

REGULAR EVENTS

Friday, General Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross Bldg.,
May 2 700 S. 3rd. (1st Friday of each month.)

Monday, Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, Glas-Col., 7th &
May 5 Hulman (Monday following the Gen. Mtg.)

Every Thursday The Club Station is open, 7:00 - 9:00 PM,
Downstairs, Red Cross Bldg., 700 S. 3rd.

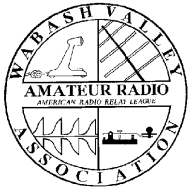
SPECIAL EVENTS

WVARA Bus to the Dayton Hamvention --- May 17

Terre Haute Triathlon ----- May 17

-- THIS JUST IN! --

The Frequency change has been approved! Details will be forthcoming in the June issue.



THE

BANDSPREAD

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

MAY 2003



SB-109 GOES TO THE GOVERNOR

LATEST UPDATE BEFORE PRESS TIME:

[Indiana Section Manager Jim Sellers,] K9ZBM, announced on the 1330Z session of the Indiana Traffic Net that the Indiana Senate had passed SB-109 with a wide margin and that the bill was being sent to the Governor for signature.

- KC9UU

Ed. Note:

News of the highly-publicized and apparent defeat of SB-109 was correct. However, committee members were subsequently able to get it to the floor for a vote by removing the 75 ft. limit in the original wording.

While removal of the 75 ft. limit was disappointing to hams, its passage without the limit will allow Federal PRB-1 to become part of Indiana law.

For further information on PRB-1, see the following link:

http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/PRB-1_Pkg/index.html

- and -

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur/prb/index.html>

For information on the Indiana initiative, SB-109, see the following link: <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/02/05/2/>

It's a start, folks!

Terre Haute Triathlon Volunteers Needed

The Terre Haute Triathlon will be held on May 17th. It is scheduled to be a swim, bike and run event. Last year there were a number of changes. This year some have been un-done while others have been added.

The participants of the Triathlon will hit the water at 7:30 AM in the first wave. The bike route is the old route from years past (not last year) east of the park on Old Maple to Hunt Ave., then south to Indiana 42 and east to almost Indiana 59 in Clay County for the turnaround. The run this year is different in that they will be using the Heritage Trail, which does not allow vehicles other than ATVs and golf cart types. So the run will present a new challenge to our group. You will not have your car beside you on the trail. This is a down and back thing just like the bike route. There will be two rest stations on the trail and there should be a ham at each one. We are still working out these details.

A minimum of twelve people are needed to make this event happen. Several of the roles have already been filled but a number are available. Some positions to be filled involve monitoring the swimmers. Another covers the transition area between the bike course and the run course. Please let me know if you can help out ASAP. Thanks.

David L. Pifer - N9YNF

The program for the May Club meeting will be a presentation on 13 cm band, presented by Jim, WD9EYB

Dayton Bus Deadline Nears!



If you're thinking of attending the Dayton Hamvention for the first time, the Club-sponsored bus is a really good way to go. No motels, no long drive either to or from, breakfast stop, no parking and walking - the bus drops you off right at the door and waits for you; and, of course, the dinner stop at Shapiro's restaurant. Just \$30 provides all the transportation. It'll cost you almost that to drive yourself, and then there's the motel if you stay overnight or all that windshield time if you make it in one day. Just fill out the form on page 5 and send it in NOW! It's a great trip!

Note: The bus fee does not include your entrance fee at Hara Arena or your food. Also, the stop at Shapiro's is contingent upon their reopening following the fire.

Possible pickup and dropoff stops:

Brazil, Cloverdale, Plainfield, Post Road.

KB9CAA - SK

It is with sadness that we mark the passing of Carl Ryan, KB9CAA. Carl's call belies the fact that he had been a ham years ago, volunteering much of his time to the local Red Cross chapter.

Carl built lots of equipment, both radio and otherwise. He was known for relaying many accidents to the police before the advent of the cell phone. He regularly attended Club meetings, often with Jim McFall, K9VDQ, and he helped many would-be hams to study for their licenses. He will be missed.

NETS

146.850*
W9UUU/R

Sunday Morning 8:20 am EST
ARES Net

Sunday Evening 9:00 pm EST
WVARA Net*

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



General Meeting Minutes 04/04/03

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 P.M. by Club President, Kevin Berlen, K9HX. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, those present introduced themselves. There were twenty-four members and three guests present. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The WVARA Board Meeting will be held at 6:30 P.M. at Glas-Col Apparatus at 7th and Hulman streets. Anyone interested in attending is welcome. Talk-in will be available on 146.595 MHz. (1) The deadline for submission of articles for the next *Bandspread* is April 15, 2003. (2) VE testing will be Sunday, April 6, at the Red Cross at 1:00 P.M. (3) The Brentlinger Award for 2003 was presented to Natalie, K9CAT and Ray, K9DUR. Congratulations were offered to both. (4) The program for the May Club meeting will be a presentation on 13 cm band by Jim, WD9EYB. (5) QCWA/CAARLA meetings will be held Saturday, April 12, at the Comfort Food Co. (formally the Cyprus Grille) at Plaza North Shopping Center at 12:30 P.M. Anyone interested in attending is welcome - you do not have to be a member to participate in the QCWA. The CAARLA group welcomes all young ladies of any age to join in the formation of this new chapter. (6) The Club is once again sponsoring a bus to the Dayton Ham Fest at a cost of \$30 per person. (7) The IRCC meeting will be in Franklin, IN, and is open to anyone interested, whether you are a delegate or not. The meeting starts at 2:00 P.M. Directions were given. This is the Body which sponsors The Amateur of the Year Award and the Technical Excellence Award as well as the Bison Stampede. (8) The Eastside Ham Club is sponsoring an international style fox hunt next Sunday at Hawthorne Park. **BUSINESS MEETING:** (1) The Secretary's Report was presented by Debbie, KC9AOR, as published in *The Bandspread*. There was one correction noted which was that the target date for the change of the repeater frequency should be July 5 (not June 5). Debbie moved to accept the minutes as amended; Kay, KB9HYH, seconded the motion. The motion passed. (2) The Treasurer's Report Don, K9DRP, reported that the balance as of today is \$3,289.39. Don then moved that the report be accepted as presented; Ray, K9DUR, seconded the motion. The motion passed. Old Business: (1) Kevin, K9HX, reported that Dave, N9YNF, now has all parts and connections which he needs for the APRS Digipeater/upgrades and will report further next month. (2) Kevin reported that we still have not received confirmation of the approval for our change in frequency. Until we receive that confirmation, we are unable to proceed with plans. (3) The electronic distribution of *The Bandspread* was discussed. *The Bandspread* was sent electronically this past month to those who had signed up for it and was well received. They reported no problem receiving it and enjoyed being able to view the pictures in color. The plan is for *The Bandspread* to be mailed to everyone for the next month and those who wish to receive *The Bandspread* electronically will also receive the password via e-mail. Those who wish to receive *The Bandspread* electronically were asked to add their e-mail address to the attendance sheet. After this month of trial electronic dis-

tribution, we will no longer mail *The Bandspread* to those who have signed up to receive it electronically. Kevin expressed his appreciation to those responsible for the success of this process. He noted that *The Bandspread* is the single greatest expense in the Club's budget at a cost of 80-90 cents per issue mailed. We currently mail approximately 100 copies monthly; if we can eliminate even 30-40 copies through electronic distribution, we would realize a significant benefit. (4) Field Day planning meeting report: The QCWA has requested to set up a nostalgia station as one of our stations. The station could be used as a public demonstration as well as to make contacts. We run 4 Alpha (4 stations) which means that one of the other stations will need to be off the air while the nostalgia station is operating. Points accrued from the nostalgia station would, of course, still count. We are changing the location of Field Day to the Cory Community Center this year. This is an excellent location and offers new challenges as well as new opportunities. We were experiencing too many restrictions, as well as increased cost, at the previous location. Gary, W9EEU, has been responsible for the success of these arrangements. The next planning meeting will be a trip to the Field Day site following the QCWA/CAARLA meeting next Saturday. New Business: There was no new business. **INTERMISSION:** The half-pot winner this month was Steve, WB9WVG. **PROGRAM:** Dale Blackwell presented a program on Aircraft Cockpit Voice Recorders. Following the program, the meeting was adjourned.

- Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter, Secretary.

Board Meeting Minutes 04/07/03

Board Members present: President, Kevin Berlen, K9HX; Vice President, Gary Adams, W9EEU; Trustee Ray Andrews, K9DUR; Past President, Steve Shorter, KB9RQH; Board Member at Large, Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD; Treasurer, Don Pine, K9DRP; Secretary, Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR. Guests: Gary Wheeler, K9ERE; Natalie Andrews, K9CAT; Jay Sotak, AB9CG. The meeting was called to order at 6:37 P.M. The Secretary's Report was presented by Debbie, KC9AOR, as published in *The Bandspread*. Ray, K9DUR, seconded the motion to approve; the motion carried. The Treasurer's Report was distributed by Don, K9DRP. He reported a balance of \$3,375.49. He reported that he has received seven reservations for the Dayton Bus as of today. For the Brentlinger Dinner, we came out \$109.32 in arrears. Don moved to accept the report as distributed; Steve, KB9RQH, seconded the motion to accept; the motion passed. Old Business: (1) Updates to the meeting schedules were discussed. The June program will be about operating practices presented by Ray, K9DUR and Jim, WD9EYB. A live line presentation by Cinergy is tentatively being planned for October, pending confirmation from Cinergy. Other meeting topics discussed for 2003 were Slow Scan TV and Cross Band Repeater Operations. (2) Repeater issues: Kevin had nothing new to report on the frequency change. He attempted to contact Walt by phone and e-mail with no response. He noted that we need to receive approval within the next few weeks in order for us to meet our July 5 timeline. ➔



(3) There is no information from Dave, N9YNF, regarding APRS radio and TNC. (4) Club volunteers - Kevin reported that Bob Harker, KC9UU, has requested to step down from his position as Terre Haute Area ARRL VE Team Liaison; Bob is willing to continue to assist with testing and to train the new liaison. Kevin has requested that Steve, KB9RQH, be appointed by the Board to fill the Team Liaison position; problems with Steve's work schedule were discussed. Steve will schedule VEs for the testing sessions and be present as his work permits. Gary, W9EEU, and Ray, K9DUR, expressed their willingness to back Steve up as liaison if he is unable to be present. Needed changes in the test process were also discussed. The Board then approved the appointment of Steve, KB9RQH, as Terre Haute Area ARRL VE Team Liaison. (5) Electronic distribution of The Bandspread was discussed. Gary, K9ERE, noted that it is very important that items for *The Bandspread* be submitted on time due to extra steps required. Ideas for the promotion of the electronic distribution were discussed. (6) Generator repairs are on hold. (7) There was nothing to report on the B & W Antenna. (8) The recently completed Technician level class was reported to be a success with all who completed the class passing their test. The Board expressed its appreciation to all instructors who invested their time to make the class a success. (9) Dayton Bus - Steve reported that we need to have the check for the bus turned in to Turner by May 2. Don, K9DRP, reported that he has received seven reservations at this time. We need to continue to encourage people take advantage of the bus and to get their reservations in soon. (10) Field Day planning meeting; Dave, N9FMD, reported that the committee held an initial planning meeting; another major part of the planning will be done on site next Saturday at 5 P.M. (11) Club Station remodel was discussed. Jay, AB9CG reported that the rotor is still not functioning correctly - otherwise the remodeling has been completed. Ideas for repairing the rotor were discussed. (12) 2004 Bison Stampede: Ray, K9DUR reported that while attending the IRCC meeting on Sunday, we discovered that there have been some changes in the Stampede for 2004. There has been concern expressed that the Stampede may be seen as competition with the Indiana QSO Party held in May. We don't want to compete with that contest by holding another QSO party in the Fall. It was recommended by the IRCC that we run a special event station held in conjunction with Indiana QSO Party for May 2004. The call sign used in past is N9I. This will be easier to do than coordinating the Bison Stampede as previously discussed. We would be responsible for manning a special event station which will be a few hours on the first Saturday in May. Jay was asked to have our Club station open for this year's Indiana QSO Party in order for us to have some practice for 2004. He responded that he will do so. (13) Tail Gate report by Don: The date of Saturday, July 19 was confirmed. The schedule was discussed. It was decided that set up will start around 6:00 a.m. with the doors open from 8:00 a.m.- 1:00 P.M. The cost will continue to be \$3/person. We will have a 50/50 raffle. (14) Ray announced that the WVARA has volunteered to host the fall IRCC meeting on October 11th from 2 - 4. Kevin was given a copy of the new constitution for

IRCC. During the IRCC meeting, Jim Sellers, K9ZBM, Indiana ARRL Section Manager, talked about SB109. Ray gave a report to the Board of that discussion. New Business: (1) Dave, N9FMD, presented the feasibility of making it a Club regulation that anyone wishing to crossband into the repeater needs to clear or list it with the Trustee. Ray responded that it is not enforceable. Following discussion, the Board decided that, while the idea has merit and would be a great assistance in locating where specific interference is coming from, it should be set up on a voluntary basis. Information about who is using specific frequencies would be kept confidential, with the Trustee and maybe one other person having that information. (2) Gary, K9ERE, reported that we now have only two experienced net control operators for Skywarn nets. This has severely damaged Illiana Skywarn reliability; we specifically need more net control operators who are available during the day. He noted that having at least three experienced net controls allows a more flexible, less stressful situation. Ray, K9DUR, Gary, W9EEU, Jay, AB9CG, and Don, K9DRP, all volunteered to assist and said that they can usually be available, even during work hours. Steve, NT9T, said that he will assist when he is in town if needed. Gary, K9ERE, and Dave, N9FMD, will conduct a Skywarn organizational meeting to work with those available to assist. (3) Kevin reported that the Vigo County Civil Defense has a 15-20 KW generator which could be made available to the Club. It is a self-contained, water-cooled unit; it does not have a remote start. It has been sitting unused for several months. Discussion followed. It was noted that while this generator is too big for the Club's needs, it would be an asset which could be used in an emergency situation. Steve moved that we pursue obtaining the generator and investigate making it useable and mobile for Club use. Gary, W9EEU, seconded the motion. Following additional discussion, the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 P.M. - Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter, Secretary.

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	Kevin Berlen, K9HX
Vice-President	Gary Adams, W9EEU
Secretary	Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR
Treasurer	Don Pine, K9DRP
Trustee	Ray Andrews, K9DUR
Past President	Steve Shorter, KB9RQH
Member at Large	Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD

Bandspread Editor: Gary Wheeler, K9ERE

Bandspread Facilitator: Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD

Bandspread Circulation: Ray, K9DUR & Natalie, K9CAT, Andrews

Send all submissions To: PO Box 81, Terre Haute, IN 47808-0081

Or e-mail the Editor at: k9ere@earthlink.net

Or e-mail the Club at: w9uuu@arrl.net

Or e-mail the Discussion Group at: wvara@mailman.qth.net

Also, see our web page at... <http://www.w9uuu.org>

Webmaster: David Pifer, N9YNF

The President's Corner

Well, spring is finally here. I for one thought it might not make it this year. The Dayton Hamvention and Triathlon are almost upon us, and next month it will be time for Field Day. We also are in the middle of the thunderstorm season. This would be a good time to check out your emergency power sources, portable antennas, coax, and rigs to be sure your station is ready to participate in the upcoming special events and respond to any emergency situation should one arise.

A date to put on your calendar is Saturday July 19th. This is the date for our annual Tailgate Party. Again this year we will be hosting this event at the Marine Corps League building on old US 41 north of Terre Haute. This location is on the east side of old 41 across from Roselawn Memorial Park. One significant change this year is that the entire event will be held inside. This makes it a rain or shine activity. The doors will be open from 8:00AM to 1:00PM. Admission is three dollars per person, and there is no charge if you would like to set up and sell. Anyone who comes to the event and joins the club will be admitted free. We will have a consignment table as always. Contact Don, K9DRP, if you need more information.

The winter Technician level class recently wound up and we had a number of people successfully complete exams to either upgrade or get a new license. We had two students who passed the 5WPM Morse code exam, two other students passed the Technician exam for new license grants, and one student upgraded from Novice to Tech with HF. This was one of the most successful classes that the Club has sponsored.

Some of you are no doubt curious about the pending frequency change scheduled for the repeater. Currently, as of this writing, we still do not have confirmation from the IRC that we can make the proposed change to 146.685MHz. I have had some communication with N9WB, the frequency coordinator for Indiana, and I believe that the problem is related to the Illinois coordinator traveling during the winter and having some computer problems. I will let you know when we have the paperwork in hand. It appears likely though that our target date of July 5th to make the change will need to be pushed back.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the next Club meeting. The program on the 13CM band promises to be very interesting.

Until then 73,

Kevin, K9HX

Ray Makes it 100! - DXCC

What would you do if you had a reliable vehicle, a good HF radio, appropriate antenna, and about 1,000 hours to kill? Ray Andrews, K9DUR, faced that question over the past two and one-half years as he commuted to and from his job in Marshall every day, and his answer was simple...work more than 100 countries while mobile, get everything confirmed, and be awarded DXCC by the ARRL.

That process is nearly complete now, as Ray completed the process by having his collection of 102 QSL cards reviewed last month by our local "ARRL Field Checker" in Indianapolis last month. This means the cards have been received verifying the contacts, and have been found acceptable to ARRL standards. And, by using the local representative, those cards never left Ray's sight.

Ray says the concept of 100 countries is a little inaccurate, because the actual requirement calls for verified contacts with 100 or more "DXCC entities," not necessarily countries. For example, Hawaii and Alaska both add to the count, because both are removed by great distances from the continental US. Russia is divided into two DX entities, European Russia and Asiatic Russia.

Ray has actually qualified for two DXCC awards under the rules. He will receive separate awards for phone operation, and for 10-meter operation. Although all contacts were made from his vehicle, there is currently no specific DXCC award for mobile operation.

When asked about the secrets he learned over the past several years, Ray's comment emphasized the verification process. His trick is to send his QSL card to the distant station, and include not only an envelope, but to make sure that envelope includes appropriate foreign postage. By doing so, the foreign station simply fills out the return QSL, puts it in a pre-stamped envelope, and drops it in the mail. Ray says foreign postage is available from several sources, and works very well.

Ray said many of the contacts were made during contests of one sort or another. He was not really participating in the contests, just taking advantage of the opportunity to make the contacts.

This seems like the perfect combination of time to kill, on-board equipment, and a goal. Maybe we should think about this the next time we are forced to sit and watch a train go by.

-Dave, N9FMD, Staff Reporter

WVARA



PLEASE SEND THIS FORM TO:
WVARA DAYTON BUS RESERVATIONS
P.O. BOX 81, TERRE HAUTE, IN 47808-0081

Please make checks payable to: **WVARA**

Last Name:	First Name:	Call:
Address:		
City, State, Zip:		
E-mail:	Phone Number: () -	

Notes:
 1 - Departure will be Saturday, May 17, 2003, from Turner Coach bus lot, 2135 E. Margaret, at 4:30AM EST SHARP!
 2 - This reservation is for the bus only! You must separately purchase your Hamvention tickets from the Dayton Hamvention, Box 1446, Dayton OH 45401-1446 or check the web site at <http://www.hamvention.org>
 3 - Be sure to indicate your Pick-up/ Drop-off location. Otherwise we will expect you at the Turner Lot at 4:15AM
 4 - There is a breakfast stop in Richmond on the way over and a dinner stop in Indianapolis on the return trip.
 5 - If you have any questions, direct them to the bus coordinator, John, N9YRX, n9yrx@hotmail.com or phone Gary, K9ERE, at (812) 877-4371 or k9ere@earthlink.net

Select Your Pick-up / Drop-off Location here	
Turner Coach lot	
Brazil I-70 Exit	
Cloverdale I-70 Exit	
Plainfield I-70 Exit	
Post Road I-70 Exit	
Payment due :	
Number of seats reserved	
Total Enclosed (#seats X \$30):	\$

Rev. Aug 02

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2003

Please complete this form and include your dues with it. 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 renewal _____
 ARES member? QCWA? RACES member? MARS member? New member?

Please describe any employment or other special skills that might benefit Amateur Radio.

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?

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

Dues options: Single (\$20) Family: 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. See QST.

WHAT'S YOUR MICROPHONE UP TO???

Do you know where your mobile mic is? Out of sight, out of mind y'know!

Has it been naughty recently? Has it been...

- transmitting your private conversations to everyone within a 50-mile radius of the repeater?
- telling everyone what your favorite music station is?
- eliminating the need for APRS to let us know that you are on the move?
- telling us what your vehicle's door and key warning sound like?
- telling us how bad your alternator whine really is?
- letting us know that you had beans or cucumbers for your most recent meal?

Maybe it's playing it cozy with your cell phone under a book or some groceries - perhaps a carton of eggs. By the way, it's *not* an egg, you know, and no matter how long you sit on it, the only thing that might hatch would be a plot to embarrass you.

Bottom line is, if you can't see it, you don't really know *what* it's up to!

Maybe it's time to hang it on the dash or at least in a place where it's in plain sight so you *know* that it's not up to any mischief.

-Ed.

VE Testing

**TERRE HAUTE: 1st Sunday
of even-numbered months
1 PM Indiana time
Red Cross Bldg.
700 S. 3rd St.
Terre Haute, Indiana**

Further information may be obtained from Steve Shorter, NT9T, Terre Haute, IN 47802 at (812) 232-4788 or nt9t@arrl.net

**MARSHALL: 2nd Saturday
of odd-numbered months**

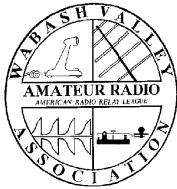
**8:30 AM Illinois time
1st Christian Church
902 N. 6th Street
Marshall, IL 62441**

- Walk-Ins Welcome -

For further information, contact:
John Van Sandt, N9YRX (217) 826-8821
Ray Andrews, K9DUR (812) 535-3222

**May 10 Marshall
June 1 Terre Haute**

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



MAY 2003

2003 = 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.

