



KARS KEY KLICKS



JOURNAL OF THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY

Volume 96 Issue 4

Editors: K9NR, K9QT, N9IO
Photos: K9NR
Contributors: W9KVR, N9OQC

April 2021

VACCINATIONS EQUAL SAFE IN-PERSON MEETINGS

DO YOUR PART & GET THE SHOT!

As more and more people get vaccinated against the Communist Chinese Wuhan Virus, we move closer to real in-person KARS meetings and post transmitter hunt pizza's again!

Many seniors and people with health issues have already been vaccinated and soon the next round of inoculations will include adults of all ages.

Be sure you are signed up at the County Health Dept and with as many other providers as possible. You do it online. It is very easy! Don't procrastinate or be a Johnny come lately.

The life you save could be that of someone near and dear. The sooner we are all treated, the sooner we can all live normal lives again.

KARS EXAM SESSION

KARS has scheduled an exam session for Friday, April 2nd at 6:30PM.

Doug Duncan KD9PZD, proprietor of Bordertown Guns in Momence,

116 S. Gladiolus Street, Momence has generously offered his business location for the test site. There is a classroom area with long tables to accommodate the examinations in a safe distancing arrangement.

Exams for all licenses Technician to Extra Class will be available. Walk-ins will be accepted. If you are new to Amateur Radio, remember to obtain an FRN number from the FCC online. Everyone bring a photo ID, a copy of your present license where applicable

EXAM SESSION

Friday, April 2nd @ 6:30PM

Bordertown Guns

116 S. Gladiolus Street

Momence, Illinois

**No matter how bad your life is,
it's still not as bad as someone
who sits around worrying about
the gender of a plastic potato!**

R.I.P. Mr. Potatohead!

KARS KALENDAR

April 2.....**KARS EXAM SESSION**
April 3.....**Transmitter Hunt**
April 6.....**KARS General Meeting**
April 17.....**Transmitter Hunt**
April 20.....**KARS Board Meeting**
May 1.....**Transmitter Hunt**
May 4.....**KARS General Meeting**
May 18.....**KARS Board Meeting**
May 2021.....HamVention Cancelled

The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:

146.34/.94 107.2 PL Access

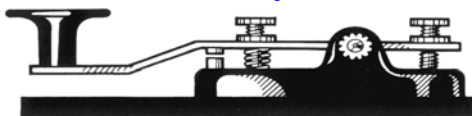
449.8/444.8 100.0 PL Access

145.130 107.2 PL Access

Additionally, KARS sponsors:

144.39 2 Wide Area APRS digi-peaters

KARS DX Cluster w9az.ddns.net



W9AZ

NCS FOR APRIL

The net meets every Monday, 2000 hours local time on 146.34/.94

April 5 KD9NPQ

April 12 K9KSG

April 19 N9OE

April 26 N9DWE

KARS KONTEST KALENDAR

April 3-4.....**EA RTTY Contest**

April 3-4.....**Mississippi QSO Party**

April 3-4.....**Louisiana QSO Party**

April 10-11.....**Nebraska QSO Party**

April 10-11.....**New Mexico QSO Party**

April 10-11.....**Georgia QSO Party**

April 10-11.....**North Dakota QSO Party**

April 17-18.....**Michigan QSO Party**

April 17-18.....**Ontario QSO Party**

April 18.....**ARRL Rookie Roundup SSB**

April 24-25.....**Florida QSO Party**

April 24-25.....**SP DX RTTY Contest**

May 1.....**Indiana QSO Party**

May 1-2.....**7 Land QSO Party**

May 1-2.....**Delaware QSO Party**

May 1-2.....**New England QSO Party**

May 8-9.....**Arkansas QSO Party**

May 21.....**Hamvention QSO Party**

May 29-30.....**CQWW WPX CW Contest**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 1 WU9D

April 4 KC9OQQ

April 11 WB9WEC

April 17 N9MBR

April 19 WB9WOC

April 25 W9IE

April 26 K9CS

April 28 N9NAH

If we miss your birthday or get it wrong,

“Do the right thing. It will gratify some people and astonish the rest.”

Mark Twain

THE LITTLE DETAILS

I have been enjoying my recent experiences on HF, specifically during the weekend ARRL International DX contest. I made contact with a station in Brazil and received a 5-9 report but when I needed to send my exchange, he had difficulty copying Illinois. I kept sending India-Lincoln. He understood the India for "I" but Lincoln meant nothing to him. Then finally he gave me choices and when he said Lee-muh I was like yes India-Lee-muh!

I couldn't think of the proper phonetic for L! Stateside hams understood if I just said Illinois or would even get that Lincoln is for "L."

Now that this happened, I won't forget. With over 21 years as a police dispatcher it's built in that Lincoln is for "L." I need to post a list of proper phonetics in my station!

At work, if I start mixing in too much Whiskey Tango I will know its time to retire! 73, Kyle N9OQC

ACTIVITIES AT W9GRS

The February 2021 School Club Round-up officially marked the last year that W9GRS will be operating from the Glenn Raymond School QTH. Earlier this year we were informed that the school district was closing one of the elementary buildings and grades would be consolidated into the remaining 3 buildings. It was decided that grades 1-5 would now occupy Glenn Raymond and the 6-8 grades would be moved to join the high school. This was not a popular choice, but the powers that be wanted it this way.

The long term goal is to build a new school campus, out of the floodplain and provide students with a state of the art facility. A building referendum is going to the voters in April. The passing of the referendum puts the district in the position to get 75% of the total cost paid for with matching grants. So, where does that leave W9GRS? We have begun taking down the station and looking at moving the antennas to an appropriate place at the high school, which has a better elevation and line of sight than Glenn Raymond (read...possible ARISS operations). I will be able to work with high school students in addition to junior high students, to continue the journey they have started at W9GRS.

I have also been tabbed to teach a new STEM rotational elective course for our 7th graders. I wonder where I could get some good hands-on activities for that...hmm. I am also planning on finally applying for a ARRL Progress Grant to upgrade our radio equipment...my eyes are on the Kenwood 590-SG. In terms of radio operations, the plan is to pick up where we left off and establish a station at the new building. We are keeping the W9GRS call, but will rename the station.

We have an appropriate option we would like to go with, but want to wait until antennas and radios are up and running before making that official. We still have a few boxes that need to be checked off before the big move. One is to get some new QSL cards with the Glenn Raymond QTH to get caught up on those we have received recently. Second is to finish up 5-Band Worked All States. W9GRS is currently only 3 slots away from it. Only need Alaska on 80m / 10m and New Mexico on 10m for 5-Band WAS. Even though this chapter of W9GRS is coming to a close, we are looking forward to the new chapter that will be written in the near future! 73, Troy W9KVR/W9GRS



Other assistance was provided by Tom, KC9ZKA. Further thanks goes to Don, AC9CZ and Ken, W9IE for on air testing.

KARS REPEATER UPGRADES

Bill N9OE and Don K9NR installed the new controllers into the three KARS repeaters Sunday March 28th (pictured is the 34/94 system). Most of the off site construction and programming was performed by Bill and his son Andrew, N9BMB.

Many cool functions (to be announced) will be available to members and the Repeater Technical Committee..

Photos: clockwise-left to right...

1...Commercial grade EAS receiver/decoder, Controller, Repeater.

2...Rear view racks 1&2.

3...Controller



4...Bill N9OE starting installation of new controller.

Send in an article for the newsletter!

Transmitter Hunt - March 6th



JR K9KSG in his fox's lair



The hunters gather around the fox



Winner Don K9NR with Fox JR K9KSG

Transmitter Hunt - March 20th



Hunters found the Fox in Irwin

Bob NN9T and Craig N9FD
compare notesWinners JR K9KSG & Bob NN9T
with Fox Don K9NR

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mike Rohwedder WU9D

An experienced Extra class operator licensed for 44 years, Mike is not really a new member. He joined KARS decades ago and was a very active member. Mike lived for a time in Tasmania and now resides in Sauk Village.

Casimir Guzy KC9CAZ

Welcome to Casimir who hails from Elwood, Illinois. He has held his Technician Class license since 2017. Say Hi when you hear him on the air!

Robert Lergner KD9RXI

Welcome to Robert of Kankakee. He just received his Technician Class license. Congrats Bob! Give him a shout when you hear him on the air!

Topic: KARS General Meeting

Time: Apr 6, 2021 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87366028050?pwd=b0ozVEc1VmJXWVpXV3NWUDZSYi9GZz09>

Meeting ID: 873 6602 8050

Passcode: 581001



Topic: KARS April Board Meeting

Time: Apr 20, 2021 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83492066208?pwd=UDFENS9kNEV5bWFWY2RUeDhkQ0tMQT09>



Meeting ID: 834 9206 6208

Passcode: 592469