



# THE BANDSPREAD



Official Publication of the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

## Local Nets

Monday Evening.....	Clay Co. ARES Net
9:00 pm ET .....	146.580
Tuesday Evening .....	Verm./Parke ARES Net
8:00 pm ET .....	146.715/R
Tuesday Evening .....	Sullivan ARES Net
8:30 pm ET .....	146.775/R
Tuesday Evening .....	Vigo Co. ARES Net
9:00 pm ET .....	146.685/R
9:30 pm ET .....	444.350/R
Wednesday Evening .....	Clark Co. ARES Net
9:00 pm CT .....	146.595
Thursday Evening.....	CAARLA Net
9:00 pm ET .....	146.685/R
Sunday Evening.....	WVARA Net
9:00 pm ET .....	146.685/R*

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

## Regular Events

**Every Thursday:** The Club Station is open, 7-9 p.m. First Thursday, Downstairs, Red Cross bldg, 700 S. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Other Thursdays:** Club Station, N.E. corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and Idaho. Entrance and parking back of building.

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the Month:** Monthly club meeting at Glas-Col Annex, 7PM EST (former Idaho Post Office Bldg), 1715 S. 8<sup>th</sup> in Terre Haute

## November Club Meeting

The November meeting will feature our annual club auction. The club will have some items for sale that have accumulated from various sources over the months. You can bring items that you wish to put up for sale, and we will permit you to put a reserve price on the items if you so desire. So bring items to sell, some cash and come prepared for a good time at the auction.

## Annual Christmas Dinner

The annual WVARA Christmas party is being planned for **Sat. Dec. 8, 2012**. The location for this year's dinner will be the Glas-Col Annex located at 1715 South 8th St. (the club meeting location). It will be a fun filled evening as usual. So put December 8 on your calendar and plan on attending. You do not have to be a club member to attend, so invite someone to come along and share the evening.

## Annual Club Homebrew

The October meeting featured the annual homebrew contest. It is really more of a show and tell rather than a contest, and it was fun and informative this year. Ted (K9SGL) shared a homebrew tape measure antenna that he is currently building. The tape measure beam has been around for a while, but Ted put his own twist on a portable system. He started with a base made from a recycled umbrella stand, to which he inserted a mast pipe to hold the antenna. Ted fashioned his PVC so that it would insert into the vertical pipe, holding the antenna in position. With this attached to a hand-held radio, Ted is much more effective checking in from a portable location. Ted also shared some sort of a crank-charged flashlight, but I don't think that was homebrew. He admitted he just has a thing for flashlights!

Chuck (W9COD) shared a homebrew double-bazooka antenna. Chuck made the center connector using PVC pieces. He featured a flat surfaced cap on the bottom making it much easier to mount the PL259 connector, and a curved surface cap on the top for better rain protection. Chuck had drilled a hole in one piece of the PVC body, and once all connections were secure, he filled the body with auto-body fiberglass for weatherproofing.

After much deliberation (just kidding) the panel declared that both Ted and Chuck were winners with their respective projects. Ron (AB9GI) then used the whiteboard to show a directional sloper antenna system. This led to a great discussion of antenna systems. Awesome job guys, and we look forward to many more homebrew projects in the coming months.

-submitted by Gary Adams, W9EEU



## Board Meeting Minutes October 5, 2012

The WVARA Board met on Friday, October 5, 2012. The meeting was brought to order at 8:45 p.m. by Steve Shorter, NT9T. Members present were: Steve Shorter, NT9T, President; Chuck Procarione, W9COD, Vice-President; Jeff Mitchell, AB9WR, Treasurer; Ann Mitchell, KC9RBF, Secretary; Gary Adams, W9EEU, Trustee; Kevin Berlen, K9HX, Past President; Ted Brentlinger, K9SGL, Member at Large. Ron Young, AB9GI; Mike St. Clair, N1WVU; and Dominik Iacobazzi, KA9RDK, also attended. **Secretary's Report:** The Secretary's Report was approved as published in The Bandspread. **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Report was presented in the form of a motion by Jeff with a total of \$11,731.48 in all accounts. Chuck, W9COD, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Old Business:** (1) Kevin, K9HX, gave a brief update on the repeater upgrade. Steve, NT9T, stated that the controller is on order and due to be shipped any day. (2) Chuck, W9COD, reported that batteries are needed: 2 for trailer, and 1 for repeater. \$400.00 will need to be appropriated at the next meeting for this purpose. Chuck motioned that 3 batteries be purchased, seconded by Jeff, AB9WR. Steve, NT9T, will get pricing. (3) Gary, W9EEU, announced that the Clay Co. MOU has been submitted and is waiting for approval. (4) Discussion from last month regarding direction of the Club. Ideas presented were: Emphasis should be placed on teaching hams (Steve, NT9T); Technical topics at meetings, and give previews of the topic for next meeting to allow members to prepare questions and comments (Ted, K9SGL); Public awareness, connect with news media about upcoming Technician classes and open up the Club Station one Saturday per month to the public (Mike, N1WVU); Training and education, Group project building sessions (Kevin, K9HX); Chuck (W9COD) suggested having a 15-20 minute open discussion time for anything members may be having problems with or working on. Discussion will continue at next month's meeting.

**New Business:** (1) Gary (W9EEU) has volunteered to assume the position of Bandspread Editor. (2) Need to replace power supply at Red Cross station. Chuck, W9COD, motioned to purchase a power supply like the one at the Glas-Col station and add the amount (approx. \$150.00) to the appropriation for batteries. The motion was seconded by Kevin, K9HX. Motion carried. (3) There was discussion about where and how to store the Comm. Trailer (antenna trailer). It was decided to temporarily store the trailer in NT9T's storage unit for the coming winter. Kevin (K9HX) thought that we should make a concerted effort to acquire a plot of land which could be used for storage. (4) Weather Radios. It was decided to schedule a work session to cover the labels on top and then donate them to nursing homes, schools, etc. (5) Gary, W9EEU, generously agreed to allow the Club to hold their annual Christmas Dinner at Glas-Col. Thank you, Gary. The date was set for Saturday, December 8. (6) Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

--Respectfully submitted, Ann Mitchell, KC9RBF, Secretary

## General Meeting Minutes October 5, 2012

The General meeting of the WVARA was called to order on Friday, October 5, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. by President Steve Shorter, NT9T. Vice President, Chuck Procarione, W9COD, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Visitors, Dr. James Foulkes, KC9ODD and son Jim, KC9ODE were welcomed by Steve, NT9T. Introductions were made. No new licenses or upgrades were reported. **Announcements:** (1) The Board Meeting will be held immediately following the General Meeting. The meeting is open and all are welcome and invited to attend. (2) Ray, K9DUR, gave an overview of items proposed in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) issued by the FCC. (2) Ron, AB9GI, read amusing excerpts from an article in the QCWA Publication about how to tell if you may be an "old time ham." (3) CAARLA will meet on Saturday, October 13 at 1:30 p.m. at Glas-Col. (4) QWCA will meet on Saturday, October 13 at 12:00 noon at Pizza City. (5) VE Testing in Terre Haute on Saturday, October 13, at 9:30 a.m. at Glas-Col. (6) There will be a work day on Saturday, October 20, beginning at 9:00 a.m., to inventory equipment from Jack Derry's (K9CUN) estate. It is planned to first advertise the items on the WVARA List Serve before taking them to the Fort Wayne Hamfest for sale. **Secretary's Report:** The Secretary's Report will stand as published in The Bandspread.

**Treasurers Report:** Jeff, AB9WR moved his report of \$11,731.48 in all Club accounts be accepted. Ken, W9VKD, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Old Business:** (1) The election of officers will take place at the December meeting. Mike, N1WVU, has been asked to head the nominating committee. (2) An editor for the Bandspread is still needed. We may have a volunteer, but has not yet confirmed. If you are interested in the position, please contact any Board member. (3) The Covered Bridge Bike Ride will take place on Saturday, October 6. Amateur Radio will serve only as back up at this event, with cell phones used as primary means of communication. Volunteers are needed and may contact Chuck, W9COD if interested.

**New Business:** None. The Program for the evening was Homebrew which included great entries by Ted, K9SGL, with his portable antenna, and Chuck, W9COD and his 40m double bazooka. The judges determined that both entries were winners. Ron, AB9GI, gave a short presentation on a rotatable sloper antenna. Also Chuck, W9COD, talked about a capacitance hat (N9YRX's design) and K9DUR's "hot dog cooker" antenna. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

--Respectfully submitted, Ann Mitchell, KC9RBF, Secretary

# Annual Homebrew Night



all photos by Gary Adams - W9EEU

# FCC Releases NPRM

The FCC adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on Monday, October 1, 2012. The introduction from the NPRM is as follows:

In this Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order, we propose to amend Part 97 of the Commission's Rules regarding administration of examinations and examination element credit for licenses in the Amateur Radio Service. Specifically, in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) we propose in response to a petition for rulemaking filed by the Anchorage Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (Anchorage VEC) to grant examination credit for expired amateur operator licenses, instead of requiring former licensees to retest. In conjunction with this change, we propose to shorten the grace period during which an expired amateur license may be renewed and to revise the vanity call sign system correspondingly. We also propose to reduce the number of volunteer examiners needed to administer an amateur license examination, and we seek comment on amending the rules to permit remote test administration. Finally, in response to a petition for rulemaking filed by the American Radio Relay League, Inc. (ARRL), we propose to amend the Amateur Service rules to allow amateur stations to transmit certain additional emission types, but we deny ARRL's request for a blanket waiver pending the resolution of the rulemaking proceeding.

One thing the FCC omitted from the introduction, but put in the document later, was a correction from when the morse code examination was eliminated. It seems the changes that were adopted were "inadvertently" omitted from the publication, and therefore never went into effect. Technically any upgrades to General class or above without passing the morse code examination were not valid. Thankfully the FCC intends to correct this omission and recognize such upgrades as valid.

You can view the entire NPRM on the website ([W9UUU.org](http://W9UUU.org)).

*-article submitted by Gary Adams, W9EEU*

## FITSAT-1 Deployed From ISS



FITSAT-1 was deployed from the ISS on October 4. FITSAT-1 is a small artificial satellite developed at the Fukuoka Institute of Technology in Japan. Nicknamed "NIWAKA", FITSAT-1 is a 10cm cube weighing in at 1.33kg. The main mission of FITSAT-1 will be to demonstrate a 5.8 GHz high-speed transmitter, which can send a jpeg VGA-picture (480x640) within 6 seconds.

NIWAKA will be performing another experimental mission, which could provide for some interesting observation. It will be sending optical communication by sending morse code using high intensity LED's. The high power LED's will be driven with more than 200W pulses, and should be observable with the unaided eye, or with small binoculars. Hopefully the orbit of NIWAKA will bring it over the Midwest on a clear night and we can witness this interesting experiment. If anyone finds information about an observable pass in our area, make a post to the WVARA list sharing the information for the group.

*-article submitted by Gary Adams, W9EEU*

# Expenditures Need Club Approval

There are some items that need to be replaced, and our bylaws require that these expenditures be approved by club membership. Batteries in the communication trailer, and at the repeater site, need to be replaced. This will be presented to the membership at the November meeting with a total purchase cost for three batteries not to exceed \$400.00.

We also need to replace a power supply unit at the Red Cross station. This will be presented for approval at the November club meeting with a purchase cost of \$159.95 plus shipping costs.

-article submitted by Gary Adams, W9EEU

## Nominating Committee

### BYLAWS ARTICLE V – NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS SECTION I

A nominating committee shall be appointed by the President in September to select a slate of candidates who have agreed to serve as officers if elected. The committee's report will be due in November and shall be published in the December issue of The Bandspread.

The nominating committee has been hard at work trying to identify those that are qualified, and willing to serve the WVARA in 2013. While the committee seeks to find those that fit the qualifications, it does not mean that they will talk with everyone that might be interested. So, if any of you would like to run for an office, please let us know and we will get your information to those responsible for preparing the ballot.

-article submitted by Gary Adams, W9EEU

## WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC. - 2012

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

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/Day/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!

Pdf format newsletter requires Adobe® Reader to view/print

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

**Board of Directors:**

President: Steve Shorter – NT9T  
Vice-President: Chuck Procarione - W9COD  
Secretary: Ann Mitchell - KC9RBF  
Treasurer: Jeff Mitchell - AB9WR  
Trustee: Gary Adams - W9EEU  
Past President: Kevin Berlen – K9HX  
Member at Large: Ted Brentlinger – K9SGL

**Publications:**

Bandspread Editor: Dave Gammon - KC9JNZ  
Bandspread Printing: Gary Adams - W9EEU  
eBandspread Posting: David Pifer - N9YNF

**Submissions:** e-mail the editor at [bandspread@w9uuu.org](mailto:bandspread@w9uuu.org) or mail to PO Box 10081, Terre Haute, IN 47808-0081

**Webmaster:** Ray Andrews – K9DUR

Contact the webmaster at [webmaster@w9uuu.org](mailto:webmaster@w9uuu.org) to join our list Server or if you have a problem receiving the *eBandspread*

**Sunday Night Net Manager:** Kay Brentlinger, KWOLF

## WVARA Testing

(Walk-ins Welcome)

### Terre Haute, Indiana

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of even numbered months; 9:30 A.M., Indiana time  
1715 S. 8<sup>th</sup> St., west side of 8<sup>th</sup> St. behind Glas-Col.  
Park on side of bldg; use the front entrance on 8<sup>th</sup> St.  
For further info contact:  
Ray Andrews, K9DUR: 812-870-8810

### Paris, Illinois

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of odd-numbered months; 8:30 A.M. Illinois time.  
Burkybile Law Office  
15175 Hwy 150  
For further info contact:  
Terry Hackett, KB9ZVA, 217-465-4884

December 8 – Terre Haute

Nov 10 – Paris

## RYVES VE Testing

(Walk-ins Welcome)

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month, 7:00 P.M., Indiana time, Ryves Youth Cntr at Etling Hall.  
For further info contact Jim Osburn, WD9EYB, at 812-238-0584 or [wd9eyb0409@indianakits.com](mailto:wd9eyb0409@indianakits.com)

Nov 8 – Terre Haute

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P.O. Box 10081  
Terre Haute, IN 47801



## November 2012

2012 = 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 Association.