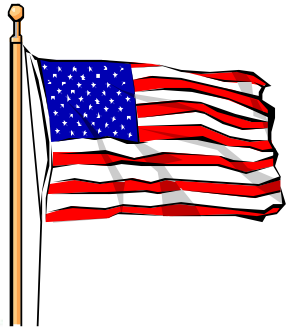


Sparks

W9OG



Don't let the heat get you down.

Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-State Amateur Radio Society
September 2014--Vol. LVII, No. 9

TARS Website: <http://www.w9og.net> Club repeaters: 146.79 and 147.15
Say "Hello" at the weekly Tri-State Emergency Net, 8:00pm Wednesdays on 146.79

Please feel to submit articles or suggestions to
Editor: ftg2pointer@gmail.com



Presidents Corner

John C VanVorst Manager of Systems
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Vectren Corporation
812-491-4100 office
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73s. DE N9oL.



N9OL



In the interest of the HF Ladder contest (informal) I thought Bill's comments are timely. For those new to HF (and some old farts too) we often forget our manners and "good operating procedures" on HF. What we are used to on VHF and what we may have brought over from our CB days may not be appropriate on HF. So, what say you old man? Lay some words of wisdom on us.

One Man's Opinion

The other day I came across an article written in a pen name of Rusty Bumpers, N4LID this gives us forty different ways to be a lid on the air. Of course

each offense gives you so many points and amassing a minimum of 50 points gains you admittance to the LIDS club of America.

In looking over Rusty's list some offenses relate to grammatical errors, misuse of Q signals and timing out repeaters with a lengthy oratory.

My top ten favorites in Lidism is listed with bonus points for doing some equally stupid acts on the air, some with dire consequences.

1. My first choice in how to become a lid is never listen on the frequency you are transmitting. Just set down anywhere, extra points can be received for tuning up your rig on top of nets, or qsos in progress. Be sure and transmit an unmodulated carrier for five minutes or longer squeezing the last few watts out of your linear. Plus extra bonus points for tinkering with the antenna tuner for an extended period of time.

Total Point Value 20 plus bonus points of ten.
Grand total 30 you are half way in to the LIDS club.

2. Be sure and open your audio gain to the fullest, give total disregard to the the proper set up by adjusting the ALC to the green band, or half way up the scale as with some transceivers. You get 20 Points in the Lids club and 10 extra points if your compression and processor are also wide open.
3. Operating on the band edge, how many times have we covered this subject, your side bands can be out of the band and unless you can prove your suppression meets standards then do not do it. Same thing applies for cw. 20 points in the LIDS club and extra points if you receive a notice from an OO, or the FCC.
4. Failing to ID at ten minute intervals, just ignoring the repeater ID, since some cannot copy cw that ID or what ever it is just ignore it. 20 points in the LIDS club and extra points for each time the repeater Ids and you do not.

5. Calling a DX station on his frequency when the instruction on SSB are 5 to 10 up and on cw the word up is sent. LIDS club points 20 and extra points for each time some self appointed band cop tells you Up, or "He's listening up" or profane statements toward you.

6. Being a self appointed band cop, stepping out side the bands to let some one know they are out of the band, you yourself are in violation and have no authority to be there regardless of your class of license. Lids club 20 Points and extra points if some one tells the self appointed band cop he is out of the band.

- 7 Unidentified noises, carriers, snorts, belches etc. You gain points only if some one knows if it is you. Total points for this one 20, extra points if you can be identified.

- 8 Using the double break to enter a net, this is for emergency only, you get 20 points if you enter the net, then make a total fool of your self after some one asks for the emergency message. 20 Points, 10 extra for the acknowledgement.

9. Calling a dx station on a split channel, but never listening to see if the f Frequency is in use. LIDS club 20 points and extra points if you succeed in breaking up a net, or qso in progress.

Last and number ten by far and this one takes some explanation, some years ago the suffix ASS was never issued. It was considered inappropriate for on the air use. Not so any longer, a large group of hams have applied for these calls and have a group on 40 meter phone. They call themselves "A group of Asses" well if the shoe fits, wear it, I have to reserve this one for last, LIDS club benefit 20 points, extra if someone refers to you as a male donkey!

This is as always "One Man's Opinion" Bill, K4LRX



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From the Desk of WA9C

The amateur radio in space (ARIS) project was a huge success. A job well done by the club. Dave is gathering photos and will have a report to present in a short time.

David Vogel WA9C
ARRL Public Information
Officer
2166 Maxwell Ave
Evansville IN 47711
cell: (812) 430-5727

Wa9c@yahoo.com



Hoosier Hills Hamfest Saturday, October 4, 2014

We are continuing our 'ONE DAY' hamfest the first Saturday in October. Hourly door prizes*, BaoFeng UV-5R Dual-Band HT Radios and ARRL store gift certificates, ending with the \$250 cash Grand Prize+. Vendors and flea market (tailgate) will be

set up inside the main building with outside on the parking lot as the sellers option. There will be lots of "treasures" for you to purchase. The Elecraft booth will be back again this year near the main stage. Breakfast and lunch items will be available at the food court inside the main building. Gates open to the public at 8 am on Saturday. You really don't want to miss this years Hoosier Hills Hamfest!!!

Admission

Adults plus children 12 years and older five dollars (\$5), children under 12 FREE. All tickets sold and placed in the "cage" are eligible for hourly door prizes and the \$250 Hoosier Hills Hamfest Grand Prize.

(Children 15 and under must be accompanied by an adult)

<http://www.w9qyq.org/hamfest/>

EARS Hamfest future uncertain.

After many successful years of hosting the EARS hamfest, Neal Rapp is not certain it will continue.

Citing difficulties in getting volunteer help, decreasing vender participation and possibly high transportation costs to attend these events. Neal has not made a final decision yet.

Early attempts to find a club or individual to take over the event have met with little progress. When a final decision is made he will let us know.



Herb Alvey KB9MZH

Herb needs your help

He volunteered to head the Election Committee this year. As usual, when he goes in search for possible candidates people flee from him. He wonders what is it about holding a club office that scares the bee-geebies out of people?

Any club can not operate without its officers. You can do your part, if just for one year to help the club and feel good about yourself too.

It is not hard work and takes very little of your time. The current officers have done a great job, but they do get a little tired of being elected each year because on one volunteers to take a turn.

Step up to the plate. Do your part to support your club. Fresh ideas are always welcomed. Contact Herb if you would like to run for an office.

Herb Alvey KB9MZH 477-2757

Halvey1813@aol.com

And thanks Herb, for all your work and support.

Board Member positions that are due to be filled: Herb KB9MZH (was filling in for N9JCA's 2nd year),

Dave WA9C (also filling in for Ron's 2nd year)

Steve KC9SOE filled 2 yr board position

Current nominees: TARS 2014 election ballot

President: (we really need someone to step up)

Vice President: Steve Wilzbacher K4SAW

Secretary: Ron Hanes KC9OUT

Treasurer: Len Schmitt N9QVQ

TARS Board (we will elect 3)

Zach Crawford KJ4TKJ

Herb Alvey KB9MZH

Stephan Wells KC9SOE

Terry McCrary WB9KQF

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Upcoming Events -- Plan Ahead

Things to look forward to:

Sept Weather spotting

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Silent Keys:

W9CM, Cliff McGuyer

http://www.boonefuneralhome.net/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o_id=2638650&fh_id=13344

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Tri-State Emergency Net

On the Tri-State Emergency net you can hear the latest club information, calendar of upcoming events, topics of general interest and good old-fashioned rag chewing.

Net Operator schedule

August 6	N9QVQ
13	KC9TYA
20	KE9YK
27	WB9KQF

Many, many thanks to our net control operators.

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Presentations and demonstrations

Be thinking about topics for our meeting presentations. Let us know what you want to see or do as a club.



Presentations and demonstrations are a fun part of our meetings. Join us!

We have several openings for demonstrations or lectures if you care to give one. It doesn't have to be technical or long winded, just something of general interest

Trivia Time.

This thing called HEAT everyone is complaining about, what do we really know about it?

1. What is heat?
 - a. Heat is the absence of cold
 - b. Heat is energy
 - c. Heat is electricity in motion
2. When things heat up
 - a. Molecules slow down
 - b. Molecules speed up
 - c. Molecules are not affected
 - d. The wife usually wins the argument
3. Why does a conductor heat up when electricity is passed through it?
 - a. Thomas Edison invented it that way so he could put it in his light bulbs.

They may also be set up for direct link communication freqs between strategic locations.

We discussed the MEOC and the ham radio setup. We still need someone to head up more permanent solution for our radios in the MEOC. More discussion on this next month.

Discussed the S.E.T. in October. The Bedford ham-fest will be the first Sat, so we will hold the SET on Oct. 11th.

AUXCOMM class: September 6 & 7, Saturday and Sunday

Location: Princeton Fire Territory Station, 500 N. Embree, Princeton, IN 47670

This course is two days long and is limited to 30 students.

You must have completed NIMS 100, 200, 700 and 800 to attend.

Registration:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RDH9FBC>

Several of you are not currently registered with the Vanderburgh Co. EMA.

If you haven't received an application please contact me or call the EMA 435-6020 to make arrangements for an application.

Just a reminder, when the weather starts turning bad monitor the 146.79 repeater for the SKYWARN net.

We should always have a net running by the time any of the surrounding counties have a warning. Even if you don't have severe weather at your location check in so that we know who is monitoring.

You never know how fast the weather could change and if we know where you are located we may be able to get your information in a more timely fashion, or give you a heads up on something headed your way.

Chris Lantaff KE9YK
Vanderburgh Co. RACES Officer

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Interested in helping our community?

All ARES/RACES members and any Amateur interested in emergency communications are encouraged to participate

For ARES/RACES announcements you can join the Emergency Comms yahoo group at

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/emergency_comms/join

Contact Chris KE9YK or John WB9EFH for more information on how you can help out.

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Trivia Answers: for this month

1. b. In simple terms, heat is energy
2. b. Molecules speed up
3. c. the conductor resists the flow of electrons and converts electrical energy into heat energy.
4. At zero degrees Kelvin there is no heat energy and all molecular and atomic movement ceases.
5. Actually both a and b. The rooms are at different temperatures. When you open the door, the cold air from the house is denser and flows into the lower part of the garage while the lighter warm air flows into the upper part of the house. This is one way heat moves by convection. Nature loves a balance. If you leave the door open long enough both rooms will reach about the same temperature.
6. c. the energy from the warmer object will transfer heat energy to the cooler object. This is called Conduction.
7. b. Radiation. Heat travels in waves. That is how energy from the sun reaches earth.
8. b. Heat waves are in the infrared part of the spectrum. Heat radiates much like radio waves but at a much higher frequency.
9. Yes. Remember "energy can not be created or destroyed" it can, however, be

to change that. Weather nets are not only good for local hams to find out what coming their way but the National Weather Service depends on Hams via Skywarn to be their eyes and ears to confirm what the radar data is telling them and find out what they may be missing.

If you are interested in being a control operator contact Chris KE9YK@arrl.net 626-0069. Next time there is a weather event check in on the TARS 146.79 repeater and see what is going on.

Many thanks to our award winning Net Control operators.



You provide a valuable service to the club and the community. We often fail to thank you enough for your service. Keep up the good work.

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On the Wednesday night net you can hear the latest club information, calendar of upcoming events, topics of general interest and good old-fashioned rag chewing.

If you would like to help run the net please Help is always appreciated and it is fun.

Net controls: Please forward a list of your check-ins to KE9YK@arrl.net thanks.

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VE Test information



Test dates:

9/27, 10/25, 12/27

All ARRL examination sessions will be held at the Evansville Chapter of the American Red Cross. The ARC is located at 29 S. Stockwell Road, at the intersection of Stockwell Road and Lloyd Expressway. Sessions start promptly at 9:00 AM, Evansville time.

Those candidates wishing to earn their first Amateur Radio License, or upgrade their present valid license, need to bring the following:

1. Their original signed and valid FCC Amateur Radio License.
2. Any previously earned CSCE.
3. One copy of the license *and* CSCE.
4. Two forms of Identification, one bearing a recent photograph.
5. The current ARRL testing fee of \$15.00.
6. You **"must"** have your Social Security number or EIN with you.

Reports:

TARS Board Meeting 8/7/14

Officers Present:

President – John N9OL

Secretary – Ron KC9OUT

Steve K4SAW and Len N9QVQ were absent

Board Members: Bob N9XAW, Mark KC9TYA, Herb KB9MZH, David WA9C, and Stevan KC9SOE were present. Terry WB9KQF was absent Meeting was called to order by John (N9OL) at 7:05pm

Ron Hanes (KC9OUT) read the minutes from the June board meeting since there was no board meeting in July due to the holiday.

The treasurer's report prepared on 8/4/14 was submitted by Len (N9QVQ) via email and read by Ron (KC9OUT) due to Len's absence. The beginning July balance was \$4,003.17. Receipts for the month totaled \$154.00 of which \$119.00 were designated for the Red Cross Fund. Expenditures were \$324.00 leaving an ending balance of

\$3,833.17. The Red Cross portion of that total after the donation for parking lot lighting was \$35.07.

John (N9OL) passed around a copy of the old TARS flyer that he had been tweaking using MS publisher. He would like to take corrected copies to a professional printing service to get them printed. David (WA9C) suggested printing at least 100 by September 1st for distribution at the ARISS event. It was also suggested that they be given to anyone successfully passing a Technician's exam at one of our VE testing sessions. Stevan (KC9SOE) said that he might be able to help with the printing.

John (N9OL), Steve (K9SRC), and Mark (KC9TYA) are looking at offering a 1 day class with lunch brought in on November 15th and would like to discuss a budget for this event. They would use course material from KB6NU. The class would last about 5 ½ hours with a VE test session offered at the end of the training time. There would be a fee collected ahead of time when people registered for the class which would include the suggested \$5.00 donation to the author, room rental, and the cost of the meal. The test fee would be separate.

Mark (KC9TYA) reported that Gene from NASA sent out a time line to choose from for ARISS overhead passes for the first week of September. Soi from EDS was going to contact the museum to confirm the date. There will be a group meeting at Dave (WB9YIG's) house to set up both stations and go through a run through on Saturday. He would like to set up at the museum a week in advance. David (WA9C) will make a presentation on ARISS and he felt that a group should be meeting at least weekly to work on it. He also said we need to find the club banner to display on the day of the ARISS event. It was last used at Harmonie State Park.

Herb (KB9MZH) mentioned that Dave Wood had posted a need on Facebook asking for some help adjusting his 80m loop antenna. Bob (N9XAW) said he would spread the word to our members via an email.

It was reported that Herb (KB9MZH), Len (N9QVQ), and Don (KB9WYQ) have been volunteering time painting at WEMA. The topic for the August regular meeting will be a presentation on the ARISS project. September will

highlight the role hams can play in weather spotting. Len (N9QVQ) will demonstrate how smart phone users can use APRS as part of the spotting process. Nominations will also be taken for 2015 offices. October will be a presentation on PSK31 by Chris (N9JCA). November will be a presentation by Dennis Martin (WA2USA) about Summits on the Air (SOTA) and other portable operations. December will be show and tell night where everyone can bring their favorite QSL cards. Steve (K4SAW) will also make a short presentation about QSLing.

John (N9OL) said that 5 or 6 people have submitted logs for the 2 meter FM simplex sprint contest and that he will get the results to Bob for publication in Sparks.

David (WA9C) has about 15 books to donate for the library but we still need to determine a location for the books at the Red Cross.

David (WA9C) said that set up would begin at 9am at the Red Cross for the special event station during the CCC national event on August 9. We will set up outside weather permitting or indoors if there is inclement weather.

John (N9OL) suggested that we investigate the possibility of holding TARS meetings at WEMA and whether it might be feasible to locate our radio room at that facility so that members could have more opportunities to use club equipment on meeting nights. Dave (WB9YIG) has been negotiating with Cliff Weaver about a space to store some of the club's material.

Herb (KB9MZH) had nothing to report for the nominating committee.

Bob (N9XAW) had some questions about the linking capabilities of the District 10 repeaters and said when it was first set up that it was supposed to be open. Mark (KC9TYA) said that Chris KE9YK had just gotten the linking codes and had passed them on to our trustee Dave (WB9YIG).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19pm

TARS Regular Meeting 8/14/14

Officers Present:

Vice President – Steve K4SAW

Secretary – Ron KC9OUT

John N9OL and Len N9QVQ were absent

Board Members: Mark KC9TYA, Terry WB9KQF, David WA9C, and Bob N9XAW were present.

Herb KB9MZH and Stevan KC9SOE was absent

Meeting was called to order by Steve (K4SAW) at 7:02pm and started with introductions.

The June regular meeting minutes were read by Ron (KC9OUT) and accepted.

The treasurer's report was read as submitted to Sparks by Ron (KC9OUT) due to Len's absence.

Old business and committee reports:

Charles Martin (WB8LDV) is no longer looking for a work party after inspecting the tower he intended to retrieve and found it to be in poor condition.

Field Day: Steve (K4SAW) asked if everyone that participated at Field Day 2014 had received their pins. Terry WB9KQF and Danielle (KC9YIL) said that had not and Mark (KC9TYA) said they would need to pick them up from Len.

Paul (K4PAV) said that he is looking for an elmer to guide him in building a power supply for a tube type amplifier.

ARES/RACES: Chris (KE9YK) said that the August ARES/RACES meeting will be next Thursday at 7pm in the West EMA (WEMA) Training Center. Lynn (N9QVQ), Herb (KB9MZH), and Don (KB0WYQ) have been volunteering time painting at WEMA. It was reported that there is 2m/440 capability now from the Jail EMA office.

Terry WB9KQF talked about an active shooter simulation that he and Danielle (KC9YIL) took part in at the airport.

Chris (N9JCA) asked if October's topic is still going to be on PSK31. He also asked if there was any interest in a shortened HF Ladder contest which could run from October to January.

He also presented Jeff with his plaque from last year's HF Ladder contest for being the top CW operator. Bob (N9XAW) said he will send an email

looking for suggestions in regard to a new HF ladder contest.

CCC Special Event Station: Apparently the inclement weather had members showing up to see if anyone had set up a station at various times for the CCC special event on August 8th but no one stuck around so we did not end up running a club station for this year's event.

Following a short break, David (WA9C), Mark (KC9TYA), and Dave (WB9YIG) gave a very informative presentation about the ARISS project and some of the logistics involved in the station building and event planning.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm



Minutes submitted by Ron Hanes (KC9OUT)
TARS Secretary

Budget:

August 2014 (prepared 9/3/14)

Opening Balance:	\$3,833.17
Receipts:	
Total Receipts --->>	\$0.00
Expenditures:	
Total Expenditures--->>	\$0.00
Ending Balance	\$3,833.17



N9QVQ Len

**Don't forget to check out our web page
www.w9og.net**

Club Officers and Board members

2014 Club Officers and Board members

President [John VanVorst N9OL](#) 812-305-4100

Vice President [Steve Wilzbacher K4SAW](#) 812-453-6402

Treasurer [Leonard Schmitt N9QVQ](#) 812-963-0027

Secretary [Ron Hanes KC9OUT](#) 812-568-1168

Board of Directors

[Bob Pointer N9XAW](#) 425-2118 (2014-2015)

[Mark Thienes KC9TYA](#) 812-963-6455 (2014-2015)

[Terry McCrary WB9KQF](#) 812-760-8007 (2014-2015)

[Stevan Wells KC9SOE](#) 812-473-5918 (2013-14)

[Dave Vogel WA9C](#) 812-430-5727 (2014)

Herb Alvey KB9MZH 477-2757

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