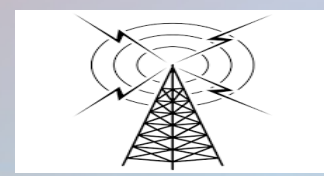


OFF THE AIR



Please visit us online at www.GrantARC.com

The GCARC is an ARRL affiliated club

“Off The Air”

is the official publication of the
Grant County Amateur Radio Club

2021 Officers

President – Mitch Miller - W9DDX
 mitchmiller55@gmail.com
 Vice President – Kevin Hicks - KC9MWQ
 Kevin@kc9mwq.com
 Secretary – L. B. Nickerson – K9NQW
 k9nqw@yahoo.com
 Treasurer –
 Trustee – Kevin McNeely – KB9CRA
 kb9cra@indy.rr.com
 Newsletter Editor – L. B. Nickerson – K9NQW
 k9nqw@yahoo.com

<http://www.grantarc.org>

Member – Indiana Radio Club Council

ARRL Indiana Section Staff:

Section Manager: Jimmy Merry – KC9PRX
 Section Emergency Coordinator: James Moehring - KB9WWM
 State Government Liason – Dave Spoelstra - N9KT
 Official Observer Coordinator: Open
 Section Traffic Manager: Brian Jenks – W9BGJ
 Public Information Coordinator – Barry Palencer – KC9WMS
 Section Youth Coordinator – Andrew Murrey – N9AWM
 Technical Coordinator – Thomas Busch – WB8WOR
 Affiliated Club Coordinator – Jimmy Merry – KC9RPX

<http://www.inarrl.org>

Section Jobs Description

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/>

From the President

Hello Members;
 Well once again here we are in December trying to stay safe with this Covid-19 and I want to wish everybody a safe Happy Holidays. We had Elections (Dec 15th on the air), everybody stayed the same except for Steve Shepler – WA9RVM who is the Treasurer and we're going to have to replace him, so anybody that can fill that job please let me know or Nick Nickerson. I did get on the ARRL site and changed the testing. We're going to start going mobile in January so we can test just about anywhere. Jeff Marsee – KD9CQQ is going to be the head VEC and I'm gonna be his associate. Hoping that the vaccine gets out pretty quick for all of us so we can get back to having club meetings and getting back into trying to get more members into the club. That's the number one goal for 2021. I know it's been tough on all of us, but I want to try. Here's Wishing everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

From your Club President
Mitch Miller - W9DDX

Grant County ARC Nets

What: 2 Meter Net
When: Every Sunday Evening
Time: 2030 hrs Local Time
Freq: 146.790- (PL 141.3)
Alternate Freq: 147.195+ (PL 141.3)

What: DMR Net – Indiana Crossroads Net
When: Every Monday Night
Time: 2000 hrs Local Time
Freq: 442.750+ (Color Code 1)

What: Dstar Net – Indiana Statewide Dstar Net
When: Every Thursday Evening
Time: 2000 hrs Local Time
Freq: 443.400+ {(W9EBN) (Reflector 24b)}



The American Radio Relay League
 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111
 or phone (860)594-0200
 or fax (860)594-0303



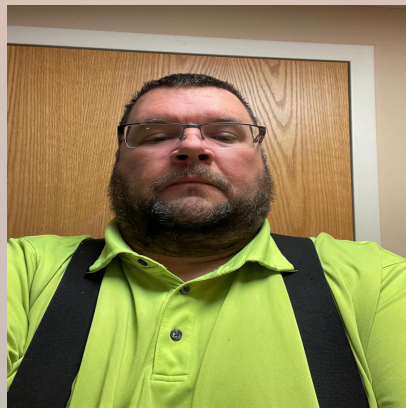
Meet the 2021 Officers

President: Mitch Miller - W9DDX



Hello, my name is Mitch Miller – W9DDX, I am the President of the Grant County Amateur Radio Club in Marion, Indiana. As a kid I messed around with 11 meters or CB for years. I enjoyed it so much that I decided to test to become an Amateur Radio Operator. I am now an Extra and a VE tester and I enjoy Amateur Radio a lot.

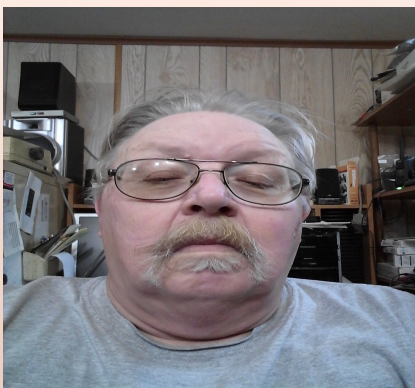
Vice President: Kevin Hicks - KC9MWQ



My name is Kevin Hicks – KC9MWQ. I have been a licensed radio operator since 2008. I am currently a technician looking to upgrade to General this year. I enjoy running the weekly net and Skywarn.

Meet the 2021 Officers

Secretary – Nick Nickerson - K9NQW



I first became licensed in 1979 while stationed in Seoul, Korea in the US Army. I was working at the Military Affiliated Radio System (MARS) in Seoul. Since I was trained as a Radio Teletype Operator with Morse Code, the US Army wanted to test the MARS system out to see how reliable it was for sending messages in case of an emergency. I spent 30 days for 1 hour each day sending CW messages to Japan and Okinawa. A friend of mine suggested that I take the Novice License test, which I did and was able to get my first call as KA6NQW. Since then I have been involved in many running marathons and bicycle ride events in the Indianapolis area. Since working the MARS system I promised myself that I would use the hobby to do community work. I have been involved with the Grant County Amateur Radio Club for several years. I have been the Secretary of the club for the last two years. I also publish the Bi-Monthly newsletter "Off The Air".

Trustee – Kevin McNeely - KB9CRA



I became the trustee somewhere around 1991 and for about a year before that I was learning the job in maintaining the repeater and the clubs equipment from Jay Shoup (N9IVQ) then later he was unable to take the appointed trustee position which is how I ended up with the task. I believe the previous trustee that I replaced was Don Hoke (AG9I) which at that time Jerry Richards (KA9DLJ) help maintained the club's repeater. I've seen the club have it's up and downs over the years and one thing that I feel is a asset to a growing club is having a good working repeater in which I'm wanting to see it thru again.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Let me start out by saying that I hope that the holidays were enjoyable in this time of The Covid-19 pandemic.

2021 is going to be a New Year for the club. I want to congratulate the Officers on their nominations and confirmation to the Offices that they are holding. The Officers for the 2021 year are as follows:

President – Mitch Miller – W9DDX

Vice President – Kevin Hicks – KC9MQW

Secretary – Nick Nickerson – K9NQW

Trustee – Kevin McNeely – KB9CRA

As of right now we do not have a Treasurer. Steve Shepler – WA9RVM is stepping down because of health reasons. We would like to thank Steve for his years of service as Treasurer. We are currently looking for someone in the club to step up for this position. This person would also be on the the North Central Indiana Hamfest Committee.

Last year (2020) we had 24 paid members in the club. That is only 14% of the total number of licensed Amateur Radio Operators in Grant County. I am asking everyone to promote the club and the activities that we do. Each one of us has to promote the club and try to get our membership numbers up . We also have to promote Special Events in Public to show the public who we are and what we do as Amateur Radio Operators. This means having stations set up at festivals that take place around the county. Here is a list of the festivals that I have come up with so far. If I have missed any please let me know.

2021 Grant County Festivals

<u>DATE</u>	<u>Festival Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
06-13 to 19	Grant County Fair	Marion, IN
08-12 to 14	Van Buren PopCorn Festival	Van Buren, IN
09-04	Fly In / Cruise IN	Marion, IN
09-13 to 14	Matthews Cover Bridge Festival	Matthews, IN
09-24 to 26	James Dean Festival	Fairmount, IN

If we were to set up Special Event Stations at these events I do believe that we could get more people involved in Amateur Radio. But we would need the support of the club and the members to operate these events successfully.

I have done some research and have gotten emails for about 33% of the Grant County Amateur Radio Operators. I will be composing an email on why they should join the club and will be sending it out in the month of January. Hopefully this will spark some interest in the club.

The last thing I want to touch on is the Newsletter “OFF THE AIR”. As I have said before this newsletter is for the club. I am asking for input on anything of interest that has to do with Amateur Radio. If you know of anyone or any subject that might be of interest for the newsletter I would like to know about it. You can email me at k9nqw@yahoo.com To submit your ideas and thoughts.

Again I hope you and your family have a Happy New Year. Be safe in everything you do.

L. B. Nickerson - K9NQW
Editor

ARECIBO INSTRUMENT PLATFORM FALLS INTO DISH

The 900-ton instrument platform of the 305-meter radio telescope at Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico fell some 400 feet Tuesday morning, crashing into the huge, already-damaged dish below. The National Science Foundation (NSF) reported in a December 1 Tweet. “No injuries were reported,” NSF said, adding that it is still assessing the situation. “Our top priority is maintaining safety.” The calamity not only was a final and fatal blow for the observatory but for the people of Puerto Rico.

To read the full story, go to

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arecibo-observatory-instrument-platform-falls-into-iconic-dish>

STAY ON TOP OF INTERNATIONAL MAIL RESTRICTIONS

For those of us that use “snail mail” to exchange international QSL cards, you can check the latest international mail restrictions by pointing your browser to <http://about.usps.com/newsroom/service-alerts/international/welcome.htm>.

CONTEST UNIVERSITY HOSTING “PROPAGATION SUMMIT”

Contest University will be hosting “The 2021 Propagation Summit” Sponsored by DX Engineering and Icom Amercia. The Summit will take place on Saturday, January 23, 2021, from 11 AM – 3 PM (all times are EST) via Zoom Webinar. There are 4 one-hour presentations scheduled covering propagation forecasts for Cycle 25, and other interesting topics, including a refresher on Ionospheric Propagation. To make it even more attractive, there will be a drawing for an Icom IC-705, but you must be present via Zoom to win.

Registration is open now at <https://www.contestuniversity.com/>

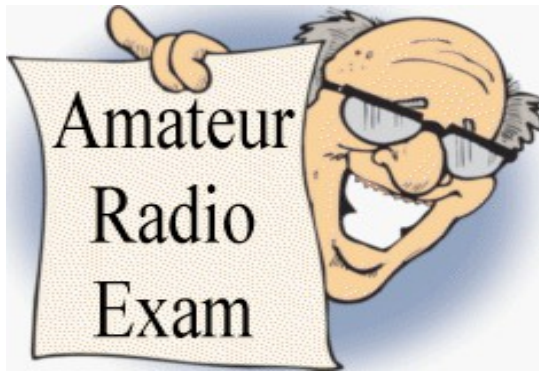
FCC TO REQUIRE EMAIL ADDRESSES ON APPLICATIONS

Amateur radio licensees and candidates will have to provide the FCC with an email address on applications, effective sometime in mid-2021. If no email address is included, the FCC may dismiss the application as defective.

The FCC is fully transitioning to electronic correspondence and will no longer print or provide wireless licensees with hard-copy authorizations or registrations by mail.

For the complete story, point your browser to

<http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-to-require-email-addresses-on-applications>



01/09/2021

Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio Club W9JP
Time: 12:00 PM (**No Walk-ins / Register Or Call Ahead**)

Contact: James K Rinehart
(317) 721-1458

Email: k9ru@arrl.net

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility
4020 Georgetown Road
Indianapolis, IN 46218-2169

01/25/2021

Sponsor: Marshallto Cty Amt Radio Club
Time: 8:00 PM (**Walk-ins Allowed**)

Contact:
(574) 216-6060

Email:

VEC: W5YI VEC

Location: Cornerstone Church of Argos
11525 State Road 10
Argos, IN 46501-9519

01/16/2021

Sponsor: Central Indiana ARA
Time: 10:30 AM (**No Walk-ins / Register Or Call Ahead**)

Contact: Joe March
(317) 224-9433

Email: jmarch54@att.net

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Hamilton Cty Erem OPS Center
18100 Cumberland Road
Sherriff's Campus Training Room
CALL AHEAD
Noblesville, IN 46060-1624

01/26/2021

Sponsor: Grant County ARC
Time: 5:00 PM (**No Walk-ins / Register or Call Ahead**)

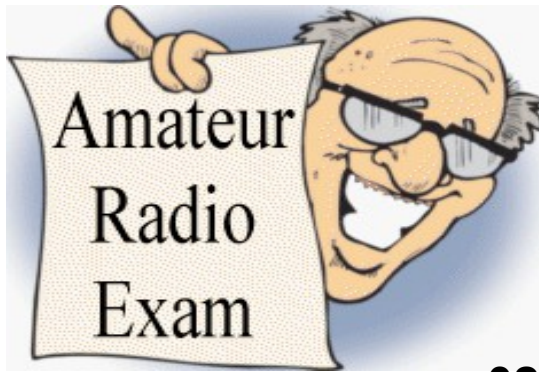
Contact: Mitch Miller
(765) 661-5893
Email: mitchmiller55@gmail.com
Or

Contact: Jeff Marsee
(765) 998-2728
Email: kd9cqq@gmail.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: **To Be Announced**
Ask When You Schedule Your Test

Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, please verify with your VE team that the exam session is being held.





02/13/2021

Sponsor: Indianapolis RC

Time: 12:00 PM (**No Walk-ins / Call Ahead**)

Contact: James K. Rinehart
(317) 721-1458

Email: k9ru@arrl.net

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility
4020 Georgetown Road
Indianapolis, IN 46254-2407

02/22/2021

Sponsor: Marshallto Cty Amateur Radio Club

Time: 8:00 PM (Walk-ins Allowed)

Contact:
(574) 216-6080

Email:

VEC: W5YI VEC

Location: Cornerstone Church of Argos
11525 State Road 10
Argos, IN 46501-9616

02/23/2021

Sponsor: Grant County ARC

Time: 5:00 PM (**No Walk-ins / Register or Call Ahead**)

Contact: Mitch Miller
(765) 661-5893

Email: mitchmiller55@gmail.com
Or

Contact: Jeff Marsee
(765) 998-2728

Email: kd9cqq@gmail.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: **To Be Announced**

Ask when you schedule your test

Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, please verify with your VE team that the exam session is being held.





There is only 1 hamfest within a 100 mile radius of Marion, IN that was suppose to take place in January and February of 2021 has been canceled.

02/26/2021 CANCELED – LaPorte County Amateur Radio Hamfest

**** Membership Dues ****

2021 membership dues are now due. You can send your check or money order to:

L. B. Nickerson
517 North Hendricks Ave.
Marion, IN 46952

Form is on line at: grantarc.org

Make your check or money order out to:
GCARC

Dues:

Full Annual Membership: \$20.00 per person
Family Annual Membership: Full membership + \$5.00 per person, maximum of \$30.00/household
Associate Membership: \$10.00 per person
Partial-Year Membership: After July 1st, Dues are reduced to ½ the normal rate for Full or Associate Membership.



Grant County Amateur Radio Club

Membership Application

Please complete this form and return it with your dues. Make all checks or money orders payable to **GCARC**. Send the printed form with your dues to the Acting Treasurer at the address below. You may also return this application at one of the club's meetings. Please either mail or bring this application and dues to the next meeting.

Normally meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Marion Public Library located at 600 South Washington Street, Marion, IN 46953. But because of COVID-19 the Library has suspended all activities until further notice.

Mailing Address:

L. B. Nickerson
517 North Hendricks Ave
Marion, IN 46952

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

Address: _____

Street Address or Post Office Box

Street Address Line 2

City: _____ State: _____ ZipCode: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Current ARRL Member? Yes _____ No _____

Dues:

- Full Annual Membership: \$20.00 per person.
- Family Annual Membership: Full membership + \$5.00 per person, maximum of \$30.00 per household
- Associate Membership: \$10.00 per person. Limitations on Associate Membership:
 1. No voting privileges
 2. Cannot hold Office
- Partial-Year Membership: After July 1st dues are reduced to ½ the normal rate for Full or Associate Membership.

Please make sure you sign the form.

Signature: _____

I agree to abide by and support the Constitution and ByLaws of the Grant County Amateur Radio Club.



Contesting



Below is a list for contesting. This list is from the ARRL.org webpage

January 2021

Straight Key Night

Kid's Day (Jan & Jun)

RTTY Roundup

January VHF Contest

Date: 01

Date: 02

Date: 02-03

Date: 16-18

February 2021

School Club Roundup

(Winter / Spring Term)

DX Contest – CW

Date: 08-12

Date: 20-21

Rules can be found at www.arrl.org/contest

Also for other contest that are available go to the above webpage and look under Contest Corral.

More News of Interest in Amateur Radio

[Discover all you can do with your amateur radio license in On the Air magazine!](#)

On the Air magazine is the newest ARRL member benefit to help new licensees and beginner-to-intermediate radio communicators navigate the world of amateur radio. Delivered six times a year, the magazine will present articles, how-to's and tips for selecting equipment, building projects, getting involved in emergency communications as well as spotlighting the experiences of people using radio to serve their communities, and those using it for enjoyment.

Whether you just passed your Technician exam or have been licensed for years but never got around to making contacts or starting a project, *On the Air* can help take your interest in radio to the next level with clear, useful information.

For information: <http://www.arrl.org/on-the-air-magazine>



Special Event Stations



<u>Date</u>	<u>Name of Special Event</u>	<u>Webpage</u>
01/01 to 01/10/21	Battle of Princeton	https://www.w2zq.com
01/02 to 01/31/21	15 th Annual Straight Key Month	www.skccgroup.com/k3y
01/08 to 01/09/21	206 th Anniversary of The Battle of New Orleans	www.qrz.com/db/w5ir
01/09 to 01/10/21	120 th Anniversary of the Lucas Gusher	https://www.qsl.net/w5rin
01/09 to 02/14/21	2021 Daytona 500/Speedweeks	www.n4dab.com
01/15 to 02/15/21	Alaska "RST" QSO Party	www.qrz.comdb/k7ice
01/16/21	Woronoco Heights Outdoor Adventure/SCOTA	
01/23/21	1 st Annual Lone Star Frozen POTA Event	www.parksontheair.com
01/23 to 01/25/21	California Discovery of Gold	edcarc.net
02/01 to 02/28/21	JYI Special Event Memorial Station 2021	www.n9ses.com/?page_id=18
02/06 to 02/27/21	100 th Anniversary	www.qsl.net/sccara
02/06/21	Ground Hog Day Special Event	www.punxyclub.com
02/06 to 02/07/21	Shuttle Columbia Special Event	https://w5nac.com
02/13/21	George Washington's Birthday at his Boyhood Home, Ferry Farm VA	https://www.ws4va.org
02/13 to 02/14/21	Geroge Washington's Birthday at Mount Vernon	k4us@mvarc.org

More info on these Special Events Stations go to: http://www.arrl.org/special_events/

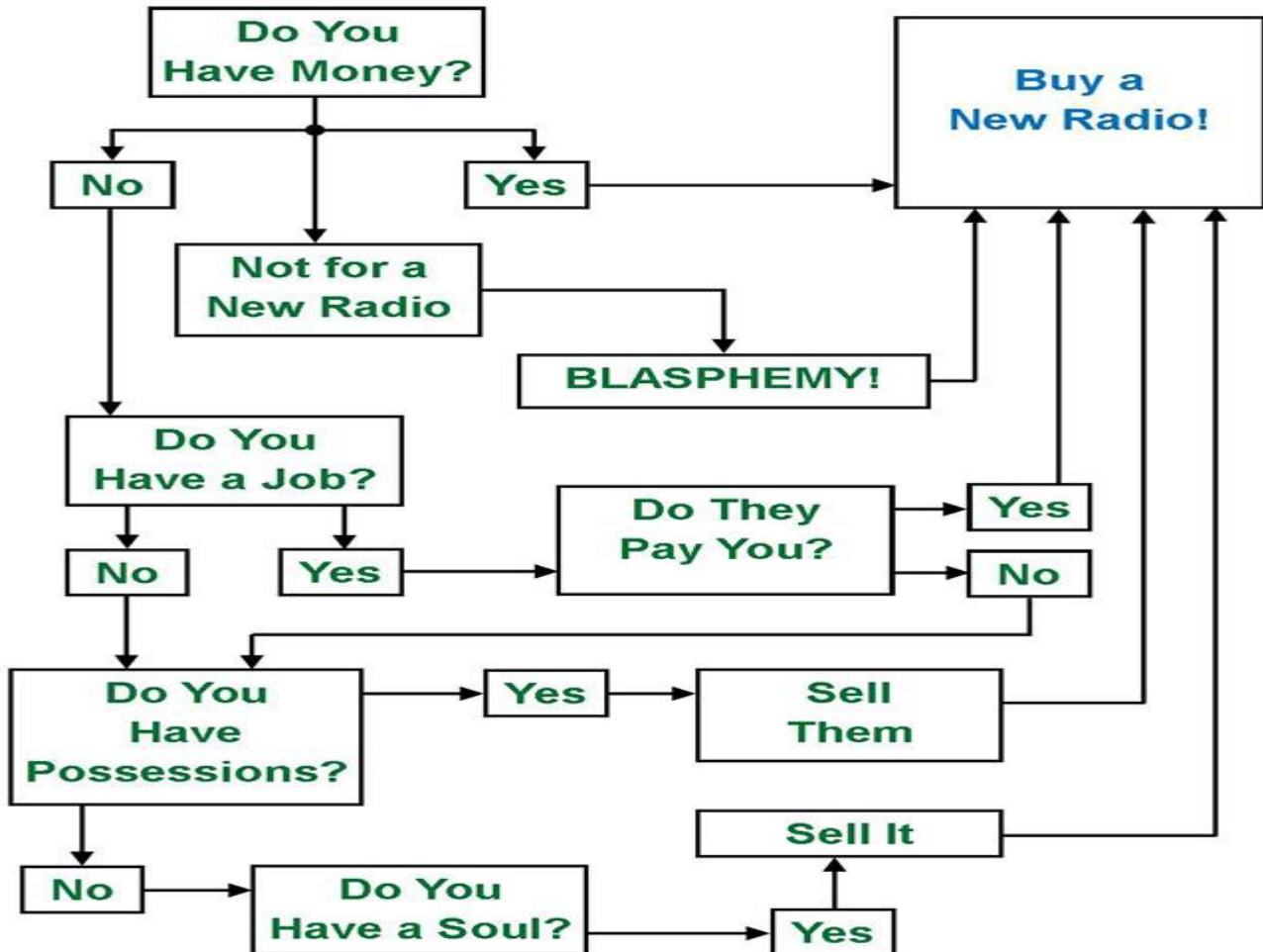


Special Event Stations



<u>Date</u>	<u>Name of Special Event</u>	<u>Webpage</u>
02/13 to 02/21/21	I Love Pluto Special Event	www.nadxa.com
02/13 to 02/15/21	Ice-olation Station W0JH	www.radioham.org
02/20 to 02/22/21	George Washington's Birthday	cbn.homestead.com/WS7G.HTML
02/27/21	17 th Annual "Freeze Your Keys" Winter Operating Event	www.qrz.com/db/w0ebb

More info on these Special Events Stations go to: http://www.arrl.org/special_events/



January 2021

Grant County Amateur Radio Club

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Happy New Year	2 Blackford's Cnty Amateur Radio Club Breakfast 8:30 am Richards, Hartford City
3 2 meter weekly net 8:30 PM Net Control KB9RAX	4 DMR Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control KC9OYW	5	6	7 Indiana D-Star Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control K9NQW	8	9 Monthly Breakfast Meeting 8:30AM Kammy's Kafe
10 2 meter weekly net 8:30 PM Net Control W9DDX	11 DMR Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control KC9OYW	12	13	14 Indiana D-Star Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control K9NQW	15	16
17 2 meter weekly net 8:30 PM Net Control KC9QCJ	18 DMR Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control W9DDX	19	20	21 Indiana D-Star Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control KA9OPL	22	23
24 2 meter weekly net 8:30 PM Net Control K9NQW	25 DMR Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control K9NQW	26 GCARC Meeting 6:30 PM Place to be Announced Later	27	28 Indiana D-Star Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control KA9OPL	29	30
31 2 meter weekly net 8:30 PM Net Control K9NQW						

February 2021

Grant County Amateur Radio Club

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	DMR Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control KC9OYW			Indiana D-Star Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control K9NQW		Blackford's Cnty Amateur Radio Club Breakfast 8:30 am Richards, Hartford City
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
2 meter weekly net 8:30 PM Net Control KB9RAX	DMR Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control KC9OYW			Indiana D-Star Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control K9NQW		Monthly Breakfast Meeting 8:30AM Kammy's Kafe
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2 meter weekly net 8:30 PM Net Control W9DDX	DMR Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control W9DDX			Indiana D-Star Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control KA9OPL		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
2 meter weekly net 8:30 PM Net Control KC9QCJ	DMR Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control K9NQW	GCARC Meeting 6:30 PM Place to be Announced Later		Indiana D-Star Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control KA9OPL		
28						
2 meter weekly net 8:30 PM Net Control K9NQW						

Ham Radio Trader

This is a new section of the newsletter. Items on this page are for sale by hams. The following rules will apply for items to be listed on this page.

1. All items must be Amateur Radio related

Examples: Ham radio gear and computer items.

2. Ads must be submitted by the following deadlines.

For the July/August Newsletter – June 15th

For the September/October Newsletter – August 15th

For the November/December Newsletter – October 15th

Ads must have the following information.

Item description, picture of item in jpg form, selling price, and email of seller.

You can send your ad to k9nqw@arrl.net

For Sale



MFJ-989C Antenna Tuner
3KW MFJ-989C Versa Tuner V
Frequency Range: 1.8 to 30 Mhz
Cross-needle SWR/Power Meter
Has forward power ranges 200
To 2,000 watt. Back Panel Outputs:
2 Coaxial Cables, 1 wire or balanced
Line and 1 Dummy Load
Size: 10 ¾ x 4 ½ x 15 inches
Asking: \$125.00
Contact: Nick at k9nqw@yahoo.com



Icom IC-2720H Transceiver
Icom IC-2720H VHF/UHF
Transceiver: VHF-144-148 MHz
UHF-440-450 MHz
Receiver Frequency Coverage:
Left side: 118-550 Mhz,
Right side: 118-174, 375-850, 910-999.99 MHz
(less Cellular)
Mode: FM, AM Memory Channels: 212
Output Power: VHF: 50W, 15W, 5W
UHF: 35W, 15W, 5W
Power output is selectable
Power Supply Requirement: 13.8V DC
Asking: \$220.00
Contact: Nick at k9nqw@yahoo.com