

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES
20 November, 2015

The November meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church on 20 November, 2015 and was hosted by club president Steve Nardin, W9SAN. There were about 35 people in attendance for this meeting, and, after reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, everyone present introduced themselves via their call-sign, and as a group congratulated Secretary Al, WB9SSE on the occasion of yet another birthday, secretly hoping that somebody brought a cake. (More on that later).

Bob Streeter, W8ST gave the Treasurers report. As of 20 November, 2015 the club's numbers were:
Income YTD, \$3,854.31, Expenses YTD, \$3,593.97, Cash on hand, \$101.56, Checking, \$880.84, Savings, \$8,068.27. We're not flush, but we're not broke either.

Steve announced the results of the FWRC sponsored raffle of a BridgeComm 220 MHz HT, (donated for the raffle by Paul Prestia, KA3OPZ), which occurred on Sunday of the Ft. Wayne Hamfest. Brian Jenks, W9BGJ was the happy winner of this rig which included a rooftop mobile mount antenna, and a base station J-pole antenna crafted by Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ. So now Brian (and Debbie and Melissa, KB9DEB and KD9CQG) can add their voices to the traffic on Ft. Wayne's W9FEZ repeater, operational on 224.880 MHz (-1.6 MHz offset).

Steve noted that four FWRC T-shirts (the very latest in ham haute-courtier), that the club arranged to have fabricated are available, two ordered by Mike Stein, and two extras for anyone wishing to purchase them. The two extra T-shirts are in sizes XL and 3XL.

Joseph Lawrence reported that the FWRC has agreed to host Skywarn Recognition Day at the National Weather Service WX9IWX facilities, 7506 E. 850 N., Syracuse, Indiana which will occur on 5 December from 0000Z to 2400Z, (7 pm Dec 14th thru 7 pm Dec 15th local time). This is a country-wide effort created by the ARRL and the NWS planned for operation on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 2 meters utilizing SSB, PSK, FM and IRLP modes. Joseph and coordinator Jim Moehring, KB9WWM are soliciting volunteers to operate during the 24 hours of the event. Joseph noted that this is not a contest. Rather, it is an "operating event". He also noted that Technician licensees, and in fact all volunteers will be able to operate with Extra privileges during the event. Anyone wishing to participate should contact Joseph (K9RFZ@yahoo.com, 260-373-1986) or Jim (servo300@yahoo.com, 260-493-8326).

Dan Ward, N9WLW announced that he was looking for volunteers to provide communications for the Huff 50K race which will occur on 19 December at Chain-O-Lakes State Park near Albion come rain, snow, shine, locust infestations, or meteor showers. This is an Ultramarathon, and an awful lot of people participate. Dan needs to staff about 15 way-stations over the course of the race, which starts at 8am. Dan commented that (very yummy) grub is provided to volunteers. If you can help out please contact Dan at n9wlw@arrl.net, 260-402-7561, 260-433-0855.

Steve reported that this year's Christmas banquet will occur as usual at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church on 11 December starting promptly at 7:00 pm, a half-hour later than in the past to allow more time for folks to get there after work. The club will provide chicken (baked and fried), punch, coffee and cutlery. Attendees should bring in yummys, (hopefully including deviled eggs and/or Swedish or Italian meatballs), and other delights to fill out the menu. We plan to do a gift exchange for those interested. It should be limited to around \$5.00 or so and should be marked to indicate it's for a man or a woman.

Steve reported that almost all of the items from the auction of the Maynard Mansfield, W9INA, ham estate had been sold with the exception of the GAP Challenger vertical antenna, and perhaps there are a few nibbles occurring on it. The club will realize 25% from the proceeds. In

addition, a collection of business band hand-held radios donated to the club were sold at the hamfest. Once the dust settles our Treasurer will report on how it all turned out.

Steve announced that since his term as President concludes at the end of the year, and since he will then have all of that free time on his hands, he has offered to revitalize the club's equipment loaner program where-in certain items of club owned equipment, including a Kenwood TS-520, a Drake TR-3, a Ten-Tec Century 21, an MFJ Antenna Analyzer, and other items will be available to club members (especially newbie's). Contact Steve if interested.

Jim Boyer, KB9IH announced that Tom Rupp, KU8T was the winner of the Worker's Prize at the Ft. Wayne Hamfest.

Carole Burke, WB9RUS then produced a really neat birthday cake to celebrate Al Burke's birthday, and comments were heard,... "39.....again" from some in the crowd. The cake was a total surprise to Al and all he could do was cut it up and offer it to the attendees. It really was yummy, and not a scrap remained once the hungry hoard descended. But after all, that what birthday cakes are for.

Joseph Lawrence then gave a presentation entitled "End Fed Antenna Project" which discussed and demonstrated the construction of multiband end-fed antennas in the form of non-resonant long wires. These antennas are easy to build, and they work. Details regarding the construction of these type antennas can be found at:

www.wb5cxc.com/endfedant.html

and Joseph's presentation will be posted on the club web page at:

www.fwrc.info

Included in the presentation was the raffle of a "kit" that Joseph had prepared. Fred Gengnagel, KC9EZP was the lucky winner of the kit and commented that "He wished he could figure out how to use it for Foxhunting".

Respectively submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE
Secretary, FWRC