



KARS KEY KLICKS



Volume 101 Issue 6

Editors: N9DLD, N9OE
Photos: N9DLD
Contributors: N9OE, W9NIM

June 2026

3D Printing Solutions for Hams

The next KARS **General Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, June 9, at 7PM at the Bradley Bourbonnais Sportsmen's Club.

How do you temporarily mount a foxhunt antenna to a brand-new GMC Sierra 1500 Denali pickup truck without causing permanent damage? Join us at the June general meeting to find out!

Bill, N9OE, will walk us through his 100% original, safe, and attractive door-frame antenna mount. This hands-on presentation features a complete "show and tell" sequence. You will get to handle the actual design iterations and physical props, showing the steps and mistakes made on the journey to the final product.

Beyond this specific project, we will discuss how 3D printing can enhance your entire ham radio hobby. We will cover:

- The Design Journey: How a project evolves from a rough first sketch to a finished product.
- Zero-CAD Printing: Where to download ready-made ham radio gear that you can print immediately without any 3D modeling skills.
- Software Guide: Recommendations for free and paid 3D CAD software packages that fit your skill level.

Whether you are a master builder or just curious about what a 3D printer can do for your shack, you won't want to miss this program. See you at the June meeting!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 2	KD9SKO
June 3	KA9TAG
June 5	KD9CGC
June 5	Kathy
June 8	K9ABM
June 10	N9OQC
June 20	KD9NPQ
June 22	Richard
June 26	W9IOU
June 30	K9BAK
June 30	KC9HDF

Let us know if your birthday is missed or listed in error.



KARS KALENDAR

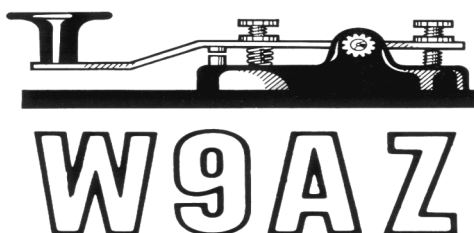
June 7.....	KARS ANNUAL BANQUET
June 7.....	Starved Rock Hamfest
June 9.....	KARS General Meeting
June 23.....	KARS Board Meeting
June 27-28.....	ARRL FIELD DAY
July 14.....	KARS General Meeting
July 28.....	KARS Board Meeting
August 2.....	Hamfesters Hamfest
Sept 11-12.....	W9DXCC Convention

The Kankakee Area Radio Society
operates repeaters on:
146.940 (-) PL 107.2Hz at 430'
444.800 (+) PL 100.0Hz at 300'
145.130 (-) PL 107.2Hz at 400'

Echo Link:
W9AZ-R Node 517002 on 146.940

Additionally, KARS sponsors
Two Wide Area APRS digipeaters:
W9AZ-1 144.390 at 300'
W9AZ-2 144.390 at 440'

KARS DX Cluster w9az.ddns.net



KARS ANNUAL BANQUET

Sunday, June 7, 2026 | 5:00-7:00PM
El Mexicano Restaurant
503 Riverstone Pkwy, Kankakee, IL

Join us for an evening of good food, good times, and great company at this year's KARS Annual Banquet. This year's event will have a slightly different format than previous banquets. Attendees will order directly from the menu and pay individually, allowing everyone to choose their own meal and enjoy a more relaxed dining experience.

RSVP was requested by June 1st, but you can still show up (we may just need to get extra tables arranged). Please reply with your headcount to: Diane, N9DLD, at n9dld@outlook.com

We look forward to gathering together for a fun and social evening with fellow members and friends.

FIELD DAY

ARRL Field Day 2026 will be held on Saturday, June 27-28th.

Final details are still being worked out for this year's Field Day. We currently have two possible site locations under consideration, and arrangements are still being finalized.

Please stay up to date by listening to the Monday Night Net and checking the club website, w9az.com, for the final Field Day location and additional event details.

KARS KONTEST KALENDAR

June 6.....	Kentucky QSO Party
June 6-7.....	ARRL Inter Digital Contest
June 13-15.....	ARRL June VHF Contest
June 20.....	West Virginia QSO Party
June 20.....	Stew Perry Topband
June 27-28.....	ARRL Field Day
July 1.....	Canada Day Contest
July 11-12.....	IARU HF Championship
July 18-19.....	NAQP RTTY
July 18-19.....	CQWW VHF

Work some new DX or a fun contest today!

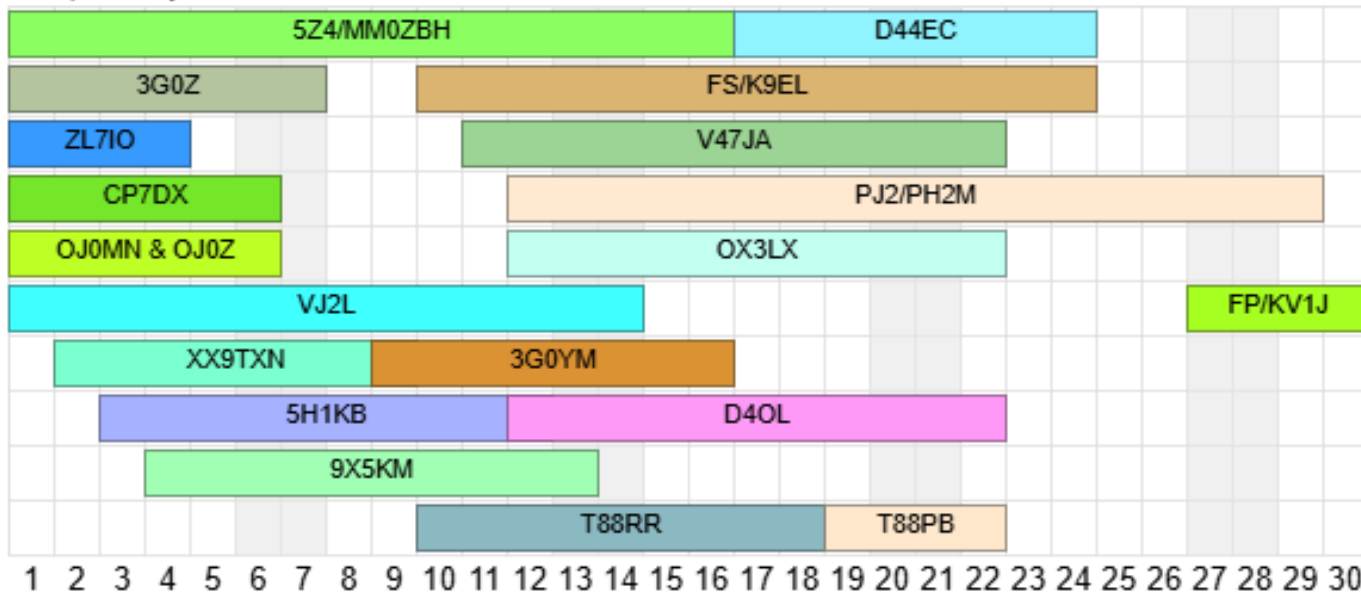
KARS HOMEPAGE — WWW.W9AZ.COM — KARS HOMEPAGE



[Click for current Calendar](#)

FEATURED DXPEDITIONS TIMELINE

Last update: May 29, 2026



Edited by MM0NDX

JUNE

© IK8LOV Max Laconca

News from Brian, W9NIM:

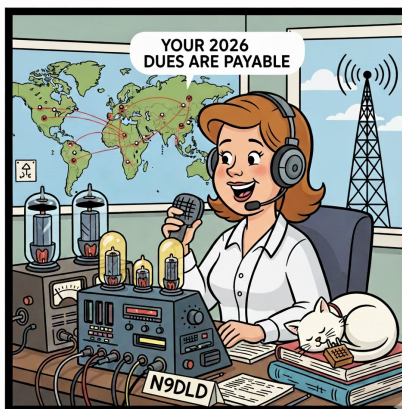
5K Run/Walk for NAWS Humane Society

Mike McQuire, K9ACM, is asking for HAM volunteers to help with race course monitoring for the upcoming 5Km run/walk for the N.A.W.S. Humane Society fundraiser. This race is being held on Saturday, June 20th at the Hickory Creek Forest Preserve in Mokena. It is located on LaPorte Road halfway between LaGrange Road and Wolf Road. Runner check in begins at 8am with the race starting at 9am.

Mike will be NET control and is hoping for a total of approx. 15 HAMS with dual band HT's, 2mtr and 440MHz capable. The plan is to use W9WIL's repeater @ 444.55 MHz (+) PL 114.8. Backup plan will be 2mtr Simplex on 146.43MHz (tentative - to be tested).

Anyone interested, please use this link to register.

<https://go.k9acm.net/volunteer> or K9ACM.net



KARS 2026 DUES SCHEDULE

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

NCS FOR June

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.

- June 1st KD9NPQ
- June 8th N9FD
- June 15th N9OE
- June 22nd K9XI
- June 29th N9OE



May program recap: Fox Hunt Show & Tell Discussion

Thank you to everyone who participated in the round-table Fox Hunt show-and-tell discussion and live demonstrations. It was a great evening of sharing ideas, comparing equipment setups, antenna designs, and field techniques, and learning from each other's real-world experiences.

An extra special thank you to Bill N9OE, Clay N9IO, and Craig N9FD for bringing along and showcasing their gear and demonstrations. Your willingness to share your equipment, knowledge, and practical tips added tremendously to the discussion and helped make the evening both informative and enjoyable for everyone involved.




KARS FOX HUNT PHOTOS

May 23rd – Clay N9IO (the fox) → fox hunt cancelled due to low participation

From Brian, W9NIM:

“Huh! I entered the ARRL Field Day Chair contest on a whim and guess what.....”



Brian won the first drawing for the 2026 ARRL Field Day chair.

Congratulations, Brian, and enjoy your new chair!

The Dayton Hamvention, the world's premier amateur radio event held in Xenia, OH, drew a record-breaking **37,924 attendees**. This marks another milestone for the convention, continuing a multi-year streak of surging attendance.

Recent historical attendance milestones include:

- **2026:** 37,924
- **2025:** 36,814
- **2024:** 35,877
- **2023:** 33,861
- **2022:** 31,367

KARS BOARD MEETING

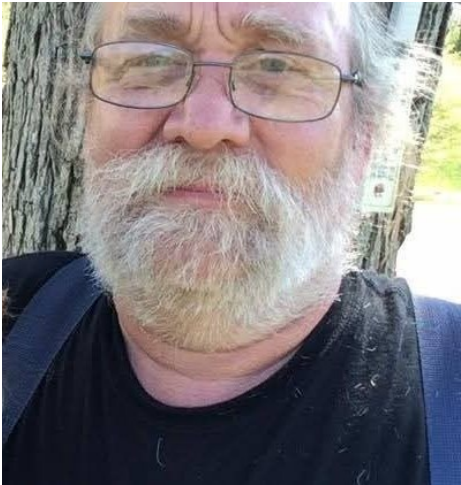
June Board Meeting
 Tuesday, June 23rd
 at El Mexicano's Restaurant
 6PM to eat...7PM meeting

W9DXCC Convention

The 2026 W9DXCC Convention will be held at the Chicago Marriott Naperville on September 11-12th.

Enjoy the day filled with quality programs, equipment vendors, QSL card checking, prizes, and socializing. Be sure to end the day by staying for the convention banquet.

For additional details, visit:
<https://w9dxcc.com/>



Don Elmore, KC9QPM, passed away on Saturday, May 9, 2026.

Don was a veteran of the United States Navy.

Retiring in 2017, he had worked at Wesley Township Garage as a mechanic.

Don had a passion for animals and the outdoors. Working at Big Run Wolf Ranch led to a love and veneration for wolves, bobcats, and other wild animals he would care for.

He also had a passion for ham radio and especially enjoyed APRS, contesting, and operating digital modes.

Don will be remembered as a caring friend who always was willing to help others in need.

A gathering celebrating Don's life will be held at a later date.

On The Air & Around The Club

ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) NET

The regular ARES® statewide net is held on the first and third Sundays of each month at 4:30 PM local time on 3.905 MHz LSB. If needed, the alternate frequency will be 7.227 MHz LSB.

EMCOMM Net

Join us every Thursday night at 7:00 PM (that's 1900 hours for you EMMCOMM folks!) on the 444.800 KARS repeater.

This net is designed to promote and practice solid emergency communications skills among amateur radio operators, as well as to verify proper repeater system operation. Everyone is invited to check in!

We want to hear from YOU!

Share what you've been working on, any recent contacts or projects, and what's going on in your ham radio world. This could include:

- Recent station setups or mobile installations
- A picture of your ham shack
- Interesting contacts or DX experiences
- Ham radio events you're participating in

Don't be shy, let us know what you're up to!

Your Input Counts!

What program topics would you like to see at upcoming meetings?

Or is there information you'd like included in the newsletter?

Let us know- we want to make it relevant and fun for YOU!

Have You Joined the KARS Email Reflector?

The **Kars_w9az Email Reflector** is a convenient way for members and friends of KARS to stay connected. It automatically distributes messages sent to a single address to everyone subscribed, making it easy to share announcements, ask questions, and keep up with club activities.

By using the reflector, all subscribers receive the same information at the same time, keeping communication simple, efficient, and centralized.

If you'd like to join, click the following link to subscribe to the [Kars_w9az Email Reflector](#).



Follow us on Facebook at:
<https://www.facebook.com/KARSW9AZ>

KARS Upcoming Events:

June: KARS Annual Banquet, ARRL Field Day