

General Club Meeting Rescheduled **Friday, November 5, 2010 7:00PM**

WVARA Has Opportunity to Acquire a Building

First, I must apologize for the short time line that we are once again forced into on this subject...

As you know, the Terre Haute Board of Public Works accepted bids on the former Vigo EMA building at 4th and Farrington streets in Terre Haute. The Club submitted a bid of \$1555 for this property. There was a competing bid of approximately \$10,000 submitted on this building as well. Both bids fell below the listed minimum bid set by the Board of Works for this property.

We were notified earlier this month that both of these bids had been tossed out, and at the November 8th Board of Works meeting they would again accept bids on this property, this time with a minimum bid of \$3750. Since there had been a competing bid previously of \$10,000, I did not feel that we would be able to put a competitive bid in, so I chose not to pursue it further.

This situation has changed, however, just within the last day.

Doug, N9JLR, had requested a meeting with Mayor Duke Bennett requesting the City of Terre Haute's assistance in helping the WVARA/Vigo County ARES with locating a piece of property. This meeting took place on Thursday this week. During this meeting, Mayor Bennett brought up the subject of the old EMA building which we had made a bid on. The competing bidder has lost interest. There is a VERY high probability that if we bid \$3751 for the property, the building will belong to the WVARA.

The minimum bid of \$3750 covers the City's expense in preparing the paperwork necessary to dispose of the building.

We have had an anonymous donor come forward and offer to cover 100% of the cost of acquiring the building, if the bid of \$3751 is accepted by the City. This would cover the cost of the bid, as well as any closing and transfer fees. It is my understanding at the completion of this transaction that this building and real estate would be the outright property of the WVARA.

We also have available a low interest guaranteed loan for any repairs necessary on the property. The immediate need is for a roof and repair of the soffits. Based on previous estimates these repairs should be able to be made for under \$20,000. The term of this loan would be 15 years, and would require us to allow a lien on the building as collateral for the loan. If the Club would default on the loan, the entity loaning the money would end up owning the building.

Under the circumstances, the board would like to take this to the membership for a vote. Due to the significance of this potential transaction, we feel that the re-scheduled meeting at the Vigo EMA building may not be the proper venue for such a meeting. **Consequently the Nov 1 event will be called a field trip, and the General meeting will take place at Glas-Col on the regular meeting date of Friday, November 5.**

Once again, I apologize for the short timeline we are forced into on this project. In order for us to place a bid by the November 8 meeting of the Board of Works, we need to act quickly. The WVARA Board would like to place the following proposal to the membership for consideration:

The WVARA will submit a bid of \$3751.00 to the Board of Works for the purchase of the old EMA building at 4th and Farrington and that a loan be secured for the repairs on the building that are immediately needed.

Please attend the General Club meeting on Friday November 5th at 7:00 P.M. to discuss this proposal. This is the best opportunity the Club has had to obtain a building. Please attend the General Club meeting on Friday November 5th and help the club make an informed decision.
Thanks and 73,

Kevin, K9HX

REGULAR EVENTS

Friday General Meeting: 7:00 P.M., 1st Friday of Month, at 1715 S. 8th, (old Post Office bldg. Turn south at Hulman and 8th. Talk-in: 146.685 RPT; (PL 151.4 MHz). Park in back or side of building.

Nov. 5: The Board meeting immediately follows the General Meeting. Our meetings are open. Visitors are welcome!

Every The Club Station is open, 7 - 9 P.M., First Thursday, Downstairs, Thursday: Red Cross Bldg., 700 S. 3rd. Other Thursdays, New Club Station, N.E. corner of 7th and Idaho. Entrance and parking back of Bldg.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Unofficial Campout, Lincoln Trail S.P. October 29,30
Field Trip to EMA **November 1**
VOTE! November 2
The cancelled Club Meeting is back on again... **November 5**
 November Board Meeting November 9
 Board Officers Election December 3
 Field Day 2011 (You can never start too soon.) June 24,25,26



THE

BANDSPREAD

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION INC.

NOVEMBER 2010



*** FIELD TRIP IS NOVEMBER 1; CLUB MEETING IS STILL NOVEMBER 5**

HOMEBREW AMONG MANY ACTIVITIES IN OCTOBER

In the past, it was called the Homebrew Contest but in recent years it has become simply 'Homebrew Night'. This is due in part because Amateur Radio is so diverse a subject that many homebrew items fall into entirely separate categories. However, it's also due the fact that we are, or should be, more interested in what local hams are doing on the subject of homebrew and less interested in whose is better, which is a pretty subjective decision anyway.

To this end, this month's front page photo is about arguably the most attention-getting of the entries this year, Steve's Tesla Coil.

"The early Tesla coil transformer design employs a medium- to high-voltage power source, one or more high voltage capacitor(s), and a spark gap to excite a multiple-layer primary inductor with periodic bursts of high frequency current. The multiple-layer Tesla coil transformer secondary is excited by resonant inductive coupling, the primary and secondary circuits both being *tuned* so they resonate at the same frequency (typically, between 25 kHz and 2 MHz)." http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tesla_coil

(Ray's corrections will appear in the December issue.)

Local Nets

Sunday Evening	9:00 P.M.	ET
WVARA Net 145.685/R*		
Monday Evening	8:00 P.M.	ET
Vigo Co. Em. Svs. Net	146.685/R	
Monday Evening	9:00 P.M.	ET
Clay Co. Em. Svs. Net	146.580/S	
Tuesday Evening	8:00 P.M.	ET
Parke Co. Em. Svs. Net	146.715/R	
Wednesday Evening	9:00 P.M.	ET
Clark Co. Em. Svs. Net	146.595/S	
Thursday Evening	9:00 P.M.	ET
CAARLA Net 146.685/R		
Illiana Skywarn	Whenever needed	
Severe Weather Net	145.230/R	

* First Sunday of the month is Simplex night.
 The WVARA Net meets, that night only, on 146.595/S



Steve, KC9RBU and his 'small' Tesla Coil
 [Continued, see 'Homwbrew Night', p. 4]

Illness and Injury Plague Members and Families

Several people within the WVARA family were presented with medical problems during the past month and we ask for membership support during their recovery processes. Kay, KWOLF, Kathryn, N9YJU and the parents of Donetta Berlen, KA9MFW, have all been in the hospital either recently or currently.

Kay Brentliner is currently hospitalized at Union Hospital, Room 2109, following complications of hip surgery about a month ago. When visited she seemed in good spirits, and said she was feeling much better than when admitted. She said she is now able to walk a short distance but additional surgery is anticipated before leaving the hospital.

A short distance down the hall, in Room 2102, is Donetta's father, Don Bivens, suffering internal injuries after a car accident on October 19th. Donetta's mother, Sharon Bivens, is recovering in intensive care, Room 2171, from the same accident.

Kathryn Bloomer, N9YJU, has returned to her home in Hutsonville after a short visit to a Robinson IL area nursing home following shoulder surgery.

As if Kevin, K9HX, doesn't have enough on his plate with his normal life plus what has previously been written in this article, late word has it that his mother, Irene, has also been admitted to Union Hospital.

UPDATE

It is our sad duty to report that Donetta's father has subsequently passed away. No further details are available at this time.

This Month's Program

< *SEE DATE CHANGES, ABOVE! >

The latest word is that a field trip to the EMA office, located on the National Guard base at Hulman Field, is November 1. The meeting starts at 7 P.M.

We are told at this time that a valid drivers license or a state-issued ID card of some sort will be needed for entry.

After entering the airport at the intersection of S.R. 42 and Chamberlain Rd., continue south to the guard shack. Present your I.D. there. We encourage you to contact the talk-in on 146.685 prior to entering the airport and maintain communications on that frequency. We also expect to have at least one person present at an important turn within the grounds.

The regular Club Meeting will be held on **November 5 at Glas-Col**. At that time, a building proposal will be made to the membership for a vote. All Club members are encouraged to attend!

See attached extra sheet entitled, **WVARA Building Proposal**. -ed.



General Meeting Minutes 10/01/10

The General meeting of the WVARA was called to order on Friday, October 1, 2010, at 7:05 P.M. by President Kevin Berlen, K9HX. Vice President Chuck Procarione, W9COD, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Introductions were made and Terry Mullens, KC9TBZ, proudly gave her new call. **Announcements:** (1) The Board Meeting will follow this meeting. (2) The General upgrade class which began on September 7 is progressing well. (3) There will be a CAARLA meeting on Saturday, October 9, at Glas-Col. (4) There will be a QCWA meeting at Pizza City beginning at 1:00 P.M. Those wishing to eat should arrive by noon. (5) Carl Lucas, KC9AEM, stated he had some free materials with him. (6) John VanSandt, N9YRX, stated the Deuces Wild Duathlon will be held at Mill Creek. See John to sign up. (7) The Illinois QSO Party will be held on October 17 at the Lincoln Trail State Park in the Sassafras Shelter. **Secretary's Report:** The Secretary's Report will stand as published in The Bandspread. **Treasurer's Report:** Nick Vinardi, N9WG, moved his report of \$7432.88 in all Club accounts be accepted as a motion. Ken Hauptli, N9VKD, seconded the motion. Motion carried. **Old Business:** (1) Chuck attended the Board of Works meeting and placed the Club's bid on the building at Fourth and Farrington. All bids were tabled. (2) John, N9YRX, reported that the RV (Radio Van) has been in two parades. He also reported the donation of a 1500 watt inverter had been received. Donations are still needed. **New Business:** (1) Joe Cloutier, KC9JAC, moved to adopt the proposed By-Laws amendment. Ron Young, AB9GI, seconded the motion. Motion carried. (2) Doug Mullens, N9JLR, stated he had been contacted by the EMA and the canine search and rescue team. They want the Vigo Co. ARES, possibly using the Club Communications Trailer, to go out when they are contacted, to help in a search. The ARES would need to build electronic locator kits for dogs and / or humans to carry with them - up to five kits initially. Doug stated that this is for information only at this time. After the break, the Half-Pot drawing was awarded to Chuck, W9COD. The program tonight was the Homebrew contest. Those making presentations were Victor Dickson, KB9YRF - antennas; Steve Ridge, KC9RBU - Tesla Coil; Ted Brentlinger, K9SGL - power supply; Christian Schrock, KB9SOL - keyer paddles; Kevin Berlen, K9HX - Voltmeter; John Van Sandt, N9YRX - Go Radio Box. All were declared winners since each entry was in a different category. We thanked them for their very interesting projects.

- Respectfully submitted, Bette Young, KC9GWT, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes 10/01/10

The WVARA Board meeting was called to order at 9:00 P.M., by President Kevin Berlen, K9HX. Others present were Chuck Procarione, W9COD, Vice President; Nick Vinardi, N9WG, Treasurer; Bette Young, KC9GWT, Secretary; Dave Pifer, N9YNF, Trustee; Gary Adams, W9EEU, Past President; Ted Brentlinger, K9SGL, Member At Large. Gary Wheeler, K9ERE, Joe Cloutier,

KC9JAC, Jeff Mitchell, AB9WR and Ann Mitchell, KC9RBF also attended. **Secretary's Report:** The Secretary's Report will stand as published in The Bandspread. **Treasurer's Report:** Nick moved his report of a total of \$7432.88 in all Club accounts be accepted as a motion. Chuck seconded the motion. Motion carried. **Old Business:** (1) Club Station #2 has antenna problems. A work session is needed. (2) Kevin reported the Parke County Digi will soon be on the air. (3) Chuck reported no bids on the building at Fourth and Farrington were accepted. Property at 19th and Fifth Avenue was discussed. Joe discussed the State Police post property. (4) The 2010 meeting schedule is completed. (5) An initial contribution has been received from Ted Brentlinger, K9SGL, to seed the Capital Projects Fund. Contributions from others are encouraged. Dave, Ted and Gary, K9ERE, will have a Capital Projects policy ready for the November 9 board meeting at Glas-Col. (6) Gary, K9ERE, is now chairman of the Vehicles Committee. (7) Equipment in the trailer is not usable at the present time. Nick is heading up a committee to determine what needs to be replaced. **New Business:** (1) The venue for Hamfest 2011 was discussed. Nick will attempt to again contact the person in charge. (2) The Radio Van will be available to the APRS K-9 team project. It was felt this would be a good opportunity to show what Amateur Radio can do. (3) The November meeting will be at the Air Guard with speaker John Sauer. Tours of the building will be available. (4) Marketing our Club was discussed. It was felt that we need to make a major effort to explain who we are and what we do. Some things discussed were: raising funds and building antennas to sell. The meeting adjourned at 9:46 PM.

- Respectfully submitted by Bette Young, KC9GWT, Secretary

The Bandspread is the official publication of the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. Organized around 1927, as a non-profit public service organization, it was affiliated with the ARRL on April 5, 1934.

Board Of Directors:

President	Kevin Berlen, K9HX
Vice-President	Chuck Procarione, W9COD
Secretary	Bette Young, KC9GWT
Treasurer	Nick Vinardi, N9WG
Trustee	David Pifer, N9YNF
Past President	Gary Adams, W9EEU
Board Member at Large	Ted Brentlinger, K9SGL

Publications:

Bandspread Editor: Gary Wheeler, K9ERE
 Bandspread Facilitator: Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD
 Bandspread Printing: Gary Adams, W9EEU
 eBandspread Posting: David Pifer, N9YNF
 Submissions: e-mail the editor at bandspread@w9uuu.org
 or mail to P.O. Box 10081, Terre Haute, IN 47801)

Webmaster:

David Pifer, N9YNF
 Contact the webmaster at webmaster@w9uuu.org to join our list
 Server or if you have a problem receiving the **eBandspread**.

Sunday Night Net Manager: Kay Brentlinger, KW0LF

This year marked a big jump in Amateur Radio activity at Family Learning Day at the Vigo County Public Library. As usual, we arrived before sun-up. What was not usual was that in addition to the WVARA Comm. Trailer, we also had the Clark County ARES RV (Radio Vehicle), or as Chuck calls it, "the Ham Wagon."

We also had an increase in participation. While the usuals, Dave, N9YNF, Dave, N9FMD and Gary, K9ERE were there, we enjoyed the addition of Chuck, W9COD, Doug, N9JLR, Dominick, KA9RDK and Nick, N9WG.

Also new this year was Chuck's popcorn machine which went through 'tons' of popcorn over the course of the morning event. Dominick did the honors most of the time with others helping periodically.

As usual, a good time was had by all.



Although not pulling the trailer, we set up the RV in front of the Comm. Trailer for effect. Then we assembled the awning.



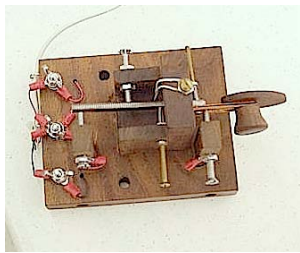
Following canopy deployment, Chuck and Dominick set up the popcorn machine.



Chuck, Doug and David are probably discussing Comm. Trailer renovation.



Meanwhile, inside the library, Pat, KA9ALI, WVARA member and board member of the Wabash Valley Literacy Coalition, was passing out clown noses.



Christian, KB9SOL

Christian has built a set of CW paddles completely from scratch. The intricate work shows an attention to detail and patience that few of us possess. We think that Vibroplex would be jealous.



Ted, K9SGL

Ted's entry in this years WVARA Homebrew contest, "show and tell" was an integrated circuit experimenter box and "PickAxe" micro processor. The experimenter box consists of a solderless breadboard strip, a 5 volt power supply, variable frequency square wave generator, hi/low LED indicators, debounced push buttons and switched level sources. I built this about 25 years ago when I was teaching electronics and it turned out to be quite useful for demonstrating circuit operations.

Kevin, K9HX

Kevin constructed an AC line voltmeter using a very nice looking LARGE analog meter he found at Stanisfer Radio in Bloomington. Wish they had more of them.



Chuck, W9COD

Chuck has built a mobile amateur station in the back of his Expedition. It is an IC-7000 440-160 rig plus an FT-7100 2 meter and 440 and a ALS 500W HF amp. The system doesn't need a tuner because the antenna is a Screwdriver; it tunes flat with no power loss.



John, N9YRX

John's To-Go box. The basic unit is a Yaesu (what else?) 857 with a frequency coverage of 70 cm through 160 meters. It's powered by a self-contained battery. It also includes a small power/SWR meter plus metering for solar panels. It even has a small fan to cool all this activity since it's in an enclosed box built to take rough activity. You may have already seen it in operation at Field Day but it is still worth a second look.



Victor, KB9YRF

Victor's contribution was two of his many home-made mobile antennas. The one on the far left is for 40 meters. Next to it is a 10 meter antenna. The one at the right is for 160 m. He says he worked Mid Cars in Michigan from U.S. 41 south of the river at Evansville.

On homebrew night, we somehow failed to get photos of Victor and his antennas, so we went to his shack for a second look. -ed.



Steve, KC9RBU

Steve has built an experimental Tesla Coil to amaze and inform us about what can be done with high voltage / high frequency induction devices. Nicola Tesla invented this high-power transformer in the late 1800s. Today it still delights onlookers with its ability to send electrical energy through the air in the form of an arc (or lightning, if you will.) And he's working on a larger one too.



Don't forget the 'eatin' before the meetin' at Rick's Smokehouse on Wabash. We meet around 5 P.M. We have a room to ourselves and everyone's welcome!



L-R John, N9YRX, Carl, KC9AEM, Dominick, KA9RDK, Connie, YF of Joe, NT9X, John T, K9PIE and Bill, K9KJQ



John coordinated the event from the RV (Radio Van).



Nick, N9WG, was at position 11.



Carl was at position 1 at the park entrance.



Ann, KC9RBF and Jeff, AB9WR, were at position 9.



Dominick was at position 10.



John T. Was at position 8.



Joe, KC9JAC and Melanie, KC9JMC had to split to cover positions 5 and 6.



Gary, W9EEU and YF Debby were in position 2.



Ron, N9ZXO with his homebrew J-pole at position 13



Bill, K9HHS, was at position 4.

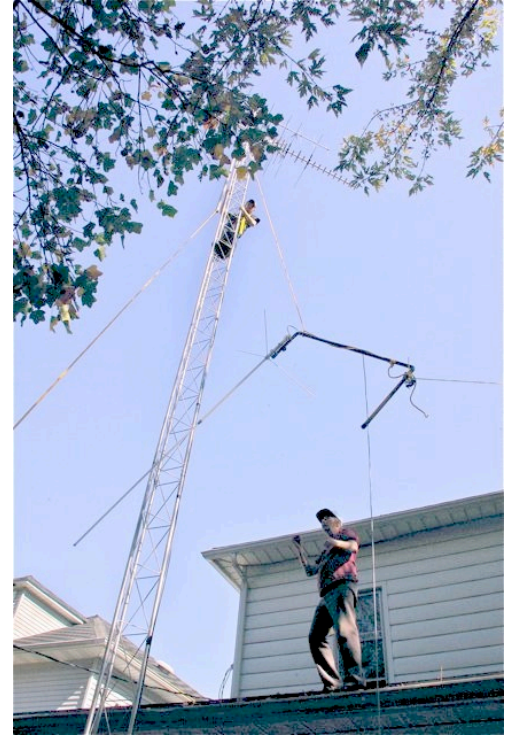


Bill, K9KJQ, drove the Sag Wagon seen at left. He followed the last biker, seen here entering the park.

A long-awaited day finally arrived in mid-October this year. No, it wasn't the opportunity to watch vicious political ads dominate the television airways. This time it was the opportunity for a group of hams to get together and help another with an antenna project. The project began and ended with calm winds and clear skies, but the antennas went up anyway.

Crew Chief Gene, N9NJ, gathered the troops while Tall Climber Lee, KC9QLF, prepared to ascend the 47 foot tower. Random Helpers Dominick, KA9RBK, and Dave, N9FMD, prepared for their duties on the ground. Station Manager Steve, KC9RBU, tackled all tasks not otherwise assigned, while Photog One, Gary, K9ERE, maintained his high state of readiness to capture images of the event.

Steve, KC9RBU, had been hoping for some months to get a new antenna and rotor installed on his existing tower, and finally all the pieces were in place. Almost. By the end of the weekend all antennas were in place, the brand-new CD-45 rotator was installed, cables were in place, and most of the work was done. One additional ascent remains at this time, because the mounting plates used for this tower did not work properly, and will be replaced. - Dave, N9FMD



They didn't spend the entire afternoon working. Here they take a break. Seen here also is Gene's great granddaughter, Kali.



Steve, in the shack, checks out the new vertical.

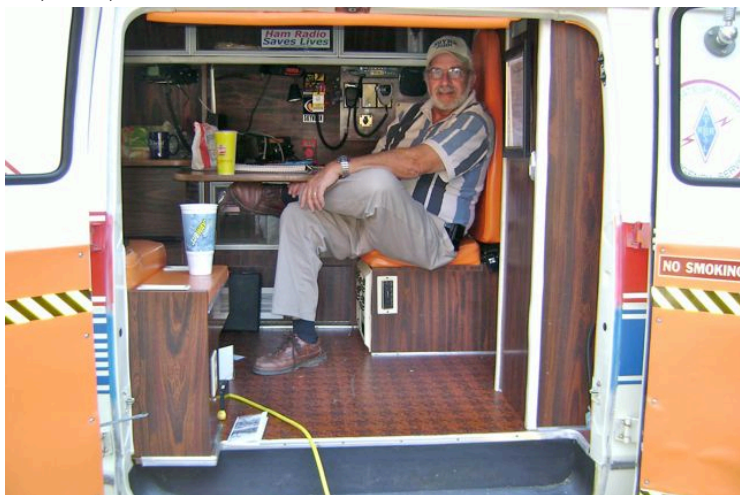
Steve thanks all who helped with the project, and reports highly-improved signals with the new antenna system.

Every year we try something different at the Illinois QSO Party. This year was no different. This year it was the Radio Van (RV). One thing stays the same; we always go to the Sassafras Shelter at Lincoln Trail Park south of Marshall. This year the weather was beautiful with full sun and turning leaves. It was not heavily attended but all who came had a good time. W9EEU, N9ZXO and N9YRX were soaking up some pretty nice radio time.

The occasion gave us the chance to put the communications van to a real test in contest conditions. After a bit of work on power delivery to the FT 840 we were in business using a generator and antennas mounted on the vehicle. We made a lot of contacts and created one heck of a pile up on several occasions. We were the only station operating in Clark County and everyone wanted us for their log. We operated on 40 meters with the band in better shape than it has been in years. The pictures were few as we were too busy enjoying and working the contest in the best weather for this event.

On the way out to the park we had to stop by and get a picture of the van with the Red Cross trailer parked in Clark County and some pictures by the Lincoln Trail State Park in all its beauty.

73, John, N9YRX



WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2011

Please complete this form and include it with your dues. You may return this application in person or mail to:

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 10081
TERRE HAUTE, IN 47801

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 WVARA membership _____ New Member? ☐

ARES member? ☐ QCWA member? ☐ RACES 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 it arrives earlier! Of course, you can still make a paper copy of it 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? ☐

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

Dues options: Single (\$20) Family (Single + \$5 per family member) Add 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 as well. See QST.

*Club gets a rebate from the ARRL!

ARES October Meeting

The October meeting of Vigo Co. ARES met on the first Monday of the month at Ryves Youth Center.

The topic this month was primarily on providing electronic tracking equipment for Vigo Co. EMA search and rescue. The main presenter was Ted, K9SGL, who presented some examples of commercial equipment now available for that purpose.

Also briefly discussed was remodeling of the WVARA Comm. Trailer.



Editor's Note: Normally this spot is reserved for the President's Corner. However, due to family medical problems as indicated on page 1, Kevin is busy with higher priorities right now. We hope things greatly improve for everyone very soon. See 'Illness and Injury', p.1. His column will return next month. -ed.

THE BANDSPREAD - Official Publication of
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P.O. Box 10081
Terre Haute, IN 47801



November 2010

2010= 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.

WVARA VE TESTING

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA:

1st Sunday of even-numbered months; 1:30 P.M., Indiana time.

1715 S. 8th St., east of the main Glas-Col building. Use the front entrance to the building on 8th St.

For further info, contact:

Ray Andrews, K9DUR, (812) 535-3222

PARIS, ILLINOIS:

2nd Saturday of Jan., May, Jul., Sep., Nov; 8:30 A.M. Illinois time.

Burkybile Law Office
15175 U.S. Highway 150

For further info, contact:

Terry Hackett, KB9ZVA, (217) 465-4884

WALK-INS WELCOME!

NOVEMBER 13 PARIS

DECEMBER 5 TERRE HAUTE

VE TESTING

2nd Thursday of every month, 7 P.M., Indiana time, at Ryves Youth Center at Etling Hall.

For further info, contact: Jim Osburn, WD9EYB, at 238-0584 or veteam@illianaradioclub.org

WALK-INS WELCOME!

NOVEMBER 11 TERRE HAUTE