



THE BANDSPREAD

June 2016



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC



On the evening of May 2, 2016, several WVARA club members gathered to erect this sign at the Association's recently acquired property just south of 25th and Sidenbender Road in Terre Haute. The group did an inspection of the property and posted against trespass as well. Several members also met an owner of an adjacent property whom also stopped by.

June 2016
WVARA Club Meeting
Friday June 3rd
6:30 PM
(note time change)

Carry-In Dinner
& Field Day Planning

(Club will provide hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages. Members bring side dish and/or dessert.)

Location:
Glas-Col Annex
(Old Idaho Post Office Building)
1715 South 8th Street
Terre Haute, IN

-Reminder-

Field Day 2016 June 25 & 26

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

First Sunday **Vigo County ARES Net**
8:30 pm EST 146.685/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

June Club Meeting

June 3rd at 6:30 PM. Carry-In dinner and Field Day Planning.

Cookout for Scouting

June 14 at ISU Memorial Stadium
11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Field Day 2016 June 25 & 26

COMM TRAILER SHAKEDOWN CRUISE

On the first full weekend in May each year, we take the WVARA Comm Trailer to the Union Methodist Church at the junction of Indiana Route 42 and County Line road, for the annual shakedown cruise. This is done in conjunction with the Indiana QSO Party.

Each year the Hoosier DX and Contest Club, hosts an opportunity for Hoosiers to contact as many stations as possible, preferably in other Hoosier counties, but it also provides an incentive for other stations outside the state to contact Indiana counties. Contest rules provide that stations straddling a county line may represent themselves as *both* counties, thereby generating double points!

A group of us, including Ted, K9SGL; Walter, W9KJO; Dave, N9FMD; and yours truly were present for this year's expedition. We received permission to use the church's electricity and thereby set in motion a chain of events that was totally unexpected. Current code requires all outside outlets to be ground fault interrupters or GFI, which means if the receptacle does not sense a ground - and it didn't - it pops! And it did... repeatedly. In the past, we have connected the trailer to various buildings and most of the time, we had no problems. Evidently, none of them were GFI's.

Fortunately, we had Walter, a professional electrician with us. After considerable work and a trip to town for parts, he re-wired the trailer's main electrical panel, so around lunchtime we were finally in business for that day!

A couple of weeks later Walter, Dave, Ken, W0THI, and Jeff, KD9GFN, came over to do some sleuthing for a mysterious signal in the Comm Trailer area that was plaguing us. While there, they also helped Walter do some permanent re-wiring of the trailer to make it operable on either 120 or 240 volts input.

In addition, it was determined that one VHF and one HF radio belonging to the Comm Trailer were indeed 'misbehaving' and would require more specific diagnosis and repair by Kevin, K9HX. This is pending. The shakedown for this year was very successful!

Following are some combined photos of both related events:

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COMM TRAILER SHAKEDOWN CRUISE

(continued from Page 2)



W9KJO rewires the 4-prong input plug



N9FMD and W9KJO erecting the 20M dipole



K9SGL at the ops



W9KJO, K9SGL, and N9FMD



K9ERE, W9KJO, and N9FMD



KD9GFN and W0THI under N9FMD's supervision

- Gary, K9ERE, Comm Trailer 'Janitor'

TREASURER'S REPORT



Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc Treasurer's Report – April 2016

Account Balances as of 04/30/2016

Checking	\$1,245.76
Savings	\$5,576.45
TOTAL	\$6,822.21
Property Loan	\$3,434.13

Income & Expenses

INCOME

Donations	\$25.00
Membership Dues	\$20.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$45.00

EXPENSES

Coffee Mugs	\$72.00
Gift (Speaker – Kevin Orpurt)	\$45.00
Hamfest Expenses (Donation)	\$60.00
Property Loan Payment	\$74.18
Postage (Glas-Col)	\$14.70
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$265.88

OVERALL INCREASE/DECREASE	-\$220.88
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THE MINUTES



The minutes for the May meetings were not provided prior to publication deadline. The minutes can be viewed at the Club website (http://www.w9uuu.org/meeting_minutes.html) should they become available.

2016 INDIANA QSO PARTY MAY 7, 2016

Shown below is Dan Hunter (NW9N) working the 2016 INQP from the log cabin at Shakamak State Park with students from the North Terre Haute High School radio club, (K9THN). The students gained valuable experience setting up a portable radio station, and they also took turns operating the contest and logging contacts. The K9THN call sign was utilized during the contest.



Log Cabin at Shakamak



CW Station manned by N9TH

-Dick, N9TH

31 YEARS OF SUPPORT FOR THE TERRE HAUTE TRIATHLON

The Terre Haute Triathlon consists of three main events, the Swim, the Bike and the Run, in that order. Each event is further divided into an Olympic portion and a Sprint portion.

The Olympic distances are set up according to Olympic specifications. The Sprint portion of each event is roughly half that distance for those who like to compete but just can't cope with the longer distances.

The Swim Course consists of two groups as mentioned above, but there are actually three groups of swimmers. The 'Red Caps' are the elite of each group and enter the water ahead of their counterparts. They are the best of both groups based on previous statistics, therefore, they set the pace for the rest of the race. Next are the rest of the Olympic swimmers. They wear orange caps. Finally come the Sprint swimmers, wearing yellow caps, lead by *their* 'red caps'.

There are four kayaks spread over the Swim Course. They are there to keep track of the swimmers and tow those back who find they just can't make it otherwise. And there were some this time.



Club communications is not very involved in the Swim event. The only information we gather there is when the last swimmer of each group is out of the water. This information prepares our stations along the Bike and Run courses as to when to expect the first athletes.

When the first swimmer exits the water, he or she runs directly to the Transition area where their bikes await. Here they shed their wet suits and immediately begin the bike event. After they reach the turnarounds, they return to the park, dismount their bikes and immediately start the Run course, which is the last event, culminating in the Finish Line.



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31 Years of Triathlon Support (continued from previous page)

Throughout race history, officials have relied upon the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association to enhance the safety of their event. Yours truly can testify to having participated in most of them since moving here in 1987.

Our club's participation began primarily as communications for the various aid stations along the Bike and Run courses. Over the years, however, we have become more and more involved in other support activities as well. I remember during one of my early events, probably in 1989, Tony, W9MJI, was coordinating communications at that time. I was posted near the Run turnaround, which at that time was out west on old Maple Avenue. Here came John, K9GBO, using his truck to ferry water to an aid station that had run dry. We just seem to naturally 'pick up the slack' when the situation requires it. That's what we do.



Three aid station volunteers and Gary, W9EEU



Ted, K9SGL and Dianne, W9SMW

Some years later our role was expanded to stations along the routes at other-than-aid stations, to monitor the lead participant and occasionally to radio in the existence of a participant in need, such as someone who had fallen, had a bicycle breakdown or just simply had 'run out of steam' and needed transportation back to the park. Currently, we have more than twenty Amateurs who volunteer each year.



Leroy, AC9NF



Joe, NT9X and wife



Kat, KD9BHW

As time passed, a number of people have accepted responsibility for coordinating W.V.A.R.A. event communications. After acting as Sag Wagon for a couple of years, two years ago yours truly became the coordinator and at that time we added a separate chase vehicle to the already-existing sag wagon for the Bike portion. The Chase follows the last participant of that event until he or she arrives safely back at the park, no matter what. The Sag Wagon cruises around as needed on the Bike course. He or she distributes tee shirts and takes photos. Sag's primary

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31 Years of Triathlon Support (continued from previous page)

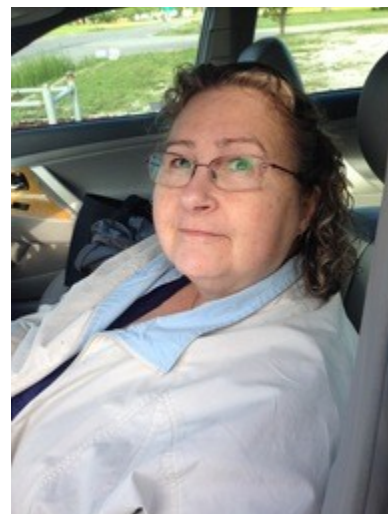
function, however, is to be ready to pick up any stranded or disabled biker who does not need the more advanced assistance of the EMS. This year we added a chase person, on bicycle, for the Run course as well.



Kevin, K9HX



Ann, W9RBF and Jeff, AB9WR



Katherine, W9IFE

The need for EMS transport to the hospital has become common in the recent years. Three years ago a biker got too close to the edge of the blacktop on Hunt Road and tumbled down into a deep ditch on the east side of the road. EMT's responded to the call and took him to the hospital where he recovered. I came along as sag wagon and picked up his bike and returned it to the park for safe-keeping.

This year was a particularly cold. Many riders, after exiting the water and mounting their bikes, found that the cold air on their wet bodies did not work well together. One participant, who had not even worn a wet suit, collapsed from hypothermia as he was passing Kevin's, K9HX, location. Kevin radioed the situation in and kept the unfortunate soul as warm as possible in his truck until EMT's arrived. Later, Kevin brought this participant's bike back to the park as well. That's what we do.



Jerry, W9GWC

"We regret failing to get photos of Ron, KC9EPZ, at Transition.

Also, Ken, W9VKD, Mike, N1WVU, and Dave, N9FMD, at the Comm Trailer.

- Gary, K9ERE"



John T, K9PIE

Incidents like this are why we are out there every May, fulfilling our obligation as an ARRL Special Services Club. My deep appreciation goes out to those of you who regularly give up a Saturday morning in May each year. But even if this is your first time, we sincerely hope that you will return to help us out next year as well!

We have been told numerous times by the triathlon officials and participants themselves that we are greatly appreciated as we attempt, usually successfully, to make the triathlon courses a safer

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31 Years of Triathlon Support (continued from previous page)

place for the participants. We would encourage those Club members who have never participated before to join us next year. All you need is a radio-equipped mobile or, in some cases, just an HT. It isn't rocket science.

Meanwhile, if all goes well, the job of the Coordinator is completed ahead of time, e.g., getting people to fill the more-than twenty positions and supplying them with the information they need to function efficiently. If I am successful and all positions are filled (and everyone shows up) then I can 'play', take photos, etc., and leave communications to Dave, the team at the Comm Trailer, and those stationed out on the routes.

This year I was also obliged/privileged to act as Chase, on bicycle, for the Run course.

Thanks to everyone who participated in any way toward making our presence yet another W.V.A.R.A. success this year!

-Gary, K9ERE, Coordinator, W.V.A.R.A. Triathlon Communications

TERRE HAUTE NORTH VIGO HIGH SCHOOL RADIO CLUB K9THN

The THNVHS radio club suspended activities for the 2015 - 2016 school year during the month of May after a very busy season which included gaining affiliation with the ARRL, upgrading the K9THN station, installing new antennas, operating in two School Club Roundup contests and the Indiana QSO Party, and sponsoring a bean dinner fund-raising event at the school. In addition, one student passed the General class exam, and officers were elected for the 2016 - 2017 school year.

The certificate shown below was received in May from the ARRL for participation in the February School Club Roundup. K9THN ranked 6th in their category and 15th overall out of 94 contest entries.



-Dick, N9TH

Club Scenes



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
 Member-At-Large: Dan Hunter - NW9N

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



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Comm Trailer at Cookout for Scouting

We were asked to place our communications trailer at the Cookout For Scouting event to be held on **June 14, 2016**. It will be located at ISU Memorial Stadium on Wabash Avenue. The event begins at 11 AM and ends for us around 3 PM. We plan to exhibit amateur radio to scouts, potential scouts, scouters, and the general public.

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

We are fast approaching another Field Day exercise. This is one of my favorite amateur radio activities because it gives us the opportunity to enjoy three of our favorite things; making QSO's, being with fellow hams, and eating. You will enjoy working stations for the 24 hours of Field day. We will have at least 9 operating positions available for your total enjoyment. When not operating, you can catch up with friends and chat about our hobby. Then there is the food. We will have a variety of delicious dishes for your enjoyment. So put June 25 and 26 on your schedule. We are in an air conditioned facility located in Cory Indiana. Go to the fire house in town and look for the antenna farm

Remember, we will not have a club meeting in July. The kick-off meeting will occur in august with our annual picnic. Details will be available at a later date.

Gcockrell12@msn.com
812-243-9828

73 Jerry W9GWC

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

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



JUNE 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.