

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES  
17 July, 2015

The July meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church on 17 July, 2015 and was hosted by club president Steve Nardin, W9SAN. There were about 30 people in attendance for this meeting, and, after reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, everyone present introduced themselves via their call-sign.

Treasurer Bob Streeter provided the status of our treasury. As of 17 July, 2015 the club had seen year-to-date income of \$3,587.96 and expenses of \$2,810.62. We had \$56.56 Cash-On-Hand, \$1,490.19 in Checking, and \$8,051.92 in Savings. Proceeds from the Field Day Hog Roast dinner netted the club \$98.06 while the breakfast served the following day netted \$9.78. Some of the expenses seen this month included the cost for three new vinyl club banners that were used in the TRF parade, and which will be used in future activities (at the Ft. Wayne Hamfest, in future parades, and in club activities where we want to advertise the club's existence). Expenses were also incurred for the printing of informational hand-outs promoting the club and Ham Radio. Al Burke, WB9SSE noted that five hundred copies of the handout were printed, and about three hundred were distributed by club members marching in the TRF parade. Two files representing the handout can be seen in [the "Photos" tab of the club web page](http://www.fwrc.info) (www.fwrc.info) along with photos taken during the parade. Check out the folder "Three Rivers Festival Parade".

Steve noted that the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Van Wert hamfest would occur on Sunday, 19 July at the Van Wert County Fairgrounds. 1055 S. Washington Street (U.S. Route 127). *Van Wert, Ohio.*

Steve mentioned that what with it being the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ft. Wayne Children's Zoo, there might be an opportunity to set up a Special Events Station there and operate from the Zoo. Talk about exposure to Ham Radio! We are looking into it.

Steve then gave a summary of the club Field Day participation which included a PowerPoint presentation entitled "FWRC Field Day-2015, or, Is the Ark Ready Noah?" The wind & rain storm



Friday evening and follow-on weather Saturday sure made things interesting. But it also made for real-life emergency operations training, just like what Field Day is supposed to simulate. It was so wet, and the ground so saturated that no towers could be put up. The club operated 5A plus a

GOTA station using dipoles. Charles Ward, KC9MUT reported that we will be claiming about 5556 points overall, and had 609 cw contacts, 674 phone contacts, 61 digital contacts and 180 GOTA contacts. A little less than last year, but not so bad considering the conditions. Significantly, no one was injured during this exercise although two rigs did blow up. [Field Day photos can be found on the club web page](#) ([www.fwrc.info](http://www.fwrc.info)), in the "photos" tab in the file "Field Day 2015".

After a coffee and goodies break, Steve provided a PowerPoint presentation which discussed a significant opportunity that has been afforded the club. (The [presentation is posted](#) on the [www.fwrc.info](http://www.fwrc.info) web page).



Radio station WLDE (101.7 FM), a part of Sarkes Tarzian, Inc. has moved to new tower facilities on Parrot Rd. in New Haven and they have offered tower space to the club for two antennas at the 280' level. The tower space, as well as power and internet access would essentially be free, offered to us as a public service. Based upon an analysis performed by Steve, Paul Prestia, KA3OPZ, Bruce Dennis, N3QKX, Jim Pliett, K9OMA and Al Burke, it appears the club would need to invest around \$6,900.00 if we install two antennas and the associated feedlines. The estimate includes the tower climber cost, plus the cost of a shelter of some kind to house our equipment. That's a lot of money, but the improvement in coverage we could expect (say, of the 146.760 machine), would be substantial.

At present we have forwarded documentation relative to the club liability insurance policy to the Sarkes Tarzian legal department and they will in turn compose a draft agreement for our consideration which would define the ground rules of any proposed contract between them and us. We would expect that this opportunity will likely be put before the club membership for a vote in September.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE  
Secretary, FWRC