



THE

BANDSPREAD

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC



February 2016

FUTURE SITE OF THE WVARA



photo courtesy of K9ERE

Dreams of a permanent home for the WVARA came closer to reality with the recent acquisition of a parcel of land on the southeast side of Terre Haute. The property is located about 50 yards south of the intersection of 25th Street and Margaret Avenue. The road running south from this intersection becomes Sidenbender Road, which provides a northeast boundary for the triangularly shaped parcel. On the southeast side the property borders Thompson Ditch (which runs parallel along the north side of the railroad). And on the west side a brick paved road runs nearly the entire length of the property line.

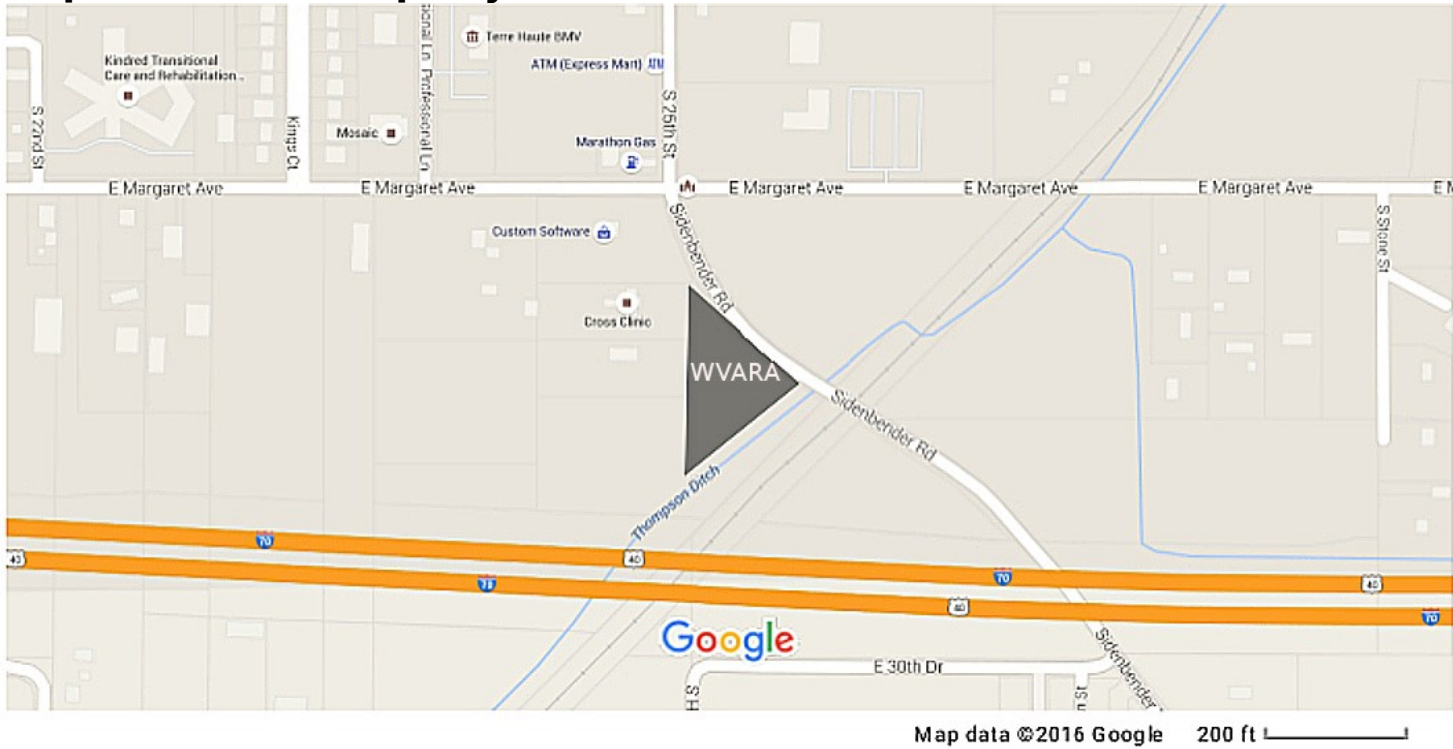
The property, just shy of 4 acres, is mostly wooded but has a 30 foot wide swath cleared along the entire northeast side next to Sidenbender Road. With the maintained grass right of way of Thompson Ditch on southeast side, and the brick road along the west side, it's easy to walk the entire perimeter of the property.

The photo above is a view of the southeast side of the property, taken from the south side of the railroad along Sidenbender Road. The property line runs from the road (in the right side of the picture) to a point between the two utility poles (in the left side of the picture).

The aerial image on the next page views the parcel from the north side looking south. In that photo the brick road on the west side becomes hidden by the tree canopy, but extends straight south nearly to the clearing along Thompson Ditch.

Think we can get away with using that nice concrete parking lot on the west side of the road?

Map of WVARA Property



Aerial Image of WVARA Property



Local Nets

Monday **Clay Co. ARES Net**
9:00 pm EST 145.420/R

Monday **Clay Co. ARES Digital Net**
9:10 pm EST 145.420/R

Monday **Sullivan ARES Net**
8:30 pm EST 146.775/R

Tuesday **Vermilion/Parke ARES Net**
8:00 pm EST 146.715/R

Tuesday **Putnam Auxcomm Net**
9:00 pm EST 442.225/R

Wednesday **Rose Tech Radio Club**
9:00 pm EST 146.400

Thursday **Putnam Auxcomm Net**
8:00 pm EST 147.330/R

Thursday **CAARLA Net**
9:00 pm EST 146.685/R

Fourth Thursday **District 7 ARES Net**
8:30 pm EST 145.420/R

Sunday **WVARA Net**
9:00 pm EST 146.685/R*

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

Regular Events

Thursday: The **Club Station** is open, 5:30-8:00 pm every Thursday. The Club Station is located on the N.E. corner of 7th and Idaho. Entrance and parking is in 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

February Club Meeting

The program for the February Club Meeting will be on grounding and electrical safety, presented by Chuck Johnson.

WVARA SPRING HAMFEST

Saturday, March 12th
Clay County 4-H Fairgrounds
Brazil, IN

**SEVERE WEATHER SPOTTERS'
TRAINING CLASS**
March 7th

NEW VIGO COUNTY ARES EMERGENCY COORDINATOR



photo courtesy of W9EEU

Ken Hauptli, W9VKD (left) is presented his certificate of appointment as Vigo County ARES Emergency Coordinator from Indiana Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator Ray Andrews, K9DUR.

SDR RADIO PROJECT

Dave Gahimer, K9ZCE (Bridgeton) and his son Ted, N9WQO (Noblesville) are researching SDR radio modules. They have tiny "dongles" receiving the 1090 Mhz transponders in aircraft from St Louis to Chicago to Dayton to Paducah. Their current project is to install SDRplay receivers

<http://www.hamradio.com/detail.cfm?pid=H0-014408>

<http://www.lz1aq.signacor.com/docs/wsml/wideband-active-sm-loop-antenna.htm>

at their QTH's that are driven by Free to Hams SDR Console software.

<http://sdr-radio.com/>

This graphic software has loads of features to tune the SDR radio module , and to display a chosen band spectrum and waterfall.

-Dave, K9ZCE

HAM RADIO NEW OPERATOR CAMP

February 6, 2016
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

The Ham Radio New Operator Camp is a one day long session taught by experienced amateur radio operators. We will cover how to set up your VHF, UHF, and/or HF station with details on how to properly operate the station. The camp includes classroom lectures, practical hands on experiences, and field work.

This camp is for the new amateur radio operator as well as the Ham who has had a license for a short time.

-UPDATE- Class is full. No more registrations accepted.

Annual Junque Auction pics



photos courtesy of W9EEU and W9GWC

WVARA CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE X - FINANCIAL INTEGRITY

Section III - Annual Budget

An annual budget shall be prepared by the Executive Board for publication in the February Bandsread for approval at the February meeting.

WVARA 2016 Budget (Proposed)

Expenses		Income	
Description	Amount	Description	Amount
Background Checks	\$300.00	Donations	\$2,200.00
Badges & ID Tags	\$100.00	Education	\$350.00
Brentlinger Dinner & Award	\$200.00	Half-Pot	\$100.00
Christmas Party	\$150.00	Hamfest – March	\$1,400.00
Club Picnic	\$65.00	Hamfest – November	\$500.00
Club Station	\$100.00	Membership Dues	\$750.00
Communications Trailer	\$300.00		
Corporation & Legal Fees	\$25.00	TOTAL INCOME	\$5,300.00
Education Expenses	\$300.00		
Equipment Repair	\$300.00		
Field Day	\$400.00	Anticipated Surplus/Deficit	\$34.00
Hamfest – March	\$250.00		
Hamfest – November	\$250.00		
Insurance (Equipment)	\$400.00		
Insurance (Liability)	\$600.00		
Insurance (Vehicle)	\$150.00		
PO Box Fee	\$56.00		
Postage	\$100.00		
Real Estate Loan	\$900.00		
VE Expenses	\$75.00		
Vehicle Titles & Registration	\$120.00		
Website & E-Mail List	\$125.00		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$5,266.00		



Vigo County ARES held its first meeting, an organizational meeting, on Friday, January 22, 2016 at 7:00 PM in the GlasCol facility.

It was decided that we would have quarterly formal meetings on the second Friday of January, April, July, and October. Other meetings would be called as necessary for training or as needed. Meetings would be held at the GlasCol facility and would start at 7:00 PM.

It was further decided that we would have a Vigo County ARES Net. It would take place the first Sunday of each month at 8:30 PM on the WVARA repeater, 146.685*. The net will be a directed, roll call net for information.

Ken Hauptli, W9VKD
EC Vigo Co ARES

(*Following the Vigo Co. ARES net, don't forget to turn your frequency back to 146.595 simplex for the 9 PM first-Sunday-of-the-month WVARA simplex net!)

TREASURER'S REPORT



Spreadsheet for WVARA Jan 8 Meeting WVARA Treasurer John Swez Report for Month of December 2015

Dues 2016 Collected at December Meeting

\$20.00 S. Farrington
\$20.00 W. Huyck
\$20.00 S. Hardin
\$20.00 M. StClair

Other

\$50.00 Reimbursement from Ray Andrews for Class Manuals
\$302.00 Gate Receipts Profit
\$55.00 Club Money from Turkey Fest
\$13.00 Donatons at Dinner
\$130.00 Food Sold Profits
\$17.00 Club Donation

\$647.00 Total Deposit 12/28/2015 FFB

Dues 2016 Collected at December Meeting (after)

\$20.00 B. Black
\$20.00 K. Haupti
\$25.00 C. Carione Land Donation

\$65.00 Total Deposit 12/30/2016 FFB

Liabilities

\$74.18 Loan Payment FFB
\$39.01 Meat for Christmas Party
\$56.00 Post Office Box Rental (Year)
\$18.13 Glas-Col Bandsread Postage (3 months)

\$187.32 Total Liabilities 12/31/2015

Previous Balance 11/30/2015
Current Balance 12/31/2015

\$887.66 checking
\$1,738.01 checking

Earnar Savings

\$2,576.05 savings

Total checking and savings

\$4,314.06

DR. ELMER RETURNS

The Bandsread is pleased to announce the return of Dr. Elmer to our local pages. As some may remember, he produced a monthly column in *The Bandsread*, answering questions on a variety of amateur radio topics as asked by our members. His original work appeared each month for 28 months, beginning with the November 2003 edition.

In order to be successful there must be some questions to explore. Some have already been submitted, and others are under consideration. In addition we may repeat some of the work from original requests. Your questions should be sent to *The Bandsread* editor at bandsread@w9uuu.org.

"Elmer" is the label our hobby uses to describe veteran participants willing to donate some of their experience to help others understand the hobby. The monthly column was popular when first published and an end of a 10 year vacation will provide *The Bandsread* with an additional, well-rested contributor.

-Dave, N9FMD



GENERAL MEETING

The general meeting of the WVARA was called to order on January 8, 2016 at 7:00 pm by Jerry Cockrell W9GWC.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kevin Berlen K9HX.

Introductions were made

No new or upgraded licenses and no visitors

Announcements

No QWCA meeting this month

No CAARLA meeting this month

The club station is open each Thursday evening from 5:30 to 8:00 pm. Everyone is invited to visit and work the radios.

No report from There Haute North club station

No VE report

We are currently providing an upgrade class to General Class

Secretary's Report in The Bandspread and on the webpage

Treasurer's Report presented by Ray K9DUR and a second by Jerry Cockrell W9GWC

Old Business

We had a discussion on the duties of the Ham Camp and finalized the people who would perform them

New Business

It was presented to the club about the availability of a 80 foot tower for sale in the amount of \$100. It would also cost \$300-\$400 to remove the tower. A discussion pro and con about the purchase. We had 25 voting members and the purchase was approved by a vote 21-4.

The March hamfest was discussed and it will be held on March 12, 2016 at the Clay County Fairgrounds.

The program this month was the club auction

The meeting ended at 10:00pm

BOARD MEETING

The business meeting of the WVARA was called to order January 8, 2016 at 10:20pm by Gerry Cockrell W9GWC. Members in attendance were Jerry Cockrell W9GWC President, Kevin Berlen K9HX Vice President, Mike StClair N1WVU Secretary, Ray Andrews K9DUR Treasurer, Chuck Procarione W9COD Past President.

Announcements

Secretary's report in Bandspread and on the Website

Treasurer's Report Ray Andrews K9DUR, second by Chuck Procarione W9COD

Old Business

We discussed the duties for the different members during the Ham Camp.

New Business

Looking into liability insurance for the club property.

We need to list the equipment that we had donated to us by IVY Tech

The 2016 budget was presented and a discussion ensued. It will be finalized and presented to the membership for a vote in February.

A discussion about the March hamfest was discussed and will be held on March 12, 2016 at the Clay County Fairgrounds.

We also discussed the 2016 Field Day in June. It was decided to hold this year's Field Day again in Cory IN. Kevin Berlen K9HX volunteered to be the Field Day Chairman.

The meeting ended at 10:45 pm

-Mike StClair, N1WVU

TERRE HAUTE NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - K9THN

There are twenty-seven students currently involved in amateur radio activities at THNHS during this school year. Five senior students received instructions in radio theory and practice during the first trimester and were tested for Technician licenses before Christmas. One student passed the test and was assigned the call sign KD9FDY. Thus fourteen students have earned licenses so far during the two years that the K9THN club has been in existence. Instructions will continue with a wider student base during the remainder of the school year with another test session scheduled before school ends in May.

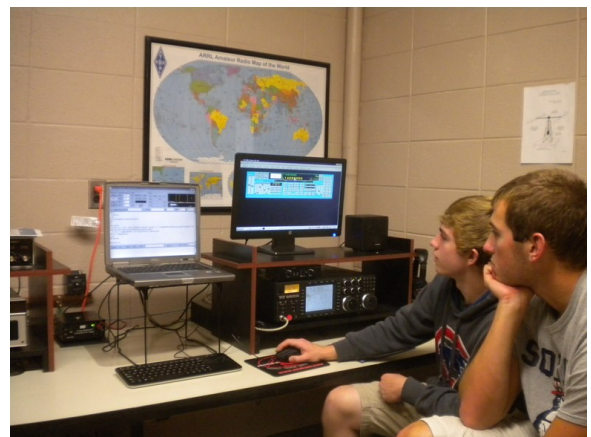
Twelve students were assigned to work on radio projects during the second trimester. When the students returned to school in January following Christmas break, they immediately began setting up a satellite antenna tracking system to be installed on the outside wall of the school directly above the ham station inside. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate, and the installation has been postponed until warmer weather arrives.



In the meantime, the students are getting ready for the School Club Roundup contest which occurs during the week of February 8 - 12. Be sure to listen for them on the bands and give them a contact.

Club Trustee Dan Hunter (NW9N) framed a Constitution for the K9THN radio club and submitted it along with an application for ARRL affiliation before the first of the year. We are now waiting for a response from the ARRL.

Keep open the date of Friday, April 1, 2016. The WVARA club meeting and a ham and bean dinner will be held on this date at the Terre Haute North High School radio club site.



-Dick, N9TH



SEVERE WEATHER SPOTTERS' TRAINING CLASS

March 7th 2016, 7:00 PM
Berean Baptist Church
6770 North Clinton Street
Terre Haute, IN

The National Weather Service Indianapolis office, in conjunction with Illiana Skywarn, is sponsoring a Severe Weather Spotters' Training Class. The class will take place on Monday, March 7, at 7:00 P.M., EST at the Berean Baptist Church, 6770 North Clinton Street, just south of Sky King Airport, just north of Terre Haute.

This two-hour class is designed to train all emergency and/or law enforcement personnel, teachers, students, scout troops, as well as the public in how to properly identify and report severe weather events to the National Weather Service. These events include hail, damaging winds, funnel clouds, tornadoes and other weather phenomena related to severe thunderstorms. This class is free and open to the public. Seating is available on a first come, first served basis.

The main presenter will be David Tucek, Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Indianapolis.

Since 1974, Illiana Skywarn has used Amateur Radio to exchange timely severe weather related information with the National Weather Service office in Indianapolis. Amateur Radio operators work in conjunction with the National Weather Service, through the Skywarn program, to report severe weather events as they are happening. Information is used in conjunction with weather service radar data to issue weather warnings to protect the public.

A talk-in for amateur radio operators will be on the 145.23 and the 444.600 Skywarn system.

Ever use a headset?

Last Field Day was the first time I had ever used a "headset". By headset, I mean headphones with the attached microphone, with either a hand switch or a foot switch to key the mic. (I understand you can also use VOX keying, but my habit of cursing at "lids" makes that option way too dangerous.) The rig I used was set up with a foot switch which threw me for a bit of a loop. I had always keyed the mic with my hand -not my foot! So I ended up holding the foot switch in my hand and keying as I would with a hand held microphone. Dan, NW9N, caught me a few times speaking into the foot switch like it was a microphone, but he was polite enough not to laugh out loud.

Anyway, with this experience I decided that a headset was kind of neat, and I ended up getting one for my rig at home. Although I don't use it all the time, I find a headset very handy in running a net or working a contest. However, I still don't use a foot switch. But I might give it another try one of these days.

So, do you use a headset? Whether yes, no, or sometimes, please take our first ***Bandspread Survey***:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7SRJN7J>

We'll report the results in next month's issue.

-Don, K9DRP



CAARLA AFTER-CHRISTMAS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Crossroads of America Amateur Radio Ladies' Association celebrated with the annual After-Christmas Christmas Party on Saturday, January 16th, at the Saratoga, where French toast was the most popular order. A short business meeting resulted in the re-election of current officers and setting the date for next year's party. The rest of the time was spent in catching up on one another's lives since we were last together. We had our usual gift exchange and delicious deserts. A great time was had by all.

Pictured left to right around the table: Melanie Cloutier KC9JMC, Debbie Shorter KC9AOR, Kay Brentlinger KW0LF, Pat Cox KB9TJW, Diane Brentlinger W9SMW, Betty Young KC9GWT, Mary Pifer KB9NLJ

-Kay, W0LF

WVARA SPRING HAMFEST Saturday March 12th

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: Jerry Cockrell - W9GWC
Vice-President: Kevin Berlen - K9HX
Secretary: Mike StClair - N1WVU
Treasurer: Ray Andrews - K9DUR
Trustee: Gary Adams - W9EEU
Past President: Chuck Procarione - W9COD
Past President: Steve Shorter - NT9T

Publications:

Bandspread Editor: Don Pine - K9DRP
Bandspread Facilitator: Dave Littlejohn - N9FMD

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. Visit us on the web at www.W9UUU.org.

Sunday Night Net Manager: John VanSandt - N9YRX

We Remember

A Tribute to our Silent Keys

Fox Box Group Build, November 2002



Jim, WD9EYB

(l-r) K9HX, K9DRP, **WD9EYB**, KG9GN, AB9CG, WA9TGO

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2016

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 _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone () _____ - _____ E-mail address _____

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

New Member? [] ARRL 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?[]

Name: _____ Call: _____ License Class _____ ARRL? []

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!

NOTICE: All members must submit to a criminal background check as a condition of membership.

The President's Corner

I bet all of you remember earning your first amateur radio license. For me it was 1976 when I lived in Cedar Rapids Iowa. I was an engineer for Collins Radio/Rockwell International so it was kind of a given that part of the company environment was to have a Ham license. I remember being so excited at having passed the Novice exam that now it was possible to operate in the Collins Club station. Operating that beautiful station put all the theory into practice and made the experience one of pure joy. I always remember that feeling to this day.

Your club will create this same joy for a number of new Hams with our Ham Camp on February 6th. This is a chance for attendees to experience the real passion of the hobby. It will be a day of learning those things not covered in the license manual. Most important, it will require each person to make at least one QSO in the club station.

If you know of recently licensed Hams, let them know about the camp. It will cost \$10.00 per person for lunch and supplies.

73,

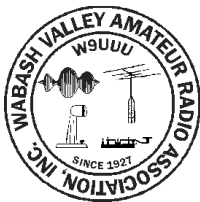
Jerry W9GWC

Gcockrell12@msn.com

812-243-9828

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



FEBRUARY 2016

2016 = 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.

WVARA VE 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: 812-236-6522

Terre Haute Radio Club VE Testing

(Walk-ins Welcome)

Terre Haute, Indiana
2nd Thursday of every month
7:00 P.M., Indiana time
Storage Solutions South
5457 South State Road 63
(just south of the prison)

For further info contact Ginger Monastyrski,
WB9ZHC at 812-243-9052 or WB9ZHC@ma.rr.com