



KARS KEY CLICKS



JOURNAL OF THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY

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December 2018

FERRITES AND WHY YOU NEED THEM!

The next KARS meeting will be December 4th 7PM in the St. Mary's Meeting Room. Use the main entrance on the south side of the building. There will be a brief business meeting, followed by annual Officer elections.

Following will be a program on ferrites, their properties, form factors and uses in the shack and around the house.

See you there!

DUES ARE DUE

It's that time of year. KARS dues have not been raised in over 30 years and they won't be raised this year either!

Adult Member	\$30
Family Rate	\$40
Senior (65)	\$15
Full time student	\$15
Disabled	\$15

Active Military - waived

New Members who joined in the second half of 2018 are covered for 2019.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December 1	WD9AYI
December 6	AC9CZ
December 7	N9LCX
December 13	KD9FVM
December 19	KC9OET
December 20	KF9IK
December 20	WA9WAQ
December 22	N9OE
January 7	N9IOQ
January 13	KD9CGD
January 17	WD9FYF
January 20	K9XM
January 22	N9TDS
January 25	W9LIZ
January 27	W9KK

Let the newsletter editors know if we miss your birthday or get it wrong



Jerry WB9Z answers questions after a fascinating program on the DXpedition to far far away Amsterdam Island
(more pics on page 2)

KARS KALENDAR

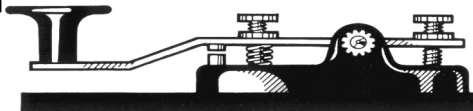
Nov 30-Dec 2	ARRL 160 Meter Contest
Dec 4	KARS General Meeting
Dec 8-9	ARRL 10 Meter Contest
Dec 29-30	Stew Perry Top Band Contest
Dec 18	KARS Board Meeting
Dec 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Dec 31	KARS NEW YEARS DINNER (Pg 3)
	(NO KARS GENERAL MEETING IN JANUARY)
Jan 5-6	ARRL RTTY Roundup
Jan 12-13	NA QSO Party CW
Jan 15	KARS Board Meeting
Jan 19-20	NA QSO Party SSB
Jan 20	KARS BANQUET (Pg 3)
Jan 20	WRCA Wheaton Hamfest
Jan 25-27	CQWW CW160 Contest

The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:

146.34/.94	107.2 PL Access
449.8/444.8	100.0 PL Access
145.130	107.2 PL Access

Additionally, KARS sponsors:

144.39 2 Wide Area APRS digi-peaters
www.w9az.ddns KARS DX Cluster



W9AZ

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

URGENT FT-8/WSJT-X NEWS

For those of you active with the FT8 mode, change is in the wind. There is a new version 2.0 which is not compatible with the current version 1.9. The recommended changeover date for everyone to use only version 2.0 is December 10th. Until then, if you are using version 1.9, you are encouraged to use audio frequencies below 2000 Hz for your QSOs. If you are already using version 2.0, then use audio frequencies above 2000 Hz. Also make sure your radio's SSB filter bandwidth is set to 2.5 KHz wide or more so you will give yourself at least 500 Hz of space to operate version 2.0. However, be careful not to interfere with JT65 users when operating above 2000 Hz.

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As always there will be no January newsletter or regular meeting.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

BOARD MEETING

The next KARS board meetings will be held on Tuesday, December 18th and Tuesday January 15th at El Mexicano Restaurant. Eat at 6PM. Meet at 7PM. All members are welcome.

NCS FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

The net meets every Monday at 2000 hours local time on the 146.34/.94 OR 145.130 backup repeater. All stations with or without traffic are invited to check in.

Dec 3rd	K9KSG
Dec 10th	KD9GLY
Dec 17th	N9OE
Jan 7th	K9KSG
Jan 14th	N9DWE
Jan 21st	WD9FYF
Jan 28th	K9NR

Don't forget the net!





KARS SHACK OF THE MONTH– KC9OET

Send in your shack photo today!

KC9OET's SHACK

Henry has a nicely equipped shack.

Current station includes:

ICOM 7300 for HF

MFJ998-RT Intelli Tuner for HF

Alpha 87A Auto-tune Amp for main

Dentron Clipperton L Amp for backup

ICOM SM-8 Desk Microphone

Antenna: 117ft dipole

73 Henry KC9OET

URGENT FT-8/WSJT-X NEWS

(continued from page 1)

The reason that FT8 versions 1.9 and 2.0 are incompatible with each other is that 2.0's protocol conveys 77-bit payloads and 1.9 conveys only 75-bit payloads. The decoding expectation programmed into the two versions when they receive their data is why they can't decode each other.

A couple neat things about the new version 2.0 is that it is more DXpedition and contest capable, it allows for more information to be exchanged and it allows more flexibility for callsign formats. I also read that its decoding capability is even slightly more sensitive than 1.9. Even Field Day operation is included in 2.0 so we will definitely have to look into that!

Anyhow, note Dec. 10th in your calendar and be sure to update your WSJT-X to version 2.0 by then and if you also use JTAlert-X to help you with your logging, you will need to update that to JTAlert-X version 2.0 as well.

73, Don KK9H

2019 KARS

ELECTION NOMINATIONS

President	N9FD
V President	N9IO
Secretary	K9QT
Treasurer	N9DLD
Director	K9NR*

Director	K9CS
Director	W9IE
Director	N9OE
Director	KD9FVM
Director	WD9FYF
Director	W9IEY

*As a retiring president, K9NR is automatically on the Board for one year. Four more directors will need to be elected.

More nominations for all positions are allowed right to the election.



Offloading barrels of equipment and supplies from the Braveheart for the FT5ZM Amsterdam Island DXpedition in the faraway Indian Ocean



A view of the antenna patch panel use at FT5ZM - K1N and other DXpeditions, constructed by Clay N9IO. It has traveled to remote regions of the globe.

Nov program photos with Jerry WB9Z - Amsterdam Is FT5ZM

KARS HOMEPAGE— **WWW.W9AZ.COM** —KARS HOMEPAGE

KARS HOLIDAY BANQUET

Sunday January 20th 2018 — Time: 5:00PM - 8:PM

The Brickstone Brewery & Restaurant in Bourbonnais

Reservations and check, payable to KARS, must be in by December 28th!

Bring or mail your check & reservation info to:

CRYSTAL PENA, W9IOU

1362 TROTTERS TN

BOURBONNAIS, IL 60914

Choose one of the following:

Italian Buffet: Tomato Vodka Rigatoni, Lemon-Peppered Roasted Chicken, Roasted Sirloin of Beef, Red-Skin Mashed Potatoes & Vegetables - Includes Garden Salad & French Vanilla Ice Cream—\$18.39

Prime Rib: Slow roasted with Red-Skin Mashed Potatoes & Vegetables - Includes a Garden Salad—\$25.99
You must order and pay for your drinks on site.



The Board has approved \$300 for door prizes and the club will sponsor Hors d'oeuvre trays...cheeses, veggies, etc.



NEW YEARS EVE DINNER

Unofficially, a group of KARS members have been getting together around 5 PM on New Years Eve at El Mexicano's Restaurant for dinner. We then go our own way to party or more often; go home, relax and welcome the New Year in our own way.

As stated earlier, this is an unofficial activity...**not to be confused with the annual KARS banquet.** While there are no reservations or commitments required, we need to have an idea of how many plan to show.

This is a relaxing get together. No program. No plans. Just order from the regular menu, visit, enjoy the food and have fun. If you and your significant other plan to attend, send K9NR an email at: donk9nr@gmail.com so we can give the restaurant an idea of how many to expect.



The Pitcairn Island DXpedition Oct 2019

<https://pitcairndx.com/>



KARS donated \$300 to the 2019 Pitcairn Island DXpedition
KARS is the second club to support the operation

**From all the hams at KARS to all the
hams of the world...**

Have a very

Merry Christmas!
and a Happy New Year!