

The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League 96 Years of continuous service to our communities





2020

Who We Are

About Us

Mailing Address: P. O Box 673 Batavia, IL 60510-0673

Email: info@frrl.org
Website: http://www.frrl.org

President: Gordon Dailey, KW0E

Vice President: Roger Bara, W9YU

Secretary: Dean Holste, KC9EOQ

Treasurer: Dan Harmon, WA9YKK

Directors: Terry Todd, W9AUV Denny Barfuss W9HI Vacant Vacant

Past President: Mike Urso K9FE

License Trustee (W9CEQ): Kermit Carlson, W9XA

License Trustee (W9NE): Denny Barfuss W9HI

Newsletter Editor: Jerry Chapman N9JLC

Webmaster: Curt Sauer, W9YNP

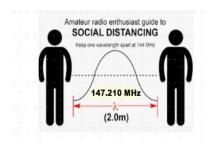
Membership Database: Chris Kennell, KC9BKS The Fox River Radio League, Inc. is a general interest Amateur Radio club serving the central Fox River Valley area in Illinois. Club records indicate the club has been in existence since at least 1924, and it has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, and a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization as specified in Federal IRS Statutes.

We sponsor training classes for those seeking a new or upgraded Amateur Radio license, license examination sessions, and participation in various local Public Service events. Our membership covers a broad variety of interests - if you have a specialized amateur radio interest, you will likely find camaraderie with one or more of our club members.

We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at Bethany Lutheran Church, located at 8 S. Lincoln St. in Batavia, III. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM and includes a short business portion, social time and a program presentation of interest.

Meetings are open to the public. Anyone interested in the amateur radio hobby are invited to attend. Family members are welcome.





From The Desk Of The President







The Honorable Gordon Dailey

Hi All,

It is election time again and all positions are up for nominations except for the two Directors that are currently filled. Your nominating committee is Mike Urso - K9FE, Kermit Carlson – W9XA and CJ Johnson – WT2P. If you would like to nominate someone for a position or nominate yourself for a position, please contact one of these folks and they will be glad to help you out. Speaking of the election. We will still vote in December as we always have and we are finalizing on the process at the time of this writing. So even with all that is still happening in this world we will get it done.

I remind you that the special event station operating from the Mooseheart campus celebrating the 107th year of Mooseheart will be on November 7th. Please look in QST for the operating time and frequencies.

Stay safe and get radioactive,

Gordie



Callsign	Name	License Class
NN9I	Arthur W. Shuter	Amateur Extra

Thank You For Joining Us!!









11/07/2020 | Mooseheart Founders Day Celebrating 107 Years

Nov 7, 1600Z-2300Z, K9M, Mooseheart, IL. Fox River Radio League. 21.265 14.265 7.265 3.815. QSL. Moose International, Attn: Gordon Dailey - Activities, 155 S. International Dr., Mooseheart, IL 60539-1172. We will also work FT8 check website for band(s). QSL with SASE. For more information on Mooseheart Child City and School



www.mooseheart.org www.frrl.org



NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN



Chairman is Mike Urso, K9FE. He is joined by Cedrick, WT2P and Kermit, W9XA. Please consider volunteering to serve on the Board. Contact any committee member for more information.



MEETING MINUTES







OCTOBER 13, 2020

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the <u>General Membership</u> of the Fox River Radio League (FRRL) an Illinois not-for-profit Corporation

Meeting Minutes October 13, 2020

The October meeting of the Fox River Radio League was conducted via Zoom.

There were 32 members present via video conference.

The meeting was called to order at 1930 DST by President Gordon Dailey, KW0E.

Acceptance of the September 2020 Membership Meeting minutes as printed in the ArcOver. It was moved, seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Dan WA9YKK, reported the account bank account balances as of 09-30-2020. Motion to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded, and passed.

Directors Report:

Repeater,

Terry, W9AUV, advised that things are moving forward. The update to the Fusion repeater is done and is being shipped back to Terry.

Denny, W9HI, reported that the next VE session will be on November 17th at the Geneva Lutheran Church at 301 S. Third St in Geneva.

The Technician class will be held on Wednesday evenings starting in October. Dates and time to be announced.

ARES:

Marty N9NTM, advised that ARES meetings are held via Zoom on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month.



Repeater Report:

Kermit W9XA, Under New Business

Membership:

Chris, KC9BKS reported that we are at <u>129</u> members as of this month.

Old Business:

Meetings:

All meetings will be conducted using Zoom until further notice.

Mentor/Elmer Program:

No volunteers as of yet.

Lending Library:

Let Mike, K9FE know if you have any radio related books to lend to others. There will also be a Yaesu FT-897D to lend to members who need it to test their antennas, etc.

Illinois QSO Party: Sunday October 18th from 0900 until sunset. We will be in the picnic pavilion at Springbrook Prairie Forest Preserve in Naperville. See the web site for directions.

Special Event: The Moose International Founders Day Special Event station will be on Saturday Nov. 7th. Sign up with Gordie, KW0E to be able to attend this event. Event hours will be from 11AM to 6PM. The call sign will be K9M, a website will be set up at http://foundersdayk9m.com/ FRRL Member Meeting OCTOBER 2020

New Business:

Technician Class Update:

Denny, W9HI has the slides and a list of instructors. At this time the class will be held on Wednesday evenings at 1800hrs. Watch the FRRL webpage for more information. The class will begin on Wednesday October 28th for 9 weeks. Class times are from 1830-2130 local time. The class will be conducted via Zoom.

Nomination Committee:

Chairman is Mike Urso, K9FE. He is joined by Cedrick, WT2P and Kermit, W9XA. Please consider volunteering to serve on the Board. Contact any committee member for more information.



New Repeater and Repeater Site:

Kermit, W9XA gave a presentation on the history of the Fox Repeater and how the FRRL acquired it. He showed coverage maps from the old WBIG tower in Aurora, the Elburn tower and the new Plano tower. This led to the present day set up we have at the Elburn tower. He updated the group as to the deprecation of the FRRL D-Star repeater and the placement of the Yaesu Fusion repeater on the new tower in Plano. This repeater will use the frequency pair that the D-Star repeater was using. He has received cost estimates for the work have been received. There were several questions from the membership. One member suggested that since membership renewals have started, we should consider making a donation above and beyond the standard repeater donation to help offset the costs.

Announcements:

NONE

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 2023hrs. DST.



November 3rd- BOD Meeting

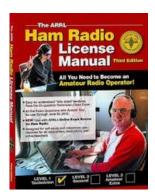
November 7th Mooseheart Special Event Station

November 10th- Membership Meeting

Program: Contest Station Tour of K9CT- Craig Thompson, K9CT

Respectfully submitted,

Dean Holste, KC9EOQ FRRL Secretary



Technician - T10E6

From which of the following locations may an FCC-licensed amateur station transmit?

- A. From within any country that belongs to the International Telecommunications Union
- B. From anywhere within International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Regions 2 and 3
- C. From any vessel or craft located in international waters and documented or registered in the United States
- D. From within any country that is a member of the United Nations

AMSAT 2020 Space Symposium video now online

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

The 38th AMSAT Space Symposium and Annual General Meeting was held online on October 17, 2020. I'm kinda bummed about this because I just joined AMSAT, but somehow, I managed to miss this event. Fortunately, the symposium was recorded and is now online, and I've been enjoying watching the video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EHDgrI_w8hY).





The video includes updates on AMSAT projects and presentations on amateur satellite technology. For details on presenter names and presentation titles, visit the AMSAT website. AMSAT members can access the Symposium Proceedings on the AMSAT website as well. (The proceedings for all the AMSAT Symposiums are available there as well, but you do have to be an AMSAT member.)

Here's a list of the different presentations on the video and the times at which they start:

0:00:00 Welcome

0:02:07 AMSAT GOLF-TEE System Overview and Development Status

0:43:02 GOLF IHU Coordination

1:19:10 GOLF Downlink Coordination

1:50:15 FUNcube Next



- 2:13:50 LunART Luna Amateur Radio Transponder
- 2:45:35 CatSat HF Experiment Overview
- 3:13:30 Neutron-1 CubeSat
- 3:39:58 Progress and Development of Open Source Electric Propulsion for Nanosats and Picosats
- 4:15:00 AMSAT Education
- 5:14:00 ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station) / AREx (Amateur Radio Exploration)
- 6:14:00 AMSAT Engineering
- 7:21:16 AMSAT Annual General Meeting

So far, I've only watched the GOLF-TEE System Overview and the AMSAT Education presentation. They were both interesting and I'm looking forward to watching the others.

I really hadn't been keeping up with AMSAT lately, so the the presentation on the GOLF project was definitely news to me. GOLF is an ambitious project aimed at sending up high Earth orbit (HEO) satellites. GOLF is short for "Greater Orbits Larger (user communication) Footprints." This is really pretty exciting stuff.

Watching these presentations really gives one an appreciation for the work that goes into the design of these satellites and the technical skills and dedication of the hams working on these projects. These guys are not getting paid to do any of this work, and as Eric Skoog, K1TVV, the GOLF System Engineer said in his presentation, "Space is hard."

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is the author of the KB6NU amateur radio blog (KB6NU.Com), the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides (KB6NU.Com/study-guides/), and often appears on the ICQPodcast (icqpodcast.com). When he's not trying to work the satellites, he teaches online ham radio classes and operates CW on the HF bands.



Technician - T10E5

What is an amateur station control point?

- A. The mailing address of the station licensee
- B. The location at which the control operator function is performed
- C. The location of the station's transmitting antenna
- D. The location of the station transmitting apparatus





ARISS to Celebrate 20 Years of Ham Radio on the International Space Station 10/05/2020

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) will soon celebrate 20 years of continuous ham radio operations on the International Space Station (ISS). NASA is commemorating the milestone with a newly produced infographic highlighting the educational contacts via amateur radio between astronaut crew members aboard the ISS and students. Over its 20 years, ARISS has supported nearly 1,400 scheduled ham radio contacts with schools, student groups, and other organizations.

Planning for ARISS began in 1996 as a cooperative venture among national amateur radio and amateur satellite societies, with support from their respective space agencies. The ARISS ham radio gear actually arrived on the station before the Expedition 1 crew, headed by Commander Bill Shepherd, KD5GSL. The FCC issued ham radio call sign NA1SS for ISS operations. After Expedition 1 arrived on station, some initial tests with ARISS ham radio ground stations and individual hams confirmed the ham gear was working properly. The first ARISS school contact was made with students at Luther Burbank Elementary School in Illinois on December 21, 2000, with Shepherd at the helm of NA1SS on the ISS, and ARISS operations team mentor Charlie Sufana, AJ9N, guiding the operation on the ground.

NASA produced a <u>video</u> of students talking with astronaut Chris Cassidy, KF5KDR, during an ARISS contact in May 2020.

Before and during scheduled ham radio contacts, students, educators, parents, and communities learn about space and related technologies, and radio communication using amateur radio. ARISS has inspired thousands of students, promoting exploration through educational experiences spanning science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics.

ARISS relies on a large network of amateur radio operator volunteers, many associated with radio clubs in the communities where students and groups participating in the contact reside. ARISS volunteers support satellite ground stations, serve as technical mentors, and provide additional help in the areas of education, community outreach, and public relations.

While student-to-astronaut radio contacts are a primary objective for ARISS, the capability has also inspired further experimentation for amateur radio in space and evaluation of new technologies. In September, ARISS <u>announced</u> that the initial element of its next-generation ham radio system had been installed in the ISS *Columbus* module. The new radio system replaces equipment originally certified for spaceflight in mid-2000. The onboard ham station also provides a contingency communications system for the ISS crew. Several astronauts have also enjoyed using NA1SS to make casual contacts with — and delighting — earthbound members of the ham radio community.



In the US, ARISS sponsors include <u>ARRL</u>, <u>AMSAT</u>, and **NASA**, the ISS National Lab-Space Station Explorers, and NASA's Space Communications and Navigation program. Global organizing partners include International Amateur Radio Union (<u>IARU</u>) member-societies as well as AMSAT organizations, and space agencies in Canada, Europe, Russia, Japan, and elsewhere.

The next proposal window for US schools and educational organizations to host an amateur radio contact with a crew member on board the ISS opened on October 1 for contacts that would take place from July through December 2021.

Like many educators who have coordinated ARISS radio contacts for their students, teacher Rita Wright, KC9CDL, an ARRL member, described the first ARISS school contact as inspirational and having a lasting impact on their community. Five months after their contact, nearly 500 students greeted Bill Shepherd when he visited Luther Burbank School. Wright said it was "like tossing a pebble into a stream."

"The ripple effects are still occurring, and I suspect will continue to occur for a long time," she said. "We have a young staff, and witnessing these events has inspired some to look for other interdisciplinary projects. They are beginning their dream. Many of our students are looking forward to careers associated with the space industry."

Amateur Radio License Map

Use this map to find amateur radio license holders in the USA

- O Select the type of input (callsign, gridsquare, zip code or street address) on the left.
- O Enter an appropriate search value on the right.
- O Hit the button.
- O Scroll down see the map.

Originally shared by KW0E:

Here's a way to find hams near you by map.

https://haminfo.tetranz.com/map

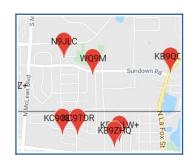
This was shared by Bill Axelrod K3WA on the SMC reflector.

The selection determines the center of the map. When the map appears you can adjust the zoom level and drag the map around. If you're looking at a sparsely populated area, you'll propably need to zoom out.

After two seconds of not moving, it will reload with stations for the new area. You can also also click on the gridsquare labels to center the map on that square. Use the "show grid labels checkbox to temporairly remove the gridsquare lines and labels if they get in the way.

Click on the marker to see name and address info.

O Callsign	Callsign
O Gridsquare	
O Zipcode	Enter a call sign
O Street Address	Show The Map







FCC Headquarters Relocates

10/19/2020

FCC Headquarters has moved. The new address is 45 L St. NE, Washington, DC 20554. The change is effective immediately. The FCC announced plans to move last spring, but the transition was delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The FCC, like many federal agencies, has its own zip code, so there will be no disruption in mail delivery sent by USPS to the former address. The FCC still prohibits the delivery of hand-carried documents, and all COVID-19 restrictions or instructions regarding access to FCC facilities remain in place at the new location.

"The FCC continues to balance its efforts to be accessible to the public with the need for heightened security and health and safety measures and encourages the use of the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) to facilitate the filing of applications and other documents when possible," the FCC said in an October 15 <u>Public Notice</u>.

Due to the pandemic, the move was accomplished by professional movers without the presence of any employees, all of whom had been working from home. An attempt was made during the summer to let employees back into headquarters for a day to pack up their offices and remove personal belongings, but that plan had to be scrapped after several employees tested positive for COVID-19.

Most FCC staff continue to work from home and are not expected to be physically present in their new offices before next June.

In anticipation of the planned move, the FCC last spring also announced the adoption of a new FCC seal. The redesign is the product of an agency-wide contest that solicited proposals from employees and contractors. The revised design incorporates several elements: communications technologies; four stars on the outer seal border, drawing from the legacy of the predecessor Federal Radio Commission (FRC) seal, retaining the three-wire dipole supported by two towers; 18 stars on the shield, recognizing the current number of bureaus and offices; and the eagle and shield, identifying the FCC as a federal government agency.

Official use of the new seal was to begin following completion of the FCC's move from The Portals to its new location on L Street NE.







SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB031
ARLB031 ARRL Urges Members to Join in Strongly Opposing FCC's
Application Fees Proposal

ZCZC AG31

QST de W1AW

ARRL Bulletin 31 ARLB031

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT October 28, 2020

To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB031
ARLB031 ARRL Urges Members to Join in Strongly Opposing FCC's Application Fees Proposal

ARRL will file comments in firm opposition to an FCC proposal to impose a \$50 fee on amateur radio license and application fees. With the November 16 comment deadline fast approaching, ARRL urges members to add their voices to ARRL's by filing opposition comments of their own. The FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) MD Docket 20-270 appeared in the October 15 edition of The Federal Register and sets deadlines of November 16 to comment and November 30 to post reply comments, which are comments on comments already filed.

The NPRM can be found online at, https://tinyurl.com/yyk8f2yp.

ARRL has prepared a Guide to Filing Comments with the FCC which includes tips for preparing comments and step-by-step filing instructions. File comments on MD Docket 20-270 using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). The instructions can be found online at, http://www.arrl.org/FCC-Fees-Proposal.

Under the proposal, amateur radio licensees would pay a \$50 fee for each amateur radio application for new licenses, license renewals, upgrades to existing licenses, and vanity call sign requests. The FCC also has proposed a \$50 fee to obtain a printed license. Excluded are applications for administrative updates, such as changes of address, and annual regulatory fees. Amateur Service licensees have been exempt from application fees for several years.

The FCC proposal is contained in a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in MD Docket 20-270, which was adopted to implement portions of the "Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for Users of Modern Services Act" of 2018 - the so-called "Ray Baum's Act." The Act requires that the FCC switch from a Congressionally-mandated fee structure to a cost-based system of assessment. In its NPRM, the FCCproposed application fees for a broad range of services that use the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS), including the Amateur Radio Service. The 2018 statute excludes the Amateur Service from annual regulatory fees, but not from application fees. The FCC proposal affects all FCC services and does not single out amateur radio.

ARRL is encouraging members to file comments that stress amateur radio's contributions to the country and communities. ARRL's Guide to Filing Comments includes "talking points" that may be helpful in preparing comments. These stress amateur radio's role in volunteering communication support during disasters and emergencies, and inspiring students to pursue education and careers in engineering, radio technology, and communications. As the FCC explained in its NPRM, Congress, through the Ray Baum's Act, is compelling regulatory agencies such as the FCC to recover from applicants the costs involved in filing and handling applications.

In its NPRM the FCC encouraged licensees to update their owninformation online without charge. Many, if not most, Amateur Service applications may be handled via the largely automated Universal License Service (ULS). The Ray Baum's Act does not exempt filing fees in the Amateur Radio Service, and the FCC stopped assessing fees for vanity call signs several years ago.

See also "FCC Proposes to Reinstate Amateur Radio Service Fees,"reported by ARRL in August, at,

http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-proposes-to-reinstate-amateur-radio-service-fees

A summary page of the proceeding can also be found online at,

http://www.arrl.org/FCC-Fees-Proposal.

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