



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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## October 2024 Newsletter

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### Upcoming IRC Meetings and Events:

**November 8:** Steve Van Frank, W9TN presentation on Space Weather.

**December 13:** Annual Club Holiday Party Pitch-In. **Starting at 6:00 pm.**

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### Highlights from the October Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by club President David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were several guests present that were currently working on getting licensed. Club member Ron, W9RWG introduced himself as he was attending his first meeting. He also introduced his guest, Pat. Next David introduced all of the officers of the club that were present. David also talked about ways to financially support the club *[See more in this newsletter]*. Under announcements, David announced the club's annual Holiday Party and Pitch-In will be December 13, at the Salvation Army EDS Facility. This year, the event will start at 6:00 pm, and will be open to Indianapolis Radio Club members and their families only. David said he and Jim Rinehart, K9RU are putting together a one day Technician license class. They are targeting sometime in February to put it on. David also announced that the club is working on making polo shirts available for sale *[See details in this newsletter]*.

Next David introduced the presenter for the evening, David, N9KT! David gave an informative and interesting presentation on "Amateur Radio Satellites for beginners". He went over how to receive the SSTV images that are transmitted from the International Space Station occasionally. He went into detail on how to make voice contacts via

satellites. The powerpoint slides from David's presentation can be seen at <https://tinyurl.com/Beginner-Satellites-N9KT>

After David's presentation, Doug Rose, N9DR won the drawing for the \$25 DX Engineering gift certificate. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

## **Ham Radio News:**

### **WAYS TO SUPPORT THE IRC**

You can support the Indianapolis Radio Club in any, or all, of these four ways:

1. Join the club. Your annual membership dues (\$20 for an individual, \$30 for a family (in the same household), or \$10 for a student, with valid ID) help support the club in its mission to promote our hobby by sponsoring monthly VE testing sessions, reaching out to new licensees, and welcoming them to the hobby. The easiest way to join is to go to <https://tinyurl.com/irc-dues-payment> and complete the process through PayPal.
2. Pay your ARRL membership dues through the IRC, utilizing the Club Commission program. The club will get a \$5 commission for renewals, or a \$20 commission for new memberships. Fill out the form available at <https://tinyurl.com/ARRL-membership-form> and send it, along with payment, to club treasurer, KJ9B. Or fill out one of the forms at an in-person meeting.
3. Join the Kroger Community Rewards program (it's free!) by going to <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards> and designating the Indianapolis Radio Club as the charity you want to support. The club then gets a quarterly donation from Kroger based on a percentage of the amount spent by those supporting the club.
4. If applicable, donate part or all of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to the Indianapolis Radio Club, a 501(c)(3) charity.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please contact Ken Bandy, KJ9B, at [treasurer@indyradioclub.org](mailto:treasurer@indyradioclub.org).

## **CLUB ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER**

At our November meeting, the club will hold its election of officers. The proposed slate is as follows:

President: David Spoelstra, N9KT  
Vice President: Jim Brown, W0RLD  
Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B  
Director at Large: Dave Miller, K9RTT  
Director at Large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU  
Director at Large: Kyle Bandy, KC9GLR  
Director at Large: Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB

## **W9JP CLUB POTA ACTIVITY NEWS**

On Saturday, October 19, the Indianapolis Radio Club held another Parks on the Air activation at Fort Harrison State Park. There were 17 people who attended, 10 were club members, and 10 operators made 156 contacts. Among those that attended was new ham and club member Chuck Lerner, KE9BNN and his daughter, Bekka. Also, new ham and club member Neil McCracken, KE9BOI attended. Neil tested with the IRC VE team. Tom Black, K9ASE from Highland, IN made the longest trip to join the group. He heard about the event on the Indiana POTA Facebook page.

Pictures from the day can be seen [here](#). Thanks to Ron Cooper, WB9DKL for taking most of the pictures. Watch your email for the date of our next club POTA event, probably in late November.

## **INDY RADIO CLUB POLO SHIRTS AVAILABLE**

Watch your email for a form to order your personalized Indianapolis Radio Club Polo shirts. The shirts will be a dark gray (see photo below), with Gold embroidery placed on the right, and available in sizes Small through 4XL. Ladies' cuts are available also. The cost for the shirts will be \$30 each for sizes Small through XL, and \$32 each for sizes 2XL through 4XL. This pricing includes one line of personalization, such as first name and/or callsign. **We will need paid orders for 12 shirts before we can go forward.**

This is to cover the up-front cost of set-up with the local vendor. In the event we don't get 12 paid orders, any orders that have been placed will be refunded in full.

Sample of shirt color and a (poor) example of the embroidery (there will be no frame):



## **ARRL DXCC SYSTEM BACK UP, MOSTLY (FINALLY)**

From <https://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-systems-service-disruption>:

The ARRL DXCC® System has been returned to service, and our staff is again processing applications for credit toward DXCC awards. The queue includes nearly 3,000 award applications submitted via Logbook of The World® (LoTW®) accounts and mailed paper applications. We are processing the backlog as quickly as possible, and will provide additional progress updates.

For now, the online DXCC application will remain offline. Any new award applications we receive will experience significant delays as we work through the backlog.

As previously reported, LoTW® was returned to service on Monday, July 1, 2024. Since then, the system has been processing log uploads with little or no processing delay.

We are grateful for your continued patience and understanding as we continue to make progress on the few remaining services that have required additional attention to bring back online.

## **CQ WORLD-WIDE SSB DX CONTEST THIS WEEKEND**

If you have access to an HF station and are looking for some good DX contacts, try to get on this weekend for the CQ World-Wide SSB DX Contest. Even if you don't have a General Class license yet, you can still operate on 10 meters from 28.300 to 28.500, and 10 meters has been in pretty good shape lately. The contest starts at 0:00 UTC, Saturday (8:00 pm Friday evening, Indy time), and goes through 23:59:59 UTC Sunday (call it 8:00 pm Sunday evening, Indy time). It's a simple exchange, just a signal report (59) and your CQ Zone (all of Indiana is Zone 4). For all the rules and information, point your browser to <https://cqww.com/rules.htm>

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

Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Sponsor: GCARC  
Date: Oct 23 2024  
Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: Lynn B. Nickerson  
(765) 517-1581  
Email: k9nqw1979@gmail.com  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: EMA Building  
3921 S Garthwaite Rd  
Pre-register only, contact ahead  
Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Website: <https://www.grantarc.net/>

Bloomington IN 47401-5337  
Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc  
Date: Nov 02 2024  
Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: William F. Wootton  
(812) 327-5457  
Email: KC9ACL@ARRL.NET

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

Greenfield IN 46140-9654  
Sponsor: Hancock County ARC  
Date: Nov 02 2024  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: David Keiser  
(317) 440-8486  
Email: kc9urp@hrtc.net  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Hancock EMA EOC  
640 South Franklin St  
Greenfield IN 46140-9654  
Website: <https://w9atg.org/ve-testing2/>

Indianapolis IN 46218-2169  
Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio club W9JP  
Date: Nov 09 2024  
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

Franklin IN 46131-9733  
Sponsor: Mid State Amateur Radio Club  
Date: Nov 16 2024  
Time: 9:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: Jacqueline M. Frederick

Email: vetestingmarc@yahoo.com  
VEC: LAUREL VEC  
Location: Johnson County REMC  
750 International Dr  
Franklin IN 46131-9733

Lafayette IN 47901-1141  
Sponsor: Tippecanoe County VE Team  
Date: Nov 16 2024  
Time: 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: Elizabeth M. Flowers  
Email: tippecanoeveteam@gmail.com  
VEC: LAUREL VEC  
Location: The Bindery Artist Studios  
Pre-Registration Required  
Visit Website to Pre-Register  
511 Ferry St  
Lafayette IN 47901-1141  
Website: <https://www.tcvet.info/>

Anderson IN 46016-2238  
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club  
Date: Nov 19 2024  
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: Jeffrey L. Dyer  
(317) 775-3415  
Email: k9dyr@arrl.net  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Madison County EMA EOC  
200 N Delaware St  
Anderson IN 46016-2238  
Website: <http://www.andersonrepeater.club/>

Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Sponsor: GCARC  
Date: Nov 26 2024  
Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: Lynn B. Nickerson

(765) 517-1581  
Email: k9nqw1979@gmail.com  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: EMA Building  
3921 S Garthwaite Rd  
Pre-register only, contact ahead  
Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Website: <https://www.grantarc.net/>

Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Sponsor: GCARC  
Date: Nov 27 2024  
Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: Lynn B. Nickerson  
(765) 517-1581  
Email: k9nqw1979@gmail.com  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: EMA Building  
3921 S Garthwaite Rd  
Pre-register only, contact ahead  
Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Website: <https://www.grantarc.net/>

## **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 October, 1964 *Amachewer*:**

**Excerpt from “RECOLLECTIONS OF THE FIRST MEETING”**



Quoting one of the founding members of the Indianapolis Radio Club, Harry Silcox, ex-9EE: “You might wonder where we got the wire to make transformers. We used wire from bell ringers--old ones from the telephone company. We had an engineer friend in the telephone company who tipped us off where the junked equipment was going--to a junk yard on McCarty Street. The fellow there would let us have the run of the place. We’d pick out a pile of stuff for maybe \$.50. It was 32 or 36 silk covered wire on the ringers. We used a whale of a lot of it making pancakes for 1 KW transformers.”

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### **Upcoming Area Radio Events:**

- Volunteers needed for Indianapolis Monumental Marathon: Saturday, Nov. 9. Click [here](#) for more details and to volunteer.
- Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo: November 16 & 17 at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum. Go to <https://fortwaynehamfest.com/> for details.

### **2024 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/Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - [secretary@indyradioclub.org](mailto:secretary@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Kyle Bandy, KC9GLR - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org](mailto: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:**

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