



THE BANDSPREAD



JANUARY 2014

Local Nets

- Monday EveningClay Co. ARES Net
9:00 pm EST145.420/R
- Tuesday Evening.Verm./Parke ARES Net
8:00 pm EST146.715/R
- Tuesday EveningVigo Co. Emcomm
Net
9:00 pm EST146.805/R
9:30 pm EST444.350/R
- Wednesday Evening...Sullivan ARES Net
8:30 pm EST146.775/R
- Wednesday Evening.Clark Co. ARES Net
9:00 pm EST146.595
- Thursday EveningCAARLA Net
9:00 pm EST146.685/R
- Sunday EveningWVARA Net
9:00 pm EST146.685/R*

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

Regular Events

Every Thursday: The Club Station is open, 7-9 p.m. every Thursday. The Club Station is located on the N.E. corner of 7th and Idaho. Entrance and parking back of building.

1st Friday of the Month: Monthly club meeting at Glas-Col Annex, 7PM EST (former Idaho Post Office Bldg), 1715 S. 8th in Terre Haute

SK's

It is with great sadness that we report that Jim Osburn WD9EYB and Ronnie Woodall N9ZXO are now SK's. Jim and Ron were both WVARA members and their absence will leave a void in the ranks of amateur radio. We dedicate this edition to their memory.

Thank you to Gary K9ERE for significant contributions to this edition of the Bandspread.

JIM OSBURN WD9EYB SK

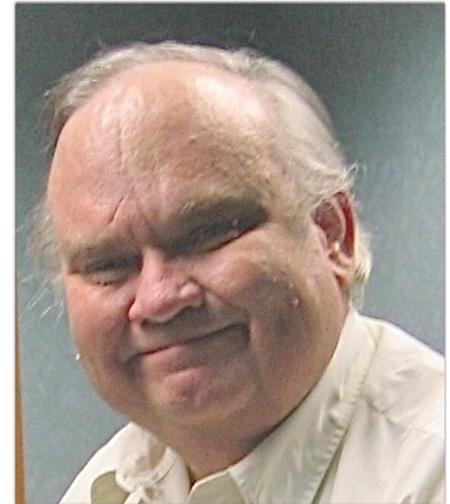
MY FRIEND JAMES PATRICK OSBURN

Jim was a student at Paul Schulte High School when I first met him. I was his math teacher and I learned quite a lot from him! Jim's father has graduated with my mother at Honey Creek High School and we attended the same parish church. His dad worked at the phone company and had held a novice amateur license. Math, science, radio, reading and building things occupied Jim's waking hours. These were tasks to keep him occupied with what I am sure he thought of as boring school work.

Early on after he found out I was a ham, Jim brought to school a Hallicrafters receiver his father used in his novice station. It didn't work! I told him I'd *help* him get it going. We did and a whole new venue opened up for Jim to ask questions about! I soon knew Jim was a prospective radio amateur! He would finish high school and go on to Rose Hulman Institute of Technology before calling me to tell me he was waiting for his call which turned out to be WD9EYB.

While Jim was a student at Schulte H.S. I was able to take him to the Wednesday afternoon ISU Physics Department colloquia where he made friends with some of the faculty members. He was allowed to use the department PDP 8I computer on Saturday afternoons when it was idle. The following Mondays he would meet me excitedly, showing and telling me what interesting things he had done on the computer. Jim entered a number of projects in the local science fair and earned places in the regional fair. Being his teacher, I was privy to the judges' remarks. This convinced me that they... the judges.. didn't always understand the depth of his projects. Case in point was his implementation of associated memory in relay logic and in transistor logic!

A group of us were attracted to hamfests and Jim was not left out of our carload making the tour. At one of the 'fests' he came home with a surplus CW transmitter to get him on the air. An antenna made of #14 insulated copper wire running across the street and stealthily through the neighbor's yard, produced many contacts. The experience on the air allowed him to develop really respectable "fist" making most of us envious. He soon was copying at 40+ WPM, really!



After graduating with a BS in electrical engineering, he took a job with Miles Laboratories in Elkhart, Indiana, and then he went on to Kimball Organ in Jasper. Somewhere along the way, Jim passed the registered professional engineer license and got his name on a patent of two. Then it was back to Terre Haute to work at Applied Computing Devices designing computers to monitor and log traffic for telephone switches. And, by the way, he also earned an MS in Electrical Engineering with his thesis topic, which was a homebrew spread spectrum communication Device in the UHF ham bands. I was privileged and proud to be invited to attend the presentation and defense of his thesis. Jim then moved on to Numerical Concepts where he implemented computer remote-monitoring of large printing presses to cut down costly paper breakage. Jim opened an office in the former Schulte building to do engineering consulting after leaving Numerical Concepts.

He spent a large part of his semi-retirement at Ryves Hall Youth Center tutoring math, science, doing computer work and working with kids. I believe Jim enjoyed this activity a great deal as belated by his remarks and Ryves Hall stories of "his" kids. While there, he also prepared people for taking tests to obtain Radio Amateur Licenses and he and others also administered the FCC tests. A number of people were added to the ranks of ham radio through his efforts.

Another thing Jim liked to do in addition to his current radio activities, was to start special-interest-group (SIG) clubs. For example, many years ago, several of us, led by Jim, had a computer group made up mostly of hams. About half a dozen radio clubs were fathered by Jim. Most recently, the "Eastside Outdoor Ham Club", a group of more mature (old guys), would meet in Deming Park or in the winter at the "Pie Place". Jim also served as the Indiana Section Technical Manager of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) for a term.

Above all, Jim as a "Gentleman and a Scholar". He was someone I was fortunate to know and I enjoyed his company. My life is better for knowing him.

Goodbye dear friend, we will miss you!

- Ted Brentlinger, K9SGL

Jim Osburn, WD9EYB

I don't recall when I met Jim, but it was many years ago. His passion for ham radio was apparent to all who had the privilege of knowing him. Jim enjoyed all aspects of ham radio, and over the years was involved in many cutting edge technologies. He experimented with spread-spectrum communications, and was one of the first in the nation to be involved with packet radio. Two of his real passions were QRP operation and CW. Jim also loved the hands on side of our hobby, and sponsored several group building projects over the years.

One such project was the construction of the "Fox Box" transmitters. These transmitters were used for numerous Fox Hunts (hidden transmitter hunts) over the years. I can't recall who else was involved with construction of these transmitters, but we built them out at Rose-Hulman Ventures. Five transmitters were constructed, and it was a true group effort.

Another group project Jim was involved in was the building of code practice oscillators for students going through one of the numerous license classes that he was involved with over the years. Jim organized the project, and arranged for several mentors to be present to help the first-time builders with soldering and other aspects of kit construction. Watching the faces of the students the first time they closed the key on this device that had started out as a collection of loose parts, and seeing it come to life right there in their hands, was priceless.

These and other group projects that I had the privilege to be a part of are some of the best experiences I have had as an Amateur Radio operator. Without Jim organizing and driving these and other projects, I would not have had these experiences and the wonderful memories I still have today. Thank you, Jim.

Time and space constraints prohibit me from talking about all of the great things Jim did for ham radio in the Wabash Valley. There is now a great void in our ham radio community, and Jim's influence and his contributions will be felt for many years to come.

-Kevin Berlen, K9HX



Jim Osburn, Silent Key, Nov. 26, 2013

It was with great regret when I was informed of the recent untimely passing of James "Jim" Patrick Osburn, WD9EYB, at the age of 61. I last met Jim on Nov. 20 at our usual Wednesday evening meeting of the East Side Outdoor Ham Club at the Grand Traverse Pie Company at 3rd and Cherry Street. Jim informed me that we would not be meeting next week because of Thanksgiving break, since he would be spending Thanksgiving at his sister's house near Inman, South Carolina. Jim got to his sister's house on Tuesday evening before Thanksgiving Day, had a good meal, and went to bed. Sadly, Jim passed away sometime during his sleep. Ted Brentlinger, K9SGL, his good friend and long-time mentor, informed me by phone soon after as I was out of town in Nashville, Tennessee, visiting my daughter.

Jim was well known all over the Wabash Valley. He was a former technical specialist coordinator and recruited me several years ago as a technical specialist. Jim had currently been very active as a volunteer at the Ryves Youth Center in Terre Haute. He enjoyed tutoring the youth with his knowledge in a variety of subjects including ham radio. Jim and I and others spent many years meeting either at Deming Park (the summer meeting place of the East Side Outdoor Ham Club) or at the Grand Traverse Pie Company (winter quarters). It is here we spend many moments discussing the fine structure of Amateur Radio with Ted Brentlinger and many others who happened to wander by.

Jim Osburn perpetuated ham radio. He was a four-time recipient of the Brentlinger Award of the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association. He was a strong advocate of Amateur Radio in the Wabash Valley. With a master's degree in Electrical Engineering from Rose Hulman and many years of ham radio experience, he was the source of great knowledge to his fellow hams.

I have traveled to many hamfests with Jim and found he had friends everywhere. I remember many times at a hamfest when I would pay for my ticket and look for the ticket stub box to deposit my hopeful prize winning ticket, Jim would first look for "biscuits and gravy".

We will all greatly miss Jim.

A memorial service will be announced probably in the beginning of January 2014. Memorials may be made to the Ryves Youth Center, 1356 Locust St., Terre Haute, IN 47807.

Sincerely, John Swez, AC9AZ



Jim was a long-time friend before he came to Ryves Youth Center. He was very active with Amateur Radio. His call sign was WD9EYB. That is how I first met Jim. Later he came to Ryves to help with our radio program. He drifted in and out but then chose to help as a tutor. When we lost our part-time administrative assistant, Jim offered to take the job as long as he could volunteer with the children "after hours". After working, he would often walk past my office saying that he was going to "play". Jim seemed to have an interest in helping many of the children who had special needs. He spent his time playing chess, helping with various homework lessons, and tutoring math. Jim was known as the resident genius when it came to math. Often times our college volunteers sought Jim out for help on their math homework. Just before his death, one of these students offered to employ Jim as a tutor for his GRE.

Jim was a quiet individual who was always dreaming about how he could use his gifts to both better mankind while "making himself rich" and sustaining the youth center. He was the founder and club president of the Eastside Outdoor Ham Club and loved to meet with his friends at Deming Park. They would spend time communicating on the radio with others around the world, but just as important, they spent time bonding and enjoying each other's company.

The day before Jim's death, he spent his time, as always, helping in our office, and afterward, playing with the kids. Jim then traveled to his sister's house in South Carolina where he visited, had dinner, talked about his life at Ryves, and went to sleep. The next morning his sister went in to find that some time that night he had passed away.

I would say that Jim loved his family and although all of his siblings had moved out of Terre Haute, he never hesitated to go visit when possible. Jim thought that his sister in South Carolina was "the world's best cook." I hate to see Jim leave this world but when it is my time to go, it would be great comfort for me to have a meal made by the world's best cook while I spent my last hours visiting with people I love.

-Jim Edwards, KA9DIF



RONNIE WOODALL N9ZXO SK

I first remember meeting Ron at a Field Day in Cory. It was one of the first years that we operated the GOTA (Get-on-the-air) station, and I sat as the control operator while Ron made contacts. Always smiling, and often some sort of new gadget or project, Ron seemed to have plenty to talk about. I also recall one Field Day at Cory when Ron showed up for the weekend, and during the course of the weekend it was shared that he had enough gas in the tank to get there but not enough to get home. He wanted to be there enough that he came anyway and would worry about getting home when the weekend was over. Somehow some gas showed up in Ron's tank in enough supply to get him back home. Guess it worked out for him after all. Godspeed Ron!!



Board Meeting Minutes November 18, 2013

The WVARA Board met on Monday Nov. 18, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. Members present were Chuck Procarione, W9COD, President; Kevin Berlen, K9HX, Vice-President; Mike StClair, N1WVU, Secretary; and Ted Brentlinger, K9SGL, Board Member At Large. SECRETARY'S REPORT: Mike presented the Secretary's Report, which was approved as printed in The Bandspread. Ken No treasurer report.

OLD BUSINESS: (1) Waiting to order parts 2) Still waiting to move the trailer. 3) Trailer - A/C is done. 4) Hamfest March 8, 2014. Rent will be the same as last year. Will need to get with Donnie Barlow KC9VFQ for emails. 5) Starting January 1, 2014 we will start publishing most reports on the club website. 6) Terre Haute North radio club - 17 of the 26 showed up for the 1st club meeting..

New BUSINESS: 1) Mike Fowler SK – The club will pick up the equipment for future sale. 2) The Terre Haute radio club lost their tower site so we voted to share our space with them. 3) We discussed background checks - More to come in December.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

-Respectfully Submitted, Mike StClair, N1WVU, Secretary

General Meeting November 1, 2013

The general meeting of the WVARA was called to order on Friday November 1, 2013 at 7:06 p.m. by President Chuck Procarione W9COD. Vice President Kevin Berlen K9HX led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Introductions were made. Visitors None.

We had no upgrades.

Announcements: 1) There will be no board meeting planned after the general meeting. 2) Dues are due for 2014

3) There will be a General upgrade class that starts Nov 5th. It's not too late to get into the class.

4) Clay County ARES/RACES meeting will be held on Monday Nov 11th at 6:00 PM EST at Four Loving Paws Veterinary Services 965 West Craig Ave Brazil, IN 47834

Secretary's Report As printed in the Bandspread.

Treasurers Report Motion by Ken W9VKD and was seconded by Kevin K9HX

New Business- None

Nominating Committee Report - Kevin Berlen K9HX

President Chuck Procarione W9COD

Vice President Jerry Cockrell W9GWC

Secretary Mike StClair N1WVU

Treasurer Ken Hauptli W9VKD

Trustee Gary Adams W9EEU

Club program: Tour of WTHI studios.

Respectfully submitted. N1WVU Secretary Mike StClair

Last Call For 2014 Brentlinger Nominations

If you would like to make a nomination for the 2014 Brentlinger Award, write a nomination letter describing the accomplishments of the nominee. The letter should contain details of what the nominee has done in contributing to ham radio. This can be for recent contributions, or for those things that have been done over a period of years. If you know someone that you think is deserving and are not sure how to write the nomination letter, get in touch with someone and ask them to help you write the letter. A person does not have to be a WVARA member to nominate an amateur, nor does the nominee.

The deadline for nominations is January 15, 2014. You can hand deliver your nomination letter to the President before this deadline, or it must be postmarked no later than January 15, 2014 (PO Box 10081 Terre Haute IN 47801) to be accepted. The Brentlinger Award dinner will be held sometime in March with a specific date to be announced.

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

Board of Directors:

President: Chuck Procarione - W9COD
Vice-President: Jerry Cockrell - W9GWC
Secretary: Mike St Clair - N1WVU
Treasurer: Ken Hauptli - W9VKD
Trustee: Gary Adams - W9EEU
Past President: Kevin Berlen - K9HX
Member at Large:

Publications:

Bandspread Editor: Gary Adams - W9EEU

Submissions: e-mail the editor at bandspread@w9uuu.org or mail to P.O Box 10081, Terre Haute, IN 47808-0081

Webmaster: Ray Andrews - K9DUR
Contact the webmaster at webmaster@w9uuu.org to join our list server or if you have a problem receiving the eBandspread

Sunday Night Net Manager: John VanSandt - N9YRX

FLDigi Has A New Module

NBEMS FLAMP is an application that runs with FLDIGI. FLAMP is an NBEMS variation on the AMP (Amateur Multicast Protocol). The idea is to send a message, with a single uninterrupted transmission, wherein the message file is repeated several times. The message is also broken down into user selectable block sizes, such as 64 or 128 bytes.

The idea, which is proving to work very well, is to be able to use higher speed modes, which are more susceptible to short misses in text due to static crashes or other interference. By sending the same message 2, 3 or more times, the receiving stations have a better likelihood of receiving and assembling all the properly received message blocks. The FLAMP software then reconstructs the full message from the confirmed blocks then confirms 100% copy.

Even with the extra overhead of the checksum block code, the fact that the experimental modes are 6 times faster (or more) allows us to transfer larger files, in a shorter timeframe, and still confirm 100%.

Additionally, FLAMP now has the ability for receiving stations to request a retransmission of only the blocks that were missed. Recent testing shows we can send an 11k file (which would take nearly a half an hour to send on MT63 1k), under moderate to good conditions, in about 4 minutes with FLAMP in one pass. Then, the receiving station, if they miss any blocks, can get a very quick fill on only the missed blocks in a few seconds, without the need for resending the entire message.

Dave KB3FXI

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2014

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 10081
TERRE HAUTE, IN 47801

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!

OH8X 160 Meter Tower Collapses

Stormy weather has taken down major ham radio antenna towers in Finland and Denmark. On December 6, Radio Arcala (OH8X) reported that its 330 foot tall tower supporting massive 160 meter and 80 meter Yagis literally fell victim to high winds that also took out power to some 200,000 homes in Finland.

The downed OH8X tower in Finland.

"The mammoth structure collapsed peacefully, not hitting any of the other six towers, not hurting people or damaging buildings," a report from Jarmo J. Jaakola, OH2BN, described. "As professional engineering efforts had up to now ensured the survival of this 5 year old structure, inspectors are busy trying to evaluate the cause of the failure. It is suspected that automation



designed to enable the array to find its most comfortable position in high winds somehow locked up and caused the structure to corkscrew."

WVARA Testing

(Walk-ins Welcome)

Terre Haute, Indiana

2nd Saturday of every month (except July);

9:30 A.M., Indiana time

1715 S. 8th St., west side of 8th St. behind Glas-Col. Park on side of bldg; use the front entrance on 8th St.

For further info contact:

Ray Andrews, K9DUR: 812-870-8810

RYVES VE Testing

(Walk-ins Welcome)

2nd Thursday of every month, 7:00 P.M., Indiana time, Ryves

Youth Cntr at Etling Hall.

For further info contact Jim Edwards 812-235-1265 or

jedwards@catholiccharitiesterrehaute.org

THE BANDSPREAD

Official Publication of the
Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 10081
Terre Haute, IN 47801



January 2014

2013 = 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 Association.

First Name Last Name

Company

Home Street

Home City, Home State Home ZIP