



Arc Over

Fox River Radio League
PO Box 673
Batavia, IL
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January, 2006

President's Traffic

by Dick Illman, AH6EZ

By the time you are reading this, you hopefully will have celebrated a happy holiday season with your friends and family. The December FRRL Christmas Party was a fun success as usual with K9LU providing the merriment. We conducted our annual election of club officers after brief statements by all of the candidates and I congratulate the following winners that will serve the FRRL in 2006 and will be inducted at the banquet.

President – Dick AH6EZ
Vice President – Greg N9CHA
Secretary – John K9COE
Treasurer – Larry W9OKI
Director – Charles KC9DAO (2 year term)
Director – Mike K9FBI (2 year term)
Director – Dick KB9UJB (1 year term)

The re-elected President, Secretary, and Treasurer thank you for your continued vote of confidence. I will be reviewing the chairmanships as needed to ensure that all positions are active and fulfilled. We had a big boost in tickets purchased for our January banquet. There is still plenty of space available so bring your cash or checkbook to the January meeting and plan to join in the fun and fellowship at Fisherman's Inn. I have been working on the annual FRRL Banquet CD, jam packed with past FRRL programs, shareware, and pictures of our activities this last year (will be projected during banquet). We have added quite a few historical pictures that N9CHA scanned in from our archives. With good food, good friends, and this CD, there are lots of good reasons for all of the members and their spouses to plan to attend. If you have or know of children interested in learning about ham radio or getting on the air, remember that our NextGen youth group is getting together on Jan 29 at the Prisco Center for a Quiz Show. Contact tnghams@frrl.org to sign up.

[January Program](#)

I am thinking that it has been awhile since I demonstrated any digital modes. Because the Suit Sat is planned for early in February, I thought that I would demonstrate SSTV on 2m FM since I am HF antenna limited in the basement of the Prisco Center. We can talk about interface issues and operating techniques.

Dick Illman, AH6EZ
FRRL President

Erickson HF Challenge Update

By John Spasojevich, K9COE

This is the final reporting period for the 2005 Bill Erickson WA9TPO FRRL HF Challenge, actually there are 2 weeks left in the contest as it closes out December 31st. We will not know who the winners are until the banquet. In fact as you read this the 2006 Challenge will have been underway as it started January 1st.

If you have HF capability, I can't urge you enough to get involved, even if you make one contact a day you'll be having a great time. I can guarantee you, you will learn a lot about your own capabilities too. In 2005 I ran in the Limited Class, PSK 31. I should have kicked the pants right off Bill who was running QRP CW, the factor was operating time, I simply did not get on the air enough. When I was on the air, I made contacts, 130 of them in the 160 meter contest alone, so you see, you can pick and choose when and how you operate, the key thing is GET ON THE AIR, USE YOUR LICENSES and EQUIPMENT - it doesn't do any good letting it sit around collecting dust, your skills as an operator don't get better unless you practice. Everyone can make at least one contact a day! I hope to hear (or see) you on the bands. I'm not sure yet what class I'll be in, but I will be there.

If you are a Technician without code, I encourage you to upgrade, it's a whole new world waiting on the other side. If the FCC drops the code requirement, you have no excuse, 35 questions are all that separate you from a whole lot of fun and enjoyment. I know a lot of you no-code guys have FT-857's, 897's and TS-2000's why not put the "other half" of the rig to use, you paid for it !

Scores are on Page 5.

Ted Heim, VK3DOQ (W9CAE), SK

One of the FRRL's very early members passed away last May. Notice of Ted Heim's death was sent by his wife, Joan. Ted Heim, W9CAE was born in 1918 and grew up in Aurora, met and married an Australian woman, and lived in Australia, first part-time, and full-time in later years. Here is the message we received from Ted's wife, Joan:

I am sorry this has taken me so long to send out. This year has flown past me very fast. I am not sure how many of you in the Fox River radio club remember my husband Ted Heim. In May of this year he passed away at the age of 87. He is missed very much by his family. I hope you and your family's have a happy holiday season.

Severe Weather Spotting Class

The Kane Co Office of Emergency Management will be hosting a "severe weather spotting" class on Feb 15, 2006, at 6:30 pm on the campus of the Kane Co Sheriff's Dept. on Fabyan Parkway. This will be an evening class lasting a couple of hours. Amateur radio operators are encouraged to attend. Space for this class is limited. So, call the KCOEM at 630.232.5985 to register for this class. Ask about the exact location of the class when you register.

For more information, contact:

James E. Von Olnhausen - N9UZC at n9uzc@earthlink.net.
Also, visit: www.kcoem.org.

Due Due that Voo-due that you due so well.

Ah, yes, it's that time of year again—time to pay your dues. Please bring your checks to the January meeting and sign up with Larry to enjoy all of the benefits of FRRL membership. Unlike gas prices, there have been no changes in the FRRL dues structure. You still get the same great value for one low price.

When you pay, please remember to fill out a membership form so that we can get the correct information into the Club Database.

If you can't attend a meeting you can still join by using the Membership Application on the website and mailing it to Larry.

Join us for Kids Day!

The ARRL is sponsoring Kids Day on Sunday, January 8, 2006 as a way for kids around the country to enjoy ham radio. You can join The Next Gen Hams in this event. We will participate from noon to 4 p.m. at the home of Greg Braun, N9CHA. Everyone will be able to get on the air! See how many different kids you can contact. We'll keep a log, and every kid who gets on the air will get a certificate.

Refreshments will be served, and this event is free of charge.

Contact tngahams@frrl.org to obtain address and directions.

We hope to see you there!

You are invited to ...
The FRRL Winter Banquet

Where: FISHERMAN'S INN RESTURANT
Route 47 and Main Street
Elburn, Illinois

When: SATURDAY, 21 JANUARY, 2006
Featuring music by the 16-piece Wayne Cook Orchestra

Cocktails and Conversation: 5:30 PM
Dinner Served at: 7:00 PM
Music from: 8:00 – 11:30 PM

Menu: There are four selections for the dinner with prices that includes the service gratuity and tax:

- # Prime Rib Dinner - \$35.00
- # Chicken Kiev - \$33.00
- # Vegetarian Lasagna and Salad - \$32.00
- # Fisherman's Inn Rainbow Trout - \$31.00

Please feel free to invite your friends and neighbors for an enjoyable evening of FRRL camaraderie and music!

Tickets are available by contacting Kermit Carlson W9XA at (630) 879-0983 or at the December meeting.



Bill Erickson HF Challenge Scores—October

Here are the latest standings received for the HF Challenge, as of October 15. Remember to email your updates to challenge@frrl.org by the 15th of each month.

Ragchew Class	States/Provinces	DX Countries	Total
AL9A	-	-	46
AH6EZ	-	-	34
K9COE	-	-	34
NA9A	-	-	18
N9CHA	-	-	9
W9DTR			7
K9FE	-	-	1

Operator Class	States/ Provinces	DX Countries	Total
W4CEO	48/8	119	175
K9JE	46/10	115	171
K9MMS	50/10	79	139
W9DTR	40/8	91	139
K9FBI	50/8	54	112
N9CHA	23/3	25	51

Limited Class	States/ Provinces	DX Countries	Total
KB9YSI	49/5	33	88
K9COE	18/3	27	48

QRO Class	States/ Provinces	DX Countries	Total
NA9A	47/9	173	229
AH6EZ	50/12	166	228
AL9A	50/12	161	223
WOHED	50/7	77	134
K9FE	15/0	4	19

FRRL Club Nets

The regular weekly FRRL 2 Meter Net takes place every Tuesday evening at 7:30 pm local time, except on meeting nights, on the W9CEQ repeater, 147.210 MHz. +600 KHz, 103.5 access tone. The Next Gen Hams Nets take place on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings of each month at 8:00 pm local time on the NIARC repeater, W9ZGP—146.580 MHz., +1.08 MHz. (147.660).

The Fox River Radio League
and
The Next Gen Hams

Invite you to participate in

A Quiz Show!

SATURDAY, 29 JANUARY, 2006, 4—7 pm
At the Prisco Community Center
150 W. Illinois Ave.
Aurora, Illinois

Pizza and Soft Drinks will be served

Two teams will compete for prizes, kids vs. parents
All questions will be related to Ham Radio

All kids under age 18 are welcome to be on the team. Each child must have an adult sponsor on the parents' team.

Family and Friends are welcome! Please feel free to invite your friends and neighbors for an enjoyable evening quiz show excitement!

Sign-up is required!

Contact tngams@frri.org to sign up or for more information

About the FRRL

The Fox River Radio League, Inc., is a general interest amateur radio club serving the central Fox River Valley area. Records indicate the club has been in existence since at least 1924, and has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, and a 501©(3) tax exempt organization as specified in IRS Statutes.

We sponsor training classes for new hams,

license examination sessions, an annual hamfest, and participate in various public service events. If you have a specialized amateur radio interest, chances are you can share it with one or more of our club members.

The Fox River Radio League meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at the Prisco Community Center in Aurora, Illinois. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM. After conducting business, coffee and

snacks are served while we socialize. Following the break, a program of interest will be presented. All persons interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Families are welcome. *We hope to see you there!*



License Exams

The Fox River Radio League, Inc., in conjunction with the ARRL VEC, conducts amateur examinations on the 3rd Tuesday of January, March, May, September and November in the basement of the Prisco Community Center, 150 W. Illinois Street, (South East corner of Lake and Illinois) in Aurora, IL. at 7:30 PM. No advance registration is required, but please be sure to

bring your license (if you have one) and a photocopy of it, original CSCES and a photocopy (if needed), some form of photo identification, and the fee of \$14.00. (The FRRL receives no portion of this fee.)

The next exam session is scheduled for January 17, 2006, at the Prisco Community Center in Aurora, IL. At 7:30 pm

FRRL Dues

Annual dues are payable no later than the January Club Meeting each year. Persons joining during the year will have their first year's dues prorated to the nearest yearly quarter.

Regular dues are \$20.00 a year, Senior Citizen dues are \$12.00. Family dues are \$30.00. You can also help support the FRRL Repeaters by joining as a combined Club/ Repeater member for \$30.00. Repeater dues are \$20.00.

Check with the Treasurer for details and additional dues rates.

Nets

Net Name	Freq.	Day	Time
FRRL	147.210	Tuesday	7:30 PM Local
10-10 CW	28.150	Monday	8:00 PM Local
10-10 SSB	28.720	Monday	8:30 PM Local

FRRL CLUB MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE PRISCO COMMUNITY CENTER AT 150 WEST ILLINOIS STREET IN AURORA. PLEASE CHECK THE FRRL WEB SITE FOR A MAP TO THE MEETING LOCATION .
<http://www.frri.org>

Fox River Radio League

Founded 1924

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Web Site:

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Jack Ekstrom, K9JE

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FRRL Event Calendar

January, 2006

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Handy Web Links

FRRL Web Site	http://www.frri.org/
ARRL Main Site	http://www.arrl.org/
ARRL Central Div. Site	http://www.central.arrl.org/
ARRL IL Section Site	http://www.central.arrl.org/illinois.html
ARRL IL Section News	http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=IL
ARRL Contest Page	http://www.arrl.org/contests/
Contest Calendar	http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/
Callsign Lookup (QRZ)	http://www.qrz.com/
Vanity Callsign Info	http://www.vanityhq.com/
IRLP Main Page	http://www.irlp.net/
AMSAT	http://www.amsat.org/
FCC Services	http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur
SMC Contest Club	http://www.w9smc.com/

ArcOver FRRL Newsletter

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The ArcOver is published monthly by the Fox River Radio League, Inc. Articles and letters are always welcome. The normal deadline for material is six days prior to the end of the previous month. Articles can be sent by email to arcover@frri.org or via U.S. Mail. Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines.

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The opinions expressed in the ArcOver are strictly those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the FRRL, Inc. or its sponsors.

Local Area Repeaters/Nets

W9CEQ—147.210 Mhz. *
 +600 KHz, 103.5 access tone
 Owned by FRRL

W9CEQ—444.300 Mhz. IRLP Node # 4850
 +5 Mhz, 114.8 access tone
 Owned by FRRL

W9ZGP—146.580 Mhz. **
 +1.08 Mhz (147.660)
 Owned by NIARC

KC9OEM—145.470 Mhz.
 -600 KHz, 103.5 access tone
 Owned by Kane County OEM

W9XA — 224.40 Mhz, +5 Mhz, IRLP Node #4846
 — **443.65 Mhz, +5 Mhz**
 — **1292.00 Mhz, -20 Mhz (1272.00)**

- Weekly FRRL Net—Tues. Eve. at 7:30 pm local time on the FRRL 2 Meter repeater.
- Next Gen Youth Ham Net—2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. On the NIARC repeater.
- KC OEM Amateur Net— Wed. Eves, 7:00 pm on the KCOEM repeater.

It's a Pixie! Here is a photo of a Pixie 2 QRPP rig. This battery powered two-transistor 40 meter Transceiver (!) puts out about 750 milliwatts.



Here is a stack of Heathkit DX-40s. The photo was taken at AH6EZ's shack during a joint restoration project. The rigs belong to (from bottom) Dick, AH6EZ, Kirt, KC9CBY, and Bill, KB9YSI.

To the right of the bottom rig is Dick's Heathkit VFO. The other two radios are crystal-controlled.

All three of these rigs are in working order. The top rig has some visible mods to the front panel — an extra standby switch and mic connector have been added.

There is at least one more DX-40 in the Club (that we know of). It's owned by W9AX. If you are a DX-40 owner let us know—perhaps we can get them all together for a portrait.