



KARS KEY CLICKS



JOURNAL OF THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY

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Editors: K9QT, K9NR, Photos: K9QT, N9RJM
Contributors: N9IO, W9KVR

October 2010

ANNUAL AUCTION AT OCTOBER MEETING!

The next KARS general meeting will be at 7PM on Tuesday, October 5th at the public meeting room at St. Mary's Hospital. After the usual business meeting, the dynamic duo of Dan WA9WAQ and Will K9FO share command of the gavel as they auction off all the many fine treasures brought in by KARS members.

Make sure you have carefully combed through your garage, attic, basement and shack for anything you would like to sell at the auction. As usual, ten percent goes to the club treasury. Anything that might be remotely of interest to a ham is welcome.

No one brings large amounts of cash to the auction, so you probably don't want to carry in your most expensive gear.

This is always a fun meeting.

EMERGENCY DRILL

Save the date! October 23, 2010 is the date for the next county-wide Full Scale emergency drill. Typically, these exercises begin around 8:00 AM and are over by Noon. This exercise will take place at the end of the Kankakee County Fair Grounds.

The theme of the drill will be the simulated crash of a 747, complete with flaming fuselage. We need as many volunteers as we can get to operate positions in the hospitals, the triage site, the EOC and at the scene. For those of you who can't participate, we would appreciate a short check-in to the net for purposes of a head-count. This will allow us to demonstrate the number of operators who would undoubtedly provide support during an actual event.



Howard AK9F receives meritorious service and visionary leadership award from Bill N9OE at KARS meeting

AK9F RECEIVES AWARD

In recognition of decades of contribution of time, equipment, ideas and leadership, Howard AK9F received a long overdue award.

Think back on innovations pioneered by KARS and you will undoubtedly remember that Howard has always played a leading role.

Howard has served as club president, KARSFEST chairman and lifelong member of the technical committee. Howard had so much faith in KARSFEST that he chaired the first fest and loaned KARS money to get it off the ground and yes, it made money the first year (and every year since).

Through his many connections in the broadcast and tower industry, he arranged many valuable antenna perches for the amateur radio community. Many times the club was made privy to transmission lines worth thousands of dollars and commercial grade antennas were obtained at cost when not outright donated.

Howard is an active contester and excellent CW operator. He was part of the VP5F team (AK9F, K9NR, WB9Z) that took Second Place World in the 2001 CQWW 160 CW Contest.

Howard has been a member of the prize winning 160 operating team at WB9Z's superlative station for decades.

Thanks a million Howard!

KARS BOARD MEETING

The KARS October board meeting will be held in the banquet room of El Campesino Mexican restaurant on October 19. All KARS members and spouses are welcome to attend.

Eat at 6:00. Meet at 7:00

KARS KALENDAR

Oct 5.....KARS General Meeting
Oct 17.....Illinois QSO Party
Oct 19.....KARS Board Meeting
Oct 23.... Emergency County-wide Drill
Oct 27-28.....CQWW SSB DX Contest
Nov 2.....KARS General Meeting
Nov 6-8.....ARRL Sweepstakes CW
Nov 13-14.....WAE RTTY DX Contest
Nov 16.....KARS Board Meeting
Nov 20-22.....ARRL Sweepstakes SSB
Nov 27-28.....CQWW DX CW Contest

The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:

146.34/.94 107.2 PL Access

449.8/444.8 114.8 PL Access

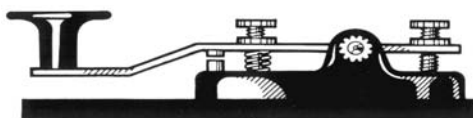
Also, co-sponsors:

145.130 107.2 PL Access

Additionally, KARS sponsors:

144.39 2 Wide Area APRS digi-peaters

145.53 KARS DX Cluster



W9AZ

DON'T FORGET THE AUCTION!!!

KARS HOMEPAGE— WWW.W9AZ.COM —KARS HOMEPAGE



Proud winners of yet another Indiana QSO party plaque.
At the September meeting Howard AK9F presented individual plaques to each team member...
Carl K9CS on the left and Don K9NR on the right

KARS CYCLE OUTING

In what will hopefully be a regular event, KARS members mounted their trusty bicycles and rode the Wauponsee Trial from the trailhead in Custer Park to Kahler Road and back...a short ride of about 14 miles.

Craig's seasoned steed came up lame (flat tire) about halfway through and Don KC9QPM rescued him with the "sag wagon." Riders included: Will K9FO, Don K9NR, Harry WD9FYF, Craig N9FD, Bill N9OE, Emily KC9ELV and Andrew.

Following the ride, a cookout was held at Bill and Emily's QTH and a good time was had by all!



VISITORS FROM ENGLAND
Former KARS member Sheri KF9IK / M0SLA and future husband Stuart made an appearance at the September KARS meeting

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

K9NIA	10/04
K9KOC	10/07
WR9L	10/13
N9YNZ	10/14
K9IOC	10/15
KB9NYW	10/16
KE9YO	10/19
KB9ZQU	10/24
K9NR	10/26
WB9CDE	10/26
N5HSR	10/27



Howard AK9F, Ken W9YNI, Carl K9CS and Chris W9LIZ all listen intently as Will K9FO gives tips and tricks for successful contesting at the September meeting.

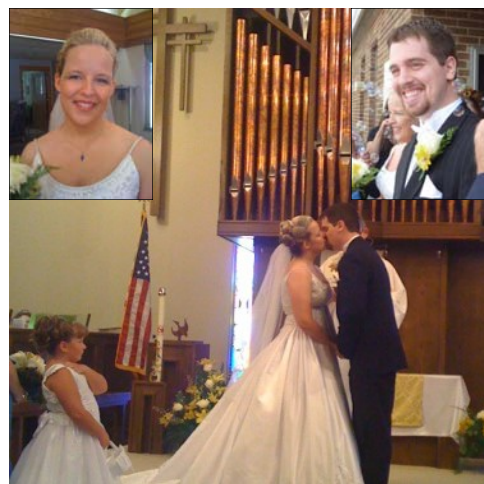


Pete K9OWQ from Tinley Park was a visitor at the September meeting. He is accompanying Carl K9CS, Will K9FO and Don K9NR on their DXpedition to Montserrat in November

NCS FOR OCTOBER

Oct 4	KC9FAV
Oct 11	N9LYE
Oct 18	K9BYT
Oct 25	KE9MG

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



Crystal W9IOU and Rodney K9UNO were wed on September 5th.
Congrats Mr & Mrs Rodney Pena Jr
(Crystal is the daughter of Clay, N9IO and Cindy, N9IOQ)

ILLINOIS QSO PARTY TIME!

The Glenn Raymond School station, W9GRS, will be on-air for the ILQP operating in Iroquois County at the school in Watseka. We will primarily be operating SSB and Digital on 15/20/40. We'll also try to work some 10m if the openings are there.

Shameless Plug Time! By the way, the October School Club Round-up takes place the next day (Oct.18) through Friday (Oct. 22). The W9GRS school station finished 2nd in the Nation last year in both the Oct. and Feb. editions. If you would like to make a sked during the week feel free to shoot me an e-mail. We are fully capable of operating on all bands and modes (though my CW requires a bit of patience). It would be nice to see a "9" top the list this year!

Back to ILQP, depending on when we get done at the school, I may operate at the home QTH on 80m SSB from Iroquois County.

Hope to CU on the Air throughout that week! 73's!
 -Troy W9KVR and the W9GRS Crew

The Illinois QSO Party will be held October 17th, 12:00 noon to 8:00PM local time. Last year, KARS took second place in the club aggregate score. This year, with everyone's help, we will take first!

Operating modes include CW & SSB. Mark your calendar now!

1962 - Mobile CD Communication Center 2010 - KARS Em-Comm vehicle

Two distinct eras in KARS History, one man's role in both

By Clay Melhorn N9IO Bonfield, IL (KARS Web Master)

In the 1940's 50's and 60's RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) was very much a part of the Kankakee Area Radio Society's activities by being prepared to provide emergency communications as a significant part of Kankakee County's Civil Defense organization. A staunch supporter of that movement within the KARS organization was William G. "Bill" Williams, W9VQC. Bill served as the CD Communications Director for Kankakee County. In 1962 Bill headed a project employing the help of many other KARS members providing the labor to build a mobile communications center vehicle. The construction project was funded in part by the City of Kankakee and area business, the radio equipment was donated by members of KARS.

The vehicle used was a retired school bus. It was converted in Bill's driveway recalled Rowland "Rollie" Hertz N9RJM of rural Kankakee. Rollie was an 8 year old boy in 1962 and happened to live across the street from Bill Williams. Rollie explained that he was allowed to help with that bus project at Bill's as much as an eight year old could contribute. Rollie remembered a few of the local hams that were part of the KARS project such as Francis "Ham" Miller K9CYZ of Aroma Park and Bob Bunch K9SAM of Manteno. Bill and the others very much sparked Rollie's interest in and love of amateur radio that he also picked up in later years. Rollie recalls that Bill was an electrician who occasionally repaired televisions at home. Bill would give Rollie the old tubes from TV's that he and neighbor kids would use for target practice with their BB guns.

Rollie has now paid it forward by volunteering to head KARS latest emergency communications vehicle project except this time the vehicle is in Rollie's back yard across the street from the original project location from 1962 as has been reported here in the last couple issues of the Key Clicks newsletter. Thankfully the project has now been completed.

It was also reported in last month's Key Clicks that KARS director Howard Dybedock, AK9F had donated an Icom IC-7000 to be used in the Em-Comm Unit. To further sweeten this radio installation KARS directors Carl and Chris Schroeder, K9CS and W9LIZ recently presented the matching Icom ATU (automatic antenna tuner) to Rollie N9RJM. Our thanks to Rollie, Howard, Carl and Chris for their outstanding contributions toward the success of this project.

(Continued on the next two pages are old Daily-Journal newspaper clippings from 1962 and 1963 about the CD vehicle.)



Rollie Hertz, N9RJM at home in "the shack"

K9CS, W9LIZ present ATU to N9RJM

1962 Field Day Results

Record 15,000 Report Activity

From Dec 1962
QST magazine
See W9AZ/9

W8VVL/8	Queen City Emergency	683-	B-43-	4260	W1WFB/1	Millford ARC	471-	B-26-	2826
W5OK/5	Electron Benders ARC	699-	AB-25-	4212	W9AWE/9	Western Illinois RC	460-	B-15-	2760
W2HAE/2	Larkfield ARC	501-	AB-20-	4089	W9AZ/9	Kankakee Area R Soc	429-	B-15-	2724
K6HAI/6	North Shores ARC	677-	B-13-	4062	W5CAY/5	(nonclub group)	453-	B- 8-	2718
W8QZR/8	Cranbrook AR Soc	673-	B- 4-	4038	W4KEK/4	Peninsula ARC	335-	AB- 9-	2709
					VE3GBN/3	Grey-Bruce AR Assn	426-	B-14-	2706

Bus Serves As CD Communications Center

Tues. June 19, 1962



NEWEST ADDITION TO Kankakee Civil Defense forces is this remodeled bus which is being used as a communications center, not only for the city, but for the county. It was remodeled and fitted out by the Kankakee Area Radio Society. In case of

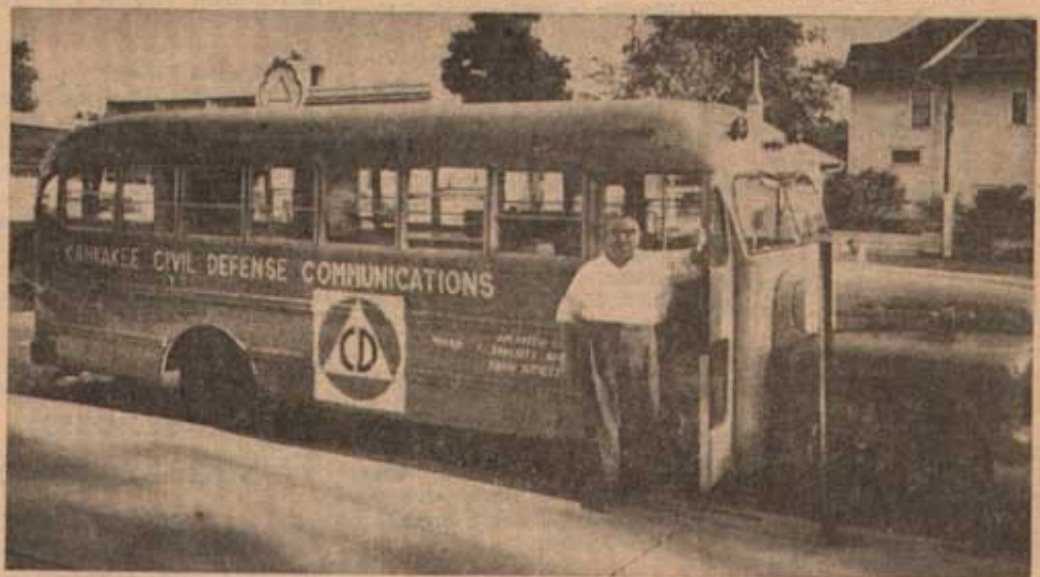
disaster, the equipment it carries will enable it to broadcast nearly around the world. Here, Weldon Wadleigh, city and county director of Civil Defense, leads a tour through the bus as it was parked near City Hall Monday evening. (Journal photo)

1962

48 years have passed since the Kankakee County mobile Civil Defense Communications Center was converted from that retired school bus.

Fitted with advanced radio gear complete with built in power generator all by members of the Kankakee Area Radio Society. The project was headed by Bill Williams W9VQC.

Emergency communications has always been a fundamental concern of the Kankakee Area Radio Society. (More from 1962 and 1963 follow on page 4)



THIS INTERIOR SHOT shows how the Kankakee Area Radio Society has outfitted this bus to serve as a civil defense communications center in case of disaster. William Williams, CD communications director, exhibits some of the

equipment it will carry in case of need. Most of the equipment and parts were donated, while the work was performed by the radio society. Total cost to the city will be about \$550. (Journal photo)



This interior shot shows how members of the Kankakee Area Radio Society outfitted a bus as a c.d. communications control center. That's W9VQC, c.d. communications director, demonstrating one of the units. Note the control panel for the 3-kw. gasoline-driven generator at the left rear. Besides being equipped to operate all amateur bands, the unit is air conditioned and contains a galley. KARS members and local business establishments of Kankakee, Ill., donated labor and materials.

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December 1962

QST for

CD Communications Center shown in this December 1962 ARRL QST Magazine article

1963

Pictured right in a Kankakee Journal article from June 24, 1963 is **Bob Bunch K9SAM (sk)** of Manteno and **Bill Williams W9VQC (sk)** at the microphone in the Kankakee Civil Defense mobile Communications Center during the 1963 ARRL Field Day exercise. Field Day was held south of town at the Kankakee Airport back in those days.



You can find all of these JPG picture scans and much more from 1962 and 1963 in the KARS web site archives from the following links.

1962

http://www.w9az.com/1962_p1.html

1963

http://www.w9az.com/1963_p1.html

Kankakee Daily Journal Monday, June 24, 1963 5

Have Radio Field Day

William G. Williams, right, field day chairman for the Kankakee Area Radio Society, and Robert Bunch of Manteno, check out equipment and test procedures that will be used in actual emergencies such as the tornado of this past spring during the group's giant emergency communications drill this weekend at the Kankakee Airport. The drill, called Field Day, was sponsored by the national amateur radio organization and the American Radio Relay League. (Journal photo)