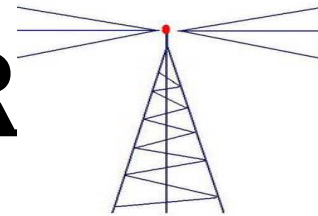


OFF THE AIR



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

On Sept 2nd the Grant County Amateur Radio Club was at the Marion Fly-In/Cruise-In at the Marion Airport. We had a HF, Dstar and 2 Mtr station set up for the event. Did not get much operating done but did have a good time socializing. Had several people stop by to see what we were doing and ask questions. Hopefully we will do it again next year and be better prepared for making contacts and sending out some QSL cards. I want to thank everyone that showed up and supported this mission.

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 is the last 3 events for this year:

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

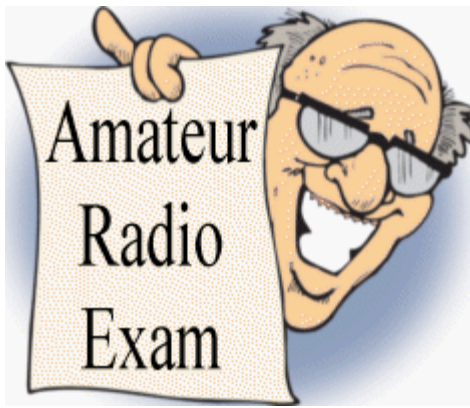
Please contact Mike Palmer at N9FEB@comcast.net

****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 ****

Greenfield Hamfest

Date: 09/16/2017

Locations: Hancock County
Fairgrounds
619 East Park Avenue
Greenfield, IN 46140

Website: <http://www.w9atg.org>

Sponsor: Hancock Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In Freq: 145.33

Contact: Jon Reeves, WB9CNE
1725 North Sugar Creek Trail
Greenfield, IN 46140
Phone: 317-649-2921

Email: wb9cne@arrl.net

Hoosier Lakes Radio Club Tailgate Hamfest

Date: 09/16/2017

Locations: Warsaw Missionary Church
1849 Springhill Road
Warsaw, IN 46580

Website:

<http://www.hoosierlakesradioclub.org>

Sponsor: Hoosier Lakes Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In Freq: 145.13- (OK 141.3)

Contact: Roy Crosier, AC9DN
800 East Arthur Street, Apt E3
Warsaw, IN 46580

Phone: 574-549-3273

Email: AC9DN@outlook.com

09/20/2017

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

09/26/2017

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

09/07/2017

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

10/18/2017

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

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

Unless noted otherwise

FOR MORE INFO ON ARRL/VEC

EMAIL: vec@arrl.org

10/24/2017

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

10/28/2017

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

10/28/2017

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
Frankfort, IN 46041-1811

****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 **

Bloomington Hamfest and Tailgate

Date: 09/12/2017

Locations: Monroe County Fairgrounds
5700 West Airport Road
Bloomington, IN 47401

Website:

<http://www.BloomingtonRadio.org>

Sponsor: Bloomington Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-in: 146.46 (PL 136.5)

Public Contact: Jimmy Merry Jr
KC9RPX

7332 West Mustang Drive
Ellettsville, IN 47429

Phone: 812-391-2661

Email: KC9RPX@arrl.net

Dugger ARC Tailgate Party

Date: 09/23/2017

Locations: Whosoever Will Church (Parking Log)
7586 East State Street
Dugger, IN 47848

Sponsor: Dugger Amateur Radio Club

Sponsor: Dugger Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-in: 146.775 (PL 136.5)

Public Contact: Jonathan Olvey
KD9AMN

7034 East Cass Park Street
Sullivan, IN 47882

Phone: 812-691-1653

Email: jonolvey@gmail.com

56th Hoosier Hills Hamfest

Date: 10/07/2017

Locations: Lawrence County 4-H Fairgrounds
11265 US Highway 50 West
Mitchell, IN 47446

Website:

<http://www.w9qyq.org/hamfest>

Sponsor: Hoosier Hills Ham Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-in: 146.73 (PL 107.2)

Public Contact: Dave Morthland
WA9JHH

276 Woody Farm Road
Bedford, IN 47421

Phone: 812-276-3612

Email: wa9jhh@gmail.com

Ralph Poston/Shelbyville Tailgate

Date: 10/21/17

Location: Shelby County Fairgrounds – 500 Frank Street, Shelbyville, IN 46176

Website: <http://www.bryars.com>

Sponsor: Blue River Valley Amateur Radio Society

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-in: 145.48 (PL 88.5)

Public Contact: John Walker – K9SVL – 302 West Hedricks Street, Shelbyville, IN 46176

Phone: 317-402-5000

Email: inprinter@att.net



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Contesting



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

September

EME – 2.3 GHz and UP Date: 09-10

September VHF Date: 09-11

10 GHz and UP – Round 2 Date: 16-17

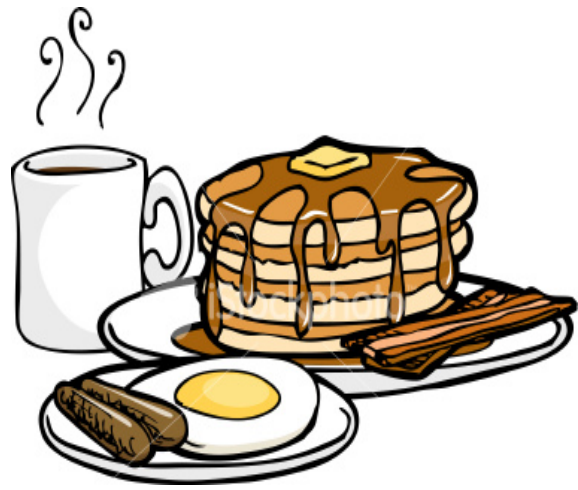
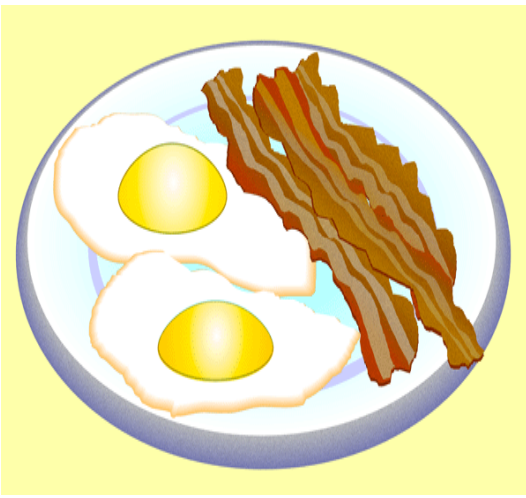
October

EME – 50 to 1296 MHz Date: 07-08

School Club Roundup Date: 16-20

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



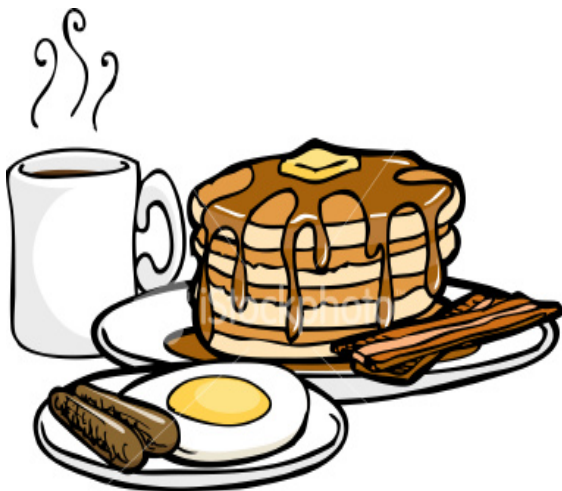
Breakfast

Date: September 9, 2017

New Time: 8:30 AM

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

NOTE: The breakfast meeting is held on the 2nd Saturday of each month in Marion.



Pictures from the Marion Fly-In/Cruise-In



The set up – Left side: HF station with Buddy Pole HF Antenna – Right side; Dstar Station with J-pole antenna.
K9NQW in the foreground



Closer look of the set up - Left side: HF station with Buddy Pole HF Antenna – Right side; Dstar Station with J-pole antenna.
K9NQW in the foreground, Mike – KD9HCJ and Jeff – KD9CQQ in the back ground



Sam – WA9QGL and Pat – KC9PXC relaxing at the event



From Left to Right: Mike – KD9HCJ ; Jeff – KD9CQQ; and Scott – KC9RAX. Scott is sitting in front of his VFH/UHF go kit.



Another look at the radio set-up



Just a bunch of hams sitting around and socializing



Nick – K9NQW in the foreground – from left to right
In back: Mike – KD9HCJ; Jeff – KD9CQQ and
Scott - KC9RAX

The making of a HF R.I.C.K. (Radio Incident Command Kit)

There has been a lot of discussion about radio go-kits. Over the last several years most of these go-kits involve UHF/VHF radios – both handheld and mobiles. All of these go-kits can be as simple or as elaborate as you want or can afford.

Thinking of go-kits I decided to put together a simple HF go-kit. This kit would be able to set up on any table and would be mounted in the same sort of case. The HF radio would have to cover at least 80 to 10 meters, put out at least 100 watts, and be able to do voice and cw at a minimum.

Gathering the parts: The list below is what I have for this kit.

- Kenwood TS-50 HF Mobile Radio
- Samlexpower SEC-1223 power supply
- LDG – KT100 matching antenna tuner
- West Mountain Radio – Rigrunner 4004U
- Daiwa – CN 520 SWR Meter
- Vertical HF Antenna (more on that later)
- Misc. hardware and parts (plywood, etc.)
- Plywood is 3/8 inches thick

The first thing I had to do was make sure that the above equipment would fit comfortably in the case. The equipment had to be accessible from the front when the case was open. Below is a picture showing the placement of the equipment.



The plywood is cut into 2 pieces: The bottom piece that sits in the bottom of the case and the shelf piece that is elevated with 6 - 1 1/2 in blocks supporting the shelf.

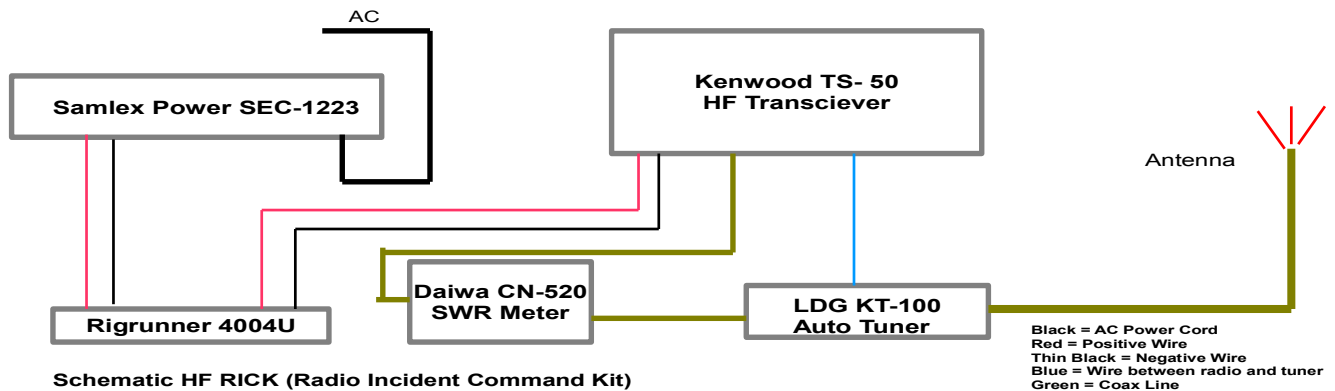
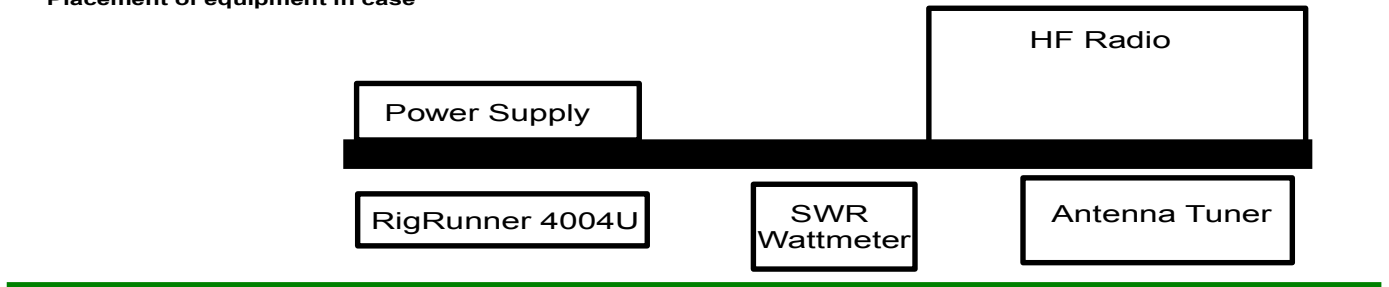


Shelves put in place inside the case.



Bottom shelf with blocks in place ready for equipment

Placement of equipment in case



The above drawing is the plans for the hf go-kit. The top drawing shows the location of the equipment and the bottom drawing shows the schematic connections of the equipment.

The equipment is mounted on the plywood via screws. The radio is mounted in it's mobile mount which is mounted to the top shelf. The antenna tuner and power supply had brackets made to mount them into the wood. The SWR meter was mounted with velcro.



The Antenna System



The antenna system used with the HF R.I.C.K. is the Buddipole System.

Designed as a multi-band, portable antenna for 40m - 10m, the Buddistick™ is an excellent performer with any rig up to 250 watts.

The Buddistick comes packaged in a compartmentalized 1000 denier cordura portfolio bag and includes 2 aluminum arms (blue or black), one standard telescopic whip, one adjustable coil, 2 coil clips, mounting kit, a complete counterpoise system, as well as operating manual.

Included is one 31' radial on a line winder for use on all bands 10 - 40m.

The mounting kit for the Buddistick™ is a mounting plate and SO-239 adapter for a straight coax feed. A rubberized clamping knob is used to secure the plate to a clamp or tripod (1/4" x 20 threads).

Accessories for the Buddistick™ include an adjustable clamp which allows for a full range of motion and permits the user to operate the Buddistick™ from a picnic table or a condo railing, for example.

You can also mount your Buddistick™ on a mini-tripod for use on the ground or on the deck or patio at your home.

The information above in Orange color was taken right off the website. I can say that this antenna is easy to set up and use. We did try it on 40 and 20 meters and did hear a few stations but propagation was not too good. I will be trying to set the R.I.C.K. System up again before the weather gets cold and see what type of contacts I can make.

As I said before, this portable HF station can be used for both voice and cw and we do have plans on adding equipment to it in the future to include psk 31, and rty.

The next go kit that I am working on is the VHF/UHF R.I.C.K. We will keep you posted on how that project is coming along.