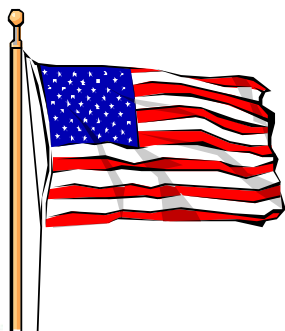


Sparks

W9OG



It's Spring Time again. Thank Goodness. Don't forget to review your storm readiness. It is tornado and bad weather season also.

Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-State Amateur Radio Society
May 2015-Issue No. 5

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

N9OL



This last week end there were over 90 tornados reported in the southwest. It affected several states and did a lot of damage. I am sure none of the people in the area gave a second thought to preparedness. Are you one of them? What would you do if a tornado was headed toward your side of town? Do you have a plan or will you just panic and hope for the best?

The Red Cross and the EMA can provide valuable planning information for such disasters. **Check it out NOW.**

Almost sixty years ago I was first licensed as a radio amateur, I have seen a lot of changes since those early years of 1956. Some well known brands of that era have long since vanished from the ham radio market. Gone are such brands as Heathkit,, National, RME, E.F. Johnson and Hallicrafters.

Thing is if you have Ten Tec products and one of those so called not available parts fails, well, you have a nice paper weight. I had sensed something was in the wind with Ten Tec other then just parts that were not available. Ten TEC has been purchased by a company called RKR, they actually made the circuit boards for use in Ten Tec rigs, so by taking over they can either maintain the Ten Tec name, or start a new company with the present technology.

We could see two 100 watt models and a 400 watt model in the next year, or sooner. Is this good, or bad, well it may hurt sales of Yaesu, Icom and Kenwood since according to the articles I have seen about this company they can undercut the competition. With our economy in the shape it has been for the last few years the American ham has less money to spend on a hobby, therefore, sales have suffered. Perhaps the ham radio market needs a good shot in the arm and revival of sales with some new faces in the crowd? Who knows what RKR will do by purchasing Ten Tec, or if the plans of Baofeng will indeed corner the market with inexpensive HF units and linear amps?

As always my friends this is “One Man’s Opinion”
Bill, K4LRX

 $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$

From the desk of DAVE WA9C

This is the 100 anniversary of Bosse Field. I think it would be easy to setup in Garvin Park for a Special Events Station.

We would need to decide on a date, perhaps a weekend. Obtain a Special Events Callsign for that date (perhaps K9B). Publish in QST the Event Parameters.

I think this would be well received by the ham community and fun for TARS.

It should have a Bosse-Leader. Would someone like to take on that responsibility? And a photographer.



What beautiful scenery for an outdoor radio station.

David Vogel WA9C
ARRL Public Information
Officer
2166 Maxwell Ave
Evansville IN 47711
cell: (812) 430-5727
home: (812) 909-4842



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The annual TARS picnic and the Indiana QSO party was a huge success.

This was by far the best picnic in a long time. The weather was absolutely perfect. The Wesselman's Park location was great and even included a water wonderland of birds, frogs, baby ducks and geese.

Chicken was the main dish and was plentiful. Covered dishes added to the meal and were wonderful. I don't know who made the baked beans in the aluminum tray but I sure want the recipe.

We had two stations operating. One using NVIS propagation on 40 meters and the other using all other bands. We even made contact with Italy on a small loop antenna on 20 meters. Several new hams attended and got some practice and many older hams enjoyed making contacts. And yes, "A good time was had by all".



We even had some juvenile visitors.

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Thanks to everyone who helped in any way or came to enjoy our club picnic or who participated in the INQP.

Thanks to my wife Susie KC9BLZ for suggesting the fried chicken (it was a big hit) and to Mark KC9TYA who made 2 trips to bring enough for all to enjoy.

Thanks to all the great cooks who brought their wonderful items to share with the club.

Thanks to Dave WB9YIG, Mark KC9TYA, Bob N9XAW, Ron KC9OUT, and Herb KB9MZH who helped with getting supplies and setting up equipment and antennas. WB9YIG especially worked very hard before and during the event, helping get the radios and MESH network interfaced to the club computers and testing the Butternut vertical along with other chores.

It was a great day to be outdoors with a mild breeze, comfortable temperatures and a nice location. The food and fellowship were outstanding. We hope that those wishing to operate did jump in and do so. We even had 2 operators who couldn't attend who sent in logs that the club can add to it's total (Thanks to KC9SFQ Tom and WB9ICL Dave for their solo efforts). If you also participated and would like to add your contacts to the club total you can send me a copy of your log for the INQP. It should include band, mode, dates and times, callsigns, State or country for non-Indiana counties, county if the station worked was in Indiana along with your callsign and location during the event. If you have your data in a Cabrillo file format that is even better. But I can take care of that if you just give me legible copies of your log.

Here's our total so far for the INQP.

W9OG 10,800 points

WB9ICL 12,300 points

KC9SFQ 750 points

total: 23,850 points

Len Schmitt N9QVQ TARS INQP committee chair

Upcoming Events -- Plan Ahead

Things to look forward to:

Dayton Hamvention

May 15-17

Museum Ships on the Air, 2015

June 6-7, 2015

ARRL Field day 2015

June 27-28

Shrine Fest

June 27-28. Unfortunately they always do this the week end of Field Day.

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Birthdays

W9ZPP Alan Dale

8th

KC9YIL Danielle Day

26th

KJ4DVR Jimmy Mathais

15th

KB9CYH Don Viviano

17th

Presentations and demonstrations

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

Built something new?
Have a neat item to share? Working on a project? Bring it to the meeting; we would +love to see it.



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.

Humans are curious people. We seek answers, explore, examine and learn from almost everything we come in contact with. From the first time we ask our parents where babies come from we are curious about the origins of everything. Who was first to do something? Who invented what? Where did ice cream come from? Who was the first man on the moon?

Well, in this issue we will attempt to explore the question "Where did amateur radio begin?" Like anything it began out of curiosity and exploration.

1. Who pioneered the principle of radio waves that opened the door for wireless communication?
 - a. Henry Ford
 - b. Michael Faraday
 - c. Thomas Edison
 - d. Heinrich Hertz
 - e. Nikola Tesla
2. By the 1890's "wireless telegraphy" came into use thanks to this inventor
 - a. Benjamin Franklin
 - b. Thomas Edison
 - c. Guglielmo Marconi
 - d. James Watt
 - e. B.B Leroy Brown

3. Early experimenters gained much information on the new wireless technology from publications such as
 - a. QST magazine
 - b. Radio Amateur's Handbook
 - c. The Marconi Gazette
 - d. Amateur Work Magazine
 - e. The Wireless Experimenter Magazine
4. In 1904 what group of people built a working radio station in Boston that could send and receive a message 8 miles?
 - a. Boston University physics students
 - b. Sir Edward Hillary
 - c. A group of 8th grade students
 - d. One of the first organized ham radio clubs experimenting with the new wireless telegraphy.
5. Early transmitters used what technology?
 - a. Home made vacuum tube technology
 - b. DC power from large batteries (AC power was not that popular yet)
 - c. Spread spectrum technology
 - d. Spark gap units
 - e. FM
6. By 1910 the wireless telegraphy hobby had grown to where there were thousands of stations on the air communicating and experimenting. It not only advanced the technology but also created a major problem.
 - a. Early hams were being electrocuted because they did not realize the danger that RF voltage presents.
 - b. They were causing power drains from the then primitive electric transmission lines
 - c. The ham radio stations were causing much interference to their neighbor's televisions.
 - d. Private radio stations were causing much interference with commercial and military radio stations
7. One of the reasons why early private radio stations caused so much trouble was
 - a. Early spark gap transmitters had very wide band signals
 - b. There were really no rules or guidelines set up to monitor these stations
 - c. Signals from early transmitters could cause actual physical harm to people and animals
 - d. A bunch of CB operators kept using profanity and illegal amplifiers.
8. The first licensing system for hams came about in:
 - a. 1910
 - b. 1912
 - c. 1914
 - d. 1922
9. When were we first called hams and why?
10. How did World War One affect the amateur radio hobby?
 - a. It promoted more experimentation and improvements in the hobby
 - b. It provided much needed relief for overworked military communications.
 - c. Ham radio operators passed messages between military personnel and family members at home
 - d. Congress ordered a total halt to all amateur radio operations and requires all stations to be disassembled.
11. When was the ARRL (Amateur Radio Relay League) formed
 - a. 1910
 - b. 1914
 - c. 1926
 - d. 1947
12. What was the primary purpose of the early ARRL organization?
 - a. To promote emergency communications
 - b. To promote experimentation and new technology
 - c. To see who could talk the furthest on home made equipment
 - d. To relay messages over long distances
13. The Navy set up shore stations and began outfitting Navy ships with the new wireless technology in
 - a. 1492
 - b. 1898
 - c. 1906
 - d. 1932

14. A little larceny in our hobby? Early experimenters could purchase headphones but they were expensive. What treachery was employed as a substitute?
- Earphones were swiped from recording studios
 - Military personnel would “borrow” headphones for their own personal use
 - Public telephones often would not work because someone swiped the earpiece from the handset
 - The reproducer from grandmas Victrola made a great earphone but you were in deep trouble when she discovered who took it.
15. When were call signs first issued to amateurs?
- 1906
 - 1912
 - 1932
 - 1947
16. What was the Alexander Bill submitted to congress in 1912 and what impact would it have on amateur radio?
- It assigned specific radio frequencies for use by amateurs only
 - It divided the US into nine districts for licensing purposes.
 - Amateurs could not transmit at all
 - Amateur radio stations were limited to using 1000 watts or less and only commercial or military stations could transmit more power.
17. By 1922 early hams could hold what kinds of license class?
- Amateur first grade and amateur second grade
 - Amateur first phone and amateur second phone. Amateur third phone had very limited privileges and was only good for one year.
 - Novice, General and Advanced class
 - Amateur limited class and Amateur advanced class.
18. The FCC (Federal Communications Commission) was first started in
- 1910
 - 1934
 - 1948
 - 1952

19. What event happened on February 23, 2007?
- First amateur radio signals bounced off the moon for a lunar contact
 - The Novice class was eliminated
 - Technicians were given voice privileges in the 10 meter band
 - Morse code was eliminated for license requirements in the U.S.
20. What attracted you to amateur radio?

Bonus trivia:

Early frequency measurements were MC – megacycles, KC – kilocycles and cps – cycles per second. Later, with the acceptance (?) of the metric system we began using Mhz – megahertz, khz – kilohertz. So why isn't the k capitalized in kilohertz like the M is in Megahertz?

Learn more at:

http://www.rollanet.org/~n0klu/Ham_Radio/History%20of%20Ham%20Radio.pdf

<http://www.ac6v.com/history.htm>



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.

Chris KE9YK

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Trivia Answers: for this month

1. d. Heinrich Hertz in 1888 proved the existence of radio waves.
2. c. Guglielmo Marconi successfully sent messages via the *Hertzian Wave* based wireless telegraphy system. (it was not called radio waves until much later)
3. d. the November, 1901 issue of *Amateur Work* showed how to build a simple system based on Hertz' early experiments
4. c. Yes a group of 8th grade students. Now days we can't get 8th grade students interested in anything but ipods.
5. d. early transmitters used spark gap technology (very broad band)
6. d. there was a lot of accidental and even malicious interference with commercial and military radio stations.
7. both a and b. Some of the problem came from amateurs using crude spark-transmitters that spread signals across a wide part of the radio spectrum. Finally after the RMS Titanic sank, the United States Congress passed the Radio Act of 1912 which restricted private stations to wavelengths of 200 meters or shorter (1500 kHz or higher)
8. b. The Radio Act of 1912 also marked the beginning of U.S. federal licensing of amateur radio operators and stations.
9. The term hams came about during all the fuss between the professional radio operators of the day and the private operators. The term Ham was a derogatory reference to them.
10. d. These were dark times for hams. It was feared that ham radio would be used to pass information to the enemy.
11. b. The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) is the largest membership association of amateur radio enthusiasts in the USA. ARRL is a non-profit organization, and was founded in 6th April 1914 by Hiram Percy Maxim of Hartford, Connecticut.
12. d. The ARRL is organized by H.P. Maxim to help relay messages, given the limited range on 200 meters at that time. (25 miles).
13. b. 1898 Ships at sea could communicate with each other and shore stations although range was limited. Since they had limited

knowledge of antenna theory there was some pretty large antenna systems.



14. c. early public telephone booths would often be pilfered for the earpieces and mouthpieces in the handset. The phone company got wise to this and started gluing the covers on. Then, experimenters would simply cut the cord and take the whole handset. The phone company retaliated by putting a metal cover on the handset cord. Determined thieves simply brought wire cutters to the scene of the crime.
15. b. The Radio Act of 1912 provided for licensing and the issuing of call signs to individual operators. Prior to that, hams would simply make up their own unique call signs.
16. c. The act would have killed our hobby by allowing only military (specifically the Navy) to transmit radio signals. Amateurs would be left out in the cold.
17. a. Amateur first grade and amateur second grade. Requirements were the same for each license however the second grade was for those applicants that could not be personally examined by a U.S. Radio Examiner in his district.
18. b. 1934. The Radio Act of 1927 created the Federal Radio Commission, this later became the FCC in 1934. Back then the FCC was more interested in protecting amateur radio and enforcing rules and regulations instead of the modern concept of selling frequencies to the highest bidder.
19. d. the Morse code requirement was dropped for U.S. licenses (and as some Old Timers often said it was the end of pure amateur radio)
20. Everyone's answer will be different to this question. Why not write a short story about

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.



Welcome my good and faithful servant. This is a very special part of heaven set aside for Net Control Operators. It is the least we can do for such unselfish and dedicated service to others.

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.

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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Disclaimer:

Of course there is no such thing as coax developing a memory. This is the April Fools edition. What did you expect????

VE Test information



Test dates:

1/31/2015	7/25/2015
2/28/2015	8/29/2015
3 none	9/26/2015
4/25/2015	10 none
5/30/2015	11/28/2015
6/27/2015	12/26/2015

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.

You "**must**" have your Social Security number or EIN with you

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

2015 Club Officers and Board members

2014 Club Officers and Board members

Board of Directors

President: John Vanvorst jcvanvorst@wowway.com
812-305-4100 cell

Vice Pres: Steven Wilzbacher KC9SAW
k4saw@twc.com

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

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

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

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

Herb Alvey KB9MZH 477-2757

Halvey1813@aol.com

ARRL Indiana Section

Section Manager: Joseph D Lawrence, K9RFZ

k9rfz@arrl.org

Tars mailing address:

TARS

P.O. Box 4521

Evansville, IN 47724

Sparks editor Bob Pointer N9XAW