

## REGULAR EVENTS

Friday, General Meeting **7:00 PM**, Blas-Col Apparatus  
Nov 4 7th & Hulman (1st Friday of each month.)

The Board meeting immediately follows the General meeting. Visitors are welcome.

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

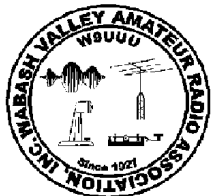
Take  
Note!

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Ft. Wayne Hamfest ..... Saturday, Nov 19

WVARA Christmas Party ..... Saturday, Dec 10

Santa at the Mall ..... Saturday, Dec 17



THE

# BANDSPREAD

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

NOVEMBER 2006



## TWO NEW REPEATERS JOIN THE PARTY

Two new amateur repeaters are joining the list of disaster communications resources available in the local area this month. The new UHF repeater is on the air now, and the new VHF repeater is expected on the air within the next few weeks. Both are located at the Vermillion Co. EOC in Clinton, and result from federal funding through the CSEP program at Newport.

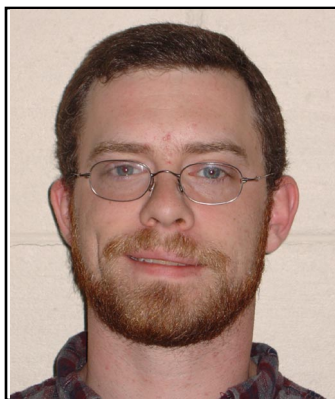
Both repeaters will operate under the supervision and call sign of WVARA member Kirt Lowrey, K9KSA, who is employed in that emergency office. The UHF system operates on 442.175 MHz, (447.175 MHz input) with about 200 watts ERP and an antenna at the 280 ft. level. The VHF repeater will operate on 146.715 MHz, with an antenna on top of the 300 ft. tower. Both are equipped to use a 151.4 Hz PL tone, if testing indicates the need. Local hams should program the PL tones into their radios now, along with the frequencies so that no additional efforts would be needed if the tone is found to be required.

Vermillion EMA director Ray Colombo, has been a long-time advocate of using ham radio in emergency situations, and has included several amateur radio transmitters in his emergency operating center. The new repeaters were funded by federal money, requested in support of the chemical stockpile program, after recent disasters showed the need for our help. EMA director Colombo has already demonstrated his belief in our capabilities, and says that the new equipment will help us help him. He says the next new budget cycle includes additional funds requested to link the new UHF repeater into the statewide disaster network.

Curt, K9KSA, says repeater coordination for the project was made possible by the help of John Voigt, K9GBO, who released his coordinated UHF frequency for this use. Coverage maps for the new repeaters will be drawn after several months of testing and adjustment.

-Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD

### Bulletin: Vigo Co. Has A New E.C.



Dave Hudgens, KC9EGN

At press time, we have learned that David Pifer, Indiana Section Emergency Coordinator, has just appointed Dave Hudgens, KC9EGN, as the new Vigo County ARES E.C. We'll have more in the December issue.

### MONTHLY Program

The November meeting program is on **Message Handling**

### WVARA Surplus Equipment Auction Announced

In accordance with the WVARA Bylaws, Article VI, the Club is announcing an auction of the surplus equipment as listed below.

- 1 Commodore VIC 20
- 2 4-amp power supplies
- 1 6-amp power supply
- 2 PS2 computers
- 1 S-Con 5k repeater controller

The Deadline for making bids is the beginning of the November Board meeting (right after the Club meeting).

Please contact Trustee David Pifer, N9YNF, with your bid at n9ynf@arrl.net or call 466-1005 and leave a message.

### LOCAL NETS

Tuesday Evening	8:00 pm THT
Parke Co Em Svs Net	146.745/R
Wednesday Evening	9:00 pm THT
Clark Co. ARES Net	146.520/S
Thursday Evening	9:00 pm THT
CAARLA Net	146.685/R
Sunday Morning	8:20 am THT
Vigo Co. ARES Net	146.685/R
Sunday Evening	9:00 pm THT
WVARA Net	146.685/R*

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

# Minutes



## General Meeting Minutes 10/07/05

The October 7, 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, those present introduced him/herself with name and call sign. There were 35 members and guests present. The program for this meeting was "Home Brew Contest". The winners were: 1st Place Advanced Projects - KC9UU, Bob Harker - QRP Transmitter; 2nd Place Advanced Projects - WD9EYB, Jim Osburn - Fox Prox Hidden Transmitter; 3rd Place Advanced Projects - W9COD, Chuck Procarione - J-Beam 2 M and Stand; 1st Place Intermediate Projects - KC9HLD Dale Blackwell - Pop-up Portable Tower; 2nd Place Intermediate Projects - N9YRX, John VanSandt - Slinky Dipole; 3rd Place Intermediate Projects - N9YRX, John VanSandt - WHUDESAY - Playback recorder; 1st Place Beginner Projects - N9ZXO, Ronnie Woodall - Code Key. Other awards given: "Most likely to be attacked by their project": N9YRX, John VanSandt - Slinky Dipole; "Most likely to be coveted project" - W9COD, Chuck Procarione - J-Beam 2 M and Stand; "Most unique use of nontraditional technologies" - WD9EYB, Jim Osburn - Fox-Prox Broom; "Most likely to get a hernia" - KC9HLD, Dale Blackwell - Pop-up Portable Tower. Following the break, the business meeting was conducted. **Announcements:** (1) WVARA Board Meeting will be held immediately following this meeting; (2) CAARLA/QCWA Meetings will be held Saturday, October 8, beginning at 12:00 p.m. at Pizza City on 2nd Street in Terre Haute; (3) This Sunday is the EOHC picnic and foxhunt; (4) VE testing will be November 12, at Marshall; (5) Dues for 2006 are now being accepted by Chuck. They are still \$20 for one member of the family and \$5 each for additional members. **Secretary's Report:** Debbie, KC9AOR, moved that the Secretary's Report be approved as published in *The Bandspread*; Delbert, KC9DRR, seconded the motion. There being no questions, the motion carried. Chuck, W9COD, presented The **Treasurer's Report** reporting a balance in all accounts of \$4,168.58; Kevin, K9HX, seconded the motion and it carried. **Old Business:** (1) Bison Stampede Certificates are being printed by Ray K9DUR; (2) Gary, W9EEU, reported that Club name badges have been distributed. **New Business:** (1) Gary, W9EEU, reported that the Club has been requested to host the 2006 Bison Stampede and the Board has approved our doing so. The location has not been determined. (2) The time for the Club meeting will be moved up 1/2 hour to 7:00 p.m. in order to allow the Board meeting to be held afterwards; (3) Dave, N9FMD, reported that he has a number of batteries available for the pagers; (4) Digipeater: Kevin, K9HX, reported that the Digipeater has been on and off service several times recently. It is currently back on the air on the 145.05 frequency with no tone needed. It's call is W9ISU. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

-Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter KC9AOR, Secretary.

## Board Meeting Minutes 10/07/05

The October 7, 2005 WVARA Board Meeting was called to order at 9:20 p.m. by Club President, Gary Adams, W9EEU. Also present were Vice President, Don Pine, K9DRP; Secretary, Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR; Treasurer, Chuck Procarione, W9COD; Past President, Kevin Berlen, K9HX; Past President, Steve Shorter, NT9T, Trustee, David Pifer, N9YNF, and guests Gary Wheeler, K9ERE, and Jim Osburn, WD9EYB. The **Secretary's Report** was approved as published in *The Bandspread*. The **Treasurer's Report** was given by Chuck, W9COD, who reported a balance in all accounts of \$4168.58 and moved that the report be approved; Don, K9DRP, seconded the motion and the motion carried. **Old Business:** (1) The Packet Digipeater was discussed; (2) Equipment Disposal: David, N9YNF, e-mailed the Board a list of equipment. That list was reviewed and discussed. It was decided that there are seven items on that list which could be entered in the Club Auction. They are: 1 Commodore VIC 20, 2 4-amp power supplies, 1 6-amp power supply, 2 PS2 computers, and 1 S-Con 5k repeater controller. Steve, NT9T, moved and David, N9YNF, seconded the motion to set a minimum bid of \$75 on the repeater controller. This list will be published in *The Bandspread* in November and put on the listserv. Sealed bids will be due by November's Club Meeting. Chuck, W9COD, moved to put all items listed above up for auction; Steve, NT9T, seconded the motion and the motion passed. (3) The Club Christmas party was discussed. It was decided to have a "dirty" grab bag gift exchange with a \$5 limit for each gift. The Club will provide meat with the rest of the meal being a carry-in. Mary Pifer, KB9NLJ, will be in charge of the decorations with a budget of \$50. (4) Santa at the Mall: John, N9YRX, will be asked to again chair this event and to obtain a special event call sign. The date will be Saturday, December 17. (5) The Nominating Committee has been appointed and will give their report at the November Club meeting and in the December *Bandspread*. (6) Hamfest 2006: Chuck, W9COD, had nothing new to report regarding the location; we will need to know by the next Board meeting. The date is March 11. The entrance fee was discussed. **New Business:** (1) Bison Stampede 2006: Don, K9DRP, will chair the Bison Stampede. Location was discussed. (2) Liability insurance and property insurance were discussed. We need to supply the insurance company with an updated equipment list. (3) Kevin, K9HX, advised the Board about the problems that Ryves Hall is having with their TS-2000. It was decided that we would solicit donations from The Club to help with the repairs to this radio and to purchase a needed antenna. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:18 p.m.

-Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter, Secretary.

## The President's Corner

The W9S call has been issued to the WVARA for Santa at the Mall on December 17. John, N9YRX, is coordinating the event and will be asking for help to make the event a fun time for kids that stop by and talk to Santa.

Of course that means that Christmas is rapidly approaching and along with the season of joy comes the WVARA Christmas party. Our pitch-in style dinner was enjoyed last year, and we will do the same this year with the Club providing the meat and drinks. We will have our party in the Great Room at the World Gospel Church. We will again gather at 6:30 p.m. and plan the meal to begin at 7:00 p.m. We will be having fun with grab bag gifts so you are asked to bring a gift with a limit of \$5.00. There will be no charge for the dinner, however contributions to help cover a donation to the Church for use of the facility would be appreciated.

And finally, a reminder that we are asking for donations to help the KC9EKW "Every Kid Wins" ham station at the Ryves Hall Youth Center. They have encountered some challenges with their equipment recently, and any donations will go entirely to the KC9EKW station. Some donations have already been received and our thanks to those individuals. Give generously and perhaps we can make a difference for some of these kids.

73, Gary, W9EEU

## Section Emergency Test

Local hams participated in an unannounced net called in support of, and at the same time as, the recent Section Emergency Test. A total of 14 stations joined the net, several of which were mobile, and all but two of which were operated on emergency power sources.

Amateur operators were alerted to the activity by pagers operating on the K9IKQ repeater system as a demonstration of the recently installed Local Amateur Paging System (LAPS.) The system allows hams to monitor the repeater from a radio carried on their belt, and if desired only hear messages preceded by a tone alert.

Net control for the activity was conducted from a public demonstration at the Clay County Public Library, using the local ARES communications trailer as a base. The general public, and local government officials were given tours of the facility and came away with a better understanding of what we can do.

-Dave, N9FMD



Ever attended a Board meeting? You're welcome to. Oh, it's BYO, BTW.

## Dear Dr. Elmer,

What is the best way you can think of to share this new hobby with my friends, and maybe get them interested in getting their licenses?

The best way to create an initial curiosity is probably through a combination of "show and tell" and display of enthusiasm, at the same time.

It's a little difficult to do that, however, because the hobby can be highly technical and complicated, and because there are so many areas of interest, it can be difficult to stay focused.

Two parts that are almost universally interesting are the general subject of emergency services, and participation in conversations with people in distant lands. If your current license doesn't include HF, you can still demonstrate it by simply listening to HF bands. Just tell your friends that you will soon have the license to call them back.

Recent hurricane problems along the Gulf Coast resulted in hams from all parts of America creating HF nets to help out. Those nets provided the opportunity to demonstrate both emergency services and conversations with (sort of) distant lands.

There are also contests nearly every weekend and more special events stations than you can shake a stick at. If your license permits, you can invite a friend over to the house and allow them to talk on the radio. If you have the license but not the radio there are places you can go, including the WVARA club station, where you can use their radios.

If you can determine the interests of your friends you can find something interesting for both of you to do. Don't spend too much time on the details at first, just get them hooked. The ham community will help do the rest.

Dr. Elmer is pleased to answer your questions. Just e-mail the editor at [k9ere@earthlink.net](mailto:k9ere@earthlink.net).

**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	Gary Adams, W9EEU
Vice-President	Don Pine, K9DRP
Secretary	Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR
Treasurer	Chuck Procarione, W9COD
Trustee	David Pifer, N9YNF
Immediate Past Pres	Kevin Berlen, K9HX
Past President	Steve Shorter, NT9T

**Bandspread Editor:** Gary Wheeler, K9ERE

**Bandspread Facilitator:** Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD

**Bandspread Circulation:** David & Mary Pifer, N9YNF & KB9NLJ

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

## Another Successful Deuces Wild

The Deuces Wild Duathlon this year was another total success although there were several changes. This year we did not use the Vigo County ARES® trailer, we had a new net control and several new hams participating. KB9ZVA, (Terry) did an excellent job as net control and set up his RV as a station at the start finish line. Terry had an external speaker set up so Amy Yargus (race director) and people at the start/finish line could hear the communications for information and status of the racers.

WD9EYB, (Jim) provided badges for the radio operators for identification. Fitting with the event as an emergency communications exercise the badges had the ARES® logo. This is considered an exercise in emergency communications without the use of a repeater or commercial power. Stations did not know until arrival at the site where they would be located. The real test of the net control station this year was communications with a station positioned at the far end of the course using just a couple watts of power from a hand held transceiver in the Wabash River bottoms.

Amy Yargus the race director is amazed every year that we do this without pay. We try to explain we do this as ECOM practice and have some fun in the park with ham radio as a side benefit. She kind of scratches her head when I thank her for the opportunity to do for her and the race as it keeps us up to snuff with ECOM and introduces new hams to the legacy of ECOM for future generations. This was a combined multi-county effort with hams from Vigo, Crawford, Edgar, Clark and Sullivan counties. -John, N9YRX



Without question, she's the MVP today.  
AI, N9ZRH                      Bette, KC9GWT



L-R Kenna, KB9RUP, Randy, KG9GS,  
Matt, KC9DRU?



L-R John, N9YRX, Randy, KG9GS,  
Nicole, KC9FDF



Caught in the act!  
L-R Don, K9DRP, John, N9YRX, AI N9ZRH



Katy, KC9FDG                      Steve, WB9WVG



"Back off, Buster!"                      "Hmmm - lunch!"  
"It's not the size of the dog in the fight..."



You're on your own for these, folks. We think some of them may be wanted, judging from the way they're hiding.

# Annual Homebrew Night



N9YRX, John VanSandt - Slinky Dipole



KC9HLD Dale Blackwell - Pop-up Portable Tower



W9COD, Chuck Procarione - 2M J-Beam and Stand



N9ZXO, Ronnie Woodall - Code Key



KC9UU, Bob Harker - QRP Transmitter Kit

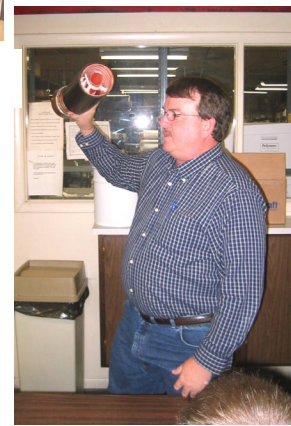


WD9EYB, Jim Osburn - Fox Prox Hidden Transmitter



KA9JWZ-Mike Thompson-IGOR- a test bed for motherboards

Here are the Homebrew presenters.  
For the 'winners', see Club minutes, p. 2.  
The real winners, of course, were all those who gained experience by actually building something and also, those who attended the meeting to see them. - ed.



K9KIX-Jeff Tucker - Demo of section of new Hi Def TV coax.

Special awards were given as follows: "Most likely to be attacked by their project": N9YRX, John VanSandt - Slinky Dipole; "Most likely to be coveted project" - W9COD, Chuck Procarione - J-Beam 2 M and Stand; "Most unique use of nontraditional technologies" - WD9EYB, Jim Osburn - Fox-Prox Broom; "Most likely to get a hernia" - KC9HLD, Dale Blackwell - Pop-up Portable Tower.

## 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?

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 3. It arrives sooner! Of course, you can still make a paper copy 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 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.

Thought we'd throw in a couple of shots from the last QCWA/CAARLA meeting from Pizza City. We meet on the second Saturday of each month, at noon.



## 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

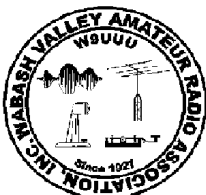
8:30 AM Illinois time  
1st Christian Church  
902 N. 6th Street  
Marshall, IL 62441  
- Walk-Ins Welcome -

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

**Nov 12 Marshall**

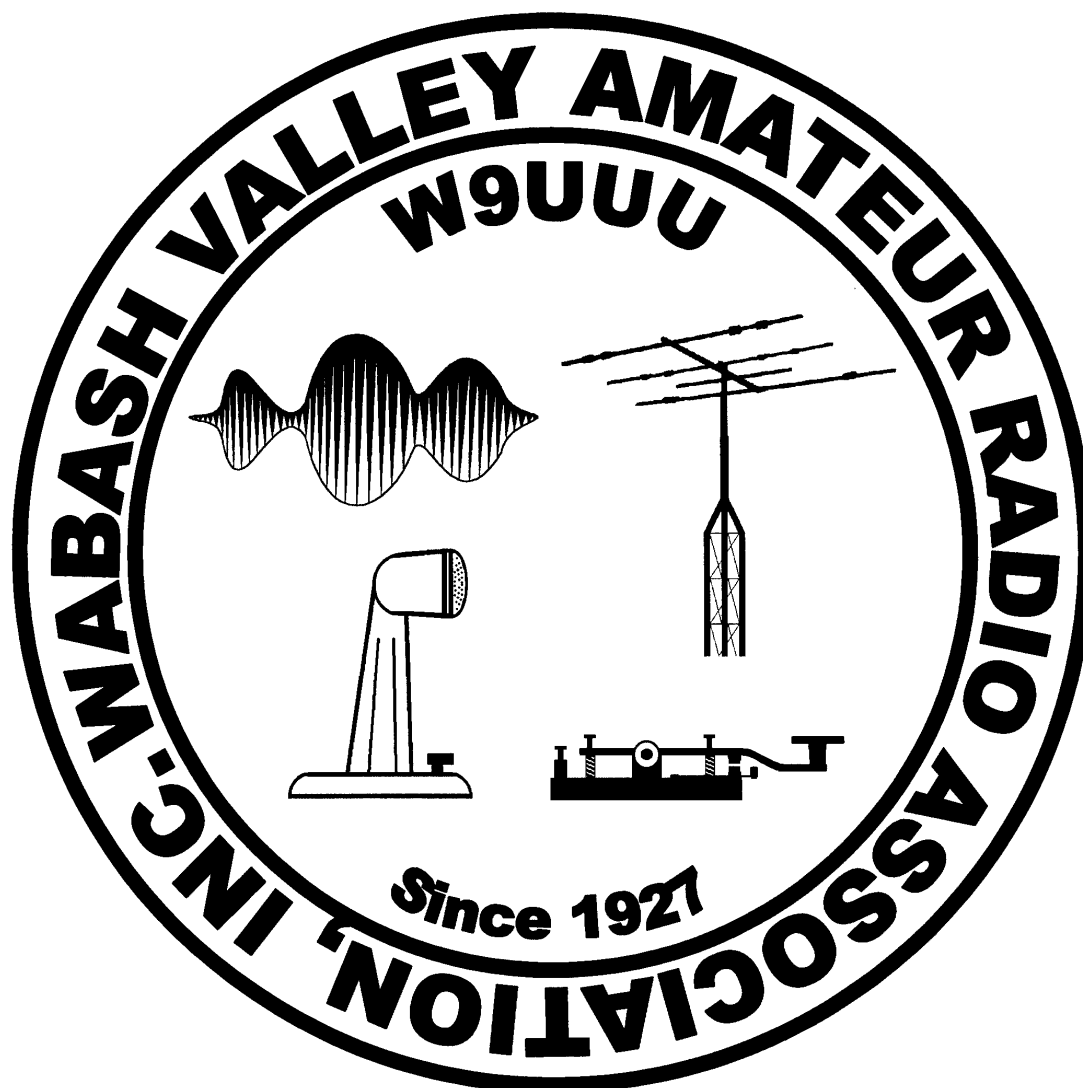
**Dec 4 Terre Haute**

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## **NOVEMBER 2005**

2005= 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  
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the enclosed membership form to join the  
Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association.



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