



American Radio Relay League Indiana Section August 2014 Newsletter

Table of Contents

Notes From the Section Manager's Desk	1
Remembering Friends We'll Miss	2
Field Appointment Updates	2
Club News Roundup	3
Public Information Outreach	8
Technical Specialists – Helping Hams	12
Official Observers – We're Listening	18
National Traffic System – Net Gains	18
Amateur Radio Emergency Service® In Action.....	21
In Closing	27

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL)

**“To promote and advance the art, science,
and enjoyment of amateur radio”**

Find us on the web at INARRL.ORG

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Notes From the Section Manager's Desk...

I received nearly unanimous positive feedback concerning the newsletter format and content change in July. Many people commented on the improved readability and appreciated the substantive commentary. This issue continues the trend with more club news submissions from around the Section.

The newsletter isn't the only Section change that occurred in July. I encourage you to read carefully the comments from the Indiana Section Traffic Manager, Brian Jenks W9BGJ and Section Emergency Coordinator, Brian Smith WW9A in their respective columns. Some Section policies seem to have slipped into practice over the last couple years which contradict ARRL national policy. During my term of office, our Indiana Section policies will be based as closely as possible on the written policy enacted by ARRL Board of Directors rather than the Section Manager's fiat or personal preferences.

It is the responsibility of the Section Manager to educate himself, remain current on ARRL policies, and adhere to those policies within the Section. The Section Manager has some discretion to adopt policies on issues where there is little national policy to provide guidance. Even on issues where national policy is silent or vague, it is my intent to consult ARRL HQ Staff, Indiana Section Staff, and subject matter experts most closely involved with the issue before establishing any new policy.

If you ever have a question about ARRL or Indiana Section policy, don't hesitate to call me. We may learn something together.

Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ
ARRL Indiana Section Manager
k9rfz@arrrl.org
(h) 260 373-1986

Remembering Friends We'll Miss ...

The following amateur radio operators became silent keys since the last newsletter. We want to honor them and express our condolences to their friends and family members.

- ❖ Richard Fish, W9KWI Alexandria, IN
- ❖ Berlin Slone, N9YCE Auburn, IN

All silent key notices should be sent directly to Joseph Lawrence at k9rfz@arrl.org for inclusion in this monthly column. Additional info about the notable contributions made by the silent key to amateur radio are welcome.

Field Appointment Updates

Resignations / Cancellations:

- Allen Shuff, W9ON Washington County ARES EC
- Hal Mandery, W8AIR Lawrence County ARES EC

New Appointments:

- Brian Smith, WW9A Assistant Section Manager
- Kerry Burson, KC9UJP Indiana Traffic Net (ITN) Manager
- Christopher Bible, KC9ZCK DeKalb County ARES EC
- John Emerson, KC9YHE Marion County PIO
- Stan Daffron, N9SWD Sullivan County ARES EC

Brian Smith WW9A was introduced last month as the new ARES SEC. I've asked Brian to also serve as an Assistant Section Manager and fortunately he has accepted. In that capacity, I've asked Brian to attend club meetings and hamfests in the southern portion of the state and represent the ARRL at invited events. Brian and I confer

frequently so we remain synchronized in matters of Section policy. From practical logistics, Brian lives in Columbus Indiana and has less travel time to southern events, while I live in Fort Wayne and have less travel time to northern events. Brian and I both work fulltime. Attending a club meeting in the middle of the week that ends at 9PM with a two hour drive home and expectation of being to work the next morning by 7AM can wear you out quickly. Brian brings many fresh ideas to the Section and I have confidence that should the need arise due to my personal illness or incapacity; he could serve the Section quite well in my place.

When I was considering a new Section Traffic Manager, Kerry Burson's KC9UJP name came up frequently when I discussed the appointment with Section NTS members. Kerry graciously removed himself from consideration due to his desire to spend more time with his family. When our Section Traffic Manager Brian Jenks asked Kerry to serve as the Indiana Traffic Net (ITN) Manager and he accepted, I was excited. Kerry has the respect of many NTS regulars and I know we'll see a resurgence of participation under his leadership.

Chris Bible, KC9ZCK is stepping into an appointment that has been vacant for a few years. DeKalb County hasn't had an active ARES team for the past 4 years and the few members actively interested in public service events have been working with the successful Steuben County ARES team led by Mark Tritch KC9GUY. Chris is newly licensed with an upgrade to General class this summer. He has a wealth of experience in the Indiana Guard Reserve and NIMS.

John Emerson has a long career in broadcast and was instrumental in getting ARRL public service announcements aired on WIBC in Indianapolis and a number of other stations around the state. John will complement the large number of Public Information Officers in Marion County

Stan Daffron, N9SWD quickly filled the vacancy as Sullivan County ARES EC when Tim Ridgway resigned because his county residency changed. Stan has completed several NIMS courses beyond the required basic four and he serves with the Vigo County EmCom team.

The ARRL appreciates the time and effort each volunteer gives serving the Indiana Section and promoting amateur radio. Many people talk about what should be done, but it takes committed volunteers to get it done. Thanks!

Club News Roundup

Ripley County Amateur Radio Club 7th Annual "Tailgators" Hamfest

Date: Saturday August 16, 2014
Location: Romweber Marketplace
7 South Eastern Ave.
Batesville, IN 47006

Talk in Frequency : +441.775 (+ 5)

Set up time: 7AM Gates open: 8AM
Gate fee: \$6.00 Indoor table fee \$4.00/table
Tailgating fee : FREE

Misc. Raffles \$1.00 / ticket
50/50 Raffle : \$1 each
Radio Raffle: \$2 each ticket (Baofeng HT)
Food Booth Will be Located Inside

Contact Delbert Felix for more information at 812-756-2470 or email
at wy9l.thebigdog@gmail.com .

Announcing The 44th Annual LAFAYETTE HAMFEST

ARRL sanctioned Hamfest

New Location! ***Cary Boy Scout Camp***

6286 State Road 26 East, Lafayette, IN
Approximately 1.5 miles east of I-65

Sponsored by the Tippecanoe Amateur Radio Association
P.O.BOX 8081, Lafayette, IN 47903-8081

*** * * Latest Information at: www.w9reg.org * * ***
*** * * George Bittles, KB9GFB, kb9gfb-at-gmail.com * * ***

See you at the Hamfest, Sunday August 17th, 2014!

Hamfest Sponsors

**Don't miss your opportunity to
announce your event to all ARRL
Indiana Section members**

Field Day Photos

Here are some photos from the Bloomington Amateur Radio Club (BARC) Field Day operation submitted by club President Jimmy Merry, KC9RPX



BARC Field Day Cake



Bob Poortinga NG9M Putting Antenna Together



State Rep Matt Pierce N9VKU Signs Log Book



Neil Rapp, WB9VPG Operates GOTA Station

Tower Climbing Without Leaving the Ground

Suppose you have a repeater antenna at the 575 foot level on a commercial broadcast tower and you'd like to know if it's damaged before you pay to have a professional tower climber make the trip. Who you gonna call? A local amateur astronomer with a telescope was the answer that Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (ACARTS) club President Dave Lindquist, W9LKH and W9INX 146.880 repeater station manager Jim Boyer, KB9IH hit upon.

Jim approached Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ with the project of imaging the club repeater antenna using one of Joseph's telescopes. In a previous hobby life, Joseph served as the American Association of Variable Star Observers (AAVSO) Solar Division Chairman. He and a team of volunteer observers spanning the globe were responsible for daily observations of sunspot activity and derived the American Relative Sunspot Number. Joseph has just the telescope for the job.



Jim Boyer and Dave Lindquist (L-R) Inspect Antenna from the Ground

Joseph's telescope mount is intended for tracking celestial objects that cross the sky as the Earth rotates. It's much less convenient for pointing at terrestrial objects. The 4" f/15 refractor gives a very narrow field of view. With the antenna at the 575 foot level and the observation point about 600 feet from the base of the Fort Wayne WANE-TV tower, this placed the antenna about 830 feet away at an altitude of 44° above the horizon. At 40x magnification. The linear field of view was smaller than the length of the antenna.

Joseph also has the adapters to attach a Nikon camera to the focus drawtube on the telescope. Removing the camera lens and attaching the body directly to the telescope gives an equivalent focal length of 2400mm on a Nikon D5100. Focusing is tricky because you have to use the rack and pinion focuser on the telescope to move the camera focal plane back and forth to achieve the crispest image on the digital sensor. The following photos speak for themselves.



When the original photos are enlarged, you can almost make out the thread pitch on the bolts that hold the antenna stand-off. Jim and Dave were pleased to determine the length of the jumper from the hardline to the antenna base and recognize the anti-sway cord at the antenna tip is no longer there. Mission accomplished.

ARRL Centennial QSO Party W1AW/9 Station in Indiana

One hundred years ago or so amateur radio enthusiasts were given the opportunity to use those "useless" frequencies above 200m. Soon thereafter came an organization to promote exploration of those frequencies and the exchange of technical information, The ARRL. This year the League is sponsoring what can reasonably be described as the largest "special event" ever held on the air.

In late 2013 the magnitude of this event wasn't anticipated by me when I received an invitation from Dave NN1N asking if I wanted to operate as W1AW/9 for week during 2014. Being an avid contester and having operated overseas I couldn't pass up the opportunity to make lots of contacts in a short time from inside the US. I answered yes and the event grew from that point beyond what I thought would happen.

I had not volunteered for an earlier week in the year so I could gauge what would need to be done. It became evident early on that the event would be akin to a major dxpedition occurring each week. State totals climbed from 6k to 20k and then 40k in short order as the states came on the air and interest grew worldwide. To date, the highest state QSO totals are in the 50,000 range for states with large well equipped stations.

This was an invitation event and initially I combed the contest results and sent invitations out. It became clear that there would be a need for a larger group of operators as the interest in WARC bands, digital, VHF/UHF, EME and SAT for W1AW/x WAS on the different modes and bands was large. In Indiana, we had 35 different stations with 40 some operators active during our week. The dedication of the operators should be applauded. There have been relatively few comments that we were missing on the bands or any particular modes. The operators ranged in experience from WRTC competitors and Honor Roll Dxers to Digital experts and the casual HFer. Many

comments were made by the folks that considered themselves "little pistols" that it was a rush to run contacts on a frequency for the first time in their ham careers. You can see who was operating and where by visiting the Indiana "Big Board". This is not an exhaustive listing of where we made contacts as the operators had the latitude to move for special requests provided the slot was empty. I set up a closed Yahoo Group for the operators just to facilitate the communication between the operators. Big Board link

<http://www.w1srd.com/w1aw-indiana-1/index.php?date=2014-07-23>

The big question you all have in your mind now is how did Indiana do? Not all the logs have been uploaded to LoTW but the raw count I have is approximately 34,200 QSOs between 7/23 and 7/29. A respectable total for sure. The group had to fight some not so good conditions as there seemed to be a midday fade on the bands each day. You can track state totals via the ARRL web site at:

<https://centennial-qso-party.arrl.org/w1aw-portable-qsos.php>

It was an honor to be asked to head this effort for one of the weeks and it was an honor to become acquainted with the many people who operated. The fun is not over. Indiana will have a second week of W1AW/9 in December between the 10th and 17th. K9NW will be the coordinator and will announce how the operation will be conducted this fall as the week gets closer.

73 and QRZ
Mike Kasrich, AJ9C

ARRL Rallies Support for HR-4969

The US House of Representatives has introduced bill HR-4969 known as the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014. The intent of this bill is to direct the FCC to extend the scope of PRB-1 that requires local governments to make reasonable accommodations for amateur radio antennas in local building ordinances. The requirement for reasonable accommodation would be extended to apply to homeowner association covenants and restrictions.

At the Indianapolis hamfest ARRL forum, Central Division Director Dick Isely, W9GIG called HR-4969, "Our best hope for challenging homeowner covenants." He also mentioned that the ARRL has contracted with a high-power lobbyist group to drive this bill through Congress. Unfortunately, national organizations for realtors and housing associations also have a lot of influence lining up against this bill. Additionally, even if this bill passes and becomes law, the definition of "reasonable accommodation" will likely require some court challenges to polish it into a tool that amateur radio operators can use to cut through HOA CC&R red tape.

At this point in the fight, the ARRL needs all amateur radio operators to take action and show support for HR-4969. We have been requested to write letters addressing the problems that homeowner association covenants impose on our reasonable participation in amateur radio. The ARRL has a website with very specific instructions to make your support count.

<http://www.arrl.org/hr-4969>

This does not include a form letter for you to copy and sign. Form letters don't get a Congressperson's attention. Instead, the website has a link to several talking talks that you can put in your own words and personalize with specific examples from your experience. Please

take the time to follow the link, draft a letter, and send it to the ARRL address listed on the page.

You spend a lot of time studying to earn an amateur radio license. You spend more time installing your equipment. Now, spend a little time writing a letter to your Congressperson explaining how homeowner association covenants infringe of your privileges granted by the FCC to participate in amateur radio.

Tailgate Hamfest

Date: Saturday ---- September 20, 2014

Time: 1:00 - 6:00 pm

Location: Warsaw, IN -- Warsaw Missionary Church parking lot (1849 E Springhill Rd) at corner of U. S. 30 and Springhill Rd, between Meijer and the Kosciusko Co. Community Hospital across from the new YMCA.

Sponsored By: Hoosier Lakes Radio Club

This is an open Tailgate Hamfest.

Bring items you wish to sell. Set-up your own table and signage.

Nothing to sell ?--- Come and enjoy the camaraderie of other hams and find something to purchase.

Editor's Note: Please send all Club News Roundup submissions and Hamfest announcements to Joseph Lawrence via email at k9rfz@arrl.org

Submissions may be edited to fit available space.

Public Information Outreach

Hoosier amateur radio operators scored big again, having held very successful Field Day operations in June that should continue to reap dividends for a long time. While media coverage was good in many parts of the state, there were others where, despite the hard work of dedicated PIOs, getting television crews out in some markets to even shoot B-roll was nigh impossible. However, this year there were clearly more elected officials, members of served agencies and members of the general public who came by, were greeted warmly and given lots of great ARRL brochures with warm invitations to come by the next club meeting. Based on all the inputs we've received, the 24-hour operations were fun for members and new hams who stopped by, folks who were introduced to Amateur Radio for the first time; new hams operating GOTA rigs and the general public discovering the utility of ham radio, "When All Else Fails." So to all involved, "Good on Ya!" You all did Indiana Amateur Radio proud.

As mentioned last month, John Emerson, KC9YHE, operations director for Network Indiana, did a great job in getting ARRL Field Day promotional PSAs placed on some 22 stations across the state. He also included a number of generic PSAs from ARRL that were not dated to expire at the end of Field Day and continue to run today. I can't begin to tell you how gratifying it was to hear the latest ARRL PSA, "Careers," air at 2:21 p.m., July 31, during a break during the most listened-to national talk show in the nation carried by WIBC in Indianapolis. Clearly, the station has these programmed in their normal rotation with other PSAs that pop up randomly during breaks where commercial slots are unfilled, be they in the middle of prime time shows or for all night truck drivers at 0330. With Run of Schedule (ROS), they are reaching large numbers of listeners during shows around the clock. They are also likely running in markets around the state. Thanks again, John!

While Network Indiana covers a good number of stations, there are many, many more that fall outside the network. To all clubs, club PIOs and ARRL PIOs, please check out the latest ARRL PSAs at: <http://www.arrl.org/public-service-announcements>.

I recommend putting together a plan to visit the station managers, program directors, and public service directors of all the local radio stations in your area. Make appointments over the next several months; bring along a press kit, and ask them to help us spread the word by including these PSAs in their normal rotation schedule for as long as possible. Give them the website address for direct download for the highest digital quality. Better yet, invite them out to lunch; invite their chief engineer out to your next club meeting for a presentation on today's broadcast engineering advances and practices. Let them know you are always available for assistance, interviews, potential event co-sponsorships, and anything that will help develop a personal relationship with the station. Hearing an amateur radio promotional spot during prime time is truly music to our ears and a great credit to PIOs and clubs in our Hoosier communities. Please call me if you have any questions or send me an email at kj9m@arrrl.net.

July Amateur Radio Stories in the Section

Kudos to those club and PIOs who obtained media coverage during July:

http://www.kpcnews.com/community/auburn/news/article_269cce5c-0d1f-11e4-bb1a-001a4bcf6878.html

<http://currentinwestfield.com/2014/off-the-grid-communication/>

If we missed any, please send them and we will include in next report.

Television Coverage and Amateur Radio

If you were successful in getting television station news operations to cover your Field Day, please send us links to the videos. We would love to post them during the next Indiana Section report. However, doing the basic Google searches has yielded little in TV coverage of any Field Day operations in the state.

There are likely a number of reasons including:

1. Young assignment editors cannot understand why radio “Hams” are needed when today’s cell phones provide connections to the “world.”
2. They have likely never experienced an actual “disconnect” because of a natural disaster event in their short lifetimes.
3. Field Days draw small crowds compared to community festivals, airshows, county fairs and other competing events with rides, food, and family activities.
4. These events seldom have “celebrities, public interface events, and activities to draw families like kiddie tattoos, face paintings, food booths, etc.
5. We seem to be promoting the same event year, after year, after year with no basic changes, additions, etc.
6. Video shots are mainly limited to folks talking into microphones. Little action, unusual shots, anything “different.”

Soooo, what do we, as the amateur radio community in Indiana, need to do for next Field Day?

1. Think about the above.
2. Share our “out of the box” ideas to change the above mention stereotypes of Field Day to young television news assignment desk editors.
3. Consider establishing and working with “management level contacts” that understand the news value of Field

Day operations to the community and leveraging influence to assigning reporters to cover the story.

4. Work to get a Congressperson, local celebrity, media anchor person, or other high level public personality to participate in Field Day with/at your event, either as an “ambassador,” participant (with control operator) or promotional spokesperson prior to the event.
5. Establish personal relationships with reporters, producers, and news dept. personnel well in advance of Field Day, promoting the event as something they should want to cover months before the last weekend in June. Now would be a good time to start.
6. Clubs might consider the possibility of media/corporate sponsorships. Check around to see if local major advertisers have a ham license; if so, contact them and discuss a potential relationship.
7. Social Media: More and more, reporters and TV stations are using social media for direct, live feedback and inputs for new stories; consider enlisting the services of one of your younger club members as an advisor in using Social Media as a tool to activate local TV station coverage. Delegate and reap the benefits.
8. Develop talking points that highlight the “high tech” aspects of amateur radio, rather than the “ancient technology of radio” that so many reporters like to dwell on. We all know that some of our rigs today have more high-tech bells and whistles than even Marconi could begin to comprehend. No smart phone can come close. After all, a smart phone is just a basic radio voice and data transceiver/computer with extensive memory that the user must only operate on the commercial frequencies he or she pays handsomely for every month.

9. Above are just ideas to consider. There are most likely a plethora of other great thoughts out there to share for next year. Please send them to me at kj9m@arrl.net and we will get them out to all.

Amateur Radio PR Opportunity

September is National Disaster Preparedness Month. The Dept. of Homeland Security will have a complete promotional kit available for PIOs soon. In the meantime, mark the website: <http://www.ready.gov/september>. There is still time to plan on setting up an ARES table at a local EMA public demonstration in September. Check with your local EMA to plan on setting up a live station, info table, and ARES activity at an already planned community event. Take photos, send to local paper and be available to TV stations covering the event for the ARES/amateur radio part of the plan.

Cool Link

This has nothing to do with PR, but a lot to do with protecting your mobile radio gear. Thanks to Steve, KF9ZA: What a terrific idea: <http://www.kremer.com/kf9za-kleenex-box-ham-radio-security/>

PIOs Needed for Indiana Section

Please consider posting this in your club publication:

“WANTED: FCC Licensed Amateur Radio Operators with passion about ham radio, a burning desire to share the joy of that first radio kit and QSO, commitment to learning the new technologies of communications are wanted by your Indiana Section. Ability to speak cogently with passion is vital. Consider becoming an ARRL PIO in Indiana. If interested in this highly rewarding volunteer position, contact kj9m@arrl.net for details.”

As always, my sincere thanks to our Section PIOs who continue to work tirelessly in promoting our great hobby around the state; their monthly reports follow below.

To one and all – Keep those electrons flowing!

Joe March, KJ9M
Public Information Coordinator
Indiana Section
Telephone: 317-748-1926
kj9m@arrl.net



PIO July Reports:

Whitley County PIO Roger McEntarfer, N9QCL:

As PIO for Whitley County, I did the following:

Sent releases to the local newspaper, several HF Nets and several of the local nets about the Whitley County W5YI Test Session that was held on Saturday July 26th.

Results of the test session on Saturday, July 26, 2014:

The W5YI Team members present were Donald Evilsizor / KA9QWC, Catherine Evilsizor / WB8ORR, David Keiser / WB9UNL and Roger McEntarfer / N9QCL.

Six people showed up for the July test session and four left smiling with a new license or an upgrade to an existing license.

New hams are: Isaiah L. Bair – Technician Class – Churubusco, IN - New call KB9BWI

Bradley M. Bishop – Technician Class – Fort Wayne, IN – New call KB9BWH.

Upgrading hams are: Jason R. Eicholtz / KC9UOQ – Extra Class – Fort Wayne, IN

Daven W. Septon / KCONMH – General Class – Columbia City, IN

The next W5YI Test session will be held on Saturday October 25, 2014 from 9:00 to 11:00 AM, in Community Room A and B of the Peabody Library 1160 E. State Rd. 205 - Columbia City, Indiana.

Roger McEntarfer / N9QCL
Whitley County W5YI CVE, ARRL PIO

Vanderburgh County PIO David Vogel, WA9C

Field Day, as always, was fun and useful. It is still the best annual event in our hobby. We had new people that came to see what it was all about. The most exciting event at field day was for our hardware group leader to make a contact with the Space Station proving that the equipment we will be using in a month works to the Space Station. We have been given a week of dates and the school and ham club are deciding which day we want to schedule The Contact. We already have the mayor scheduled. Bring it on.

David Vogel WA9C
ARRL Public Information Officer
cell: (812) 430-5727

Hamilton County PIO Joe March, KJ9M

Thanks to the photography of our HCARES club president, Tim, KD5URS, we were able to market a post-Field Day story to Current in Westfield (the weekly paper where our FD was located). They were unable to personally cover Field Day, so we wrote a post event story and sent it to them by email just two days after the exercise. They used three photos which rotated on their website, including photos of our youngest club member, Thomas, K9AGC, receiving live signals from the International Space Station (ISS) using an FT-50R and Arrow Antenna at the site. During each pass of the space station, we drew small crowds of folks visiting the park, garnering questions and the distribution of ARRL materials. Same photos (and more) were sent to QST. One included Mayor Andy Cook enjoying the excitement of

connecting with South Africa via IRLP from the Westfield Quaker Park Field Day site.

Media coverage over the previous weeks brought out a good number of new hams, members of the public and new candidates for club membership. Letters of thanks were written and sent to media covering the event and the elected leaders who participated in Field Day at Westfield, Ind., in Hamilton County. Special thanks to EMA Director Tom Sivak, KD8LVM, and Deputy Director Carl Erickson for their support and promotion of the exercise/event.

73,
Joe March – KJ9M
ARRL PIO, Hamilton County
Carmel, Indiana

Marion County PIO Doreen Everett, AE5QM

The Indy Hamfest provided my first PIO opportunity. The Indiana Radio Club Council (IRCC) had a table to promote IRCC activities. Promotional materials prepared by Jim Rhinehart, K9RU and I included a tri-fold board with several leaflets promoting IRCC awards and activities including: Technical Excellence Award, Amateur of the Year Award, Outstanding Club Awards, Indiana QSO Party Club Competition, and the Wouff Hong ceremony to take place at the Fort Wayne Hamfest. An additional bi-fold board shared pictures of this years' Amateur of the Year Award winner (Neil Rapp, WB9VPG), 2013 Technical Excellence Award winner (Richard A. Meiss, WB9LPU), a list of IRCC Officers, a picture showing presentation of the first Outstanding Club Award (Indianapolis Radio Club), and an example of the Wouff Hong Certificate presented to all attendees of the Wouff Hong ceremony.

I was asked to speak at the IRCC forum and did so using a PowerPoint presentation developed specifically to promote the functions and activities of the IRCC. A feature of the forum was presentation of the

Technical Excellence Award. The 2014 Technical Excellence Award nominees were presented with a certificate by IRCC Chairman, Jack Parker, W8ISH. Dale Schieman, WB9YCZ, 2014 Technical Excellence Award winner, was presented with a beautiful trophy by Chairman Parker, W8ISH. Award winners and other information about the IRCC can be seen on the IRCC web site. The forum was well-attended and included the most recent past and current Indiana Section Managers.

The IRCC has a new web site thanks to the expertise and organization of Ray Andrews, K9DUR, and input from IRCC officers and board members. The new website is: <http://inrcc.org/>

Dr. Doreen Everett, AE5QM
ARRL Public Information Officer
Marion County

Shelby County PIO John Walker, K9SVL

I recently came into this job more or less unexpected. I'm getting my feet back on the ground after ARRL Field Day 2014. I had a lot of help from my fellow BRVARS club members in getting the Shelby County version of ARRL Field 2014 well publicized and attended. I made some good contacts with the local press during Field Day and hope to nurture that into a steady flow of information about Amateur radio to the general public.

Right now, we are planning a small tailgate session at the QTH of Ralph Polston, K9SEW, here in Shelbyville, Ind. The 3rd Annual Ralph Polston Tailgate will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2014, from 8:00AM until 12:00PM. Vendors, hams and the general public are all invited to attend. I'm trying to get some newspaper coverage on this event if possible. There is no charge for the event.

I am also working on an event with the local Historical Society and the Grover Museum (Shelbyville, IN), to do an exhibit at the museum of

vintage amateur radio gear, and try to document the history of amateur radio in Shelby County through old pictures, newspaper articles and recollections of the many amateur radio operators in the County. This idea got some "legs", so to speak, during one Saturday morning breakfast session at the local Denny's restaurant. We have several amateurs in the County with some nice radio collections who have agreed to put them on display at the Museum. The display would probably last from 1 to 3 months depending on the Museum's schedule of events. I really look forward to getting this one down the road. Well, that's it for now from Shelby County. 73,

John Walker, K9SVL
ARRL PIO, Shelby County

Technical Specialists – Helping Hams

I followed up with one person who was interested in becoming of Technical Specialist but after review the information and further discussion decided it was more of a commitment than he was comfortable with at this time. Pete, N9SFX has been working with an amateur in Warsaw on a noise issue and I do think he has made some progress on it, as usual it seems to come and go a bit.

As seen in many of the individual reports many of our Technical Specialists were very busy this month helping others. The technical expertise we now have in our group is downright amazing.

We now have 18 Technical Specialists around the state and I'm continuing to seek applicants especially in the East Central and South Eastern area of the state. For anyone who may be interested in becoming number 19 please send me an email. 73,

Mark Westermeier, N9OZ
Indiana Section Technical Coordinator
N9OZ@arrl.net

Technical Specialists Reporting for July 2014: AC9AZ, KB9BVN, K9NDU, KK9EJ, NF9K, N7BBW, N9LYY, N9QCL, N9SFX, Ni9Y, W9BGJ, WA9FGT, WB8WOR, WB9L, W9WEL, K3HTK, N9AWM, N9OZ

TS July Reports:

Well, folks, I am already seriously thinking about a Raspberry Pi thanks to an excellent presentation at the Indianapolis Hamfest. As you know, I have been working with the Arduino and PicAxe microprocessors for a couple of years. The Pi is a full blown computer and I am thinking of all the possible things to do with it. Maybe we could begin a Raspberry Pi Ham Club?

As I mentioned before, the W.V.A.R.A. (Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc.) is donating its silent key gift of a Ten Tec transceiver to the North High School here in Terre Haute. I have volunteered to help also. So far the summer is slow, but as soon as school starts we expect to set up a club station on the North High School premises. Jeff Hammers is heading the volunteer group to assist in this.

The WVARA is beginning a Technician Class on Sept. 2 at 6:30 PM at the Glass-Col Annex at 1715 S. 8th St. in Terre Haute. If anyone knows any possible students, please let me know and I will forward them more details.

Now that the summer is winding down, our W.V.A.R.A. club monthly meetings will begin on Friday, Sept. 9th, at the GLass-Col annex location mentioned above. Stop by if you are in the vicinity.

I am busy finishing up and putting on the air an Eagle 1 antenna with a higher powered Unum as an addition to my newly acquired Ameritron AL-811 amplifier. 73 to everybody.

John, AC9AZ

For the month of July, it was pretty quiet around here as I was out of town for 2 of the weeks. I have begun to purchase and flash equipment (Linksys WRT54GL) for a mesh project and for next year's Field Day.

David Spence, K9NDU
K9NDU13@gmail.com

Not much going on this month. Spent most of the day at the Indy Hamfest at the W9RCA table selling some wares between rounds out in the flea market. Picked up a few VHF/UHF antennas for the house. Now, I just need some time to get them put up around the house. Stopped at the Hamilton Co. RACES booth at the Hamilton Co. Fair for a little chat. Looking at possibly joining the group in the future.

73,
E.J. Caylor, KK9EJ.

The first half of the month was primarily devoted to putting the final touches on the Raspberry Pi presentation for the Indianapolis Ham Fest. Both Ed and I finished up the live demos we were going to be presenting and made sure that everything was in order. I really enjoyed the opportunity to present and look forward to future opportunities.

Dick McKenna (W9FG), who is a member of the Indianapolis HamFest Association, told me that we had ~55 people at the seminar, which was the most of any seminar held that day. We've been asked to consider presenting again next year and were also asked by a few local clubs if we'd be interested in bringing the presentation to their club meetings. So if we can coordinate schedules, the "Meet the Raspberry Pi," may become, "The Raspberry Pi Road Show!"

That pretty much wraps up July. After the HamFest was in the books, life kept me busy for the rest of the month.

73,
Bill Atkinson, NF9K
ARRL Technical Specialist
ARRL VE
Laurel VE
PODXS 070 Club #1595
30MDG #6014
www.nf9k.net

Here are the results from researching the bad G-7 144 antenna. New-tronics found that they did indeed miss-wire the base coil. We had another new G-7 that had tested bad. But we did not send it back. Upon hearing the results from New-tronics, we opened the second antenna. We discovered that in the base section there is a four turn coil. The shunt tap was set to the top of the coil. A base section for 144 MHz should be in the middle.

New-tronics is the distributor for Hustler antennas. We purchased ours thru R&L Electronics. We informed R&L about our findings. We suggested they return their shipment so they do not get a bad reputation.

I tried very hard to work with and help New-tronics find and resolve this problem with the G-7 antennas. My impression was "stuff happen". This has taken two months, two antennas, return shipping fees, Phone calls, e-mails. New-tronics does not feel that they owe me anything because they fixed the problem and sent the same antenna back.

I have always liked the Hustler brand of antennas. HF thru UHF. Base station and mobile antennas all. But now I have to back down because the new owner/operator has very poor quality control. Plus

with all my willingness, to help them find the production problem, they gave me back no respect, no thank you, nothing but the antenna we had already paid for.

Louis Kruizinga, N7BBW

Not a lot to report this month. Continuing to do a bit of antenna work on the property. Hope August yields a couple of days to play on the radio! 73,

Charlie Sponaugle
N9LYY

Finally, the antenna project on the roof of the Raytheon Technical Center is complete.

On top of the roof, which is at 50 feet, we now have the 43 foot HF vertical with 32 - 65 foot radials with a remote MFJ Autotuner covering 10-160M. On top of a 42 foot push up mast, we have a Comet GP-15 (2M/6M/70CM). On top of a second 42 foot push up mast is a Comet DS-150 discone multi band antenna. Pulled up between the two pushups and a third mast, we have a G5RV covering 10-80M.

In the ham shack, we are running a Kenwood TS-480SAT, Heathkit SB200, Palstar AutoTuner for HF, and a Kenwood TM-D710 for UHF/VHF Voice and APRS. We also have a Donner Digital interface and are running digital modes. So far signal reports from other Raytheon sites and other stations have been great.

Now, on to the next project to get more into the HF digital modes and nets on the home front and mobile.

73,
Roger McEntarfer/ N9QCL
Whitley County TS
Whitley County PIO
Whitley County W5YI CVE

Raytheon Rooftop Antenna Farm



Early in the month, I got a notice from AC9DN, of an irregular pulsating noise in Warsaw on the lower frequencies. I passed that along to Mark to see if there was someone close by that could do a little fox hunting.

I went to the South Bend Red Cross picnic on the 25th. We had a fox hunt after we ate. I found the fox in 7 minutes. Five of that was just walking to where the fox was. The other guys were using many different devices. KB9YGO came in not too long after me, but many were still out there after an hour. Mike and I both used hand held beams with attenuators. Some used an HT with a rubber duck and I think they are still out there somewhere.

Someone had the 145.43 repeater timed out on the morning of the 29th close to lunch time. I had a vector of 80 degrees azimuth from my residence. This went on for about half an hour. I got my DF gear in

my van and got to the end of my drive when it shut off. I know they are watching me.

Late on the night of the 29th, there was a strange buzzing on the 145.43 repeater in Elkhart. It occurred for about one second every 2 seconds. I was close to the repeater with plenty of power, but they said it was on my signal too. It could have been on the 400 link from our receiver site. It's gone today. I did not get a chance to check the link last night. Marker lights?

73, Pete, N9SFX

I had the opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the Tamarack Boy Scouts near Jones, Michigan, on July 10th and 17th. I set up a portable station using a Kenwood TS-50, and AT-50 using a jump start battery. The antenna was a G5RV Jr. which was pulled vertically some 70 feet into a tree. Many contacts were made using CW/SSB on 40 and 20 meters including the Old Indian Boy Scout camp at Greenville, SC. The scouts needed hands on experience with ham radio to earn their Radio Merit Badge. The weather was perfect and band conditions were extremely good. To my amazement, the mini G5RV vertically worked very well. We went back a week later for another demonstration. I also brought a crystal set radio to show the simplicity of receiving a radio signal without any batteries.

About 150 scouts from Indiana and Michigan camped out for one week in the heavily wooded campgrounds which also included a shooting range, general store and a large indoor kitchen facility where we were guests. I was invited to participate again next year which I gladly accepted. Photos of the event can be viewed on Picasa.com by doing a search for Tamarack Boy Scout Camp, Jones, Michigan. The scouts gave me hope for the future as they stood at attention during the flag lowering on the parade grounds and recited the pledge of allegiance under God. There was also a prayer before supper was served. Their scouting experiences will certainly help make them

better citizens of the USA. Never once did I see or hear of any bad language as they all were very polite to each other.

I attended the 13th annual AM Jamboree on July 26th in Sturgis, Michigan. The host of the event provided Sloppy Joes and all the fixings at no cost. All the attendees donated various items which were auctioned off to cover expenses. I came home with a Hallicrafters S-40B receiver and a beautifully made crystal set and a vintage 201 single tube radio. AM radio is still alive and well today as about 75 hams attended the event. Several years ago, I had sold all my crystals at the Jamboree and now I put the word out that I needed them back. Isn't that the way it goes? If anyone has some 160, 80 or 40 meter crystals please let me know at ni9y@arrl.net.

Another annual event was the W9AB radio family picnic in South Bend, IN. on July 25th, sponsored by the Michiana Amateur Radio Club (ARRL affiliated club). Besides the good fellowship, we had a fox hunt. Photos can be viewed by doing a Picasa.com search for "w9ab radio picnic". One scout family attended the picnic and even went with me on the Fox Hunt.

I had intended to participate on the annual Flight of the Bumblebees (FOBB) on July 12th, but the XYL's 95 year old mother had taken a turn for the worse. She did recover and is doing well. 73,

Dan, Ni9Y
Mishawaka, IN.

Hello Mark and all reporting this month. I don't have a lot to report other than first month as Section Traffic Manager seems to be going well. And that we have had the first meeting of our formal Elmering Group. We will take it to the Board of Directors meeting for the Fort Wayne Radio Club this coming Tuesday. I expect it to be well received. Other than that it's hard to believe August is here and

September and fall are right around the corner. 73 all and have a great month.

Brian Jenks, W9BGJ

Well, another uneventful month. I did learn, however, that in order to hook up a Baofeng handheld to a fox controller, you need to get in the 'innards' to the main chip.

I am playing around with a homebuilt 2 meter transmitter for foxhunting. I'm having a little trouble getting acceptable crystals for an acceptable price!)

My prototype works great, except I consider it to be too close to the band edge.73,

Mike Martin, WB9L
PS: Here's a picture of it.



WB9L Prototype 2m Transmitter

We were in the Virginia mountains about 1/2 of the month where I tried out the new portable, 40 meter, vertical antenna, with 4 radials, that I built out of "Ham-Stick" style mobile antennas. It was mounted up about 15 feet on a tripod. I was surprised at how well it worked. I was operating from a valley ("Hollow") maybe 150 feet wide. Mountains rose up on each side of me, yet, I got into Northeastern Indiana, South Carolina, and Alabama on both SSB and CW so the signal was going up and out of the valley in fine shape.

Dave Van Doorn, W9WEL

I presented the Introduction to the Raspberry Pi with Bill Atkinson, NF9K on July 12th at the Indianapolis Ham Fest. We had a great turnout and feedback from the presentation. We had the most (~55) attendees of any of the forums during the Ham Fest. It is a real treat to be able to do and luckily all the demonstrations went off without a hitch. We were also asked to present at the Shelbyville Amateur Radio Club in the near future. Very exciting!

I've been preparing images for my website that attendees and other amateurs can download to use with the Raspberry Pi. One Pre-built image will be with FLDigi pre-installed and configured for use with Rig Control as well as digital modes. Other image is for using a DVB-T USB dongle (RTL2832U with E4000 Chipset) as a SDR Receiver.

I'm continuing to get familiar with an HP Service monitor in order to assist other amateurs with radio projects such as duplexer tuning and loss calculations, etc.

I'm working on a DX Cluster monitor LED display project using the Raspberry Pi.... Of course. Several other miscellaneous projects are in the works dedicated to the technology of Amateur Radio.

I finally completed my portable satellite station setup consisting of a 2 Meter and 70 cm yagi array, Az & El rotor on tripod. I used my Icom 9100 to work my first contacts on FO-29 using SSB.

Setup and donated 4 Windows XP Desktop computers for W9ICE group to use with Echolink Project they are working on.

Ed Valasek, K3HTK

I had a great July. It was filled with a ton of scouting related activities, so there wasn't much time for me this month for amateur radio. I am however putting together a Tech to General upgrade class in Johnson County. The class will be run at White River Station #51, beginning on Wednesday, September 10th at 7:00pm. If anyone is interested, they need to go to the Midstate Amateur Radio Club website at <http://www.midstatehams.org>, and follow the registration link. Registration closes on August 31.

73,

Andrew Murrey, N9AWM

I attended the Indy Hamfest and met up with a number of old acquaintances and made a couple of purchases. Both the Indiana Section and the Raspberry Pi seminars were really great. I really learned an amazing amount at the Raspberry session and will hopefully now not forget and refer to it as strawberry pie. Many of the new technologies are really wonderful and so interesting. Other than that, work was the order of the day for the remainder of the month. Maybe I'll have some time this month for a bit of amateur radio.

Mark Westermeier, N9OZ

Official Observers – We’re Listening

At the end of July, 11 of the 15 Official Observers (OO) submitted reports. There were 197 HF and 270 VHF/UHF hours monitored. The HF bands had no Advisory Card or Good Operator Card sent. On the VHF/UHF Bands 1 Advisory Card was issued for improper ID with no Good Operator Card issued. There were also 13 hours attributed to administration time.

David Epley, N9CZV

Indiana Section Official Observer Coordinator

n9czv@arrrl.net

INDIANA SECTION OOC REPORT - JULY 2014					
CALL	HF	VHF/UHF	ADMIN	ADV	GD OP
AB9SE	0	0	0	0	0
AB9SR	21	19	1	0	0
K9CFE	45	40	1	0	0
KC9DBM	0	0	0	0	0
KC9EOT	0	0	0	0	0
N9CZV	23	18	3	1	0
N9FEB	0	0	0	0	0
N9OL	11	3	1	0	0
ND9C	10	40	1	0	0
W8BYA	5	5	1	0	0
W9JDW	21	2	1	0	0
WA5LOU	8	4	1	0	0
WB9FHP	22	0	1	0	0
WB9FQS	3	44	1	0	0
WS9H	28	95	1	0	0
TOTALS	197	270	13	1	0
ADV = Advisory GD OP = Good Operator Report					

National Traffic System – Net Gains

Hello everyone and thanks to all stations reporting this month. Special thanks to everyone for making my transition into the Section Traffic Manager appointment a smooth one.

You may notice what appears to be a decline in net check-in numbers this month. This is a more accurate representation of NTS activity compared to what you have previously seen. During the past couple years, the check-in numbers were inflated due to the fact that a lot of ARES and RACES net check-ins were being reported to ARRL HQ twice – once in the ARES SEC report and again in the NTS STM report. You will notice in my report, any ARES/RACES net check-in totals were intentionally left blank. In the coming months, I ask that any stations reporting for ARES/RACES nets please ensure that your check-in count is going to our ARES SEC Brian Smith (WW9A) via the online EC report to be properly documented. Of course, any nets handling traffic, regardless of affiliation, please send those totals to my station for reporting as well.

It is always the intention of the ARRL Field Organization to maintain the highest standards of integrity in the Indiana Section and it's my pleasure to be of service to the membership. I look forward to working with all of you. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to drop me a line, either email or phone or on the air if you hear me.

73 everyone and have a great month.

Brian G Jenks, W9BGJ

ARRL Indiana Section Traffic Manager

ARRL Technical Specialist

ARRL Official Relay Station

w9bgj@arrrl.net

Section Manager's Note: The change in policy to remove ARES/RACES net check-ins from the NTS report resulted from discussions with ARRL HQ staff. Understanding how these values are used to represent amateur radio activity was central to establishing a credible reporting policy. It was decided that double reporting the ARES/RACES net check-ins may lead to confusion and misrepresentation of amateur radio activity. With the consent and agreement of ARRL HQ staff, the policy has been changed to report ARES/RACES net check-ins in the monthly ARES SEC report and any formal messages passed during these ARES/RACES nets will be reported in the Section Traffic Manager report. This policy meets both goals of accurately representing the Indiana Section activity and providing recognition to those who pass formal messages on ARES/RACES nets.

- K9RFZ

NTS By the Numbers

INDIANA STM REPORT JULY 2014					
HF NETS					
NET NAME	SOURCE	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS
ARES HF NET	W9EEU		0	100	4
ICN	WA9VBG	71	0	398	25
IDTN	K9JAJ	178	50	1114	20
ITN	W9BGJ	1250	120	1050	31
QIN	W9ILF	166	23	578	45
TOTALS		1665	193	3240	125
NETS REPORTING	5				

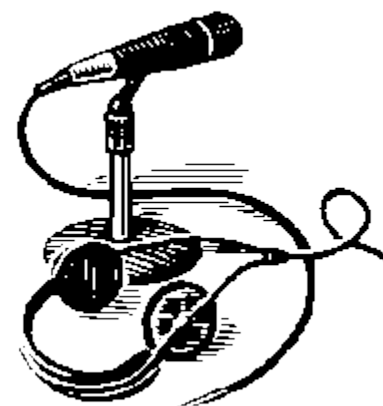
INDIANA STM REPORT JULY 2014					
VHF/UHF NETS					
NET NAME	SOURCE	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESSIONS
BARTHOLOMEW CO ARES	K9JAJ		0	69	5
CCARC ARES NET	N9ZMY		0	72	5
CLAY CO ARES NET	K9HX		0	36	4
D STAR NET	KC9QZE	7	0	25	??
DEKALB/STEBEN ARES	KC9GUY		0	157	8
DIST 7 ARES	W9EEU		0	14	1
HARRISON CO ARES	W9WXN		20	111	4
HUNTINGTON CO NET	KE9WI	35	2	147	4
IMO NET	W9BGJ	423	8	512	31
INDIANA PACKET NET	N9LYA	0	0	0	0
JEFFERSON CO	N9XVB	8	0	16	4
KOSCIUSKO CO EMG NET	KC9AYT	166	5	147	5
LAKE CO VHF NET	KF9EX	18	0	35	4
MID STATE ARC	K9DY	140	0	196	4
MORGAN CO 950 NET	NA9L	127	0	223	29
MORGAN CO ARES	N9JPX		0	57	5
NE IN PACKET NET	KA9QWC	10	0	271	4
ORANGE CO EMER SVC	WB9FHP		0	204	5
ORANGE CO SUN NET	WB9FHP	83	1	173	4
OWEN CO ARES	WD9BKA		0	71	5
SCOTT CO ARES/RACES	WR9G		4	72	5
SOUTH CENTRAL AREA	KA9OPL	77	0	134	5
TARS EVANSVILLE	KE9YK	123	1	235	6
TRI STATE 2 METER NET	W9OWO	459	3	675	28
WABASH VALLEY 2 MTR	N9YRX	80	0	75	4
WCARC SUN NET	KA9DTZ	16	0	33	2
WHITLEY CO ARES	W9NNH		1	73	5
TOTALS		1772	45	3833	186
NETS REPORTING	27				

INDIANA STM REPORT JULY 2014 PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR ROLL							
STATION	SESSIONS	MESSAGES	APPTS	PUB SVC	EMG RES	DIGITAL	TOTAL
AB9ZA	40	40	20	0	0	0	100
K9DUR	40	9	20	0	5	0	74
KA9QWC	40	40	20	0	0	10	110
KC9UJP	40	40	10	0	10	10	110
N9WLW	40	25	20	0	10	0	95
NA9L	34	15	30	10	0	20	109
W9BGJ	40	40	30	10	0	10	130
W9EEU	40	7	20	30	0	10	107
W9WXN	30	40	30	10	25	20	155
WA5LOU	21	20	30	0	0	0	71
WB9FHP	13	40	30	110	5	80	248
TOTALS	378	316	260	170	55	160	1309
STATIONS REPORTING	11						

INDIANA STM REPORT JULY 2014 ORS AND SAR STATION REPORTS						
STATION	TYPE	ORIGINATED	RECEIVED	SENT	DELIVERED	TOTALS
AB9ZA	SAR	0	13	34	19	66
KA9QWC	SAR	0	11	49	0	60
KC9UJP	SAR	2	67	75	33	177
N9EXM	SAR	0	4	1	0	5
N9WLW	SAR	0	22	3	0	25
NA9L	SAR	3	3	6	3	15
W9BGJ	SAR	10	108	108	4	230
W9EEU	SAR	0	4	0	3	7
W9ILF	SAR	0	28	14	0	42
W9LW	SAR	0	4	4	0	8
W9PC	SAR	0	1	7	0	8
W9WXN	SAR	8	340	117	35	500
WA5LOU	SAR	0	12	5	3	20
WB9FHP	SAR	17	781	765	50	1613
TOTALS		40	1398	1188	150	2776
STATIONS REPORTING		14				
BPL REPORT		ORIGINATED	RECEIVED	SENT	DELIVERED	TOTALS
W9WXN		8	340	117	35	500
TOTALS		8	340	117	35	500
STATIONS REPORTING		1				

Stay Up To Date With Your Favorite Section Level Nets

Net Name	Frequency	Mode	Local Day	Year Round Eastern Time	UTC Time	
					EST	EDT
Indiana Traffic Net (ITN)	3.910	LSB	Daily	8:30	13:30	12:30
Indiana Section CW Net (QIN)	3.535	CW	Daily	8:00	13:00	12:00
Indiana Digital Traffic Net (IDTN)	3.585	Various Digital	Daily	9:00	14:00	13:00
Indiana Traffic Net (ITN)	3.940	LSB	Daily	18:00	23:00	22:00
Indiana Slow CW Net (ICN)	3.535	CW	Daily	19:00	0:00	23:00
Indiana Section CW Net (QIN)	3.535	CW	Daily	20:00	1:00	0:00
Indiana ARES Digital Net (IDN)	3.583	OLIVIA USB	Wednesday	20:30	1:30	0:30
Indiana ARES HF Net	3.900	LSB	Sunday	17:00	22:00	21:00
9th Region Phone Net	7.280	LSB	M.W.F	12:00	17:00	16:00
9th Region CW Early Net	3.555	CW	Daily	20:45	1:45	0:45
9th Region CW Late Net	3.555	CW	Daily	22:30	3:45	2:45



Amateur Radio Emergency Service – In Action

Over the course of my first month as SEC, several questions have arisen. Some of these questions came from ECs, DECs and ARES members, but most of them came from me. The majority of these questions could be answered in one document. That document is the Public Service Communications Manual, which is available at the ARRL website

(<http://www.arrl.org/public-service-communications-manual>).

I encourage each ARES member within the section to bookmark it, read it and refer to it any time that you have a question about how ARES operates, what section appointees are responsible for and more.

While I will not be taking you chapter by chapter through the document, I'd like to highlight a few sections that have come up in conversation at least a few times over the past months.

ARES, Clubs and Agencies

In Section 1.3 of the PSCM, it states, "Whatever jurisdiction is assigned, the EC is in charge of all ARES activities in his area, not just one interest group, one agency, one club or one band."

While discussion of ARES is welcome in many club meetings across the country, not just in the Indiana Section, we must be careful that that ARES remain a separate entity from those clubs and from the agencies which we serve. Membership in an ARES team must not be limited to those who are or are not members of a certain club or agency.

Assistant ECs

Section 1.5 of the PSCM states, "Special-interest groups are headed up by Assistant Emergency Coordinators, designated by the EC to supervise activities of groups operating in certain bands, especially

those groups which play an important role at the local level, but they may be designated in any manner the EC deems appropriate."

Notice that AECs are chosen by the EC, not by the DEC, SEC or SM. The EC must be able to choose someone whom they can trust and work with during day-to-day and emergency work. These AECs may be assigned to work on specific tasks, such as training, logistics, portable operations and others. They may also be assigned to specific geographic areas within the ECs jurisdiction such as specific cities, towns or townships. While I am the SEC for the entire Indiana Section, I do not know every ham in the section, I do not know all of their strengths, weaknesses, other affiliations or personalities. The local EC most likely knows the hams in his or her jurisdiction better than the SM, SEC or even DEC does.

Working with Public Safety

Chapter 6 of the PSCM does an excellent job of describing how the ARES organization should interface with local public safety, especially in the case of an emergency. One paragraph within that chapter that is very important for everyone within the ARES organization to keep in mind:

Those very few hams who behave emotionally, are overzealous in offering their services or in describing their abilities or who abuse the established limits of their authority are doing the amateur fraternity a real disservice. The typical police officer or firefighter, like the typical civilian, does not understand the vast differences among various radio services, the types of licensing involved or the high level of expertise and discipline that is characteristic of the Amateur Radio Service.

We must always remember that while we are all willingly volunteering our time to our communities, we must keep in mind that without a well-defined and maintained relationship between the local

ARES EC and local public safety officials, our services may not be understood or welcomed when disaster strikes. We serve as an option for local public safety and the other organizations which we serve.

Keep in mind that the relationships that we maintain during non-emergency days determine how we will be able to serve in the emergency. Relationship and communications must be maintained with the local EMA director, public safety officials, served agency leaders and our own members.

ARES and NTS

While Chapter 2 is specifically talking about the Simulated Emergency Test (SET), Section 2.6 helps to point out that everyone in our ARES organization must know, understand and practice the use of the National Traffic System (NTS). Unfortunately, our status quo in the Indiana Section has been for the ARES and NTS branches to operate separately, it is imperative that they not only work together, but that they be heavily integrated so that we can work together effectively in an emergency. A true emergency is not the right environment for ARES members to learn how to send, route or deliver an NTS message. It's also not the right time for NTS operators to learn how the ARES structure works.

Moving Forward

Developing our ARES organization will not be a fast process. It will take time, however there are steps that we can take now to make the process easier.

1. Work on relationships. We must work on the relationships mentioned above. ECs and DEC's should be scheduling face-to-face meetings with their EMA directors, served agencies and

public safety officials to let them know what ARES has to offer during emergencies.

2. Improve our image. Unfortunately, the word amateur in amateur radio is too often understood to be the opposite of professional. It is understood to mean that we are unskilled. However, the word amateur comes from the same root as amore, meaning that we communicate "for the love of it." We must present ARES and amateur radio as a whole as a group of highly skilled, trained volunteers who have knowledge of ICS and NIMS, which their organizations operate under.
3. Develop our teams. The development of our teams come at three different levels. The easiest of these levels is the training and exercising of current members. The second level is slightly more difficult and is the recruitment of new members from currently licensed hams. This can be done via presentations at club meetings, tables at local hamfests, announcements on local nets, mailing postcards or phone calls. The third level which involves the most effort is the recruitment of new amateur radio operators through sponsoring or co-sponsoring local licensing classes.

Thank you to all of our DEC's, EC's, OES's and ARES team members who volunteer their time and resources to serve their communities throughout the Indiana Section!

Brian Smith, WW9A

Indiana ARES Section Emergency Coordinator



ARES By the Numbers

NUMBER OF ARES MEMBERS (REPORTED): 926
MEMBERSHIP CHANGE (REPORTED): 20
NUMBER OF DEC/EC/OES REPORTS RECEIVED: 46
NUMBER OF APPOINTEES NOT REPORTING: 29

DEC's REPORTING: W9BU District 05, W9EEU District 07, WY9L District 09,

EC's REPORTING: K9JAJ Bartholomew County, KV9N Cass County, N9WSV Clark County, AB9WB Clay County, K9PLG Dearborn County, KC9ELU Decatur County, KC9RVL Delaware County, N9LJA Gibson County, KC9PNK Greene County, WA0JTL Hamilton County, W9WXN Harrison County, KB9DJA Hendricks County, W9MKA Henry County, W9NWN Howard County, WA9DAN Jay County, KC9RLC Jennings County, N9SIU Johnson County, AB9ZA Kosciusko County, LaPorte County, KC9EJG Madison County, K9CFE Marion County, KC9QAK Marshall County, WD9GIU Miami County, K9TEM Monroe County, N9JPX Morgan County, N9WLW Noble County, WB9FHP Orange County, K9EOH Owen County, AD0TY Parke County, WY9L Ripley County, KC9PJX Saint Joseph County, WR9G Scott County, KB9ZYC Shelby County, W9DRB Spencer County, KC9GUY Steuben County, N9GKE Tippecanoe County, WB9EFH Vanderburgh County, N9WVM Wabash County, KA9HLE Whitley County

OES's REPORTING: W9WXN Harrison County, K9DUR Vigo County, KA9QWC Whitley County,

NUMBER OF LOCAL ARES NETS ACTIVE: 35
NUMBER OF TEAMS WITH NTS LIAISON: 22
TOTAL NUMBER OF NET SESSIONS, DRILLS/TESTS THIS MONTH: 182
TOTAL PERSON-HOURS REPORTED: 1232.373
PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS REPORTED: 15
TOTAL PSE PERSON-HOURS REPORTED: 171.6
EMERGENCY NETS REPORTED: 7
TOTAL EMERGENCY PERSON-HOURS REPORTED: 50.85

TOTAL NUMBER OF ARES OPERATIONS THIS MONTH: 188
TOTAL PERSON-HOURS REPORTED: 1454.823

Indiana ARES July DEC Comments

District 5 – W9BU: I attended the Indianapolis Hamfest where I had an opportunity to talk to our new Section Manager and new Section Emergency Coordinator. I also attended the ARRL Forum at the hamfest.

District 7 – W9EEU: Vacation and summer breaks limited activity during the month of July.

I attended the monthly meeting of the Clay County group and they have requested that we cover the ICS courses as part of the monthly meeting. I will begin instructing the courses at the August meeting.

Assisted the Vigo County EMA with traffic and parking at the Vigo County fair for one evening. It can be an interesting experience trying to direct people driving vehicles when they have a different idea than you do!

Stan Daffron N9SWD is the new EC in Sullivan County. Stan has some great ideas for the county and we should see some good things in the coming months. Welcome to the Indiana ARES team Stan!

District 8 – WB9FHP: Attended the 3 day FEMA Emergency Operations Center Operations and Planning for All-Hazards course (MGT-346) for District 8 EOC personnel. It was hosted by Jim Comeford, Director of Monroe County EMA and taught by a Texas A&M Engineering Extension

Service National Emergency Response and Rescue Center team on July 8, 9 and 10 in Bloomington . This was a very intensive course in how to properly evaluate and setup the EOC for any type of event. We ran a test scenario and took a test at the end. This was a most informative course and I am sure will be valuable in the future.

Also, I helped staff the ARES segment of the commercial booth the OCARC and OCARES had at the Orange County 4H Fair. I talked to lots of folks interested in becoming amateurs and getting into EMCOMM.

We lost an EC due to health problems and 1 EC due to job problems and are in the process of interviewing replacements. Also, I will be conferring with the EMA directors in those counties for their opinions.

Anyone interested in becoming EC for Washington, Jackson or Lawrence County can email me for more information at wb9fhp@gmail.com.

District 9 – WY9L: Just took the position of DEC back over here in July and have had some sort of communications with each EC in District #9. I look forward to working alongside each of the ECs and build a better relationship with them from what I have had in the past.

Indiana ARES July EC Comments

Bartholomew County – K9JAJ: Thanks to all the fine folks who work so diligently to make the Indiana Section what it is! It is truly an honor and a pleasure to serve with you all. And a special thanks to our new SEC, WW9A, for all his help on the local scene here and his encouragement during my wife's current and ongoing health crisis and also to the members of the Indiana Digital Net team for their love and prayer support as well. You all are awesome!

Cass County – KV9N: All activity this month is from regular net. No report for NTS coordinator - if I receive a report from him, I will amend this report.

Clark County – N9WSV: We are actively working on updating our membership information. We have developed a process in July and will roll

this out in August. We expect to reduce our count of members significantly, but we will have good info on members that are still ACTIVE once we finish the process.

Clay County – AB9WB: A search and rescue in Vigo County and the Vigo County Fair utilized the time.

Dearborn County – K9PLG: No Meeting for July due to field day meeting.... Still looking for suitable camper/trailer to convert to mobile comm center... Doug went to Indy Hamfest to setup a table, he will take anything anyone has to sell. Bright Parade Jul 26 Volunteers needed 1 hour or so... Wed - 23rd Met @ EOC 8:30 for orientation of white District 9 Mobile comm truck from EMA Director Bill Black for Parade on Sat. Sat July 25: Doug (KB9SZS) and Don (KC9WXR) drove the truck to Bright and had it setup @ 9:00 am.

Seven 800Mhz handhelds with speaker-mikes were checked out to parade staff to use for parade coordination and entry staging, etc. The units worked very well. Chubby (KC8IMY), Paul (KD9AZW), and I (K9PLG) stayed in the truck to act as local dispatch and monitor traffic. We also monitored local fire, police, sheriff, and EMS dispatch.

Truck systems functioned well with only a few problems. Mark (KC9WXS) also stopped by to check in and offer assistance... Finished up and returned truck to EOC by 5:30 pm.

Harrison County – W9WXN: Added a new ARES member to our team KC9QLB. Several ARES members helped test the monthly sirens for EMA. Did some ICS-213 practice converting them to standard NTS format radio messages and passed the NTS traffic on the weekly net. Held 4 sessions of our weekly ARES net. Supported the ITN and region level NTS nets.

Hendricks County – KB9DJA: Sat in a meeting with a committee that will be planning our S.E.T. Our S.E.T. is tentatively set for October 18th. Attended the Indianapolis hamfest. At the IRCC Technical Excellence Award forum, I was nominated and received a certificate for my work in both hospitals in Hendricks County helping them install/program Amateur radios

inside the hospitals. We had a radio signal test from our ERN station #1. The results showed that at our Eastern part of the county, (which is heavily populated) this station can communicate with hams living within this sector of the county. This will be a valuable tool if our repeaters are out of service and we have to rely on simplex frequencies. We could use this station as a base to continue operations in an emergency.

Howard County – N9NWN: Very slow month for July in Howard Co. The EC and Asst EC did attend the three forums at the Indy Hamfest. The ARRL forum, the Raspberry Pi forum where we observed items of interest for ARES operations and the Indiana Repeater Council meeting. We also attended a severe weather class in the evening in Mooresville and learned the art of color shading your own weather maps.

Johnson County – N9SIU: Johnson County EC attended the ARRL Forum at the Indianapolis Hamfest on July 12th. The ARRL Indiana Section will now be represented at the Indiana VOAD meeting on a regular basis. Bob N9SIU will be representing ARRL/ARES at these meetings.

Kosciusko County – AB9ZA: It was a rather slow month as far as ARES Exercises go. We have been spending some time to get a formerly commercial service UHF repeater going on the ham bands, and are very close to getting it operational for emergency use. The number of ARES members increased dramatically when the paperwork finally caught up with a change that had been recently implemented. I should be getting new member info in a more timely manner in the future.

Madison County – KC9EJG: We are up and running with a brand new repeater. It is digital. We will be putting the rest of its facettes in place as we progress.

Marion County – K9CFE: The Marion County ARES team set up a table at the Indianapolis Hamfest to promote emergency communications and public service. We had several informational hand outs and a slideshow. It was great talking with all the local hams about using amateur radio to serve the public.

On July 26th, several Marion County ARES volunteers spent over 6 hours helping the Indiana Salvation Army EDS Training Facility mount antennas on the roof of their facility. The facility now has local 2 meter capabilities and some HF capabilities. The Marion County ARES continues to help our served agencies improve their ability to communicate in a disaster.

Marshall County – KC9QAK: Boy Scout Merit Session, Fox Hunt, Test Session, ARHAB Balloon Chase and recovery for Boy Scouts in Illinois

Miami County – WD9GIU: Goal for August is to get an NTS Liaison

Monroe County – K9TEM: Monroe County EC (Tom, K9TEM) and Monroe County OES (Mike, K9IUB) participated in a FEMA Emergency Operations Center Operations and Planning for All-Hazards course (MGT-346) for District 8 EOC personnel. It was hosted by Monroe County EMA and taught by a Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service(TEEX) National Emergency Response and Rescue Center team in Bloomington from 8 through 10 July.

On 14 July, K9TEM visited the Cybershack in the Indiana University Cyberinfrastructure Building (CIB), hosted by K9IUB <http://www.qrz.com/db/k9iub>, and joined by Dwight, WB9TLH. WB9TLH operates four amateur radio repeaters (WB9TLH 2m, K9IU 2m, and the K9IU D-STAR repeaters 2m and 73 cm) on the IU Campus, in addition to providing an impressive array of weather and other useful products for ARES at <http://wb9tlh.ampr.us/>.

The Cyberinfrastructure Building is one of Information Technology at IU's facilities on IU's Bloomington Campus. The Cybershack is an Amateur Radio station staffed by IT@IU hams to help coordinate Monroe County Skywarn and ARES for local drills and emergencies during normal business hours. With the Cybershack's direct connection to National Weather Service (NWS) weather radar systems, operators track the regional weather situation via sophisticated displays, and monitor non-encrypted radio traffic over local trunked, first responder/public safety, utility company, commercial broadcast, and international shortwave frequencies. The Cybershack is capable of HF, VHF, and UHF Amateur Radio communications, including

packet, APRS, and D-Star digital modes, and has one of the most potent Internet connections in the world.

K9TEM and K9IUB also toured the IU Data Center, a massive state-of-the-art facility, that houses and protects IU's supercomputing resources, including Big Red II, one of the most potent university-owned supercomputers in the world. IT@ IU provides information technology support and services to the eight Indiana University campuses, including high performance computing and networking. In addition to being the heart of IT@IU, the CIB contains the Global Network Operations Center <http://globalnoc.iu.edu/supported-networks.html>, which supports higher education institutions all over the world in the evolving international cyberinfrastructure.

Morgan County – N9JPX: Looking for volunteers to help provide communications for the Hoosier Hikers Council during their Knobstone Mini marathon on Saturday morning, September 27th. in Morgan-Monroe State Forest and during the Tecumseh Marathon on October 25th. Contact Brian Elliott N9JPX at n9jpx09@yahoo.com or call [765-346-1123](tel:765-346-1123).

Noble County – N9WLW: having training for digital modes and a planning meeting for next month's training.

Orange County – WB9FHP: We participated in FEMA EOC training for 3 days this month. Also helped with a VE Testing session. Staffed an ARES segment of a commercial booth at the Orange County 4H Fair over a 6 day period in conjunction with the local Club. We lost 2 members due to the fact that they moved out of county.

Owen County – K9EOH: Severe Weather siren tests are conducted monthly on the first Friday. Members cover most sites each month to report sound and rotation. Those sirens not covered one month are covered the following month.

A Severe Thunderstorm Warning was issued for Owen County July 7th. A net was brought up with no reportable storm activity. However, it was later discovered a tornado had touched down Northwest of Gosport where we

had no stations in the net. This tornado also touched down near Eminance, Plainfield and Southwestern Indianapolis.

Our monthly ARES net is held on the Gosport (146.895 PL 136.5) repeater the first Wednesday and the Spencer repeater (146.985 PL 136.5) all other Wednesdays at 7:00 PM local time. The Gosport repeater has been down for some time, thus the Spencer repeater has also been used for the net on the first Wednesday for the past few months.

Ripley County – WY9L: Gained 3 new members this month. I have approximately 7 members who are now "Reserve" members due to lack of training that is required of them to be Ripley Co ARES members. We are in the planning stages of our annual SET, which will be held in October. Date will be announced to the members, but the time will not. they will be paged out over amateur radio communications and also their cell phone text.

This will be a full deployment of equipment and manpower. We have invited neighboring ARES teams to participate in this year's SET, more details to follow soon.

Saint Joseph County – KC9PJX: Quiet month due to the many vacations. MARC held the annual picnic and fox hunt.

Steuben County – KC9GUY: Reporting for Steuben and DeKalb counties. Added one new member. Also working with KC9ZCK in DeKalb county in a mentoring relationship. Planning for ARES exercise in DeKalb county on August 23rd.

Vanderburgh County – WB9EFH: Our team had a ARES/RACES meeting to plan on how we are going to set up the EMA west side training and AUX communications building, and on what had to be done and the new EOC. Some of our members have also been working the Ham Radio set up in the Mobile Emergency Operations Center.

Wabash County – N9WVM: July 6th I sent letters and forms to 28 amateurs and to date I got back, 5 unable to forward, 2 that signed up for ARES and 1 that sent the form back blank with a note that said he had moved to another county and said thanks for the reminder to update his new address. Four other members were recruited by in-person contact. On August 7, KA9FCU, John Brane(Wabash OES) and I are planning to attend the Monthly Wabash EMA Meeting to talk with perhaps 8 amateurs to see if we can interest them to sign up. I hope to start the local ARES Net by September.

I put up my 67ft G5RV lite this past Thursday evening in hopes of checking into the ITN more. I had been using a 31ft Eagle one vertical that was not working out too well. This evening (August 2nd) on 3940 I was able to hear WB9FHP most of the net and was able to get checked in without a relay. That's all I have to report this month From The First Electric Lighted City in The World.

Indiana ARES July OES Comments

Whitley County - KA9QWC: My OES report for July 2014 was a continuing work in progress involving our Indiana nets and in particular focusing on digital communications. I spent a couple hours meeting with our new Whitley County EMA Director Charles W Heflin, who is also a licensed ham radio operator callsign KB9PXF. Whitley county has been without an EMA Director since the first week of June.

Conducted a combination VHF digital test & training session using the FLDIGI program on July 22nd at the Noble County meeting room. The purpose of this test was to confirm how well the 2 meter signals were functioning for sending/receiving within this environment for a future group live presentation. Those present were K9ITC, N9WLW, WB8ORR and myself KA9QWC. Additionally, I continue to work with local area VHF PACKET, FLDIGI and voice nets in Whitley, Allen, Noble & Kosciusko counties. I hope to encourage more stations to join in on the digital experience and realize the value in diversity of communications. My take on diversity in this case concerns both VHF and HF. Currently I can transfer

RADIOGRAMS coming in on HF and send out on VHF or the reverse as needed using a combination of VHF PACKET & HF FLDIGI options. I attended the MARS and ARRL forums at the Indianapolis hamfest and appreciated the news along with updates for our Indiana Section.

Vigo County - K9DUR: Activated Clay Co Skywarn Net on July 7th for severe weather passing through Clay Co. Storm produced moderate damage in county. Spent week of 7/23 through 7/29 operating as W1AW/9 in the ARRL Centennial QSO Party.

Wabash County - KA9FCU: I've been in the process of working my region ARES nets, plus the surrounding counties with a total of 5 VHF nets. I also work the 80 meter Indiana Traffic Net and a net on 20 meters and 40 meters. I have been trying to relay traffic and handle as much traffic as possible. I will attend the Wabash County EMA meeting on the 7th of Aug and introduce ARES. I will also attend the Miami County club meeting on Aug 9th and introduce myself as an ARRL Official Emergency Station for the Indiana Section. I would like to thank the guys on the Indiana Traffic Net for their help and patience on my learning curve.

In Closing

During the recent election, I promised the Indiana Section would execute a statewide Simulated Emergency Test (SET) coordinating ARES and NTS. It has been many years (if ever) since we've challenged ARES and NTS to work together in a statewide exercise. It's about time that we practice and demonstrate that we can work together in a large scale disaster.

Brian Jenks, Section Traffic Manager, Brian Smith, Section Emergency Coordinator, and I are scheduled to meet on August 18 to discuss the SET objectives, design a scenario, and consider how best to involve all county ARES teams with a meaningful exercise that requires them to coordinate with the NTS. Some County ARES EC's have already started

to plan local SETs. If an ARES team prefers to do their own local small scale SET, then they aren't obligated to participate in the statewide exercise. As long as they complete a SET before the end of the year, that will fulfill their ARRL requirement. I hope that most ARES teams will take the opportunity to participate in the statewide exercise so we can assess ARES and NTS performance and capabilities on this scale. We need to find where we fail so we can know what needs improvement.

In order to plan this exercise, the STM, SEC, and I need to know which counties plan to participate. We have tentatively scheduled the **SET to occur on November 8** and last approximately 4 hours (start time is still TBD). As a precursor to this exercise, rather than asking EC's to notify us by email or telephone, we are challenging EC's to RSVP via NTS nets.

This is also a challenge to the NTS net operators because the EC's won't be using Radiogram formats. Served agencies are more familiar with and prefer ICS-213 General Message forms and that is what the EC's will use to send messages. So ARES EC's will need to find a way to get the message into an NTS net, whether local or section, and the NTS operators will need to handle the message in a format they aren't accustomed to using. Both ARES and NTS need to be willing to stretch their skills to improve the success of the statewide Simulated Emergency Test in November. The deadline for receiving ARES RSVP's to participate in the statewide SET is September 30.

To all DEC and EC's, send ICS-213 messages declaring your intention to participate or regrets that you decline to one of the following stations via NTS nets;

- Joseph Lawrence, Section Manager, K9RFZ, Fort Wayne, Allen County
- Brian Smith, Indiana ARES SEC, WW9A, Columbus, Bartholomew County
- Brian Jenks, Section Traffic Manager, W9BGJ, Fort Wayne, Allen County

Another promise I made during the election is to pursue the creation of a new ARRL "Elmer" membership for first time licensed hams. The Elmer membership would be a free one year membership to the ARRL with all the privileges of a regular membership, but only have the option to receive QST online (this eliminates the expense of printing and mailing a hardcopy for the ARRL).

Following an idea discussed at the ARRL Centennial Convention in July, Section Managers are planning periodic webinars to exchange ideas for improving our Sections. I plan to use this forum to grow support for the Elmer membership proposal. I believe the best way to get ARRL Board of Director approval for the Elmer membership is to first build support among the Section Managers. I've already discussed this approach with the webinar organizers.

How closely a leader's actions match his words is a measure of his integrity. I appreciate the Section Staff and all the volunteers who are working to achieve the goals I laid out as promises during the election. The support and cooperation of Section members can make many improvements possible.

Thanks,
Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ