



# KARS KEY KLICKS



JOURNAL OF THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY

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September 2018

## SEPTEMBER TO BE THE PICNIC MEETING

The next KARS meeting will be September 4th, 5:30 PM at the [Hickory Hills Shelter in the Kankakee River State Park](#) (the most southeastern shelter...same as last year).

This will be a picnic meeting.

Everyone is responsible for their own food, drink, table service, etc. After a brief business meeting, there will be a self-guided tour of mobile installations.

We will attempt to cluster the mobiles together. Be mindful of where to park if you don't have a mobile to display. See you there!

### W9DXCC

The [W9DXCC](#) DX Convention this year will be on September 14-15.

As usual, several KARS members will be attending the annual DXers extravaganza held again this year at the Hyatt Regency Schaumburg. Great presentations, card checking, equipment displays, prizes, banquet and great fun!

Friday's schedule includes both DX University and Contest University programs. Be sure to sign up!

Friday evening, there will be a gathering of Society of Midwest Contesters for dinner and hobnobbing from the Black Hole!

Saturday's schedule includes a great list of DX related programs including a presentation by KARS member Val NV9L followed by the Banquet. The Banquet special guest speaker will be CQ Magazine's DX Editor, Bob Schenck N2OO.

For complete info on the W9DXCC Convention, check out:

<http://www.w9dxcc.com/>



A large turnout for an August meeting!

### KARS KALENDAR

**August 28**.....[Transmitter Hunt](#)  
**September 4**.....[KARS General Meeting](#)  
**September 8**.....[Transmitter Hunt](#)  
**September 8-10**.....[ARRL Sept. VHF Test](#)  
**September 14-15**.....[W9DXCC Convention](#)  
**September 15**.....[Peoria Superfest](#)  
**September 18**.....[KARS Board Meeting](#)  
**September 22**.....[Transmitter Hunt](#)  
**September 22**.....[Radio Expo Hamfest](#)  
**September 29-30**.....[CQWW DX RTTY Test](#)  
**October 2**.....[KARS General Meeting](#)  
**October 6**.....[Transmitter Hunt](#)  
**October 16**.....[KARS Board Meeting](#)  
**October 20**.....[Transmitter Hunt](#)  
**October 21**.....[Illinois QSO Party!](#)  
**October 27-28**.....[CQWW DX SSB Contest](#)

*The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:*

**146.34/.94**      **107.2 PL Access**

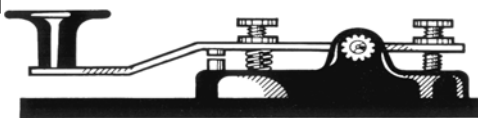
**449.8/444.8**      **100.0 PL Access**

**145.130**      **107.2 PL Access**

*Additionally, KARS sponsors:*

**144.39**      **2 Wide Area APRS digi-peaters**

**W9AZ DX Cluster**      **w9az.ddns.net**



# W9AZ

### ILLINOIS QSO PARTY!

The 2018 Illinois QSO Party will be held Sunday, October 21st, Noon to 8 PM local time. Operation is on all bands 160 through 2 meters (excluding 30,17&12 meters) and all modes CW/SSB/FM. The exchange is your RS(T) and county or RS(T) and state for non-Illinois stations.

KARS placed third club aggregate score in the state of Illinois. We beat some much larger clubs! This year we are aiming to move up the chart and we need everyone's help!

So...jump in and help out. Make as many contacts as your schedule will allow and be sure to submit your log with KARS as the club aggregate!

Everything you need to know is at:

<http://www.w9awe.org/ILQP.html>

Your club needs you...be a part of the team! Did I forget to mention, it's a heck of a lot of fun! Let K9NR know of your intentions to operate.

### NCS FOR SEPTEMBER

The net meets every Monday at 2000 hours local time on the 146.34/.94 repeater.

September 3      KD9CGC

September 10      K9KSG

September 17      K9XI

September 24      N9LYE

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

September 11      W9TRF

September 11      KD9CGA

September 15      K9BIG

September 15      KD9CFV

September 15      W9WWE

September 15      W4HYB

September 21      WB9RUE

September 29      Terry

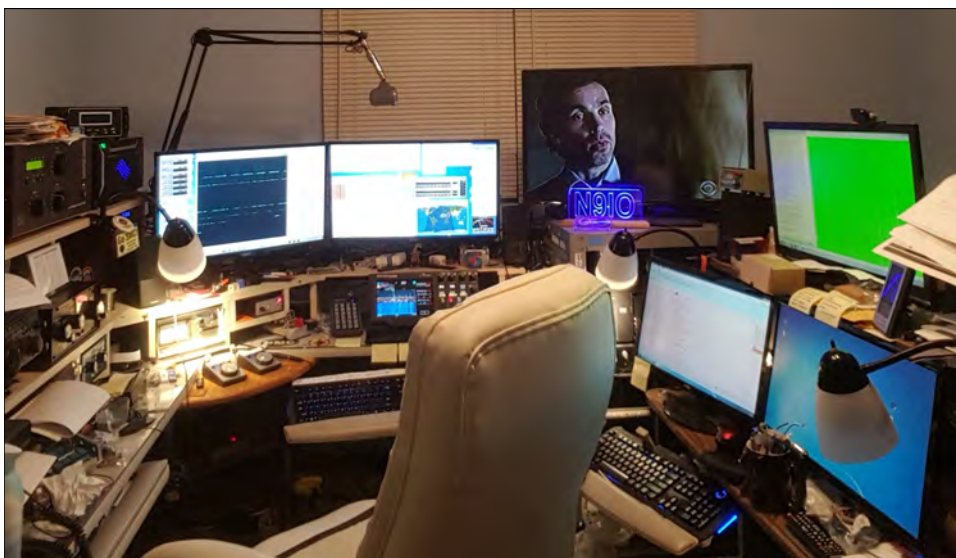
September 30      WB9Z

## Don't Forget the Illinois QSO Party!



## KARS Shack of the Month - Clay N9IO

**Send a picture of your shack today!**



**Clay's shack shows how ubiquitous flat screen displays have become in the hamshack!**

### N9IO's SHACK

Current station includes:

**FlexRadio 6600** for HF & 6m  
**FlexRadio Maestro & Flex Knobs**  
**Icom IC-746** for 2m (For sale)  
**Icom IC-775dsp** (also for sale)  
**Acom 1000** HF & 6m Amp  
**Six-Pak** Antenna switch (*Automated rx*)  
**KD9SV Rx Preamp** 80 & 160  
**PowerMaster** Wattmeter  
**Antennas:**  
**Mosley TA-33** Tri-Bander 55ft  
 Inv-L 160m (50ft vertical)  
 Double Bazooka 75m 54ft  
 Butternut HF2V 80m & 40m  
 1.5 wave dipole 12m 52ft  
 Aluminum dipole 17m 35ft  
 EWE and Delta Pennant Rx Antennas  
 3 element 6 meter Yagi 65ft  
 11 element yagi 2 meter Yagi 60ft  
 J-Poles 2m FM

I was first licensed in 1973 at the age of 15 with a DX60 transmitter and an SX28 receiver that I purchased from my uncle Ben W8MCL(sk)...all fed to a low 40m dipole.

These days I enjoy DXing first and foremost chasing DXCC and the ARRL Challenge. My current numbers are a humble 289 mixed mode and around 1150 in the Challenge band mode points.

I have 7-Band DXCC and the Triple Play WAS award. My most recent achievement is VUCC on 6m at 110 grid squares, the last 51 done on the new FT8 mode and no I don't see FT8 replacing RTTY.

I prefer CW and RTTY Contesting and tolerate phone much better now with the ultra smooth and soothing receiver in the Flex 6600.

My contesting loyalty lies with the Society of Midwest Contesters (SMC). Have been a faithful KARS member 25+ years.

Fortunately my XYL Cindy N9IOQ gets it and is quite understanding of the lifestyle, it's not just a hobby to me. I am who I am because of ham radio.

73, Clay N9IO

The September Board Meeting will be Tuesday September 18th  
 At El Mexicano's.

All members are invited to attend.  
 Eat at 6PM Meet at 7PM.



Photo courtesy of Don K9NR

## NV9L ANNOUNCES INTENT TO RUN FOR ARRL CENTRAL DIVISION DIRECTOR

"I am running for ARRL Central Division Director. These past couple of years have shown the need for new ARRL leadership. Management needs to be more transparent and accountable. Because the ARRL is a member driven organization, we need to make sure we give you the members that voice and view in what we do.

On the local level, I am excited about focusing on membership as I see membership numbers on the decline. I want to make sure all hams are more embraced into this hobby; especially newly licensed hams. I know that the success of a ham's participation is a direct result of local clubs and ARES groups, so I want to make sure local clubs thrive. I'm confident that I, along with the Central Division ARRL Volunteers, can achieve this.

I've been licensed since 2006. I was very active in several local clubs as well as the Kenosha County ARES group. I was recently part of the Force of 50 that went to Puerto Rico after hurricane Maria. I enjoy DXing and contesting, but feel that all aspects of this hobby should be well represented. We're all on the same team; our love of amateur radio. I was honored this year as "Amateur of the Year" at Dayton's Hamvention. I'm an ARRL Life and Maxim member because I know the value they bring to help protect and promote this incredible hobby.

I'm the Controller for a conglomerate of 16 companies with an annual revenue of \$60,000,000 and 300+ employees. I'm 1 of 6 in upper senior management. I attribute my business success to being very goal driven, organized, and a respected leader.

Please vote for me this October and let's make sure that the ARRL best represents its members and make the Central Division the best possible!"

Valerie Hotzfeld ~ NV9L

## PHONETIC ALPHABET

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>A-Alpha</b>    | <b>N-November</b> |
| <b>B-Bravo</b>    | <b>O-Oscar</b>    |
| <b>C-Charlie</b>  | <b>P-Papa</b>     |
| <b>D-Delta</b>    | <b>Q-Quebec</b>   |
| <b>E-Echo</b>     | <b>R-Romeo</b>    |
| <b>F-Foxtrot</b>  | <b>S-Sierra</b>   |
| <b>G-Golf</b>     | <b>T-Tango</b>    |
| <b>H-Hotel</b>    | <b>U-Uniform</b>  |
| <b>I-India</b>    | <b>V-Victor</b>   |
| <b>J-Juliette</b> | <b>W-Whiskey</b>  |
| <b>K-Kilo</b>     | <b>X-Xray</b>     |
| <b>L-Lima</b>     | <b>Y-Yankee</b>   |
| <b>M-Mike</b>     | <b>Z-Zebra</b>    |

## NET OPERATION

The importance of proper net operation cannot be over-emphasized, particularly in times of emergencies!

Nets can be described as *Formal* or *Informal*. Like most club nets, KARS Monday night nets are somewhere in between.

In a typical net, there is a net control station or NCS. Traffic is usually routed through the NCS. EVERYONE should have at least some experience at being the NCS. When an emergency occurs, "official" Net Control Operators will not likely be immediately available. Consequently, everyone should be able to grab the reins and jump right in. Don't feel self-conscious, everyone has to start somewhere. To be an effective NCS, you MUST learn to use the official phonetic alphabet!

When checking into a formal net, transmit your callsign one time. Unless you have a very short, distinctive call, use proper phonetics. Under less than ideal conditions, always use phonetics. DO NOT use cutesy phonetics, there is no place for them in an emergency! When checking in, listen to and follow the instructions of the NCS. Keep your transmissions BRIEF! Sign your callsign only! Comments like "thanks for taking the net, etc." are darn friendly but are unprofessional and slow the exchange of possibly critical traffic.

The routine KARS Monday Night Net does not require check-ins to "check out. At the finish of business, the NCS simply closes the net. However, during an ongoing severe weather net, it is important that you advise the NCS if you are temporarily or permanently leaving the net. He/she needs that information.

New Net Control Operators are sometimes advised use a "list" system to handle check-ins. It's a process where a long list of stations are called one at a time. This can become tedious and inefficient because many on the list will simply not check in. This is okay when you are first getting the hang of being NCS but in a real emergency, list operation will go out the window and the NCS must be able to handle check-ins fast and furious. So, as soon as possible, develop proficiency with phonetics and volunteer to be Net Control Station! Many thanks to all our NCS operators!

Improving your net operation skills is an ongoing process...so start today!



A picture from the 2 Rivers Century Bike Ride on Momence Island...KARS members provided communications

# DON'T FORGET! THE KARS OCTOBER AUCTION!

## August 8 Transmitter Hunt



Brian N9HJR



KB9VR, N9IO, N9DWE, KA9TAG, K9QT, W9IEY, Terry, WD9FYF



K9NR(fox), N9DWE, KA9TAG, N9IO

## August 19 Transmitter Hunt



K9QT, KD9HSD, KD9CFV & Terry



K9KSG, W9IEY, K9NR, KD9HSD, KD9CFV, KD9GLY & Terry



W9IEY, KA9TAG and Terry

**See you at the next hunt!**

## SMC Fest 2018!

The Society of Midwest Contesters Conference



Val NV9L & Jerry WB9Z  
drawing prizes



Ward N0AX & Craig K9CT  
hold up new SMC banner



ARRL Handbook Editor Ward Silver  
N0AX discusses grounding & Bonding



Will K9FO, Clay N9IO & Ken W9IE



Trophies, Gavel & Plaques  
won by the SMC



Paul K9PG, Will K9FO & Val NV9L