



ARC OVER



The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League
Since 1924

Our 91st Year in Amateur Radio!

September 2015



Proud to be an ARRL
Special Services Club



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It's not too late!

Friday-Saturday
September 11-12, 2015
HYATT REGENCY SCHAUMBURG
1800 East Golf Road
Schaumburg IL 60173
Across from Woodfield Mall
HOTEL RESERVATIONS NOW OPEN

www.w9dxcc.com

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 Federal 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 Bethany Lutheran Church at 8 S. Lincoln St in Batavia.. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM and includes a business portion, social time and a program of interest.

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

Please welcome our newest members to the club!

Call	Name	License Class
	None this	
	Month	

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 25th day of each month for the next month's news letter. Articles can be sent by email to: arcover@frrl.org or via U.S. Mail to: FRRL Newsletter PO Box 673 Batavia, IL 60510.

Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines.

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Fox River Radio League
Founded 1924

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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 \$25.00 a year, Senior Citizen dues are \$15.00. Family dues are \$35.00. Members can help support the FRRL Repeaters by making an annual \$10.00 donation.

Bill Erikson HF Challenge

By Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

Very few updates were received for August, presumably due to poor propagation conditions. Even the most active DXers participating in the Challenge reported no rare entities and only the most modest of gains in their overall scores.

Larry K9ARZ said there wasn't much activity on the bands except for 20 meters.

"Even working the states is a challenge," he said. "I'm looking forward to improved conditions this autumn and upcoming DXpeditions."

For those new to working the HF bands, keeping tabs on solar activity can help you understand how space weather conditions are adversely affecting your radio communications, and also lets you take advantage of conditions that enhance propagation. Current solar indices can be found at www.dx.qsl.net/propagation. ARRL also publishes a daily propagation bulletin, and offers numerous articles on the sun's effect on propagation; go to www.arrl.org/propagation for links to this material.

Remember, with four months remaining this year, there is still plenty of time to get in on the fun. To get started, or to ask questions or share comments, send an email to Challenge [at] frrl.org, or talk to our Challenge Administrator, Joe NA9A, at the monthly meetings.

73 de KC9LQS

August 15, 2015

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Paul W9JML	41	6	24	71
Paul KC9SEB	38	4	11	53
Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Roger W9YU	82	15	96	193
Herb W9DTR	48	10	48	106
Dan WA9YKK	21	1	65	87
Jeff N9JZN	3	1	64	68
Jason NX9Y	34	2	35	71
Dawn KC9LQS	0	0	53	53
Bill NF9D	27	1	2	30
QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Larry K9ARZ	88	25	412	525
Joe NA9A	63	15	216	294
Dick AH6EZ/W7	81	14	222	317
Cedric WT2P	50	5	90	145
Alan W9AN	69	5	80	154
Dean KC9EOQ	28	5	46	79
Marty N9NTM	2	0	38	40
Rag Chewer Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Dick AH6EZ/W7	50	1	6	57
Herb W9DTR	13	3	6	22
Jason NX9Y	24	0	1	25
Joe NA9A	10	0	1	11
Paul W9JML	2	0	1	3

STUDY QUESTIONS

OF THE MONTH

FROM THE TECHNICIAN POOL

Q: T1A01 [97.3(a)(4)]

For whom is the Amateur Radio Service intended?

- A. Persons who have messages to broadcast to the public
- B. Persons who need communications for the activities of their immediate family members, relatives and friends
- C. Persons who need two-way communications for personal reasons
- D. Persons who are interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest

FROM THE GENERAL POOL

Q: G1A05 [97.301(d)]

Which of the following frequencies is in the General Class portion of the 40 meter band?

- A. 7.250 MHz
- B. 7.500 MHz
- C. 40.200 MHz
- D. 40.500 MHz

FROM THE EXTRA POOL

Q: E1A02 [97.301, 97.305]

When using a transceiver that displays the carrier frequency of phone signals, which of the following displayed frequencies represents the lowest frequency at which a properly adjusted LSB emission will be totally within the band?

- A. The exact lower band edge
- B. 300 Hz above the lower band edge
- C. 1 kHz above the lower band edge
- D. 3 kHz above the lower band edge

FCC website maintenance in early September will make the Universal Licensing System (ULS), the Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), the Electronic Document Management System (EDOCs), and other public applications unavailable for more than 5 days. The Commission said the outage will begin at 2200 UTC on Wednesday, September 2, and continue through the Labor Day weekend. The maintenance work should be completed by 1200 UTC on Tuesday, September 8. During the ULS outage, it will not be possible to file any Amateur Radio applications.

Two incumbents face challenges in the 2015 election cycle for ARRL Director and Vice Director. Both races are in the ARRL Northwestern Division. Incumbent Director James Pace, K7CEX, of Centralia, Washington, will face a challenge from William Balzarini, KL7BB, of Auburn, Washington. Delvin Bunton, N7QMT, of Vancouver, Washington, is seeking to unseat Northwestern Division Vice Director Bonnie Altus, AB7ZQ, of Sheridan, Oregon.

The ARRL Ethics and Elections Committee earlier determined all candidates for the 2016-2018 term in this year's election cycle to be eligible and nominated.

Incumbents in four other ARRL Divisions faced no challengers in



ARRL
The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO

the current election cycle and have been declared re-elected. They are Central Division Director Dick Isely, W9GIG, and Vice Director Kermit Carlson, W9XA; Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, and Vice Director Bill Hudzik, W2UDT; New

England Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, and Vice Director Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF, and Roanoke Division Director Dr Jim Bohner, N2ZZ, and Vice Director Bill Morine, N2COP.

Ballots will be mailed on October 1 to ARRL members in good standing in the Northwestern Division as of September 10, 2015. Ballots will be counted under the supervision of an independent auditor, and the successful candidates will be announced on November 20.

The Ethics and Elections Committee agreed in January to return to using solely paper ballots, after instituting a hybrid paper and electronic balloting process in the autumn of 2012. Online balloting proved popular among those who took advantage of it, but overall voter participation declined significantly. See August 2015 QST, p 78, for more information.

President's Traffic

Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

"I am just an egg," I commented to a friend the other day. We were discussing computer technology that I'm in the early stages of grasping. That phrase, from Heinlein's *Stranger in a Strange Land*, just popped out, so I was utterly surprised when my friend replied, "I grok."

To grok, another Heinlein term, is to understand at the deepest level. Many of you grok radio technology, for example, an accomplishment that speaks to hard work and years of experience. Others are in a much earlier stage of learning; they're "just eggs" in Heinlein's parlance, growing in understanding through consistent immersion.

One thing I have always loved about FRRL is the way embrace our "eggs" – those who are striving to become what many of you already are. Newly licensed? No problem, we'll show you how to operate. New to electronics? Great, we'll teach you the theory behind it. New to the world? Awesome, we especially love sharing our knowledge with youngsters! Within our ranks, those who grok are the most generous of Elmers.

But wherever you are in your learning journey, your contributions are not limited by how much you know. Especially in a field where the technology is evolving at an unprecedented rate, there is always something new to learn, a fact that should keep us humble, even as our years in the hobby grow. And by the same token, no matter how new you are to radio, you undoubtedly have acquired other skills that position you to make a unique contribution to the state and progress of the club.

I mention this now, as summer cedes to fall and we begin making plans for the coming year, because it's a really good time for each of us to reflect on what we have to offer. Not least among our immediate tasks is setting this year's Nominating Committee to work. They'll be seeking candidates to run for officer and director positions. Have you considered what you might have to offer in that capacity? Have you thought, over the years, about what those in office have done well, and what you might have done differently if given the chance? Perhaps the time wasn't right for you to step forward in the past; but a new day is dawning, and just maybe your time has come.

We also need to fill the chairperson spots for our two major events, Field Day and Hamfest. Neither of these positions requires you to reinvent those activities – although new ideas and improvements are certainly not discouraged! – and the new chair people will be given detailed instructions on what needs to be done to create a successful event.

Beyond that, you will be electing a new president for 2016, whose privilege it is to recruit and present to the Board for approval the individuals who will handle key functions for the club throughout his or her term.

Whether you're a lifelong ham and longtime member of the club, or "just an egg" is not relevant to whether or not you have a contribution to make to the well-being of the club. It has been one of the principles on which I've directed my actions while serving as your president: *everyone* has something to offer. The only difference is the form that your "something" takes. Some of us have strong leadership skills; some have a powerful impact behind the scenes. Some are detail-oriented; some excel at seeing a bigger picture. Whatever your capabilities, length of time in the hobby, or years of membership in FRRL, I do hope you will consider how you might make a difference in the club in the coming year.

Although I volunteered for jobs within my comfort zone, I didn't quite understand this principle during my early years in the club. I thought I would make a greater contribution down the line, after I'd gained more technical acumen. But a friend and former FRRL president thought differently, encouraging me to run for a director seat – probably years before I might have considered it on my own. I thought deeply about the ways I might serve this club that I love, and suddenly it made sense to step out of my comfort zone. Whether you're an "egg" like I was, an experienced ham, or somewhere in between, I encourage you to begin thinking about what you have to offer. Let me or any of your Board members know that you'd like to help make a difference.

No matter how big or how small your contributions, and no matter how many or few years you have under your belt, your efforts will help shape and give momentum to the future of FRRL. Everyone has something to offer; it's just a matter of choosing to make it happen.

I finally grok that concept. How about you?

73 de KC9LQS



September Contest Dates

+ All Asian DX Contest, Phone	0000Z, Sep 5 to 2400Z, Sep 6
+ RSGB SSB Field Day	1300Z, Sep 5 to 1300Z, Sep 6
+ IARU Region 1 Field Day, SSB	1300Z, Sep 5 to 1259Z, Sep 6
+ Colorado QSO Party	1300Z, Sep 5 to 0400Z, Sep 6
+ Tennessee QSO Party	1800Z, Sep 6 to 0300Z, Sep 7
+ MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint	2300Z, Sep 7 to 0300Z, Sep 8
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 9
+ FOC QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Sep 12
+ WAE DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Sep 12 to 2359Z, Sep 13
+ Arkansas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 12 to 0200Z, Sep 13
+ Ohio State Parks on the Air	1600Z-2400Z, Sep 12
+ ARRL September VHF Contest	1800Z, Sep 12 to 0300Z, Sep 14
+ North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 13
+ Swiss HTC QRP Sprint	1300Z-1900Z, Sep 13
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 16
+ ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Sep 19 to 2400 local, Sep 20
+ South Carolina QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 19 to 0300Z, Sep 20
+ Washington State Salmon Run	1600Z, Sep 19 to 0700Z, Sep 20 and 1600Z-2400Z, Sep 20
+ New Jersey QSO Party	1600Z, Sep 19 to 0359Z, Sep 20 and 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 20
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Sep 21
+ Pirate QSO Party	0030Z-0330Z, Sep 23
+ CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Sep 26 to 2400Z, Sep 27
+ Maine QSO Party	1200Z, Sep 26 to 1200Z, Sep 27
+ Texas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 26 to 0200Z, Sep 27 and 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 27
+ Classic Exchange, Phone	1300Z, Sep 27 to 0800Z, Sep 28 and 1300Z, Sep 29 to 0800Z, Sep 30

UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Director's Meeting

Sept. 1st, 2015 @7:30pm

Colonial Café—Aurora, IL.

Membership Meeting

Sept. 8th, 2015 @7:30pm

Bethany Lutheran Church

VE Testing Session

Sept. 15th, 2015 @ 6:45pm

Messenger Public Library in
North Aurora

Technician Pool- D. Persons who are interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest

General Pool- A. 7.250 MHz

Extra Pool- D. 3 kHz above the lower band edge



Fox River Radio League
"Established 1924"
An ARRL Special Service Club
W9CEQ PO Box 673 Batavia, IL 60510



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the General Membership of the
Fox River Radio League (FRRL) an Illinois not-for-profit Corporation
Held at Bethany Lutheran Church, Batavia, IL

Meeting Minutes August 11, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 19:33 by Dawn Williams, KC9LQS. We had 47 people signed in.

Name, Call, QTH, First time visitor? Newly licensed? Recently upgraded? Let us know

Reports

Minutes of July 14, 2015 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Dave K9WDB and seconded by Mike, K9FE to approve the minutes as published. Motion carried

Treasurer – Dean KC9EOQ reported the account balances as of the end last month:

Program – The usual program was replaced by a social hour. The idea came from Jason. Feedback would be appreciated.

Net – Dave, N9XU announced that we could use more operators. He has mentioned this several times so we ought to be getting the idea by now.

ARES – Debby, WX9VOR, told us that there would be two bike rides August 22. One is for Cystic Fibrosis and the other called Ride Like an Egyptian. She stated that volunteers were needed for the second bike ride.

Hamfest Wrap Up! – Thanks to **ALL** volunteers for this event! The success of hamfest is due to your efforts. Special thanks to this year's presenters: John, AG9D – Mike, K9FE – Jeff, N9JZN – Phil, W9XAN – Tobi, K9TCD – John, KC9OJV

The profit came to about \$1,700 which was less than expected. It is thought the weather played a part in that. The hamfest is considered a success and is our only fundraiser.

Old Business

Possible Fall Activity – There has been some talk about a fall activity but we need a coordinator for that. If you are interested in a fall activity, sign yourself up as a coordinator.

Boy Scout Jamboree – Dan, WA9YKK will spearhead this. It is a two or three day event and will take place in October.

Final Outreach Visit – The final outreach is set for the Aurora Farmer's Market, August, 29th, 7 am to 1 pm.

New Business

Cystic Fibrosis Cycle for Life, August 22 – Although already mentioned by Debbie it was noted here that the meeting place for this ride would be in Maple Park. Details will be put on the website. Communications ops are needed at Start/Finish. There will be four rest stops and four SAG vehicles are needed.

Contact: Dave Harr, martaban@comcast.net

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the General Membership of the
Fox River Radio League (FRRL) an Illinois not-for-profit Corporation (**cont'd**)

Announcements

Bob, K9WMP is looking for old call signs from the 70s.

Eric, KA7YHA is looking for a G5RV.

Paul, W9DWP – made it known to us that someone apparently did something to tie up the repeater for a v-e-r-y long time. It was probably a mistake due to inexperience. Paul asked us all to think about that so we don't repeat the mistake.

Upcoming Events

August 29th – Aurora Farmer's Market

September 1st – September BOD Meeting

September 8th – September Member Meeting

September 22nd – VE Test Session

Adjournment

The motion was made by Randolph, W9HO and seconded by Marty, N9NTM to adjourn the meeting at 20:32. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Tofari KD9CPN

The meeting was followed by food and fellowship instead of our usual program. How did you like it? Let us know.

IMPORTANT AMATEUR RADIO WEB PAGE LINKS

www.frri.org

www.arrl.org

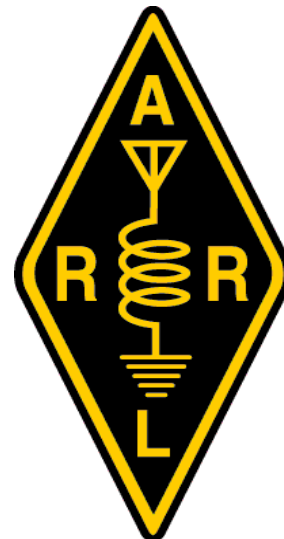
www.colpage.org

www.qrz.com

www.dailydx.com

www.twit.tv/hn

www.dxspots.com



FRRL Repeaters:

W9CEQ—147.210 MHz +600KHz Offset, 103.5 PL

W9CEQ—444.300 MHz +5 MHz Offset, 114.8 PL (IRLP Node # 4850) (Echolink # 230933)

FRRL Digital Voice/Data Repeaters: (Contact Kermit, W9XA for information)

W9CEQ__B D-Star—442.10625 MHz (+ 5.0 MHz offset)

W9CEQ__C D-Star—147.225 MHz (+ 0.6 MHz offset)

Other Local Area Repeaters:

Owned by Kane County OEM:

KC9OEM—145.470 MHz -600 KHz, 103.5 PL

(2 meter is primary Kane Co. SKYWARN/ARES Frequency)

W9DWP—Kane Co. Amateur Public Svc. Repeaters:

(Both repeaters are dual mode APCO-25 NAC-293)

145.270 -600 KHz 107.2 PL

443.025 +5 MHz 114.8 PL

Local 6 meter: Input: 52.210 Output: 53.910 Carrier Access FM (W9XA 6-meter repeater)

W9ZGP—NIARC:

147.060 +600 KHz, 103.5 PL

Weekly Nets:

Ten Meter Net: Monday at 8:00pm 28.150 MHz CW

Monday at 8:30pm 28.720 MHz SSB

FRRL 2 Meter Net: Tuesday Evening at 7:30 pm

ARES & Skywarn Net: Wednesday Evening at 6:30 pm on the KC9OEM 2 meter repeater

Illinois DStar Net - Wednesday Eve. at 8:00 pm on the DStar 2 meter repeater