



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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## *March 2019 Newsletter*

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### **Upcoming Meetings:**

April 12: MMDVM based multi-mode digital system from Southern Indiana

May 10: Radio Astronomy

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### **Highlights from the March Meeting:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by club president David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were 43 present. David recognized new members: Alex, KA3BQE; John, AB9IH; and Dawn Marie, from Ivy Tech. David reported that he and Jim, K9RU, are going to be putting on a one day tech class on March 23rd at Ivy Tech. David said there has been a good flow of visitors through the W9IVY/W9JP station in the Glick Technology building, room 226A. David said there are plans for a couple of new radios for the station.

There were no technical questions from the floor.

David mentioned that Mike Palmer, N9FEB, still could use some more hams to help in support of the 500 Festival Mini-Marathon.

Jeff Hammer, N9NIC, announced that this year the Indianapolis Radio Club Field Day was going to be held at the "Coke Lot", next to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Jeff

had some maps and sign-up sheets. He would like to have many stations on the air from there this year.

Next, David introduced Dave Arland for his presentation about this year's Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. Dave said the show continues to grow, with this year's exhibits consuming 2 million square feet of space. Dave's company, Arland Communications (<https://www.arlandcom.com/>) had 25 people at the show this year to document it for clients. He said that Google had a 2 story exhibit in one of the parking lots primarily to sell the "Google Assistant". Dave said internet connected appliances were one of the big things this year, such as a "smart water faucet" that could dispense measured water, ie. "Give me a cup of water". There were self contained beer dispensers, similar in concept to a Keurig coffee maker, toothbrush sanitizers, and one of the more unique, yet simple, devices there was the "TV Jockstrap" (<http://tvjockstrap.com/>). This is a simple piece of black elastic that goes around your TV screen to block the ticker at the bottom of the screen to eliminate "spoiling" other games' scores when watching a live game and recording another. Dave gave an update on ATSC 3.0, the next version of broadcast digital TV. This version will be capable of supporting 4K TV, or "Ultra HD". It also will be capable of "alert localization", where for instance weather alerts will be only shown in the area they apply to. Currently, Phoenix, AZ is a test market, with ATSC 3.0 being broadcast. Dave suspected that TVs capable of receiving ATSC 3.0 signals may begin appearing at next year's CES show. He also said there would be conversion boxes, or "gateways" available to convert ATSC 3.0 to ATSC 1.0 for consumers. Dave, being the early TV hardware buff that he is, pitched the "Early TV Convention" ([http://www.earlytelevision.org/2019\\_convention.html](http://www.earlytelevision.org/2019_convention.html)) coming up the first weekend in May, in Hilliard, OH.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

## Ham Radio News:

### **BOB NORTHERN, W9VCS, SK**

Bill Akin, K9YDO, received word that Bob Northern, W9VCS / VE3VCS passed away recently. Bob had lived in Fishers before relocating to Arizona about twelve years ago. He was a dual citizen of both Canada and the USA. Originally from Canada, he was a retired firefighter from Anderson, Indiana.

### **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](mailto: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>

## **UPDATED GENERAL EXAMS COMING IN JULY**

The new General class question pool will take effect on July 1, 2019 for all Element 3 General class license written exams. With the General class exams changing July 1st, new test designs must be created and used on that day. ARRL VEC will be supplying all its (near 1,000) Field Stocked VE teams with new test booklets about the 3rd week in June. Do not destroy the 2015 versions of the General exams until June 30.

## **NEW VERSION OF WSJT-X OUT**

If you are one of the myriad of hams that make use of the FT-8 software by K1JT, version 2.01 has been released. The Windows installer is available at <http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjtx-2.0.1-win32.exe> and release notes are available at [http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/Release\\_Notes.txt](http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/Release_Notes.txt).

## **BOUVET ISLAND 3Y0I UPDATE**

The Rebel DX Group (<https://www.rebeldxgroup.com/>) is still training and planning in Cape Town, South Africa in preparation for the much anticipated activation of Bouvet Island. Despite comments by some stating that the group is “scamming”, they plan on carrying out the mission. Their latest plan, released today at

<https://bouvetoya.org/3yoi-initial-plans-extended/> is to be active on the island three to four weeks. No word yet as to when they plan on traveling to the island.

## **UPCOMING INDIANAPOLIS AREA TESTING SESSIONS**

Mooresville IN 46158-1333

Sponsor: Formidable Amt Radio Team

Date: Mar 20 2019

Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Bill Spann

(317) 831-5582

Email: wspann@iquest.net

VEC: LAUREL MD

Location: Brown Township Government Ctr

471 N Samuel Moore Pkwy

also: 3176507528

Mooresville IN 46158-1333

Indianapolis IN 46254-2407

Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio Club-W9JP

Date: Apr 13 2019

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 Rd

Indianapolis IN 46254-2407

Anderson IN 46016-2238

Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club

Date: Apr 16 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

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](mailto:scott@w9dba.com)  
VEC: LAUREL MD  
Location: REMC Bldg  
750 International Dr  
Franklin IN 46131-9733

### **FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER**

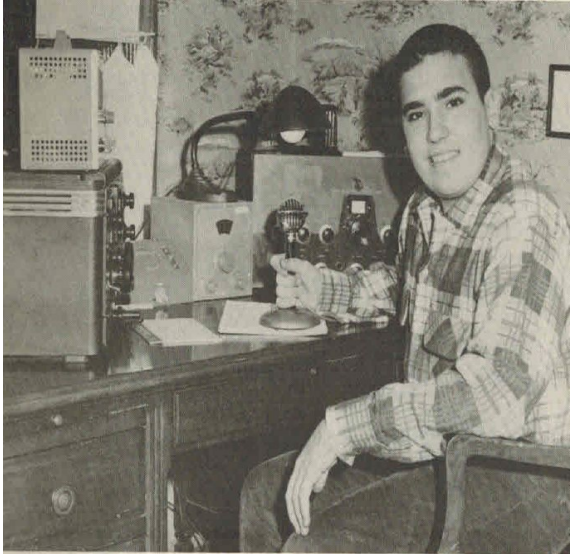
If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at <http://www.indyradioclub.org/rqstnewsletter.htm>.

### **SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS**

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)

## Signals from the Past:

From the March - April, 1960 *Amachewer*:



In 1955, Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Wolfla had no way of knowing that the spark of interest ignited in their son Hank, by a next door neighbor, would erupt into the roaring interest in Amateur Radio that he has today. Here is a story repeated many times of the boy who really has the “bug”, the burning interest to live, eat, and sleep radio. A potential leader in the development of modern electronics.

Hank, K9LZJ, who is 15 years old and a sophomore at North Central High, doesn't remember when he wasn't interested in radio (his mother says he was about 9 or 10) took his novice examination in 1958.

He went on the air with a homebrew rig on 80, 40, and 15, racking up 30 states with his KN call.

The N was dropped early in 1959 when Hank passed his General which really put K9LZJ in high gear. With the new ticket up on the wall, Hank acquired a Viking II and a SX28 and began to work over the phone bands like they have never been worked before.

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## Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- April 6, 2019: 36th Annual Columbus Hamfest at Bartholomew County 4-H Fairgrounds. Go to <http://carcnet.net> for more info.
- April 27, 2019: North Central Indiana Hamfest at Miami County Fairgrounds, Peru, IN. Go to [https://www.grantarc.org/?page\\_id=261](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](mailto:davids@mediamachine.com)
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - [dmiller@ivytech.edu](mailto:dmiller@ivytech.edu)
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)
- Treasurer: Mark Burke, W9MGB - [w9mgb@arrl.net](mailto:w9mgb@arrl.net)
- Chief Operator: Jace Thompson, KD9BIG - [kd9big@arrl.net](mailto:kd9big@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – [k9ru@arrl.net](mailto:k9ru@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Dave Michaels, N1RF - [dw\\_michaels@comcast.net](mailto:dw_michaels@comcast.net)
- Dir. at large: Jeff Hammer, N9NIC - [n9nic@arrl.net](mailto:n9nic@arrl.net)
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [W9TC@arrl.net](mailto:W9TC@arrl.net)