

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES  
17 April, 2015

The April meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church on 17 April, 2015 and was hosted by club president Steve Nardin, W9SAN. There were about 40 people in attendance for this meeting, and, after reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, everyone present introduced themselves via their call-sign.

Steve asked for a moment of silence to commemorate the recent passing of Ken Uhrick, KB9YKU, SK, a long time FWRC member.

Treasurer Bob Steeter, W8ST reported the club's financial status dated 17 April, 2015 as follows: Income \$2,522.93, Expenses \$667.95, Cash on Hand \$174.20, checking \$2,380.19, Savings \$8,050.92. We have a total of 128 members so far for CY 2015.

Steve Nardin announced that an open house at the Robison Park repeater site would occur tomorrow, 18 April from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm. Everyone is invited to drop by and check out this site that houses our new 146.76 and 444.875 MHz machines, and which is also home to the ACARTS 147.255 MHz repeater plus the 144.390 MHz APRS machine.

Steve solicited interest in supporting the Indiana QSO party that will occur 2 May from noon till midnight. The QSO party features operation of 160 through 10 meters. We have acquired the use of an operating site at the QTH of Larry Temenoff (KB9OS), situated on the north-west side of Ft. Wayne, and which features a lot of room from which to operate, and which also features a full-size 160 meter dipole. Anyone interested in participating is asked to contact Steve. Steve also noted that the VHF QSO party would occur the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in June. Again, anyone interested in participating should contact Steve.

Steve noted that the April Foxhunt occurred according to schedule, and in great weather for a change. Charles Ward, KC9MUT and Robert Dean, KC9UHU were the April winners so will serve as the fox in May. Details of the April hunt can be found in the April Foxhunt Chronicles posted in the Hamnews along with incriminating pictures of some of the hunters in action in the "photos" tab of the fwrc.info web page. Steve also mentioned that we are encouraging "ride along" participants to ride with the active hunters in order to get a feeling for what a foxhunt is like. Please contact Al Burke, WB9SSE ([260-637-1989/aburke55@comcast.net](mailto:260-637-1989/aburke55@comcast.net)) if you're interested.

Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ announced that nominations are open for the Indiana Outstanding Amateur of the Year award. A person nominated can be any licensed amateur. Please contact Joseph for information on how to nominate a person you have in mind.

Joseph also announced that he is following the status of a proposed South Bend city ordinance that would ban the use of all hand-held electronics in moving vehicles. In the current version of the ordinance amateur equipment is not exempted, (but curiously CB equipment is). Joseph is attempting to work with the South Bend City Council to get the proposed ordinance amended. This is important because what might seem a good idea to politicians in South Bend might later also appear to be a good idea to politicians in Ft. Wayne, New Haven and so-forth.

Following the business meeting and a coffee break, Tom Rupp, KU8T, gave a presentation (including a video demonstration) on the weak signal, digital operating mode JT65. JT65 is designed for communications with received signals many db below the noise floor (for example QRP HF signals across long and fading paths). It employs MFSK (65 tones) and a robust implementation of Forward Error Control (Reed-Solomon encoding) to produce a very narrow-band signal that can plow through the noise. It's FSK on steroids.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE  
Secretary, FWRC