



KARS KEY KLICKS



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November 2009

Nominations for 2010 Officers Slated for Meeting

The Next KARS General Meeting will be Tuesday, November 3rd, 7PM. As of press time, your newsletter editors were not informed if the meeting was to held at St. Mary's Hospital or the Bourbonnais office of the Red Cross.

For information on the meeting location and program, check into the Monday night net or monitor the repeater.

EXAM SESSION

Carl reports that there will be a testing session at Glen Raymond School, 101 W Mulberry St in Watseka on Tuesday Dec 8 at 7:00PM.

Exams for all classes of license will be available including Morse code tests.

All VE's are invited to participate to help keep their certifications current.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

KC9FAV	Nov 3rd
N9IO	Nov 12th
AI9L	Nov 20th

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

NCS FOR NOVEMBER

KC9FAV	Nov 2nd
K9BYT	Nov 9th
N9LYE	Nov 16th
WD9AYI	Nov 23rd
K9NR	Nov 30th

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

It's Contest Season!



Master auctioneers Will K9FO and Dan WA9WAQ in action at the October KARS meeting

KARS KALENDAR

Nov 3.....	KARS General Meeting
Nov 7-9.....	ARRL CW Sweepstakes
Nov 14-15.....	WAE DX Contest RTTY
Nov 17.....	KARS Board Meeting
Nov 21-23.....	ARRL SSB Sweepstakes
Nov 28-29.....	CQWW CW DX Contest
Dec 4-6.....	ARRL 160 Contest
Dec 8.....	Exam Session—Watsoka
Dec 11-13.....	ARRL 10 Meter Contest
Dec 25.....	Merry Christmas!
Dec 26-27.....	Stew Perry 160 Contest
Dec 31.....	Happy New Year!

The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:

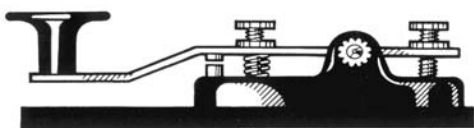
146.34/.94	107.2 PL Access
449.8/444.8	114.8 PL Access

Also, co-sponsors:

145.130	107.2 PL Access
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Additionally, KARS sponsors:

144.39	Wide Area APRS digi-peaters
145.53	KARS DX Cluster



W9AZ

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nominations for officers and board members will be entertained at the November meeting. If you're ready to "throw the bums out" or would like to run for an office yourself, then stand up and be counted!



Mike Mitchell K9SKP acting Director of the Kankakee County Red Cross

Mike will be with us until December 15th. He was in charge of all the Red Cross Emergency Communications Response Vehicles in the US prior to coming to Kankakee.

Mike is retired and has taken on responsibilities with the Red Cross as a problem solver. He travels to disasters nationwide in his motor home including deployment to the Katrina event.

Mike is pictured above at the KARS October meeting where he presented a small talk on his work with the Red Cross and it's relationship with amateur radio emergency communications.

KARS ANNUAL BANQUET

The annual KARS banquet is rapidly approaching. We would like to hear from everyone about our new venue. Voice your opinion at the next meeting!

KARS HOMEPAGE— WWW.W9AZ.COM —KARS HOMEPAGE

ICOM IC703 REVIEW

by Will K9FO

I just got an IC 703 from an estate sale and have been checking it out. It is a QRP radio the same size as the IC 706 and using some of the same accessories. The power output is 10 watts with a 13.8 volt supply and 5 watts with the Icom 9.6 volt nicad pack. When on the battery pack, the radio goes into the power saving mode and turns off the display light 5 seconds after you quit tuning. The receive draw is 300 ma, more than many QRP rigs but lots less than an Icom 706.

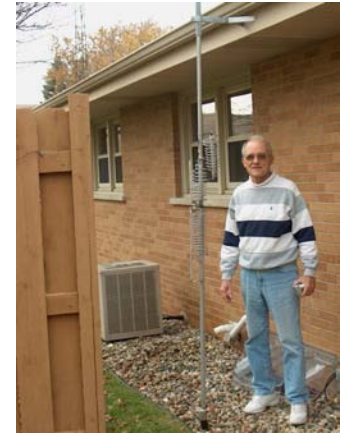
This is a menu driven radio but many of the menus are more like the IC 7000 than the IC 706. You need the book on hand all the time until getting things set to your liking. The CW filter (not included) is \$200 at AES. The included DSP is very good at noise reduction but no DSP selectivity is built in.

Band coverage is 160 M through 6 M. It plays great on SSB and CW with the built in memory tuner. The receiver is just like a big Icom, Sounds great. A very smooth built in antenna tuner works better than most.

I have had many nice QSO's (even DX) on CW and SSB. Overall it is a great QRP radio.

The list price of \$799 is pricey but deals are available. There are many radios to check out in this price range but that is the fun of shopping!

73/72, Will K9FO



Dale WB9RUE standing next to his newly rebuilt HF vertical



WHAT IS WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?

by Ken W9YNI

Howard (AK9F) and I (W9YNI) were working on Shunt feeding my tower on 160 meters.

The Ladder looks something like an Inverted V, but I don't think it is going to work on 160.

Accidents happen but this one was quite a surprise. The next problem was how to get the Ladder down, It wasn't as easy as it may look.

My neighbor across the street came out in his yard and said "What are you doing?"

There is more to the story but I'm not telling, you will have to ask Howard!

ANOTHER NEW HAM

by Ken W9YNI

Former Kankakee business man, radio and CATV system owner Les Small, now living in Phoenix AZ is now a Ham.

Les has a General Class License and his call is K9LHS. Congratulations Les and welcome to the Amateur Radio Hobby.

Following is part of an Email I received from Les today:

"My call-sign came through as expected: K9LHS. As soon as I have hung an antenna, I hope to begin this new hobby in earnest. With so much of the amateur radio software PC based however, I may have to buy a dedicated PC as opposed to running Windows XP Pro SP3 in a virtual partition on my MacBook Pro. Just when I was finally weaned off MSFT! Best to the Kankakee crowd!"
Les

It was through Les's influence as part owner/operator of Kankakee Cable TV that KARS was able to secure it's first high perch for the .34/.94 repeater...on the 400ft Cable tower. ...ed



Dale WB9RUE proudly displaying his new FLEX 3000 SRD Rig

WB9RUE NOW HAS A FLEX RADIO

by Ken W9YNI

Dale Monty (WB9RUE) has purchased a new FLEX 3000 and is now the second ham in town with a Flex SDR (Software Defined Radio).

Dale said "I am sure surprised and pleased with the operation of the new Radio." But there is so much to learn.

Dale now has a technician class license and is going to work on his upgrade to General ASAP.

Along with the new Flex, he also has a New/Used Vertical antenna that was given to him by Francis (KE9MG). The antenna was damaged in a storm and Dale has now rebuilt it and has it installed and ready to go. (Thanks Francis)

SWEEPSTAKES!

It's that time of year again! The largest domestic contest of the year. The ARRL Sweepstakes CW is the first weekend of November and the Phone version is the third weekend. Be sure to add your score to the Society of Midwest Contesters.

A collection of views from the annual KARS club auction at the October meeting



Rollie KC9OZZ looks over his Hard fought for treasures



Auctioneers Will K9FO and Dan WA9WAQ in action



Bill N9OE, Carl K9CS, John N9LYE and Harry WD9FYF trying desperately not to twitch lest they inadvertently purchase!



Bidders bull pen



Sheri KF9IK/M0SLA traveled all the way from the old world (UK) just to attend the KARS auction



A view of the business prior to the auction



Will K9FO and Dan WA9WAQ sizing up an item for bidding



KARS members getting psyched up for the bidding action



Will K9FO tells Dan WA9WAQ "I think I'll bid on this one myself!"