



Spark Gap

Vol. 38, Issue 8, August 2021 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities for thirty-eight years*

On Our MARC:

This Saturday, August 21 at 8 am we will be holding our monthly MARC meeting at **New Hope Church**, 5307 W Fairview Rd Greenwood IN 46142 - on Fairview Rd just west of Morgantown road. The audio portion of the meeting will also be carried on the Club's 2M repeater as we have in the past. Due to difficulty hitting the repeater directly from this location, we will cross-band repeat using our own HT radios on UHF to my vehicle in the parking lot of the church to relay our HT signals to the MARC 2M VHF repeater. If you plan to attend in person, **please bring an HT programmed for the Simplex frequency 445.875 MHz (no PL tone) to use when you speak at the meeting** so repeater only listeners can hear.

Our speaker, **Bob LaGrange, N9SIU** will go before the business portion and will talk about ARRL/Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). There will be a slide presentation of how ARES operates and it's importance in Amateur Radio and our communities during an emergency and/or disaster. There will also be an update on the ARES Simulated Emergency Test (S.E.T.) held on August 14th and report of how well the exercise went for this year.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

MARC Members,

The organizers of the Greenwood Community Band are requesting our help with public safety and directing where cars are to park at the Community Band Festival. Our club has worked this event in the past and it is a pretty relaxed event to do. They usually provide us with lunch and drinks.

This Community Band Festival takes place on Saturday, August 28, at Surina Park in Greenwood. There is no charge to attend this event. There are eight bands from different parts of Indiana scheduled to play.

The Community Band Festival starts at noon and goes to about 7PM. Our crew should be there at 10AM. Bands and fans will get there shortly after. We usually have about eight volunteers help and we can leave anytime after 3:30PM or stick around to hear the bands.

Please contact Bob LaGrange, N9SIU for more details or to volunteer. If you email me, I am happy to forward your info to Bob as well. Bob: n9siu@yahoo.com Tim: tealdridge@comcast.com

73,
Tim WC9G



Happy Birthday for August

WA9JGB -- Grant Black
N9IKL – Dennis Ciurej
W9WMJ – William (Marty) Justis
W3BXS – Edward Kuespert
N9ACK -- Matt Sprout

MID-STATE ARC TAILGATE HAMFEST!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2021 8am - NOON.
JOHNSON COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE
PARKING LOT -- 1 CAISSON DRIVE, FRANKLIN.

- *FREE for buyers and sellers!
- *Buy and sell ham radio-related gear.
- *Talk-in on the W9MID repeater—146.835 with 151.4 PL.
- *Setup starts at 7:00 am for vendors.
- *Maximum of 20 vendor spaces.
- *Vendor spaces available on a first come, first served basis!
- *Two spaces max per vendor.
- *Vendors, please bring your own tables & chairs.
- *No 110vac in lot but available in garage for testing gear.
- *Non-hams can learn about ham radio and our club at our booth.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

BRUCE, K9ICP AT BTISDALE1949@COMCAST.NET OR

JIM, N9EJR AT PIO@MIDSTATEHAMS.ORG

July Volunteer Monitor Program Report Released

The July 2021 activity report of the Volunteer Monitor (VM) Program has been released. This program is a joint initiative between ARRL and the FCC to enhance compliance in the Amateur Radio Service.

- Technician-class licensees in Spring Valley, Smith River, and Nipomo, California; Oneonta, New York; Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Center, Texas, received *Advisory Notices* concerning FT8 operation on frequencies not authorized to Technician licensees.
- General-class licensees in Marco Island and Arcadia, Florida, as well as in Maryland, received *Advisory Notices* for operation in the Amateur Extra-class portion of the 20-meter band.
- A licensee in Parks, Arizona, received an *Advisory Notice* concerning failure to abide by a request to stay off a repeater. The matter will be referred to the FCC for enforcement action.
- A General-class licensee in Acworth, Georgia, received an *Advisory Notice* concerning failure to identify properly and for repeated communications with unlicensed stations on 3.895 MHz.
- An Amateur Extra-class licensee in Keansburg, New Jersey, received an *Advisory Notice* concerning on-the-air threats directed at another operator on 3.844 MHz.
- The final totals for VM monitoring in July were 1,736 hours on HF frequencies and 2,185 hours on VHF and UHF frequencies.



The IT staff at ARRL Headquarters has begun work on the automated system for Volunteer Monitors to report monthly monitoring hours and *Incident Reports*. -- *Thanks to Volunteer Monitor Program Administrator Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH* ARRL NEWS August 2021

Application Fees Unlikely to Go into Effect Until 2022

The schedule of FCC amateur radio application fees likely will not go into effect before 2022. FCC staff confirmed during a recent virtual meeting with Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs) that the agency is still working on the necessary changes to the Universal Licensing System (ULS) software and other processes and procedures that must be in place before it starts collecting fees from amateur applicants. Earlier this year, the FCC said it would not start collecting fees from amateur applicants before this summer. The new estimate is that the fees won't go into effect until early next year.

Once it's effective, the \$35 application fee will apply to new, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call sign applications. All fees will be per application. Administrative update applications, such as those to change a licensee's name, mailing, or email address, will be exempt from fees. ARRL VEC manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, said Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not face the burden of collecting the \$35 fee.

“Once the FCC application fee takes effect, new and upgrade applicants will pay the exam session fee to the VE team as usual, but they'll pay the \$35 application fee directly to the FCC using the FCC Pay Fees system,” she explained. When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each successful candidate who then will have 10 days from the date of the email to pay.

After the fee is paid and the FCC has processed an application, examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license. The link will be good for 30 days. Licensees also will be able to view, download, and print official license copies by logging into their FCC ULS account. The FCC no longer provides printed licenses.

Licensees can log into the ULS with their 10-digit FRN (FCC Registration Number) and password at any time to view and manage their license and application, print their license, and update anything in their FCC license record, including adding an email address.

FEE SCHEDULE INDIVIDUALS

\$35 FEE: New, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call sign applications. All fees will be per application.

NO FEE: Administrative updates, such as a change of name, mailing or email address, or license cancellation.

AMATEUR RADIO CLUBS

\$35 FEE: New, renewal, trustee change, and vanity call sign applications. All fees will be per application.

NO FEE: Administrative updates, such as a change of name, mailing or email address, or license cancellation.

ARRL Indiana Section

Section Manager: Jimmy L Merry Jr, KC9RPX kc9rpx@arrl.org

JOHNSON COUNTY INDIANA 2021 SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST (S.E.T.)

ARRL would like for all counties that have an active ARES group to conduct a Simulated Emergency Test once per year to make sure that their communications skills are up to date and be ready to work with local governments if an emergency and/or disaster situation arises. The Johnson County S.E.T. used a scenario of an earthquake that has disrupted some communications in Johnson and surrounding counties. For this exercise there was a need for mobile stations to go to assigned locations in Johnson County. Stations participating in this exercise could be mobile, fixed (base station) and portable such as an HT. The frequencies in this exercise were in the 2 meter band and used the 146.835 MHz repeater and 146.460 MHz simplex.

The stations participating in the S.E.T. kept a log of contacts and how well a signal was received in their location. The MARC Radio Room was used as the Head Quarters for the S.E.T. also kept a log as those participating.

The S.E.T. started at 1000 EDT. The stations that were mobile were at the MARC Radio Room at 0930 EDT to pick up their assignment in the county. If any of the mobile stations that have APRS capability it was encouraged for them to use it if possible.

The W9MID repeater was used during the S.E.T. and was not be turned off. At a designated point in this exercise the Net Control Station (NCS) told stations to QSY to 146.460 MHz simplex. At the EndEx Net Control instructed stations to QSY to the W9MID repeater to wrap up the exercise.

It was the intention of this exercise that all participating be made aware of places in Johnson County that have problems of using 2 meter frequencies in remote areas. This exercise was meant to be challenging but also to have some fun using simplex frequencies and relaying messages.

The S.E.T. Exercise switched back to the club repeater at 1112 EDT and the exercise ended at 1120 EDT.

Results:

There were 19 stations that participated, K9ICP, KF6EFG, WC9G, K9DMX, KQ9Y, K9DY, W9HR, W8ISH, KC9VGQ, KC9NJM, KI6QOG, KD9ALA, W9EAM, W9NMM, KM6CRL, WB9GRO, KC9MVK, N9TMP and KB9JMU. In the radio room N9SIU and KD9FBC.

Mobile stations: 11 Base stations: 8

..... *Bob N9SIU Johnson County ARES EC*



Net Control Practice and Exercises Keep Wyoming Amateurs Sharp

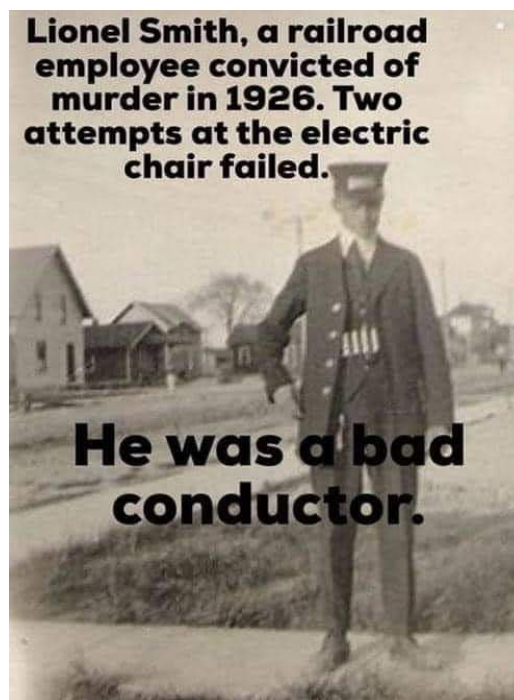
Wyoming's Cloud Peak Radio and Electronics Group, CPREG, holds a weekly 2 meter training net that also serves as the county ARES net. Participation has been good this year, helped by the introduction of interesting exercises. Each month different volunteers are assigned to serve as net control, creating a group of trained operators with experience at controlling a net. If a net control misses a session, any member with a net script and net roll is invited to jump in and run the net.

Following the PACE model (Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency) plans for the net, the club repeater serves as the Primary repeater, another local repeater is the Alternate, and the Contingency frequency is 146.52 simplex.

One night it was announced, "the repeaters are out, go to the Contingency option." We had a centrally located member on alert to act as net control -- a luxury we might not have for real, but a good idea for an exercise, to keep it functioning. Interest was piqued.

Recently we completed another exercise, this time without surprise because the idea was to create a tool we could all use. After calling the net on the repeater, we went to simplex following a publicized plan. The net control then called the roll. Each station was asked to note the calls of the check-ins they could copy. After the exercise, we combined the data to create a "contact matrix" indicating which receiving stations could copy which transmitting stations. The contact matrix should help in planning future 2-meter simplex operations.

Keeping the nets varied with different control operators and different exercises is one way to keep interest high. -- *Chris Smith, NX0E, Dayton, Wyoming ... ARRL/ARES News, August 2021*



Pick from the Past 1977

Ready to go beyond CB? Enter a new world of communications with this 10-watt, 2-meter Mobile Amateur Transceiver

SO MANY EXCITING FEATURES IT'S WORTH a closer look

(A) Illuminated meter shows relative strength of received signals and power output

(B) LED frequency channel readout

(C) Indicator lights show operating mode at a glance

(D) PLL circuitry with 22-channel programmable selector . . . no crystals to buy . . . program any of 200 frequencies in 10KHz steps—change them at any time

(E) Simplex/Duplex and +/- 600 switch for use when repeater operation is desired

(1) 2-meter FM Mobile Amateur Transceiver

(2) Remote Channel Selector

Mobile Radio mounts under dash

(1) 2-meter FM Transceiver **\$299.95**

(1) 2-meter FM Mobile Amateur Transceiver made for Sears by YEASU

PERFORMANCE FEATURES: 200-channel capability with 22-position programmable channel selector that lets you reprogram any time you want. Phase-Lock-Loop (PLL) circuitry . . . no crystals to buy or install. Locks in channel frequency for signal stability. 2-meter transceiver covers frequency range 146MHz to 148MHz. Hi/low transmitter power switch with 10 watts of RF output power in high and 1 watt in low for short-range transmission. Illuminated meter indicates signal strength/transmitter output. Rear-mounted adjustable burst switch applies short tone-burst when push-to-talk lever on microphone is depressed for use with "tone access" repeater operation. On/off volume control, squelch control, 9-pin accessory plug.

CABINET: Black metal cabinet 7¼x3x9¾ in. deep. Built-in 3-in. speaker. External speaker jack. Detachable hand-held microphone with send/receive button. Under-dash mounting bracket. Instructions. Japan.

ELECTRICAL INFORMATION: DC-powered. Operates on any positive or negative ground 12-volt system. Includes 8-ft. DC cord with in-line fuse, connector and cigarette lighter plug.

ORDERING INFORMATION: See important note at right. Order antenna at right for mobile or base station use. See Warranty on page 1162. 61 G 3880—Shipping weight 7 pounds 11 ounces . . . \$299.95

(2) Remote Channel Selector. Connect to transceiver (1) to send or receive on all 200 channels. Select any channel between 146MHz and 148MHz in 10KHz steps by setting dials to channel you want. Digital channel readout. Black plastic cabinet 5½x2x3½ in. Cable, connectors incl. Japan.

ORDERING INFORMATION:
61 G 3881—Shipping weight 1 lb. 8 oz. . . \$39.95

IMPORTANT NOTE: The Amateur Radio Transceiver (1) above can only be used by licensed Amateurs who have successfully passed the FCC examination and been issued licenses in Technical Class or higher. Contact the FCC office in any major city for details on obtaining your Amateur or "Ham" license.

See pages 675 to 681 for complete Credit Terms and States where applicable

From the 1977 Sears Roebuck Catalog is the Sears 2 Meter Mobile Transceiver G 3880 and the Remote Channel Selector G 3881. This radio was designed by YEASU to be sold through Sears back when they had a section in their catalog of HAM radio equipment. YEASU also sold this radio as model FRG-7 also known as Frog7. It was advanced for the time and did not require crystals and had PL tones for repeater use. The 10 watt radio was truly portable and could be used for field operations. They don't make them like this anymore. 73, Bob N9SIU

60TH Annual

HOOSIER HILLS HAMFEST

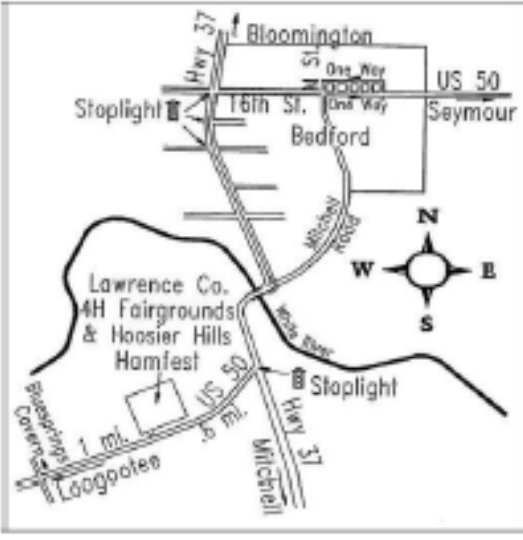
At the Lawrence County 4H Fairgrounds Near Bedford Indiana October 2, 2021

NOTICE: DATE OCTOBER 2ND 2021

Indoor Hamfest, All Vendors & Tailgating Inside & Outside
Hourly DOOR PRIZES Including ARRL Store Gift Certificates
Admission Price Still ONLY \$5 Per Person

Vendor / Tailgate Set-Up	Hamfest Hours / Rules
<p>Vendor Building Open 6am - 8am Saturday vendor / tailgate set-up only. Outside Tailgating Fee is \$5 plus admission Inside Vendor / Tailgating Fee is \$10 per table/space, plus admission Each 10' x 10' space includes 1 table <u>"Quantity Discounts Available For Inside Only"</u></p>	<p>Gates open to the public at 8am Saturday Admission \$5 per person (under 12 FREE)</p> <p>Ticket stubs must be placed in the barrel to have a chance of winning prizes</p>

ARRL VE Testing ~ Registration 9:30 - 10 am Test At 10 am Next To The Main Building

<p>TALK IN ~ 146.73 MHz (-) PL 107.2 W9QYQ Repeater</p> <p>Please Sign Up For Our Hamfest E-newsletter & Find The Latest Hamfest Information On Our Website: http://www.w9qyq.org/hamfest</p>	
<p>Hamfest Chair: Nathan Lowery, KB9GMU Email: kb9gmu@gmail.com</p> <p>Contact Person: W.W. Warren - KB9TMP For Information, Text or Call: 812.675.2450 Or Email: hamfest@w9qyq.org</p>	

Hamfest Location 11265 U.S. Highway 50 West Mitchell Indiana 47446 – Please See Above Map
For the very latest Hamfest News Please Visit: <http://www.w9qyq.org/hamfest>

2021 Indiana ARRL Hamfest Schedule

August 28

North Central Indiana Hamfest

Miami County 4-H Fairgrounds

1029 W. 200 North, Peru, Indiana

9am – 2pm

<http://www.nci-hamfest.net>

September 11

Tippecanoe County Hamfest
Tippecanoe County 4H Fairgrounds
1406 Teal Road - Lafayette, IN
8 AM - 2 PM

October 2

Hoosier Hills Ham Club Hamfest

Lawrence Co. 4H Fairgrounds

11265 US Hwy 50 W – Bedford, IN

http://www.w9qyq.org/pdf/2021_Hamfest_Flyer.pdf

October 16

Shelbyville Tailgate Hamfest

Blue River Valley ARS

8 AM - 12 PM

Shelby Co Fairgrounds

500 Frank St. Shelbyville, IN

<http://www.brvars.com>

OCTOBER 23

Hamtober Fest

7 AM - 12 PM

Lynnville Community Center

416 W ST RD IN-68 - Lynnville, IN

<http://www.w9og.net/hamtoberfest-hamfest-2021>

November 13 & 14

Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo

2021 - ARRL - Central Division Convention

Allen County War Memorial Coliseum

4000 Parnell Ave – Fort Wayne

<http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>

November 27

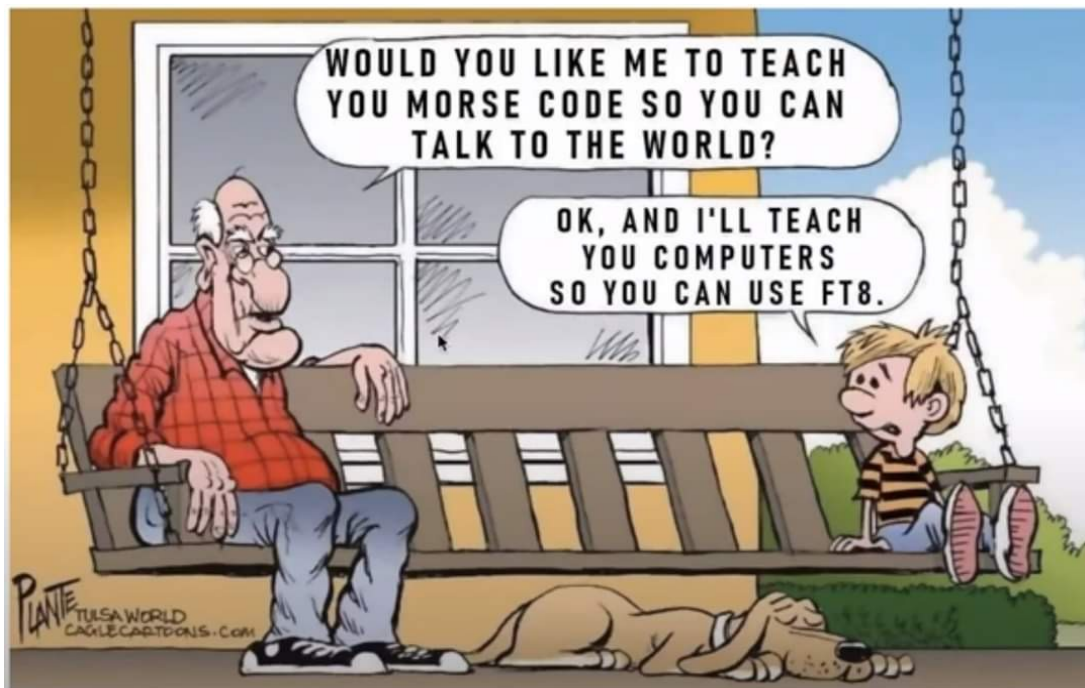
Wabash Valley ARC - Turkey Fest

8 am to 12 pm

Clay Co. Fairgrounds

6550 N SR IN 59 - Brazil, IN

www.w9uuu.org/hamfest/turkeyfest_2021.pdf



M.A.R.C. Officer Election this September

The nomination committee headed by Jacki, KI6QOG is looking for members interested in serving the club as an officer for 2021 to 2022. Those interested must be a member of M.A.R.C. and be in good standing.

Please contact Jacki at ki6qog@yahoo.com if interested.



MID-STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the **THIRD SATURDAY** of each month
at the Johnson County REMC 750 International Drive Franklin, IN 46131.
(When Normal Returns)

See our website, www.midstatehams.org, for maps on how to get to our meeting.

Everyone is welcome; you do not have to be a *HAM* to attend our meetings or a member of the club.

W9MID Repeater:

146.835/
146.235 MHz
(151.4 Hz PL Tone)

W9MID Repeater:

443.525/
448.525 MHz
(151.4 Hz PL Tone)

Weekly Net: Sunday evening 7:00 PM ARES/RACES members and ALL RADIO AMATEURS
146.835/146.235 MHz (151.4 Hz PL Tone)

The Official Newsletter of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 836
Franklin, Indiana
46131

Spark Gap Editor: Robert LaGrange N9SIU

Please send your articles to my email: n9siu@yahoo.com no later than the 2nd week of the month.



Thanks to the New Hope Church for the use of their building for meetings and testing.