



KARS KEY CLICKS



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November 2017

ARRL DIVISION DIRECTOR KERMIT CARLSON W9XA TO SPEAK AT NOVEMBER KARS MEETING

The next KARS meeting will be November 7th, 7PM at St. Mary's Hospital in the downstairs Board Room. Use the main entrance on the South side to the elevators. [Go to the basement level and exit the elevator to your right just past the cafeteria.](#)

After a brief business meeting, we will be honored with a presentation by [The ARRL Central Division Director Kermit Carlson W9XA.](#)

Arrive early and ensure yourself a good seat as we expect a good turnout. See you there!

NV9L PR Report: Pages 2 & 3

KARS HOLIDAY BANQUET

Work has begun on the KARS holiday banquet. Clay N9IO and Cindy N9IOQ are looking into a promising venue with good food and parking.

If you know of a place suitable to our needs, please let us know.

N5HSR SK

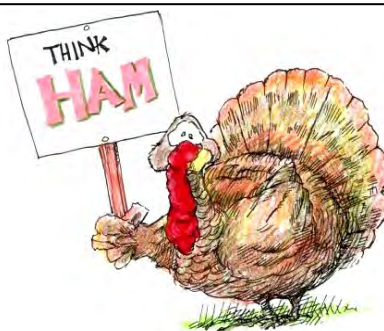
We regret to report the passing of Charles Fregeau N5HSR.

Charles was an Extra Class licensee and an active KARS member of many years. He will be remembered as a modest man of compassion and a friend to all.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

November 2nd N9BMB
November 3rd KC9FAV
November 6th KD9FVR
November 8th KC6FJO
November 10th KC9QPM
November 12th N9IO
November 20th AI9L

Let us know if we miss you



Happy Thanksgiving!

KARS KALENDAR

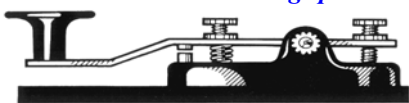
Nov 4-5.....[ARRL Sweepstakes CW](#)
Nov 7.....[KARS General Meeting](#)
Nov 11-12.....[WAE DX RTTY Contest](#)
Nov 12.....[Transmitter Hunt](#)
Nov 18-19.....[ARRL Sweepstakes PH](#)
Nov 21.....[KARS Board Meeting](#)
Nov 23.....**THANKSGIVING!**
Nov 25-26.....[CQWW DX CW](#)
Dec 1-3.....[ARRL 160 Meter Contest](#)
Dec 5.....[KARS General Meeting](#)
Dec 9-10.....[ARRL 10 Meter Contest](#)
Dec 19.....[KARS Board Meeting](#)
Dec 25.....**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**
Dec 29-31.....[Stew Perry 160 Contest](#)
Dec 31.....New Years Eve Dinner

The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:

146.34/.94 107.2 PL Access
449.8/444.8 100.0 PL Access
145.130 107.2 PL Access

Additionally, KARS sponsors:

144.39 2 Wide Area APRS digi-peaters



W9AZ

NOMINATIONS

Nominations for club officers and directors will be accepted at the November and December meetings. Elections in December. Now is the time to run for high office or nominate the person of your choice!

Voting and nominating are limited to licensed KARS members in good standing.

KARS & ILQP...KUDOS!

KARS members came through with a fine showing in the [2017 Illinois QSO Party](#). No less than 15 logs submitted compared to 9 in 2016. Last year, we took second place with a combined club score of slightly over 300,000 points. This year, our club aggregate score is right at about 400,000!

Some FB work from the following members: K9FO, N9LYE, W9IE, K9CS, K9NR, N9RJM, N9IO, W9KVR, K9KSG, K9ABN, N9OE, W9EJM, N2BJ, WR9L, KE9MG.

BOARD MEETING

The KARS board meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 21st at El Mexicano. Eat at 6PM. Meet at 7PM.

NCS FOR NOVEMBER

[The net meets every Monday](#) at 2000 hours local time on the 146.34/.94 OR 145.130 backup repeater. All stations with or without traffic are invited to check in.

November 6th N9RJM
November 13th KD9CGC
November 20th N9OE
November 27th K9KSG

Don't forget the net!

Good Luck in the Fall Contest Season!

KARS HOMEPAGE—WWW.W9AZ.COM—KARS HOMEPAGE

When the call went out for help in hurricane ravaged Puerto Rico, KARS member Val NV9L volunteered. See her story below.

MY TIME IN KP4-LAND POST HURRICANE MARIA

By VAL NV9L

I have recently returned from a 3 week deployment from Hurricane Maria ravaged Puerto Rico. On Friday night September 22nd, the American Red Cross asked the ARRL to assist in putting together a communication team. After having a Saturday conference call, the ARRL decided to come through. They put out the call on social media Sunday looking for volunteers. Jerry and I were on the road returning from W4DXCC in Pigeon Forge when I saw the post. With Jerry's blessing, I applied, leading with my ICS certificates, ARES and Winlink experience. Monday morning Mike Corey from the ARRL called me and conducted a phone interview. Later that day the Red Cross ran my background and credit checks and by Tuesday I had my flight arrangements for a Wednesday flight. The 20 of us that were chosen arrived in Atlanta on Wednesday evening to our awaiting 20 go kits put together by the ARRL. Our go kits contained an IC-7200 for HF, a tuner, a handheld VHF radio, a 40 meter dipole, coax, tools etc. In Atlanta the ARC laptops were passed out so Winlink could be uploaded. Thursday at 4:30 am all 164 ARC volunteers were at the Atlanta airport waiting to board our chartered JetBlue aircraft. It was very impressive how fast both the ARRL and the ARC (American Red Cross) moved to get us in Puerto Rico in less than a week.

We landed at the uncontrolled (look around and hope no other airliner is landing or taking off) San Juan international airport. Upon exiting the aircraft we were met with cheers and applause from the locals.

Words cannot even begin to describe the devastation the good people of Puerto Rico have to face on a daily basis. There was no power in most places in San Juan at this time. No traffic lights anywhere in a city 3 times the size of Dayton. You could be driving down the expressway and then come up on a very large tree just sitting in the right lane. Powers lines were either down or partially down and dangling.

Since we were the first Red Cross workers to arrive, things were chaotic at first...as to be expected. Our mission originally was to go to towns throughout the island with Red Cross teams and enter people's names into an Excel spreadsheet and then send them to be downloaded into the ARC Safe and Well database via Winlink. Within 40 hours of arriving, our mission had expanded to include setting up communications at key spots throughout the island where there was none.

I was assigned with another ham to the EOC, 4 net control operators set up net control at the ARC HQ, and the rest were sent out either on long-term deployments or day trip deployments. It became clear that 22 hams were not enough for what was needed, but we did the best we could

to make do with what we had. Most of the normal everyday traffic, was requests for generator fuel, oxygen tanks, and meds at the hospitals.

Most of us hams also did many things outside the scope of ham radio: fixing generators, donating & delivering food and water, providing medical assistance and even assisting the Army Core of Engineers in securing the dam.

With many of us working 12-15 hour days, the 3 weeks flew by and our deployment ended. This was to the dismay of the hospitals and fire stations that had relied on us for critical communications.



Val operating from the EOC in San Juan

Did everything run smoothly?

Of course not.

Did we provide an invaluable service?

Without a doubt.

Ham radio actually saved lives, since we were the only reliable network of communications on the island. Since this was a first, for a disaster of this scale, we walked away with a lot of knowledge and a lot of ideas on what we can do better next time.

**More KP4 pics from Val and
commentary on page 3 →**

KP4 (Puerto Rico) pics from Val NV9L continued



NV9L Arriving in PR

Group photo of volunteer ham radio operators in PR

Ed: Val, the membership of KARS could not be more proud of the actions of you and all of the other Ham Radio volunteers in Puerto Rico.

It should also be noted shortly before PR Val and her son had returned from volunteering in Houston to help with animal rescue and pet / family reunions.

KARS members are very active fox (transmitter) hunters! September 30 Hunt



**Scott K9ABN & XYL Ingrid
(the good looking driver)**

Billie K9QT, at the lonely fox lair

**Winner JR K9KSG with
the fox K9QT**

October 14 Hunt



KD9GLY Prepping for the hunt

Scott K9ABN at the Fox's lair

Winner K9QT & fox K9KSG

Fox (transmitter) Hunt pictures continued October 28 Hunt



Mike WU9D...first to arrive



Hunters lining up at the finish



**Winners...N9DLD & N9OE with
Fox N9BMB and driver K9QT**

160 Picnic at K9FO's River Cottage



Nothing like a summer place on the river



Need to feed those hungry 160 operators



Some familiar faces there

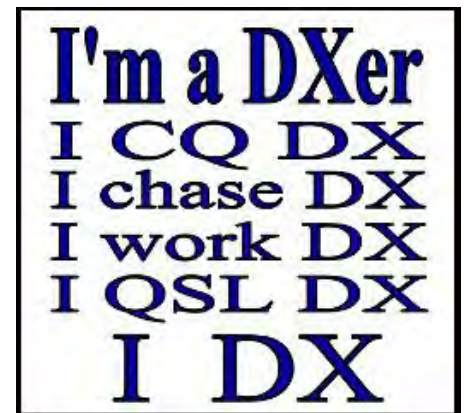
FALL / WINTER CONTEST SEASON OPENS WITH NOVEMBER SWEEPSTAKES

Starting with ARRL CW Sweepstakes and ending with the
Stew Perry 160 Distance Challenge,
there are seven weekends of major contests
with two weeks off to catch your wind!

Then there are 4 significant contests in January and 4 in February!
DX and stateside, CW, RTTY and SSB, there is a contest for every taste.

Get your station ready for all the fun today!

A great chance to work on your favorite award: DXCC, WAS, WAC, WAZ, etc.
See you in the contest!



Action at the October KARS Auction



Auctioneers WA9WAQ and K9FO



Danny WA9WAQ could sell air !!!



As always a great time had by all!