



The **April 2018** BANDSPREAD



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

April 6, 2018 WVARA Meeting Glas-Col Annex Don, K9DRP will discuss the Linux Operating System

President's Message

I hope all our members will attend the April 6th meeting because we have exciting news to discuss and a proposal to vote on. As some of you probably know I stirred the cauldron when I stopped by the Pilot Certified Scale and weighed our Communications Trailer on the way back from Winter Field Day. It is very overweight and unbalanced - 1,120 pounds overweight and 218 pounds too light on the hitch. The trailer axle and suspension is rated to carry 3,000 pounds and this is also it's legal maximum plated weight.

Hitting a severe pot hole or bump could break the axle or suspension. The light tongue weight causes the trailer to swerve back and forth when towed by a light and/or short wheelbase vehicle. A heavy and long tow vehicle, like Gary Wheeler's, can force the trailer to travel a straight line, but anyone towing with a lighter and shorter vehicle like mine will be forced to sway back and forth by the trailer. The tail wags the dog. It happened to me while being passed by a semi-truck coming back from Winter Field Day and I guarantee it's exciting!

Gary Wheeler, Communications Trailer Custodian, Dave Littlejohn, Operations Coordinator, Kevin Berlen, Immediate Past President and I will present the results of our fact finding mission and our recommendation for a new and larger communications trailer.

We have sponsors to cover the major, variable, portion of the cost of the trailer and material expense to outfit it. The Club needs YOU to do two things. First, come to the meeting April 6th and, second, approve the purchase of the trailer and equipment for a cost to the WVARA not to exceed \$2,000.

In other news, Dave Littlejohn will be giving the plan for operating during the Indiana QSO Party on May 5th. Generally, the plan is to operate both remote and from the Club station with everyone able to operate from home and be included in the Club totals.

Does everyone know what happens on May 18, 19 and 20? DAYTON HAMVENTION!!! A chance to see the latest and greatest equipment and oldest and boldest "STUFF". We stopped renting a bus eight years ago because of a lack of interest. Can we get a show of hands of those who would be interested in going by bus again? Remember there's a stop at Shapiro's in Indianapolis on the way home.

Indiana QSO Party

Turning the calendar over to May opens the door to a busy summer season for WVARA members. Many activities are being planned, beginning with the Indiana QSO Party on Saturday May 5. The contest challenges amateurs from across the country and the world to contact as many Indiana counties as possible in a 12- hour period.

WVARA will operate two primary stations during the contest, one at our club station and another located on the Clay / Vigo County line. The remote location will use the club's communications trailer as home plate, which will locate on SR 42 at the county line. Two transmitters are planned for use and antennas and other accessories will be spotted "field day style" for the day.

Operation at the remote site will provide opportunity for our volunteers to sharpen their field day and contest skills, and also serve as a dry run for deployment of the trailer. This is a very good chance for our operators to get hands-on experience using the trailer and to sharpen their HF skills in general. We will also have a chance to test new antennas or new equipment theories. Operation at this site will normally conclude in the late afternoon.

The W9UUU club station will also participate in the contest, offering a chance for us to operate later in the day, including the entire 12-hour contest period. Two transmitters are expected to be in operation from this site.

Members who wish to operate from their HF station at home will also be welcome. Logs from home stations should clearly indicate they are part of the WVARA effort.

Upon completion of the operation logs from all locations will be combined, with that result reported as our score. Questions and other thoughts about this activity may be directed to N9FMD, Project Coordinator. Questions and comments regarding the W9UUU location should be directed to K9DUR, Club Station Manager. Other contest details are available by Internet. at www.hdxcc.org/inqp.

Dave, N9FMD

TO ALL WABASH VALLEY RADIO AMATEURS:

This year's Terre Haute Triathlon is Saturday, May 12, 2018!

We encourage all who participated last year to volunteer again for this year's event. But even if you have never participated, or maybe missed a year or two, we would greatly welcome your participation this year.

Again this year the Triathlon will be held at Hawthorne Park, east on Old Maple Avenue, directly behind Rose-Hulman Institute. It is separated into three events: Swim, Bike and Run, in that order. The swim event requires little of our attention. However, next is the Bike event. This requires our most attention and effort. We station ten mobiles at critical points along the twenty kilometer Bike course. We keep in contact with our mobile station operators from Net Control at our communications trailer, located back at Hawthorne Park. The main purpose of each station is to relay health and welfare information back to net control. Secondly, we help Triathlon officials keep track of male and female leaders in each category. We also provide a sag wagon to pick up participants who, for one reason or another, cannot continue and need transportation back to the park. We also provide a chase vehicle to follow the last biker until he or she returns back to the park.

Accidents, minor, and sometimes major, do happen. In dispatching help, time is of the essence. Therefore, we need each of our 10 locations to be staffed and on time. While these positions are not difficult to handle, most do require a vehicle and a radio of at least 25 watts. There are a couple of positions that require a vehicle but only an HT, preferably, of at least 5 watts.

If any of those positions go unfilled, that means a longer time before an ambulance can be dispatched if someone is hurt and again, injuries are not uncommon during this portion of the race!

If you participated last year, you generally have first choice for that position this year, unless, for some reason, you would rather not have that position again.

Next, the Run portion of the race is held along the bike path that runs along the border between Hawthorne Park and Rose-Hulman Institute. This year it will require three radio positions along the run route. We also provide a chase vehicle to follow the last runner. Here, radio stations are located at each aid station and help keep track of participant positions and provide health and welfare information, if necessary.

Finally, we have a handful of other radio positions that also need to be filled. All-in-all, this makes up a large effort on the part of local Amateur Radio community. Won't you help to make this year yet another Amateur Radio volunteer success? Never mind that you haven't done it before, we will teach you all you need to know. It ain't rocket science! Just ask anyone who has done it before.

The event starts at 8am and is generally over by around noon. Some positions require being on station by 7:45. Others begin later. Generally, the earlier you start, the earlier you are relieved.

For your effort, you receive a Triathlon tee shirt and a free meal, but that's not why we do this. We do it to, in some measure, give back to the Amateur Radio service which has given so much to us in the past.

To all those who participated in 2017, I will be contacting you by e-mail or phone. If any of you folks are not contacted somehow this week, or you didn't participate last year but are interested in participating this year, I would appreciate an e-mail at k9ere@icloud.com - or- call me at (812) 877-4371. If I'm not at home, there is an answering machine attached.

Again, the Triathlon is Saturday, May 12!

Thanks,

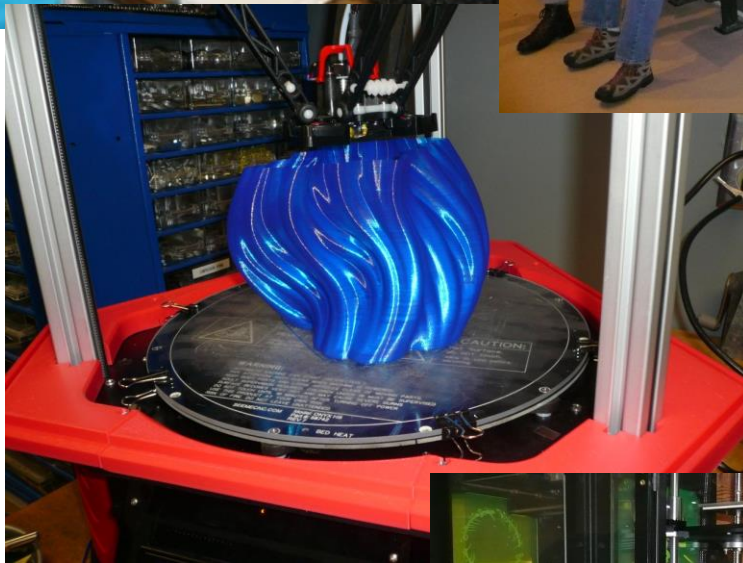
Gary Wheeler, K9ERE

Coordinator, Amateur Radio Communications, for the Terre Haute Triathlon

Triathlon 2017



**March WVARA Meeting
March 2, 2018
3D Printing at RHIT**



WVARA Hamfest 2018

March 10, 2018



***** OFFICIAL NOTICE *****

According to the WVARA Constitution, Article VII, Section II, official notice of an upcoming vote by the membership is required "at least five (5) days prior to any action by the membership on said notice." This is a non-budgeted item and therefore requires a majority vote by the members present.

PROPOSED PURCHASE OF A NEW COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER The Executive Board has unanimously voted to recommend to the membership that the WVARA acquire a new and larger communications trailer. The conditions of the motion specify that the maximum expense to the club will be \$2,000. The remaining cost of acquisition, and all costs involved in outfitting the new trailer to fit our needs, will be covered by private donations which have already been pledged. This recommendation will be brought before the club membership for a vote at the WVARA regular monthly meeting to be held at 7:00pm EDT on Friday, April 6, 2018. The meeting will be held at the Glas-Col Annex, 1715 S. 8th St., Terre Haute, IN 47802.

Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association 2018-03-02 Club Meeting Minutes

President Joe Cloutier (KC9JAC) called the meeting to order at 6:55 pm Indiana time.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Gary Wheeler (K9ERE).

Roll Call/Introductions – There were 23 sign-ins plus our speaker. No new licensees or license upgrades.

WVARA Board Meeting – The meeting will be 6:00 pm, March 8 @ the WVARA Club Station. All members are invited to attend.

The General Meeting will be held after tonight's presentation.

Program – Jay Sotak (AB9CG) – 3D Printing – Roger Sladek of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

BREAK

The Club Station is open 5:30-7:00 pm Indiana time each Thursday. The Club Station is located on the N.E. corner of 7th and Idaho. Entrance and parking is in back of building.

North Vigo HS Station – The antenna work is currently on hold.

Education Report – The class for Amateur Extra began February 13. There are 4 students participating.

CAARLA Report – No report.

Vigo County ARES – Net is the 1st Sunday monthly, 8:30 pm EDT on 146.685 Repeater. Please check in this Sunday.

Secretary's Report – LeRoy Sedgwick (AC9NF) – February minutes were presented and approved.

Treasurer's Report – Ray Andrews (K9DUR) – February report presented and approved. Discussion concerning procedure for prepayment of fees to Clay County 4H for future Hamfests.

Public Information Officer – Chuck Procarione (W9COD) – Currently working on promotions for the Spring Hamfest.

VE Report – Testing is scheduled at the Glas-Col Annex for Saturday, April 14, 9:30 am (Indiana time). There is no testing scheduled for March due to the Spring Hamfest. LeRoy (AC9NF) will check with the church near the Clay County 4H Fairgrounds about the possibility of using their facility for testing in the future.

Old Business

WVARA Special Event – Kevin Berlen (K9HX) – Successful activity. Made adjustments between the two weekends and made notes for future events at the Children's Museum. The trailer and new banners were there. One station was always operational and we were able to make many contacts.

New Business

Spring Hamfest – March 10, 2018. Co-chairmen are Andy Whitt (KD9JOQ) and Chuck Procarione (W9COD). Setup and tear down help will be needed. Setup at 6:00 am and doors open at 8:00 am. Chuck (W9COD) and Jay (AB9CG) will get the food. Need coffee pot, etc. The "Hat Guy" will be there.

Indiana QSO Party – May 5 – Dave Littlejohn (N9FMD) is chairman. We have been invited back with the Communication trailer to the church at the Clay/Vigo line on SR42.

Field Day – A chairman is still needed. June 23-24, Cory Firehouse.

Triathlon – May 12 – Gary (K9ERE) is in need of volunteers.

John Swetz (AC9AZ) Equipment – Chuck (W9COD) reported that John's equipment was left to the club. Chuck will be getting an inventory of the equipment.

Columbus IN Hamfest – Saturday, April 7.

Reminder that the WVARA Board meeting will be 6:00 pm, Thursday, March 8 @ the WVARA Club Station.

Meeting adjourned

Next Meeting – April 6, 2018; 7:00 pm Indiana time; Glas-Col Annex.

WVARA Board Meeting

2018-03-08 Minutes

Date: 2018-03-08 **Location:** WVARA Club Station

Called to Order: 6:05 pm Indiana time by President Joe Cloutier (KC9JAC)

In Attendance:

Y	President – Joe Cloutier, KC9JAC	Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD
Y	Vice-President – Steve Farrington, K9TA	Gary Wheeler, K9ERE
Y	Secretary – LeRoy Sedgwick, AC9NF	Chuck Procarione, W9COD
Y	Treasurer – Ray Andrews, K9DUR (via phone)	Andy Whitt, KD9JOQ
Y	Trustee – Jay Sotak, AB9CG	_____
Y	Past President – Kevin Berlen, K9HX	_____
Y	Past President – Jerry Cockrell, W9GWC	_____

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the February Board Meeting were presented and approved.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer's Report through 2018-03-08 was presented and approved.

Public Information Officer (Chuck, W9COD) – Items are being placed in the News & Events of the Terre Haute Tribune-Star. WTWO and WTHI websites are available.

Hamfest (Chuck, W9COD; Andy, KD9JOQ) – Radio ads are running. Joe (KC9JAC) has the QST packet. The “hat guy” and 3 tables have confirmed.

Indiana QSO Party (Dave, N9FMD) – May 5, 11:00 am to 11:00 pm Indiana time. Portable setup at the church on the Clay/Vigo line. The club station will, also, be in operation. Don Pine (K9DRP) has logging software. Discussion on the number of transmitters allowed.

Field Day 2018 (June 23-24) – Dave (N9FMD) volunteered to chair the event.

Communications Trailer (Gary, K9ERE; Dave, N9FMD) – Gary (K9ERE) reported that a trailer has been located that should meet our purposes. A handout was provided and discussion followed. A motion by Kevin (K9HX) and seconded by Ray (K9DUR) was presented to move forward with a cap of \$2,000 by WVARA toward the purchase. The additional expenses have been secured by private donations. The motion passed with unanimous approval. This will now follow the established procedures for club approval.

Possible WVARA Activities Handout – Dave, N9FMD

Triathlon (Gary, K9ERE) – Volunteer workers are needed. Discussion of possible individuals to contact.

Special Event Logs (Ray, K9DUR) – Logs are needed from our Special Event held at the Terre Haute Children's Museum. Please submit to Ray (K9DUR) in ADIF format.

Amateur of the Year – Ray (K9DUR) announced that the Dayton Hamvention Amateur of the Year is Valarie Hotzfeld (NV9L).

Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc 2018 Spring Hamfest Financial Report			
Income & Expenses Hamfest		Income & Expenses Food Sales	
INCOME		INCOME	
Ticket Sales	\$791.00	Food Sales	\$130.50
Donations	\$3.00	Donations	\$6.75
TOTAL INCOME	\$794.00	TOTAL INCOME	\$137.25
EXPENSES		EXPENSES	
Fairgrounds Rental	\$250.00	Food & Supplies (GFS)	\$48.96
Fairgrounds Booking Fee	\$10.00	Food & Supplies (Save-A-Lot)	\$29.69
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$260.00	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$78.65
OVERALL PROFIT/LOSS	\$534.00	OVERALL PROFIT/LOSS	\$58.60

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

Board of Directors:

President: Joe Cloutier – KC9JAC
Vice-President: Steve Farrington – K9TA
Secretary: LeRoy Sedgwick - AC9NF
Treasurer: Ray Andrews - K9DUR
Trustee: Jay Sotak – AB9CG
Past President: Jerry Cockrell - W9GWC
Past President: Kevin Berlen – K9HX

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Bandspread Facilitator: Dave Littlejohn - N9FMD

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Webmaster:

Ray Andrews - K9DUR

Contact the webmaster at webmaster@w9uuu.org to join our list server or if you have a problem receiving the eBandspread. Visit us on the web at www.W9UUU.org.

Sunday Night Net Manager: John VanSandt - N9YRX

April Meeting
April 6, 2018
7:00 PM
Glas-Col Annex
Linux Operating System

May Meeting
Bob Heil
Owner of Heil Sound
Live via Skype

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – 2017

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 _____
Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Phone () _____ - _____ E-mail address _____
Date of Birth (Mo/Dy/Yr) ____/____/____ Year first licensed _____ Year of last WVARA membership _____

New Member? [] ARRL 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? []

Name: _____ Call: _____ License Class _____ ARRL? []

Please add \$7 per family member above to the Single rate below. To include ARRL membership, see a current QST for the amount.

Dues options: Single (\$30) Family (Single + \$7 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!

NOTICE: All members must submit to a criminal background check as a condition of membership.

Bulletin Board

WVARA VE Testing

(Walk-ins Welcome)

Terre Haute, Indiana

2nd Saturday of every month (except July and March)

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: 812-236-6522

Terre Haute Radio Club

VE Testing

(Walk-ins Welcome)

Terre Haute, Indiana

2nd Thursday of every month

7:00 P.M., Indiana time

Storage Solutions South

5457 South State Road 63

(just south of the prison)

For further info contact Ginger Monastyrski, WB9ZHC at 812-243-9052 or WB9ZHC@yahoo.com

Field Day

June 23 – 24, 2018

Setup June 22, 2018

Cory Indiana Firehouse

May Meeting

May 4, 2018

K9EID Bob Heil

Owner of Heil Sound

Live via Skype

A Solution for Slow Speed Electrons

A common problem in high frequency transmitters centers around the speed of electrons. This is usually caused by a circuit configuration in many devices. When the designer calls for 90° bends in wire or printed circuit board runs, a situation usually occurs at higher frequency where the electron flow tends to slow below the SOL (speed of light) factor. The main cause is the 90° bend in the wire. The turn is so sharp that it results in a bottle-neck in electron flow, much like a bend in a highway causes traffic backups. The electrons essentially bunch together at the bend until they can make the turn and flow at a SOL rate.

The solution is achieved by installing a standard “Piddle Muffler” at the point before the bend. This device will allow only one electron at a time to flow preventing backups in flow. The piddle muffler comes in a number of current ratings. It is very simple to install by clamping the device on the wire much like a coil. For printed circuit runs, a special piddle muffler is available that simply is attached to the boards surface through a very strong adhesive.

It is possible to increase the speed of electrons by installing a noise emitting diode in parallel with a black hole diode at the input of the device. Be aware that at certain high frequencies, the black hole diode may tend to collapse upon itself.

The development of the piddle muffler has greatly improved the speed and quality of HF transmissions for both commercial and amateur radio applications.

Happy April!

W9GWC



1PM-191eprel8phoul