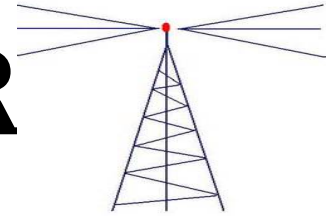


# OFF THE AIR



Please visit us online at: [www.GrantARC.com](http://www.GrantARC.com)

## “Off The Air”

Is the official publication of the  
Grant County Amateur Radio Club

### 2018 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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/grantarc>

### 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

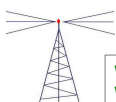
### Indiana Section Staff:

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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Evening  
**Time:** 1930 hrs Local Time  
**Freq:** 443.400+ {(W9EBN) (Reflector 24b)}

From the Editor – Nick K9NQW

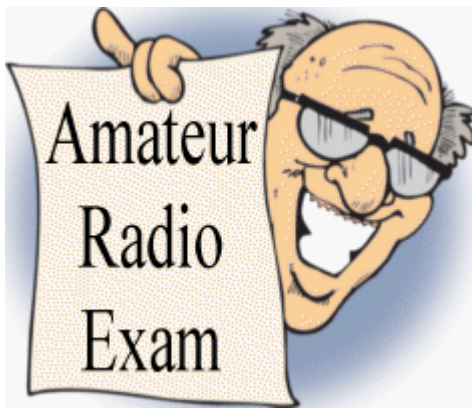
It is that time of year for volunteering. I will have a list of events that use ham radio operators and the contacts for these events.

The North Central Hamfest is fast approaching. The date of this years Hamfest is April 28<sup>th</sup>. The hamfest will be at the Miami 4-H Fairgrounds, just north of Peru on Old Hwy 31. At the last meeting Steve Shepler (WA9RVM) again asked for volunteers. Volunteers will be needed for both Friday night (April 27<sup>th</sup>) setup and for during the hours of the hamfest (April 28<sup>th</sup>). Please see page 5 for contact information on volunteering for the hamfest and the other events.

Since Spring is around the corner, are you prepared for an emergency if the need came up for communications. Next month I will have articles on basic to advance go-kits for the Amateur Radio Operator.

I will also be posting an updated list of Nets from around the area.

I am always looking for articles for this newsletter. If you have anything that is Amateur Radio related that you would like published please send the article to me at [k9nqw@arrl.net](mailto:k9nqw@arrl.net).



**03/10/2018**

**Sponsor:** Indianapolis Radio Club - W8JP

**Time:** 12:00 PM (Walk-ins Allowed)

**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 46254-2047

**03/20/2018**

**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

**03/24/2018**

**Sponsor:** Wells County Radio Club

**Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins Allowed)

**Contact:** Rick Allen Velasquez  
(765) 348-9322

**Email:** ab9hp@yahoo.com

**VEC:** ARRL/VEC

**Location:** Annex Building  
223 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714-1996

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

**Unless noted otherwise  
FOR MORE INFO ON ARRL/VEC  
EMAIL: vec@arrl.org**

**03/27/2018**

**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

**04/14/2018**

**Sponsor:** Indianapolis Radio Club - W8JP

**Time:** 12:00 PM (Walk-ins Allowed)

**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 46254-2047

**04/17/2018**

**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

**04/24/2018**

**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

**04/28/2018**

**Sponsor:** Clinton County ARC

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

**Contact:** Michael V, Meiers  
(765)242-9015

**Email:** republic48@yahoo.com

**VEC:** ARRL/VEC

**Location:** Frankfort Community  
Public Library  
208 W Clinton St  
Room 216  
Frankfort, IN 46041-1811

**04/28/2018**

**Sponsor:** Michael Elder

**Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins Allowed)

**Contact:** Michael D. Elder  
(756) 5700-6667

**Email:** wj9e1977@yahoo.com

**VEC:** ARRL/VEC

**Location:** 130 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Rushville, IN 46173-1846

**CALL 4-5 DAYS IN ADVANCE**

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**\*\*Membership Dues \*\***

2018 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 \*\***

## **2018 Hamfest & Computer Expo**

**Date:** 03/10/2018

**Locations:** Clay County 4-H Fairgrounds

6550 North County Road 59  
Brazil, IN

**Website:** <http://W9UUU.org>

**Sponsor:** Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Club

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Talk-in:** 146.685 (PL 151.4) K9IKQ/R

**Public Contact:** Joseph Cloutier, KC9JAC

Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Club  
PO Box 10081, Terre Haute, IN 47801

**Phone:** 317-691-3996

**Email:** [w9uuu@w9uuu.org](mailto:w9uuu@w9uuu.org)

## **35<sup>th</sup> Annual Columbus Indiana Hamfest**

**Date:** 04/27/2018

**Locations:** Bartholomew County 4-H Fairgrounds

Community Building, 750 West 200 South  
Columbus, IN 46112

**Website:** <http://www.carcnet.net>

**Sponsor:** Columbus Amateur Radio Club

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Talk-In:** 146.790 (PL 103.5)

**Public Contact:** Matthew Bruner, KC9BWO

325 Robbins Street, Hope, IN 47246

**Phone:** 812-375-4860

**Email:** [kc9bwo@att.net](mailto:kc9bwo@att.net)

## **North Central Indiana Hamfest**

**Date:** 04/28/2018

**Location:** Miami County 4-H Fairgrounds

1029 West 200 North, Peru, IN 46970

**Website:** <http://nci-hamfest.net>

**Sponsors:** Grant County ARC, Miami County ARC,  
Cass County ARC & Kokomo ARC

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Talk-In:** 147.345 (PL 131.8)

**Public Contact:** Steve Shepler, WA9RVM

PO Box 824, Marion, IN 46952

**Phone:** 765-661-5260

**Email:** [shepler1@gmail.com](mailto:shepler1@gmail.com)



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*Contesting*



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

March 2018

International DX - Phone

Date: 04-05

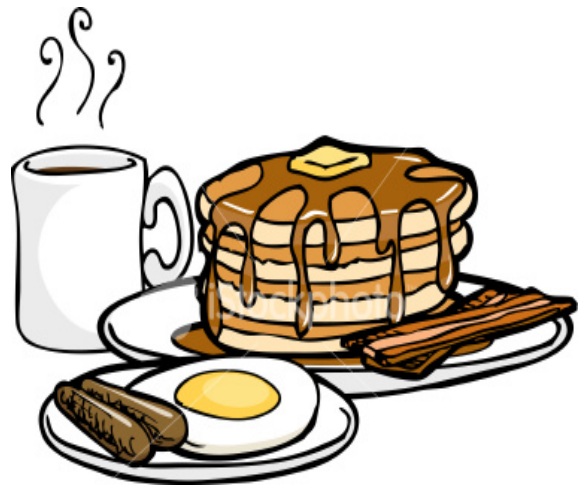
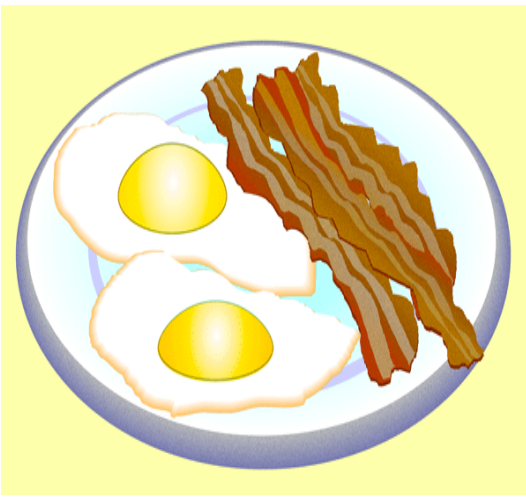
April 2018

Rookie Roundup

Date: 16

Rules can be found at [www.arrl.org/contest](http://www.arrl.org/contest)

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



# Breakfast

**Date:** March 10, 2018

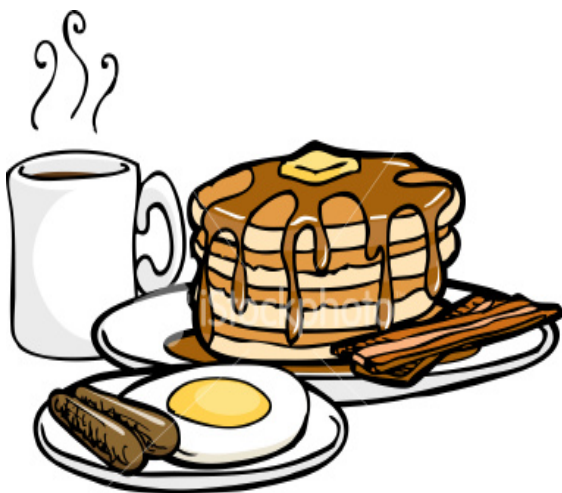
**New Time:** 8:30 AM

**Place:** IHOP Restaurant

3038 South Western Ave

Marion, IN

**NOTE:** The breakfast meeting is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month in Marion.



## *Time to think of Volunteering as a Radio Operator*

With spring and summer just around the corner there is a need for volunteers for events that are happening in the Central Indiana area. Below is a list of dates and events that need radio communicators. This is a way to practice your communication skills. All of the events happen on a Saturday and last most of the day. The list will also include the Point of Contact if you are interest.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>POINT OF CONTACT</u>
March 24 <sup>th</sup>	Sam Costa Run	Paul Beihold – KA9SDQ – <a href="mailto:iepdb@att.net">iepdb@att.net</a>
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Carmel Marathon	Mike Alley – W9MSK – <a href="mailto:Mikealley.w9msk@gmail.com">Mikealley.w9msk@gmail.com</a>
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	500 Festival Mini Marathon	Mike Palmer – N9FEB – <a href="mailto:N9FEB@comcast.net">N9FEB@comcast.net</a>
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	500 Festival Parade	Mike Palmer – N9FEB – <a href="mailto:N9FEB@comcast.net">N9FEB@comcast.net</a>
Aug 25 <sup>th</sup>	Cystic Fybrois Foundation Bike Ride	Jon Reeves - WB9CNE <a href="mailto:reevesj@myninestar.net">reevesj@myninestar.net</a>
Oct 6 <sup>th</sup>	Indianapolis Half Marathon in Lawrence	Jeff Skinner – NN7C – <a href="mailto:NN7C@comcast.net">NN7C@comcast.net</a>
Oct 6 <sup>th</sup>	American Diabetes Association Tour-de-Cure Bike Ride	Tony Stokes – KU9V – <a href="mailto:KU9V@arrl.net">KU9V@arrl.net</a>
Nov 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Indianapolis Monumental Marathon	Mike Palmer – N9FEB – <a href="mailto:N9FEB@comcast.net">N9FEB@comcast.net</a>

## **\*\*\*\*Help Needed\*\*\*\***

**Help is needed for the North Central Hamfest  
Volunteers will be needed for the following dates:**

**Below is the times for Setup**

**Date: April 27, 2018  
Time: 5:00 PM**

**Date: April 28, 2018  
Time: 6:00 AM**

**Volunteers will also be needed during the Hamfest**

**To volunteer call: Steve Shepler – WA9RVM  
(765) 661-5260**



Minutes From the Grant County Amateur Radio Club  
For the meeting of February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018

The Grant County Amateur Radio Club met on January 23, 2018 at the Marion Public Library.

President Scott Shepler (KC9RAX) welcomed the 16 members

Them members introduced themselves by saying their names and call signs.

President Scott Shepler (KC9RAX) led the group in prayer.

The Secretary's Report was delayed.

Steve Shepler (WA9RVM), Club Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report. The report was approved and accepted.

Kevin McNeely (KB9CRA), Club Trustee, stated that there was a minor glitch. Kevin Hicks (KC9MWQ) and Kevin McNeely (KB9CRA) refreshed the repeater. Kevin McNeely (KB9CRA) will be at the tower to put a cellular to digital converter used for the weather transmitter. .

Chris Paul (KC9QZE) asked if we should keep up the experiment with the 7-9 repeater to the DMR Crossroads talk group.

Old Business:

Sarah Andrews (KC9RNR) was thanked for taking care of the Christmas Party.

New Business:

The first Northwest Indiana Hamfest meeting was held Last Saturday at Peru. Five people showed up. Each Club is to supply three people. Steve Shepler asked for more help. The next meeting is Saturday (Feb 24<sup>th</sup>) at 9:00 a.m. at the Dutch Cafe directly across the road from the Grissom Air Museum. It will be a planning meeting. New topics were discussed at Peru for the seminars at the Hamfest. The planning committee is looking for an early sign-up of jobs. If anyone is interested to help with the planning, please join Steve at breakfast. The Hamfest is Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Miami County Fairgrounds just north of Peru on Old 31.

In other new business, there are several contest coming up. Winter Field Days will be held. There is one in February and one in March.

The Blackford County repeater has been moved to Chad Sullivan's (KC9OYW) house. Check-in is 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday.

Chad Sullivan stated that the Grant County club is welcome to join the Blackford club at the Field Day at the Soccer fields in Hartford City, June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>.

Tim Favreau (KB2PBR) talked with his daughter about using Facebook to spread the information about our club. It was moved and seconded to create a Facebook page monitored by Tim Favreau, Kevin Hicks, and Chris Paul.

Steve Shepler brought up the increase of members in Bill McApplins' club. They have licensed 90 plus people in His community this past year. His club sponsored a Space Station contact with the local school. The also have many female radio operators.

Chris Paul stated that in the past he experimented with Bart Bartholomew (WA9SPT-SK) using Slow Scan TV (SSTV). Chris and Scott Shepler encouraged members to join them as they explore the technology.

Spotter Class will be held February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00 am at the EOC Building.

Registration is \$35.00.

Nick Nickerson (K9NQW) is sending out information about the Spotter Class and the Hamfest.

The Club Breakfast Meeting will be the second Saturday at 8:30 a.m. at IHOP in Marion.

Our next meeting will be February 27<sup>th</sup> at the Marion Public Library.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Andrews

KC9RNR

Club Secretary

**Editor's Note:** The Spotter Class on February 22<sup>nd</sup> was at 6:00 p,m.  
The \$35 registration fee was for the 2018 Central Indiana Weather Symposium

To volunteer for the Hamfest contact Steve Shepler – WA9RVM  
Phone: (765) 661-5260  
Email: shepler1@gmail.com

Minutes From the Grant County Amateur Radio Club  
For the meeting of March 27th, 2018

The Grant County Amateur Radio Club met on February 27, 2018 at the Marion Public Library.

President Scott Shepler (KC9RAX) led the group in prayer.

The Secretary's Report corrected and accepted.

Steve Shepler (WA9RVM), Club Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report. The report was approved and accepted.

Chris Paul (KC9QZE) stated that the (DMR) net timed out last night.

Discussion was held about the public and private club sites on Facebook.

Old Business:

Chad Sullivan (KC9OYW) stated that field day this year will be (with) the Delaware County, Yorktown Club, Blackford County and Grant County clubs will be at Soccer Field at Hartford County. Discussion was held about using laptops to connect the group making contacts. Next month Chad will check in with the groups to see how they will participate in the Field Day.

Scott - Hamfest Committee meeting – whoever can come that day – try to monitor the exits and entrance – rotating schedule. To be as efficient as possible.

Steve – another meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> of March and another....April 28<sup>th</sup>. 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday. Plans are going well. Trying to get things set up so the folks coming in won't get jammed up at the door. Miami County club has Junior members to be used to advantage. 2 or 3 attentive programs – Indiana Section Manager – 30 min. SDR radios.....perhaps present a program (Bryan). Junior members are looking at type of thing. This is the way we obtain money along with dues.

Please plan to come to the hamfest. Give us an hour of your time in the morning.

Everyone is welcome to come to the hamfest meeting at the Dutch Mill cafe. Planning meetings coming up are March 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am and April 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am and on the night before the Hamfest.....Friday 27<sup>th</sup> meet at 5:00 pm to set up tables and chairs. And help vendors unload.....open at 6:00 am for vendors and show starts at 8:00 am.

New Business

From Nick. Newsletter should be out soon. Marathons and activities coming up – Sam Costa Run March 24<sup>th</sup>, Carmel Marathon March 30<sup>th</sup>, Both are held in Hamilton County. The Indy 500 Mini Marathon May 5<sup>th</sup>, The Indy 500 Parade May 27<sup>th</sup>. Both are held in Marion County.

Breakfast coming up on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March.

More New Business from Steve Shepler (WA9RVM) Starting at 8:00 pm March 4<sup>th</sup> thru March 5<sup>th</sup> ARRL Worldwide DX contest until Sunday night .....on HF 160, 80, 40, 15, and 10 QSO Party.....48 hours – Great for country hunting Indiana QSO party will be the first weekend in May 8 hours.

Chris Paul (KC9QZE) .....sstv....play around right after the net.....145.500.....and Scott(KC9RAX) and Faron(KB9PMA) joined them.....

SkyWarn thought learned quite a bit...went on the internet and took the course....opened your eyes up.....interesting...lots of detail.....

What you think it is.....National Weather Service.....talked for 3 hours.

Mike Lewis.....really enjoyed it.....

Meeting was adjourned.