



ARCOVER

January 2024



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

1924  2024

Who We Are

- President:**
Terry Todd W9AUV
- Vice President:**
Eve Schneider W9EVE
- Secretary:**
Art Shuter NN9I
- Treasurer:**
Dan Harmon WA9YKK
- Director :1**
Ruben Noceda K9ARN
- Director: 2**
Jim Brady W9JB
- Director 3**
Paul Mitchell KC9SEB
- Director 4**
John Greusel
- Past President:**
Dennis Barfuss W9HI
- Programs:**
Paul Mitchell KC9SEB
- Education / VE:**
Jim Brady W9JB

License Trustee (W9CEQ):
[Kermit Carlson](#), W9XA

License Trustee (W9NE):
[Denny Barfuss](#) W9HI

Newsletter Editor / PR:
Jerry Chapman N9JLC

Webmaster:
Mark Van Daele K9MEV

Membership Database:
Chris Kennel, KC9BKS

Net Coordinator:
Curt Sauer, W9YNP

About Us

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, Ill. 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.



Fox River Radio League

Mailing Address:
P. O Box 673
Batavia, IL 60510-0673
Email: info@frrl.org
Website: <http://www.frrl.org>





From
the desk
 of....



The Esteemed
Terry Todd

Greetings everyone,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Remember Winterheat starts January 1 and runs through January 31st.

I hope to hear you on the air. It's a really fun event and a great way to hone your simplex radio skills and equipment. Sign up now at:

<https://www.hamactive.com/>

Best wishes to everyone this holiday season.

May 2024 be a happy and healthy new year for you and yours.

Terry - W9AUV

W
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President
 Todd
 Welcomes



Our
 Newest
 Members

Call Sign	Name	License
K9JE	Jeffrey Ekstrom	Amateur Extra
	Anthony Baketz	
KD9LMK	Daniel Gehrke	Technician

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ARC OVER

FOX RIVER RADIO LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES December 12, 2023

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

The December 12, 2023 meeting of the Fox River Radio League was conducted at Bethany Lutheran Church in Batavia, IL. There were 63 members in attendance and 3 on Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 1930 CST by President Terry Todd, W9AUV

Board members present.

Board Members and Directors Present

President, Terry Todd W9AUV

Vice-President, Eve Schneider W9EVE

Secretary, Art Shuter NN9I

Treasurer, Dan Harmon WA9YKK

Director 1, Ruben Noceda K9ARN

Director 2, Jim Brady W9JB

Director 3, Paul Mitchell KC9SEB

Director 4, John Greusel KC9OJV

Past President, Denny Barfuss W9HI

Additions to the Agenda:

Minutes: Acceptance of the November 14, 2023 membership meeting minutes as printed in the ArcOver were approved by the membership. Motion: Tom WD9DAU 2nd: Doug W9RD

Treasurer's Report: Dan WA9YKK, reported the bank account balances as of 8/8/23:

Reports:

100th Anniversary Eve W9EVE: Still collecting info for the video. The logo for 100th anniversary was presented.

Director 1 Repeaters: Ruben K9ARN, Will W9WSS, Kermit W9XA: Kermit has been making improvements on the Plano repeater. They have also been working on the noise problem on the two meter repeater.

Education: Denny W9HI : Extra classes have finished. New classes in early 2024. Many thanks to those who volunteered to do instruction.

Director 3: Club Activities Paul Mitchell KC9SEB: Paul reported the program for the January meeting will deal with Chinese radios.



Meeting Minutes continued:

Database Manager Mike Urso K9FE: We now have 156 members.

ARRL Section Robert W9DSR: Robert reported that consistent with the ARRL's request, the FCC amended rules will replace the current HF restrictions with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit.

Old Business: Paul KC9SEB presented the newly elected club Officers.

Dean KC9EOQ moved a motion that the ballet be closed. Kermit W9XA 2nd. Motion passed.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at : 20:14 CST

Respectfully submitted,
Art Shuter – NN9I
FRRL Secretary

A Members Thank You

I just wanted to write a quick note to say thank you for a pleasant and positive atmosphere for the Meeting on Tuesday. I am grateful to be surrounded by high quality people who care about the hobby, and equally care about each other. Also, I want to acknowledge the late David Goble (WA9ZJI) and family who was prescient enough to give away most of his ham radio gear through the club. I am already using the items I obtained and I hope that everyone will use or convert (i.e., give away) what we received to further help each other to enjoy the radio hobby in deeper, efficient, and/or more fulfilling ways. We should use our resources wisely for everyone's benefit in the long run, IMHO.

Thanks to the leadership for putting it all together. Looking forward to 2024!

Tom Lebryk (KD9NPR)



We wish to thank the family of David Goble WA9ZJI (SK) for the donation of the radio equipment that we used for door prizes.at the December meeting.

Thank You !!





JANUARY

2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Winter Heat 1 Begins 	1900 FRRL BOD Meeting 1930 FRRL 2m Net				
INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900 7	8 CW NET 28.150 2000 SSB NET 28.720 2030	9 1930 FRRL Membership Meeting No Net				
INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900 14	15 MLK 	16 1930 FRRL 2m Net		18 VE TESTING		
INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900 21	22 CW NET 28.150 2000 SSB NET 28.720 2030	23 1930 FRRL 2m Net				
INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900 28	29 CW NET 28.150 2000 SSB NET 28.720 2030	30 1930 FRRL 2m Net	31 Winter Heat Ends			
				MEMBER MEETING BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH 8 SOUTH LINCOLN ST. BATAVIA IL		
WCRA 2m Net 8pm 145.31 -6 107.2	VARA 2m Net 8pm 146.79 -6 107.2	FRRL 2m Net 7:30pm 147.21 +6 103.5	Kane County ARES 2m Net 6:30pm 145.47 -6 103.5	Northern Illinois ARRL 70cm Net 7:30pm 444.875 +5MHz, 114.8	CW Net 28.150, Monday 8PM SSB Net 28.720, Monday 8:30PM	

ARCOVER

NEWS AND INFORMATION CENTER

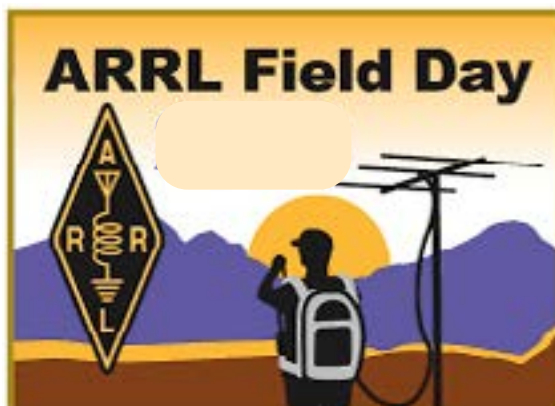
Local - National - International

Field Day results were published in the December issue of QST. Beside the W9NE score, several members submitted scores. You might want to include this in the next club newsletter.

STATION SCORE

W9NE 8195
K9PW 3412
K9MMS 3142
KC9EOQ 876
N5EP 550
K9NUD 430
NA9A 194
KC9BKS 165

FRRL 16964



2023

Over 1700 clubs submitted scores for field day. FRRL's club score was in the top 20.

Information provided by *Pete K9PW*

***Please remember dues need to be paid
by
January 31st***

Membership rates are as follows:

REG: Regular dues are \$30.00 per year,

FAM: Family dues are \$40.00 per year
(family members at the same address)

SRC: Senior Citizen dues (65 and
older) are \$25.00 per year,

STU: Student (Full time, under 22) dues
are \$25.00 per year.

MIL: Active Military dues are \$25.00 per
year.

You can also help support the FRRL
Repeaters by making a \$10.00 (or
more!) annual contribution.



**PAY / RENEW
MEMBERSHIP
DUES
ONLINE**

**CLICK
HERE**



2024

YOUR
F.R.R.L.
Officers and Directors

2024

Office of President
Kermit Carlson
W9XA



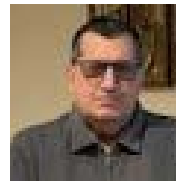
Ofc of Vice President
Dan Nolan
WA9FRY

Office Of Treasurer
Dan Harmon
WA9YKK



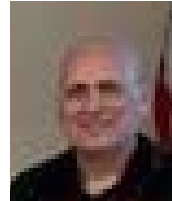
Office Of Secretary
Art Shuter
NN9I

Director
Pat Brod
K9ANL



Director
Will Sperling
W9WSS

Director
Paul Mitchell
KC9SEB



Director
John Greusel
KC9OJV



Thanks to out going
Past Pres Denny W9HI
Pres. Terry W9AUV and V.P. Eve W9EVE
Director Jim W9JB and Director Ruben K9ARN
For their Service to the **F.R.R.L.**



ARRL RF Safety Committee Develops New Guidelines to Communicate RF Safety

Radio amateurs now have a new tool from ARRL to help answer questions about their stations. Neighbors of amateur radio operators are sometimes concerned about transmissions and radio frequency exposure from amateur stations.



The ARRL RF Safety Committee, with their international counterparts at the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB), the Irish Radio Transmitters Society (IRTS), and the Swedish Society of Radio Amateurs (SSA), has developed a new set of guidelines to help amateurs interact with and talk to their neighbors about RF exposure.

Chairman of the ARRL RF Safety Committee Greg Lapin, N9GL, said the new informational PDF found on the ARRL RF Exposure page, [Helping Amateurs Interact with Neighbors Asking About Radio Transmissions](#), was developed after a year of discussions about RF safety.

"Neighbors may be alarmed by some of the misinformation about RF safety that is available from a variety of sources. By following the exposure regulations from the Federal Communications Commission, we can be confident that our families and neighbors are safe," Lapin said.

Lapin added that RF exposure regulations are based on decades of trustworthy research. He also encouraged all amateur radio operators to perform exposure assessments for their stations to make sure they meet those regulations.

ARRL RF Exposure Resources

These links are to ARRL resources and tools related to RF exposure:

[Frequently Asked Questions](#) about the May 3, 2021 changes to the FCC RF-exposure rules

[100th Edition ARRL Handbook's RF safety](#) section as a PDF

ARRL's RF Exposure [Calculator](#)

[Helping Amateurs Interact with Neighbors](#) about Radio Transmissions (PDF file, developed by RF Safety Committees from ARRL, RSGB, IRTS and SSA)

[ARRL Learning Network video on RF exposure](#)





WCRA 57th ANNUAL MID-WINTER HAMFEST (ELECTRONIC HOBBY EXPO)

HAM RADIO, COMPUTERS AND ELECTRONICS FLEA MARKET



Free Parking • Heated Indoor Facility

This year **FRRL** will have a table at the WCRA Hamfest. We are looking for members to man this table and provide information about our club to perspective new members and to anyone who is interested. This will take place January 14th 0800-1300.

If interested contact [Terry Todd](#)

With the **ARRL 10-Meter Contest** coming up, Bob Cox, K3EST, wrote some helpful hints for success suited for West Coast contesters:

"For part timers, here is more detailed advice on band openings. Looking at 10-meter logs for 2012-2015 (roughly corresponding to where we are in the sunspot cycle - Ed.), here are some data.

"EUROPE: The opening each day is in the morning and is short. Sunset in London is 3:52 pm their time. That equals 1552z. The band will be open longer into their twilight but mostly finished to Europe about 1730z. If you are interested in [making] some EU contacts, the time to be beaming in that direction is between 1530-1730z.

"JA/ASIA: From the start of the contest, Asia will be workable for a while. Then in the afternoon, JA/Asia will peak about 2300z to 0130z.

"USA/NA: Almost anytime.

"SA: The best time to work SA is in the afternoon.

2024



"In the evening after about 0230z, you can work Ws mostly in the west.

"Ten meters is a fantastic teacher of propagation. Short skip, E-skip, and F2 propagation are all happening sometime over the contest weekend. As a contester, you just hear a guy and work him. You don't think about the mode of propagation; however, after the contest, you can read up on the various paths you may have encountered.

"The sun is the great controller of 10m propagation. In spite of a CME hitting during the recent CQ WW Contest, 10 meters was still open to Europe and Asia. With the SFI predicted to be 145 during the 10-meter contest, that will help overcome potential solar problems.

"Even a small antenna system will prove enough to make many QSOs. Take advantage of 10 meters during this sunspot peak. Even QRP stations can make lots of QSOs.

"Summits on the Air (SOTA) is running a 10m Challenge in 2024. Solar Cycle 25 has started to offer regular good conditions for DX on the higher bands, so it is hoped that portable summit operators **can take advantage during** 2024. Some predictions indicate the peak of the cycle may occur during the summer of 2024. We encourage activators to consider 28MHz for their summit operations in 2024.

"For the 10m Challenge, scoring will be done automatically by the database software. Activations and chases should be entered as normal. The software will note 10m QSOs and score them according to the rules below. Usual SOTA rules apply, multiband activations are entered as normal and all results get updated, with qualifying 10m QSOs [getting] scored completely separately. There will be a special 10m Challenge results page and certificates available showing your name, call, association, and score.

"The challenge runs from 0000 UTC January 1, 2024, to 2359 UTC December 31, 2024.

"For more information about SOTA - Summits on the Air, please visit <http://www.sota.org.uk>."



"Bandwidth Limits Replace Symbol Rates on the HF Bands, Other Bands Open for Comment

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) published new rules adopted last month that replace the symbol rate restrictions on the HF bands with a bandwidth limit of 2.8 kHz. The new rules go into effect January 8, 2024.

The bands and band segments affected by the rules change are those authorized for data transmission between 160 and 10 meters, exclusive of 60 meters (where no change was made).

In adopting a bandwidth limit in place of the baud rate limit the FCC agreed with ARRL that some limitation is necessary because "without a baud rate or bandwidth limit, data stations using a large amount of spectrum for a single emission could do so to the detriment of simultaneous use by other stations using narrowband emission modes."

"Specifically, we remove limitations on the symbol rate (also known as baud rate) -- the rate at which the carrier waveform amplitude, frequency, and/or phase is varied to transmit information -- applicable to data emissions in certain amateur bands," concluded the FCC Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (DA/FCC # FCC-23-93; WT Docket No. 16-239) adopted November 13, 2023. "The amateur radio community can play a vital role in emergency response communications, but is often unnecessarily hindered by the baud rate limitations in the rules."

Consistent with ARRL's request, the amended rules will replace the current HF restrictions with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit. "We agree with ARRL that a 2.8 kilohertz bandwidth limitation will allow for additional emissions currently prohibited under the baud rate limitations while providing sufficient protections in the shared RTTY/data subbands," concluded the FCC Report and Order.

Excerpted from latest ARRL Letter:

73

Robert W9DSR



If you have any memorabilia about the club please contact:

Chair [Eve Schneider W9EVE](#)

I accidentally came across this WA7BNM contest calendar site and thought it was pretty neat.. It goes through October 2024.. Give it a look..

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>



Will AI help us have more fun with amateur radio?

by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU



In this morning's email was a message from Inc. magazine with links to some articles in the magazine. At the top of the list was, "4 Unimaginable Ways A.I. Will Change Your Life Within the Next 5 Years, According to Bill Gates" (<https://www.inc.com/minda-zetlin/4-unimaginable-ways-ai-will-change-your-life-within-next-5-years-according-to-bill-gates.html>) Gates says that in the next five years, you will have your own artificial intelligence assistant, or agent, that will be a frequent voice in your ear and will help you with everything from deciding where to go on vacation to managing your friendships and more. Let's think for a minute about Gates' 4 Ways and how they might help us enjoy amateur radio more.

1. You won't bother with software or operating systems anymore.

How cool would this be. You could simply tell your AI amateur radio assistant, "Hey, HAL. Let's operate 20-meter FT8 this afternoon," and the agent would set up the radio and begin looking for contacts. If the band wasn't open, it would come back and tell you, "I'm sorry, Dave, but propagation on 20 meters is terrible this afternoon. May I suggest 30 meters instead?"

Hey, HAL. Let's operate
20-meter FT8 this afternoon!

2. Your agent will be a frequent voice in your ear.

Gates believes that most of us will wear at least one earbud most of the time so that our agents can talk to us whenever they need to. So, for example, it might be monitoring the activity on 6 meters and notify you when the band is open. Or, you might want it to notify you when a particular contest or operating event is coming up so that you don't miss it. "Dave," it might say, "remember that the 2-meter club net is at 8 pm tonight."

3. Your agent will get involved in your personal relationships.

We often don't think of amateur radio as having a personal aspect, but it really does. For example, don't we enjoy talking to some people more than others? Your personal agent could monitor your club's 2-meter repeater or 40-meter CW and notify you when your friends are on the air.

Gates also notes that you could have your AI assistant talk to your friends' assistants and set up lunch for you. If those friends are also radio amateurs, you could also use that capability to set up an on-air sked.

4. It might even help you solve personal problems.

The article notes, "One of the most intriguing predictions Gates made is that your agent could also become your therapist" While many hams probably do need therapy, I'm not so sure how applicable this will be to amateur radio.

What I could see happening is using an AI assistant to help you choose your next rig or maybe help you troubleshoot a problem. Here are some scenarios:

- You ask your AI assistant what rig you should buy next. Since it already knows what bands you like to operate—and the state of your finances—it can analyze all the options and find a radio that meets your operating needs and fits into your budget.
- You might describe your backyard and the bands that you want to operate, and your AI Assistant could come back with antenna suggestions.
- You ask your AI assistant about a problem that you're having with your rig. It comes back with, "Dave, if you would just RTFM, you will find the answer on page 67 of the operating manual." Or, after scanning the appropriate online forums, it would tell you, "Dave, several other owners seem to be having a similar problem. Here's what they've done...."

All of this sounds kind of fun to me, but I can understand some of you having reservations. What do you think? Can you think of other ways an AI assistant would make amateur radio more fun for you?

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is the author of the KB6NU amateur radio blog (KB6NU.Com), the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides (<https://KB6NU.Com/study-guides/>), and often appears on the ICQPodcast (<https://icqpodcast.com>). When he's not trying to decide if artificial intelligence will help us have more fun with ham radio—or destroy humanity—he tinkers with electronics projects and works CW on the HF bands. You can email your AI comments to Dan at cw-geek@kb6nu.com.



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WINTERHEAT will commence on January 1, 2024 at 00:00:01 UTC and conclude on January 31, 2024 at 23:59:59 UTC.



"WINTERHEAT, now in its fifth year, stands as a month-long UHF/VHF simplex event crafted to empower amateur radio operators by offering a dedicated platform to test and enhance their UHF/VHF capabilities. From its inception, WINTERHEAT aimed to provide a comprehensive evaluation of stations, encouraging operators to adapt and refine their equipment setups throughout the month-long event.

Distinguishing itself from shorter on-air events, WINTERHEAT, along with its summer counterpart (SUMMERTHUNDER), extends over several weeks to capture a more realistic and nuanced assessment of stations. This prolonged duration enables operators to make adjustments in real-time, ensuring a dynamic and continuous enhancement of their capabilities.

Streamlining communication, WINTERHEAT mandates all contacts to occur on pre-designated frequencies. This approach simplifies the process for operators, eliminating the need to search for stations calling CQ. Operating within Technician class privileges, all FCC-licensed amateur radio operators can actively participate in the event.

Adding to its uniqueness, WINTERHEAT utilizes a custom-built, over-the-web logging system that facilitates real-time statistics and logging of contacts. This one-of-a-kind method enhances the overall experience, providing operators with valuable data in an unprecedented manner.

Beyond its role as a skill-building platform, WINTERHEAT serves as an invaluable opportunity for Emergency Communications (EmComm) operators. Leveraging the event, EmComm groups can coordinate emergency communication activities, assessing mission functionality and readiness for potential crises. WINTERHEAT, now in its fifth consecutive year, continues to evolve and grow, combining its rich history with the potential for real-world emergency preparedness."

During the event, radio operators are encouraged to make as many contacts as possible during the event window. All contacts are made via FM-Voice and include both analog and digital modes (Fusion, DMR, D-STAR). Packet modes are not part of this event.

SCORING:

ANALOG		
2M	70cm	OTHER
147.570	446.700	52.540
147.525	446.400	223.400
		927.100

DIGITAL	
147.555 CAFM-V	446.600 CAFM-U
145.790 DMR-V	446.0750 DMR-U
145.670 D-STAR V	446.225 D-STAR U

When making a QSO, only one station will enter the information into the system. Usually the station calling CQ would enter the initial QSO information. Does not matter who submits the initial QSO info as long as the QSO does not get logged twice.

The other station will be responsible for confirming the QSO.

Unconfirmed QSO will be credited with 1 contact point where a confirmed QSO will be awarded a value of 10 contact points.

A QSO can be made with a station that has not signed up as a participant. However that QSO will only be awarded a single contact point. Should the non-participant sign up for event after the QSO is made. The QSO made prior to their sign up will still be credited as a single contact point until the new participant confirms the QSO.

For more information and registration go to: <https://hamactive.com/>

*6 Meter note: Some equipment cannot work properly on the upper limits of 6 Meters.
An alternate option (50.350) is available in the LOGGER.
Only one 6M contact per person, per day is allowed.





Technician Class

Wednesday Evenings
6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.

Start: TBD
End:



Tech & General classes are done on **Zoom**. The Meeting Link to be distributed prior to the class.



General Class

Thursday Evenings
6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.

Start: TBD
End:

EXTRA classes are held in person at:

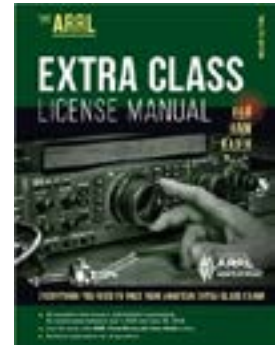


113 Oak St, North Aurora, IL 60542

Extra Class

Saturday Mornings
9:00.AM. to 12:30 P.M.

Start: TBD
End:



The Fox River Radio League (FRRL) presents regular training classes focused toward new Amateurs interested in gaining their Technician class license or upgrading to the General and Extra class licenses.

These are free courses where you will learn everything you need to receive or upgrade to the appropriate FCC radio license.

The textbook for the class will be the official ARRL License Manual. Books are available for purchase via the club at a discounted rate by emailing [education \[at\] frrl.org](mailto:education[at]frrl.org).

Classes are instructor-led, and you can expect engaging conversations to ensue around the topics of discussion.

In addition to our regularly scheduled bi-monthly testing we will be scheduling a dedicated VE session after discussing best availability with the class participants. For more information on VE sessions, please see [VE Test Sessions](#).

We are in need of

Instructors

If you are willing to teach a section or two contact education@frrl.org

Please Note that Tech & General classes are 9 weeks long..

Extra classes are 12 weeks long.
You can contact Dennis Barfuss at:
W9HI@arrl.net

if you have any questions

Students should read the material in advance of the class. Also bring an inexpensive calculator like a TI-30 x and a notebook and pencil or pen.





White Elephant Gift Exchange



Door Prizes



Even More Door Prizes



Healthy Snacks



**What Could They Be Talking About ??
Recopies ??**



**Thanks Mike For
Calling Out Winning
Tickets**



Saying Happy 100 Years

***Fox River
Radio League***





January's meeting program Paul will talk about the Chinese radios. Listed here are a few but not all the radio's he will talk about. Stay "tuned" !!

Baofeng UV-17 Pro

<https://www.rigpix.com/baofeng/uv17pro.htm>



Baofeng UV-21v2

<https://images.app.goo.gl/UMCaRQpNqGsfRPJn6>



Baofeng UV-5RE+

<https://baofengtech.com/product/baofeng-uv-5r-1/>



Quansheng UV5

<https://www.amazon.com/QUANSHENG-UV-K5-Rechargeable-Emergency-Receiver/dp/B0C9TVSYYM>



Talkpod A36 Plus

<https://talkpodonline.com/products/a36plus?variant=45020956492022>



VE Testing

The FRRL, in conjunction with the ARRL VEC, sponsors regular amateur examinations the third Thursday of every March, April, May and June. Ad-hoc sessions are planned during major events and will be added to the schedule here as well.

Upcoming Testing Schedule:

January 18, 2024
March 21, 2024
May 16, 2024

Testing Location:
Geneva Lutheran Church
301 S 3rd St,
Geneva, IL 60134



No Walk-ins. All events subject to COVID-19 venue availability and restrictions.
Please pre-register by [emailing](#) or calling Dan Harmon 630-272-1768

Please also be sure to bring:

- Photo identification
- Your FCC generated FCC Registration Number (FRN).
- The fee of \$15.00. (The FRRL receives no portion of this fee.)



- If upgrading bring your original FCC HAM Radio License (or the documentation you received) and a photocopy of your license.

If you have questions about the testing program, please email the Chairman at: ve@frrl.org

Illinois Traffic Net



You can also participate in one (or all) of the Illinois Traffic Nets. Everyone is welcome with or without traffic. The nets are the North Central Phone Net, Daily (M-F) at 7 a.m. local time, on 3912 kHz LSB; the Illinois Phone Net, Monday – Friday at 4:45 p.m. local time, on 3857 kHz LSB and on Sunday at 8 a.m. on 3940 kHz; and the Illinois Sideband Net, Daily at 6 p.m. local time, on 3905 kHz LSB.





Out N About

January 6 | [Ham Radio University, hosting](#) the ARRL New York City-Long Island Section Convention, Brookville, New York



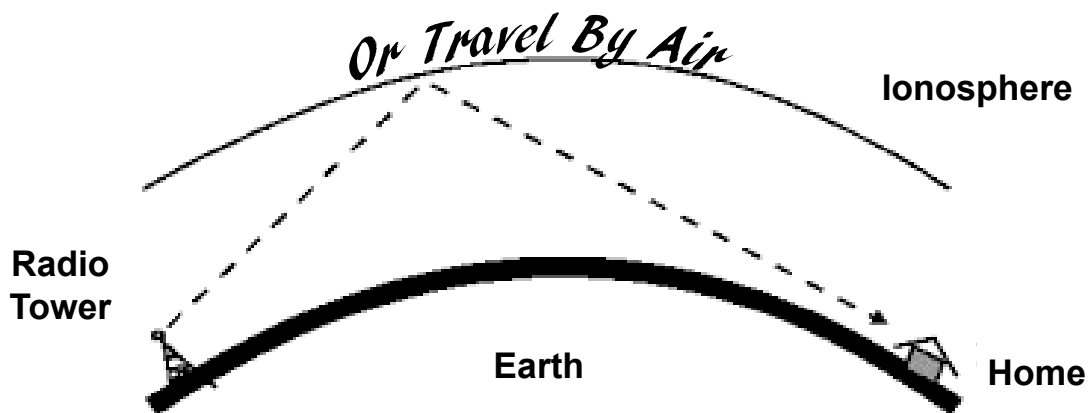
January 12 - 14 | ARRL [Puerto Rico State Convention](#), Hatillo, Puerto Rico



January 19 - 20 | [Cowtown Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL North Texas Section Convention, Forest Hill, Texas



January 27 | [Winterfest](#), hosting the ARRL Midwest Division Convention, Collinsville, Illinois





Ham Fests



WCRA 57th ANNUAL MID-WINTER HAMFEST (ELECTRONIC HOBBY EXPO) HAM RADIO, COMPUTERS AND ELECTRONICS FLEA MARKET



- Free Parking • Heated Indoor Facility
- Paved Parking Lot • Food • Amateur Radio Exams
- Educational Forums • Raffle Prizes



Sunday, January 14, 2024
Doors open at 8AM (close at 1pm)

Kane County Fairgrounds Expo Center
525 S. Randall Rd., St Charles, IL
(coordinates: N 41.9056, W 88.34232)

Current Forums:
9:00 AM - RT Systems
More To Follow

Tickets:

Advance, \$8 (4 raffle stubs)
At the door, \$10 (1 raffle stub)

- Children under 12 admitted free
- All Scouts under 18 in their official scout uniform admitted free

Exhibit Floor Rental:

\$30/table (\$35 after 1/1)
Electricity available for \$15/drop
1 chair per vendor provided
(\$2 for each additional chair)



*Talk-In on WCRA's 2M Repeater 145.31/- (107.2 Hz)
and National Simplex Frequency 146.52 MHz*

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All Operators Net



“EVERY” Sunday for “EVERY” Operator

New or experienced...ALL are Welcome

1900 hrs (7pm) local time

147.21 103.5PL +600

On the FOX VHF Repeater



Feel free to share your thoughts, experiences, recipes and hobbies etc.

“It does not have to be about radio to talk on the radio!”

For more info about the NET contact:

Mike K9FE 630-327-5164 K9FE@yahoo.com

Calling all newly licensed hams.

Remember the old Radio Shack slogan “You’ve got questions, We’ve got answers”?

Well, I know new hams have a lot of questions and those of us that have been hams for a while have the answers.

I will be adding a new segment to our Tuesday Night Net called “ask Elmer” If you have a question about ham radio, ask it on the air and someone will give you the answer over the air.

Now, for this to work properly we need lots of questions and lots of people who know the answers.

Don’t be afraid to ask a simple or “stupid” question, we all had them when we started. Would you like to be an “Elmer” without getting out of your chair? Well, this is the opportunity you have been waiting for.

I want to invite all the club members to check-in to the net and either ask a question or provide an answer.

You never know what you might learn or what fun you will have if you don’t join the net. For those who may need a reminder, The net meets on our club 2-meter repeater (147.21 MHz, 103.5 Hz PL tone) Every Tuesday at 7:30PM except on our meeting nights.

Hope to hear you on the net soon.

73, Curt W9YNP



The Radio Amateur's Code

The Radio Amateur is...

CONSIDERATE... He never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL... He offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in his country through which Amateur Radio in his country is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE... He keeps his station up to date. It is well build and efficient. His operating practice is above reproach.

FRIENDLY... He operates slowly and patiently when requested; offers friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED... Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC... His station and skills are always ready for service to country and community

...adapted from the original Amateur's Code, Written by Paul M Segal, W9EEA, in 1928

© John Devoldere 0N4UN and Mark Demeuleneere 0N4WW

Taken from: [Ethics and Operating Procedures for the Radio Amateur.](#)

BRING BACK "RADIO IN THE PARK"

Harry Jones K9DXA" started "Radio in the Park" years ago. His idea was take your radio out to a local park and set it up and operate. Since we can't have any thing big, just take your rig, wear your mask, set up an antenna, radio and have fun.



The idea of this is bring ham radio to the public. Make a small sign with your name, call sign, and please add FRRL also. Would like some photo of your operation. May get someone to take a picture of you operating. Will try to get your picture into the news letter. Please send a short report to me at my FRRL address. Director3@frrl.org



There are plenty of volunteer organizations that could use your radio skills.



Consider volunteering
you can make
the difference !!



American Red Cross



The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible to apply for membership in ARES. Training may be required or desired to participate fully in ARES. Please inquire at the local level for specific information. Because ARES is an amateur radio program, only licensed radio amateurs are eligible for membership. The possession of emergency-powered equipment is desirable, but is not a requirement for membership.

ARES

Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible to apply for membership in ARES.

ARES Resources

- [Download the ARES Manual \[PDF\]](#)
- [ARES Field Resources Manual \[PDF\]](#)
- [ARES Standardized Training Plan Task Book \[Fillable PDF\]](#)
- [Emergency Communications Training](#)

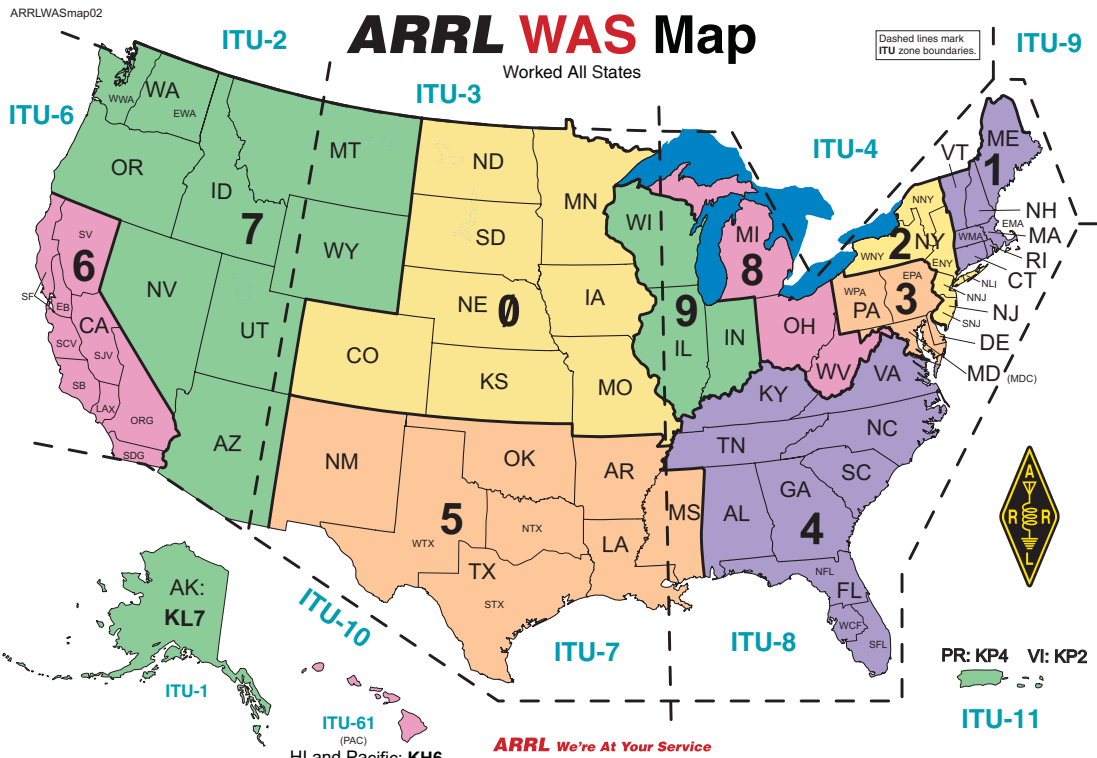
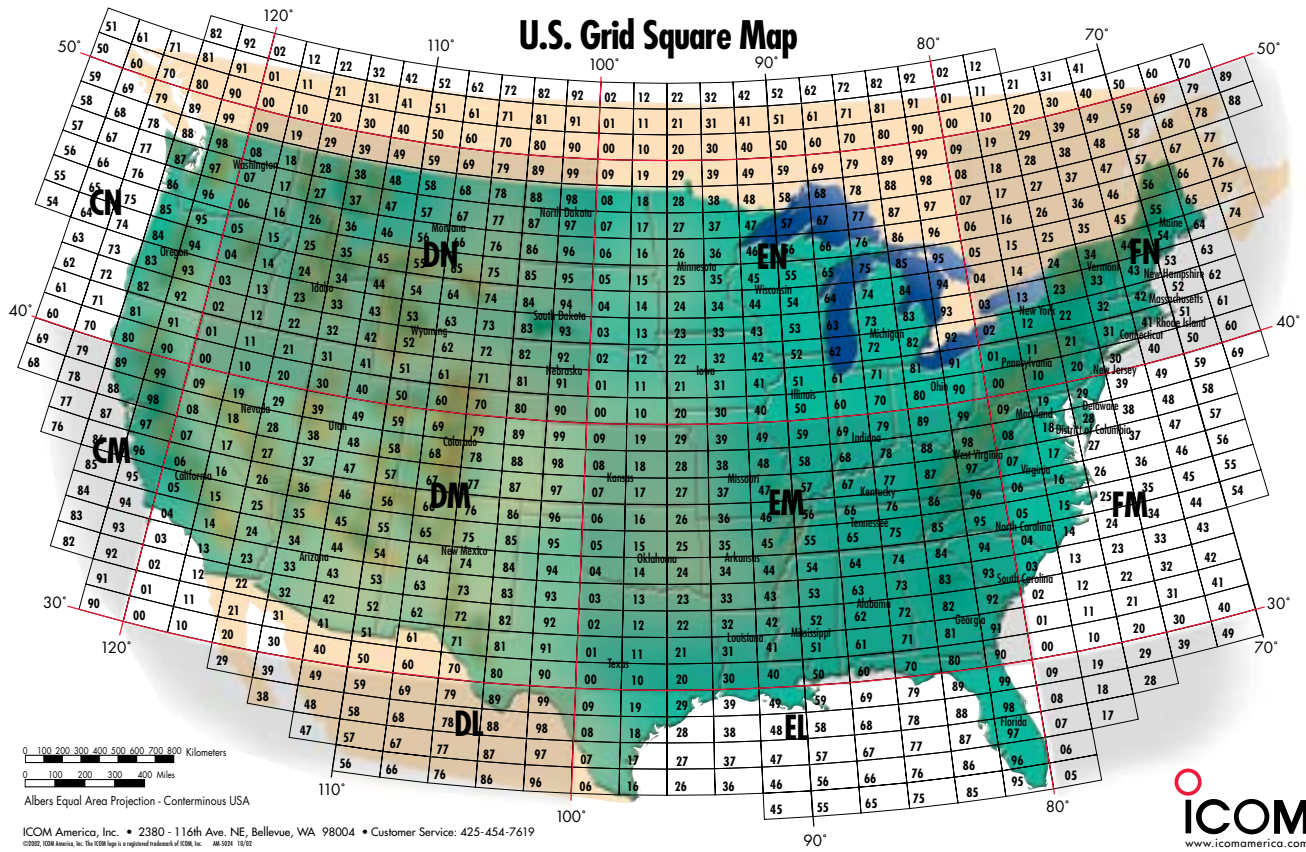


Kane County ARES

Information

[Click Here](#)





ARRL The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO

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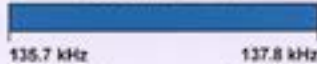
US Amateur Radio Bands

Operator license classes: E = Amateur Extra A = Advanced G = General T = Technician N = Novice
CW operation is permitted throughout all amateur bands. Except as noted, all frequencies are in megahertz (MHz).

■ = RTTY, data, phone, image
 ■ = USB phone, RTTY, data and CW
 ■ = RTTY and data
 ■ = phone and image
■ = SSB phone
 = CW only

LF – Low Frequency band

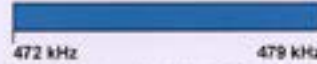
2200 Meters (135 kHz) E,A,G
1 W EIRP maximum



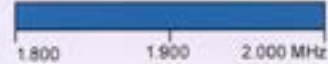
MF – Medium Frequency bands

630 Meters (472 kHz) E,A,G

5 W EIRP max, except in Alaska within 498 miles of Russia where the limit is 1 W EIRP



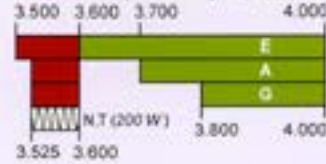
160 Meters (1.8 MHz) E,A,G



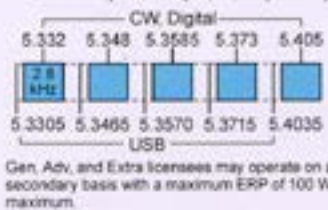
Amateurs wishing to operate on 2200 or 630 meters must first register with the Utilities Technology Council online at <https://utc.org/plc-database-amateur-notification-process/>. You need only register once for each band.

HF – High Frequency bands

80 Meters (3.5 MHz) E,A,G,T,N

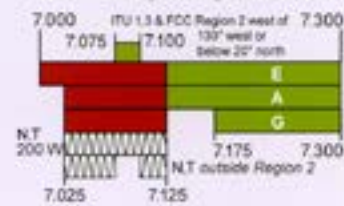


60 Meters (5.3 MHz) E, A, G (100 W)

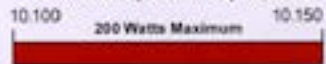


Gen. Adv. and Extra licensees may operate on a secondary basis with a maximum ERP of 100 W maximum.

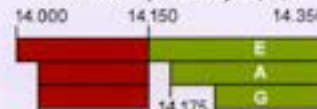
40 Meters (7 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



30 Meters (10.1 MHz) E,A,G



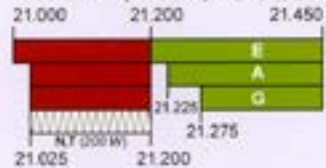
20 Meters (14 MHz) E,A,G



17 Meters (18 MHz) E,A,G



15 Meters (21 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



12 Meters (24 MHz) E,A,G



10 Meters (28 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



VHF – Very High Frequency bands

6 Meters (50 MHz) E,A,G,T



2 Meters (144 MHz) E,A,G,T



1.25 Meters (222 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



UHF – Ultra High Frequency bands

70 cm (420 MHz) E,A,G,T



33 cm (902 MHz) E,A,G,T



23 cm (1240 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



SHF&EHF – Super and Extremely High Frequency bands

All licensees except Novices are authorized all modes on the following frequencies:

2300-2310 MHz	3300-3500 MHz	30.0-30.5 GHz	47.0-47.2 GHz	122.25-123.0 GHz	241-250 GHz
2390-2450 MHz	5650-5925 MHz	34.0-34.25 GHz	76.0-81.0 GHz	134-141 GHz	All above 275 GHz

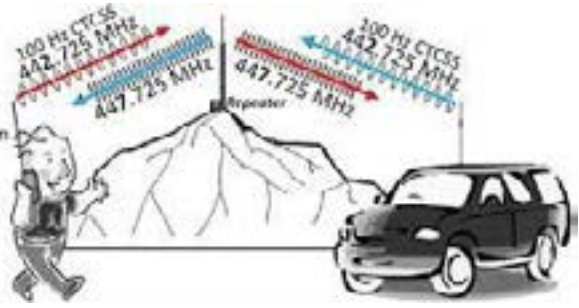
See www.arrl.org/ota for detailed band plans.
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OTAbands rev. 1-22-20



FRRL

70 cm Band
5 MHz Negative
Offset Example

447.725 MHz: Your Listen
(Repeater Transmit)
442.725 MHz: Your Talk
(Repeater Receive)



**AND OTHER
LOCAL REPEATERS**

FRRL Repeaters- W9CEQ

147.225 MHz - Plano
Mode: **Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X**
+600 KHz Offset, 100.0 Access Tone

147.21 MHz - Elburn
Mode: FM (Echolink Available)W
+600 KHz Offset, 103.5 Access Tone

444.300 MHz - Elburn
Mode: FM
+5 MHz Offset, 114.8 Access Tone

223.86 Mhz - Aurora
Mode FM
-1.6 Mhz Offset, 110.9 access Tone

442.10625 MHz (B) - Elburn
Mode: D-Star
+5 MHz Offset



**Other Area Repeaters
W9XA**

53.910 - Batavia
-1.0 MHz offset PL 114.8 Hz

224.4 MHz - Batavia
-1.6 MHz offset PL 103.5 Hz

443.64375 MHz - Elburn
+5 MHz offset DMR 311759

443.65625 MHz - Plano
+5 MHz offset DMR 311760

1292.00 MHz - Batavia
-20 KHz 114.8 Access Tone

927.625 - Batavia
+25 MHz offset PL 114.8 Hz

W9DWP

145.270 MHz - Elburn
-600 KHz offset PL 107.2
ARES APCO P25 NAC 293

NIARC W9ZGP

147.06 MHz - Batavia
Mode FM +600 kHz offset PL 103.5.

Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X Repeaters

K9IIK/R

442.275 MHz - Schaumburg
Mode: **Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X**
+5 MHz, 114.8 Access Tone

W9CHI

444.600 MHz - Channahon
Mode: **Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X 30024**
+5 MHz, 136.5 Access Tone

KD9FA

443.600 MHz - Oswego
Mode: **Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X**
+5 MHz, 107.2 Access Tone

KC9OEM

Primary Kane County SKYWARN / ARES

145.470 MHz -St Charles
Mode: FM
-600 Offset, 103.5 KHz Access Tone



444.525 MHz -St Charles
Mode: **Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X**
+5 MHz Offset, Access WWTone114.8

