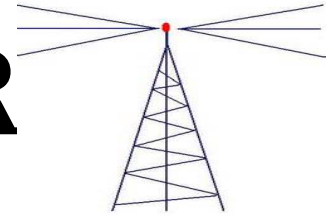


OFF THE AIR



Please visit us online at: www.GrantARC.com

“Off The Air”

Is the official publication of the
Grant County Amateur Radio Club

2017 OFFICERS

President: Scott Shepler - KC9RAX
Vice President: Chris Paul - KC9QZE
Secretary Sarah Andrews - KC9RNR
Treasurer Steve Shepler – WA9RVM
Trustee Kevin McNeely – KB9CRA
Newsletter Editor L.B. Nickerson - K9NQW

<http://www.grantarc.org>
Member – Indiana Radio Club Council

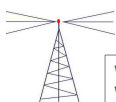
The GCARC is an ARRL affiliated club.
If you are not currently a member of ARRL,
We strongly encourage you to consider joining.

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

Indiana Section Staff:

Section Manager Brent Walls - N9BA
Section Emergency Coordinator Tony Stokes - KU9V
Section Government Liaison Steven Jones - W9SMJ
Official Observer Coordinator Lou Everett Sr - WA5LOU
Section Traffic Manager Brian Jenks - W9BGJ
Public Information Coordinator Barry Palencer - KC9WMS
Section Youth Coordinator Andrew Murrey - N9AWM
Technical Coordinator Mark Westermeier - N9OZ
Affiliated Club Coordinator James Merry - KC9RPX

[Http://www.inarrl.org](http://www.inarrl.org)
Section Jobs Description
[Http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/)



Grant County ARC Nets

What: 2 Meter Net and Swap Net
When: Every Sunday Evening
Time: 2100 hrs Local Time
Freq: 147.790- (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 1st and 3rd Thursday Evening
Time: 1930 hrs Local Time
Freq: 443.400+ {(W9EBN) (Reflector 24b)}

From the Editor – Nick K9NQW

This months newsletter has articles written
by Pat Hughes of the News Times in Hartford City,
IN. and in The SEGway News, which serves South
East Grant County.

I would like to thank both newspapers for getting the
news out about the Field Day event. Hopefully this
will spark some interest in the hobby and bring more
people into the hobby.

The need for volunteers for events in Indianapolis
are still needed. If you are interested in volunteering
for any of these events please contact Mike Palmer
– N9FEB at the website listed below.

Mike Palmer – N9FEB is the coordinator for a lot of
these events and with an aging ham population is in
constant need of volunteers for these events. You
can go to the website www.IndyHams.org for more
information.

2017 EVENTS NEEDING HAM RADIO SUPPORT

This year, we have:

Sat Oct 7 American Diabetes Tour-de-Cure Bike Ride
Sat Oct 7 Indpls Half Marathon in Lawrence
Sat Nov 4 Indianapolis Monumental Marathon

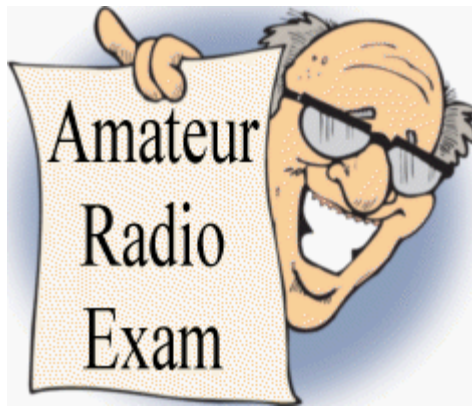
Please contact Mike Palmer at N9FEB@comcast.net

****New Grant County Net****

What: 10 Meter Net
When: August 2
Time: 2000 hrs Local Time
Freq: 28.430 MHz

We are going to start this net up again.

Hope to see you there.



**** Hamfest ****

Indianapolis Hamfest

Date: 07/07 and 08/2017

Locations: Marion County Fairgrounds
7300 East Troy Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46201

Website: <http://indyhamfest.com>

Sponsor: Indianapolis Amateur Radio Association

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In Freq: 146.160 or 146.760

Contact: Bill Atkin K9YDO

P O Box 1672

Noblesville, IN 46061

Phone: 317-829-6868

Email: wtakin@gmail.com

NOTE: This is a 2 day event

GARS Germantown Hamfest

Date: 07/08/2017

Locations: TriAngle Station

100 TriAngle Court

Germantown, OH 45327

Website: <http://GARSohio.org>

Sponsor: Germantown Amateur Radio Society (GARS)

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In Freq: 443.1875 (PL 123.0)

Contact: Phil tomas, W8RMJ

123 North Main Street

Germantown, OH 45327

Phone: 937-895-4021

Email: w8rmj@arrl.net

07/19/2017

Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club

Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins Allowed)

Contact: Stephen M Riley

(765) 425-4627

Email: smriley@hughes.net

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Madison County EOC

200 Delaware Street

Anderson, IN 46016-2238

07/22/2017

Sponsor: Clinton County ARC

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Michael V. Meiers

(765) 654-4814

Email: republic48@yahoo.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Frankfort Community

Public Library

208 West Clinton Street

Frankford, IN 46041-1811

07/25/2017

Sponsor: Grant County ARC

Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins)

Contact: James C. Davis

(765) 664-9848

Email: davis@comteck.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Marion Public Library

600 South Washington Street

Marion, IN 46952-9999

07/29/2017

Sponsor: Well County Radio Club

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Rick Allen Velasquez

(765) 348-9322

Email: ab9hp@yahoo.com

Location: Annex Building

223 W. Washington St

Bluffton, IN 46714-1996

**** ALL VEC: ARRL/VEC ****

Unless noted otherwise

FOR MORE INFO ON ARRL/VEC

EMAIL: vec@arrl.org

07/29/2017

Sponsor: Whitley County ARC, Inc.

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Roger L. McEntarfer

(260) 503-9008

Email: n9qcl@arrl.net

VEC: W5YI VEC

Location: Peabody Library

1160 E State Road 205

Lower Level

Community rooms A & B

Columbia City, IN 46725-2312

07/12/2017

Sponsor: WD9BSA Group

Time: 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins)

Contact: Brian J. Murrey

(317) 985-1899

Email: kb9bvn@gmail.com

VEC: Laurel MD

Location: Golden-Burke Scout

Office

7125 Fall Creek Rd N

Indianapolis, IN 46256-3167

Pre-Register

08/16/2017

Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club

Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins Allowed)

Contact: Stephen M Riley

(765) 425-4627

Email: smriley@hughes.net

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Madison County EOC

200 Delaware Street

Anderson, IN 46016-2238

08/22/2017

Sponsor: Grant County ARC

Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins)

Contact: James C. Davis

(765) 664-9848

Email: davis@comteck.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Marion Public Library

600 South Washington Street

Marion, IN 46952-9999

****Membership Dues ****

2017 membership dues are now due. You can send your check or money order to:

Steve Shepler WA9RVM

Box 824

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/household
Associate Membership: \$10.00 per person.

**** Hamfest ****

Van Wert Hamfest

Date: 07/16/2017

Locations: Van Wert
County Fairgrounds
1055 South Washington St
(Route 127)

Van Wert, OH 45891

Website: <http://w8fy.org>

Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur
Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In Freq: 146.250 / .850

Contact: Stephen Kouts, WA8WKF
P O Box 347

Van Wert, OH 45891

Phone: 419-771-8152

Email: stevekouts145@gmail.com

Angola Hamfest

Date: 08/12/2017

Locations: Gateway Church
255 North Gerald Lett Avenue
Angola, IN 46703

Website: <http://11arc.org>

Sponsor: Land of Lakes Amateur
Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In Freq: 147.180+ (PL 131.8)

Contact: Sharon Brown, WD9DSP
905 West Parkway Drive

Pleasant Lake, IN 46779

Phone: 260-475-5897

Email: landoflakesarc@gmail.com

Owen Cnty ARA Hamfest

Date: 08/26/2017

Locations: Owen County
Fairgrounds
100 South East Street
Spencer, IN 47460

Website:

<http://www.owencountyara.org>

Sponsor: Owen County Amateur
Radio Association

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In Freq: 146.985 (PL 136.5)

Contact: Stuart Sherfick, W9HRZ
1346 West State Hwy 46

Spencer, IN 47460

Phone: 812-829-6562

Email: w9hrz@comcast.net



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Contesting



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

July

IARU HF World Championship Date: 08-09

August

222 MHz and Distance Contest Date: 05-06

10 GHz and Up – Round 1 Date: 19-20

Rookie Roundup – RTTY Date: 20

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

Blackford and Grant County ARC's Field Day 2017

The Blackford and Grant County ARC's got together this year for the ARRL's 2017 Field Day exercise that took place on June 24 thru June 25th. There were 23 hams that had shown up to visit or to operate. We had 3 stations working at one time or another. Total number of contacts that were made during the operation was 308. Of the 308 contacts made 17 were done by John Hill – K9RLO on 40 meters by Morse Code. A great big thanks goes out to Chad Sullivan – KC9OYW for arranging a place for the clubs to have Field Day, and for the use of his generator. I would also like to thank the Blackford County EMA for the use of the equipment that was used (Antennas, ropes for the antennas, chairs and tables).



Chad – KC9OYW, Steve – WA9RVM and Wayne – KC9QCJ using the antenna launcher



Chris – KC9QZE logging while Chad – KC9OYW is operating one of the stations.



Jewel Binegar – KC9DJY operating one of the stations while Linda Rai – KB9COJ looks on



John Hill – N9RLO operating CW on 40 mtrs

More pictures will be posted on the website in the next couple of weeks. The editor.

HAM operators celebrate local field day

The Grant County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC) will be joining with the Blackford County Amateur Radio Club (BARC) to work Field Day 2017 from 2pm on June 24th until 2pm on June 25th at the soccer complex by Blackford High School. The public is welcome to visit and watch amateur radio operators, often referred to as "Hams," attempt to make connections with other stations around the country and world using temporary antennas and emergency generators. Ham radio operators are commonly called up to assist with storm spotting, weather reporting, and emergency communications.

The ARRL Field Day is ham radio's open house. Every June, more than 35,000 hams throughout North America set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill, and service to our communities and our nation. It combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event. Field Day has been an annual event since 1933, and



remains the most popular event in ham radio.

For more information, including how to get involved in amateur radio, contact a

member from either of the clubs, visit the ARRL web site, or email Dr. Jeff Marsee, Blackford Club Secretary – KD9CQQ@gmail.com.



I would like to thank Wayne Williamson – KC9QCI for giving me the article so that I could include it in this newsletter.

This article was printed in the Hartford City News Times paper. I would like to thank Pat Hughes for the writing of this article and spreading the word about the Amateur Radio Community.

Lots of 'hams' provide delicious atmosphere

Amateur radio enthusiasts gather to connect with others near and far over the airwaves

By PAT HUGHES
News-Times Editor

Static. Static... "Can you hear me, this is..." "Static."

It's a hobby that has been described as one built on the thrill of the contact; that far off voice coming across the airwaves from the other side of the world.

Amateur radio enthusiasts say they are proud to be known as hams. And it was field day for a lot of hams this past weekend at the soccer complex next to Blackford High School. Members of the Blackford County Amateur Radio



John Hill, who goes by the call name, N9RLO, operates Morse Code (CW) at one of the radio stations during Amateur Radio Field Day this past weekend at the soccer fields located next to Blackford High School

Club (BARC) were joined by fellow amateur radio enthusiasts from both Grant and Delaware coun-

ties. With the use of emergency generators and the creation of temporary

antennas – wires attached to the towering light poles and strung across the soccer field – ham radio oper-

ators were on site for a 24-hour stretch of time in an effort to make connections with other stations around the country and world.

There are several versions of the story behind how amateur radio operators became known as 'hams', some dating back to the early 1900s, but Jeff Marsee, Blackford club secretary, said he believed it was in the 1940s, when radio operators were accused of "hamming it up," by some local folk.

However it came to be, if one happens to be introduced to an amateur radio operator, it's a given you just met a ham.

The ARRL Field day is an annual event that is held throughout North America. Each June, more than

See HAMS, page 2

HAMS

.....CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

35,000 hams across the nation set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service to communities and the nation.

When one is introduced to a ham, not only will you be told that person's name, but also their call name. In the ham world, that is their unique identification, one provided by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) upon licensing, which is required.

Marsee, who operates under the call name of KD9CQQ, noted that amateur radio is not just a hobby. Ham radio operators are often called up to assist in storm spotting, weather reporting and with emergency communications.

Wayne Williamson, whose call name

is KC9QCJ, noted that ham radio operators kept communications alive during the Earthquake in Haite. Ham radio operators were there during Hurricane Katrina, which hit the Gulf Coast of the US in August 2005 and was one of the five deadliest hurricanes in the history of the United States. Hams were also there during the wild fires out west.

In the emergency management world, when a disaster strikes, ham radios are pivotal to survival. Operators become community lifelines, with hams talking to each other and working with first responders to relay local conditions.

"We're prepared when no one else is," noted Chad Sullivan, also known as KC9OYW.

He noted that there were many forms

of communication in the radio world.. voice, morse code (CW), digital mode and teletype.

Williamson said the local ham operators are not so much into digital communications, however, noting most of the local hams operate on analog systems.

Hams are regulated through the FCC.

"All of us are FCC licensed," Williamson said. "You have to be to be able to be on the airwaves."

He added that there were quite a few regulations that hams had to follow while on the airwaves.

A person will never hear a ham radio operator curse while on air.

FCC is the only agency to provide call numbers for a ham radio operator. When a person dies, their call name becomes

known as 'silent keys.'

Loren Rinker, also known as KD9GWL, said that a person can request the call name of a silent key. The request is often made due to a personal relationship with the person who died, such as a family member.

He said he was a radio operator while serving in Vietnam, and that he has been involved as a ham ever since.

He said one of the goals of the ARRL Field Day was to hopefully recruit new members. The Blackford group meets at 7 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at the City Building in Hartford City, located at 700 N. Walnut St.

Anyone interested in learning more about becoming a ham, is welcome.

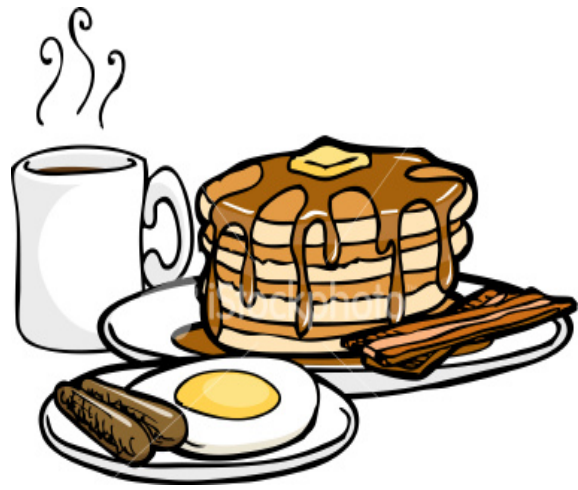
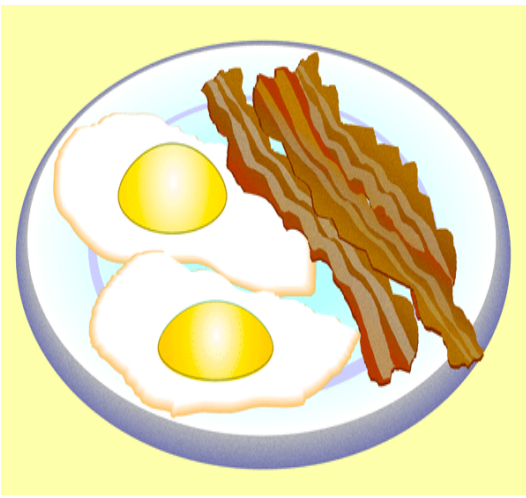
The first breakfast get together happened on June 10th at Gabriel's Restuarant in Marion. The breakfast get together is going to be a monthly gathering of the Grant County Amateur Radio and the Blackford Amateur Radio Club. We will be alternating between Marion and Hartford City. This month we met at Richard's in Hartford City. In August we will be meeting in Marion at Gabriel's. Hope to see you there.



From bottom Left side to bottom Right side: Jeff Marsee – KD9CQQ , Chris Paul – KC9QZE, Sarah Andrews – KC9RNR, Steve Shepler – WA9RVM, Wayne Williamson – KC9QCJ and Chad Sullivan - KC9QYW



Steve Shepler – WA9RVM and Wayne Williamson - KC9QCJ



Breakfast

Date: August 12, 2017

New Time: 8:30 AM

Place: Gabriel's Restaurant
1129 North Baldwin Ave
Marion, IN

NOTE: The breakfast meeting is held on the even number month in Marion. On the odd number month the breakfast meeting is held at Richards in Hartford City.

