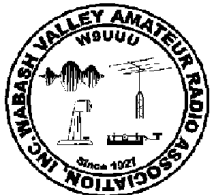


REGULAR EVENTS

Friday, General Meeting: 7:30 P.M., Glas-Col Apparatus
Oct 7 7th & Hulman (1st Friday of each month.)
Board Meeting: Glas-Col, immediately after
the General Meeting; members are welcome.
Every The Club Station is open, 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.,
Thursday Downstairs, Red Cross Bldg., 700 S. 3rd.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Deuces Wild Duathlon, Lincoln Trail St. Park 1 Oct.
Bedford Hamfest 2,3 Oct.
The E.O.H.C. Fall Picnic and Fox Hunt 9 Oct.



THE

BANDSPREAD

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

October 2005



HAMS RETURN TO CORY FOR APPLE FESTIVAL

On Saturday, Sep. 24th, 2005, a special event station was set up in Cory in the middle of the festival activities. We had a good location thanks to Gary, W9EEU. It attracted several visitors and got some interest in ham radio. These stations also satisfied the ARRL ARES® request for operation on emergency power in the month of September.

Jim, W9EYB, had a 20 meter CW station set up and John, N9YRX, had a 40 meter phone station. Both stations were using emergency power from a 1 KW 2 cycle generator. Fuel used was about 1 quart for the 9 hours of operation. Both stations were on the air within a half hour after arrival on site running 100 watts. There were no extra trips back for items or any calls to bring forgotten stuff.

The antennas used for phone were regularly-mounted car antennas with the coax run directly to the station. That saved a lot of setup time and more than enough to work stations coast to coast with the 100 watts.

The event was granted a special call sign W9A from the ARRL. It was well advertised by a printing in QST and on the ARRL special event web site. Ginger, WB9ZHC, made up special folders explaining ham radio for the general public that stopped by. There were several visitors and we may have a few takers for classes from the Clay County Sheriff's department who were in the next booth beside us.

Hams who tried their skills at the mike were Ron, AB9GI, Chuck, W9COD, Kevin, K9HX, and John, N9YRX. Jim WD9EYB, and Ginger, WB9ZHC, were at the key for CW contacts. Shoring up the operators were the support from Bette, KC9GWT, and

others too numerous to mention. Bette gets special mention because she helped pack the tent after the event, a tough job!!!. Contacts were made from coast to coast including several Canadian stations.

In all, 46 contacts were made which wasn't bad with all the competition we had from other special event stations, several contests going on and the Rita hurricane making landfall that morning. Sometimes operations were suspended for visitors and in-depth discussions about ham radio ensued. This event was a combined effort from Clark County IL ARES®, WVARA, Illiana Skywarn, Vigo County IN ARES® and the Eastside Outdoor Ham Club.



This being the success it was and fun to boot, it prompts the thought we should have a special event every year picking a different festival in the area each year. Lets see... Covered Bridge festival, Paris Honey Bee Festival, Clark County Autumn Fest, Newport Hill climb etc.

There are many hams out there waiting for the great certificates that they earned, which were designed by Ray Andrews, K9DUR. A good time was had by all.

-John Van Sandt, N9YRX

147.090 Repeater is Back on the Air

The W0DQJ 147.090MHz 2-meter repeater is back. The system went back on the air on Tuesday, September 13th. This repeater has suffered many problems, some of which still need to be corrected, but is again on the air. It is still at the old WZZQ tower site, north of West Terre Haute.

Formerly, the system was on an antenna at 620 feet and ran 150 watts RF output. The current system is now located at approximately 400 feet, and is currently running 15 watts RF output.

There are plans to restore it to the previous power level. Get in touch with me if you have any questions. The repeater is open for general amateur use, and the site is equipped with an emergency power generator.

-Kevin, K9HX

October Program

This month its Homebrew Night. Bring your home-made stuff and show it off!

LOCAL NETS

Wednesday Evening	9:00 p.m.
Clark Co. ARES Net	146.520/S
Thursday Evening	9:00 p.m.
CAARLA Net	146.685/R
Sunday Morning	8:20 a.m.
Vigo Co. ARES Net	146.685/R
Sunday Evening	9:00 p.m.
WVARA Net	146.685/R*

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



General Meeting Minutes 09/02/05

The September 2, 2005 WVARA club meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Club President Gary Adams, W9EEU. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Vice President Don Pine, K9DRP, the program was presented by Ted Brentlinger, K9SGL, on propagation. The business meeting followed the break and half-pot drawing, which was won by Steve Shorter, NT9T. **Announcements:** (1) The WVARA Board meeting will be held immediately following the Club Meeting this evening. (2) CAARLA/QCWA meetings will be held Saturday, September 10, at Pizza City. The CAARLA meeting will begin at Noon and the QCWA will follow. (3) VE testing will be held at Marshall, Saturday, September 10. (4) A Technician class will be offered beginning this Tuesday evening at World Gospel Church; the time is 6:30 for code and 7:00 for theory. (5) Special events: September 10 will be the Wabash Valley Marathon; September 17 will be Red Cross day at Paitson Brothers; September 17 will also be the Recovery Walk at Ryves Hall – contact Jim, K9DIF or Dave, N9FMD, if you are interested in helping with this event; September 24 will be the Vigo County Family Learning Day at the Library in the morning; September 24 will also be the Special Event Station at the Cory Apple Festival – everyone was encouraged to come out to operate or just to talk to people about Amateur Radio; October 1 will be the Duathlon at Lincoln Trail State Park; October 9 is the EOHC Fox Hunt and picnic. (6) Next month's Club meeting program will be Home Brew – all amateurs are encouraged to bring their completed projects and show them off. (7) Peoria Hamfest will be September 7. The **Secretary's Report** was presented as published in *The Bandspread*. There were no questions or comments on the minutes. Chuck, W9COD, presented the **Treasurer's Report** with a total of \$4,383.53 in all accounts and moved that it be approved as presented; John, N9YRX, seconded the motion. **Old Business:** Update on the Digipeater and pager system – Kevin, K9HX, reported that the digipeater went on the air last evening on 145.05 on the ISU tower, with a call sign of W9ISU. He reported that most of the supplies were donated resulting in little expense to the Club. Regarding the pagers, 50% of them are ready to go. Anyone wanting a pager should make a check out for \$10 to WIAREC and should see Dave, N9FMD, to receive one. The paging system is being tested once a week. **New Business:** (1) Name badges: in order to receive a badge without cost to you, you must have attended three out of the last six meetings, based on the attendance sheets. Dave, N9FMD, moved that the Club cover the cost of badges for those who have attended three of the last six meetings; Kay, KB9HYH, seconded the motion. The motion carried. Anyone who wishes to may order a badge – see Gary, W9EEU. (2) Emergency Communications: Dave, N9FMD, reported that we have been working with the Red Cross and Channel 10 to handle traffic regarding Hurricane Katrina. He reported that they do not want Amateur Radio operators going to the area on their own – we must work through FEMA. John, N9YRX, reported that Red Cross in Charleston, IL, is holding a required training class for anyone wishing to go to the area and assist. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

-Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter, Secretary.

Board Meeting Minutes 09/02/05

The September 2, 2005 WVARA Board Meeting was called to order at 9:20 p.m. by Club President Gary Adams, W9EEU. Also present were Past President Kevin Berlen, K9HX, Vice President Don Pine, K9DRP, Treasurer Chuck Procarione, W9COD, Past President Steve Shorter, NT9T, Secretary, Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR and guests Ted Brentlinger, K9SGL, Kay Brentlinger, KB9HYH, Jim Osburn, WD9EYB and John T. Bell, KB9PIE. The **Secretary's Report** was presented as published in *The Bandspread*. There were no questions or comments regarding the minutes. The **Treasurer's Report** was presented by Chuck. He reported a balance in all accounts of \$4,383.53 and moved that it be approved as presented; Kevin seconded the motion and it was approved. **Old Business:** (1) Equipment Disposal: The list is not ready for publication at this time. (2) Christmas Party Planning: Entertainment is still needed and ideas were requested. This is to be further discussed at the November Board meeting. (3) Santa at the Mall: It was reported that the date of December 17, is available if we want to change the date. Kevin moved that we hold the Santa at the Mall Special Event on December 17; Chuck seconded the motion. The motion carried. (4) Repeater issues: The problem being experienced by the repeater is intermittent and Kevin reported that it was not a problem the day he went out to work on it. It is unknown where the problem is, but Kevin will continue to monitor and work on it. **New Business:** (1) Kevin reported that Clay County School Corporation contacted him regarding the Clay County Family Literacy Day, which is the same day as the Duathlon. The times are 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 P.M. in Brazil and 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 P.M. in Clay City. Kevin agreed to coordinate the event in Brazil but it was decided not to participate in the Clay City event. Steve volunteered to assist him. They will talk to Dave, N9YNF, regarding the use of the ARES trailer. (2) The Technician class was discussed. Ideas which were discussed were a one day or one week-end class as LaPorte does. Chuck will talk with Charla, N9TRS, regarding this idea and possibly have a couple of people go to LaPorte and see how it works. (3) Hamfest: We need to have the flyers ready in time for the Ft. Wayne Hamfest. The date is March 11. Advertise to the potential vendors that there is no table fee. Kevin volunteered to be the Hamfest Chairman. Jim, WD9EYB, volunteered to be the Forum Chairman for the Hamfest. A location was discussed but no decision was made. There being no further business, Chuck moved to adjourn at 10:10 p.m. -Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter, Secretary.

OW!

Get over it!



Dave is just now beginning to discover what all his acceptance in Americorps really includes.

The President's Corner

As reports of hurricane Katrina continue we are reminded once again of what can happen at any time. At times we get so accustomed to our daily routine that we lose site of the fact that disasters can and do happen that disrupt those daily activities. Events like this also continue to point out the value of ham radio. For example, Louisiana SEC Gary Stratton K5GLS said, "We have had praise from one end of Louisiana to the other about Amateur Radio operators. There was a communication to the EOC in Baton Rouge from FEMA that said, 'Ham radio is our prime communications with you, and they should get anything they need,' so FEMA recognizes the importance of ham radio." Stratton also reported that Amateur Radio has even had to loan some government agencies their communication equipment because those agencies own equipment didn't function.

Of course along with the positive comes the negative. Sometimes well-intentioned people can cast a different image. According to an ARES report from the ARRL some "renegade" hams were turned away from an affected area along with threats of forced restraint if they did not leave. The ARRL has a great field organization in place and we would all do well to learn this system and work within it in any communication emergency. A well-coordinated effort will not only accomplish the task of communication, but will leave a very positive image as well. Our Indiana SEC, Dave Pifer N9YNF has pointed out that NIMS (National Incident Management System) training will be required for all individuals working with agencies in the near future. I would encourage you to complete this training and get your certification.

Another item that we should note is the necessity of knowing how our equipment operates. It would be a good idea to have a copy of the manual, or at a minimum a cheat sheet, packed away in your response kit. Having this information could save a great deal of frustration in the field during an emergency response.

Of course knowing how to handle traffic is critical in these emergency situations. The presentation at the November club meeting will be on message handling. Let's pack the house on November 4 and learn, or refresh our learning, on this very important topic.

73,

Gary Adams W9EEU

Your License Expiration!

Have you checked your ticket's expiration date recently? Even with the two-year grace period, it's easy to forget to renew. Better check it now. You probably *won't* receive a reminder in the mail unless it's from some group who wants you to *pay* to have them do it for you. See one of your local VEs instead.

Yet Another Marathon!



The WVARA has added a new race to its "repertoire". On Sept. 10, 2005, the Wabash Valley Road Runners held their Mini-Marathon and we were there. This is a 13 mile event starting at the Ivy Tech campus in southern Vigo County and winding around the southern part of the county, returning back to the Ivy Tech campus. There were approximately 90 participants in the event. While this is an annual event for the Road Runners organization this was the first time that Amateur Radio was involved with it. Participating stations were N9FMD, WB9WVG, K9SGL, KB9NLJ, KC9DRS and N9YNF.

The general response to our presence was very good from the organizers, especially when they found out that the person who was supposed to be the follow up bike behind the last participant... was not there. So, being the resourceful people we have been so many times in the past, we picked up the slack. Once the last person had passed a location, WB9WVG, K9SGL and N9YNF became the de facto "sag wagon".

-David Pifer, N9YNF



Introducing the Public to Amateur Radio

Once again the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association and Vigo County ARES brought Amateur Radio to the public with Family Learning Day at the Vigo County Public Library. The event was Saturday, September 24, 2005, from 9a.m. until Noon.

With the help of the ARES trailer, K9VDQ and his tower trailer, N9YNF, N9FMD, K9ERE, N9ZXO and KC9BZG, the site was prepared, and staffed for the event. Several children and adults were introduced to Amateur Radio, many for the first time.

The big draw for the day was Morse Code. For some reason, no one could resist pushing down on N9YNF's huge, wooden "QLF" Morse code key and were amazed when they heard their name in Morse. It was a great way to show kids an old, but still very effective form of communication.

With the Hurricane Nets going, we were also able to show folks how Amateur Radio is effective and useful in emergency situations such as hurricanes and other natural disasters.

Several folks took literature and a lot of interest seemed to be sparked in Ham Radio. A few adults who had "Always wanted to try it" were encouraged to do so and a couple of inactive hams expressed interest in coming to future meetings and getting back into the hobby.

Family Learning Day proves year after year to be a great event to get the word out about Amateur Radio. Hope to see you there next year!

-Chad, KC9BZG

Hams Are Called to Assist Ryves Hall

Some local hams gave up part of their Saturday to help Ryves Hall Youth Center coordinate the recent "Recovery Walk" along the Heritage Trail. The 2.5 mile walk was held to call attention to the many area resources available to help persons beat addictions to various drugs and other problems. It attracted about 125 participants this year.

Hams participating in the activity included Debbie, KC9AOR, Diane, W9SMW, Steve NT9T, Kevin, K9HX, Chad, KC9BZG, and Ron, KB9VXO. Jim, KA9DIF, also joined the net, and Dave, N9FMD, served as project coordinator for the activity.

In addition to providing an increased level of safety for the activity, ham participation gave us an opportunity to demonstrate our hobby and skills to the participants and also to local officials including Mayor Kevin Burke, Police Chief Loudermilk and Sheriff Jon Marvel.

Hams also helped participants and officials eliminate part of the local supply of barbecued chicken and home-made cole slaw at the conclusion of the one hour walk.

-Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD

This article got "lost in the ether" earlier this year. Your editor's ISP suddenly decided to initiate a block of all Hotmail messages, all on it's own. This article was good enough that we felt it needed to run anyway. So just pretend it's Spring again and it's still cool, and Memorial Day, Field Day are still on the horizon.

Dayton Hamvention 2005

As early risers boarded the Turner Coach bound for Dayton, pins made by Ginger, WB9ZHC, were handed out stating "The Bus".

After a stop in Richmond, IN for breakfast, we soon arrived at the site of the Dayton Hamvention 2005. Eager hams scattered between the large 2500 site outdoor flea market and the 500 indoor exhibits, searching for the perfect bargain and viewing the newest in ham technology. Many freebies such as hats, t-shirts, pens and buttons were also added to goodie bags.

One of the highlights, as appeared in last June's Bandspread, was the Red Cross emergency communications van. It was truly an awesome sight.

Debbie, KC9AOR, approached the AOR exhibit and received a free pin and key chain since she had been advertising for them with her call sign for years.

Mike Cloutier took advantage of the testing facilities at the hamvention and passed his technician test and received many congratulations as we boarded the bus back to Terre Haute. Mike has been attending the Tuesday night Technician class.

It would be difficult to determine the ham who had the best time, but Dale, KC9HLD, really enjoyed searching for things on his list. This was his first hamvention as a licensed ham.

After a frenzied search for bargains, the group began to tire. Attendance seemed to be down somewhat, but many exhibitors said sales were up from last year.

A tradition continued as our group stopped at Shapiro's in Indianapolis for a delicious evening meal.

On the last leg of the trip some settled back in the soft cushioned seats while others began to serenade (?) the group with old-time favorites. We feel certain our bus driver Butch, will remember to bring his collection of music by Roy Rogers next year.

Included in our group were those who have been licensed for years and one young future ham, Aaron Van Sandt, who will be taking his technicians test soon.

Submitted by: Ron, AB9GI and Bette, KC9GWT

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.

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President	Gary Adams, W9EEU
Vice-President	Don Pine, K9DRP
Secretary	Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR
Treasurer	Chuck Procarione, W9COD
Trustee	David Pifer, N9YNF
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Past President	Steve Shorter, NT9T

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Or e-mail the Discussion Group at:
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Also, see our web page at...

<http://www.w9uuu.org>

Webmaster: David Pifer, N9YNF

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2006

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.

Dear Dr. Elmer,

What are your thoughts regarding ham radio and the recent hurricane disasters?

As this column is written only a few days have passed since the hurricanes made landfall, and only the slightest vestage of order has returned along the Gulf Coast as is visible to the TV viewer. This is a situation that most emergency management officials think about in their worst dream. However even at this early stage there are some lessons to be learned.

Among the most important to remember is that hams and others from across the nation are ready to go somewhere and help when needed. They will gather up whatever they think is needed and head for the disaster scene. Unfortunately, in this case, there is little to be done when they arrive, because there is no structure to utilize their help. In many cases there is also no way to get the help to where it is needed most, or even discover what and where those needs are.

So these circumstances usually dictate that the first round has to come from the people already there. These are the local hams, like us, that are already in place. Plans are already printed that utilize these local resources, although most probably do not fully consider the worst possible case. These plans anticipate that those in the affected area will function with existing equipment, and within existing frameworks. Additional operators will be there in a few days if needed, but locals must initiate the action.

In the case of Katrina/Rita, an extremely unusual although not unexpected event, there simply were no communications first responders available for days. Many stations were under water or they were in vehicles that were driven away from the area of devastation seeking safety. There was simply no one left to communicate with. This new situation will no doubt be the subject of much head scratching and re-thinking by emergency management officials and ARES in the near future.

The next lesson involves thinking about what may be needed here at home in the Wabash Valley. While widespread devastation such as a hurricane is not a danger here, there are a number of events that could produce similar results, such as a massive earthquake or a multiple tornado outbreak and therefore need to be considered. Since our local population includes four colleges and universities, we can expect health and welfare inquiries from a large geographic area. We can also expect local communications infrastructure failures, including not only telephone service, but public safety systems as well. We may be positioned at dispatch centers, hospitals, fire stations, and whatever else, to create a communications system replacing those that have failed. We also straddle a state border, so it may be necessary to create channels into two different state governments.

Another lesson deals with keeping track of what is going on around you. The hurricane gave several days notice and there will be much debate in coming months about the degree to which that was noticed and dealt with effectively. In our area a significant threat is also posed by wind, both the rotating kind and straight line winds as well. Ours are called tornadoes, which are much smaller but just as furious. Instead of a few days notice, our weather often gives only a few hours warning at best.

Stories will be heard for many years describing the accomplishments of hams in this current tragedy, but the hobby has once again proven its value to the nation, and its overall ongoing importance.

Dr. Elmer is pleased to answer your questions in this column. If there is something unclear, or you have a question about ham radio, just send a note to the Bandspread editor. If you prefer not to have your name included at the end, that's fine.

Please send submissions to the editor at < k9ere@earthlink.net > Please put "Dr. Elmer" on the e-mail subject line so the editor can recognize it in amongst other e-mails. Or, you may snail-mail it to: Dr. Elmer, P.O. Box 81, Terre Haute, IN 47808-0081

Red Cross Family Preparedness Day

Again this year the Red Cross sponsored its Family Preparedness Day in the Ace Hardware parking lot. And again, David Pifer, N9YNF and David Hudgens, KC9EGN along with Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD plus a few others, set up and operated the ARES trailer on site. This was the same day as the Ryves Hall Recovery Walk so Amateur Radio volunteers were spread pretty thinly that day. (See pix below. -ed)

...And Some More from Cory



The Eastside Outdoor Ham Club Fall 2005 Family Picnic and FOX HUNT

It's Sunday, October 9th, 2005, At Lincoln Trail State Park, 4 miles south of Marshall, IL on Highway 1 - ADMISSION FREE! -

Tentative Schedule, subject to change:

- Morning - Coffee and doughnuts at the shelter
 - 9:30 AM to 10:00 AM - Registration at the shelter
 - 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM - Mobile hunt in park
- Noon to 1:00 PM - Family picnic; bring something to share
- 1:00 to 3:00 PM - Foot hunt, 5 foxes on 147.45 MHz
- Morning to dusk - Mini field day and other activities at the shelter

We hope to be at the Red Oak Picnic Area.

Call on 146.52 MHz for assistance.

We'll also monitor the 146.685 MHz, PL 151.4 Hz, Terre Haute, IN, repeater.

Email wd9eyb0905@wirelessinfield.com for latest info.

A PDF flyer is available online at <http://lightning.qrp.com/~wd9eyb/eastside/hunt100905/flyer.pdf>

Acknowledgments

There were several people who contributed pictures to this issue. We hope this list is complete but if not, and you were left out, you can join the ranks of the many Club members who make countless unseen contributions day after day to make the Club what it is today.

Jim Edwards, KA9DIF, David Pifer, N9YNF and John Van Sandt, N9YRX plus staff photos.

Many thanks to all who took the time and expended the effort to make your *Bandspread* a better issue not only through pictures but also articles. -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

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

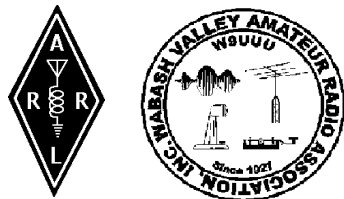
- Walk-Ins Welcome -

For further information, contact John Van Sandt, N9YRX (217) 826-8821

Oct. 2 Terre Haute

Nov. 12 Marshall

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OCTOBER 2005

2006= subscription 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.