

REGULAR EVENT

WVARA board will hold its August meeting on Monday, Aug. 7, at 6 PM in the Glas-Col conference room. All members are welcome.

- Gary Adams, W9EEU

SPECIAL EVENTS

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO PICNIC

All licensed and prospective amateurs and families are welcome! For details, see p. 4



THE

BANDSPREAD

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

Summer 2006



FIELD DAY 2006-BETTER THAN EVER!

The 2006 WVARA Field Day was a great success. Once again this year, we set a new club record for QSO's with 1994 and for points with a total score of 7032. Each year we continue to improve over the previous year's effort. To all of you who participated in any way, Thank You!

Again this year we competed in class 8A. The cooler weather played a part in our increased score this year, as did improved band conditions. We also did a better job in keeping the rigs on the air making contacts. When I returned from a short nap at about 2:30 AM, no less than six of the rigs were on the air making QSO's.

We were also on the air with PSK 31 this year, after a several year absence. KC9EGN was using a new program that allowed the operator to view several QSO's at once. You should plan to look over his shoulder next year to see how easy this mode is to operate.

Our VE testing session was also a success, with two new amateurs licensed and one upgrade successfully completed. Nearly all of the individuals who tested were able to spend some time operating on the air following the testing session.

This year, in addition to the 160-meter balloon-launched vertical which made a repeat appearance, we also had an 80-meter balloon-launched vertical. The 80-meter vertical was a welcome addition to our antenna complement, and allowed us to work stations we would have otherwise missed.

Media coverage was good again this year and the story covering our operation made the front page of the Tribune-Star on Monday following the event. While there were some errors, it was a



Kevin, K9HX and Chuck, W9COD; give a couple of boys a helium tank and some balloons and... well...

very good report overall and showed Amateur Radio and our operation in a very positive light.

A few weeks after the event, we had a wrap-up meeting. Those attending identified some areas in our operation that were very successful, such as facing the stations toward the middle, away from weather and tripping feet, toward where all the wiring was concentrated. They also noted areas that could further be improved. We will be working to implement these suggestions in our operation next year.

Overall, this was the best Field Day that I have attended in 32 years as an Amateur Radio operator. If you could not make it this year, try to be with us next year. Again next year we will be experimenting with antenna placement in an effort to minimize in-band interference between different modes. I hope you can come join us then.

Kevin Berlen, K9HX
2006 Field Day Chairman

**For a breakdown of Field
Day points, see p. 3**

AN INVITATION

As most of you know, recently the WVARA became a 501(c)3 charitable organization. This is a long term goal that was realized, and makes the Club eligible for various grants, and tax-exempt donations.

Now we need some help from you. The Board would like to form a committee that would find grants that the WVARA would qualify for. This would include researching the application requirements and deadlines involved. If this is something that you would be interested in helping out with, please contact Gary, W9EEU, at PGadams@aol.com or me at k9hx@arrrl.net.

Thanks and 73,

Kevin, K9HX

LOCAL NETS

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

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

Minutes



General Meeting Minutes 06/02/06

The June 2, 2006 meeting of the WVARA was called to order at 7:00 PM by Club President Gary Adams, W9EEU. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Vice President, Don Pine, K9DRP, those present introduced themselves. **Announcements:** (1) The WVARA Board meeting will be held immediately following the Club meeting. (2) CAARLA/QCWA meetings will be 12:00 PM on Saturday, June 10 at World Gospel Church. Everyone is to bring their own lunch. (3) VE testing will be at the Red Cross on 1:00 PM Sunday, June 4 and at Field Day June 24 at 3:30 PM. (3) There will be tube sorting and a silent auction tomorrow at Don, K9DRP's QTH at 1:00 PM. Don will provide ham and beans; everyone is requested to bring a dish to share. (4) Bison Stampede report: 448 contacts were made with 407 stations. Don reported that they experimented with antennas and had a lot of fun. (5) Jim, WD9EYB, announced that the EOHC is having a fox hunt and picnic Sunday, June 4 at the Burkybile Farm. Everyone is welcome. (6) All orders for Field Day T-shirts must be in hand by June 15. The cost is \$10 and must be paid with your order. (7) The Dugger tailgate will be June 17. (8) Pagers are still available. See Dave, N9FMD, if you are interested. The **Secretary's Report** was approved as published in *The Bandspread*. The **Treasurer's Report** was given by Chuck, W9COD. He reported a balance in all accounts of \$3,672.69. Chuck moved that it be approved as read; Steve, NT9T, seconded the motion and it was approved by the membership. **Old Business:** (1) 501(c)(3) questions were discussed. The receipt of 501(c)(3) means that all donations to the WVARA are tax deductible. (2) Repeater interference with the Clinton repeater and plans to resolve were explained by Kevin, K9HX. The installation of a "new" transmitter will hopefully eliminate the problem. He plans to work on the repeater Monday evening; the repeater will be down for a couple of hours while he works on it. **New Business:** Education expenditure request. Dave, N9YNF, is the Education Committee chairman. The approved 2006 budget covers \$200 but we need \$300 for books. Dave would like to have the materials available at Field Day. Joe, KC9JAC, moved to approve the \$300 expenditure; Ron, AB9GI, seconded the motion and the motion was approved by the membership. Following a short break, the half-pot drawing was won by Kay, KB9HYH. The program was Field Day 2006 led by Kevin, K9HX. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM

- Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter KC9AOR, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes 06/02/06

The June 2, 2006 meeting of the WVARA Board was called to order at 9:20 PM by Club President, Gary Adams, W9EEU. Also present were Vice President Don Pine, K9DRP; Treasurer, Chuck Procarione, W9COD; Secretary, Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR; Board Member at Large, Jim Osburn, WD9EYB; Trustee, Kevin Berlen, K9HX; Past President, Steve Shorter, NT9T and guests, Dave Pifer, N9YNF; Gary Wheeler, K9ERE and Joe Cloutier, KC9JAC. **Secretary's Report:** The Secretary's Report was approved as published in *The Bandspread*. Chuck presented the **Treasurer's Report**. There is a balance of \$3,672.69 in all accounts. Chuck moved that the report be approved as presented; Kevin seconded the motion and the motion carried. Chuck noted that funding for the Dayton bus was short \$328.27, with a budgeted shortage of \$100. **Old Business:** (1) Generator Repairs: Chuck reported that the generator is running but they are still working on it. (2) Repeater upgrade and interference: Kevin reported that he picked up a receiver and controller for the remote sites; the voter is on order and we should have it in four weeks. We still need a power supply, crystal and antennas. It should be on the air in August or September. (3) WiFi link to repeater controller: Kevin will order needed parts. (4) Grant Committee: The need for a Committee was discussed. A committee would determine which specific grants to apply for and process the application. It was determined that the committee would not necessarily be composed of Board members. We will publish an ad and put on the WVARA listserv to see if anyone is interested in serving on the committee. Kevin will submit an article to the *Bandspread* and also post the request on the listserv. (5) Consideration of an amendment for removal of an officer: As the present constitution does not prohibit the removal of an officer, it was decided not to pursue this amendment at this time. **New Business:** (1) Memorandums of Understanding: MOU's with other groups was discussed. It was decided that we should draft, adapt and make them incident specific, not agency specific. We will need membership approval. Dave, N9YNF, Joe, KC9JAC, and Gary, W9EEU, will work on refining the wording. There will be general fund-raising and specific project fund-raising. There will be a separate agreement with each organization. (2) Business Plan: Jim, WD9EYB, noted that we need direction for writing a business plan. Jim moved that a planning committee be formed to present a plan to the Board and to the membership. Steve seconded the motion and the motion carried. Jim, Kevin and Steve will be on the planning committee. (3) Advertising in *The Bandspread* was discussed. It was decided that advertising for ham equipment should continue to be free to Club members. For nonmembers, it will be recommended that they post their ham-related items for sale to the listserv. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 PM.

- Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR, Secretary



Board Meeting Minutes 07/10/06

The July 10, 2006, meeting of the WVARA Board was called to order at 6:04 P.M. by Club President, Gary Adams, W9EEU. Also present were Vice President, Don Pine, K9DRP; Treasurer, Chuck Procarione, W9COD; Secretary, Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR; Board Member at Large, Jim Osburn, WD9EYB; Trustee, Kevin Berlen, K9HX; Past President, Steve Shorter, NT9T and guest Melody Adams, WD9EEU.

Secretary's Report: Debbie moved that the Secretary's Report be approved as e-mailed to the Board (and which will be subsequently printed in the Summer edition of *The Bandspread*); Chuck seconded the motion and the motion carried. The **Treasurer's Report** was presented by Chuck. He reported a balance in all accounts of \$3,385.01 and moved that the report be approved; Steve seconded the motion and the motion carried. Chuck will e-mail a detailed report to the Board. **Old Business:** (1) Generator Repairs: Chuck reported that these have been completed at a cost of \$25 for parts. (2) Repeater Upgrade/Interference: Kevin reported that the interference problem has been corrected. For the upgrade, both new sites have been secured; Kevin is gathering parts for the project. (3) WiFi Link: Jim had nothing new to report. Kevin reported that the repeater site will be available, probably in 3 - 6 months at a cost of approximately \$50 versus \$600 for another site. Nothing has been purchased at this time. The PC could go to the repeater site. It was decided to wait until October to see if internet service is available at the repeater site. (4) Grant Committee: Kevin will post to the list server an advertisement for help on this committee. (5) Business Plan Committee: Gary has received no additional responses. Steve, Kevin, Jim and Gary have volunteered. Jim will try to get more non-board members involved. (6) MOU: Dave is working on it but has nothing ready to present at this time. (7) Kevin announced that there will be a Field Day follow up meeting Monday, July 17 at 6:00 P.M.; location to be announced on the listserv. **New Business:** (1) Repeater Linking: The idea of linking the 685 repeater with Kevin's repeater for the weather nets was discussed. Kevin said that it is possible to do it with an additional ground plane antenna and some coax; the cost would be under \$100. Concern was expressed that the repeaters not be linked too far ahead of an actual weather event and use just when the net is brought up. Jim moved and Chuck seconded the motion to link the 145.23 repeater with the 146.685 repeater when a weather net is brought up. Following discussion, the motion passed with Don opposed. (2) Education Request: Dave, N9YNF, proposed the following change in class fees for Technician classes: \$30 which would include the book and registration. If they have the book, the cost would be \$10 and \$12 for the Morse Code CD. Jim moved to approve Dave's proposal; Kevin seconded the motion and the motion passed. We will discuss discounts on membership for class attendees. (3) Dayton Bus was discussed. Gary will check with Turner regarding price for 2007. Chuck will check with the Indianapolis group to see how they are

able to provide the bus from there for \$15 per person. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 P.M.

- Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR, Secretary.

FIELD DAY POINTS FOR 2006

Here's how the points break down.

Bonus Points:	
100% Emergency power	800
Media Publicity	100
Set-up in Public Place	100
Information Booth	100
NTS message to ARRL SM/SEC	100
W1AW Field Day Message	100
Natural power QSOs completed	100
Site Visit by invited elected official	100
Site Visit by invited served agency official	100
Youth participation	60
Youth operators =	3
Youth participants =	3
GOTA Bonus	0
Submitted via the Web	50
Non-traditional mode: ATV	100
Total Bonus Points	1,810
CW QSO's	604
Phone QSO's	1377
Digital QSO's	13
Total QSO's	1994
CW Points	2416
Phone Points	2754
Digital Points	52
Our Score = CW Points + Phone Points + Digital Points + Bonus Points	7032

- Jim, WD9EYB

QCWA CHAPTER 204 ELECTION NOTICE:

Chapter 201, QCWA, will have an important business meeting at the Amateur Radio Picnic on August 12. Kevin, K9HX, had agreed to continue as president, past the expiration of his term until a new candidate could be found. A candidate has been found so an election is in order. All members are invited to the picnic, of course, but we especially need a quorum of voting QCWA member.

The President's Corner

What an awesome Field Day!! Once again we exceeded all expectations with our Field Day on the last weekend of June. There was a tremendous spirit of cooperation throughout the entire event. From the thought and experimentation of antenna configuration to minimize interference, to the planning, to the set-up, to the operation during the weekend, to the meals, and all the way through the teardown and completion, there was a wonderful team effort. Watching this type of effort and cooperation says a lot about the state of ham radio in the Wabash Valley. There is absolutely no doubt that when ham radio is called on for support anywhere in the area, that we can respond and meet the needs for emergency communications.

In just a few hours an empty lot turns into a fully capable operation center for communication running 8 stations (actually more than 8). The best part is that for 24 hours these stations were manned by some of the best ham radio ops anywhere in the world. With careful attention to bonus points, and keeping stations on the air, we scored our highest point total ever. While the intent of the weekend goes well beyond the point total, it is rewarding to add up the points and find that our efforts reflect in the score. And finally when the fun was over, the effort of those on Sunday afternoon to tear down and conclude the event was good to see. In just a few hours the lot was again empty and left even better than when we arrived. I believe this is also a reflection of the pride that we have as ham radio operators. Thank you to all who participated in any way.

Could it possibly be done any better than it was this year? With the ham radio operators in the Wabash Valley, there is no doubt it will be even better next year. At the conclusion of the 2007 event, we will again say, what an awesome Field Day!

See you at the Wabash Valley ham radio picnic on August 12!!

73,
Gary W9EEU

Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Picnic

The WVARA is again sponsoring the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Picnic, which will be held Saturday, August 12, at the home of K9ERE and KA9ALI, in Seelyville. John, N9YRX, will again provide the talk-in station on the 146.685 repeater. Call us for directions.

The meat will hit the grill when the sun drops below the trees or when the mob begins to threaten the chef - whichever comes first; 6:30 would be a safe bet.

All Amateur Radio operators, their families plus aspiring amateurs are welcome to attend. You need not be a member of the WVARA.

The Board will again provide the meat and drinks (burgers, hot dogs, brats, lemonade and iced tea) with donations cheerfully accepted but not required. It will again be a pitch-in so please bring a covered dish to pass or whatever you can to add to the meal. Folding chairs are limited. You might consider bringing some.

Swimming is available at the site. You are welcome to arrive anytime, but if prior to 4:30, you might consider bringing some water-resistant sunscreen. -ed.

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	Kevin Berlen, K9HX
Past President	Steve Shorter, NT9T
Board Member at Large	Jim Osburn, WD9EYB

Bandspread Editor:	Gary Wheeler, K9ERE
Bandspread Facilitator:	Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD
Bandspread Printing:	Gary Adams, W9EEU
Bandspread Circulation:	Gary Adams, W9EEU, David Pifer, N9YNF

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

Or e-mail the Club at: w9uuu@arll.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

FIELD DAY 2006 CORY, INDIANA



Field Day 2006

**A GOOD BLEND OF FUN AND
SERIOUS COMMUNICATION**





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

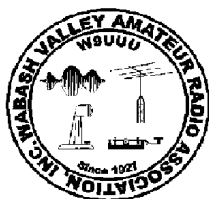
8:30 AM Illinois time
1st Christian Church
902 N. 6th Street
Marshall, IL 62441
- Walk-Ins Welcome -

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

Aug 6 Terre Haute
Sept 9 Marshall

Next month: More ops pix plus the antennas! Photos in this issue are courtesy of Jack, K9CUN plus staff photos.

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



SUMMER 2006

2006= 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 a
membership form to join the Wabash Valley
Amateur Radio Association. There will be
one included in the September Issue.

Ham Radio Classes Now Forming

As a Licensed Ham Radio Operator You Get To

- Serve Your Community
 - Talk To Other Hams On The Radio
 - Meet New Friends
 - Have Your Own Individual Callsign
-

The Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association will be holding a multi-week course where **YOU** will learn everything you need to earn your entry level FCC **Amateur Radio** license and begin to **talk on the radio with other hams** in the area.

Classes Begin in September and will go through November.

Registration is required.

For more information please contact:

David Pifer, N9YNF

812-466-1005 or 812-237-2923

n9ynf@arrl.net



ARRL, The national association for Amateur Radio --
Helping Hams Get Started Since 1914.

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