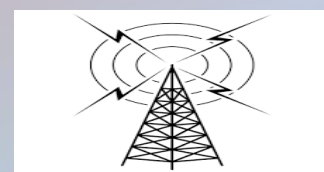




# OFF THE AIR



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

The GCARC is an ARRL affiliated club

## “Off The Air”

is the official publication of the  
Grant County Amateur Radio Club  
Vol. 9 No.3 March 2025

## 2025 Officers

President – Bob McFarland - AD9AW  
[profbob9949@gmail.com](mailto:profbob9949@gmail.com)  
Vice President – Wayne Williamson – KC9QCJ  
[kc9qcj@yahoo.com](mailto:kc9qcj@yahoo.com)  
Secretary – L. B. Nickerson – K9NQW  
[k9nqw1979@gmail.com](mailto:k9nqw1979@gmail.com)  
Treasurer – David Larson – KD9ZZB  
[Awc1pastor@verizon.net](mailto:Awc1pastor@verizon.net)  
Trustee – Kevin McNeely – KB9CRA  
[kb9cra@outlook.com](mailto:kb9cra@outlook.com)

## Newsletter Editor

L. B. Nickerson – K9NQW  
[k9nqw1979@gmail.com](mailto:k9nqw1979@gmail.com)  
<http://www.grantarc.net>

Member – Indiana Radio Club Council

## ARRL Indiana Section Staff:

Section Manager: Bob Burns - AK9R  
Assistant Section Manager and Section Traffic Manager:  
Brian Jenks – W9BGJ  
Section Emergency Coordinator: James Moehring - KB9WWM  
Assistant SEC: Brent Walls - N9BA  
Assistant SEC: Tony Stokes - N9UN  
State Government Liason – Dave Spoelstra - N9KT  
Public Information Coordinator – Barry Palencer – KC9WMS  
Section Youth Coordinator – Andrew Murrey – N9AWM  
Technical Special Coordinator – Thomas Busch – WB8WOR  
<http://www.inarrl.org>

## Section Jobs Description

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

## 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+ Talkgroups: 8710 and 31189

**What:** DMR Net – Indiana Statewide Net  
**When:** Every Tuesday Night  
**Time:** 2000 hrs Local Time  
**Freq:** 442.750+ Talkgroup 3118

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

**What:** Grant County RACES Net  
**When:** Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month  
**Time:** 8:00 PM EST  
**Freq:** 146.790- (PL 141.3)  
Talkgroup 31181



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



# Notes from the President

Report for March 2025

73's

It was so good to see all who made it to the February meeting there in the city hall.

We had a few good reports from the "managers" and the club seems to be moving forward on all fronts. We have a growing financial posture and continue to sell off some of the various items in our inventory.

As we are looking forward, we see some expenditures rising in the future as to transmission relocation and possible new, updating equipment. We have not really updated equipment in 20 or more years or so. It is time.

We were very impressed with the strong showing of "Go Boxes" that were placed all around the tables for viewing and handling.

(Large thanks to those who brought to show.)

I personally feel we were on a good track as there was a lots of interaction and questions and answers among all present. There was no rush to leave until everyone felt they were ready to leave. And if you all are like me.... I have more new ideas on my Go Box that is in multiple stages of being finished. I have finished it at least 5 times and it is still a "work in progress..." (Every time I seem to get it where I want it... I see something like last week and feel I can incorporate more into less...)

Looking forward to the March meeting and new ways to make and use antennas.

God Bless and as always.. Remain Radio – active...

President Bob

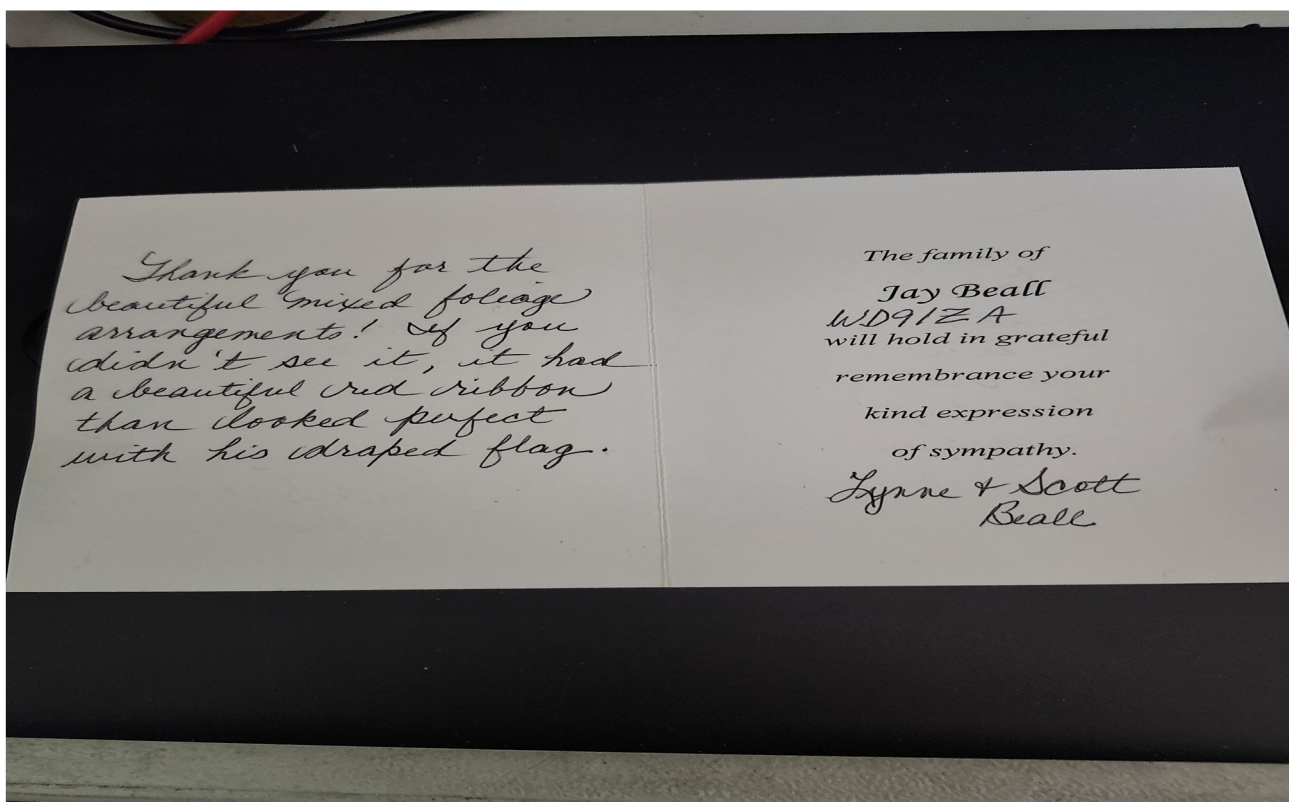
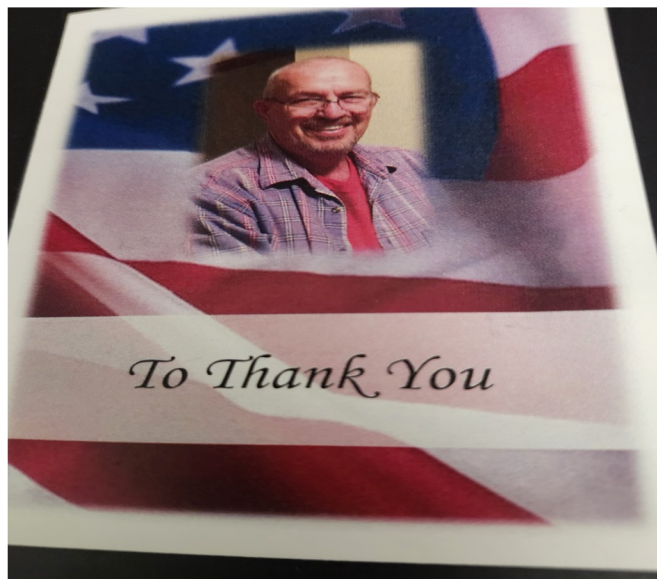
AD9AW



## Notes from the Editor

As Bob – AD9AW said in his notes, the February meeting went well. There were several members that brought their go boxes to the meeting. Pictures will be shown below.

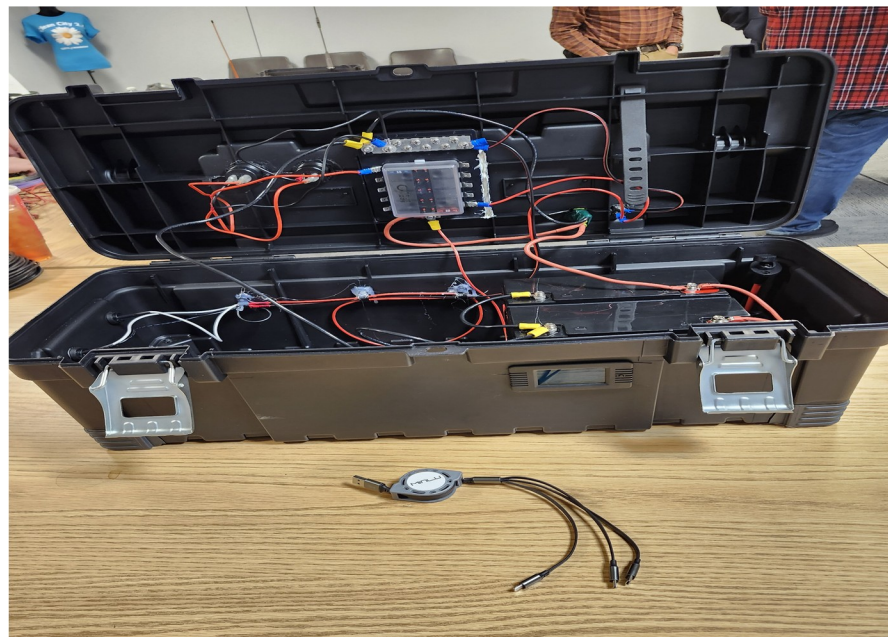
Speaking of being prepared, I've also included a recommended list to have ready as a jump kit. These jump kits include personal items that you would need in case you were asked to deploy for a 24 hour or 72 hour deployment.



## Members Go Boxes

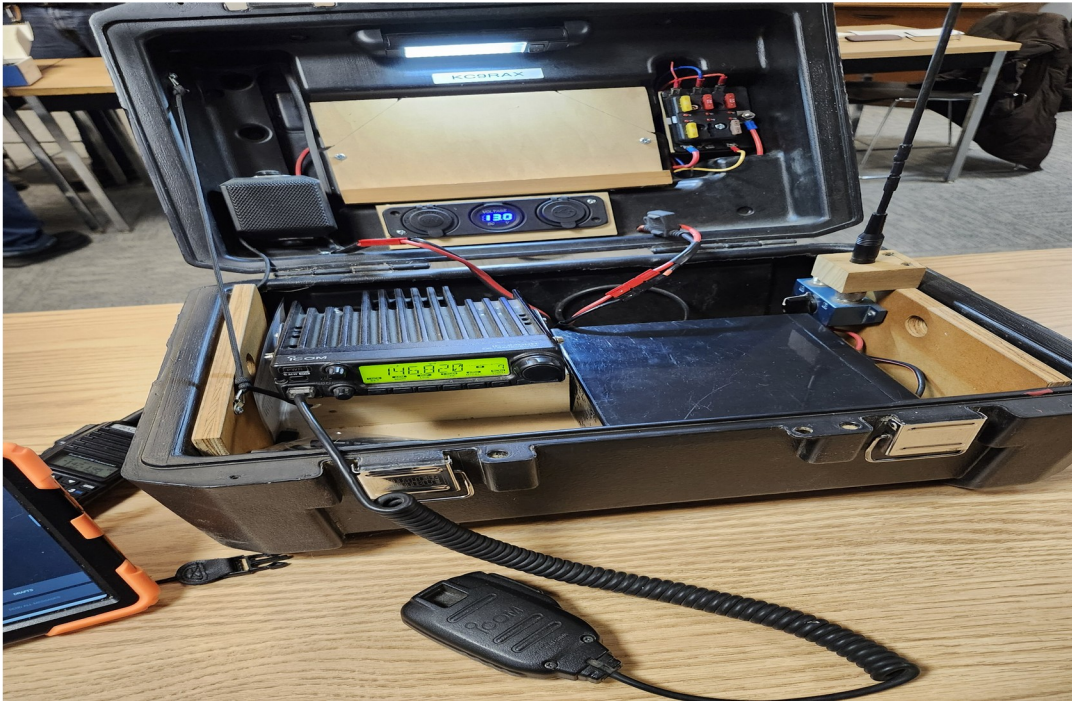


Charlie's – KA9HDG go box



Justin's – N9LST go box still in the completion stage

# Members Go Boxes



Scott's – KC9RAX Go Box



# Members Go Boxes



Scott's – K6SJO Go Box



Nick's – K9NQW Go Box still in the completion stage

# Basic Jump Kit

Below is just a basic Jump Kit. This kit is different than a go box. The Jump Kit is designed to be ready at all times. The below Jump Kit should sustain you for at least 24 hours.

## 1. Batteries for your gadgets

Extra Ni-cad packs for your H.T.

Extra alkaline “AA’s” because just about everything uses them these days

Extra alkaline “D” and “C” cells for your flashlight

Possibly a large deep cycle battery for your shack if you don’t leave home

An empty “AA” pack for your H.T. in case all of your Ni-cad packs are dead

## 2. Maps/ Reference Books

Maps for the county you will be serving

A repeater directory or just a list of local frequencies (including HF)

A R.A.C.E.S. directory if your group has one

## 3. Electronic gadgets

Flashlight (with the batteries NOT in it but rather in your bag/kit because they will go dead if you leave them in the flashlight)

A GOOD 5 watt H.T. with a GOOD, high gain mag mount antenna

(Don’t forget the SMA or BNC to PL259 adapter)

G.P.S. or a APRS system is a must for rural deployment

## 4. Misc items that might be seasonal

Coat (heavy, light or rain suit)

Dry socks, shoes, shirt, shorts or pants

Orange or yellow construction type vest

Bottled drinking water

Food like MRE’s, Power bars, Cliff bars or trail mix simple, easy eat on the run type stuff (NO TWINKIES Hi Hi)

Pen and paper or a small notebook

First aid kit

I.D. and money (cash is best you never know if the ATM is with or without power)

If taking prescription medication be sure to bring it as well. You never know how long you will be out there.

And last but not least keep your car or truck ABOVE ½ a tank of fuel (you will not have time to get gas in a disaster or in the middle of a long deployment.)



# March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 GCARC 2 Meter Net 8:30 PM Net Control Scott - KC9RAX	3 Crossroads DMR Net 8:00 PM Net Control Chad - KC9OYW	4	5	6 Indiana Statewide DStar Net 8:00 PM Net Control Nick - K9NQW	7	8  See Notes Below
9 GCARC 2 Meter Net 8:30 PM Net Control Nick - K9NQW	10 Crossroads DMR Net 8:00 PM Net Control Chad - KC9OYW	11	12	13 Indiana Statewide DStar Net 8:00 PM Net Control Nick - K9NQW	14	15
16 GCARC 2 Meter Net 8:30 PM Net Control Nick - K9NQW	17 Crossroads DMR Net 8:00 PM Net Control Nick - K9NQW	18	19	20 Indiana Statewide DStar Net 8:00 PM Net Control Joe - KA9OPL	21 GCARC RACES NET 8:00 PM	22
23 GCARC 2 Meter Net 8:30 PM Net Control Nick - K9NQW	24 Crossroads DMR Net 8:00 PM Net Control Nick - K9NQW	25 GCARC Monthly Meeting - 6 PM Marion Public Library  Indiana Statewide DMR Net 8:00 PM	26	27 Indiana Statewide DStar Net 8:00 PM Net Control Joe - KA9OPL	28	29
30 GCARC 2 Meter Net 8:30 PM Net Control Nick - K9NQW	31 Crossroads DMR Net 8:00 PM Net Control Nick - K9NQW					

## Notes

- March 8th - Monthly Breakfast Meeting - 8:30 AM at Georgie's Cafe on the Bypass
- March 8th - Monthly Siren Test - 11:45 AM
- Other Weekly Nets: Sunday: Miami County ARC Sunday Night Ragchew Net - 8:00 pm 147.345 (PL 131.8)
- Monday: Miami County ARC ARES/RACES Net - 8:00 pm 147.345 (PL 131.8)
- Tuesday and Thursday: Miami County ARC Ladies with a License Net 8:00 pm 147.345 (PL 131.8)
- Wednesday: Blackford County ARC Net - 8:30 PM - also on Talkgroup 31181; 146.790+ (PL 141.3) and 146.655
- Thursday: 10 Meter Net - 28.425 MHz (+- 25 Hz) 8:00 pm (Early Checkins) Net starts at 8:30 pm
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# North Central Indiana Hamfest

Discover the World of Amateur Radio!



**When:** Saturday, April 26th, 2025  
**Location:** Miami County 4-H Fairgrounds  
1029 W. 200 North Peru, IN 46970



**Time:** 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM (EST)

**Cost:** General Admissions  
\$7.00 EA (12 & Under FREE)  
Vendor Tables  
\$10.00 EA  
(includes 1 general admission)

## TESTING BY N9RM (W5WI Licensing Services)

Time: 10:00 AM- 12:00 PM

Cost: \$14.00 Register on our web site

## FORUMS

POTA(Parks On The Air) - 9:30 AM- 10:30 AM

National Weather Service Seminar - 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM

Registration is strongly recommended due to limited seating for NWS Seminar. Visit our web site!

## For Event Updates

please visit our web site using the QRcode or weblink below.

Questions regarding General Information, Event Details, Camping, Prizes & Vendor Registration please visit our contact page.



[ncihamfest.com](http://ncihamfest.com)

# Skywarn® Spotter Training

## Spring 2024 In Person and Virtual Registration Is OPEN

### Dates and Registration Links

Date and Location (Google Map Link for In Person)	Time	Registration Details
<b>IN PERSON (Pre-Registration Requested)</b>		
<a href="#">March 6 (Jay County IN)</a>	6 PM EST	<a href="http://jayinspottertraining.eventzilla.net">http://jayinspottertraining.eventzilla.net</a>
<a href="#">March 14 (St. Joseph County MI)</a>	6 PM EDT	<a href="http://saintjosephmispottertraining.eventzilla.net">http://saintjosephmispottertraining.eventzilla.net</a>
<a href="#">March 19 (Putnam County OH)</a>	6 PM EDT	<a href="http://putnamohspottertraining.eventzilla.net">http://putnamohspottertraining.eventzilla.net</a>
<a href="#">March 28 (Pulaski County IN)</a>	6 PM EDT	<a href="http://pulaskiinspottertraining.eventzilla.net">http://pulaskiinspottertraining.eventzilla.net</a>
<b>VIRTUAL (Registration Required)</b>		
April 11	11 AM EDT	<a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/602174368196417374">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/602174368196417374</a>
April 16	6 PM EDT	<a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5208050567182816349">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5208050567182816349</a>
April 20	1 PM EDT	<a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1977383039079327838">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1977383039079327838</a>
April 22	6 PM EDT	<a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3592023561049800284">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3592023561049800284</a>

### General Information

- You only need to attend ONE session.
- Training is free to attend
- Registration is required for virtual sessions and strongly recommended for in person sessions as limited seating is available
- Program lasts approximately 2 hours - we will take a brief stretch break
- The training IS NOT county specific
- Recommended age is 14 and older

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### Equipment Requirements for Virtual Sessions

- Computer with Internet Access
- Active Email Address
- Audio Capability (Must have speakers, microphone is optional)
  - Phone access is available if speakers/microphone do not work on your computer
- Software installation (GoToWebinar)
- [Specific System Requirements](#) (From GoToWebinar Webpage)

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### Questions?

Call: 574-834-1104

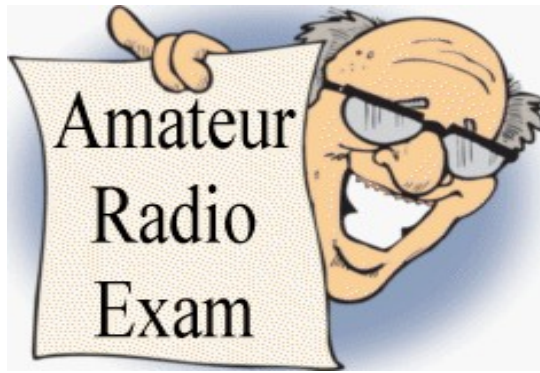
Email: [nws.northernindiana@noaa.gov](mailto:nws.northernindiana@noaa.gov)

Facebook: [@NWSNorthernindiana](#)

Twitter: [@NWSIWX](#)

Skywarn Spotter Training - Madison County  
Tuesday, March 12 · 6:00 – 8:00pm  
Anderson University York Performance Hall - 1100 E 5th St., Anderson, IN 46012

Skywarn Spotter Training - Howard County  
Saturday, March 23 · 3:00 – 5:00pm  
Eastern Middle/High School  
421 S Harrison St, Greentown, IN 46936, USA  
Public Spotter Training. Enter through Door 11 and go to Performing Arts Center/Auditorium



### 03/01/25

**Sponsor:** Wells County Radio Club  
**Time:** 08:30 AM (**Walk-ins Allowed**)  
**Contact:** Rick Allen Velasquez  
(765) 348-9322  
**Email:** ab9hp@yahoo.com  
**VEC:** ARRL/VEC  
**Location:** Wells County Public Library  
2200 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714-1996

### 03/01/2025

**Sponsor:** Hancock County ARC  
**Time:** 9:00 PM (**Walk-ins Allowed**)  
**Contact:** David Kelsner  
(317) 440-8486  
**Email:** kc9urp@hrtc.net  
**VEC:** ARRL/VEC  
**Location:** Hancock EMA EOC  
640 South Franklin St  
Greenfield, IN 46140-9654

### 03/03/2025

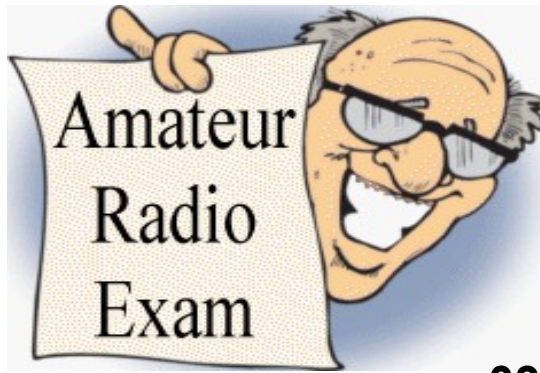
**Sponsor:** Whitley County ARC  
**Time:** 8:00 PM (**Walk-ins Allowed**)  
**Contact:** Roger L McEntarfer  
(260) 503-9008  
**Email:** rlmcen56@gmail.com  
**VEC:** W5YI VEC  
**Location:** **On Line**  
717 E 400 N  
Columbia City, IN 46725-8612

### 03/08/2025

**Sponsor:** Indianapolis Radio Club  
**Time:** 12:00 AM (**No Walk-ins Allowed**)  
**Contact:** James Kajder  
(505) 228-3704  
**Email:** testing@indyradioclub.org  
**VEC:** ARRL/VEC  
**Location:** Salvation Army EDS  
Training Facility  
4020 Georgetown Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46254-2407  
**Register / Call Ahead**

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





**03/10/2025**

**Sponsor:** Whitley County ARC  
**Time:** 8:30 PM (**Walk-ins Allowed**)  
**Contact:** Roger L. Mc Entarfer  
(260) 503-9008  
**Email:** rlmcen56@gmail.com  
**VEC:** W5YI VEC  
**Location:** **On Line**  
717 E 400 N  
Columbia City, IN 46725-8612

**03/17/2025**

**Sponsor:** Whitley County ARC  
**Time:** 8:00 PM (**Walk-ins Allowed**)  
**Contact:** Roger L. Mc Entarfer  
(260) 503-9008  
**Email:** rlmcen56@gmail.com  
**VEC:** W5YI VEC  
**Location:** **On Line**  
717 E 400 N  
Columbia City, IN 46725-8612

**03/18/2025**

**Sponsor:** Anderson Repeater Club  
**Time:** 7:00 PM (**Walk-ins Allowed**)  
**Contact:** Stephen M. Riley  
(765) 425-4627  
**Email:** wa9cwe@arrl.net  
**VEC:** ARRL/VEC  
**Location:** 200 Delaware Street  
Anderson, IN 46016-2238  
<https://www.andersonrepeater.club>

**03/24/2025**

**Sponsor:** Marshall County ARC  
**Time:** 8:00 PM (**Walk-ins Allowed**)  
**Contact:** Richard J. Basham  
(574) 216-6080  
**Email:** k9ilu@yahoo.com  
**VEC:** Laurel VEC  
**Location:** Cornerstone Church of Aros  
11525 State Road 10  
Argos, IN 46501-9519

**03/24/2025**

**Sponsor:** Whitley County ARC  
**Time:** 8:30 PM (**Walk-ins Allowed**)  
**Contact:** Roger L. Mc Entarfer  
(260) 503-9008  
**Email:** rlmcen56@gmail.com  
**VEC:** W5YI VEC  
**Location:** **On Line**  
717 E 400 N  
Columbia City, IN 46725-8612

**03/25/2025**

**Sponsor:** Grant County ARC  
**Time:** 5:00 PM (**No Walk-ins / Call Ahead**)  
**Contact:** L B (Nick) Nickerson  
(765) 517-1581  
**Email:** k9nqw1979@gmail.com  
**VEC:** ARRL/VEC  
**Location:** Marion City Hall  
301 S Branson St  
Marion, IN 46952  
**Website:** <https://www.grantarc.net>

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





**IF \$ CAN'T BUY  
HAPPINESS,  
THEN EXPLAIN HAMFESTS**

### **Spring Hamfest**

**Start Date:** 03/22/2025

**End Date:** 03/22/2025

**Location:** Clay County 4-H Fairgrounds  
6550 North State Road 59  
Brazil, IN 47834

**Website:** [http://w9uuu.org/hamfest/hamfest\\_2025.pdf](http://w9uuu.org/hamfest/hamfest_2025.pdf)

**Sponsor:** Wabash Valley Amateur  
Radio Association, Inc

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Talk-IN:** 146.685 (PL 151.4 Hz)

**Public Contact:** Tyler Vandevender - KD9YHO  
13604 S Geneva Hills Road  
Clinton, IN 47842

Phone: 765-505-9894

**Email:** KD9YHO@gmail.com





# Contesting



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

March 2024

International DX - Phone      Date: 01-02

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.

## Special Event Stations

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name of Special Event</u>	<u>Webpage</u>
03/08 to	Celebrating Florida's Statehood	
	<a href="https://www.lmars.org/annual-events/w4f-special-event-florida-statehood">https://www.lmars.org/annual-events/w4f-special-event-florida-statehood</a>	
03/08	USS Midway launched in 1945	<a href="http://www.qrrz.com/db/ni6iw">www.qrrz.com/db/ni6iw</a>
03/09 to	Idaho QSO Party (Spud Run)	
03/10		<a href="https://www.idahoqsoparty.org">https://www.idahoqsoparty.org</a>
03/14 to	PI Day – David Sarnoff Radio Club	
03/15	Princeton, NJ	<a href="http://n2re.org">n2re.org</a>

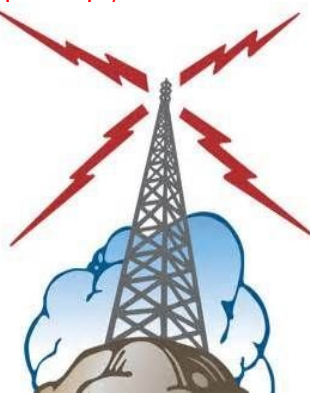




## *Special Event Stations*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name of Special Event</u>	<u>Webpage</u>
03/15	Solivita Car Show	<a href="https://solivitaradioclub.weebly.com">https://solivitaradioclub.weebly.com</a>
03/18 to 03/20	Honoring WII Gunners at Buckingham Airfield	FMARC.NET
03/21 to 03/23	Bataan Memorial Death March	earld7a@gmail.com
03/22	Battle of New Bern Adventure Day	<a href="http://www.qrz.com/db/N4B">www.qrz.com/db/N4B</a>
03/22	Cherry Blossom Special Event Station	<a href="https://maconamateurradioclub.wordpress.com">https://maconamateurradioclub.wordpress.com</a>
03/22 to 03/29	The White House Communications Agency 83 <sup>rd</sup> Anniversary	<a href="https://whitehousecomms-arc.org">https://whitehousecomms-arc.org</a>
03/23 to 03/25	The White House Communications Agency 83 <sup>rd</sup> Anniversary	<a href="https://whitehousecomms-arc.org">https://whitehousecomms-arc.org</a>
03/29 to 03-30	70 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Birmingham Zoo	<a href="http://www.qrz.com/db/n4ghp">www.qrz.com/db/n4ghp</a>

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



# Ham Radio Trader

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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month so that they can be put in the newsletter the following month.

Example: Items for the March newsletter must be submitted no later than February 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 [k9nqw1979@gmail.net](mailto:k9nqw1979@gmail.net)

## For Sale - Example



### **Icom IC-2720H Transciever**

Icom IC-2720H VHF/UHF

Transciever: VHF-144-148 MHz

UHF-440-450 MHz

Reciver 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](mailto:k9nqw@yahoo.com)



# For Sale: Icom IC-W2A

## UHF/VHF Handheld Transceiver



### General:

**Type:** Amateur VHF/UHF transceiver

**Frequency Range:** USA

**TX:** 144-148 / 440-450 MHz

**RX:** 136-174 / 400-470 MHz

**Mode:** FM

**Channels / memory management:** 60 regular

**Repeater shift / offset:** ±

**Power Supply:** 6-16 VDC

**Current drain / power consumption:**

**RX:** 20-200 mA

**TX:** Max 1.8 A

**Antenna impedance / connector:**

50 ohm / BNC

**Dimensions (W\*H\*D);**

2.12"x6.06"x1.42"

**Weight:** 15.87 oz. with BP-83

### Specifications:

#### Receiver Section:

No information available

#### Transmitter Section:

##### RF output power:

	High	Low 3	Low 2	Low 1
<b>2m:</b>	5W	3.5 W	1.5 W	500 mW
<b>70cm:</b>	5W	3.5 W	1.5 W	500 mW

#### Included in package:

BC-72 Desktop Charger with DC12v cable Cp-13 and BC77A cable

Charger Adapter AD-20 uses the same Cp-13 cable and BC77A cable

HM-65 speaker and microphone

Schematic Diagram and operating instructions

**NOTE:** Batteries included but they will not take a charge

**Asking Price:** \$60.00 or best offer

Ron Trautvetter  
 etrautvetter@indy.rr.com  
 Phone: 765-603-3114



**GRANT  
COUNTY  
ARC**  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
**W9EBN**

The Grant County Amateur Radio Club has several pieces of ham equipment for sale. The equipment and the prices can be found in January's "OFF THE AIR" or on our website - Grantarc.net. If you are interested in any of this equipment you can contact me at 765-517-1581 or email me at k9nqw1979@gmail.com

