



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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## *March 2021 Newsletter*

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### **Upcoming Meetings:**

**April 9:** John Portune, W9NBC, presentation on slot antennas, VIA ZOOM.

**May 14:** Brian Smith, W9IND, will talk about the Indy United group's Field Day history and plans, VIA ZOOM.

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

The meeting was called to order via Zoom at 7:30 pm by club president David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were 28 in attendance.

David asked if there were any new hams present. Andre, KD9RUX, introduced himself as a new ham from Westfield. Jim Brown, WORLD, is new to the club. Both were welcomed by those present.

In announcements, David reminded everyone that club dues of \$20 are due now, and payable via PayPal ([treasurer@indyradioclub.org](mailto:treasurer@indyradioclub.org)), or by personal check made out to "Indianapolis Radio Club", and mailed to Ken Bandy, KJ9B, at 7405 E. County Road 900 N, Brownsburg, IN 46112. Also, David announced that there is an actual in-person hamfest scheduled for Saturday, March 20, at the Clay County Fairgrounds (see details later in this newsletter). He also announced the remaining Skywarn spotter training classes, being held virtually: For the Mar 22, 2021 6:30 PM EDT session, go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3726590565617200144> to register; For the

Mar 24, 2021 2:00 PM EDT session, go to

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/892252998861824272> to register.

He also announced that coming up May 1 is the Indiana QSO Party. For more information, go to <http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/index.html>.

Next, David introduced John Kruk, N9UPC, National Sales Manager of the Amateur Division, Yaesu USA, System Fusion specialist. John said before joining Yaesu, he was a radio tech for public safety. He has been with Yaesu since May 2017. John gave a little history on Yaesu. Yaesu Musen Co. was formed in 1956 by Sako Hasegawa, JA1MP, who was a TV engineer, in Yaesu, Japan. John talked about the first Yaesu radios, giving details about each model. He said that any of the HF radios that have “MP” in their model designator means it’s the top of the line for that model. John said there are classes available on the System Fusion digital radio system from time to time in the Yaesu Educational System. These classes will be announced, and available for sign up, at <http://systemfusion.yaesu.com/>.

David asked about the prospect of a full duplex radio for satellite use. John said both the FTM-300DR and FTM-400XDR are capable of full duplex operation, and that there is a demo on YouTube showing full duplex operation of the FT-300DR

There were several good questions from the floor, regarding future products, accessibility issues, etc.

There was a little discussion regarding the Indy Hamfest, coming up in July. The club’s webmaster, Ron Cooper, WB9DKL, suggested anyone talking about the hamfest online use the hashtag #indyhamfest.

The formal meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

## **Ham Radio News:**

### **CLUB DUES ARE DUE, AND PAYABLE VIA PAYPAL NOW!**

Club Dues for 2021 are due now. Individual dues are \$20 per year, or Family dues are \$30 per year (all family members need to live in the same household). Dues can be paid with PayPal at [treasurer@indyradioclub.org](mailto:treasurer@indyradioclub.org). Be sure to send the payment as a “friend”,

**not for** “goods and services”. This will prevent any fees being assessed to the payment. For those that don’t have a PayPal account, you can send a check made out to “Indianapolis Radio Club” to Ken Bandy, 7405 E. County Road 900 N, Brownsburg, IN 46112.

## **PLANS DEVELOPING FOR “HYBRID” MEETINGS**

The Board of Directors of the Indianapolis Radio Club is working on plans for our upcoming “season”, starting in September. Currently, we are exploring a “hybrid” meeting format, with in person meetings starting back up, but possibly continuing to have some speaker presentations via video. We are also exploring some possible “field trip” type meetings. Stay tuned for more, and if anyone has any ideas for speakers or topics for any meetings, feel free to let us know, by either posting your ideas on the IRCNews reflector (email to [ircnews@indyradioclub.org](mailto:ircnews@indyradioclub.org)) or send a note to the board at [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org).

## **INDY HAMFEST LOOKING FOR “NEW BLOOD”**

The Indy Hamfest Committee is looking for some new committee members. The fact is, if some folks don’t step up to help lead the Hamfest, the 2021 Indy Hamfest could be the LAST Indy Hamfest. It would be a shame for the capital of the state to no longer have a hamfest. Perhaps one of the other area hamfests could “merge” with the Indy Hamfest. Contact the Indy Hamfest Committee (<http://indyhamfest.com/links/contacts.htm>) if you would be willing to do your part to save the Hamfest.

## **TWO SKYWARN SPOTTER TRAINING SESSIONS LEFT**

All NWS Indianapolis spotter talks this Spring will be held virtually and live. The *GotoWebinar* platform will be used, which can host up to 1000 people per session. There are 2 remaining public sessions scheduled. Those times are listed below. Pre-registration will be required.

Anyone can attend any of these sessions as the training will be identical in content. Each webinar will last around 90 minutes. Unfortunately, due to copyright issues and privacy concerns, these webinars will not be recorded. Other opportunities for online training exist and will be shared during this training.

Below are the dates, times and registration links for each training opportunity. People only need to attend 1 of these sessions, but they must make sure they register using the unique URL for the date they wish to attend.

For the Mar 22, 2021 6:30 PM EDT session, go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3726590565617200144> to register.

For the Mar 24, 2021 2:00 PM EDT session, go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/892252998861824272> to register.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

## **HAM RADIO SUPPORT REQUESTED FOR OPSF 50/50**

*The following was received from Jim Baughn, K9EOH:*

March 27th once again the OPSF 50 50 will be run and I am looking for a few good operators.

Over the years we have played an important role, in the run, assisting the organizers by relaying runner check ins to Start/Finish and Aid Stations. Also reporting any Aid Station needs, such as low supplies, runner assistance, injury and/or runner dropping or changing race selection and any other critical information.

We will be working shifts from 8:45AM to 2:00PM and 1:45 to 7:00 PM.

If you wish to join us or request further information, please reply to [jim@k9eoh.com](mailto:jim@k9eoh.com) or with the phone numbers listed below.

Best Regards and 73,

Jim Baughn K9EOH

P.S. More information can be found at <http://www.owencountyara.org/OPSF%2050%2050.php>

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Jim K9EOH  
Home: 812 828 9086

Cell: 812 585 1385  
e-mail: [jim@k9eoh.com](mailto:jim@k9eoh.com)

## **INDIANAPOLIS HAMFEST AND STATE CONVENTION**

The 50th Indianapolis Hamfest will be held July 9 & 10 at the Marion County Fairgrounds. The ARRL Indiana State Convention will be held in conjunction with the Hamfest. Check <http://indyhamfest.com/> for more details as they become available.

## **CINCINNATI HAMFEST AND W8DXCC THIS SUMMER**

The 2021 Cincinnati Hamfest, and W8DXCC Convention will be held on Saturday, August 28, 2021. The events will both be held at the Clermont County Fairgrounds, in Owensville, OH. For more information, go to <https://cincinnatihamfest.org/>.

## **W4DXCC DX & CONTEST CONVENTION COMING UP**

September 24 and 25 are the dates for the 2021 W4DXCC. This DX and contest convention takes place in Pigeon Forge, TN, a relatively short, and very scenic drive from central Indiana. The two day event is scheduled to kick off with a “Ham Radio Bootcamp”, making it a great convention for those relatively new to the hobby, or even those that have been hams for a while, but want to brush up on operating techniques. The event wraps up with a banquet (at an extra charge), where you can chat with fellow hams over dinner, comparing notes or “tall tales”. Final planning for the event is still underway. Check their website at <http://w4dxcc.com/> for all the details.

## **2021 HAMVENTION AWARDS ANNOUNCEMENT**

Michael Kalter W8CI and Frank Beafore WS8B, co-chairs of the Hamvention Awards Committee, are delighted to present this year’s amateur radio award selections. Despite our current international health situation, the Hamvention committee elected to continue with its selection of outstanding radio amateurs. Hamvention will be back next year in full force.

Our winners are:

Technical Achievement: WX6SWW – Tamitha Mulligan Skov is well known as the “Space Weather Woman”. Folks that have seen her space weather forecasting show will freely admit that she is full of energy and excited about her work. She is a real space pioneer.

Special Achievement: W3WL – Wesley Lamboley was nominated by his peers for his lifetime, high energy support for the science and art of amateur radio. Not only has Wesley supported youth coaching, membership recruiting and technical problem assistance, he always does it with a smile and great humor.

Amateur of the Year: WP3R – Angel M. Vazquez is known for being one of the principal support engineers for what was one of the greatest antennas in the world – the National Science Foundation’s Arecibo parabolic dish antenna. Angel’s award stems from his unswerving and diligent support of amateur radio throughout the entire territory of Puerto Rico and extends worldwide.

Club of the Year: K4HTA – As always, it is very difficult to choose the club of the year as we receive many deserving club nominations from around the world. The Vienna Wireless society was chosen this year for its 58 years of service to the amateur radio community. K4HTA with its 280 members focus on youth education, public service and promoting the overall growth of radio through the DC area and around the world.

## **RELEASE CANDIDATE WSJT-X 2.4.0-rc3 ANNOUNCED**

Release candidate WSJT-X 2.4.0-rc3 includes the new digital mode Q65.

Q65 is designed for two-way QSOs over especially difficult propagation paths such as ionospheric scatter, troposcatter, rain scatter, TEP, EME, and other types fast-fading signals. Details and recommendations concerning the Q65 submodes are provided in the "Quick-Start Guide to Q65", available here:

[https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/Q65\\_Quick\\_Start.pdf](https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/Q65_Quick_Start.pdf)

The WSJT-X User Guide now includes details about Q65 and is available here:

<https://www.physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/wsjsx-doc/wsjsx-main-2.4.0-rc3.html>

Links to WSJT-X 2.4.0-rc3 installation packages for Windows, Linux, and Macintosh are available here:

<http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjsx.html>

Scroll down to find "Candidate release: WSJT-X 2.4.0-rc3".

**UPCOMING INDIANAPOLIS AREA TESTING SESSIONS  
(check with sponsor before planning to attend)**

Anderson IN 46016-2238  
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club  
Date: Mar 16 2021  
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: Stephen M. Riley  
(765) 425-4627  
Email: wa9cwe@arrl.net  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Madison County EOC  
200 Delaware St  
Anderson IN 46016-2238

Rushville IN 46173-1846  
Sponsor: ARRL  
Date: Mar 27 2021  
Time: 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: Michael Dwight. Elder  
Email: wj9e42@yahoo.com  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Rushville Public Library  
130 W 3rd St  
Rushville IN 46173-1846  
Website: Must have FRN ahead of time! Contact by E-Mail WJ9E42@yahoo.com

Bloomington IN 47401  
Sponsor: bloomington amt Radio Club Inc  
Date: Apr 03 2021  
Time: 11:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: William F. Wootton  
(812) 876-8689  
Email: wfwootton@gmail.com  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: COVID-19 OUTDOOR SESSIONS  
2800 E Rogers Rd  
Bloomington IN 47401

Indianapolis IN 46254-2407  
Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio Club-W9JP  
Date: Apr 10 2021  
Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
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

Noblesville IN 46060-1624  
Sponsor: Central Indiana ARA  
Date: Apr 17 2021  
Time: 10:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: Joe March  
(317) 224-9433  
Email: jmarch54@att.net  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Hamilton Cty Emer Operations Ctr  
18100 Cumberland Rd  
Sheriff's Campus Training Room  
CALL AHEAD  
Noblesville IN 46060-1624

Anderson IN 46016-2238  
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club  
Date: Apr 20 2021  
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: Stephen M. Riley  
(765) 425-4627  
Email: wa9cwe@arrl.net  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Madison County EOC



200 Delaware St  
Anderson IN 46016-2238

Bloomington IN 47401  
Sponsor: bloomington amt Radio Club Inc  
Date: May 01 2021  
Time: 11:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: William F. Wootton  
(812) 876-8689  
Email: wfwootton@gmail.com  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: COVID-19 OUTDOOR SESSIONS  
2800 E Rogers Rd  
Bloomington IN 47401

## **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://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews\\_indyradioclub.org](http://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews_indyradioclub.org).

## **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, 1961 *Amachewer*:**

The results of a survey of 912 hams in “Indianapolis and vicinity” were interesting:

- Of those that responded, 40% held General Class licenses, 19% held Technician, 18% held Advanced, 5% held Novice, and 1/2% held Extra (5% didn't indicate).
- Age of the most respondents: **16 years old (39)**.

- Ages of respondents: under 21 - 16%, 21 to 30 - 17%, **31 to 40 - 26%**, 41 to 50 - 25%, 51 to 60 - 14%, 61 to 73 (oldest response) - 2%
- 72% were active hams, 16% were inactive, the rest didn't respond.
- ARRL members: 45%
- Modes of operation: AM - 518, CW - 427, SSB - 109.

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### Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- Wabash Valley Hamfest & Computer Expo: March 20. Brazil, IN <https://www.w9uuu.org/hamfest.php> for more info.
- ~~Dayton Hamvention: May 21-23.~~ **CANCELED** Go to <https://hamvention.org/>.
- Indianapolis Hamfest: July 9-10, 2021 Watch <http://indyhamfest.com/> for more info.
- Cincinnati Hamfest and W8DXCC: August 28. Owensville, OH. Go to <https://cincinnatihamfest.org/> for more info.

### 2021 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – [president@indyradioclub.org](mailto:president@indyradioclub.org)
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - [vp@indyradioclub.org](mailto:vp@indyradioclub.org)
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - [secretary@indyradioclub.org](mailto:secretary@indyradioclub.org)
- Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - [treasurer@indyradioclub.org](mailto:treasurer@indyradioclub.org)
- Chief Operator: OPEN
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Jeff Hammer, N9NIC - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: George Taylor, KC9IKD - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Kyle Bandy, KC9GLR - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org](mailto:w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org)