



# THE BANDSPREAD

SUMMER 2013



## Local Nets

- Monday Evening.....Clay Co. ARES Net  
9:00 pm EST .....145.420/R
- Tuesday Evening.Verm./Parke ARES Net  
8:00 pm EST .....146.715/R
- Tuesday Evening.....Vigo Co. ARES Net  
9:00 pm EST .....146.805/R  
9:30 pm EST .....444.350/R
- Wednesday Evening..Sullivan ARES Net  
8:30 pm EST .....146.775/R
- Wednesday Evening.Clark Co. ARES Net  
9:00 pm EST .....146.595
- Thursday Evening.....CAARLA Net  
9:00 pm EST .....146.685/R
- Sunday Evening.....WVARA Net  
9:00 pm EST .....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, 5:30-8 p.m. at the 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

## Annual Picnic

The annual Wabash Valley amateur radio picnic will be on August 3, 2013 at the QTH of Gary and Pat Wheeler. Gary and Pat have hosted this event for several years and always provide an enjoyable evening. All amateur radio operators and their families are welcome. Bring a covered dish and join us for a great evening.

## FIELD DAY A HUGE SUCCESS

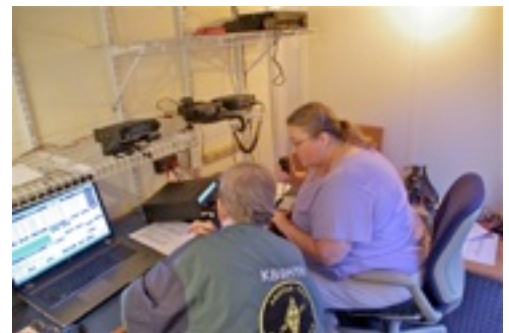
Ham radio operators from around the Wabash Valley came together to conduct a fantastic Field Day 2013. The 2013 edition of Field Day was held at a new location. Gerry W9GWC made arrangements for the group to use the VFW Post 972 Recreation Area just south of Riley. This proved to be an absolutely fantastic site for the event. Folks arrived early on Friday morning to begin set-up, and right on schedule the heat and humidity of Central Indiana arrived. With the group that was on site, and those that were able to come during the day, the set-up went very smoothly. By the time we called it quits on Friday evening, we were nearly ready. The finishing touches were completed Saturday morning well ahead of the start time. When you start putting up portable towers and various types of antennas, there is always the risk that something could easily happen. But under the watchful eye of Donnie KC9VFQ, who volunteered to be the Safety Officer, everything was accomplished safely.



The CAARLA group volunteered to take on a GOTA (Get-On-The-Air) station this year. They provided a GOTA coach for those that qualified as operators under the GOTA criteria.

The GOTA station log shows that six different operators made a total of 73 contacts. Huge smiles revealed that those operators were having a great time making those contacts. At least one of those six operators made their very first HF contact.

Congratulations Catherine W9IFE!! Kudos to the CAARLA group for stepping up to the challenge of having a GOTA station.



The W9UUU log shows that nineteen different operators logged 868 contacts. I am not sure that the log always gets updated when a new operator takes over, so I would guess that a few more may have logged some of the contacts. One of the stations ran QRP from solar (con't)

power proving that it doesn't take an amplifier to get the information exchange completed. Bonus points were logged in 13 of the 15 bonus point categories, and included in the bonus points was a visit by Terre Haute Mayor Duke Bennett. Mayor Bennett did log a couple of contacts during his visit.

And then the dreaded job of taking everything down and cleaning up the place. Once again folks pitched in and worked together to get the job done. This is always a chore after spending several hours operating the stations and being a little sleep deprived, but in just a few hours everything was finished up and everyone headed home. Thank you to everyone who participated in any way to make Field Day 2013 a great event. A few shared their story of Field Day 2013 and those can be viewed in this edition.



# Minutes

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES, July 18, 2013

The July Board meeting of the WVARA was held on Thursday, July 18, 2013. The meeting was brought to order by the president, Chuck Procarione, W9COD, at approximately 6 P.M. Other members present were, Kevin Berlen, K9HX, Vice President; Gary Adams, W9EEU, Trustee; and Ted Brentlinger, K9SGL, Member at Large. Also present were Gary Wheeler, K9ERE, Comm. Trailer Custodian, and Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** (1) The Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at the home of Gary, K9ERE & Pat, KA9ALI, in Seelyville. It's open to all radio amateurs, families and friends of Amateur Radio in the area, not just Club members. Talk-in will be available on 146.685 rpt. The Club will provide the meat (brats, hamburgers and hot dogs; maybe some kielbasa too), drinks (tea and lemonade) and table service. Bring a dish to pass and your own lawn chairs. The meat goes on the grill around 6 P.M. so please gather around 5 - 5:30, however swimmers are welcome to come earlier. The house is air conditioned if you are heat-sensitive and it's a rain-or-shine event, so y'all come! (2) There will *not* be a WVARA Board meeting at the picnic. (3) The WVARA's participation in Terre Haute Family Learning Day will take place September 28. We need volunteers for that morning. More information will be available in the September edition of *The Bandspread*.

### OLD BUSINESS:

(1) **Repeater Upgrade** - Kevin will contact International Crystal for the needed components to finish the job. It is estimated that the cost will be around \$200. (2) **School Liaison Person** - Dan Hunter, KC9YHB, has volunteered to contact schools regarding the introduction of Amateur Radio into the classrooms. TNX, Dan! (3) **Field Day** - The Board was very pleased with the outcome of the 2013 Field Day event. We were 9A once again and while all nine stations were not always occupied, nobody who wanted to operate was denied a position. The location, at the VFW park south of Riley, was new to us this year, bringing new challenges and opportunities. As usual, a good time was had by all and we will most likely be back there again next year. (4) **Storage Trailer move** - We recently received the donation of a large truck trailer which we will use for storage of major pieces of equipment. We are in the process of moving it to its permanent home at Crown Electric.

### NEW BUSINESS:

(1) **WVARA Communications Trailer** - Gary, K9ERE, Trailer Custodian, presented a preliminary inventory list which was discussed and modified some. Many items marked "missing" were subsequently found at the Glas-Col Club Station. He also presented a list of repairs and general maintenance needed in the near future. One item, re-greasing the wheel bearings, has already been completed. The Board approved the other items, in the range of \$1600, pending ratification at the next general meeting. (2) We are currently looking for a volunteer to be the 2014 Hamfest Chairperson. Anyone interested? You will have plenty of support. Contact any Board member.

-Respectfully submitted, acting Secretary, Gary

## Statewide RACES Drill

IDHS recently conducted a state wide RACES drill. EMA personnel and amateur radio operators across the state participated in the drill. The exercise involved a widespread disaster that had interrupted normal communications. Amateur radio was used throughout the state, in conjunction with WebEOC to communicate with Indy. All eight counties in District 7 participated in the drill, and everyone involved across the district performed flawlessly in getting the job done.

The Clay County ARES/RACES team served as the primary net control station for the event, and they proved quite capable in that capacity. The Clay County 145.420 repeater saw its first action as a District 7 resource. The Clay County group had hoped when the repeater was installed that it would serve Clay County well, and it has far exceeded the expectations of the group. This exercise demonstrated that all of the counties in District 7 can easily make the repeater in order to pass the necessary traffic to support an event. The performance of the repeater assured that it will be a primary resource for District 7.

A few pictures from the Clay County operation are included on another page.

# Amateur Radio License Class Changes

The WVARA Education Committee is making a change in the way we schedule amateur radio license classes. Previously, we have typically held a Technician class starting in September and have alternated between General and Amateur Extra upgrade classes for starting in January. This coming year, we plan on holding all three classes back-to-back in a single year.

The Technician class will begin the day after Labor Day, Tuesday, September 3, 2013 and will end with a VE test session on Tuesday, October 22nd. The General upgrade class will begin on Tuesday, November 5th, and will end with a VE test session on Tuesday, February 4, 2014. We will end the series with the Amateur Extra upgrade class starting on Tuesday, February 22, 2014 and ending with a VE test session on Tuesday, May 6, 2014.

All class sessions will be held at Glas-Col and will begin at 6:30 pm Indiana time. Class sessions will end not later than 9:30 pm, often earlier depending on the material to be covered that evening.

The fee for each of the 3 classes will be \$30 and will be payable on or before the 1st class session. The fee includes the textbook. If a student already has the LATEST edition of the text, the class fee will be \$5.

Pre-registration will be available through the WVARA website and is STRONGLY encouraged.

Full details including class schedules, weekly class handouts, other class resources are available on the WVARA website.

## FAMILY LEARNING DAY

The WVARA will once again be participating in Family Learning Day at the Vigo County Public Library. This a fantastic opportunity to meet the public and demonstrate what amateur radio is about. This is a good opportunity to introduce amateur radio to the younger generation, and they are always interested in the display. If you can help with the display on September 28, please get in let Chuck know and he will provide you with details about the set-up plans. See the information from the Vigo County Public Library calendar below.

**Event Type:** Youth Program

**Date:** 9/28/2013

**Start Time:** All Day

**Description:**

Join us for a fun morning of adventure and discovery. Area non-profit and educational groups will have activities and programs especially for young people and their families to enjoy. Don't miss the annual event that celebrates reading and gives away a free book at many locations. Book quantities are limited so come early!

**Library:** Vigo County Public Library - Main Branch



## Indiana Section Newsletter

The Indiana Section Manager, Lou Everett WA5LOU publishes a wonderful monthly newsletter. The July newsletter is full of interesting content. It includes interesting links to amateur radio related information from all over the world. Lou always talks about what is going on around the state in his report, and all of the staff members report on the happenings from their branches of the ARRL organization across the Indiana section.

Padraig Lysandrou, KC9UUS was recently appointed as ARRL Assistant Section Manager, Indiana Section - Youth Program. Padraig was featured in the May QST, and you can see his report in the July edition.

Visit [www.inarrl.org/section\\_monthly\\_news.html](http://www.inarrl.org/section_monthly_news.html) to see your Indiana Section Newsletter.

**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: Chuck Procarione - W9COD  
Vice-President: Kevin Berlen - K9HX  
Secretary: Mike St Clair - N1WVU  
Treasurer: Ken Hauptil - W9VKD  
Trustee: Gary Adams - W9EEU  
Past President: Steve Shorter - NT9T  
Member at Large: Ted Brentlinger - K95GL

### Publications:

Bandspread Editor: Gary Adams - W9EEU  
Bandspread Printing: Gary Adams - W9EEU  
Bandspread Circulation: David Pifer - N9YNF

**Submissions:** e-mail the editor at [bandspread@w9uuu.org](mailto:bandspread@w9uuu.org) or mail to P.O. 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 - KW0LF

## Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, INC. - 2013

*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 No: \_\_\_\_\_ email 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 email 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 money, and 2) in the .pdf version, everything is in color 3) it arrives to you faster

*Those with a printer can also PRINT the .pdf if they want a paper version.*

If you are applying for a family membership, please list the licensed family members (living at home) below 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 newsletter requires Adobe Reader to view/print**

IDHS RACES Drill



Bryan, Andy & George  
Discuss Strategy



AB9WB's Comm Vehicle



Operations



VHF Antenna Systems



Operations



NVIS HF Antenna



The essentials!



## More Field Day 2013

I finally got up the courage to try to make some contacts this year at Field Day. I was in the GOTA trailer with Kay, KW0LF Saturday night just meaning to watch and listen. But she encouraged me to try at least once. I did and was able to make two contacts, (my first). It was fun too. Dan Hunter, KC9YHB, was there during my second try and gave me some tips on how to "zero in" on a contact. So, thanks to Kay for taking the time to show me and to Dan for the great tip. They made it easier than I thought it would be. And thanks to everyone involved in FD, it takes a lot of hard work to make FD happen and run so smoothly.

Catherine,  
W9IFE

Lets begin this experience by backing up a bit, I'm retired since 2009, and completely retired as of Oct. 2012. With all the time on my hands other than the normal honey dos, I decided to get more involved in a hobby I've had since I was 16 years old, that being Amateur Radio. With the prodding and encouragement from a good friend, Dave K9ZCE we decided to take the classes given by the WVARA for the Amateur Extra class license, and taught by Ray K9DUR and Gerald W9GWC. With their help and teaching skills and the classes lasting for a long ten weeks, we both passed the test (YE HAW).

Now lets fast forward a bit, i decided to get more involved in the activities of the WVARA, one being Field Day. With that being said I hadn't been to a Field Day in lets say more than 40 yrs. Dave and I arrived bright and early Friday morning waiting for others to arrive and boy did they ever, with trucks loaded down and pulling trailers.

All who arrived began to work together, unloading the trailers and trucks and began putting together beams, putting up dipoles, pulling coax, assembling towers and pushups and attaching numerous guy lines this was all done in what seemed like 100 degree heat with a bright sun beaming down upon us. Lots and lots of water was consumed by all.

Tables were set up, electrical cords strung, verticals were being placed as Dave and I decided to call it quits after a long hard day, boy was I ever pooped, I slept really good Friday night.

I along with my 13 year old grandson Garreth arrived back around Noon on Sat. at the Field Day site. There were the normal Murphy s Law glitches a bad coax connection, computer problems, a tripped circuit breaker but nothing that couldn't be handled by all who were there. I began working the miracle band 6 meters and made one or two contacts but with lots of noise. I left for a family gathering and returned around 9pm and again tried working 6 meters but without success. I listened at other stations for a while but was tired and went to our tent that had been put up earlier.

Sunday morning I got up around 6 am, and went over to the pavilion, I worked contacts on 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m using all different types of equipment which I really enjoyed. I then went back to the 6m station and worked several contacts out of state that was really great, I was having a ball. Chuck COD fixed a great breakfast and lunch and then 2PM came around all to soon and it was time to quit, and take things down. Again everyone pitched in an and got equipment down seemingly quicker than when it went up.

Field Day would I do it again, YES I WOULD. Field Day was it hard work, IT WAS, Field Day, I HAD A BALL.

Thanks to all who participated in this 2013 Field Day and making my experience after so many years Very Enjoyable.

73

Bob Abbinett WA9AIZ

Thanks to Bob and Catherine for sharing their Field Day stories with us. We would be glad to share your Field Day story with the group. Write your story and send it to [bandspread@w9uuu.org](mailto:bandspread@w9uuu.org). We will be glad to hear your accounts of Field Day with the group. Editor

## The President's Corner



### WVARA Testing

(Walk-ins Welcome)

Terre Haute, Indiana

2nd Saturday of every month (except July);

9:30 A.M., Indiana time

1715 S. 8th St., west side of 8th St. behind Glas-Col.

Park on side of bldg; use the front entrance on 8th St.

For further info contact:

Ray Andrews, K9DUR: 812-870-8810

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August 10 – Terre Haute  
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### RYVES VE Testing

(Walk-ins Welcome)

2nd 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)

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August 8 – Terre Haute

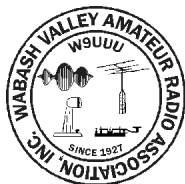
## THE BANDSPREAD

Official Publication of the

Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 10081

Terre Haute, IN 47801



### Summer 2013

2013 = 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.

First Name Last Name

Company

Home Street

Home City, Home State Home ZIP