

REGULAR EVENTS

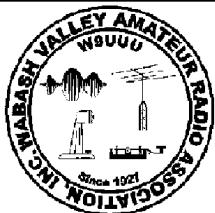
Friday
Nov 7

General Meeting: 7:00 P.M., 1st Friday of Mo.
1715 S. 8th St., just east 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.



THE

BANDSPREAD

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION INC.

NOVEMBER 2008



BUSY MONTH FOR VALLEY AMATEURS!

S.E.T.

On Oct 4, in conjunction with Illiana Skywarn, local EOC's and local hospitals, Vigo County ARES, under our new EC, Dave Hudgens, WT9I, carried out its part in the nationwide Simulated Emergency Test (S.E.T.) sponsored by the ARRL.

The purposes of this test were to 1) Test communications between local hospitals and other served agencies located in Vigo County and surrounding counties via Amateur Radio. 2) Make contacts with served agencies and develop understandings of our capabilities. 3) Use this opportunity to become familiar with the layout of the facilities and location of possible Amateur Radio temporary or permanent setups.

The scenario began with Skywarn calling a simulated severe weather net. Under the scenario, severe weather has destroyed existing landline, cellular communications power and roads. Amateur Radio was, of course, left to take up the slack.

The proposed locations and assigned personnel for this exercise were:

Vigo Co. EMA office - Dave, WT9I
Union Hospital - Dave, KC9JNZ
Regional Hospital - Trey, W0KTB
Cork Medical - N9YRX
Vigo Co. Fairgrounds-W9TWR & N9NJ
Terre Haute Red Cross - Dan, W9OOT
Brazil - Delbert, KC9DRR
Hulman Field - Alex, KC9NYM
Vermillion Co. EOC-Kirt Lowry, K9KSA
Clinton Hospital - Dave, N9FMD
Sullivan Co. Hospital
Green Co. EOC

Not all locations were ultimately covered and not all that were covered sent photos to us for publication.

For photos, see p. 3

J.O.T.A.

Since 1958, the JOTA has been an annual event in which Scouts and Guides all over the world speak to each other by means of amateur radio contacts. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared, via the radio waves.

When Scouts want to meet young people from another country they usually think of attending a World Jamboree or another international gathering. But few people realize that each year about half-a-million Scouts and Guides "get together" over the airwaves for the annual Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA). Modern communication technology offers Scouts the exciting opportunity to make friends in other countries without even leaving home... Scouts also receive JOTA merit badges for their participation.

This year, JOTA was October 18. For our local participation this year, John, N9YRX, organized an event at Rose Hulman Institute. Power was furnished via a generator. Part of the learning experience for them was helping to set up a station and stringing wire.

There were VHF and HF contacts made that enabled the scouts to get some of their requirements toward a merit badge."

For photos, see p. 6

I.L.Q.P.

The Illinois QSO Party is an 8-hour event, usually held on the third Sunday in October. The event is open to all amateur radio operators. The event uses 160 meters through 2 meters. CW contacts count 2 points each, while Phone contacts count 1 point each. Stations are divided into two groups: Illinois stations and non-Illinois stations. Stations inside IL try to work IL counties, states, and countries as multipliers. Stations outside IL try to work IL counties as multipliers. IL stations are further divided into fixed, mobile, or portable.

This year, a group from the WVARA comprised of both Indiana and Illinois member went to a shelter in Lincoln Trail State Park on Sunday, October 19.



For more photos, see p. 4

This Month's Program

OUR ANNUAL HOMEBREW NIGHT

SPECIAL EVENTS

DEUCES WILD DUATHLON, LINCOLN TRAIL ... Nov 1

YEARLY WVARA BOARD ELECTION -
REGULAR DECEMBER CLUB MEETING Dec 5

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



General Meeting Minutes 10/03/08

The October meeting of the WVARA was called to order by President Gary Adams, W9EEU, at 7:05 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chuck Procarione, W9COD. Those present introduced themselves. There were no new hams in attendance. **Announcements:** (1) CAARLA will meet at noon on Saturday, October 11 at the World Gospel Church. Bring a sack lunch. (2) The QCWA will meet at noon for lunch followed by their meeting at Pizza City on Saturday, October 11. (3) There will be VE testing at the GlasCol Building on Sunday, October 5 at 1:00 P.M. (4) The EOHC will have a foxhunt and picnic at Lincoln Trail State Park in Marshall, IL on Sunday, October 12. (5) The Covered Bridge Special Event needs operators. (6) The ILQP will be held October 19 at Lincoln Trail State Park. (7) The Deuces Wild Duathlon will be held November 1 at Lincoln Trail State Park beginning at 9:00 A.M. Illinois time. (8) Ron Young, AB9GI showed club members examples of the club logo as it would appear on a jacket. The emblem is from B & B Embroidery. Interested members were ask to contact Ron if interested in ordering. (9) The JOTA will be held October 18 at Rose-Hulman beginning at 9:00 A.M. The Indianapolis Scouts will be present. (10) A thank you letter has been sent to all donors of the Al Hannaford, N9ZRH Memorial. (11) The nominating committee has been formed. Let them know if you are interested in a position. (12) Next month is Homebrew. (13) There is interest in a General Class. If interested contact Gary Adams or Ron Young. **Secretary's Report:** The Secretary's report was corrected. The word decathlon was changed to duathlon. Ray Andrews, K9DUR, moved the corrected report be accepted and John Van Sandt seconded the motion. Motion carried. **Treasurer's Report:** Nick Vinardi, N9WG, reported a total of \$8429.11 in all accounts and moved the report be accepted. Dave Pifer, N9YNF, seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ron Woodall, N9ZXO, thanked the group for sending cards and letters while he was hospitalized. The half-pot drawing was won by Bob Swain, KC9HLC. A program was presented by Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD, and Dave Hudgens, WT9I, about Illiana Skywarn and the new Vigo County ARES Blogspot. There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

- Respectfully Submitted, Bette Young, KC9GWT, Secretary

Borrowed Club Equipment

Have you ever borrowed something from the Club Station? We are in the process of re-inventorying all Club equipment. Please be sure to return anything belonging to the Club or just let us know you have something and its serial number. Additionally if you would like to borrow any item in the club station please contact the Club Station Manager for details. -ed.

Board Meeting Minutes 10/03/09

The October 3, 2008, meeting of the WVARA Board was called to order by Club President Gary Adams, W9EEU, at 8:37 P.M. Other officers present were Nick Vinardi, N9WG, Treasurer, and Bette Young, KC9GWT, Secretary. Chuck Procarione, W9COD, and Ray Andrews, K9DUR, members at large, were also present. Gary Wheeler, K9ERE, Steve Shorter, NT9T and Ron Young, AB9GI were also present.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary's Report was accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Nick Vinardi reported a total of \$8429.11 in all accounts and moved the report be accepted. Chuck seconded the motion. Motion carried. **Old Business:** The WiFi was discussed. Dave will go out and work on it. Kevin will work on the repeater upgrade. The solar panels from the estate sale were discussed. Ray moved and Chuck seconded buying four solar panels at a cost of \$250.00. Motion carried. The Covered Bridge Special Event was noted. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 P.M. Respectfully Submitted, Bette Young, KC9GWT, Secretary



40 METERS

Ham radio should soon have less interference to contend with on 40 meters. This if all goes as its supposed to in about six months time when those powerful shortwave broadcast stations are supposed to move away from 7.1 to 7.2 MHz as that spectrum fully reverts to the Amateur Service.

By way of background, before 1938 there was an exclusive amateur allocation of 7.0 to 7.3 MHz. But due to world unrest that band parcel was taken away to accommodate propaganda broadcasting in the lead up to World War II.

It had been thought it would be returned to the Amateur Service afterward, but its use for broadcasting continued due to the Cold War. In fact broadcasting increased the size of its primary allocation. While in some parts of the world radio amateurs managed to retain 7.0 to 7.3 MHz only the bottom third was amateur exclusive and the remainder shared with short-wave broadcasters.

So, the International Amateur Radio Union mounted a campaign for the 40m band to be return globally to the Amateur Service. Its case stated that such as change would ensure effective communications support particularly in the event of natural disasters.

The I-A-R-U pursued the issue at the World Radio Communications Conference in 2003. There its work gained 7.1 to 7.2 MHz worldwide for the Amateur Service. It also got an extra 100 kilohertz added on the exclusive allocation, while sharing between 7.2 and 7.3 MHz continues. (WIA News)

- John W. Van Sandt, N9YRX



Planning session at the Valley Gril.



It all started with Keith, WA9DRO issuing a simulated WX emergency net.



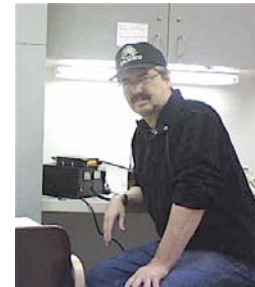
Kirt, K9KSA & Daughter from the Clinton EOC.



Jerry, W9TWR & Gene, N9NJ set up a portable antenna at the fairgrounds.



Dave, N9FMD, checked in from Clinton Hosp.



Another Dave, KC9JNZ, checked in from Union Hosp.



Alex, KC9NYM, was at Hulman Field in the Vigo Co. EMA Trailer.

Others participating, but not shown were:

Dave, WT9I - Vigo Co. EMA
Trey, W0KTB was at Regional Hospital.
Dan, W9OOT was at Terre Haute Red Cross.
Delbert, KC9DRR was in Brazil.
John, N9YRX was somewhere in Marshall.

We apologize if we left anyone out.
We also want to thank W9TWR, N9FMD and KC9JNZ for some of the photos. Others here were staff photos.

ILLINOIS QSO PARTY



Nick, N9WG, and his radio shack on wheels.



John, N9YRX, and Yaesu, the wonder dog!



Gary, W9EEU, at the radio.



Gary, W9EEU, and RON, AB9GI



Don, K9DRP, and arguably the most important piece of electronic equipment of the day: Jane, KB9YNO's ham and beans crock pot!

Photos courtesy, 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
Secretary	Bette Young, KC9GWT
Treasurer	Nick Vinardi, N9WG
Trustee	Kevin Berlen, K9HX
Board Member at Large	Chuck Procarione, W9COD
Board Member at Large	Ray Andrews, K9DUR

Publications:

Bandspread Editor:	Gary Wheeler, K9ERE
Bandspread Facilitator:	Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD
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@arrl.net to join our **listserv** or if you have a problem receiving the **eBandspread**.

Sunday Night Net Manager, Kay Brentlinger, KW0LF

It was a bright and breezy morning as it usually is on a Saturday late in September. We usually come in early with a vehicle in order to reserve the same spot each year but this year we discovered they had already reserved the spot for us so we were all set. Dave, N9YNF, Dave, N9FMD and Gary, K9ERE rounded out the early setup team. Later on a number of folks stopped by to watch the HF contacts and play with the electronic keyer.



Our usual spot on the parking lot at the Vigo Co. Library.



A tennn... hut!

(A little veterans humor there.)

Chuck, W9COD, was not 'horsing around' when he noticed that the sign on the side was, as usual, crooked. So he offered to take us over to the store afterward and change the method of mounting the sign.

As usual, the time for take-down quickly rolled around and we 'galloped' off for Chuck's.



Trailer insides, revamped by Dave, N9YNF, himself.



There was a horse tethered close to the ARES trailer so Dave, N9FMD, did some third party communications, 'straight from the horse's mouth'. We aren't sure if the horse will go ahead and get his ticket or not but if he used N9YNF's QLF key, he probably could do as well as many hams, nowadays, on CW.



TNX, Chuck, for the new banner hooks.

All photos on this page were staff photos. -ed.

BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE ON THE AIR (J.O.T.A.)



Who said kids are not interested in ham radio? Who said the Internet and cell phones are taking its place? Many thanks, L-R, to Gene N9NJ, Dan W9OOT, (John), Richard, KC9INI. Also to Dave N9YNF, Chuck W9COD, Dave N9FMD, and the group who were on the air to talk to them. -John, N9YRX



Of course we don't know the names of the boys but we think that that's probably not as important as the looks on their faces... and on the BOYS' faces too. -ed.

LOCATING THE PEST

By Carl, KC9AEM

As some of you already know, I have had problems with bursts of static on the 2 meter band between 142 and 152 megs on my Icom 706 Mk II G for a year. It was bad enough that I had to keep the squelch control set on 4 "S" units in order not to hear the static or to keep the static from stopping the memory scan. When I couldn't "wish it away", I borrowed a 706 from John, T., K9PIE, and it responded in the same way. So I borrowed a tape measure antenna from W9COD and then I made a crate for the 706. Taking the battery from my motor scooter, I went hunting.

I found the house in my neighborhood, but then the problem became how to deal with this. The house is occupied by an elderly lady that I have seen and spoken to at her mail box as I passed by on my bicycle but she would never respond. Okay, maybe she is hard of hearing. But looking at her face, she is either in a lot of pain or, shall we say, very grumpy. So I finally decided to write her a letter rather than show up at her door, and break this information to her in a way that she could read it over and digest it. In the letter, I gave her my name, address, phone number, and that the problem seemed to be coming from her residence. I asked her if it would be possible to locate the problem in her house and work with me in getting this solved and that after she has discussed this with family, please call me.

A couple of days later, her son called me and identified himself and without giving me a chance to respond to him, he started in on me. His first comments were: "What are you up to? Why do you want to get into this house? What are you trying to pull?" Then he told me that his father used to be an amateur radio operator and that he knew all about this stuff and that there was nothing in this house causing interference, and he went on and on. Finally, he gave me a chance to respond, but to no avail. So finally I said to him, "I am sorry to have bothered you. Please give my apologies to your mother." (Name withheld to protect the guilty), and I hung up.

I admit I was mad. I could understand their suspicion, but on a scale of 1 to 10, their tact and diplomacy was below "0". This was pretty much what I was afraid would happen just looking at the lady. So now what do I do?

The next day, the son called me back. This time he was asking questions and he asked me to describe the interference. I told him it was erratic bursts of static. To make a long story short, he decided to cooperate with me without letting me into the house. It turns out the problem was one of those little electronic **pest repellers** that you plug into an AC receptacle. When he unplugged it, the bursts of static quit.

So I offered to purchase them another pest repeller of a different brand, to see if we could live with that. His answer: "Oh no! She has a pest control service come in once a month; she doesn't even need that thing. We'll just leave it unplugged"! Oooohhh, where is my baseball bat???

As Paul Harvey would say, "And now you know the rest of the story." I guess all is well that ends well!

One added note: these bursts of static did not affect my Yaesu mobile or my Kenwood HT, just the Icom 706 MK II G. Interesting, huh?

Guess that article on submissions to *The Bandsread* did some good! We know there are more out there. TNX, Carl! -ed.

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

As we see 2008 winding down, it is worth a look back at the past year. Looking through the Bandspreads for 2008, a lot of things have happened over the course of the year. Just to name a few, some of our own have become silent keys, another successful hamfest, devastating floods, damaging winds, our highest score ever on Field Day, added some very nice equipment to the club inventory, worked with Boy Scouts helping them earn their merit badges, had a huge tower donated to the club, and I am sure many others. Looking ahead we can plan for many things and then see them come to fruition, while many things will be unexpected.

Kevin (K9HX) and Dave (N9YNF) have a trip planned to the repeater site and promise that we will soon have remote access to our repeater controller, and will have the remote site for our repeater system on the air. We have a repeater controller that has capabilities, which can be taken advantage of once we have the remote access. We have been anticipating the remote site for the repeater for some time, and getting it on the air will certainly enhance the coverage of the club repeater. Both projects should be easy to recognize as you listen to, or use the repeater, in the coming weeks.

Our club election will be held at the December club meeting. The nominating committee is hard at work putting together a slate of officers for 2009. There is no doubt we will face opportunities and challenges in the year ahead. There is also no doubt that with the membership of the WVARA it will be another successful year. Thank you to each and every member for all that you contribute to the WVARA!!

73,
Gary W9EEU

THE BANDSPREAD - Official Publication of
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P.O. Box 81
Terre Haute, IN 47808-0081



November 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

1715 S. 8th St., east of the main Glas-Col building. Use the front entrance to the building on 8th St.

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!

November 8 PARIS

December 7 TERRE HAUTE