



KARS KEY CLICKS



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June 2011

JUNE MEETING: FIELD DAY PLANNING

The next KARS meeting will be Tuesday, June 7th at 7 PM at St. Mary's Hospital.

The program will be on Field Day planning. Be sure to attend and help plan KARS entry into the biggest operating event of the year!

NET REMINDER

The Illinois ARES HF NET operates on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 4:30 PM, Central Time on 3905 kHz, LSB. Contact WD9FYF or K9BYT with any questions.
73, Harry WD9FYF

RADIO MANUALS ON THE WEB

From the web master:

During a Google search I found an EU ham web site with many service manuals, user manuals and circuit diagrams sorted by Manufacturer's Model names and amateur radio band available in pdf form. Downloads are unlimited setting this site apart from similar sites on the web that limit the number of downloads in a given period of time. I was particularly surprised to find the FT-920 service manual. Be patient as I see the site is now under construction.
<http://www.radioamateur.eu/schemari.html>
Clay, N9IO

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 10	N9OQC
June 26	KF9DM
June 26	W9IOU
June 30	K9BAK

If we miss your birthday or get it wrong, please let us know!



Will K9FO demonstrates his FLEX 1500 software defined radio at the May meeting

KARS KALENDAR

June 5.....SRRC (Princeton) Hamfest
June 7.....KARS General Meeting
June 11-13.....ARRL VHF QSO Party
June 18-19.....Stew Perry Summer Contest
June 19.....6 Meter Club Hamfest
June 21.....KARS Board Meeting
June 25-26.....ARRL Field Day
July 5.....KARS General Meeting
July 9-10.....IARU Contest
July 10.....Fox River Hamfest
July 16-17.....CQWW VHF Contest
July 16-17.....NAQP RTTY Contest
July 17.....KARSFEST!
July 19.....KARS Board Meeting

The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:

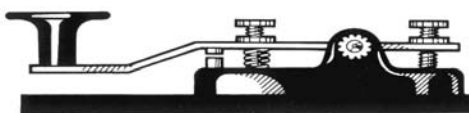
146.34/94 **107.2 PL Access**
449.8/444.8 **114.8 PL Access**

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

SEVERE WX NET OPERATION

One thing hams are very good at is helping out in times of emergency. In the recent severe weather outbreaks everyone deserves an A for effort!

Still, while we're patting ourselves on the back, we need to do as the county emergency agencies do...analyze what we did well and what we didn't do so well.

Many of our members have not attended a severe weather seminar and are NOT trained weather spotters. Others have never operated in a service net and are inexperienced in efficient net operation.

Consequently, we experienced many instances of superfluous transmissions and meaningless (to the NWS) reports.

The National Weather Service has gone through great efforts to get everyone on the same page when it comes to reporting from the field.

When reporting weather phenomenon, the NWS wants accurate and significant reports.

Examples of poor transmissions include:

"It's raining here"
"It's raining hard now"
"It's really windy here"

Continued on page 3

NCS FOR JUNE

June 6	KC9FAV
June 13	N9LYE
June 20	N9FD
June 27	WD9FYF

The net meets every Monday at 2100 hours local time on the 146.34/94 repeater. All stations with or without traffic are invited to check in.

KARSFEST JULY 17 2011!

KARS HOMEPAGE—WWW.W9AZ.COM—KARS HOMEPAGE



Howard AK9F and Don K9NR preparing antennas for the INQP



Larry (William Tell) Dybedock shows everyone how to erect antennas "the easy way"



**The inevitable result
Fortunately, Larry is an MD!**

Indiana QSO Party 2011

What a great INQP this year! The KARS team of AK9F, K9NR, K9CS and W9YNI drove 250 miles each way to operate from our cabin in the woods in Perry County. On Friday and Saturday morning we put up all wire antennas, an 80 meter dipole at 60', a 40 meter dipole at 30', and a 20 meter wire Moxon beam at 25'. The Moxon was aimed West to take advantage of the activity on the W7 QSO Party. Howard's son Larry, who was on site for the turkey season, lent his compound bow and strong arm to shoot arrows over the tallest trees. A fine fishing leader from Don's fishing tackle box trailed the arrows and enabled us to then hoist the wires high in the trees. The Moxon was supported from four guyed fiberglass poles and threw an excellent signal into W-7 land in spite of it's low height.

We have operated in the INQP for many years now, using either AK9F or N9P...this year we decided to go with N9P. We had quite a bit of discussion during the test about using the 1-by-1 call, as it caused a number of calls for repeats on CW. It didn't throw the phone operators as they seemed to pick it up right away.

Conditions were excellent, and we turned in the best score we've ever made. We operated 20 meters for the first 4 hours or so and picked up a lot of the W7 stations and were surprised that the band was also short...we actually had several Indiana and Illinois stations call on 20. The band yielded 165Q's and 43 mults. Things were jumping on 40 when we moved there in the mid afternoon, and the results were obvious: 354 Q's and 101 multipliers on 40. We worked a lot of Indiana counties and quite a few mobiles on 40 as well as a number of New England stations.

The rates on 40 were so good that we stayed there almost until dark. Watching the radar and all the huge storms with tornadoes moving into central Indiana, we expected 80 would have so much noise as to be nearly unusable. We were amazed that with severe thunderstorms and tornado watches within two counties to the north, 80 was extremely quiet. As a result we picked up another 137 Q's on 80. The phone portion of the band, as expected yielded only 26 contacts.

The totals:

	CW	SSB	MULT
80	111	26	15
40	136	218	101
20	68	97	43

Total: 315 + 341 = 656Q 159Mult

Score: 154,389 Points

Time on: 12:00 Hours

We greatly appreciate the KARS stations that found us and provided contacts: NV9X, N9OE, K9QT, K9FO, NI9H, KC9QPM, N9FD, N9LYE, WB9Z and K9TP.

We attempted to balance our CW and phone operation to give as many stations as possible a Perry County contact and multiplier. Thanks to all the mobiles for activating counties in spite of the \$4+ gasoline. Also, thanks to all the SMC stations that found us. And thanks to Mel, KJ9C for all the work to organize activity, then to activate so many counties. Also thanks to the HDXCC for sponsoring the event then making some sense of all the logs and scoring.

73, Howard AK9F



Howard AK9F and Ken W9YNI (now W9IE) working on the 20M Moxon



Carl K9CS piling on the points



The "Crew"

I-r Steve, AK9F, W9YNI, Larry, K9CS, K9NR—A big thanks to Steve & Larry Dybedock for their invaluable help through the weekend!

KARS HOMEPAGE—WWW.W9AZ.COM—KARS HOMEPAGE

SEVERE WX NET OPERATION

Continued from page 1

"There's lots of lightning here"

At the weather seminar this spring the NWS representative explained, in detail, how to report hail size and wind magnitude. The supplied books and pamphlets were also excellent resources.

If you were unable to attend the severe weather seminar, contact the NWS and request the weather spotters guide. They will be happy to help you out.

The NWS station (WX9LOT) operator has to monitor five repeaters (including KARS). To keep confusion down, the other four monitored repeaters keep traffic to an absolute minimum by taking local reports on separate frequencies/repeaters and then relaying them to the NWS on the monitored repeater.

We at KARS will be doing similar once our backup repeater is on the air. Until then, during severe weather alerts it is VERY important to keep traffic on .34/.94 to an absolute minimum. The KARS weather nets, being south of the Chicago area, are very important to the NWS

In a controlled net, stations should not contact each other unless as directed by the NCS. All traffic must be directed to the Net Control Station. The NCS is the traffic cop of the net. It is critical that the NCS be experienced in net operation and severe weather reporting and that he/she has a cool head and can multi-task.

The NCS must use good judgment. It's pointless to spend large amounts of air time trying to copy the callsign of an extremely noisy station.

BTW. When the weather situation has passed and the net control station closes the net, it is pointless to "check out" as the net is closed and there is nothing to check out of.

This analysis isn't meant to hurt anyone's feelings or intimidate and scare anyone from participating. After all, even a poor report of severe conditions is better than none at all. Rather it is meant to make us all better operators and more effective in our role as emergency responders.

ECHOLINK BACK ON-LINE

This is a general announcement to our KARS Echolink users.

Due to a lack of time, Don (K9NR) and I (N9OE) have not been able to return to the tower site and finish direct wiring and configuring the KARS Echolink server. Consequently, I have setup a temporary, remote RF link for the KARS W9AZ Echolink system on my personal home server and spare antenna here at the house. As time permits, the hard wiring of the Echolink system to the KARS 146.940 repeater will resume.

Nonetheless, the KARS Echolink is now back up and running barring any unforeseen problems. Feel free to use the system as much as you like. The station node should be the same, try searching for "**W9AZ-R**."

If for some reason it is not working or you have any questions, please email me.

73 from,
Bill Dau, N9OE
n9oe@comcast.net



DAYTON BOUND!

WR9L, K9FO, N9REG, NI9H, WA9FTU, K9NR, N9IO, W9DX



The stadium crowd at the Hara Arena At Hamvention 2011

KARS MEMBERS 2010 STEW PERRY RESULTS

The Stew Perry Distance Challenge 160 Contest continues to be a popular KARS operating event.

I pulled as many Kankakee Hams that I could in the Stew Perry Results...

2010 Single Op High Power...

K9FO 1188 Points

NI9H 400 Points

Single Op Low Power...

WB9Z 5020 Points (1st Place in Single Op Low Power Overall.)

K9NR 1616 Points*

W9YNI 564 Points

NV9X 310 Points

N9LYE 152 Points

I don't know if I missed anyone you may want to check.

73's Ken

*K9NR claims a medical procedure slowed him down some.



Just a tiny corner of the vast flea market at the Dayton Hamvention



Astronaut Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC signs autographs at the ARRL Expo

W9YNI—W9IE

For over 50 years Ken has signed his call as W9YNI...now he has to get used to W9IE! Congrats Ken!