



# Arc Over

Fox River Radio  
League  
PO Box 673  
Batavia, IL  
60510-0673

January, 2012

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## 2012 Club Election Results

The results of the annual election for officers and directors are as follows:

President:	Harry Jones K9DXA
Vice-President:	Dawn Williams KC9LQS
Secretary:	Randy Ligocki KC9KAX
Treasurer:	Dean Holste KC9EOQ
Directors (new):	Neil Potter KB9RFX Denny Barfus W9HI Jack Ekstrom K9JE
(continuing):	Dick Illman AH6EZ

The new officers will be installed at the club's banquet January 21.

Congratulations to the new officers. We thank you for supporting the club.

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## January Program Notes

The January program will include a 22 minute video Dick AH6EZ created about kit building in general and the construction of the digital IF board that is successfully working with his National NC57 receiver. If a temporary external antenna can be set up, a live demonstration will be performed.

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the General Membership of the  
Fox River Radio League (FRRL) an Illinois not-for-profit Corporation  
Held at St. Rita of Cascia, Aurora, IL**

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Meeting Minutes December 13, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by Harry Jones, Vice-President.

- **Secretary's Report** – Ron KC9SNI reported an error in the minutes of the November 8 Regular Membership Meeting. The price of tickets for the 2011 Winter Awards Banquet to be held on January 21, 2012 was incorrectly recorded. The correct price is \$30 per person. With that correction, Harry K9DXA requested a motion to accept the minutes of the November 8 meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Larry K9ARZ, which was seconded by Marty N9NTM. The motion carried.
  
- **Committee Reports:**
  - Repeaters** - Dick AH6EZ reported that a problem with the 2m repeater was traced to a dirty squelch pot. After correcting this, the repeater is functioning normally.
  
  - Program** - Dick AH6EZ reported that for the January program he will discuss the construction of MDSR (Modulator-Demodulator Software Radio) hardware and related application software.
  
  - Public Relations** – Dawn KC9LQS announced that she is seeking someone with writing skills and interest to perform PR duties. She will provide the necessary training.
  
  - Hamfest** – Dawn KC9LQS reported that planning for the 2012 Hamfest is proceeding and said that the Hamfest will include a QSL card checker, forums, and demos.
  
  - SIGs** – Harry K9DXA announced the retirement of the Linux SIG and the SDR SIG. Dawn is investigating alternative for mats for SIG –type programs.
  
  - St. Rita Projects** – Harry K9DXA reported that club projects at the church are progressing. These include a ham shack in the members' meeting area, an outside antenna for a cellular repeater, and a 2m base station in Fr. Cesar's office.
  
  - Kane County ARES** – Bill NF9D reported that the next Kane Co. ARES meeting will be in January. The organization plan is to offer training on computer-based weather radar programs, weather net operations, and vehicular radio installation. Their web URL is: [www.kanecountyares.org](http://www.kanecountyares.org)
  
  - Kendall County ARES** – Chris KC9BKS directed those interested in more information about this ARES organization to their website at: [www.kc-ares.org](http://www.kc-ares.org)
  
  - Education** – Eric AB9OS reported that General license classes will commence on Saturday, February 11 and continue every Saturday through March 17 at St. Rita. A VE exam will be conducted soon after the last class. Those interested in taking a license exam should see Doug W9RD.
  
  - Banquet** – Mike K9FE reported that the FRRL 2011 Winter Awards Banquet will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in St. Charles on Saturday, January 21, 2012. The opening time is 5 PM with dinner at 6 PM. The cost is \$30 per person and will feature an Italian gourmet buffet. A guitar virtuoso will provide entertainment.

## **New Business**

### **Elections**

Nominating Committee Chair, Kermit W9XA, conducted the election of FRRL officers and directors. Kermit thanked the other members of the Nominating Committee for their service: Vicki KC9PVM and Bill WB9LPW.

He announced that there would be two ballots: the first to be distributed was to elect the officers and the second was to elect directors. e reported that two absentee ballots had been received: one delivered by hand and two via E-mail. The ballots were distributed, collected, and tallied by the Nominating Committee. The results are as follows:

<u>Elected Officers</u>		<u>votes</u>
President	Harry Jones K9DXA	[62]
Vice-President	Dawn KC9LQS	[62]
Secretary	Randy Ligocki KC9KAX	[63]

Treasurer Dean Holste KC9EOQ [63]

Elected Directors

Denny Barfuss W9HI (Two-year term) [50]

Jack Ekstrom K9JE (Two-year term) [46]

Neil Potter KB9RFX (One-year term)\* [42]

\*This term completes the directorial term of Dawn KC9LQS who held this position prior to her election as Vice-President.

Following announcement of the elected officers and directors, Kermit requested a motion to destroy the ballots. Dick W9GIG so moved, Bob N9BTF seconded, and the motion carried.

• **Announcements**

Harry K9DXA announced that the tabled motion from the October membership meeting was deemed ill-formed, not compliant with the by-laws, and therefore disposed of. He also announced that a Chair for the Cougars Night event is sought, and the club would purchase thirty (30) tickets for this event. Additionally, a Field Day site and a Chair for this event must be found.

Dick AH6EZ announced that he and Joe NA9A were working together on a possible bonus-point structure for the HF Challenge. This new structure would enhance the points awarded to HF Challenge participants who work states, provinces, and DXCC entities multiple times.

**Adjournment**

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Larry K9ARZ and seconded by Marty N9NTM. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Ron Jahr KC9SNI  
FRRL Secretary

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*Editor's Note:*

The HF Challenge will begin again next month. The winners of the 2011 Challenge will be announced at the club's banquet January 21.

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**New PSK Net**

By Dave Holdeman N9XU

The first session of the 2 meter PSK net was held Wednesday, November 30, at 7:30PM local time. This is an experimental net designed to determine the practicality of PSK on 2 meter FM. Current plans are to meet every Wednesday at 7:30PM local time on 144.900 Mhz using voice mode, determine who wishes to participate, then switch to PSK on the same frequency (144.900 Mhz).

I served as net control and AB9TA in West Chicago was the only other participant. We met on 144.900 Mhz (simplex) and then transferred over to PSK on the same frequency. Simplex voice was a little scratchy, but PSK copy was solid both ways except for a couple of minor glitches at my end with my interface, which I have now fixed. I used Hamscope macros for net control. As we refine our procedures, I am sure that the macros will change somewhat. I intend to stay on as PSK net control, but please contact me if you are interested in acting as net control in the future.

## **Pacificon 2011 + Antenna Forum Event**

By Harry Jones K9DXA

I've wanted to attend this event for a few years. This year the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club moved it from San Ramon, CA to Santa Clara, CA due to its growth over ten years. Santa Clara is in "silicon valley" and very near San Jose airport. It was an ARRL sanctioned event done this year on Oct. 14-16, 2011.

Not surprising, the forums covered during the three days were the highlight for me. The Friday Antenna Forum alone made the trip worthwhile, but there was so much more. I rate these forums as good as or better than what I see at Dayton. You can see the forum schedule at the Pacificon 2011 website. For example, one of the antenna forums described building a "single wire" transmission line! Lots of antenna modeling stuff.

Among the notables I had a chance to meet were Bob Vallio W6RGG, ARRL Division Director, Gordon West (you know Gordy) WB6NOA, Joe Taylor N1JT (WSJT developer and Nobel Prize winner), Randy Hall K7AGE (YouTube fame), and Softrock's own Tony Parks KB9YIG. ARRL sent a few staff there as well.

A hamfest style parking lot arrangement was set up during the event. And Saturday morning, the outdoor booths were manned sometime before sunrise. You needed a flashlight to make it around then. An indoor hamfest style set up was also arranged. All the big time radio manufacturers were there, including my favorite, Flex Radio! The refurbished Collins Radio van was there.

And I was also able to participate in the Wouff-Hong ceremony. That is worth the time involved. This is only offered at ARRL annual, regional, or state conventions. Google it for more info. That's all I'll say.

All in all, a long weekend, worth every penny. Next year, the event will include the ARRL Annual Convention.

## About the FRRL

The Fox River Radio League, Inc., is a general interest amateur radio club serving the central Fox River Valley area. Records indicate the club has been in existence since at least 1924, and has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, and a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization as specified in IRS Statutes.

We sponsor training classes for new hams, license examination sessions, an annual hamfest, and participate in various public service events. If you have a specialized amateur radio interest, chances are you can share it with one or more of our club members.

The Fox River Radio League meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at St. Rita of Cascia Church in Aurora. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM and includes social time,

a business portion and a program of interest.

All persons interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Families are welcome.

*We hope to see you there!*

## License Exams

The Fox River Radio League, Inc., in conjunction with the ARRL VEC, conducts amateur examinations on the 3rd Tuesday of January, March, May, September and November at St. Rita of Cascia Church in Aurora at 7:30 PM. A special session is held at the club's hamfest, usually in July each year. No advance registration is required, but please be sure to bring your license (if you have one) and a photocopy

of it, some form of photo identification and the fee of \$15.00. (The FRRL receives no portion of this fee.)

**The next exam session is scheduled for January 17 at St. Rita of Cascia church. Please see the [frrl.org](http://frrl.org) website for details.**

## FRRL Dues

Annual dues are payable no later than the January Club Meeting each year. New members joining during the year will have their first year's dues prorated to the nearest yearly quarter.

Regular dues are \$20.00 a year, Senior Citizen dues are \$12.00. Family dues are \$30.00. Members can help support the FRRL Repeaters by making an annual \$10.00 donation.

Check with the Treasurer for details and additional dues rates.

## Nets

Net Name	Freq.	Day	Time
FRRL	147.210	Tuesday	7:30 PM Local
10-10 CW	28.150	Monday	8:00 PM Local
10-10 SSB	28.720	Monday	8:30 PM Local

## Fox River Radio League

Founded 1924

### Mailing Address:

Box 673  
Batavia, Illinois  
60510-0673

### Email:

[info@frrl.org](mailto:info@frrl.org)

### Web Site:

<http://www.frrl.org>

### President

Harry Jones, K9DXA, acting

### Vice President

Harry Jones, K9DXA

### Secretary

Ron Jahr, KC9SNI

### Treasurer

Dean Holste, KC9EOQ

### Directors:

Chris Farley, KC9IEQ

Dick Illman, AH6EZ

Larry Stark, K9ARZ

Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

### Past President

Mike Urso, K9FE

### License Trustees:

Kermit Carlson, W9XA  
Bob Dillon, WB9LTN

### Newsletter Editor

Tobi Davis, K9TCD  
[newsletter@frrl.org](mailto:newsletter@frrl.org)

### Webmaster

Bill Muhr, NF9D  
[webmaster@frrl.org](mailto:webmaster@frrl.org)



**FRRL CLUB MEETINGS ARE HELD AT ST. RITA OF CASCIA IN AURORA, IL, BUT LOCATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CHECK THE FRRL WEB SITE FOR THE ADDRESS AND A MAP TO THE MEETING LOCATION.**  
<http://www.frrl.org>

Send Address Corrections to:  
Fox River Radio League, Inc.  
3023 Scenicwood Lane.  
Woodridge, IL 60517

### FRRL Event Calendar

#### January, 2012

FRRL Board Meeting ..... 3  
FRRL Meeting ..... 10  
VE Session ..... 17

#### February, 2012

FRRL Board Meeting ..... 7  
FRRL Meeting ..... 14

### ArcOver FRRL Newsletter

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The ArcOver is published monthly by the Fox River Radio League, Inc. Articles and letters are always welcome. The normal deadline for material is the 20th day of each month for the next month's newsletter. Articles can be sent by email to [arc-over@frri.org](mailto:arc-over@frri.org) or via U.S. Mail. Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines.

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### Local Area Repeaters/Nets

**W9CEQ—147.210 Mhz.**  
+600 KHz, 103.5 access tone  
Owned by FRRL

**W9CEQ—444.300 Mhz. IRLP Node # 4850**  
+5 Mhz, 114.8 access tone  
Owned by FRRL

**W9CEQ\_B D-Star—442.10625 Mhz (+ 5.0 Mhz offset)**  
**W9CEQ\_C D-Star—147.225 Mhz (-6.0 Mhz offset)**  
FRRL Digital Voice/Data Repeaters  
Contact W9XA for information

**KC9OEM—145.470 Mhz.** -600 KHz, 103.5 access tone  
**KC9OEM—444.525 Mhz + 5 Mhz, 114.8 access tone**  
**(2 meter is primary Kane Co. SKYWARN /ARES freq)**  
Owned by Kane County OEM

**W9DWP—Kane Co. Amateur Public Svc. Rptrs.**  
145.270 -600 KHz, 107.2 access tone  
443.025 +5 Mhz 114.8 access tone  
Both repeaters are dual mode APCO-25 NAC-293

**W9ZGP—NIARC**  
147.060 +600 KHz, 103.5 access tone

- Weekly ARES/Skywarn Net—Wed. Eve. at 6:30 pm local time on the KC9OEM 2 meter repeater
- Weekly FRRL Net—Tues. Eve. at 7:30 pm local time on the FRRL 2 Meter repeater.
- Monthly Simplex Net—4th Tues following weekly FRRL Net on the FRRL 2 Meter repeater.
- Illinois DStar Net - Wed. Eve. at 8:00 pm local time on the DStar 440 repeater.