



KARS KEY KLICKS



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March 2016

Navassa DXpedition for March Program

The next KARS General Meeting will be March 1st, 7PM in the public meeting room at St. Mary's Hospital. Use the Main south side entrance.

After a brief business meeting Jerry WB9Z will present an excellent video on the big Navassa DXpedition. Don't miss this SRO program!

NAVASSA DXPEDITION—2015

In 1961 we Americans decided to send men to the moon -- and did it in only eight years. It took THIRTEEN years to launch the 2015 [K1N Navassa Island DXpedition](#).

During that time, Navassa climbed to the number one Most Wanted DXCC Entity. Tens of thousands of hams worldwide weren't even licensed the last time Navassa Island was activated. That was in 1993.

The long road involved getting permission from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, because Navassa has been declared a National Wildlife Refuge.

The KP1-5 Project Team worked tirelessly to get permission to visit and finally, a DXpedition was approved for February 2015.

The K1N Navassa Island DXpedition DVD shows the logistical challenge of moving fifteen operators and tons of gear to this small uninhabited island in the Caribbean. It was hot work (and expensive) since the only practical way to get there was via helicopter.

This two-week effort paid off with 140,000 Qs and many, many all-time new ones for hams worldwide. And that's a good thing because it will be another ten years at minimum before Navassa Island will be on the air again! 73, Jerry WB9Z



K1N Navassa Island DXpedition 2015



ARRL Illinois Section Manager Tom Ciciora KA9QPN speaking at the February KARS meeting

W9EJM APPOINTED KANKAKEE COUNTY EC

KARS member Ed Mossman, W9EJM, has been appointed the new ARES Kankakee County Emergency Coordinator by [ARRL Illinois Section Manager Tom Ciciora, KA9QPN](#), and ARRL Illinois Section Emergency Coordinator, Brad Pioveson, W9FX, effective immediately. Ed Replaces former ARES Kankakee County Emergency Coordinator John McGarey, K9BYT. Ed is also the Skywarn Coordinator for the Kankakee area and KARS club secretary. He will be working closely with the Kankakee County Emergency Management and Community Emergency Response Team administrators.

KARS KALENDAR

- March 1.....[KARS General Meeting](#)
- March 5-6.....[ARRL International DX SSB](#)
- March 6.....[Sterling Hamfest](#)
- March 15.....[KARS Board Meeting](#)
- March 19-21.....[BARTG RTTY](#)
- March 26-27.....[CQ World Wide WPX SSB](#)
- April 5.....[KARS General Meeting](#)
- April 17.....[ARRL Rookie Roundup](#)
- April 19.....[KARS Board Meeting](#)

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

NCS FOR MARCH

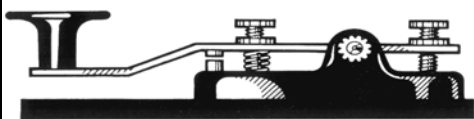
- March 7 N9RJM
- March 14 KD9CGC
- March 21 N9OE
- March 28 K9KSG

Don't forget the net!
Mondays at 2100 hrs. local time

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- March 2 W9IEY
- March 2 N9DLD
- March 4 N9DWE
- March 11 KC9ZKA
- March 14 KC9OAK
- March 20 N9RJM
- March 23 N9HJR
- March 24 K9BYT

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



W9AZ

It's time to plan your Dayton agenda!

KARS HOMEPAGE— WWW.W9AZ.COM —KARS HOMEPAGE



Ken W9IE at the controls of the very FB WB9Z station during the [CQWW WPX RTTY Contest](#)

RUNNING RTTY AT THE [WB9Z SUPER STATION](#)

WOW !

I received an EMAIL from Jerry WB9Z two days before the CQ WPX RTTY Contest... "Ken do you want to operate with Val NV9L and myself in the contest?"

What a chance, I love RTTY and have run several contests from my home QTH, but this would be a real TREAT and OPPORTUNITY for me. Jerry said he had to make sure he could fix the 40 Meter Beam that was locked south first and would give me a call. Early Saturday he called. The beam was fixed and they had 400 Q's in the log.

In the truck and south on Rt 49 I went. We used Val's call (NV9L) for the contest. All day Saturday and Sunday I sat in the chair and RAN RTTY. I didn't know how I would do without a FLEX, but the old operating habits came back! Hi! Hi! Guess I did OK, Jerry didn't send me home. Below are the STATS...
TOTAL Q's 2098, Total multipliers 838 for 4,889,730 points. Had to get a Pic of myself running the station...

Thanks again Jerry and Val.

I had a great time!

Ken W9IE

PS: the flowers in the picture were for Val from Jerry...after all it was Valentines Day!

K9NR note: Jerry never bought me flowers when I operated!

FROM THE WORLD OF W9GRS

Due to the crazy school schedule in February, W9GRS was only on air for about 30 minutes during the 2016 February School Club Round-Up.

We searched and pounced specifically with schools only to help them put another school multiplier in their logs. We saw the results from the 2015 Illinois QSO party and had mixed emotions. We were pleased with the total QSO's and points taking the 3rd highest score in the Phone Only (regardless of power).

What bummed us out was that effort was not enough to earn a certificate. Students took notice of the fact there is a Phone Only category, but only top phone QSO's are honored. I encouraged our students though that when it comes to SSB we were one of the tops in the state, regardless of lack of accolades.

W9GRS is also knocking on the door for ARRL Triple Play Award. As of right now, the station has confirmed 50 states via LoTW on both SSB and Digital and 21 on CW. The plans are to open up operation during the CW contest in February and then try to knock out those last remaining states before the school year ends.

In closing, it brings great sadness to announce the passing of Paul Wilson, KC9OVF SK on January 24, 2016. He was teacher and sponsor of the GRS Science Club for 28 years and was one of the original W9GRS sponsors. W9GRS is planning on a special memorial event in conjunction with celebration of the Science Club's 40th Anniversary in April/May. That is all from the Flatlands of Illinois! 73, Troy W9KVR

PS: I'm still trying to figure a good time to head to Mammoth and activate the park for NPOTA putting the "KVR" call to good use, hi hi.

Editor: Troy W9KVR & Don K9NR both belong to the same caving club.

WHERE'S THE DX?

The **A35T** operation to Tonga wraps up on February 28th. You'll need to work **LU1ZI** on South Shetland Island by February 29th. **3B8HD** finishes up on operation on Mauritius on March 1st

KG4—Look for KG4BP, KG4EU, KG4HF, KG4HP and KG4WV to be active from Guantanamo Bay between February 19th and March 4th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters on SSB, CW, PSK and RTTY

T32—East Kiribati—Listen for operators Brian/KG8CO (T32CO), Fred/N6FS (T32FS), Lee/N8LJ (T32LJ), Larry/K8MU (T32MU), Steve/K8QKY (T32SB), Ted/K8AQM (T32TR), and Stanley/AC8W (T32WW) from Kiritimati (OC-024) between March 1 and 16. QRV with four stations on 160-10m on CW, SSB, and digital modes, and also for the ARRL DX Contest. QSL for all calls Direct via AC8JF, LoTW and ClubLog OQRS.

Major DXpeditions

Two super rare locations...

VK0—Heard Island - Callsign VK0EK March 14 through April 16, 14 operators, 4 to 6 stations, all bands, all modes, QSL direct via [MOURX](#) or OQRS

FT4J—Juan de Nova Island - Callsign FT4JA, March 29 through April 11, 10 operators, 6 HF stations plus 6 meters, all bands, all modes, QSL route to be announced

Always remember to support any DX operation that you benefit from.. This is particularly important for the large (expensive) expeditions to remote and rare places. If we all do our part, we can insure that DXpeditioners will continue going to the most wanted entities.

KARS BOARD MEETING

The Board meeting will be held in the banquet room of El Mexicano restaurant on March 15th. Eat at 6. Meeting starts at 7. All KARS members and their guests are welcome to attend. P. S. The food is good too!

Always LISTEN before you transmit!

KARS activities in February



A view of a KARS Technician Class session at the Kankakee County Incident Command Center

The weekly procrastinators net has been postponed till further notice



Bill Chigaros (blue shirt), former Kankakee Fire Chief and presently head of training on hazardous materials for police and fire departments. Bill attended the February KARS meeting to hear ARRL Section Manager talk on the subject of ARES and to solidify relations with KARS emergency communication operations.



KARS members listening to ARRL Illinois Section Manager Tom Ciciora KA9QPN speaking at the February KARS meeting

Keep your ARRL membership current!

What other KARS members are up to

Don K9NR received an invite to join the K9CT Multi-2 crew for the [CQWW WPX RTTY Contest](#). Owned by [Craig K9CT of Trivoli \(Peoria area\)](#), it is a "built from the ground up" station for Contesting and DXing. Mostly operated as Multi-2 (multiple operators but only 2 simultaneous transmitters) Craig sometimes operates Single-Op in a few contests. The operation went well with a final score of over 13,000,000 points breaking the former NA record of about 11,850,000 points



Operating positions at K9CT HF to the left—VHF/UHF to the right



CQWW WPX RTTY Contest crew I-r K9NR, AI9T, K9CT, K9WX, N9CK, K3WA



80 meter 4 Square antenna



Darryl KD9AUK with his new drone quadcopter to help locate & recover high altitude balloon payloads

WATCH FOR HIGH ALTITUDE BALLOON LAUNCH

Date to be announced—weather dependent

If mother nature will cooperate, KC9AUK will attempt his most ambitious balloon launch ever. He will be using a larger balloon with a larger payload. Altitude is expected to exceed 100,000 feet!

The scaled up size of the flight package means that more help will be needed at launch. Help out at the BBCHS football field launch site.

If you can't help out at the launch, try tracking. It's a lot of fun!

Darryl Hopes to put to good use this year his new drone to help locate and recover the equipment package containing among other things the telemetry & cameras. You too can track the flight by going to: www.aprs.fi