



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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## *December 2019 Newsletter*

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### **Upcoming Meetings:**

January 10: Test equipment demos.

February 14: Annual CES show report with Dave Arland.

March 13: Public Service Panel

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### **Highlights from the December Meeting:**

This was the club's Holiday party gathering.

There were just under 40 in attendance at this casual social event.

From all reports (unfortunately I had a previous commitment, and was unable to attend), the evening was a huge success, thanks in great part to the party organization from Jeff, N9NIC, with help from Jim, K9RU, Dave, K9RTT, and Mark, W9MGB. Dave provided his famous, award-winning chili, which was a great hit, with none left by the end of the evening. There also were veggie and meat trays, as well as a good selection of desserts that were carried in, and they all got sampled. A wide variety of Radio related video clips were shown, ranging from World War II era, to ARRL videos, to Three Stooges. There were 4 teams led by the four longest serving club members that played Ham Radio based Jeopardy. The Final Jeopardy question was a tricky one, and will probably be discussed at the January meeting. Among the winners of the various prizes from the

night were Ron, WB9DKL (Yaesu FTM-100DR), and Dennis, KC9SKA (\$54 cash). All in all, the evening was a great success, and will probably become an annual event.

## **Ham Radio News:**

### **IRC 2020 DUES PAYABLE NOW**

Indianapolis Radio Club Treasurer, Mark Burke, W9MGB, wants to make sure everyone is aware that 2020 dues are now being accepted. Annual dues are still only \$20! Mark will be available to accept dues payments at the January 10 meeting. Dues checks can also be mailed to Mark at 6347 Green Leaves Road , Indianapolis, Indiana 46220.

Contact Mark with any dues questions at [mark@mgburke.com](mailto:mark@mgburke.com)

### **SOLAR CYCLE 24/25 UPDATE**

The NOAA/NASA-co-chaired international Solar Cycle Prediction Panel has released its latest forecast for Solar Cycle 25. The panel's consensus calls for a peak in July 2025 ( $\pm 8$  months), with a smoothed sunspot number of 115. The panel agreed that Cycle 25 will be of average intensity and similar to Cycle 24. The panel additionally concurred that the solar minimum between Cycles 24 and 25 will occur in April 2020 ( $\pm 6$  months). If the solar minimum prediction is correct, this would make Solar Cycle 24 the seventh longest on record at 11.4 years. In its preliminary forecast released last April, the scientists on the panel forecast that Solar Cycle 25 would likely be weak, much like the current Cycle 24.

For more details, point your browser to <http://www.arrl.org/news/noaa-nasa-panel-concurs-that-solar-cycle-25-will-peak-in-july-2025>

### **SPECIAL EVENT PLANNED TO MARK BEETHOVEN'S 250TH**

German special event station DL250BTHVN will be active between December 16, 2019, and December 17, 2020, to honor the 250th anniversary of the birth of famed composer Ludwig van Beethoven. The Beethoven anniversary year will take place under the auspices of Germany's Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier. Beethoven was born

in December 1770 in Bonn, Germany, and lived there for the first 22 years of his life. The anniversary event is aimed in part at highlighting Beethoven's extensive oeuvre as a composer and to boost Bonn's reputation as a "Beethoven city." QSL via direct or by the bureau.

For complete info, point your browser to <https://dl250bthvn.de/en/dl250bthvn-2/>

## **2020 HENDRICKS COUNTY TRAINING CLASSES SCHEDULED**

The classes are sponsored by the HCARS club and will be held at the Hendricks Co. Senior Center, 1201 Sycamore Lane in Danville (behind the Danville Hospital).

Classes start on Wednesday, January 29, and run every Wednesday evening through March 18. Classes will meet from 7pm till 9pm.

There will be testing on March 18.

These Technician and General classes will be for those who wish to obtain an amateur radio license or to upgrade from their existing license.

## **2020 TESTING DATES FOR W9JP TEST SESSIONS**

Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility  
4020 Georgetown Rd  
Indianapolis IN 46254-2407

(note these dates are subject to change)

Jan 11  
Feb 8  
March 14  
April 18 3rd Saturday because of Easter  
May None 500 race activities  
June 13  
July None Indy Hamfest

Aug 8  
Sept 12  
Oct 10  
Nov 14  
Dec 12

## **THE FUTURE OF OUR HOBBY**

I'm doing something here that I haven't done before, in writing an "editorial", if you will. Often, we hear or read about what can be done to get "young" people (defined for this as those under 60) interested in becoming hams. What prompted me to write this was a thread on an email reflector, where one of the posters proudly stated that he refuses to own a cell phone, citing as one part of his reasoning that "the government can't track me". In my opinion, thinking such as this only serves to reinforce some of the media portrayals of hams as being recluses that wear tin-foil hats to keep the government from reading their minds (mine would be a short story). We, as hams have to realize that if we have any serious intent to recruit others into our hobby, we need to shed that perception. Let's face it, the world in which we live is one that is COMPLETELY CONNECTED via the internet. Granted, one of the key factors that makes our hobby more than "just a hobby" is the fact that we can get our message through with or without infrastructure support, such as the internet. That's a good place to start if we're talking with "preppers" who don't want to rely on anything other than their own resources. However, if we're talking to the general public, especially the younger public, we need to embrace our networked world, rather than shun it. When the average 16 year old can text or talk to someone across the country, or on the other side of the world for that matter, with a device in their pocket, I think a good way to relate is with the internet reliant methods (EchoLink, IRLP, digital voice modes) where we can contact folks a long way off with just a handheld radio. Once we get their attention, then we can talk about the many other aspects of our hobby that keep us interested. Don't get me wrong, if you choose to not use a cell phone, that's fine. Just don't make that your basis for trying to "sell" someone on our hobby.

*At least, that's the way I see it, KJ9B.*

## **UPCOMING INDIANAPOLIS AREA TESTING SESSIONS**

Anderson IN 46016-2238  
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club  
Date: Dec 17 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

Columbus IN 47201-7477  
Sponsor: SCICSG  
Date: Dec 17 2019  
Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: Michael D. Tanksley  
(812) 350-5175  
Email: kd9eau@gmail.com  
VEC: LAUREL MD  
Location: Columbus Twp. Fire & Rescue  
935 Repp Dr  
Columbus IN 47201-7477

Franklin IN 46131-9733  
Sponsor: Mid-State ARc  
Date: Dec 21 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

Indianapolis IN 46254-2407  
Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio Club-W9JP  
Date: Jan 11 2020  
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

Noblesville IN 46060-1624  
Sponsor: Central Indiana ARA  
Date: Jan 18 2020  
Time: 10:30 AM (No Walk-ins / 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  
Noblesville IN 46060-1624

Franklin IN 46131-9733  
Sponsor: Mid-State ARc  
Date: Jan 19 2020  
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

Frankfort IN 46041-1811  
Sponsor: Clinton County ARC  
Date: Jan 25 2020  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: Michael V. Meiers  
(765) 242-9015  
Email: republic48@yahoo.com  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Frankfort Community Public Library  
208 W Clinton St  
Room 216  
Frankfort IN 46041-1811

### **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 December, 1959 *Amachewer*:**

The 1959 Hobby Show gave the IRC an opportunity to present a top flight club project with their exhibit of “Modern Amateur Radio”.

The steady stream of visitors and the many discussions and explanations on ham activities, licensing, operation, our club etc. indicated the real interest of the general public.

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## Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- February 8, 2020, 8:00 - 1:00: Hendricks County Hamfest at Hendricks County Fairgrounds.
- March 14, 2020, 8:00 - 12:00: Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association Hamfest and Computer Expo at Clay County 4-H Grounds. Go to [https://www.w9uuu.org/hamfest/hamfest\\_2020.pdf](https://www.w9uuu.org/hamfest/hamfest_2020.pdf) 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)

## 2020 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – [davids@mediamachine.com](mailto:davids@mediamachine.com)
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - [dm0582413@gmail.com](mailto:dm0582413@gmail.com)
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)
- Treasurer: Mark Burke, W9MGB - [w9mgb@arrl.net](mailto:w9mgb@arrl.net)
- Chief Operator:
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – [k9ru@arrl.net](mailto:k9ru@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [W9TC@arrl.net](mailto:W9TC@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jeff Hammer, N9NIC - [n9nic@arrl.net](mailto:n9nic@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: George Taylor, KC9IKD - [jr9554@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jr9554@sbcglobal.net)
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [W9TC@arrl.net](mailto:W9TC@arrl.net)