



# KARS KEY KLICKS



JOURNAL OF THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY

Volume 87 Issue 9

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September 2012

## Contesting Roundtable Scheduled

The next KARS [meeting](#) will be Tuesday, September 4th, 7PM at the St. Mary's Hospital meeting room.

After a short business meeting there will be an excellent program on the art of contesting.

The approach of autumn heralds the start of amateur radio contest season and the September meeting program will feature a roundtable discussion and FAQ about the second most popular activity (second only to DXing) in amateur radio. See you there!



Ken W9IE describes JT65 at the KARS August meeting

## ANNUAL WAUPONSEE TRAIL BIKE RIDE AND BBQ

This year's event will be on September 9th. We will meet at President Bill Dau's house (N9OE) in Custer Park, Il, at 2:00 PM and ride the Wauponsee Bicycle Trail for 2 hours or so and then return for a pot luck/cookout at Bill and Emily's house. Like Greg's pool party, bring meat to grill and a dish to pass. Bill will put your perishables in the refrigerator. You do not have to ride in order to come to the cookout. We will eat around 5:30 PM so you should arrive before then. Bring a lawn chair too.

TO BILL'S HOUSE: Take West Court Street to Wall Street. Turn north on Wall Street which is (Rt. 113) toward Custer Park. Drive about 15 miles on Rt. 113 and look for Jay Drive on the left side of the road. Turn left and proceed to 35802 Jay Dr. Bill's house is on the right side of the street.

## W9GRS IN THE NEWS!

Troy W9KVR reports that his operators at [W9GRS](#), [Glenn Raymond School in Watseka](#) made the front cover of Monitoring Times Magazine.

Check it out at:

[www.monitoringtimes.com](http://www.monitoringtimes.com)

Kudos to Troy and all the student operators at GRS...very FB indeed!

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

September 11 W9TRF  
September 15 K9BIG  
September 15 W4HYB  
September 18 Velda  
September 24 WB9RUE  
September 29 Terry  
September 30 WB9Z

Let us know if we miss your birthday or get it wrong.

## ILLINOIS QSO PARTY

Aside from lower A/C bills, there is one nice thing about approaching autumn...contest season!

The Illinois QSO Party this year will be held on October 21-22. Last year in a memorial tribute to Howard AK9F, KARS took First Place Club Aggregate score in the state!

We had great club participation and we are looking to take another crack at that elusive first place.

Be sure to get on and work up a log for the club aggregate contest score. A full time effort would be great but even a few hours would be a big help.

Get the full info at the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club (Quincy) web page at: [www.w9awe.org/](http://www.w9awe.org/)

Remember, on your submission to indicate Kankakee Area Radio Society as your affiliated club!

## NCS FOR SEPTEMBER

September 3 N9LYE  
September 10 K9NR  
September 17 N9OE  
September 24 N9FD

The net meets every Monday at 2100

## KARS KALENDAR

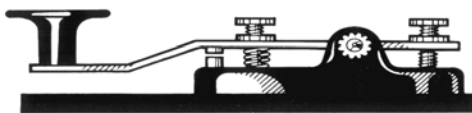
September 4.....[KARS General Meeting](#)  
September 8-9.....[ARRL VHF QSO Party](#)  
September 9.....KARS Bike Ride  
September 14-15.....[W9DXCC Convention](#)  
September 15.....[Radio Expo](#)  
September 18.....[KARS Board Meeting](#)  
September 22-23.....[Peoria Superfest](#)  
September 29-30.....[CQWW DX RTTY](#)  
October 2.....[KARS General Meeting](#)  
October 16.....[KARS Board Meeting](#)  
October 20-21.....[Stew Perry Topband](#)  
October 21-22.....[Illinois QSO Party](#)  
October 27-28.....[CQWW DX Contest SSB](#)

*The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:*

146.34/.94      107.2 PL Access  
449.8/444.8      114.8 PL Access  
145.130      107.2 PL Access

*Additionally, KARS sponsors:*

144.39    2 Wide Area APRS digi-peater  
145.53    KARS DX Cluster



# W9AZ

# SEE YOU AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

# www.w9az.com

## IT'S W9DXCC TIME

The annual [W9DXCC DX Convention and Banquet](#) will be held at the Holiday Inn in Elk Grove Village on September 14-15.

The popular event has been held since 1953 and is attended by many hundreds of DXers. Starting this year, there will be a "DX Basics class on Friday" and the SMC usually hosts an informal dinner on Friday evening. On Saturday, there is a day long schedule of events and programs. There will be QSL card checkers, exhibitors and many very nice prizes.

This years banquet speaker will be Fred Laun K3ZO. A noted DXer and Contester, Fred was elected to the CQ Contest Hall of Fame in 1993.

Don't forget to check out the hospitality suites and equipment exhibitors.

A favorite event of KARS members. Don't miss out on this one!

Check out the web page at:

[www.w9dxcc.com](http://www.w9dxcc.com)



**The August Board Meeting at El Campesino with Pete NI9H and XYL Sandy...Welcome Sandy!**

## SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING

KARS Sept. [board meeting](#) will be held at 6 PM, September 18th at El Campesino Mexican Restaurant on Rt. 50. The business meeting will be held about 7PM after dining and visiting. All KARS members and spouses are invited to attend.



## SWAIN'S ISLAND EXPEDITION UNDERWAY!

Jerry WB9Z, Carl K9CS and all the rest of the [Swains's Island](#) crew are on their way to the far reaches of the Pacific Ocean. Their destination is the tiny atoll called Swain's Island...a part of the Tokelau chain.

It is an unincorporated, unorganized territory of the United States administered by American Samoa. Swains Island has a population of 37 Tokelauans, who harvest the coconuts.

Swain's ranks number 31 (out of 340) in the DX Magazine most wanted list. The island is about one mile in circumference and has only five permanent residents and no infrastructure.

Operation will be on all bands 160 to 6 meters and modes CW, RTTY, SSB.

Plans are to arrive on September 5th and immediately start setup with operations scheduled to start on the 6th and end on the 18th.

**ALL OPERATION WILL BE SPLIT!** Listen before you call! It should be only moderately difficult for US stations but very difficult for EU stations...don't call if they are operating "EU" only.

Operators include:  
WB9Z, K9CS, K9CT, 9V1FJ, AA4NN, DJ2VO, DL3DXX, K5AB, K9NW, N2TU, N6HC, N6HD, NA6M, ND2T, SM5AQD, W6KK, W8GEX, W8HC, W8TN

Valerie NV9L will be the North American pilot station.

Following the Swain's operation, Craig K9CT and others will venture to Conway Reef (3D2C) and operate from September 24th to October 5th.

Check out:

[www.nh8s.org](http://www.nh8s.org)  
[www.yt1ad.info](http://www.yt1ad.info)

**A safe journey to all!**

## WINDOWS 7 NTP TIME SYNC

By WU9D

Very useful for JT65 operation!

Go to:

<http://www.meinberg.de/english/sw/ntp.htm> and **download** NTP for Windows NT/2000/XP/2003/Vista/Windows 7.

Install per the **instructions** at:

<http://www.satsignal.eu/ntp/setup.html>

When prompted to edit the configuration file, remark out the default time servers and add those listed on:

<http://www.pool.ntp.org/zone/north-america>.

I list the servers listed there below:

server 0.north-america.pool.ntp.org  
server 1.north-america.pool.ntp.org  
server 2.north-america.pool.ntp.org  
server 3.north-america.pool.ntp.org

Once installed time will be synchronized shortly (< 5 mins) and time synchronization problems are a thing of the past.

## HAMVENTION ATTENDANCE

Official attendance of the [Dayton](#)

[Hamvention](#)...

2012	24,483	2001	26,151
2011	22,312	2000	28,804
2010	19,750	1999	28,176
2009	18,877	1998	28,120
2008	17,250	1997	28,000
2007	19,318	1996	?
2006	20,324	1995	33,000
2005	20,411	1994	35,000
2004	19,869	1993	33,669
2003	22,168	1992	33,000
2002	24,832	1991	33,500

K9NR reports that from 1978-1990 attendance was in the lower to middle 30 thousands. Don has attended Hamvention for 35 consecutive years!



The worst part of any trip to Hamvention you may ask?

Leaving Ohio... :>(



# KARS HOMEPAGE— [WWW.W9AZ.COM](http://WWW.W9AZ.COM) —KARS HOMEPAGE

## TWO RIVERS CENTURY BICYCLE RIDE

What do you get when you combine a gorgeous summer day, hundreds of bicycles and ham radio? A great time! The event, sponsored by the Kankakee River Bike Club was an up to 124 mile ride along some of the most scenic areas of the Kankakee and Iroquois Rivers. Rest stops and Sag Wagons were manned by KARS members providing essential communications to the event. Several riders and their cycling equipment were assisted back to the start/finish at Splash Valley Aquatic Park when they experienced breakdowns or minor injuries. KARS participants included: Harry WD9FYF (event liaison), Carl K9CS, Will K9FO, Don K9NR, Billie K9QT, Clay N9IO, Bill N9OE, Craig N9FD, Andy KC9URK. Looking forward to next year!



The KARS crew who provided communications and Sag Wagon service to the event...Carl K9CS is missing from the photo



Harry WD9FYF (KARS liaison with the cycle club) mans the Aroma Park Rest Station/Communications post



Cyclists near a "Sag Wagon" at Splash Valley



A bicycle built for three!



The Rest Stop at Island Park in Momence



Craig N9FD's mobile rest stop near Plato Bridge in Iroquois County

### **KARSFEST 2012 A CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS**

KARSFEST 2012 did very well. Despite concerns about the economy, attendance was up and by careful control of expenses the event placed itself firmly on the side of success. [Next years fest](#) plans are already in the works!