



KARS KEY KLICKS



JOURNAL OF THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY

Volume 100 Issue 4

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April 2025

Flex Radio Remote Demonstration / Setup, Q&A

The next [KARS general meeting](#) will be held at the Bradley-Bourbonnais Sportmen's Club Tuesday April 8th at 7PM.

Our April meeting will feature a demonstration of remote operating of Flex Radios and setup and a Q&A session by Ken W9IE and Bill N9OE.

This is also an opportunity to sign up for the Banquet on April 26th. (See page 2)

A brief business meeting will be conducted after the program.



Please support KARS... 2025 DUES ARE DUE

Regular Membership	\$30
Family Membership	\$40
Senior Membership	\$15
Senior Family Membership	\$20
Full Time Student Membership	\$15
Disabled Membership	\$15
Activity Military	Waived

NCS FOR APRIL

The net meets every Monday at 2000 hours local time on the 146.34/.94 All stations with or without traffic are invited to check in.

April 7	KD9NPQ
April 14	TBD
April 21	N9OE
April 28	K9XI

Don't forget the net!

Mondays at 2000 hrs. local time



Flex Radio Remote Operating Demo By W9IE and N9OE April 8th

April 8.....	KARS General Meeting
April 5.....	KARS Foxhunt
April 12.....	KARS Foxhunt
April 22.....	KARS Board Meeting
April 26.....	KARS Banquet (Page 2)
May 13.....	KARS General Meeting
May 16,17,18.....	HAMVENTION
May 27.....	KARS Board Meeting

*The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates
repeaters on:*

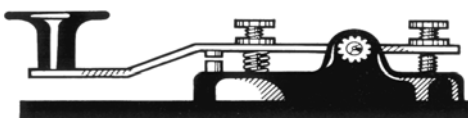
146.34/.94	107.2 PL Access
449.8/444.8	100.0 PL Access
145.130	107.2 PL Access

Additionally, KARS sponsors:

144.39 Two Wide Area APRS digi-peaters
[KARS DX Cluster](#) [w9az.ddns.net](#)

KARS KONTEST KALENDAR

April 5-6.....	Missouri QSO Party
April 5-6.....	EA RTTY Contest
April 5.....	Mississippi QSO Party
April 5-6.....	Louisiana QSO Party
April 12.....	New Mexico QSO Party
April 12-13.....	Georgia QSO Party
April 12-13.....	North Dakota QSO Party
April 19-20.....	Nebraska QSO Party
April 20.....	ARRL Rookie Roundup SSB
April 19.....	Michigan QSO Party
April 19-20.....	Ontario QSO Party
April 20.....	Quebec QSO Party
April 26-27.....	SP DX RTTY Contest
April 26-27.....	Florida QSO Party
May 3-4.....	Indiana QSO Party
May 3-4.....	7 Land QSO Party
May 3-4.....	Delaware QSO Party
May 3-4.....	New England QSO Party
May 17.....	Arkansas QSO Party
May 24-25.....	CQWW WPX CW Contest
June 7-8.....	Kentucky QSO Party
June 7-8.....	ARRL Inter Digital Contest
June 14-16 ..	ARRL June VHF Contest



W9AZ

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

April 1	WU9D
April 17	N9MBR
April 25	W9IE
April 26	K9CS

Hamvention is just around the corner - May 16, 17, 18

KARS HOMEPAGE— **WWW.W9AZ.COM** —KARS HOMEPAGE

KARS ANNUAL BANQUET

Saturday April 26th 2025

Time: 6PM - 9PM

At Brickstone Brewery & Restaurant
557 William Latham Drive Bourbonnais, IL

Italian Dinner (\$30.00/person *all inclusive*)

(Soft drinks and gratuity covered in the price)

- The club **WILL** cover tax, tip, Ice Cream and soft drinks,
also providing Hors d'oeuvre trays...veggies & dip, Bruschetta.

**(All Alcohol / Bar Drinks is NOT covered.
Pay your own bar bill please)**

Menu:

Buffet Style

- Tomato Vodka Rigatoni
- Lemon Peppered Roasted Chicken
- Slowly Roasted Sirloin of Beef
- Red-Skin Mashed Potatoes
- Vegetables
- Fresh Garden Salad
- Ice Cream



**Your reservations and check made payable to KARS
are needed right away to determine prize purchases.**

Please send Diane N9DLD an email at (hartlys@gmail.com) that you want to reserve.
The March 11th (or) April 8th Regular meeting would be a good opportunity to make payment
but in any event but we need to hear from you via email with your reservation **ASAP**.
We don't want anyone to miss out. Guests are welcome,
KARS membership or a Ham license are not required.

Bring or mail your check & reservation info to:
Diane Dau N9DLD
2397N 10,000W Rd.
Bonfield, Illinois 60913

The Board has approved \$300 for door prizes. **Also, the club will write one check for all, so you
must make every effort to pay the club in advance.**

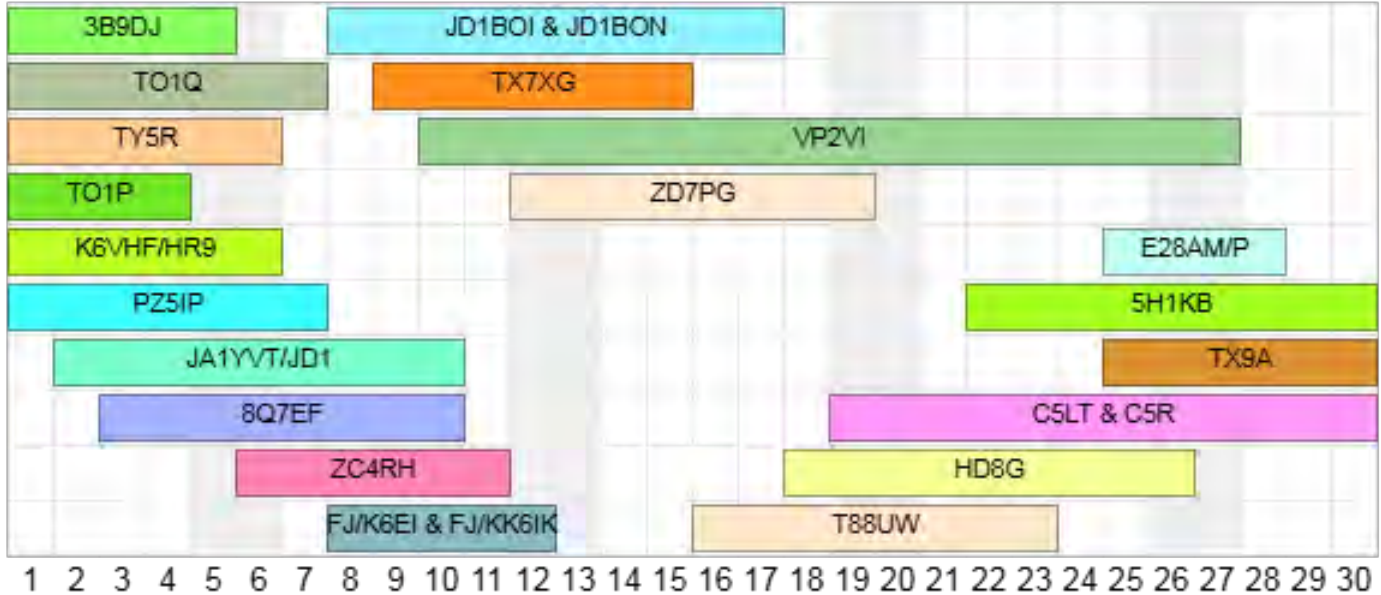
Again, everything is covered, **except for alcohol and bar drinks.**
You pay your bar bill please. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



FEATURED DXPEDITIONS TIMELINE

[Click for current Calendar](#)

Last update: March 28, 2025



Edited by MM0NDX

APRIL

© IK8LOV Max Laconca

Amateur Radio Operators Have Field Day

KARS Archives
1956

[Field Day](#)
[1956](#)

Top Left is
Jon LaRoche
Callsign
unknown

Bottom Left
is W9KLD

Top Right
is W9IE
Formerly
W9YNI

Bottom
Right is
W4HYB
Formerly
W9QAY



KANKAKEE AREA Amateur Radio Club went into action Saturday afternoon competing with some 50,000 other radio operators in the national Amateur Radio Field Day. Busy operating the "bug," a hand-sending speed key, is Don Rockwell of 685 Rutledge Ave., right, and lending a hand is Jon LaRoche of 924 W. Vanmeter St., (Journal photos)



STANDING BY ON voice calls are Ken Buser of 788 Meadow Ct., left, and Maurice J. Shumaker of 177 S. Dearborn Ave., Bradley, right, with speaker. The field day began Saturday afternoon and continued today. Transmissions, independent of commercial mains, were carried on at the Kankakee County fairgrounds.

**WA9WAQ**

DANNY L. LOFTUS WA9WAQ SK

Daily-Journal

Daniel "Danny" L. Loftus, 73, of Bourbonnais, IL, died on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at his residence. He was born on December 20, 1951, in Kankakee, IL, the son of Robert Fisher and Darlene DuBois. Dan married Karen Fleming on May 26, 1977 in Momence, IL. She survives.

He is survived by his loving wife, Karen Loftus of Bourbonnais, IL. His three sisters and brothers-in-law; Michelle Rupp of Momence, IL, Debbie and Dave Anderson of Kankakee, IL, Amy and Mark Lewis of Clifton, IL. Two brothers; David Fisher of Bourbonnais, IL and Darrin Fisher of Gardner, IL. Former sister-in-law; Janine Loftus of Momence, IL. Also surviving are many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents and brother; Steven M. Loftus.

Dan was an auctioneer and worked side-by-side with Bill Phelps as partner of River Valley Auctions.

He was member of Grace Methodist Church in Bourbonnais, IL, Pilot Association, Realtor's Association, Ham Radio Club, Sam's Club Camping Group of Kankakee, Founding member of the Kankakee County Fire Training Expo Committee, Kankakee County MABAS7 Fire Investigation Team, AWOS III Certified by the FAA, Motorola Communication and Electronics Technician, Broadcast Announcer for WKAK-FM.

He truly enjoyed auctioneering and being around people. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, including his dogs, most recently "Cookie." He had a great love for music and played the guitar. He was in multiple bands over the years. Dan was a kind, honest and compassionate person. He would do anything for anyone in need. He loved his church and going camping. Dan loved all people, especially his wife, Karen. He was a friend to all who knew him and adored by everyone that met him. He was an incredible man that lived by the Golden Rule.

Cremation rites have been accorded.

KARS - It is getting more and more difficult to report the passing of another one of our dear friends of the KARS organization and fellow hams. So many have left us recently.

We are sad to report the passing of Danny Loftus WA9WAQ of Bourbonnais, IL. Danny was licensed at age 14 in 1968 and been a member of KARS ever since. Danny has the distinction of having been the official auctioneer of the annual KARS October auctions along side his buddy Will K9FO, (sk since 2020) for many years. So many laughs we've had at those auctions.

Pictured left Danny received his 50 year plaque as a licensed ham in April 2018 presented by Don K9NR. A friend to all who knew him. We will surely miss you Danny and are thankful for your friendship. May you rest in peace dear friend.



WA9WAQ receives 50 year plaque (April 2018)



2009 KARS Auction - Click pic for videos (Thankful we have these videos)

From the Bourbonnais Fire protection District**WA9WAQ**

It is with profound sadness that the Bourbonnais Fire Protection District announces the passing of retired Lieutenant Dan Loftus.

Lt. Loftus began his fire service career in December of 1978 and retired as a Lieutenant in October of 1999.

Throughout his career, he achieved many fire certifications and EMT licensures from the State of Illinois. He was also a dedicated member of the Kankakee County MABAS 7 Fire Investigation Team. His commitment to training was instrumental in ensuring every firefighter had access to additional training opportunities, as he was one of the founding members of the Kankakee County Fire Training Expo Committee.

Lt. Loftus played a key role in the critical upgrade of the county-wide fire and police radio transmission and paging systems during the 1980s and 1990s. He embodied the best qualities of the fire service—a leader, mentor, life coach, and, above all, a friend. His impact was felt not only within the fire service but throughout the community, as he touched countless lives every day.

While his loss leaves a void that cannot be filled, his legacy will continue to inspire generations to come. Let us honor Lt. Loftus by carrying forward his passion for life and his dedication to serving others in need.

Please keep his wife Karen and their family in your thoughts during this difficult time. Rest in peace, Lt. Loftus. Your memory and legacy will never be forgotten.

