



KARS KEY KLICKS



JOURNAL OF THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY

Volume 83 Issue 6

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June 2008

FLEX RADIO AT JUNE MEETING

JUNE PROGRAM FLEX-RADIO DEMO RETURNS

The next KARS general meeting will be at 7PM on June 3rd at the EOC located at the Kankakee County Sheriff's complex off exit 308 adjacent to the Greater Kankakee Airport.

At the June meeting Ken (W9YNI) will again demo the new advanced SDR (Software Defined Radio) System.

Ken will review the new changes made possible with the Flex 5000 Radio. If you were at the first Flex Program a year ago on the Flex 1000 you will not want to miss this or if you have not seen the Flex Radio in operation all the more reason to see the program.

Hands on for anyone who wants to set at the Computer console and run the Flex 5000.

This is the newest technology and one that is sure to change receiver design in the future.

Daily Software updates are available on the Internet that can change specs and operation features without cost to the user.

This is becoming more fun than you can imagine.

Flex-Radio has also announced a second receiver that will provide SO2R in a single box and with the sub receiver activated provides Tri Plex receiving. No other product on the market can match this ability.

The program will be run on Ken's new Flex-Radio 5000C. This is the top of the line with the computer in the same box as the radio.

If you have questions about this new radio bring them with you.

If you just want to see it in operation, don't miss the program. Ken (W9YNI)



The Montserrat crew (K9FO, K9CS, WR9L and K9NR) clowning around after their program at May KARS meeting

KARS KALENDAR

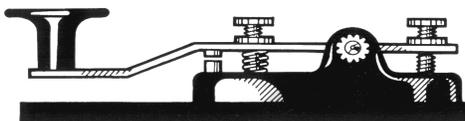
- June 1.....Princeton Hamfest
- June 3.....KARS General Meeting
- June 8.....6 Meter Club Hamfest
- June 8.....KARS FOX HUNT
- June 14-16.....ARRL VHF QSO Party
- June 17.....KARS Board Meeting
- June 28-29.....ARRL Field Day
- July 12.....FISTS Summer Sprint
- July 12-13.....IARU HF Championship
- July 13.....Fox River Hamfest
- July 19-20.....CQWW VHF Contest
- July 19-20.....N. A. QSO Party, RTTY
- July 20KARSFEST 2008**

The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:

146.34/.94 107.2 PL Access
449.8/444.8 114.8 PL Access

Also, co-sponsors:
145.130 107.2 PL Access

Additionally, KARS sponsors:
144.39 Wide Area APRS digi-peater
145.53 KARS DX Cluster



W9AZ

NEXT FOXHUNT JUNE 8th

Another FOXHUNT is planned June 8th at 1 PM. Meet in parking lot southwest of the Meadowview Theater.

NET CONTROL STATIONS

June 2nd	KC9FAV
June 9th	N9LYE
June 16th	WD9AY1
June 23rd	KE9MG
June 30th	N9LYE

Don't forget the net!

Mondays at 2100 hrs. local time



Rodney K9UNO and Crystal W9IOU winners of KARS foxhunt held on CQ Worldwide Foxhunting Weekend. They pose with the foxhunt fox and Crystal's faithful quad. Full story on page 2, more pictures on page 3.

FIELD DAY JUNE 28-29 DETAILS AT JUNE MEETING

Kevin NREG has graciously offered KARS the use of his location on Rt. 115 for KARS Field Day operations. At the June meeting we will be discussing the category we will be running as well as the who, what and when regarding setup and equipment.

IMPORTANT ARES INFO

I did confirm with Crag Long that we can hold the Tuesday, June 3 Meeting at the EOC. There will be a swearing-in ceremony and forms will be handed out for background checks.

We also have the Command Van for field day, assuming that there is no real disaster going on. 73, John K9BYT

KARS HOMEPAGE— WWW.W9AZ.COM —KARS HOMEPAGE

N9P Report Indiana QSO Party

By Howard — N9P, AK9F

County: Perry (PER) Indiana

Category: Multi Op

Operators: AK9F, K9NR, K9CS

Power: Low (100 watts)

A died in the wool contesteer might ask, "Why in the world would you want to work a state QSO party?" Fair question, and deserving of an answer from three of the more fanatic contesters in KARS. The answer in one word is it's just plain fun. For the past several years, Howard AK9F and Don K9NR have participated in the Indiana QSO Party, on the first weekend in May. We've done quite well, winning a plaque one year for the highest score posted in the contest, and always winning our category. Our operation on the AK9F farm in Perry County, on the very southern border of Indiana, is like a mini-Field Day. The farm is really a large timber land on the southwest corner of the Hoosier National Forest. We hang wire antennas from the many trees, and with our trusty potato cannon, it's quite easy to place them up to 60 or 70 feet high.

This year Don K9NR and I convinced another one of our friends, Carl, to join us. He is a member of our WB9Z 160 Meter contest group and an excellent operator. Carl had never been subjected to operating among the ticks, turkeys and deer of far southern Perry County, so it was a new experience for him.

The first thing we did upon arriving at the AK9F farm late Thursday was to check, repair and erect all the antennas. We got 40 and 80 meter antennas operational by noon Friday. However, because of the torrential rain and lightning that moved in by 1 PM, we had to hold off finishing the 20 meter Moxon until after the rain let up Saturday morning. By the start, however, we were ready with the 80 meter dipole at 60', the 40 meter dipole at 30' and the 20 meter Moxon fixed west at 25' and an Icom 746.

To say the start was slow is an understatement. We opened up on 20 meters, looking for the western state mults, but suffered through our slowest hour with only 21 in the log. As the afternoon progressed, the rates picked up a bit, but our occasional forays to 40 meters were really disappointing. 40 was very long from the start and about the only Indiana counties that had decent signals were those at the very north, completely opposite from Perry county. We tried to work the Indiana mobiles throughout the afternoon on 40 and at times we heard Mel W9ELI, but his signal was just a whisper in the noise, and while we got his

attention, it wasn't until later that we could actually put him in the log.

We continued to pick up the western state multipliers on 20 and the eastern states on 40, the first Indiana QSO didn't make it in the log until we switched to 80 at 2116Z and worked K8NWD/M in Steuben, in the very northeast corner of the state. 80 meters was a joy after all the suffering on 40 and 20, and the Indiana Q's rolled into the log throughout the evening. This was the first year we operated SSB on 80. With the new band plan, there was not nearly the amount of intentional QRMing that was prevalent in previous years. It was actually possible to hold a frequency on 80 with a 100 watts, a feat not possible before.

The three letter special event call seemed more familiar this year as there were less requests for repeats. We managed to work all three other one-by-one calls (N9I, N9N and N9Q) at least once, some a number of times.

By the close at 0400Z, N9P had managed 319 CW and 158 SSB contacts for a total of 477 Q's and a score of 112,236.

While we tried to balance the CW and Phone counts, the final tally indicated that all three operators have a distaste for microphones!

A total of 85 Indiana contacts are in the log, 40 Indiana counties were worked, 57 Indiana multipliers and W9UUU. We worked 46 states (missed only AK, HI, DE and SD), 3 VE provinces and one or two DX. The slowest hour was 21 and best hour 70. We averaged about 40 contacts per hour for the 12 hours.

All in all, we had a great time. A special thanks go to all the mobiles that provided so many of the counties that otherwise would have been absent. A real pat on the back to Mel KJ9C for organizing all the mobiles. We especially appreciate the many adversities that the mobiles worked through, including the outrageous gas prices!

This is a really fun event and we looking forward to an even better INQP next year. As always, activity is the key...let's hope we can convince more stations to participate in the future. *See the pictures on page 3*

KARS BOARD MEETING

KARS May board meeting will be held in the banquet room of El Campesino Mexican restaurant on June 17th. All KARS members and spouses are welcome to at-

The editors wish to thank all contributors to this newsletter. Your stories are what make this a great publication

CQ WORLDWIDE FOXHUNTING WEEKEND

When the word "foxhunt" comes up, every non-ham I know automatically thinks I like to hunt in the woods with camouflage. I never tire from explaining what a ham radio foxhunt is because it is, to me, the most exciting and interesting aspect of the amateur radio hobby.

It's a game that makes you think, makes you strategize. Once you track the signal with the strange looking antenna coming out of your car window, explain to the police and the locals that you are not causing any harm and dodge the objects that suddenly appear in the road, the fox who sends their signal out from their hidden car can be found. It takes a lot of skill to manage all of this.

In this last foxhunt on May 10th, I teamed up with my boyfriend, Rodney K9UNO. He drove and helped decide which direction to go, while I directed the antenna to track the signal. On our journey, we had to make a decision to turn down Route 113 or continue traveling west on Route 17.

As we were making our decision, Greg WR9L, pulled up and jokingly stated, "You're going the wrong way," as he turned right. I slyly looked at Rodney and said, "No we're not..." as we went straight. At the end of the hunt, we ended up winning by 6/10 of a mile.

As you can see, every little decision you make influences the outcome greatly. One slight move can make all the difference.

So all in all, foxhunting is a hobby that my family and I have done for years, I am very glad to have brought my boyfriend into the fun by winning our first hunt together. Till the next hunt,
73' from Crystal W9IOU

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 26	W9IOU
June 26	KF9DM
June 30	K9BAK

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



KARS emergency coordinator John-K9BYT and son pose by their vehicle at Limestone park. They were "The Fox" in KARS foxhunt held on CQ Worldwide Foxhunting Weekend



Terry, Harry-WD9FYF, Don-K9NR, Billie-K9QT, Greg-WR9L, John-K9BYT, Paul-W9IEY, Clay-N9IO, Crystal-W9IOU and Rodney-K9UNO atop the hill at Limestone Park after the Foxhunt



Harry, (Hollywood) WD9FYF tastes a traditional "Foxhunt Brownie". Paul-W9IEY just smiles——He has the rest of the brownies all to himself. And by the way, "What's with the dark glasses Harry?"



INQP

Howard-AK9F takes aim. It is rumored that he can indeed hit the broad side of a barn. In fact he did just that and has the hole in the barn to prove it.



INQP

It appears that Carl-K9CS is saying, "Don't shoot me guys, I'm doing my best with this potato cannon to get the wires up in the trees. You'll have to admit the mashed potato stunt was rather entertaining."



INQP

Take note, when Don-K9NR picks up the rifle, Carl-K9CS heads for cover, and Howard-AK9F is nowhere to be seen. Don hasn't quite mastered the broad side of the barn yet.



KARS Trustee Will-K9FO welcomes former KARS member Steve-W9DX to the May board meeting. Steve was in town from his QTH in Texas in order to attend the Dayton Hamvention with fellow KARS members.



Don-K9NR, Carl-K9CS and Howard-AK9F during the INQP. One of the rare moments when one of them didn't have a rifle or potato cannon in hand.



Ken-W9YNI smiles as Pete-NI9H recounts his 2 weeks progress in becoming a "former smoker".
CONGRATULATIONS PETE WE KNEW YOU COULD DO IT!!!