



ARC OVER

The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League
Since 1924

Our 93rd Year in Amateur Radio!



March 2017



Proud to be an ARRL
Special Service Club

NEWS FLASH - NEWS FLASH - NEWS FLASH -

IEEE EMC Society 2017 Meeting Notice- April 19th, 2017

March 4, 2017 - The Chicago Chapter of the IEEE EMC Society will hold its Wednesday-April 19th meeting at Fermilab in Batavia, Illinois. This Meeting is free of charge, and is open to all interested parties, not just IEEE members

LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

The Meeting Program, "**Man-Made Noise and the Impact to Radio Communications – The Changing Environment**" will feature Mr. Ed Hare (W1RFI) IEEE Vice-President of Standards and American Radio Relay League Laboratory Manager and Dr. Greg Lapin (N9GL) - Co-chair of the Spectrum and Receiver Performance Working Group of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Technological Advisory Council.

These two distinguished experts in the field of Electro Magnetic Compatibility will examine the rapidly changing environment of man-made noise and the impact to radio communications. Ed Hare and Greg Lapin are active radio amateurs and members of the American Radio Relay League. They will present ongoing work to characterize the modern environment of man-made radio noise; describe the impact to radio communications; and explain the ongoing work with regulatory agencies to prevent harmful interference to licensed users of the radio frequency spectrum.

[For detailed information please CLICK HERE](#)

Location: FERMILAB, Batavia, Illinois – Building #327 [\(click for map\)](#)
Kirk Road and Wilson Street, Batavia, IL 60510

"Talk-in" Directions available through the WB9IKJ/R Fermilab ARC Repeater on 444.225 MHz (pl 114.8 +5.0 MHz offset) or by phone (630) 277-1699 the evening of the meeting.

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
W9JJJ	Tom Wade	Technician
No Call Yet	Kelly Hughell	

ArcOver FRRL Newsletter

Copyright 2017, FRRL©

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: arccover@frrl.org or via U.S. Mail to: FRRL Newsletter PO Box 673 Batavia, IL 60510.

Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines.

Prior permission is required to republish original ArcOver material.

The opinions expressed in the ArcOver are strictly those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the FRRL, Inc. or its sponsors.

Fox River Radio League
Founded 1924

Mailing Address:
P. O. Box 673
Batavia, Illinois 60510-0673

Email:
info@frrl.org

Web Site:
<http://www.frrl.org>

President
Dennis Barfuss, W9HI

Vice President
Roger Bara, W9YU

Secretary
David Booher, W9BOO

Treasurer
Dean Holste, KC9EOQ

Directors
Jason Burzynski, NX9Y
Allen Nelson, KB9VO
Jim Nevitt, Jr., N9XP
Daniel Taddei, W9STS

Past President
Dawn Williams, KC9LQS

License Trustee
Kermit Carlson, W9XA

Newsletter Editor
Dean Holste, KC9EOQ
newsletter@frrl.org

Webmaster
Chris Kennell, KC9BKS
webmaster@frrl.org

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

This month's update brought two new participants to the 2017 Challenge. Welcome to Jim W9NJP and Ron KC9SNI. Ron said he's off to a slow start this year but plans to keep at it as time permits. Jim, who was in Florida all of January, said he wasn't planning to work the Challenge this year, but changed his mind. "I worked a few stations and suddenly I was hooked again," he said. We're glad to have both participants aboard.

Challenge Administrator Joe NA9A reported two asterisked DX entities that participants might want to try to contact this month. *9X - Rwanda – 9X2AW is expected to be operating through March 11. "Get them when you can," Joe said. "They will be active almost always in the digital modes and CW." He also reported that *4S - Sri Lanka – 4S7KKG is running through March and like 9X2AW, will be mostly using digital modes and CW.

If you need a Challenge worksheet for 2017 or have questions, see Joe during the next club meeting, or send an email to Challenge [at] frrl.org. Participants are welcome to join at any point throughout the year. Those who are operating in the event should send their next updates, covering all contacts from Jan. 1st through March 15th, to the same email address no later than March 20th.

de KC9LQS

Limited Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Jim W9NJP	23	5	36	64
Operator Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Roger W9YU	27	4	15	46
Ron KC9SNI	3	0	2	5
Alan W9AN	8	5	20	33
QRO Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Joe NA9A	6	1	11	18
Dick AH6EZ/W7	48	7	39	94
Rag Chewer Class	States	Provinces	DX Countries	Total
Joe NA9A	3	0	1	4
Jim W9NJP				7
Dick AH6EZ/W7	0	0	0	13

President's Traffic

Dennis Barfuss, W9HI

Hello All, Well another month has passed by and now you might be thinking about upcoming contests, Saint Patrick's Day and warmer weather. I had the opportunity to go down to Florida for a couple of weeks in February. The weather was terrible if you consider severe clear and 75 degrees bad. Yes, it was beautiful and warm with very low humidity. I did have an opportunity to visit Hamcation for a couple of days in Orlando. Hamcation was exciting as I really like to go to hamfests. Many vendors showed up including the couple that attends our hamfest making hats. Tower Electronics also had a big presence. Kenwood, Icom, and Yaesu had booths as well as Apache Radio, Flex Radio and Elad. Apache has a transceiver much like the Flex system, but with 200 watts output. The competition is getting strong. Apache uses a Raspberry Pi to run their stand alone display unit, much like the Maestro from Flex. In addition to hardware, there were plenty of antenna folks. Radiowavz and Alpha Antennas had big displays inside and outside. While I was walking around inside one of the pavilions I ran into Maurice Schietecatte N4LZ. What a small world. Maurice is good and sends his greetings to everyone from sunny Florida.



The flea market was good as well as the forums. I missed our February speaker on DMR, but visited Hytera and other DMR vendors at the show. I also attended a discussion on the future of digital in amateur radio and have provided a link to W1JJK's talk. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B22gMn4H7jKnSFBXRXhMVEdxZ1k/view?usp=sharing> All three formats D-Star, FUSION, and DMR are interesting with much to learn.

I also want to mention that Tom Ciciora, KA9QPN, has submitted his resignation as Section Manager of Illinois due to personal reasons. Please wish him well when you see him. Ron Morgan, AD9I has volunteered to complete Tom's term until the next ARRL Section Manager elections.

I want to remind you all of two big things happening, this coming Tuesday at our March 14th meeting, Dan Taddei W9STS will be hosting a discussion about the Antenna Analyzer he has recently built.

I also wanted to remind you about the April 19th joint meeting between the IEEE Chicago Section of the EMC society and interested Amateur Radio Operators in the Chicago area. Our own Kermit Carlson W9XA is working very hard to set up the meeting and coordination with the IEEE EMC chapter. The meeting is at FERMILAB building # 327 in the BIG Room. Mr. Ed Hare, WIRFI of the ARRL Laboratory and Dr Greg Lapin Chairman of the FCC (Federal Communications Commission) TAC (Technical Advisory Committee) will both present on the changing EMC Environment for radio communications. The meeting in building #327 has limited seating of 250. Mark your calendars as this should be very enlightening...

73, Denny W9HI



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 February 14, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 19:33 CST by Vice-President Roger W9YU. Audience introductions: Call, Name, QTH and: "Did you buy any goodies at the WCRA Hamfest?"

Approval of January 2017 Member Meeting minutes: Motion to approve by Larry K9ARZ, seconded by Mike K9FE. Members approved the motion.

Treasurer's Report, Dean KC9EOQ

Dean reported the balances as of 2/7/2017:

Annual FRRL membership dues are due.

Program, Jason NX9Y

Tonight's program was on DMR by Gregg K9BE. March program by Dan W9STS on Antenna Analyzer. April, Harry K9DXA – "I got my license, now what do I do?". Jason is currently going through the membership survey questions on meeting topics.

Education, Alan KB9VO

General Class starting in a couple weeks. Limited openings. Left a signup sheet for those interested. Tom WD9DAU has volunteered to help.

Net, Dave N9XU

No Update.

VE (Volunteer Examiner) Testing, Paul AC9BS

The next VE Testing will be March 21st, 7PM at the Messenger Library in North Aurora. The fee is \$15.00. Everyone is requested to bring a copy of their FCC license.

Membership, Chris KC9BKS

Chris reported a total of 177 active members. The membership may drop a little after the cutoff date this year.

ARES, Debbie WX9VOR

Discussed meeting dates. The last meeting involved a discussion on FLDIGI. There will be additional Spotter Training in April. Check website to register. DuPage County is doing Spotter Training Saturday, March 11. Aux communicator class will be a two-day class on Sat/Sun held at the St Charles Fire Department Training Room. If anyone is interested, please see Debbie.

Repeater Update, Kermit W9XA

Repeater 444.3 FM machine is back up and running. It was relocated to a high location in Elburn. 443.650 is having its frequency split with plans to turn it into two DMR systems. Kermit will transfer to FRRL. Coverage from south of Dwight to about Woodstock. The D-star will be back on the network and interconnect of Echolink will become operational soon.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

New Officers Installed at Banquet:

President	W9HI, Denny Barfuss
Vice-President	W9YU, Roger Bara
Secretary	W9BOO, David Booher
Treasurer	KC9EOQ, Dean Holste
Director	KB9VO, Allen Nelson
Director	NX9Y, Jason Burzynski
Director	W9STS, Dan Taddei
Director	N9XP, Jim Nevitt, Jr

New Life Member

Tony Russo WA9TRO first licensed in 1966 was nominated to receive a Lifetime Membership to FRRL.

Motion to approve made by Kermit W9XA, seconded by Allen KB9VO. The members unanimously passed the motion.

Field Day Chair, Dan Harmon W9YKK

Dan recruited a co-chairman, Roger W9YU. Dan continues to look for help with setup and tear-down. The event will be held at LeRoy Oaks Forest Preserve in St. Charles.

Hamfest Chair, Dan Taddei W9STS

Hamfest July 9th. Dan needs a co-chair. He is looking for people to help at the Hamfest (setup and tear down). He also needs pre-senters. Dan would like to put up a demo station – he needs someone to setup a radio. The event will be at Aurora Central Catholic High School located at Edgelawn & Indian Trail. Tickets will be available at the next meeting or the meeting after. Online payments are also being set up.

Announcements

Your Field Day and Hamfest Chairs need helpers. Please see them during the break to support our exciting events.

Marty N9NTM mentioned the Hamfest sponsored by Sterling Rockfalls Amateur Radio Society on Mach 5th. Also, on April 8th, there will be The Fermilab Storm and Severe Weather Seminar with Tom Skilling.

Paul W9DWP mentioned the Cabin Fever Hamfest in La Porte, IN on February 25th. There will also be a Hamfest sponsored by the Madision Repeater Club in Stoughton, WI on April 8th. Paul also mentioned that his son, Adam KD9HVV, has passed his Technician test (effective 2/7/2017). Congratulations to Adam!

Mike K9FE needs someone to volunteer of this year’s MS Walk. It will be in St. Charles. Mike will post more details on the website.

Upcoming Events

March 7th FRRL Board Meeting

March 14th FRRL Member Meeting

March 21st VE Session

April 19th IEEE/Ham Radio meeting at Fermi Lab

Adjournment

Roger W9YU declared the meeting adjourned at 20:10 CST. The DMR program by Gregg KB9E followed.

Respectfully submitted,

David Booher W9BOO

FRRL Secretary

IMPORTANT AMATEUR RADIO WEB PAGE LINKS

www.frll.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