

## REGULAR EVENTS

Friday, General Meeting, 7:30 PM, Clas-Col  
 Dec. 3 Apparatus, S.E. corner of 7th & Hulman.

Monday, Board Meeting, 6:00 PM, Glas-Col., 7th &  
 Dec. 6 Hulman (Monday following the Gen. Mtg.)

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

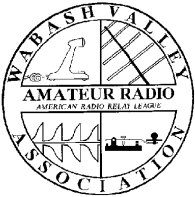
## SPECIAL EVENTS

Special VE Testing, World Gospel Church ..... Nov. 30

WVARA 2005 Elections ..... Dec. 3

WVARA Christmas Party ..... Dec. 4

Santa at the Mall ..... Dec. 11



THE

# BANDSPREAD

DECEMBER 2004



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

## WD9EYB IS IRCC AMATEUR OF THE YEAR

For the third time in four years, a WVARA member has been presented the Outstanding Amateur of the Year award by the Indiana Radio Club Council. Jim Osburn, WD9EYB, has served the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio community for a number of years. He was awarded the WVARA's Brentlinger Award for the third time this year; the first time was in 1984 and the second in was in 1992.

Jim is relentless in his efforts to promote the Amateur Radio hobby. He consistently encourages new hams and is tireless in his efforts to promote hands-on learning. Jim gives selflessly of his time to promote such things as building projects that encourage learning and experiencing new aspects of the hobby, while at the same time he builds camaraderie within the amateur community. He regularly teaches Morse code plus sections of the Technician and other upgrade classes offered by the WVARA.

Jim started an informal meeting for Amateur Radio operators to get together once a week on Wednesday nights at Corporate Square, here in Terre Haute, where hams can get together and discuss Amateur Radio topics.

Jim is an avid promoter of project building and he has produced kits ranging from state-of-the-art to scratch-built that he threw together when he got an idea. Jim's workmanship is rarely anything but



Jim Osburn, WD9EYB

## WVARA XMAS PARTY

This year we will be having our annual Christmas party back at the World Gospel Church on Indiana 46 and Gardendale Drive.

This year it will be a pitch-in for everything but the meat (turkey and ham) and drink (tea, lemonade & coffee) which will be provided by the Board.

Although there is not a charge for the meal this year, we still need to know how many will be attending and what dish you are bringing so that we can set enough places and make sure that a variety of food will be available. Debbie can tell you what food is already being promised and what she thinks we still need. Please e-mail that information to Debbie at <kc9aor@arrl.net> or leave a phone message at 232-4788.

## Santa at the Mall

Yes, we're doing Santa at the Mall again this year. It was such a success last year that we're doing it again. The date is Nov. 11. We will be in approximately the same location as last year. We still need assistance in a number of areas. If you are available, please contact John, N9YRX or Kevin, K9HX, for further details.



## December Program

In addition to the annual election, a program will be presented by David Pifer, N9YNF, on **ARES**.

## LOCAL NETS

Wednesday Evening	9:00 pm CST
Clark Co. ARES Net	146.520/S
Thursday Evening	9:00 pm EST
CAARLA Net	146.685/R
Sunday Morning	8:20 am EST
Vigo Co. ARES Net	146.685/R
Sunday Evening	9:00 pm EST
WVARA Net	146.685/R*

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

CONT'D, see WD9EYB, p. 3



## General Meeting Minutes 11/05/04

WVARA Club Meeting Friday, November 5, 2004. The meeting was called to order by Club President Kevin Berlen, K9HX at 7:30 P.M. with nineteen members and four guests present. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Gary Adams, W9EEU, everyone present introduced him/herself. **Announcements:** 1) The WVARA Board meeting will be held Monday, November 8 at 6:00 P.M. at Glas-Col Apparatus Co. at 7th and Hulman. Talk-in will be available on 146.595 MHz. 2) The next CAARLA/QCWA meeting will be Saturday, November 13 at 12:00 noon at Ambrosini's Restaurant. 3) The Club Christmas party will be Saturday, December 4 at the World Gospel Church. This will be a carry-in, with the Club providing the meat and drink. We are still looking for entertainment; anyone having a suggestion was asked to contact a member of the Board. 4) 2005 dues are now being accepted by Treasurer, Don, K9DRP. 5) Nominations are open for 2005 Brentlinger Award; the deadline is January 15. 6) The Ft. Wayne hamfest will be next Saturday, November 13. 7) VE testing will be held in Marshall next Saturday, November 13. 8) Kevin polled the members regarding meeting location; the response was to continue meeting at Glas-Col. Following the announcements, **Program:** Kevin introduced Jerry Kutche, N9LYA, whose presentation was on Packet Radio. The business meeting followed the program. Debbie, KC9AOR, moved that the **Secretary's Report** be approved as published in *The Bandspread*; Kay, KB9HYH, seconded the motion. The motion carried. Don, K9DRP, presented the **Treasurer's Report** which showed a balance in all accounts of \$3,788.69 and moved that it be approved as presented. Dave, N9YNF, seconded the motion; the motion carried. **Old Business:** 1) Santa at the Mall will be held Saturday, December 11. John, N9YRX, is coordinating this event. Anyone interested in helping as a Santa on the air or as a Santa's helper at the mall should talk to Kevin or John. The specific hours of operation for the event remains to be set. **New Business:** 1) Nominating Committee Report: Gary, K9ERE, reported that the Nominating Committee met and selected a slate of officers for 2005. They are: President: Gary Adams W9EEU; Vice President: Don Pine, K9DRP; Secretary: Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR; Treasurer: Chuck Procarione, KC9CKK; and Trustee: Dave Pifer, N9YNF. Anyone wishing to run for an office, or nominate someone for office, should contact Gary, K9ERE, at least five days before the election to be placed on the ballot; nominations will also be accepted from the floor the night of the election. 2) Bison Stampede 2005: the Club was asked and the Board voted to host the Bison Stampede in 2005. Don, K9DRP, said that it will be a "mini-field day" event in Cory. The event will be held in May with more information later. 3) Name the Voice: The repeater voice will be named at the next Board meeting. Several suggestions have been presented already, but anyone having ideas for an appropriate name should contact a Board member prior to Monday's Board meeting. 4) There will be a special

testing VE testing session 11/29/04 at World Gospel Church during the last Technician class. There being no further business, Dave, N9YNF, moved to adjourn; Steve, NT9T, seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

- Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter KC9AOR, Secretary.

## Board Meeting Minutes 11/08/04

WVARA Board Meeting November 8, 2004. The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Berlen, K9HX at 6:32 P.M. Also present were Treasurer, Don Pine, K9DRP; Board Member-at-Large, Chuck Procarione, KC9CKK; Past President Steve Shorter, NT9T; Secretary Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR; Trustee Ray Andrews, K9DUR and Vice President Gary Adams, W9EEU. Guests present were Gary Wheeler, K9ERE, and Dave Pifer, N9YNF. **Announcements:** There will be VE testing in Marshall this Saturday. Kevin is putting a team together for end of class testing at World Gospel Church and will register that site. **Secretary's Report:** Debbie, KC9AOR, moved that the Secretary's Report be approved as published in *The Bandspread*; Ray, K9DUR, seconded the motion. The motion carried. **Treasurer's Report:** Don, K9DRP, presented the Treasurer's Report which showed a balance of \$3,747.69 in all accounts. Don moved that the report be approved as presented; Steve, NT9T, seconded the motion; the motion carried. **Old Business:** (1) Tailgate Party 2005: Don reported that we have the date of March 12, 2005, and the location is confirmed. We will need to talk to contact them about food within two months of that date. Ray had a sample flyer for review; it was suggested that we add "door prizes" to the flyer and add a note to check our website for additional forums. The Board also discussed the fee and decided to keep it the same: \$3. More assistance will be needed to man the gate. (2) Club Station remodeling project: Gary, K9ERE, reported that Ginger has purchased material to make curtains to cover the shelving area. No timeline was given for the rest of the project to be completed. (3) Christmas Party: Kevin reported that he and Donetta will prepare a turkey breast and ham. While there will be no charge for the dinner, we will have a donation basket out to cover the cost of the church. Debbie will coordinate the decorating committee. Lemonade, tea and coffee will also be provided by the Club. It was suggested that we advertise that we would like to know how many will come and what they are bringing (e-mail that to Debbie at kc9aor@arrl.net.) We still need to work on entertainment. (4) Santa at the Mall: Kevin will talk with John soon to firm up plans. There was discussion about having the event held on the Club Repeater this year. (5) Ray requested a check for \$10 for IRCC dues and \$8 for IRC dues. **New Business:** (1) There was discussion regarding member services with no action taken. (2) Name the Voice: Following some discussion, Steve moved to name the voice IKQ (pronounced "Ike"); Don seconded the motion. The motion carried. (3) Education Committee: there was discussion regarding making a donation to the World Gospel church since they will have hosted both the Technician class and the Christmas dinner this year. (4) Dave, N9YNF, noted that



the bulb for projector being used for Club meetings will need to be replaced soon; Dave will get a quote on the cost. Chuck will look into the price of a self-standing screen. (5) Field day scores were discussed. There being no further business, Steve moved to adjourn the meeting; Chuck seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 P.M.

-Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR, Secretary.

## WD9EYB Cont'd from p. 1

excellent. In the past year he has organized building projects, either as group purchases or building sessions.

Jim has helped organize numerous foxhunts. His enjoyment of radio direction finding has inspired many hams to get involved with RDF. In addition to organizing foxhunts, there have been several kit building sessions for building foxhunting equipment.

Jim always encourages the participation in contests. In the recent past Jim was instrumental in the formation of the Eastside Outdoor Ham Club. This organization is centered around the idea of going out to a park shelter and operating during a contest. They hold many mini-field days in conjunction with contests.

Jim is an active member of the WVARA Field Day team. He was instrumental in the selection and setup of a computer network to log the Field Day event, eliminating the need for "dupe sheets." He operates the entire Field Day event, often times working all night non-stop. He usually knows it is time to take a break when he realizes that he may have just slept through the exchange with another station.

Beyond all of Jim's other endeavors he is always an active member of the WVARA, attending meetings, presenting meeting programs and generally promoting the Club in all its activities. Jim is best known as an active QRP and CW operator and an avid hamfester. He has been quoted as saying, "If there was a hamfest every weekend within driving range, I would go."

-Excerpted from the nomination letter to the IRCC, by David Pifer, N9YNF

## 9-1-1 and Clark County ARES

It looks like we have "arrived" here in Clark County with the respect of 9-1-1. Recently, a motorist called 9-1-1 to report a funnel cloud west of West Union. In turn 9-1-1 called me at home and asked if I had any hams in the West Union area who could confirm the report. I said "yes," and that I would call them back. Bill Crumrin, K9HHS, answered and went out mobile. We did our work on 146.520MHz. Bill reported massive amounts of scud clouds backlit with the lightning but he saw no funnels.

The bottom line is that Clark County amateurs can be proud that they have earned the respect of the 9-1-1 team who are thinking of us when they need help.

John Van Sandt, N9YRX  
ARRL Clark County, IL ARES Coordinator

## The President's Corner

This is the last President's Corner that will come to you from me. My second term as President is coming to a close. As I look back on the last two years, I am very satisfied with everything that our club has accomplished. We have had two great Field Day activities, and we raised over \$500 to help fund the Illiana Skywarn 444.350 linking repeater project. We also are now delivering this newsletter electronically to about half of the membership, saving both the cost of mailing it and the cost of producing it.

These accomplishments and many others would have been impossible without the cooperation of the membership. Thank you for your support of the Board over the last two years. You have made it possible to achieve these and several other goals while at the same time keeping the Club on solid financial ground. I would urge all of you to support the incoming officers and Board the same way that you have supported us.

Everyone should take a moment when you run into Jim, WD9EYB, to congratulate him for the award he received recently at the Ft. Wayne hamfest. Jim was named the IRCC "OUTSTANDING AMATEUR OF THE YEAR" for 2004. Our club has been very well represented by this award, with our members winning it three out of the last four years. Congratulations Jim.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the December meeting. Until then 73,

Kevin, K9HX

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, NT9T
Member at Large	Chuck Procarione, KC9CCK

**Bandspread Editor:** Gary Wheeler, K9ERE  
**Bandspread Facilitator:** Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD  
**Bandspread Circulation:** Ray Andrews, K9DUR

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

Or e-mail the Editor at: [k9ere@earthlink.net](mailto:k9ere@earthlink.net)

Or e-mail the Club at: [w9uuu@arrl.net](mailto:w9uuu@arrl.net)

Or e-mail the Discussion Group at: [wvara@mailman.qth.net](mailto:wvara@mailman.qth.net)

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

Webmaster: David Pifer, N9YNF



# WVARA HOMEBREW NIGHT

This is the first homebrew at our (potentially) new digs at Glas-Col Apparatus. Your editor was not there, so here are just the highlights of the event in pictures.



First place goes to Jerry Arnold, K9AF, for his 40M hollow state transmitter using a 6L6.



First place (newbie) goes to Nicholas Pifer, KC9DRS for his 2M DF antenna with 2MHz offset attenuator



Second place goes to Kevin Berlen, K9HX, for his 145.230 repeater project. (Sorry, the visual of the repeater on the wall just doesn't register on the photo very well.)



Third place goes to Jim McFall, K9VDQ, for his homebrew "penny" paddles.



Honorable mention goes to Bob Harker, KC9UU, for an HF QRP kit he built.



Honorable mention also goes to David Pifer, N9YNF, for his homebrew meter to measure voltage and current at his station.

On October 16, a number of Skywarn personnel and family members attended an open house sponsored by the National Weather Service in gratitude for the support given by Indiana and Illinois amateurs to the NWS weather spotter's program. Among those representing Illiana Skywarn were Keith, WA9DRO and son Ben, KC9FPO, Gary, K9ERE, Dave, N9FMD and John, N9YRX and son. Here are some photos from that event.



Touring the main weather service control facility.



A remote rainfall measuring device used by NWS.



Now, don't touch ANYTHING in here! ( NexRad xmtr bldg )





This is how we get the visual information from the NWS. This is the data uplink to satellite.



This is how the NWS gets its information. There is a radar dish inside the dome. This is the dome you see just south of interstate 70 as you pass Fed Ex terminal at the airport.



Mark Shaffer, N9GDR, coordinator, Indiana State Weather Net, Indianapolis, seated at the NWS HF Amateur Radio station.



This is how we, here at Illiana Skywarn, thanks to the new 440 linking system, get our audio information - Amateur Radio Station W9NWS, located here inside the National Weather Service office.



The NWS NEXRAD transmitter situated in a high-security building at the base of the radome.

## Call For Nominations

2005 Brentlinger Award nominations are now being accepted. Don't let the holiday rush obscure those good intentions. Send in that nomination now. Although the Brentlinger Award dinner isn't until March, the decision-making process takes some time.

First, those of you out there who have an opinion about who should be this year's Brentlinger Award recipient need to sit down and put your nomination in writing. But the name of the person is not sufficient. You also need to put the reasons that you think your nominee deserves the award. It might be for service rendered to Amateur Radio in the Wabash Valley in a particular calendar year or it may be for cumulative years of service. Once you're satisfied with your letter, please seal it and put Brentlinger Award Nomination at the bottom left corner of the envelope and give it to the president or any other Board member or you can mail it to WVARA Brentlinger Award, P.O. Box 81, Terre Haute, IN 47803-0081.

The letter ultimately goes to the president, who has chosen a secret committee to review all nominations. They may choose one, more than one, or none. All of these options have been exercised at one time or another throughout the long history of the Brentlinger award.

BTW, if you have sent in a nomination in the past but your nominee was not selected, please consider submitting it again.

## The very first Amateur Radio Club

Back in 1907 there was a group of young boys who were interested in becoming pilots! I am pretty sure that this had been a dream of just about every little boy I know. They would get together with their leader Miss Lillian Todd and of course discuss flying. They made model planes and would fly them at their get-togethers. This was back in the day when flying was an altogether new science to the world, making these young men a pretty sharp group.

Along with their experimental flying machines they were also fond of tinkering with wireless radio. As a matter of fact they seemed to like this idea even more than the flying part of their club and ended up spending more time on the wireless experiments than the Aero projects.

Pretty soon there were so many of these young people interested more in wireless than in the aero club, that on January 2, 1909, the Junior Wireless Club was established. It's sole purpose was the pursuit of wireless communications. Later the Junior Wireless Club became the Radio Club of America, making it the first Amateur Radio club.

Trivia From Your Station Manager,  
73, Ginger, WB9ZHC

### WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2005

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.

# 2004 Field Day Results

The 2004 Field Day results for W9UUU are as follows:

We were 241st out of 2249 entries in all categories. This puts us just barely outside of the top 10%. (200 points more & we would have made the top 10%)

We were:

- 9th out of 31 entries in category 6A.
- 26th out of 203 entries in all categories in the Central Division.
- 2nd out of 41 entries in category 6A in the Central Division.
- 5th out of 63 entries in all categories in Indiana.

We were *first* in category 6A in Indiana. Of course, we also ended up dead last in category 6A since we were the *only* entry in category 6A in Indiana.

The top score was claimed by W3AO. They scored 32,372 points in category 50A! Imagine 50 antennas portable antennas all inside a 1,000-foot diameter circle! I remember working W3AO every year. Both W3AO and N1FD always seem to run these ridiculously large numbers of transmitters.

The web site below allows ARRL members to sort and categorize the standings.

Go to: <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/contests/results/2004/FD/>

73, Ray, K9DUR

## VE Testing

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

For further information, contact Steve Shorter, NT9T, Terre Haute, IN., at (812) 232-4788 or nt9t@arrl.net

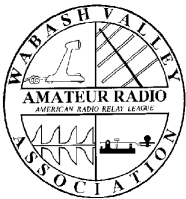
MARSHALL: 2nd Saturday of odd-numbered months

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

**December 5 Terre Haute**  
**January 8 Marshall**

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



## DECEMBER 2004

2004= 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.

# Seasons Greetings

