



KARS KEY KLICKS

JOURNAL OF THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY



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August 2009

KARS AUGUST POTLUCK PICNIC & POOL PARTY

The next KARS General Meeting will be August 4th at 5 PM at the QTH of Greg WR9L. The address is 495 N. Center Bradley, IL, across from BBCHS at the intersection of Center and North Streets.

Greg has once again offered the use of his pool and lovely backyard for our informal August meeting and Potluck Picnic.

Bring your favorite grilling food. Carnivores, herbivores and omnivores all are welcome. Also, bring a dish to share (your fellow club members have healthy appetites), your favorite beverage, table service for yourself and a chair.

If you would like to swim, bring appropriate attire and a towel.

Basically, neither Greg nor the club is going to feed or clothe you. It's strictly Dutch treat! A hot grill or two will be available.

There will be a very minimal meeting...mostly just good conversation and fun. See you there!



Art N9ZZK presents Winlink program at July meeting

KARS KALENDAR

August 2.....Bolingbrook Hamfest
August 1-2.....NAQP CW Contest
August 4.....KARS Meeting & Picnic
August 9Hamfesters Hamfest
August 15-16.....NAQP SSB Contest
August 18.....KARS Board Meeting
August 23.....Danville Hamfest
September 1.....KARS General Meeting
September 12-13.....Radio Expo - CFMC
September 12-14.....ARRL VHF QSO Party
September 15.....KARS BOARD Meeting
September 18-19.....W9DXCC Convention
September 19-20.....Peoria Hamfest
September 26-27.....CQ RTTY DX Contest

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 2 wide Area APRS digi-peaters

145.53 KARS DX Cluster

KARS FIELD DAY RESULTS

Good weather, good food, good propagation and a good crew insured a successful Field Day for KARS.

SUMMARY

Bonus Points:	
100% Emergency Power	300
Media Publicity	100
Information Booth	100
Site visit by official	100
Youth participation	60
GOTA bonus	200
Web submission	50
Educational activity	100
Total Bonus Points	1010

Score Summary:

	CW	SSB	Digi	Total
QSO's	325	393	0	718
Points	650	393	0	1043

Band/Mode Breakdown:

Band	CW	SSB	Digi	Total
80	0	0	0	0
40	143	49	0	192
20	175	148	0	323
15	0	23	0	23
10	0	34	0	34
6	5	18	0	22
2	2	17	0	2
Other	0	2	0	2
GOTA	0	109	0	109

Great work everyone!

Thanks again to Kevin N9REG for his hospitality. A great site!

KARS BOARD MEETING

The next KARS board meeting will be held in the banquet room of El Campesino Mexican restaurant on August 18th. All KARS members and spouses are welcome to attend.

Eat at 6:00. Meet at 7:00

NCS FOR AUGUST

Aug 3 KC9FAV
Aug 10 N9LYE
Aug 17 K9BYT
Aug 24 KE9MG
Aug 31 WD9FYF

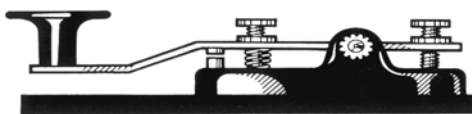
Don't forget the net!

Mondays at 2100 hrs. local time

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

August 9 K9TP
August 12 K9JMS
August 22 KC9MZQ
August 29 N9ECM

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



W9AZ

WWW.W9AZ.COM

SEE YOU AT THE KARS PICNIC/POOL PARTY!

KARS HOMEPAGE— WWW.W9AZ.COM —KARS HOMEPAGE

KARS IS TWITTERING

I know this "new fangled" technology isn't for all of you, (I'm resisting too) but just in case you're interested, I've set up a twitter account just for Kankakee Skywarn the address is: <http://twitter.com/k3skywarn>

If you follow this account, it will update every 4 hours with the latest NWS spotter statement.

If there is no change in the statement, there will be no update on the page.

I hope this is useful to you..
73, John - K9BYT



A view of the new Motorola MSR 2000 444.8 Repeater

REPEATER UPDATE

The repeater voting system is coming along nicely. The Illinois Repeater Association has issued an approved link frequency for the voting receiver.

The repeater committee has installed the new channel elements and retuned the satellite receiver. Howard AK9F and Jerry WB9Z and their crew have installed the necessary antennas for the link. All that remains to be done is to install the voter and the link receiver and transmitter.

The 440 repeater upgrade is nearly complete. The channel elements have been installed. The receiver and transmitter have been retuned. The new duplexers have been retuned and perform superbly.

Howard AK9F has donated a very fine rack for the new equipment. The new rack has already been partially populated with the new 440 machine. The DX Cluster and the new APRS digipeater will reside in the new rack also.



TEST SESSION RESULTS

By Carl K9CS

A testing session was held on July 19, as part of KARSFEST 2009. We had eight applicants who took a total of eleven tests.

Those earning new Technician licenses were:

Robert Ellison, of Coal City
Matt Kwiatkowski of Romeoville
Adam Goldberg of Glenview

Adam breezed through the test even though he is just 9 years old!

We had two upgrades:

Don La Dew, N9TCB, of Godley, IL is now a General.

Shirley Hayden, KD8IQB, from Ypsilanti, MI upgraded to Extra. Shirley correctly answered all fifty questions on her Extra Class exam. WOW!

Volunteer Examiners working at the test session were Bill, N9OE, Pete, N19H, Troy, W9KVR, and Carl, K9CS.

KARS does not schedule regular test sessions other than as part of KARSFEST. However, given a few weeks notice, we can set up a testing session. If anyone is ready to test, contact any KARS officer or Board member.



John N9LYE forwarded this copy of his latest contest award which he just received in the mail.
Congratulations John

KARSFEST 2009 !

Karsfest 2009 was a resounding success. Attendance was up substantially. Mother nature smiled down on us with beautiful weather. Our sponsored forum program proved very popular and well attended. (Story with photos on page 4)

The complete write-up on KARSFEST will be in the September KARS newsletter including lots of photos.

Many thanks to all the hard working KARS members who helped make this show possible.

W9GIG RUNS AGAIN

It's once again time to elect an ARRL Director for the Central Division. Dick W9GIG has announced that he will seek a fourth term. (corrected)

U.K. HAM CLUB CONTACTS KARS

We received the following correspondence from the Bedford & District Amateur radio club in Great Britain wishing to "twin" with an American club. "Twinning" is a U.K. term similar to our "Sister City" concept:

Greetings from the Bedford & District Amateur radio club. Please visit our webpage www.badarc.net which will tell you a little bit about our club. The club has been active since 1957 with the callsigns G(X)3WTP, M(X)1BED and our contest callsign G8B. We currently have about 20 members and have spent the past 18 months rebuilding our club shack which is nearly complete. Over the past few years we have concentrated on running special event stations such as GB0IOI (75th commemorative station of the ill fated air ship R101) and many more.

We have been keen on twinning with another club for some time and would be great if we could try a few sched's especially when we get our HF beam erected later this year. Any ideas about what we can share would be great.

Anyway look forward to hearing from you.

73's Andy Sanderson de M1TLK (Club Secretary)

FIELD DAY 2009

W9AZ and the N9FD GOTA Station — 3A IL



Greg WR9L and Ken W9YNI appear to attempting a satellite contact. Isn't that a ladder in your right hand Greg?



All hands and the cook!
Getting the tower ready for the old
"Heave Ho"



Don K9NR operating the 40 meter CW station. He had a good run going until the Incident command vehicle was needed for a genuine incident and yanked away from our field day.



Kevin N9REG places a vegetarian order at the grill.



Lord and Master of the Grill aka Will K9FO once again outdid himself with scrumptious steaks for all.



A busy dining tent!
The most important activity at Field Day...the dinner cookout!



A quiet evening moment at the dining tent.



Clay N9IO with John K9BYT's son Brian at the N9FD GOTA station. The enthusiastic nine year old surprised his Dad and made several contacts.



The gang gathers for the July meeting inside the new Red Cross headquarters in Bourbonnais. The Winlink program garnered much interest.

IL ARES Winlink 2000 Forum Well Attended IL SEC W9FX Launches State Wide Digital Initiative



The forum lead by ARRL IL ARES SEC Brad Pioveson W9FX of downstate Benton, IL was a resounding success. The most aggressive digital initiative in Illinois in decades, this forum was the kickoff introduction of a new state wide Winlink RMS Packet messaging system.

Brad Pioveson recently stated "What's needed to make this work is the network of fixed stations - the 'nodes.' Ideally, we'd like to have one in each of the 102 counties in Illinois - more than one, in fact, in the more populated areas where tall buildings and in the rural, rugged areas where terrain might cause coverage problems from a single point. Each one of these stations will consist of a PC running either Windows XP or Vista operating system. Applications running on the PC will include the Winlink 2000 software, AGWPE, and UIView32 - all freeware applications. A hardware TNC (1200 baud is fine, 1200/9600 is a plus) and a suitable 2 meter rig and antenna will complete the station. If the PC can be linked to the Internet, that, too, would be a plus. We desperately need clubs, repeater operators and organizations, ARES groups, EMA's with available 2M rigs, and, volunteers to start building and getting these fixed-base systems on the air."

Membership is now open to the **Illinois Amateur Radio Emergency Services® Digital Working Group**. Visit this Yahoo Group web site at http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/IL_ARES_DWG/ all IL hams invited. Please participate in the group. By N9IO.



The Winlink demonstration inside was remote through the Emergency Communications Vehicle of the Grundy County Amateur Radio Club / ARES.

L-R Visitors N9AOP and WA9AWO of Will Co ARL, John KC9KKO seated and DEC Bob AB9EE both of the Grundy Co ARC
<http://www.kb9szk.com/>



Working in the background at left is Art, N9ZZK appointed ARRL IL/ASEC Digital Communications at KARSFEST by W9FX. Center, John KC9KKO mans the Winlink remote. Right this low link yagi at 440 mhz back to Grundy Co at 300 ft, 33 miles away with 5 watts.