net or mail to P.O. Box 81, Terre Haute, IN 47808-0081

Contact our Webmaster, David Pifer, N9YNF n9ynf@arrrl.net to join our **listserv** or if you have a problem receiving the **eBandspread**.

Sunday Night Net Manager, Kay Brentlinger, KW0LF

WVARA SECOND QUARTER REPORT

Checking Account (4/15/08 through 7/15/08)

<u>Income</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Brentlinger Diner	\$365.50
50/50 Pot	\$21.50
Hamfest Tickets	\$15.00
Dayton Bus Tickets	\$180.00
Dayton Bus Tickets	\$215.00
Membership	\$210.00
Dayton Bus Tickets	\$522.00
FD Tee Shirts	\$180.00
Technician Books	\$20.00
50/50 Pot	\$18.50
Estate Sale	\$390.00
Allen Hannaford Memorial	\$350.00
<u>Total Income</u>	<u>\$2,487.50</u>
<u>Expenses</u>	
FT950 Radio	\$1,329.95
Dayton Bus Fee	\$1,312.64
Gap Antenna	\$400.00
Business Entity Fee	\$7.14
Technician Books	\$149.68
Awards Plaques	\$99.64
Equipment from Estate	\$1,570.00
ARES Trailer	\$2,000.00
Technician Books	\$93.55
FD Tee Shirts	\$283.00
FD Food / Supplies	\$155.50
FD Balloon	\$76.38
FD Door Prize	\$25.94
FD Food / Supplies	\$96.14
Dayton Bus Deposit (2009)	\$100.00
FD BSA Troop 339	\$125.00
One Half Estate Sale	\$195.00
ARES Trailer Misc	\$358.83
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>\$8,378.39</u>
1st Quarter Balance	\$6,671.43
2nd Quarter Balance	-\$5,890.89
<u>Checking Amount Total</u>	<u>\$780.54</u>
	<u>(Money Market Account)</u>
Beginning Balance 1st Quarter	\$7,306.10
Interest Earned 2nd Quarter	\$45.93
<u>Money Market Total</u>	<u>\$7,352.03</u>
<u>Combined Second Quarter Total</u>	<u>\$8,132.57</u>

Flooding at International Village

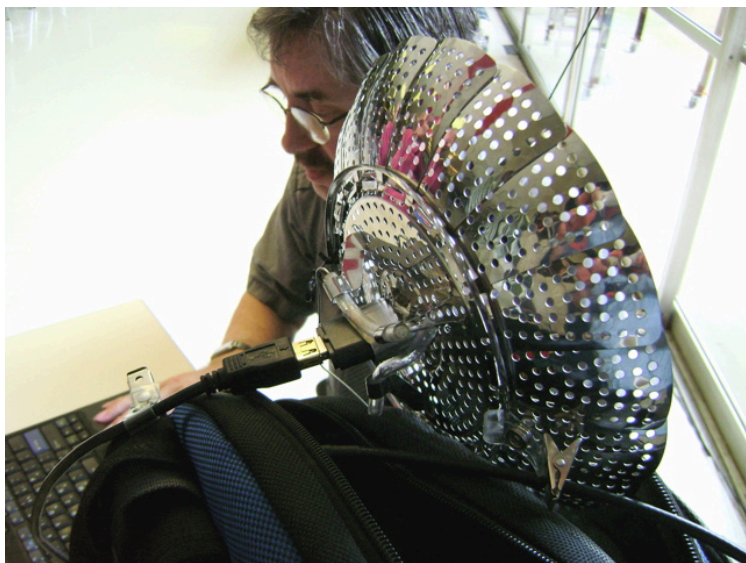


↖ ⬆ Jerry, W9TWR, and Dave, WT9I gettin wet! ↘



Amidst rising waters, amateurs and non-amateurs alike pitch in to try to save people's homes and property.

-Photos courtesy John, N9YRX



Jerry, WT9I, John, N9YRX and Dave, KC9JNZ pitch in to assist at the Red Cross shelter.

Red Cross Shelter Continued



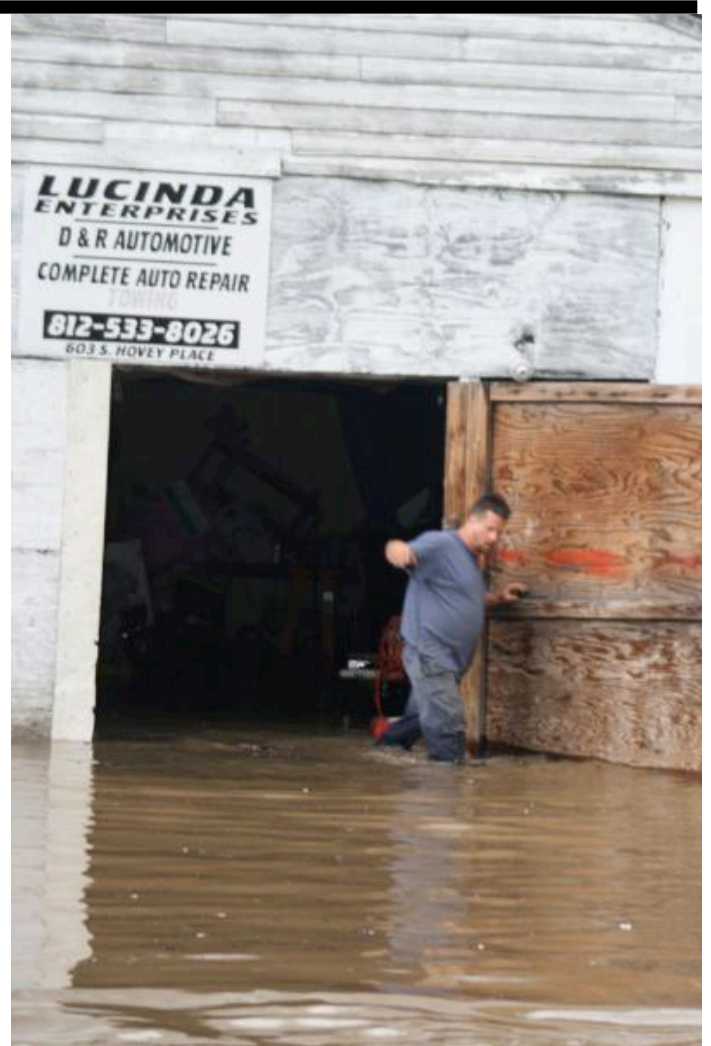
Alicia, KC9FSL & Andrea, KC9FPN, provide music and help serve food at the shelter.



Angie Hudgens, KC9FVA and Dave Hudgens, WT9I



Photos, courtesy Suzie, KB9BLH

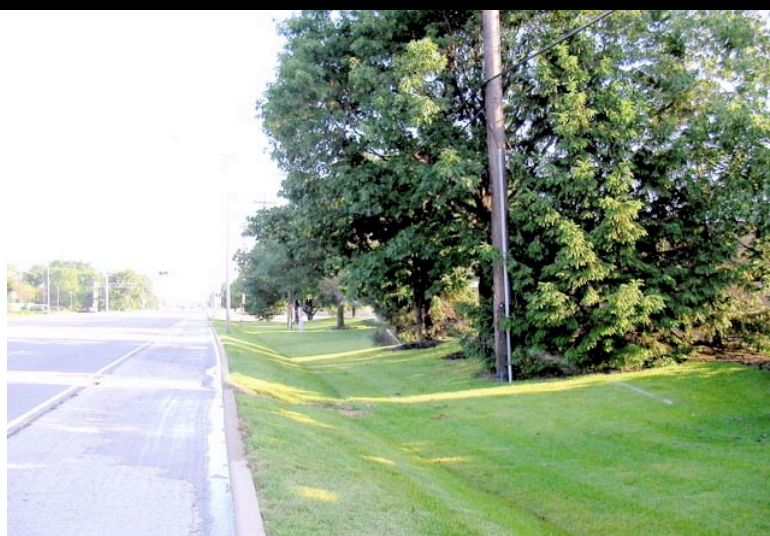


Bill, KC9KJQ, and Cindy, KC9NCU, experienced the flood “up close and personally”. They are still recovering.





Dave, WT9I, really got around that day. Here he is at the Club Station. Notice the water line!
-Photo courtesy Ginger, WB9ZHC



Look verrrrrrrry closely in the grass, far right. During all the flooding, DADC continued watering their grass. -Photo courtesy John, KB9QBW.

As far as we can tell, this article, submitted in late June of last year, never made it to *The Bandspread*. We came across it and felt it was still timely, so here it is. And yes, the link is still good. —ed.

An SSB QRP Kit

by Jim Osburn, WD9EYB

There are plenty of QRP kits available for CW, which may keep some from considering building one. But now there's a QRP kit available that does SSB. I built one, I enjoyed assembling it, and it works great. The photo shows what my completed kit looks like. (picture attached to email)

First let me say a few words about operating QRP - low power that is. It works a lot better than some might think. I recently worked a station in Tennessee with my little kit rig and I received a 59 signal report. "You're booming in here." he said. My little kit rig only runs 4 watts output.

The important thing to have, even if you're not running QRP, is a good antenna. I'm using a full size quarter wave vertical with my little kit rig. It's 33 feet tall but it's also very portable. It's wire supported by one of those MFJ collapsible masts and four 33 foot long radials. A U-channel fence post I bought at Rural King holds it up.

Anyway, the kit is the MMR-40 SSB/CW transceiver from [qrpkits.com](http://www.qrpkits.com). You can get detailed information on the kit at <http://www.qrpkits.com/mmr40.html> The MMR stands for "multi-mode rig" and the 40 indicates that it's for the 40 meter band. It's primarily a SSB/CW transceiver but it can be used for digital modes if transmissions are kept short.

The kit isn't difficult to put together but it's probably not a kit for a beginner. There's a circuit board to which the parts are soldered. There are 6 integrated circuits, 14 transistors including the output final, 3 toroidal coils, 3 IF cans, 5 crystals and a bunch of resistors and capacitors. All connectors mount to the board so there's no internal wiring except for the speaker.

The rig has a clever permeability tuned oscillator for the VFO. If you remember good old Collins, Drake, and other rigs with a PTO you probably remember a rig with a good stable oscillator and the MMR-40 has that. What's clever about the PTO is it's made from a No. 6 nylon spacer, 3 brass nuts, and a brass screw. You get to wind the PTO coil but it's not hard.

There are no surface mount components in the kit. All of the parts are normal size through-hole parts. You don't need your super high power magnifier to put this rig together but it always helps to have some magnification.

You have to drill the holes in the cabinet, which is included. Drilling templates are available and if you stick it to the plastic cabinet and drill carefully you'll do just fine.

You also have to label the front panel. I originally made my front panel blue just like the rig picture on the web page but I got some "constructive" comments about it. I came up with a nice design, printed it on photo paper and stuck it on with double sided tape. I put some transparent tape over it to protect it.

Test and tune up went off without a hitch. I did have to remove some turns from the PTO coil and touch up some solder joints though. I've got a scope and a frequency counter but the instructions are written so all need is a voltmeter and another receiver.

So far I'm very pleased with my rig. I think if you were to build one and use it you would be pleased with it too. There's a very good feeling of satisfaction to complete a QSO with a rig you built yourself.

The rig is available from [qrpkits.com](http://www.qrpkits.com) and the cost is \$110.00 including shipping. Follow the link and get your kit ordered.



Clinton Hospital Now Has Emergency Communication

West Central Community Hospital in Clinton has now joined the ranks of local Vigo County hospitals taking steps to make it easier for us to help them manage a disaster. August 21st saw K9KSA and N9FMD install a dual-band VHF/UHF ham antenna on the roof above the emergency room.

The antenna, a Comet GP-3, is mounted on the roof, with cable fed to a small office near the Emergency room. That cable is coiled and stored above a suspended ceiling tile in the ER area and is ready for immediate use. The hospital also owns an Icom dual-band radio and power supply, which is also stored near the ER.

When the system was ready for initial testing, hospital staff and management were impressed with the quality of the signal, when the ER communicated with K9ERE and WA9DRO. Signal reports indicated the station, operating on 5 watts, was nearly full quieting on the repeater input. Tests also confirmed that no interference was noted to or from existing VHF radio equipment (IHERN) already operational in the ER.

Both Union Hospital and Regional Hospital have similar amateur radio equipment installed in their emergency rooms, although those hospitals do not yet own radios or power supplies. Pre-positioning equipment at sites such as these means that we will not have to locate or install radio equipment to benefit the hospital during a disaster. A communications team sent to the site could easily be on the air in 15 minutes or less.

This project continues to be successful because hospitals and other critical sites have seen the value ham radio can bring to the table, and they like what they see. They don't mind spending a small amount of money to make it easier for us to help them.

Dave, N9FMD

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2009

Please complete this form and include it with your dues. 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 WVARA membership _____ New Member? ☐

ARES member? ☐ QCWA member? ☐ RACES member? ☐

This newsletter will come to you by e-mail in .pdf format unless you specifically request a paper copy below. We encourage you to choose the electronic version because: 1. It costs the Club less to produce and deliver it; and 2. In the electronic version, the pictures are in color and it arrives earlier! Of course, you can still make a paper copy of it on your printer, if you wish.

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? ☐

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

Dues options: Single (\$20) Family (Single + \$5 per family member) Add 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 as well. See QST.

*Club gets a rebate from the ARRL!



The President's Corner

This issue of the Bandspread is dedicated to the events of the flooding that took place in the Wabash Valley just a few short weeks ago. Some reports suggest that we can mark this on our calendars as the 100-year flood. I know that in my time I have not witnessed anything like what happened to our area.

As you look at this issue of the Bandspread and reflect on the events that took place during early June, I believe that two things are evident. One is that the Wabash Valley is not exempt from disaster situations. The second is that when something does happen in the Wabash Valley, the area hams are quick to respond and provide assistance that is second to none. It becomes evident that planning has occurred, simulated emergency response exercises have taken place, and as much as possible we are ready to respond as needed. One can take pride in being a part of ham radio in the Wabash Valley!! 73, Gary W9EEU



Hello All,
I Installed my new AN wireless tower, 90FT tall.
73, Jerry, N9WQP



If you're grumbling about the heat right now, just remember, this is not far away. - ed.

THE BANDSPREAD - Official Publication of
The Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 81
Terre Haute, IN 47808-0081



September 2008

2008= 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, INDIANA:

1st Sunday of even-numbered months;

1 P.M., Indiana time

**Glas-Col Annex,
at 7th & Idaho (use east entrance)**

For further info, contact:

Ray Andrews, K9DUR, (812) 535-3222

PARIS, ILLINOIS:

2nd Saturday of...

Jan., May, Jul., Sep., Nov;

8:30 A.M. Illinois time

Burkybile Law Office

15175 U.S. Highway 150

For further info, contact:

Terry Hackett, KB9ZVA, (217) 465-4884

WALK-INS WELCOME!

September 13 PARIS

October 5 TERRE HAUTE