



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

February 2015 Newsletter

Upcoming Meeting:

March 13: Tony Tolbert, W9AMT, will give a presentation on Commercial DMR.

Highlights from the January Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by club President David Spoelstra. There were just under 50 in attendance at the meeting. There were two new hams recognized at the meeting: John, AC9JX, and Billy, KD9CTY.

Announcements:

Mike Sercer, WA9FDO, announced that there will be a weather spotter seminar held at 9:00 am on March 14 at the IPSC training facility at 21st and Post Road. There will also be a VE testing session held at the same place at 12:00 noon. Mike also announced that on Thursdays at 7:30 pm, there is a 6 meter round table net held on the 52.7 repeater. Mike also announced that the 146.76 repeater is now a dual-mode analog/Fusion repeater. It is auto-sensing, with no user action required. There is more info on this repeater later in this newsletter. From 10:00 to 11:00 on Sunday mornings, there is an AM net originating from the WW2IND station at the War Memorial on 50.41.

Steve Curtis, ND9C, announced that Greg Herman, KC9NRO, had a stroke, and was going to be in rehab for a while.

Club Treasurer, Rhonda Curtis, WS9H, announced that tickets for the bus to Dayton will go on sale at next month's meeting. The cost will be the same as last year (\$30 per person).

Tom Chance, K9XV, announced that the remote station for the radio club would be coming on line in the next few weeks, and will be available for testing.

Next, the evening's speaker, Dave Arland, was introduced. Dave was formerly VP of marketing at RCA, as well as being press secretary for Indianapolis Mayor Bill Hudnut. Dave appears on WIBC as the “gadget guy” from time to time, and currently is president of Arland Communications, a PR and video production company based in Carmel. Dave gave a very informative and entertaining presentation on upcoming gadgets, as well as some of the history of RCA, and recorded sound. Dave told of some of the exhibits he saw at the recently completed CES show in Las Vegas. The show is huge, covering the equivalent of over 30 football fields. Dave had some interesting facts and figures, such as 97% of US households have at least one TV, 81% have a DVD or BlueRay player. 66% have broadband at home, 64% have a smartphone. 1% have Ultra HD, or 4K, TVs, even though there are currently no 4K commercial broadcasts available. Dave said that 3D printers were plentiful at the show, as well as “GoPro” type small HD cameras. Dave displayed a new development in LED lamps, the “smart charge light” (<http://www.smartchargelight.com/>) a standard screw-in LED light bulb that has built in battery back up, that will power the lamp for up to four hours in the event of a power failure. The interesting thing about this lamp was the fact that it was controllable by the wall switch, even when the power is out. Dave also talked about Sling TV (<https://www.sling.com/>), which allows TV reception on multiple devices. He also briefly spoke about the Early Television Museum in Hilliard, OH (<http://www.earlytelevision.org/>). Their annual convention is coming up May 1 – 3.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01, after door prizes were drawn.

Ham Radio News:

DAYTON BUS PLANS

The club has chartered a bus to the Dayton Hamvention again this year. The day trip to Dayton will be on Saturday, May 16. The bus will have two pick up points: 6:30 am at Southern Plaza, and pick up around 7:00 am at Peddler's Mall on the east side. It will leave from Dayton around 4:00 pm. As in the past, there will be a short stop at McDonald's in Richmond on the way to Dayton for breakfast, and a dinner stop at MCL in Richmond on the way back. The cost for the round trip is \$30 per person, and does not include admission to the Hamvention or either of the meals mentioned above. Tickets for the bus trip will be available at meetings, or by contacting club treasurer Rhonda Curtis, WS9H. The bus will drop off at the front door of Hara Arena, and be parked in close proximity of the facility so items can be stored on the bus for your convenience. Tickets for admission to the Hamvention are available on their website at <http://hamvention.org/purchase-tickets/>.

CLASSES CONTINUE IN HENDRICKS COUNTY

Amateur radio classes for all three license grades started up in Hendricks County on January 28, 2015. The classes are held at the Senior Services Building located at 1201 Sycamore Lane, Danville, just north of the Danville Hendricks Regional Health facility. The classes will run from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. This is a 7 or 8 week course, with testing at the completion of the course. The classes are free, however there will be a \$15 charge (cash only, please) for the testing session at the end of the course. For more information contact Wayne Fox, KE9P, at hcarshamclass@gmail.com or Jay Wright, KK9L, at drjwrght@gmail.com or at 317-203-3335.

NEW REPEATER IN MOORESVILLE

Mooresville now has a new Repeater on 145.110 with a PL-Tone of 114.8. The repeater is using the Callsign W9WWV, in honor of long time area ham, Louis Rodenbeck, SK.

146.76 REPEATER NOW DUAL MODE

The 146.16/76 Repeater is now converted to Yaesu Fusion, meaning that it will do the Yaesu digital mode, as well as standard analog. The antenna is at 21st and Post Road in Indianapolis at 340 feet running 25 watts out of the duplexer. The repeater puts out a 151.4 sub-audible tone when in analog mode, so analog users can set their tone squelch to not hear the digital transmission.

Also a fusion repeater has been ordered for the 443.75 repeater.

The front and rear pictures of the repeater are shown on the Radio Club's web site at <http://indyradioclub.org/Operating.html>

MORE DIGITAL REPEATER NEWS

The NF9K DMR Repeater has moved to its new home on the east side. The 9dB antenna is at 250 feet and with ~24 watts out of the duplexers the ERP is ~120W. Thank you to WA9FDO, N9DOO, N9EHT and K9DKC for their assistance in making this happen!

General information, including pictures and a coverage map can be found here: <http://www.nf9k.net/?p=506> Talkgroup information can be found here: <http://www.nf9k.net/?p=521> If anyone needs any help programming their radio, please email Bill Atkinson (bill@nf9k.net) for assistance.

NO MORE HARD COPY LICENSES FROM FCC

Starting February 17, the FCC no longer will routinely issue paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS), although the FCC has continued to print and mail hard copy licenses. In mid-December the FCC adopted final procedures to provide access to official electronic authorizations, as it had proposed in WT Docket 14-161 as part of its "process reform" initiatives. Point your browser to <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-paperless-amateur-radio-license-policy-goes-into-effect-on-february-17> for more information.

RADIO SHACK BREATHING IT'S LAST BREATH

The end is near for [RadioShack](#). It seems inevitable that the once seemingly ubiquitous electronics and cell phone retailer will liquidate its assets, after which RadioShack would cease to exist. The nearly century-old Fort Worth, Texas, based retailer — once a go-to shop for electronic components and, at one point, even Amateur Radio and shortwave receivers — has lost 90 percent of its value over the past year, despite efforts to refinance and modernize its stores. Before it was delisted, RadioShack's stock was selling for just 24 cents a share. For more information, go to <http://www.arrl.org/news/radioshack-s-long-slow-downward-slide-nears-the-end>.

INDIANAPOLIS RADIO CLUB VE TESTING SCHEDULE

(All sessions start at 12:00 noon)

March 14, 2015 - Integrated Public Safety Commission, 8468 E 21st, Indianapolis, IN
Contact: Rhonda S. Curtis, (317) 363-7457, Email: ws9h@arrl.net

April 11, 2015 - Salvation Army EDS Training Facility, 4020 Georgetown Rd., Indianapolis, IN
Contact: James K. Rinehart, (317) 495-1933, Email: k9ru@arrl.net

May, 2015 - **No test session – due to all the activities during the month**

HAM RADIO GEAR FOR SALE

I have a new 3 500 tube that I would like to sell. I paid \$190 for it and I would be pleased to receive \$125 for it. I also have an unused MFJ Artificial Ground. I would like to receive around \$90 for the unit. Thanks, David Wilhelmus, WA9OUX

Contact : wilhelmusdavid@gmail.com

Phone: 317 926-2358

MORE HAM RADIO GEAR FOR SALE

In order to make room on the shelf, I am selling my Yaesu FT-897D, along with some accessories. I am the original owner of the rig, having purchased it new in July of 2005. At that time, I purchased the radio and the "built in" FP-30B power supply (no noise). Later, in October of 2005, I ordered the LDG AT-897 tuner (not the current "plus" model). Finally, in November of 2005, I installed a SSB filter in the rig. It also comes with the stock hand microphone and manual. As a "bonus", I will throw in the carrying case I have the radio in currently. It's a "road case" attaché that I used to use for a portable DAT (Digital Audio Tape) recorder, that was repurposed for the radio and it's accessories.

My total investment in all this is just under \$1400. I am willing to sell the complete package for \$900.

Ken Bandy, KJ9B

kj9b@arrl.net

(317) 456-4353

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Reba Benson, N9QKQ

Billy Farnsworth, KD9CTY

Mike Goode, N9NS

David Ofstein, N9APE

FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at <http://www.indyradioclub.org/rqstnewsletter.htm>.

SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at kj9b@arrl.net

Signals from the Past:

From the February, 1960 *Amachewer*:

Excerpt from THE PRESIDENTS FREQUENCY :

During the last few years we have all heard or read about everybody going commercial, not experimenting, returning their gear to the factory for repair, etc., which gave the impression that all was lost to those few that “roll their own”. Of course we’re kidding ourselves if we try to think that this is only a temporary trend, because the old demon “commercial gear” is here to stay and for some very good reasons, but it is important that we don’t become stagnant.

The challenge of UHF is here now to tempt the imagination and skill of the amateur. Of course the gear isn’t available except at terrific cost, but the component parts are as near as your local dealer. I think we can anticipate amateur activity during the next ten years will shift very radically to higher frequencies, probably much higher than we even dream about today

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- February 28: Dugger Hamfest 7:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Dugger Community Building in Dugger Park. More info at <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/darc-hamfest-1>
- March 14: Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association Hamfest. 8:00 – 1:00 at Clay County Fairgrounds Go to <http://w9uuu.org/hamfest.html> for more information
- March 28: Columbus Hamfest 8:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Bartholemew County Fairgrounds. Talk in on 146.79 R (103.5 tone)

2015 Officers:

- President: Dave Spoelstra, N9KT – EMAIL n9kt@arrl.net
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - ..EMAIL dmiller@ivytech.edu
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - ..EMAIL kj9b@arrl.net
- Treasurer: Rhonda Curtis, WS9H - ..EMAIL ws9h.indy@gmail.com
- Chief Operator: Tom Chance, K9XV - ..EMAIL k9xv@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – EMAIL k9ru@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB - ..EMAIL g-17sk7.2@outlook.com
- Dir. at large: Bob Osterhous - ..EMAIL rosterhous@iquest.net
- W9JP Trustee: Don Hemenover, N9DOO – EMAIL don9doo@indy.rr.com