

Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

January 2024

Volume 25

Issue 1

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Along with lots of updated classifieds, SKCC news and K3Y information, operating events, HamCation 2024 information, and much more!



BE ACTIVE ON THE AIRWAVES IN 2024



Happy New Year! It hardly seems possible that 2024 is already here.

This edition of HamNews includes a wide range of news and articles. A few highlights include:

- A local Technician license class (thank you to Jeff, KB9QG),
- New officers and directors for the Fort Wayne Radio Club and the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society, along with messages from the new presidents of each organization,
- Latest FWRC and ACARTS meeting minutes,
- Local ham radio public service photos,
- Amateur radio history at IPFW and the resurrection of a ham radio station at Purdue Fort Wayne,
- K3Y Special Event Station information,
- Packet cluster stories,
- And the process of obtaining a Canadian ham radio license by a U.S. ham living outside of Canada.

These are only some of the highlights in this January edition of HamNews.

As I began to edit this month's edition, I saw that this year appears to be the 25th anniversary of the Allen County HamNews. It is remarkable that this monthly newsletter is still consistently published after a quarter of a century, especially with the broad range of original content that is written and contributed by local hams. This is a testament to the FWRC, the ACARTS, and the FWDXA.

If any reader would like to become an author for HamNews—whether it is for a single article or on a monthly basis—please drop me a line with your idea. New content is always welcome.

Do you have any resolutions or plans for the New Year? It seems that most of mine at this point are related to ham radio: a larger triband HF antenna, improved CW skills, upgrade my recent Canadian license to Advanced (see the article towards the end of this edition), and at least two operations in Canada during this year.

What are your hopes and dreams for this year? Are there any ways in which you could support another ham or inspire someone to obtain their first license?

Best wishes for 2024 and catch you on the airwaves this year,

Josh W9HT/VE9FWA

ALLEN COUNTY HAMNEWS

HamNews is a monthly, joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club, the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society, and the Fort Wayne DX Association.

Articles are written by members and friends of the three clubs. New submissions for HamNews are always welcome. Please send your information to the editor within two days of the end of the month for inclusion in the next edition.

HamNews Editor
Josh Long, W9HT
drjoshlong (at) gmail.com

W9OU
NORTHEASTERN
INDIANA AMATEUR
RADIO ASSOCIATION



Get your Technician class license

Exam preparation class and exam session

This month!

Dates

- ✓ January 9, 6:30-8:30pm
- ✓ January 11, 6:30-8:30pm
- ✓ January 16, 6:30-8:30pm
- ✓ January 18, 6:30-8:30pm
- ✓ January 23, 6:30-8:30pm
- ✓ January 25, 6:30-8:30pm
- ✓ January 27, 9-11am (exam)

Instructor

Jeff DeLucenay, KB9QG

Location

📍 Comfort Suite Inn, 1137 W 15st, Auburn Indiana 46706 (Conference Room on the first floor)

For more information

Contact Jeff at [jdeluce\(at\)frontier.com](mailto:jdeluce@frontier.com)

Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN



Welcome to 2024. The last few years have certainly been memorable. Hopefully, 2024 will bring around positive memories for the Fort Wayne Radio Club.

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Adam Warrix, KD9NRT. I am the newly elected president of the Fort Wayne Radio Club. I have been licensed as a ham for 5 years and hold an extra class license, though I spend most of my time doing VHF+ work. I am also the trustee for the R. Nelson Snider High School Amateur Radio Club, K9SHS, where I work as a science teacher. My wife, Meghan, is licensed under KD9ODP as an extra class and is the new Vice President of the club.

In my first address to the club, I wanted to outline my plans for the 2024 year. There are three things I've highlighted that will be the focus for the year.

- 1) Modernize the club.
 - 2) Modernize the meetings.
 - 3) Increase club participation.
- While these three things may

not be completed by the end of the year, progress toward them will a measure of success. None of these three things can be done without the members. All of you are important to the club. Members are the most important part of the club. Without you, there would be no FWRC. Ultimately, whether we succeed is for you to decide.

This is not my or the officers' club. This is your club. Please let me know what you think. I can be reached at kd9nrt(at)gmail.com. While I'm unable to reply to all the emails I receive, I do read them all; they will be a critical part of the feedback we use to evaluate our work.

Thank you, and we will see you all at the first meeting.

*73,
Adam, KD9NRT*

General Meeting this month

Friday, 1/12 at 6:30pm at
Good Shepherd Church
See you there!

FWRC Officers 2024

President

Adam Warrix, KD9NRT
kd9nrt(at)gmail.com

Vice President

Meghan Warrix, KD9ODP
warrixmr(at)gmail.com

Secretary

Al Burke, WB9SSE
(260) 637-1989
aburke55(at)comcast.net

Treasurer

Bob Streeter, W8ST
rdstre(at)yahoo.com

Communications Manager

Charles Ward, KC9MUT
(260) 749-4824
kc9mut(at)yahoo.com

Directors

Steve Nardin, W9SAN
(260) 482-4039
w9san(at)arrl.net

Terry Bowman, K9FMX
(260) 705-7128
tjbowman(at)frontier.com

Jim Stephens, KD9NYZ
kd9nyz9nyz(at)gmail.com

Larry Temenoff, KB9OS
(260) 490-3089
temenoff(at)pfw.edu

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

8 December 2023

The December meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held on December 8th, 2023 at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church starting at 6:00 pm. It was a combination club meeting and the annual Christmas Banquet and was hosted by club President Larry Temenoff, KB9OS. There were about 40 persons in attendance.

Larry led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and a short prayer and invited all present to introduce themselves with their name and call-sign. Larry then introduced our special guests, Dan McNay's wife and daughter, and presented them with a special plaque acknowledging the donation of the significant amount of ham radio related items that his estate donated to the Fort Wayne Radio Club.

Larry also formally introduced the incoming club President and Vice President for 2024, Adam and Meghan Warrix, KD9's NRT and ODP, and wished God to have mercy on their souls.

Treasurer Bob Streeter, W8ST addressed the status of the club's account balances. As of 8 December they were as follows:

Checking account:	\$2,279.93
Savings account:	\$502.42
Vanguard fund:	\$27,032.24
Year-To-Date Income:	\$4,308.15

Club member headcount for 2023 is 150
Club member headcount for 2024 is 89

Larry reviewed the list of initiatives desired to be accomplished during the year against those actually accomplished.

There were eleven initiatives on the list and nine of the eleven were accomplished.

Larry then addressed the proposal the Board had announced at the November club meeting and in the HamNews regarding increasing the Board's ability to make expenditures up to the currently approved limit of \$150.00 to a new limit of \$600.00 without the need of putting the expenditure up for a club vote. After some discussion a formal proposal was put forward and seconded and then voted on by the club members present. The new \$600.00 limit was approved unanimously by the club membership.

Finally Larry presented the Foxhunt traveling trophy plaque to, once again, Charles Ward, KC9MUT who garnered the most points during the 2023 Foxhunt year. (There was heard a little grumbling from Jim Pliett, Al Burke and Steve Nardin, but they were soundly booed and quickly shut up).

Following the business meeting everyone got down to the important stuff, eating. The club provided both baked and fried chicken, eating utensils and drinks. Those in attendance provided all manner of other tasty goodies. Main course items, like the ever popular and wholly appropriate meatballs and deviled eggs plus salads, spaghetti-corn casserole, baked beans, and so forth, plus yummy desserts. Nobody walked away hungry.

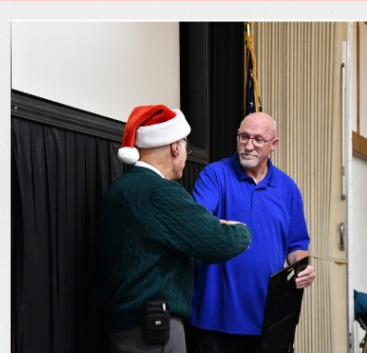
There was also a gift exchange for those wishing to participate.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE

Secretary, FWRC

At the last FWRC meeting...



**FWRC
CHRISTMAS
PARTY
2023**

State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN



**From the
ACARTS
President**

I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday. And now that it is a new year with that comes several changes to ACARTS.

First of all, thanks to Chris McCullough W9TSB for serving as President for the last two years as well as Secretary for a year prior to that. The good news is Chris will continue to serve now as our Vice President!

We appointed ACARTS Board Director Stuart Hall KD9LFW a few months ago as an interim Secretary until the November election. Stuart stepped forward and was elected as our Secretary.

Kevin Hecksher W9KMH also stepped up and was elected as our Treasurer.

Howard Pletcher N9ADS who has served as Treasurer for many decades will continue on as a Director. Thank you Howard for all of your work in that position!

Thanks also goes to the following by continuing on in their positions:

Jim Sampiere KD9NDL, Station Manager

Fred Gengnagel KC9EZ, Fundraising Manager

Steve Shannon K9SKS, Director

Jim Bassett W9YME, Director

And lastly just today, Dave Lindquist W9LKH past President, Vice President, Co-Station Manager and current W9INX Trustee will be tendering his "retirement" notice as the ACARTS W9INX Trustee effective in early 2024. Dave felt it was time to hand over the reins. Thank you Dave for all that you have done over several decades!

We want to thank Al Burke WB9SSE, Carole Burke WB9RUS, Jim Pliett K9OMA, Bruce Dennis N3QKX, Larry

Temenoff KB9OS, Jim Sampiere KD9NPL and Chris McCullough W9TSB and any other ACARTS and FWRC members for their assistance with our repeater issues this past year.

We want to thank the ACARTS Board, Members, Managers, Workers, Vendors, Attendees and Coliseum Staff for their hard work and attendance at the Hamfest this past November!

We will be once again at the Coliseum in 2024. Hopefully we will have a full Hamfest report on attendance, costs, and income in January.

Many changes have already occurred in the transition from the 2023 to the 2024 administration.

ACARTS General Meetings as usual are held on the third Tuesday of the month as in the past. But we have been moved to the American Red Cross NE Chapter at 1212 E. California Rd. effective Tuesday January 16th. This move from the ACPL Dupont Branch was because of room scheduling conflicts.

We may consider also broadcasting the in-person meetings via Zoom also in the future for those that can't attend the in-person session.

The January 16th, 2024 presentation will be given by Jon Luckey N9OBL "Bringing Modern Shop including Amateur Radio back to Urban Middle School"

For now, the ACARTS Board members want to continue on with Zoom Board Meetings at 7 PM on the usual second Tuesday of each month instead of in-person meetings.

The start time for Board and General Meetings has changed to 7 PM from 7:30 PM to allow us more time.

All four 2024 ACARTS officers are now on all ACARTS financial accounts.

Financial reports and meeting minutes and attendance will be reported each month. Until further discussion these reports will be accessible to all ACARTS members if present at a meeting or on Ham Club Online "files" section.

ACARTS Officers 2024

President

Dan Dahms N9WNH
260-503-4163
n9wnh(at)yahoo.com

Vice President

Chris McCullough W9TSB
260-312-2750
w9tsb(at)outlook.com

Secretary

Stuart Hall KD9LFW
(260) 418-1755
stuarhall(at)aol.com

Treasurer

Kevin Hecksher W9KMH
260-755-8784
kevin(at)jr-digital.com

Station Manager

Jim Sampiere KD9NPL
260-999-8132
Kd9npl(at)gmail.com

Fundraising Manager

Fred Gengnagel KC9EZP
260-704-7801
kc9ezp(at)gmail.com

Directors at Large

Steve Shannon K9SKS
260-704-5353
k9sks(at)aol.com

James Bassett W9YME
260-438-6664
Trrrrbo(at)aol.com

Howard Pletcher N9ADS
260-747-5252
hrpletch(at)gmail.com

W9INX Trustee

Dave Lindquist W9LKH
260-485-6135
w9lkh(at)comcast.net

As a ACARTS member you can register and then log onto

<https://www.hamclubonline.com>. Select ACARTS as the club. This is the Club Management System for ACARTS; this is not spam and all club members should register there. This system is pretty nice and will make things easier for not only the ACARTS Board but the membership as well.

Membership dues can now be paid with a credit or debit card through the ACARTS Ham Club Online System. As well as payable in person at a meeting or by mail to:

ACARTS

PO Box 10342

Fort Wayne, IN. 46851-0342

If by mail you can use this application:

<http://www.acarts.com/images/Membership%20application.pdf>

We have also have started a groups.io remailer for ACARTS:

<https://groups.io/g/ACARTS>

This will allow two way communication between members. The Ham Club Online only allows for one way communication between club management and members and vice versa. It does not provide for communication between members.

We are also planning on a total makeover of the ACARTS website and also starting a ACARTS Facebook Page.,

The new-to-us 146.880 W9INX Repeater will be online soon. Details to follow.

We are hoping for a soon to be resurrection of the W9INX Packet Network Node/Digipeater early this year. More details to follow.

An annual operating budget plus a plan to replace the 147.255 and 443.800 Repeaters with new features will be discussed at the Board Meeting on Tuesday January 9th at 7 PM via Zoom.

The final version for the budget and plans will be decided on by the membership at the Tuesday January 16th General Meeting at 7 PM.

ACARTS has formed a three-person Committee of Fred Gnanagel KC9EZF, Kevin Hecksher W9KMH and Dan Dahms N9WNH to investigate moving the organization from a Non-Profit 501 c

(4) status to a Non-Profit 501 c (3) status.

As I'm writing this article, I was notified with great sadness by Christy Settecase KA9LLI just moments ago that her mother and Bernie Holm K9JDF's wife Sue Holm KA9FFZ passed away at home this morning (Tuesday, 12/26/23).

Arrangements are pending at this time at one of the D.O. McComb & Sons Funeral Homes. I apologize as this is all the information I have at this point and chances are the service will be held before the January issue of the ACHN is released. We will share any new information via the ACARTS Ham Club Online member email and the acarts@groups.io remailer. Please keep Bernie and his family in your prayers.

We hope that you and your friends will consider joining and helping us in this New Year to continue our energy and growth.

73,

Dan Dahms, N9WNH

ACARTS President



ACARTS General Meeting / Christmas Banquet
Liberty Diner, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Tuesday, November 21, 2023
6:25pm – 6:50pm

This meeting was held at the Liberty Diner, 2929 Goshen Road, Fort Wayne, Indiana co-incident with the club's annual Christmas Banquet.

Attendance: 17 members, 3 guests

Outgoing president Chris McCullough made a brief statement thanking people for their work this past year, noting in particular the success of the Hamfest in November.

President Dan Dahms thanked Chris for his work and noted the new officers present at the banquet.

Secretary Stuart Hall read the texts of the following two motions and opened the floor for questions and discussion.

The following motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved by a voice vote:

"It is recognized, in accordance with the club elections held on November 21, 2023, that Chris McCullough is no longer President, Dan Dahms is no longer Vice President, and Howard Pletcher is no longer Treasurer. It is also recognized that the current President is Dan Dahms, current Vice President is Chris McCullough, current Secretary is Stuart Hall, and current Treasurer is Kevin Hecksher"

The following motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved by a voice vote:

"It is moved that Howard Pletcher and Dave Lindquist be removed from access to all club financial accounts as they no longer hold Officer positions in the club and that all current officers noted as President Dan Dahms, Vice President Chris McCullough, Secretary Stuart Hall, and Treasurer Kevin Hecksher shall have access to all club financial accounts."

Treasurer Kevin Hecksher took the floor and brought up transitioning the group to a 501c3 organization, noting the ability for donors to deduct donations to the group and the wider recognition of the 501c3 designation. He suggested organizing a committee to research the process.

Kevin Hecksher, Dan Dahms, and Fred Gengnagel were nominated and elected unanimously to form the committee to research transitioning the ACARTS to a 501c3 organization.

President Dan Dahms noted the new time and location for General Meetings starting January 16. Meeting at the Red Cross offices will hopefully help rebuild connections between the organizations. Dan also noted the use of Ham Club Online to facilitate organizing and communication within the ACARTS.

Larry Temeroff (KB9OS) spoke briefly appreciating the work between the ACARTS and the Fort Wayne Radio Club this past year, particularly noting Al Burke (WB9SSE) for his help on the 146.880MHz repeater.

Dan noted that the program at the next General Meeting (January 16) will be presented by Jonathon Lucky talking about the middle school amateur radio club he helped start and how it is connecting young students with technology.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm and the club enjoyed the Christmas Banquet.

Action Items:

Jim Sampiere to fully inventory club equipment for January general meeting.

Next meeting(s):

Board meeting: Tuesday, January 9, 7pm via Zoom.

Next regular general meeting January 16, 7pm, Red Cross offices (1212 E California Rd, Fort Wayne, IN).

Ham Radio & Public Service



LOCAL
HAMS
SUPPORT

IGNITE
MARATHON

Photos by Jim, KD9NYZ



Interesting Spots on the Packet Cluster

By Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA

Whenever I sit down at the radio, I like to look at PacketCluster spots (I use VE7CC's software). There are some interesting spots at times, and I like to look deeper into them as some can be more interesting than others.

One example was a spot by N5NHJ in Texas for a 9M2 on 15-meters on October 15, 2023 at 0042 UTC. The comment was "long path". A comment about long path always gets my attention. Figure 1 is a picture of the paths from N5NHJ to 9M2 using the mapping feature in the W6ELProp propagation prediction software.

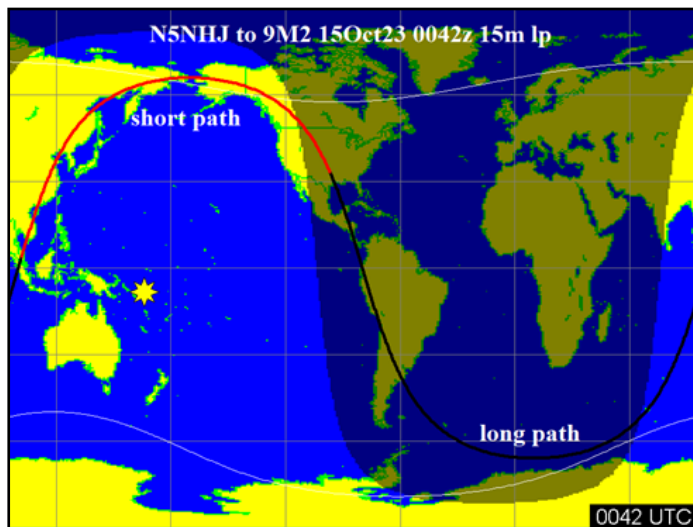


Figure 1 – N5NHJ to 9M2

The first question to ask is "could the short path have been open?" Most of the short path was in daylight, which should give enough ionization for 21 MHz in a fall month with Cycle 25 where it was back in October. Running the propagation prediction with W6ELProp says the monthly median MUF (50% probability over a month-long period) for short path is predicted to be 23 MHz around 0042 UTC and the monthly median signal strength is predicted to be S7 (assuming 400 Watts and a small tri-band).

Being monthly median values, the actual MUF and actual signal strength on October 15 could have been somewhat higher to somewhat lower than those median values (unfortunately, that's how we understand the ionosphere – in a statistical sense).

One item to note with the short path is that the path goes a bit above the thin white line, which means it is in the auroral zone. The K indices around October 15, 2023 were low. Although low K indices suggest a quiet geomagnetic field, there still could be a detrimental effect (just ask any W6 station trying to work Europe). Also note that the long path just misses the auroral zone. Perhaps the short path was worse than the predictions due to the auroral zone, which would favor long path.

Now, how about the MUF and signal strength on long path? With much of the long path in darkness, one might think that the MUF would be too low for 15-meters. But it's not too far past sunset on much of the path, so the ionization wouldn't have decreased too much (due to the recombination process being much slower than the ionization process). Running the propagation prediction with W6ELProp says the monthly median MUF for long path is predicted to be 27 MHz around 0042 UTC and the monthly median signal strength is predicted to be S6. Thus long path has about a one S-unit lower signal. But the probability of the actual MUF on October 15 being high enough for 15-meters is higher than the probability on the short path because the monthly median MUF is higher on long path. Table 1 summarizes these predictions.

	MUF	signal strength
short path	23 MHz	S7
long path	27 MHz	S6

Table 1

In my humble opinion, it looks like long path could indeed have been favored for two reasons – a higher MUF and less effect by the auroral zone.

**FEB
2024**

**NEXT
FOXHUNT**

**SAVE
THE
DATE**



Return of Amateur Radio—2024

Hello my fellow radio bugs. Happy 2024! I hope this article finds you all in good health and enjoying a great start to 2024.

This month's column has some exciting news to share with the local amateur radio community. However, before I share that news, we need to take a step back and address some interesting history involving amateur radio and one of the local universities – Purdue University – Fort Wayne.

The Origins of PFW

PFW – Purdue University Fort Wayne, was originally known as Indiana University – Purdue University Fort Wayne, abbreviated "IPFW." IPFW was a joint venture between two of the largest universities in the state of Indiana – Purdue University and Indiana University. IPFW was not the only joint university started cooperatively between Purdue and IU. In fact, several other joint campuses exist (or did exist) in Indiana, including Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis.

IPFW was originally founded in 1964 – just five short years before Americans landed on the moon with Apollo 11. At the time

IPFW was founded, there was only one main building on campus – Kettler Hall – located on what is now the western edge of the campus property. This building is, "where it all began..." At this point, the student body (according to the U.S. News and World Report of 2022) was just over 8,000 students. Currently, major buildings on campus include buildings dedicated to Science (the science building), liberal arts (LA), music, (Music Center – formerly known as Rhinehart Music Center), research/books (Helmke Library), and sports (Gates sports center), as well as a host of other buildings. The campus has its own police department, green houses, laboratories, sports fields and sports complex, and a variety of research opportunities.

One other interesting point in the history of this campus is its name change from "IPFW" to "PFW." In 2018, IPFW became officially known as "Purdue University – Fort Wayne." Some of the buildings on campus have now become part of the "Indiana University – Fort Wayne" campus, however, this is a slight misnomer. In reality, the campus has remained intact as one campus. Depending on what building or academic program in which one finds oneself, one is considered as attending either Purdue University – Fort Wayne or Indiana University – Fort Wayne. Confused yet? Simply put, 90% of the campus is

owned and operated as a branch of Purdue University, while the remaining 10% operates under the authority of Indiana University. Most oftentimes, the campus is now known as PFW or simply "Purdue Fort Wayne."

The Amateur Radio Connection

This column is dedicated to amateur radio and ham radio technology, and this column is no exception. How does amateur radio play into the above discussion? Well, the answer is quite involved. While researching material for this article, I was able to locate an online database at the following web link: <https://mdon.library.pfw.edu/>. This collection, known as "mDON" or "mastodon Digital Object Network" is a collection of documents and photos that record the history of some of PFW's lifespan. I say "some" of the history of PFW, as there are only a few documents from various years. The collection is not exhaustive, and I assume that in the future more information will become available as it is digitized and added to the collection.

Of particular interest to me was whether or not I could find any information about the presence of amateur radio or an amateur radio club on the campus of IPFW (later PFW). Surprisingly, I found a wealth of information. Here are some of the highlights that I was able to locate.



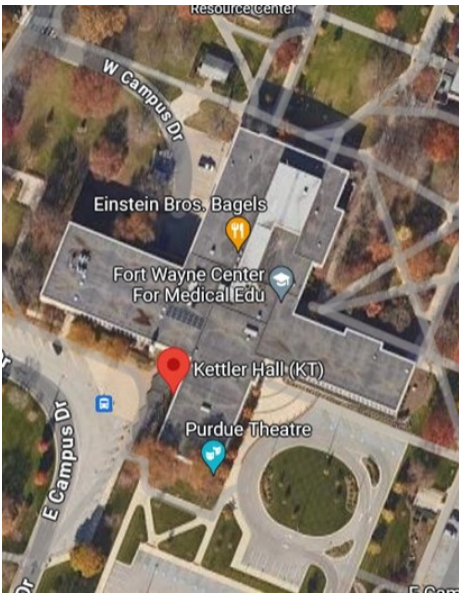


Image: Kettler Hall as viewed as a satellite image.

The university itself only began in 1964. However, by 1966, a student news publication called *The Student-Exponent* published an article in March, 1966, that details IPFW's very own amateur radio club! This club, as recorded in the article, was begun in October of 1964 and started by an engineering professor, Dr. Dean Elry Nold. Dr. Nold was an air force veteran who served in a variety of academic roles during IPFW's formative years, including chair of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Technology, as well as the "acting school dean." I would encourage anyone interested in the history of Dr. Nold to read his obituary at the following link: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/fortwayne/name/dean-nold-obituary?id=6654233>. The original amateur radio club on the campus of IPFW was known as the "I.U. – P.U. Ama-

teur Radio Club" and the club call was WA9PJD. The 1966 *Student-Exponent* article details that the club had a membership of between 12 and 15 students. Club meetings were held on Wednesday evenings from 5-6 p.m. The article mentions that the amateur radio club had equipment valued at approximately \$2,000, but the club station could not transmit, due to a lack of an antenna. Plans were in the works at the time to erect such an antenna.

Another item of interest was an article published in 1968 entitled "Radio's Gift." This article, found in an IPFW student newspaper called *The Criterion*, was an announcement informing the readers that members of the IPFW Radio Club were willing to send a standard Christmas greeting/message around the world. Members of the IPFW campus community were encouraged to send a Christmas greeting to friends and love ones around the world utilizing the services of the IPFW radio station, with the article mentioning that a station would be set up outside of room G54. The final sentence of the article reads, "The club cannot guarantee delivery, but amateur radio traffic circuits are extremely reliable." This article implies that, at least at that time, the IPFW radio club had some kind of an amateur radio station in existence. Whether this station was permanent or just a temporary, field-day style station is unclear, and I cannot discover any

additional information on this Christmas greeting occasion. Suffice it to say that there were exciting happenings going on in amateur radio at the college in 1968!

The plot continues to thicken however. If one were to walk on the PFW campus today in 2024, one would see a large tower on Kettler Hall – the same building that housed the original IPFW amateur radio club. This tower is quite large and can be seen in photographs from the mid to late 1960s of Kettler Hall. What is intriguing is the much smaller tower located on the north side of Kettler Hall. This smaller tower is actually the original amateur radio tower of the original IPFW amateur radio club! One can actually still see the bell rotator that turned the original Mosley tri-band beam antenna of the club, with what appears to be rotator cable leading down from the rotator to the roof of the building. In fact, if one views satellite imagery of the roof of Kettler Hall, one can observe a faint object resting on the roof of Kettler Hall. That object is the original Mosely tri-band yagi itself lying on the roof of Kettler, having fallen off of the original tower. This yagi was, at least as of October, 2022, still situated on the roof of Kettler, although it appears to have been moved at this time. Still, the tower remains, and one has to ask the question of when exactly did this tower become installed on Kettler?



Image: The amateur radio tower on Kettler Hall today. The tower is located in the center of the photo. The main communications tower can be seen in the left background of the photo. The photo was taken in 2023.

To answer that question, I researched through a variety of photographs of Kettler Hall in the PFW archives. Specifically, I was looking for an aerial photograph that would show the north side of Kettler. Most aerial photographs that I could find were quite blurry, especially when enlarged for close inspection. However, I was able to locate a photograph from June, 1970 that clearly showcases the amateur radio tower situated in its present-day spot. Here is the link to that photograph. https://mdon.library.pfw.edu/digital/collection/lu_archive/p/id/687/rec/2.

I could not find any evidence of this tower in photographs prior to 1970, but again, most of these pre-1970 photographs are usually quite fuzzy and thus an accurate determination is nearly impossible. Based upon the Christmas greeting operation in 1968 and the appearance of the tower in a 1970 photograph, I would postu-

late that the amateur radio tower was installed sometime between 1966 and 1970, with a strong possibility of the tower being installed in 1968. This would make the amateur radio tower itself between 53 and 55 years old – quite a lifespan for a single amateur radio tower! Later photographs showcase the tri-band yagi on top of the amateur radio tower, which I believe to be the same Mosley yagi as that seen on the roof of Kettler Hall in 2022.

The Announcement

All of the preceding discussion has led to this one point – that PFW has had a history of affiliation with amateur radio and amateur radio stations/club for nearly 60 years. In that time, amateur radio stations have come and gone, with a minimum of two different amateur radio stations installed – one in Kettler Hall from the 1960s through to approximately the 1980s, and the second station started in the 1990s in the new Engineering Building. However, sadly, amateur radio no longer seems to have a presence on campus.

That is all about to change in 2024. One of the opportunities afforded to me as a student is to pursue various research projects in addition to my regular course work. In the summer of 2024, it has been planned that a new amateur radio station will be installed on the campus of PFW, with the station located in the wireless communications laboratory, located on the third floor of the Engineering Building. The station is to have two main educational purposes – to provide students/faculty/staff with research oppor-

tunities into the world of amateur radio, and to serve as an educational opportunity for students and community amateur radio operators wishing to elmer and assist the PFW campus community in their amateur radio pursuits. The station has already begun an equipment inventory, with an Icom IC-9700 being donated by DX Engineering and a Tennadyne T8 lpda antenna donated by a local Fort Wayne ham. Other equipment is incoming from two other potential sources, but those names/organizations will be publicized in this column in an upcoming edition of the HamNews.

At this point, the current operational goals for this station are centered on establishing a fully-capable amateur radio station with a target goal of establishing satellite and eme communication abilities. Both of these operational goals are quite involved and require a large amount of preparation and training. However, by establishing a space-communication focused amateur radio station, PFW stands to gain a wonderful tool to conduct communications and research into an “out of this world” field. I cannot say at this point how long the station will last or whether this station will become a permanent fixture of the campus. Hopefully, the existence of this station will be well-publicized, with other students encouraged and invited to participate in maintaining and operating this station. Only time will tell what will happen with this return of amateur radio. The future looks bright, and the possibilities are even brighter for amateur radio at PFW.

73, Jim, AC9EZ

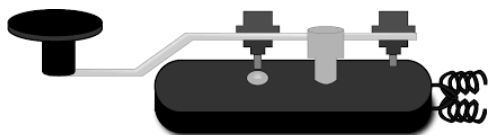
SKCC K3Y January Event

For the past 17 years, the Straight Key Century Club has designated January as their *special* celebration month. Members all over the world sign up to operate as a K3Y station. Last year there were more than 250 different K3Y stations and there were over 50,000 qso's made by those stations! This year's event begins at 0000utc on January 2nd. For us, here in Fort Wayne, it will begin Monday (January 1) night at 7pm local time. Each K3Y station will have a *portable* designator such as K3Y/1, K3Y/9, K3Y/AS, K3Y/EU etc depending on their call area. Local operators will operate as K3Y/9. The K3Y stations will give a true signal report, their location, name, home call, and SKCC number. If you make contact with a K3Y station, send a true signal report, your state, your name, and your SKCC number or "NONE" if you don't have a number. This is an all-mechanical key event so keyers and computer generated CW are not used. The special K3Y link/page on the SKCC website is loaded with K3Y info and will tell you who is operating along with keeping track of your contacts . . . yes, once you contact a K3Y station and he submits his log, that contact will appear on the K3Y log search and individual stats. This is always a fun event and, if you want to learn more and participate with fellow FWRC members . . .

K3Y/9 W9TE Special Event: January 13-14

Multi Station at N8KR QTH

So come on by from 7am-8pm Saturday, January 13. You can watch, listen, operate, visit with other members, ask questions, play with a variety of keys . . . if your cw is rusty, sit with a *seasoned* operator at a station and work together to make contacts (come by even if your cw skills are non-existent!). Food and drink and fellowship . . . all around our favorite hobby. Ken's shack is in a room in the back of the garage and is quite roomy. If you decide to come, there will be a special SKCC SIGN with a garage door opener attached. Push the button, the door will open and come on in! There's plenty of room! **ALSO: the station will be available all Sunday afternoon if you would like to operate one of Ken's stations.**



- Select **LOG SEARCH** – once selected you can type in your own call. I used Steve-W9SAN as an example.



K3Y Home | SKCC Home

K3Y Index

[Straight Key Month User's Guide](#)

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[Op Schedule \(Calendar\)](#)
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[QSL Design Contest](#)
[QSL Card Request](#)
[Annual Print Calendar](#)
[Operator Certificate](#)

K3Y Log Search

Enter your callsign to see which K3Y stations you have worked on which band slots.

Callsign

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Once you hit **Search Logs** the following grid appears! Once you work K3Y stations, the grid fills up with X's. Last year Jim-KR9U had over 130 grids filled! How many can you fill this month? BTW, it will even keep track of non-SKCC members!

K3Y Index

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[Admin Login](#)

Coordinators' Emails:

(Schedule Request)

Please use "K3Y" in the subject line to avoid spam filters.

US Call Districts

[K3Y-0: AD0AB, N3PDT](#)
[K3Y-1: NF10](#)
[K3Y-2: AF2Z](#)
[K3Y-3: AF3Z, AC2C](#)
[AH6AX, K3EW](#)
[K3Y-4: W1DV, W4CMG](#)
[K3Y-5: AD5VC](#)
[K3Y-6: W6JIM](#)
[K3Y-7: KJ7GNB, AC2WU](#)
[K3Y-8: K8AQM](#)
[K3Y-9: W9DLN](#)
[K3Y-KH6: AF2Z](#)
[K3Y-KL7: K7GMB, AC2WU](#)

Log search results for W9SAN

Tip: Mouse over the band slots to see operators worked

K3Y Station	160m	80m	40m	30m	20m	17m	15m	12m	10m	6m
K3Y/0										
K3Y/1										
K3Y/2										
K3Y/3										
K3Y/4										
K3Y/5										
K3Y/6										
K3Y/7										
K3Y/8										
K3Y/9										
K3Y/KH6										
K3Y/KL7										
K3Y/KP4										
K3Y-AF										
K3Y-AS										
K3Y-EU										
K3Y-NA										
K3Y-OC										
K3Y-SA										

W9SAN has worked K3Y on 0 out of a possible 0 band slots.

Local

SK CC
Straight Key Century Club

News

December 2023

New Member: KV9B, Terry

Awards: W0NW, Centurion Award

Operating activities during the month of December follow.

For the Weekend Sprintathon (WES) on December 9-10, 2023, the following local operators participated. QSO count is shown.

- N9SE 319 W9GOO 32
- AC9XS 151 WB9TYJ 21
- KC9UR 155 K9FMX 14
- NE9EE 123 W9HT 14
- WA9BBN 115 WD9IKW 13
- KA9GKE 53 N9DGL 9
- WB9EAO 46 KA8ERV 7
- W9SA 43 WB9NOO 1

For the Two Hour Straight Key Sprint (SKS) on Tuesday evening, December 26, 7-9 PM local, the following local operators participated. QSO count is shown.

- N8KR (FL) 60N9DGL 19
- NE9EE 32 W9SA 16
- W9HT 30 WB9EAO 12
- AC9XS 29 KA9GKE 8
- WA9BBN 26 W9GOO 7
- W9LW 24

73,

Ed, WA9BBN

OPERATING EVENTS

2024

JAN

6

ARRL KIDS
DAY

JAN

6-7

ARRL RTTY
ROUNDUP

JAN

13-14

SKCC WEEKEND
SPRINTATHON

JAN

20-22

ARRL JANUARY
VHF CONTEST

JAN

26-28

CQ 160M CONTEST
CW

This information comes from the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at contestcalendar.com and is gratefully acknowledged. It is deemed accurate as of the time of publication.

SKCC

2 Hour Sprint

1 / 2 4 , 0 0 - 0 2 z

Obtaining a Canadian Amateur Radio License



Why would a U.S. ham want to get a Canadian ham license and callsign? Well, I should start from the beginning then.

When I was in grade school (many years ago), my parents told my siblings and I that our family was moving to New Brunswick, Canada. Being in first grade, I was unphased by the news and corresponding move, as were my younger brother and three sisters. To make a long story short, my family ended up living in St. Paul, New Brunswick, a small village about 30 minutes north of Moncton, for two years. It was an interesting experience with many memories for a young boy—seeing the Canadian maple leaf on the McDonalds' restaurant signs, horizontal stop lights (these were common in the late 80s in that part of Canada), attending church in French every Sunday, and hearing my parents speaking in French at home when they wanted their conversations to evade our younger prying ears. In summary, these are good memories!

In 2022, I operated as W9HT/VE3 for a few days. Later that same year, I had the nostalgic opportunity to visit the Maritime Provinces of Canada (which includes Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and New Brunswick) for the first time in 30 years and spent some time operating as W9HT/VY2 from a contest station on PEI. These were fun experiences that I mentioned in previous

HamNews columns.

More recently, I learned that individuals living outside of Canada could obtain a Canadian amateur radio operator certificate (thank you to Ted, K8AQM/VE9AQM for this information). Now, note that U.S. ham operators can use their existing FCC callsign to operate within Canada with a few basic conditions. However, given my nostalgic connection to Canada and past ham radio operations in Canada, I decided that I wanted to obtain my Canadian license and callsign.

Licensing in Canada is somewhat different from here in the States. There are two different classes of licenses in Canada: Basic and Advanced. The Basic license can be obtained by passing a 100 question multiple choice exam. Just like here in the States, the exam question pools are open. However, the Basic class exam can be passed in two ways. First, a passing score of 70-79% grants operating privileges above 30 MHz only. Second, a passing score of 80% or higher (so-called "Basic with Honours") grants operating privileges on all amateur bands, albeit with power limitations that are less than Advanced licensees. (There is an optional morse code test also.) Becoming "Basic with Honours" became my initial goal since I want to operate in Canada on the HF bands.

When I began studying for the Basic license exam, I quickly recalled that it had been more than 20 years since I had taken a ham radio license exam and became a bit nervous. I took an initial practice test on the Innovation Science and Economic Development (ISED) Canada website, but passed under the 80% target to attain the "with Honours" endorsement. I started to study the question pool and promptly realized that this test was more challenging than the Technician class exam that I passed back in my teenage years! Also, the Basic exam is generated out of a pool of a possible 1000 questions.

Although there are many ways to study for a license exam, I discovered the HamStudy app. This app cost \$4 on the Apple App Store and covers all exams for U.S. (both ham and commercial), Canadian, Mexican, and New Zealand licenses. I considered this to be a bargain. While the app contains all of the available question pools, I found it be particularly valuable in taking practice exams on my mobile device.

While Canadian hams do not have to be Canadian citizens or residents, Canadian hams must have a mailing address in Canada where they can receive correspondence (including their printed amateur radio certificate). Also, Canadian licenses are issued for life, so there is no need to renew every 10 years like here in the United States.

After more than a week of intensive study and consistent practice exam results, it was time to take the actual exam. Since I obviously do not live in Canada, I had to find an accredited examiner (essentially what we call a volunteer examiner here in the

States) that was able to conduct a remote examination. While remote examinations are fairly new here in the States, I think they have been more common in Canada for a longer period of time. One possible reason for this longer practice of remote examinations is that Canada is quite large in size and its population can be spread out in areas where there may be no local accredited examiners. Canadian accredited examiners “may charge an examination fee to candidates to recover the cost of administering an examination.” In my case, the fee was US \$20, which I thought was very reasonable.

At the scheduled time, the accredited examiner and I met on Zoom. After reviewing my government-issued identification, he wanted to review the physical space where I would be taking my exam. While the examiner monitored my progress on the exam on webcam, the exam was shared on the screen at the rate of screen at the rate of two questions at a time. There was no time limit on the exam, and the examiner was gracious enough to proceed through the exam at my own pace. I was also able to review my work on the exam. When completed, I took a digital photo of my work and emailed it to the examiner. Immediately upon receipt, the examiner graded my work with me on the Zoom call. In this way, I was able to receive the immediate result of the exam.

I passed with the exam with a score of 88%. The examiner offered to review the questions that I had missed, but I was too excited with the results. My initial goal had been met!

The next steps occurred quickly. The examiner uploaded the results the ISED website almost immediately. Within a few minutes, I received an automated email from the ISED inviting me to create an online account. Very quickly after that, I received another email to complete the application for the amateur certificate and initial call sign. For no additional cost, I had the choice to receive a random callsign or a callsign with a specific suffix. Unlike the United States, amateur callsigns in Canada are tied to the licensee’s mailing address. Since I was using a mailing address in New Brunswick (my childhood stomping grounds), my callsign would begin with a prefix of VE9.

My requested prefix ended up being FWA. If you have ever flown out of Fort Wayne International (aka, Baer Field), you might recognize this as

part of the airport’s ICAO identification code. The resulting callsign of VE9FWA was a unique way to connect the past with the present.

Also, I should mention that the new callsign was granted the same evening that I completed the Basic license exam! I will be able to maintain that particular callsign as long as I maintain a mailing address in the appropriate province.

As a curiosity, I also discovered that Canadian hams are permitted to hold more than one callsign. While there is a fee and are other criteria that must be met, this is an interesting possibility for hams that operate in different parts of Canada. One Canadian callsign is more than enough to cover any operations that I conduct across the border.

Finally, there is an unusual twist. As the holder of a Canadian ham callsign, I am no longer able to operate in Canada with my U.S. call (e.g, as W9HT/VE3) as permitted under the U.S.-Canada reciprocal operating agreement. I am required to use my Canadian callsign while operating in Canada—but that is the whole point of my pursuit of the Canadian callsign!

The next chapter of this story will hopefully include a report of operating on the airwaves as VE9FWA in Canada in the first half of this month! I hope to catch you on the air while I am in Canada.

73,

Josh, VE9FWA (and W9HT)



I am waiting for this to come in the mail, hopefully in the next few weeks!



This section of the Allen County HamNews is available for local hams to list any ham radio related gear for sale or to place any ham radio related want ads.

Listings are posted for one month, but can be renewed upon request of the editor.

Please see page two for contact information.

FOR SALE: Icom IC-7300 HF 160 thru 6 meter all mode transceiver. In excellent condition in appearance and in operation. I am the original owner. Will include everything that it came with when I purchased it new about 4 years ago including Icom box. Local pick up only for \$750.00



Contact Bruce Cadwell, N9DGL at beecad(at)aol.com

K4KIO Hexbeam 20m thru 6m \$350 (still on tower in Columbia City)



Contact Bill, K3HZP at hzp_electronics (at) juno.com.

Heath SB-614 Station Monitor - Unknown Condition - \$35.00



DB-12/17 Hygain 12/17 Meter Beam - \$100.00 - Must Pick up in Columbia City

Contact Terry N9ZI at n9zi(at)inbox.com or at 260-827-0536



HV-6V Butternut 80/10 vertical \$165 (pickup in Columbia City)

S38E receive fine, but front glass broken. \$35 obo

S38D no sound comes out. \$10 obo





N9QR Ham gear for sale: **UPDATED**. All equipment is in good shape and working. It all needs a new home. Located about 3 miles south of the airport off Bluffton Road.

Reasonable offers will be considered. I can be contacted at: mikes2125 at outlook.com or N9QR at arrl.net. Phone: 260-602-6193

Yaesu FT-1000 MP Mark 5. Gone through by Byron Campbell WA4GEG last year. Excellent condition. Not much use since Byron returned it. New display back light CFL to LED conversion, CW key click fix, HD inductor and Fuse lamp (service report included). With the FP-29 Power Supply and the SP-8 Speaker. Heil Gold line mic with stand and cable, two radio manuals, one is original the other is factory updated. Original boxes for the radio with inserts and the box for the SP-8 but no inserts. \$975

Heil Pro Set Plus headphones with mic. Excellent condition with Yaesu and Ten-Tec adapter cables and original box. \$75

Nye Navy style straight key with cable and plug. \$30

Heil HS-2 Hand switch. Original box. \$25

Vibroplex chrome iambic key with cable and original box. \$100

Hustler 5BTV vertical antenna. Brand New in the box with brand new GigaParts optional coax connection assembly.

Never installed. Box opened to verify contents. \$500

125 Ft of brand-new AMR 2213 Coax with UHF connectors on both ends and 3 attached Ferrites. \$100

120 Ft +/- of used RG8 coax in good shape. Was used on my dipole that the wind took down last year. \$50

Approximately 200 ft of RG8 coax. Used. \$25

FREE Box of cabling. Includes RG8, RG58, coax jumpers, audio cables, and more. FREE but MUST TAKE IT ALL.

VCI solid state 1 KW dummy load. \$25

Nye-Viking Low Pass filter in original box. \$25

Baofeng dual band HT. Used very little. Model UV5R7W with charger. Original packing. With programming CD and interface cable. \$15

2 APC brand AC 620 VA UPS units. One in original box with battery (uninstalled) and one without box or battery. Both of them work fine. \$75 for both.

Astron RS-35M Power Supply in excellent condition with original box and an external cable. \$100

FREE Flag antenna I bought about 12 years ago but never put up. Well made. 80 meters, I think. FREE

Collins power cable with both male and female ends plus a spare male end. \$25

Heathkit SG-1271 Function Generator in good condition. \$20

HP 8640B Signal generator. Diode in the protection circuit bad. \$50

Approximately 200 tubes. Most are 7 pin used in Collins and Drake equipment. Also includes a few 6146, 6JB6, 5U4, 5R4's. Many are NOS the rest have been tested on a TV7 as good. One shoebox of 7 pin pulls untested. Take them all for \$100. NO PICKING OVER-TAKE ALL OR NONE.

Several antique broadcast radios from the 30s and 40s. Consoles and table radios. Most are unrestored. A few are restored. Fire sale prices. \$25 and up. Most are complete, restorable and include all tubes and original knobs. Email me (see above) for the list and prices.

Area Nets (updated as of 1/1/24)					
Daily			Tuesday		
8:00 AM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	7:30 PM	147.150+	21 Repeater Group Net (97.4 PL)
8:30 AM	3.912	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	8:00 PM	50.580 USB	FWRC 6-Meter SSB Net
6:00 PM	3.910	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	9:00 PM	146.940-	Allen Co. ARES Training Net (141.3 PL)
6:30 PM	146.880-	IMO (alternate is 146.940)	Wednesday		
7:00 PM	147.015+	Tri State Two Meter Net	--	--	--
8:00 PM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	8:00 PM	145.270-	Whitley Co. ARES (141.3 PL)
Week-days			8:00 PM	50.580 FM	FWRC 6-Meter FM Net
9:00 AM	3.820	Little Red Barn Net	--	--	--
Sunday			Thursday		
8:00 PM	444.550+	Whitley Co. ARC Sunday Night Net (141.3 PL)	8:00 PM	D-STAR	Indiana D-STAR net (Note 3)
8:30 PM	146.910-	"No-Name" Net also on EchoLink Node number 519521	8:00 PM	50.580	AM 6-Meter AM Net
9:00 PM	145.53 simplex	Northeast Indiana Packet Net 1200 baud (Note 2)	8:30 PM	145.510 simplex	Allen County ARES Digital Operations Team Training Net (Note 4)
Monday			Saturday		
8:00 PM	224.780-	Fort Wayne 224 Net	8:00 PM	146.685-	Huntington ARES(141.3 PL)

1. All times local time. **Any changes or corrections should be submitted to the newsletter editor at drjoshlong (at) gmail.com.**
2. NEIPN is direct accessible via any BPQ Chat Node (or through Node hopping etc.) via other packet frequencies in this area and other areas through other nodes (it is locally direct accessible on 145.53 in NC & NE Indiana/NW Ohio and SE Michigan using KA9LCF-11, KC9VYU-11, N9LCF-11, N9PXO-11, K9BIF-11) Most BPQ Nodes use an SSID of -11.
3. Reflector REF024B.
4. Net starts using BPSK-31 and switches to BPSK-250 after roll call to pass traffic etc. NBEMS suite of software (FLDIGI, FLMSG, and FLAMP) is preferred.
5. Indiana HF Traffic Nets Web Site: <http://www.inarrl.org/index.php/public-service/indiana-nts>

Area Repeaters (updated as of 1/1/24)							
Frequency	Offset	Tone/Notes	Callsign	Frequency	Offset	Tone/Notes	Callsign
				442.6375	+5 MHz	MDR CC1	N9MTF
145.330	-0.6 MHz	141.3	W9FEZ	442.99375	+5 MHz	D-Star W9TE-B	W9TE
146.880	-0.6 MHz	--	W9INX	443.100	+5 MHz	DMR CC1	K9MMQ
147.255	+0.6 MHz	--	W9INX	443.275	+5 MHz	P25 NAC # 293	K9MMQ
146.760	-0.6 MHz	141.3	W9TE	444.250	+5 MHz	141.3	W9AVW
146.910	-0.6 MHz	--	W9TE	444.800	+5 MHz	--	W9FEZ
146.940	-0.6 MHz	141.3	W9TE	444.8750	+5 MHz	141.3	W9TE
		FM / C4FM					
224.780	-1.6 MHz	--	W9FEZ				

FWRC Membership Application

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____
 License Class: _____
 Street address: _____ City: _____
 State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone #: (_____) _____
 * Email address: _____
 * (@arrl.net domain is unreliable. Please use an alternate email address if you have one).
 ARRL Member? _____ (ARRL membership helps the club maintain ARRL affiliation)
 May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster & on our club web site? Yes or No

Fort Wayne Radio Club dues:

Regular membership	\$25.00 / year
Family membership ¹	\$35.00 / year
Student membership ²	\$5.00 / year
Associate membership ³	\$20.00 / year

(Memberships for July-December are ½ the stated amounts)

Please attach a check to this form (paying by check is strongly encouraged) made out to:
 Fort Wayne Radio Club (check number _____) and bring to a club meeting or mail to:
 Fort Wayne Radio Club
 P.O. Box 15127
 Fort Wayne, IN 46885-5127

- 1: Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.
- 2: K-12 or full time student.
- 3: Unlicensed member.

ACARTS Membership Application

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____
 License Class: _____
 Street address: _____ City: _____
 State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone #: (_____) _____
 Email address: _____ ARRL Member? _____
 (ARRL membership helps the club maintain ARRL affiliation)
 May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster & on our club web site? Yes or No

ACARTS dues:

Regular membership	\$12.00 / year
Additional family members ¹	\$6.00 / year
Student membership ²	\$6.00 / year
Associate membership ³	\$6.00 / year

(New regular memberships are \$1.00/month)

Please attach a check to this form (paying by check is strongly encouraged) made out to:
 Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (check number _____) and bring to a club meeting or mail to:
 A.C.A.R.T.S.
 P.O. Box 10342
 Fort Wayne, IN

- 1: Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.
- 2: K-12 or full time student.
- 3: Unlicensed member.



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2024

THE LARGEST
AMATEUR
RADIO AND
ELECTRONICS
SHOW IN THE
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Friday-Sunday, February 9-11, at the Central Florida
Fairgrounds and Expo Park, Orlando, FL

www.hamcation.com