



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

April 2019 Newsletter

Upcoming Meetings:

May 10: Radio Astronomy

June 14: Annual auction

Highlights from the April Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by club vice-president Dave Miller, K9RTT. Dave opened the meeting with self-introductions. There were 35 present. Dave asked for volunteers to help with the Radio Club's table and prize table for the upcoming Indianapolis Hamfest. Jim Rinehart, K9RU, talked about a class that he and David Spoelstra, N9KT, hosted at Ivy Tech. See article later in this newsletter for more information on the class and new hams. Jim also talked about two petitions out now. One is a new entry level "CB" type license with very limited testing. The other petition is to give more spectrum to techs. See more information on these petitions later in this newsletter. Mark Burke, W9MGB talked about Field Day plans for the club, as well as the North Central Hamfest coming up.

Next, Dave, N1RF, gave a short presentation on antenna polarization, using a HT and a couple of dipole antennas. The receiving antenna was fitted with a small light bulb that lit from the RF energy received. With this set up, Dave was able to practically demonstrate how antenna polarization affects the successful transmission of RF signals. Next, Dave introduced Joe Fitter, K7JOE, and Rick Nicholson, N9UMJ. They gave their presentation on the Southern Indiana Network (SIN) digital radio system. The system was

developed from an interest in being able to communicate between different digital flavors, such as P25, DMR, C4FM (System Fusion), NXDN, or D-Star. The DV4 Mini guys were working on this, but ran out of money. Then other folks took over from there. Utilizing the AMBE 2 chip vocoder, transcoding these modes from one to the other is possible. The guys talked about utilizing different hotspot variations. The low power hotspot is a “Hat” that sets on a Raspberry Pi. This type of hotspot would basically be for use in a small area, such as a home. They are developing high power hotspots, that utilize the same hat on a commercial radio, to give coverage to a larger area. Joe did a live demo over the network to WB9TLH, to show Pi-Star software. There is an email reflector that folks can subscribe to in order to keep up on developments in the system, as well as Pi-Star updates. Point your browser to <https://groups.io/g/sin> to see the group and subscribe.

After Joe and Rick’s presentation, Doug Rose, N9DR, did a short “show and tell” of a couple of ISS images he had captured. The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Ham Radio News:

ARRL ROLLS BACK OUTGOING QSL BUREAU RATES

After substantial increases in the fees charged to those making use of the ARRL outgoing QSL bureau, the ARRL is rolling back those fees to those of 2011. This will be effecting May 15. For details, point your browser to

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-rolls-back-outgoing-qs1-bureau-rates-to-2011-prices>

LICENSE CLASS AT IVY TECH RESULTS IN NEW HAMS

David Spoelstra, N9KT, and Jim Rinehart, K9RU, recently completed a license class with several students from Ivy Tech. As a result of the class, there are 5 new hams in the Ivy Tech and Indianapolis Radio Clubs. David and Jim are soliciting donations to be able to purchase handheld radios for these new hams. The new hams in the following picture are from left to right, KD9MVK Quinton Ritter, KD9MVN Augustine Busch, KD9MVJ Jahrael Shabzultvorn, KD9MVM Karla Jimenez-Vasquez, KD9MVL Austin Owens.



INDIANA QSO PARTY COMING UP MAY 4

The Indiana QSO Party is Saturday May 4th, starts at 11AM and ends at 11PM EDT (1500 UTC May 4th to 0300 UTC May 5th).

The objective for Indiana stations is to work all 92 Indiana counties and work as many stations as possible in Indiana and worldwide.

For stations operating outside of Indiana, the goal is to work all 92 Indiana counties and as many Indiana stations as possible.

INQP allows a number of operating categories including: QRP, low and high power single operator, all-out club efforts, multi-operator high power and multi-multi (multi operator and multi transmitters) operation.

Also included are mobile units and rovers moving from county to county and portable setups similar to Field Day. Plaques are awarded for best in Indiana, out of state efforts, and best individual county efforts!

INQP rules include a category for Club Competition that allows an Indiana Amateur Radio Club to have their members that submit contact-logs for an aggregate club score. Members need to list the club on their entry. Plaque for the club with highest aggregate score and awards certificates for second and third place. *[Indianapolis Radio Club members are asked to notate that on their logs.]*

The Indiana exchange is RS(T) plus the county and for all others USA stations it is RS(T) plus state, for Canada RS(T) plus province or territory and all others it is RS(T) plus DX. See INQP site for Indiana county abbreviations. All start with IN and then the county.
<http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/counties.html>

Logs should be submitted in a digital format, the Cabrillo logging format is preferred. Handwritten logs are accepted but have to be entered manually, so an electronic log is preferred. Logs must be received by June 1st.

The INQP overlaps with a few other QSO parties and contests: the 7QP, NEQP, and the Italian ARI Contest. So, during the INQP many other stations seek contacts from Indiana to fill their logs. The more Indiana stations on the air that day, the more action for everyone!

INQP Activity Map - Once you have made a plan, please e-mail Mel KJ9C kj9c@arrl.net, with the information on what counties and call signs you will activate during the INQP. The HDXCC will list your call and county on the activity map so others will look for you.

<http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/activity.php>

ARRL PROPOSES CHANGES TO TECH OPERATING SPECTRUM

The ARRL proposed what has been designated RM-11828 by the FCC that would increase Technician level licensees' operating privileges. The proposal would allow technicians phone privileges at 3.900 to 4.000 MHz, 7.225 to 7.300 MHz, and 21.350 to 21.450 MHz. It would continue RTTY and digital privileges in current Technician allocations on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters. For more information, point your browser to <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-invites-comments-on-arrl-technician-enhancement-proposal>

“TYRO” LICENSE PROPOSED

A new class of license called “Tyro” that was proposed by a Colorado ham back in August of 2017 has been opened to the public for comment. This license would be available to anyone over the age of 11, after completing a “minimal online examination” and mentoring by an Amateur with at least a technician level license. There would be 99 channels in a 70 centimeter sub-band available to Tyro licensees. Additional information is available at

<http://www.arrl.org/news/tyro-license-proposal-now-open-for-public-comment>

UPCOMING INDIANAPOLIS AREA TESTING SESSIONS

Franklin IN 46131-9733
Sponsor: Mid-State ARc
Date: Apr 20 2019
Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Scott W. Nelson
(812) 320-2790
Email: scott@w9dba.com
VEC: LAUREL MD
Location: REMC Bldg
750 International Dr
Franklin IN 46131-9733

Greenfield IN 46140-1100
Sponsor: Hancock Cty ARC
Date: May 11 2019
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Jill Schaumloeffel
(317) 363-4674
Email: n2jlc@yahoo.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Park Chapel Christian Church
1176 E McKenzie Rd

Greenfield IN 46140-1100

Franklin IN 46131-9733
Sponsor: Mid-State ARc
Date: May 18 2019
Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Scott W. Nelson
(812) 320-2790
Email: scott@w9dba.com
VEC: LAUREL MD
Location: REMC Bldg
750 International Dr
Franklin IN 46131-9733

Anderson IN 46016-2238
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club
Date: May 21 2019
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Stephen M. Riley
(765) 425-4627
Email: smriley@hughes.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Madison County EOC
200 Delaware St
Anderson IN 46016-2238

Mooreville IN 46158-1333
Sponsor: Formidable Amt Radio Team
Date: May 22 2019
Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Bill Spann
(317) 831-5582
Email: wlspann@iquest.net
VEC: LAUREL MD
Location: Brown Township Government Ctr
471 N Samuel Moore Pkwy

also: 3176507528
Mooresville IN 46158-1333

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 April May, 1952 *Amachewer*:

Any reports of the Ham-Vention on March 22nd at Dayton? Ye ed received the announcement but too late to include in the last issue of our paper and is wondering if any one locally attended.

[KJ9B note: This was the first year for the Hamvention. Note the date: March 22!]

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- April 27, 2019: North Central Indiana Hamfest at Miami County Fairgrounds, Peru, IN. Go to https://www.grantarc.org/?page_id=261 for more info.
- May 17 - 19, 2019: Hamvention 2019 at Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center, Xenia, OH. Go to <https://hamvention.org/> for more info.
- July 12 - 13, 2019: Indianapolis Hamfest at Marion County Fairgrounds. Go to <http://www.indyhamfest.com/> for more info.

2019 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – davids@mediamachine.com
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - dmiller@ivytech.edu
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - kj9b@arrl.net
- Treasurer: Mark Burke, W9MGB - w9mgb@arrl.net
- Chief Operator: Jace Thompson, KD9BIG - kd9big@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – k9ru@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Dave Michaels, N1RF - dw_michaels@comcast.net
- Dir. at large: Jeff Hammer, N9NIC - n9nic@arrl.net
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - W9TC@arrl.net