



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

May 2023 Newsletter

Upcoming:

June 9: Annual Indianapolis Radio Club equipment auction. AT SALVATION ARMY EDS FACILITY [Cash only for auction. Please list any items over \$50 [here.](#)]

July 29 (Saturday): IRC Picnic & POTA at FORT HARRISON STATE PARK.

Highlights from the May Meeting:

Meeting called to order via Zoom at 7:30 pm by club president, David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were 57 in attendance

In attendance was Sammy, KF7YWA, a relatively new 13 year old (General class) ham, who recently changed his call to that of a SK relative. Paul, KD9VMX, recently upgraded to Extra. There were lots of visitors on the call, most were new to IRC. David reminded those present that the June meeting will be our annual auction at the Salvation Army EDS Facility. Dave, WI9Q, talked briefly about the [POTA plaque event](#) coming up June 3 and 4. N9KT announced that once again, the IRC will be part of the Indy United Field Day effort on June 24 and 25. If you're interested in participating, contact Brian Smith, W9IND, at bdsmith@indy.net. Jim, K9RU needs 6 meter operators and GOTA (Get On The Air) operators. David also announced the Picnic & POTA event coming up on July 29. *[See more later in this newsletter regarding this.]* There were several financial announcements about different methods to support the club talked about.

Steve, KB9RDS, announced that our "60 meter band is under attack". He said there are a couple of European countries that have petitioned to eliminate amateur use of 60 meters.

If this petition is passed, 4 of the 5 current channels would be eliminated and maximum power allowed would be cut to under 10 watts ERP (down from 100 watts PEP). *[See more later in this newsletter regarding this.]*

Next, David introduced this evening's presenter, Dave Gingrich, K9DC. Dave has several Indianapolis area IRLP repeaters on the air. The group that operates these repeaters is known as [DREGs \(Digital Radio Experimenters Group\)](#), operating under the K9IP call.

Dave had lots of interesting facts, figures, and photos of his repeaters. IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project) was first on the air in 1998 in British Columbia (VE7LTD). There are currently around 3000 IRLP capable repeaters around the world, mostly in North America and Australia. There are around 40 in Indiana. Dave explained how IRLP works. IRLP Nodes can only connect to one radio, but "conferences" or "reflectors" can connect several nodes together. The current status of the IRLP system and its components can be found at <https://status.irlp.net/>. Dave said that the IRLP system can only be accessed by RF. Along these lines, Dave said that at one point, the "catch phrase" of IRLP was *Keeping the Radio in Amateur Radio*. With the help of N1BOW in Connecticut, and WQ8M, who is currently stationed in Australia (VK8QW), Dave gave an on air demo on the 9200 (Crossroads) reflector. Dave also talked about, and gave some comparisons between IRLP and a couple other analog protocols: Echolink and Allstarlink. Dave's formal presentation was over at 9:00.

Dave's presentation was recorded, and that recording can be found [here](#).

Ham Radio News:

ARRL MEMBER DUES SURVEY

The ARRL says it can't continue to operate at the current level of dues, and has opened a survey, available to ARRL members only, to gather information about how they view the ARRL, what services they currently use that the ARRL offers, and other such information to help them in moving forward. To take the survey, point your browser to www.arrl.org/take-dues-survey. Once again, this is only open to current ARRL members, and you will need to log into the ARRL website in order to complete the survey. The survey only takes a few minutes to complete, and is very important to determine the future of the ARRL.

TECHNICIAN CLASSES COMING UP

If you know someone interested in getting their Technician license, here are a couple of classes scheduled in central Indiana:

- June 17 and 24 at the LDS church at 9710 W. 56th St., Brownsburg. Contact Bruce Enz, W9ENZ at bruceenz@gmail.com or (317) 201-8299 for more information and to register.
- July 22 and 29 at the Putnam County EOC, 1600 W. CR225S, Greencastle. Contact Jeff Wonser, K9WZN at jwonser@gmail.com for more information and to register.

IRC NEWSLETTERS NOW PART OF INTERNET ARCHIVE

You may have heard of the Internet Archive (<https://archive.org/>). It is a project that was started in 1996 to "archive the internet". The archive currently contains over 700 billion web pages, 41 million books and texts, and on and on. There is a part of this archive called the "Digital Library of Amateur Radio Communications" (DLARC). The DLARC was started in September of 2022, and among other things, contains archives of old call books, magazines, radio manufacturer publications, and club newsletters. Kay Savetz, K6KJN, who is the archivist for the DLARC contacted the Indianapolis Radio Club after she had found reference on the IRC website to our archive of old newsletters we have. So, after a few hours of prep and uploading, newsletters from the Indianapolis Radio Club dating back to 1940 are available at <https://archive.org/details/indianapolis-radio-club>. Unfortunately, we don't have everything from 1940 on, but there is a bunch of stuff available there. If you have noticed the "Signals from the Past" section of our current "Ama-Chewer" newsletters, these archives are the source for those articles.

W9IRA 146.700 REPEATER WILL REQUIRE TONE

The 146.700 MHz W9IRA Wide Area Coverage Repeater, located on the WTHR 13 tower will require an 88.5 Hz PL tone "at some point this summer". Word is, when this happens, the repeater will also transmit the tone, so radios can be set up for full CTCSS.

PICNIC/POTA COMING UP ON JULY 29

Mark your calendars for the (first annual?) Indianapolis Radio Club Picnic/POTA on Saturday, July 29. The event will be held at the Cherry Tree Shelter in Fort Harrison State Park. The plan is for the event to start around 11:00 with lunch around noon. We will have 2 HF stations on the air for Parks on the Air (POTA), using the club's call sign of W9JP. If you haven't done POTA, or HF, this will be a great opportunity to learn! Please fill out this [form](#) to RSVP and let us know your plans.

NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER ANNUAL TEST COMING UP

The amateur radio station of the National Hurricane Center, WX4NHC (NHC), located on the campus of Florida International University in Miami, will conduct their on-the-air Annual Communications Test on Saturday, May 27, 2023, from 9 AM - 5 PM EDT (1300z-2100z).

This is the NHC's 43rd year of public service. NHC Amateur Radio Assistant Coordinator Julio Ripoll, WD4R/WX4NHC, reports that the purpose of this event is to test amateur radio equipment and antennas at the NHC as well as operators' home equipment, antennas, and computers prior to this year's hurricane season. The 2023 hurricane season begins June 1 and runs through November 30.

This event is good practice for amateur radio operators worldwide to practice amateur radio communications during times of severe weather. The Hurricane Watch Net will try to stay on 14.325 MHz for most of the time, as well as 7.268 MHz depending on propagation.

For more info, go to

<https://www.arrl.org/news/national-hurricane-center-amateur-radio-station-annual-test>

POSSIBLE CHANGES COMING TO 60 METER BAND

Currently, radio amateurs in the US have access to five discrete channels on a secondary basis: 5332 kHz, 5348 kHz, 5358.5 kHz, 5373 kHz, and 5405 kHz. Users of these channels are limited to an effective radiated power (ERP) of 100 W PEP.

The FCC proposes to allocate 15 kHz of contiguous bandwidth between 5351.5 - 5366.5 kHz on a secondary basis with a maximum power of 15 W EIRP (equivalent to 9.15 W ERP). This allocation was adopted at the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15).

For the complete article, point your browser [here](#).

INDIANAPOLIS AIR SHOW COMING IN OCTOBER

The following was received from Mark Sweet, N2MSJ:

“All,

The Indianapolis Air Show, hosted by the Boy Scouts of America, will be held on October 28th & 29th at the Mount Comfort Airport.

All volunteers will get free admission to the Air Show. I believe that a volunteer t-shirt may also be provided.

We are currently recruiting Amateur Radio Operators to assist with Logistics and Safety during the Air Show.

If interested, please sign up using the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIkWdsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAANAAYRcYxdUQUtXSk8yWFFCSEROQUQ3TlkxWk8xOEJaQy4u>

Please feel free to share this with other HAMs.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,
Mark S”

UPCOMING CENTRAL INDIANA TESTING SESSIONS (check with sponsor before planning to attend)

Gas City IN 46933-1155
Sponsor: GCARC
Date: May 23 2023
Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Mitchell D. Miller
(765) 661-5893
Email: mitchmiller55@gmail.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: EMA Building
3921 S Garthwaite Rd
Pre-register only, contact ahead
Gas City IN 46933-1155
Website: <http://www.grantarc.org/>

Bloomington IN 47401-5337
Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc
Date: Jun 03 2023
Time: 11:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: William F. Wootton
(812) 876-8689
Email: wfwootton@gmail.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: First United Church - Call or email ahead due to COVID-19
2420 E 3rd St
Register at 11:30am
Testing at 12 NOON
Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Indianapolis IN 46218-2169
Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio club W9JP
Date: Jun 10 2023
Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: James K. Rinehart
(317) 721-1458
Email: testing@indyradioclub.org

VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility
4020 Georgetown Rd
Indianapolis IN 46218-2169

Anderson IN 46016-2238
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club
Date: Jun 20 2023
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Stephen M. Riley
(765) 425-4627
Email: wa9cwe@arrl.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Madison County EMA EOC
200 N Delaware St
Anderson IN 46016-2238
Website: <http://www.andersonrepeater.club/>

Columbus IN 47201
Sponsor: South Central Indiana Communications Support Group
Date: Jun 20 2023
Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Michael D. Tanksley
(812) 350-5175
Email: kd9eau@gmail.com
VEC: LAUREL VEC
Location: East Columbus United Methodist Church Youth Center
2439 Indiana Ave
Columbus IN 47201

Gas City IN 46933-1155
Sponsor: GCARC
Date: Jun 27 2023
Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Mitchell D. Miller
(765) 661-5893
Email: mitchmiller55@gmail.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: EMA Building
3921 S Garthwaite Rd
Pre-register only, contact ahead
Gas City IN 46933-1155
Website: <http://www.grantarc.org/>

Bloomington IN 47401-5337
Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc
Date: Jul 01 2023
Time: 11:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: William F. Wootton
(812) 876-8689
Email: wfwootton@gmail.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: First United Church - Call or email ahead due to COVID-19
2420 E 3rd St
Register at 11:30am
Testing at 12 NOON
Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Noblesville IN 46060-1624
Sponsor: Central Indiana ARA/ HCRACES
Date: Jul 08 2023
Time: 10:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Joseph 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

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.

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 May, 1941 (untitled) Newsletter:

The RI in this district at the present time has informed us that if enough applications or notices of intent to take a test for radio licenses are filed that the test might be held at Indianapolis. To date we have 34 class "B" and 28 class "A" notices filed with the secretary of the club.

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- Dayton (Xenia) Hamvention: May 19 - 21 at the Greene Co. Fair and Expo Center. Go to <https://hamvention.org/> for details and tickets.
- Monroe County Hamfest: June 10, 8:00 am to noon at the Monroe County Fairgrounds. Go to <https://bloomingtonradio.club/index.php/hamfest/> for more details.
- East Central Indiana Hamfest: July 29 (same day as the IRC Picnic & POTA), 8:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Randolph County Fairgrounds. Go to <https://sites.google.com/view/ecindianahamfest/home> for more info.

2023 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – president@indyradioclub.org
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - vp@indyradioclub.org
- Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - secretary@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – board@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Kyle Bandy, KC9GLR - board@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB - board@indyradioclub.org
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org

To Pay Dues or Donate to the club, go to
<https://tinyurl.com/irc-dues-payment>

Or Scan this QR Code with your smartphone:

