

SPARKS

Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-State Amateur Radio Society

Serving the Tri-State for over 70 years

October 2019 - Issue No. 10



The SPARKS Newsletter is published monthly by the Tri-State Amateur Radio Society as a source of information about Club activities, and general news items of interest to the Amateur Radio community.

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E-mail subscriptions are provided to all regular TARS members.

News contributions and letters/emails to the editor are always welcome.

TARS regular membership is open to all licensed Amateur Radio operators for \$25.00 a year. An Associate membership is also available to those who are interested in Amateur Radio but do not currently hold a license. Associate membership is \$25.00 a year. Student memberships are also available for \$12.50 a year.

Membership information is available at www.w9og.net

The Tri-State Amateur Radio Society meets the second Thursday of each month at the Red Cross, 29 Stockwell Rd, Evansville IN, at 7:00 p.m.

Family and visitors are always welcome to attend.

For more information, please call or email one of the TARS officers listed in this newsletter.

Presidents Corner:

The great thing about Ham Radio is there are so many diverse and wonderful ways to enjoy and experiment with radio technology and techniques. Whether the bands are horrible or whether there is propagation to everywhere, there is always people on the air doing something.

Those who know me also know that my favorite thing to do with radio is communicate with Morse Code, or CW. It appears to me that the popularity of CW is on the rise again, and for lots of good reasons. To me the best things about CW are the way it is heard much better than voice in tough band conditions, and the satisfaction of having the skill to speak another language sort of.

On a terribly noisy band where there is poor propagation, CW gets through and can be heard long after voice communications becomes impossible. It is in my opinion the best mode to use when operating portable, or where conditions are not optimal. Voice communications relies on being able to hear voice tone and how each sound that makes up a word is intonated and formed by the speaker's mouth. With CW, if you can hear the presence or absence of a tone you can copy the message.

OK, "so what" you say? Well the biggest reason for me is I get so much enjoyment and pleasure communicating with CW. It relaxes me. And when I don't want to be relaxed, I can stretch my abilities in CW contesting, or ragchewing with others who send at a higher speed that forces me to improve my own speed capability. And I also enjoy using a variety of keys and keying devices, from straight keys and bugs to variations on the iambic paddles and keyers.

CW is on the rise, and it would be a cool thing to form a class and help one another learn CW among friends. If you would be interested please let me know. There are also lots of resources on the internet to help learn but starting out the right way is critical. If you are interested in being part of a CW group here in the tristate please talk with me about that.

But regardless of how you wish to learn, I encourage you to take another look at CW. Anyone can learn it. It takes a will to learn it. Do it!

John N9oL

REMINDER!!!! This month's meeting will be at Central Dispatch 1331 Harmony Way.

October Meeting

October's meeting will be held at **Central Dispatch, 1331 Harmony Way**. Our Appointment time to be there is **7pm**. **Central Dispatch doesn't have a large amount of parking so if you would please park at the West Side EMA training center [WEMA] [1440 Harmony Way](#), we will all walk to Central Dispatch. [See Map!](#)**

We will have a tour and a short business meeting which should be fun and informative!

Eat'n Before the Meet'n

Eat'n Before the Meet'n this month. This month is at the Twisted Tomato west, 1101 Harmony Way, across from the Hilltop Inn.



We will meet at 5:30 on Oct. 10th before the regular meeting that will be held at Central Dispatch, just up the road.

Come out and join us for good food and fellowship before the meeting.

Twisted Tomato parking is available next door at the old funeral home on Maryland Street, watch for signs.

If you have any suggestions on where you would like for us to meet, contact: [Herb Alvey KB9MZH](#) c: 812.431.1037

IT'S HERE !!!



10/26/2019

Lynnville Community Center

416 West Street, Road 68, IN-68

Lynnville, IN 47619

Website: <http://hamtoberfest.com>

Flier: [\[Click Here\]](#)

Make sure to get your chance on the Yaesu FTM 400xdr raffle that will take place at the Hamtober Fest. Chances are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00. Chances are available from TARS officers and board members. **You do not have to be present to win.**

Club Code Key Contest

September - MacGyver Key winner was.....

[Drum roll please]

Scott KD4SIR with a key made from a computer mouse.

Calling All Members

Looking forward to the Election of officers for 2020, we will open nominations from the floor of the general club meetings in September [**the picnic**] and October. To run for an office you must be a member in good standing and have been a member for at least one full year. Offices up for election are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and 3 board positions.

You can nominate someone you feel would be a good choice or nominate yourself.

The election ballot will be published in the November SPARKS and you have the option of returning the ballot via mail or casting it in person at the November meeting.

If you are interested in running for an office or would like more information, contact an election committee member.

[Mark Thienes KC9TYA](#) Chairman

[Dennis Martin WA2USA](#)

[Chris Lantaff KE9YK](#)



Amateur Radio CubeSats

among 15 Set to Launch on October 21

AMSAT reports that an Antares II launch vehicle will carry 15 CubeSats into orbit on October 21 from Wallops Island as part of NASA Educational Launch of Nanosatellites ([ELaNa](#)) Mission 25. Some will carry Amateur Radio payloads.

- [TJ REVERB](#), developed by students at Thomas Jefferson High School in Alexandria, Virginia, will carry a 145.825 MHz APRS digipeater.
- [HuskySat](#), a University of Washington - Seattle project, will be boosted into a 500-kilometer (approximately 310-mile) orbit via the Cygnus external deployment device. HuskySat will carry a V/U linear transponder provided in cooperation with AMSAT.

Other satellites announced for the ELaNa 25 launch include Argus (St. Louis University), 437 MHz telemetry; AzTechSat-1 (NASA Ames Research Center) 437 MHz telemetry; CySat (Iowa State University) 436 MHz telemetry; Phoenix (Arizona State University) 437 and 2400 MHz telemetry; RadSat-U (Montana State University) 437 MHz telemetry; SPOC (University of Georgia) 437 and 2400 MHz telemetry, and SwampSat II (University of Florida) 437 and 2400 MHz telemetry. -- *Thanks to AMSAT News Service*

Tri-State Emergency Net

8:00 p.m. Wednesday nights on 146.79 pl 88.5

If you haven't checked into the Tri-State Emergency Net, please take a few minutes at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday evenings on 146.79 and get updated on what is happening, the latest club information, calendar of upcoming events, topics of general interest and from time to time good old-fashioned rag chewing.

Net Operator schedule

October

2 KC9UVG
9 N9QVQ
16 KB9YWQ
23 WB9KQF
30 KC9TYA

November

6 KE9YK
13 KC9UVG
20 N9QVQ
27 KB9YWQ

VE Testing

2019 Schedule

Jan-26	Feb-23
Mar- No TEST	Apr-27
May-25-	Jun-29
Jul-27	Aug-31
Sep-28	Oct 26 at HAMTOBER Fest*
Nov No TEST	Dec 28

* Testing will be at TARS Hamtober Fest and not at the Red Cross for this test session.



All examinations will be administered at the American Red Cross, Evansville Chapter, located at 29 S. Stockwell Road, Evansville Indiana 47714. **Examinations will start at 9:00 AM Central time.** We have no pre-registration, and examinations are administered on a walk-in basis.

All the details can be found at:

<http://w9og.net/ve-testing>

Or for more info contact:

[John VanVorst N9OL](mailto:John.VanVorst@N9OL) c: 812.305.4100



US National Weather Service Paducah Kentucky advises, **SKYWARN spotter training online webinar available coming up Tues Oct 16th 6:00 pm.** You must register online.

Visit this website for registration link:

<https://www.weather.gov/pah/spottertraining>

Watch for the WINTER WEATHER WORKSHOPS to start soon.

Hamfest Calendar

10/26/2019 | [Hamtober Fest](#)

Location:

Lynnville Community Center
416 West Street, Road 68, IN-68
Lynnville, IN 47619

Website: <http://hamtoberfest.com>

Sponsor: Tri-State Amateur Radio Society - TARS

Talk-In: 146.790 (PL 88.5)

Public Contact: Dennis Martin , WA2USA
5577 Victoria Court Newburgh, IN 47630
Phone: 812-598-8333

Email: wa2usa.ham@gmail.com



Vanderburgh Co. ARES/RACES

Thanks to Len N9QVQ

Vanderburgh County Auxcomm Has secured the club call WA9C, of the silent key Dave Vogel. Dave was very active in TARS and emergency communications. Dave had taught a number of TECH license classes and was the GOTA Coach for a number of Field Day operations. We felt this would be a great way to honor Dave for his years of service to the radio community.



The next Vanderburgh county ARES/RACES meeting **Oct 17th, 7:00 pm** at the Vanderburgh Co. West Side EMA Training Center (WEMA) [1440 Harmony Way.](#)

We are currently working on the ARES standardized training plan Individual Task Book. I currently have task book folder for our members. We are also working to update our ICS-217 file and create a recommended radio programming list for ARES/RACES.

Anyone interested in emergency communication in Vanderburgh County is invited.

Chris Lantaff KE9YK

Vanderburgh Co RACES Officer

in82races@gmail.com c: 812.453.1972

October Birthdays

★ **HAPPY** ★
BIRTHDAY!

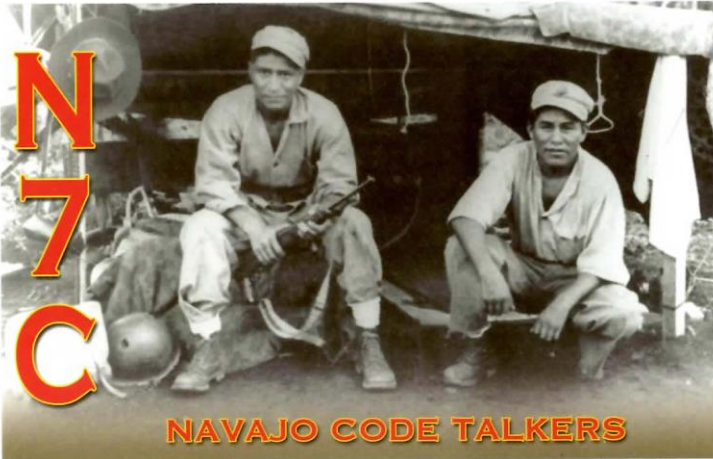
Ed Folz	K9HVI	6th
Chris Matthews	N9JCA	23rd
Terry McCraey	WB9KQF	10th
Mark Thienes	KC9TYA	11th
Josiah Washburne	KC9NPB	18th

Condolences

I would like to express sincere condolences to Herby Alvey KB9MZH on the recent passing of his mother.

Brag Rag

KE9YK, Navajo Code Talkers Special Event QSL,



Indian Marine fighters skilled in Native lore of their ancestors and a match for the Japanese in any fight are those Navajos serving with the 3rd Marine Division Signal Unit in WWII.

Portable Location: _____

Mobile Location: _____

Special Event: _____

Confirming QSO With:

Guest Operator Call: John Radio: KE9YK

CONFIRMING QSO WITH:	DATE			UTC	MHz	RST	MODE 2-WAY	QSL
	DAY	MONTH	YEAR					
	18	8	2019	0240	7265	59	SSB	PSE

National Code Talker's Day - August 14, 1982

N7HG Herbert Goodluck

PO Box 06 • Chinle, AZ 86503

Remarks: See you next year, Thank you QSO. John was in Central Texas, helping me.

Herb N7HG

Please QSL

Thanks QSL

What have you been doing?

Do you have something you would like to submit for the Brag Rag? Send your QSLs, special event certificates, awards, interesting photos, etc. to sparks@w9og.net to have them included in your newsletter.

Treasurer Report

August 2019 (prepared 9/1/2019)

Opening Balance: \$3,924.09

Receipts:

Memberships \$30.00

VE Room Rental \$28.00

Total Receipts --->> \$58.00

Expenditures:

Pd Dennis WA2USA for Hamtober fest mailings (\$18.70)

Pd Chris KE9YK for banquet frames and certificates (\$23.07)

Total Expenditures--->> (\$41.77)

Ending Balance \$3,940.32

Red Cross Funds \$1,255.82

Secretary Report

The secretary reports were attached as separate attachments with this SPARKS mailing.

Amateur Radio Resources

Dave KC9UVG ask everyone at the Aug 2018 meeting for ideas on Amateur Radio Resources that we could publish for anyone looking for information.

If you have any suggestions send them to sparks@w9og.net.

Books:

The Man Who Caught the Storm by Brantley Hargrove:

The life of legendary tornado chaser Tim Samaras, 2018. EVPL

Call # 921 SAMAR HARG

Facebook Magazines NASA Tech Briefs – www.techbriefs.com

Nuts & Volts www.nutsvolts.com and at Barnes & Noble

Antennas:

<https://archive.org/details/SimpleLowCostWireAntennasForRadioAmateurs>

<http://www.hamuniverse.com/basicantennas.pdf>

<http://www.antentop.org/w4rnl.001/radio.html>

Podcast:

Neil Rapp WB9VPG – Ham Talk Live!

www.neilrapp.com/hamtalklive

Ham Radio Workbench – www.hamradioworkbench.com

Amateur Radio Newslines – www.arnewslines.org

W5kub Live ham show every Tuesday night 8:00 PM Central Time (0200 UTC Wed) - www.w5kub.com

Your input is important

Sparks is **YOUR** information source for club activities and local Amateur radio information.

In each issue we ask for submissions from club members. Tell us about your station, projects you have made or are making, anything interesting the TARS membership might be interested in.

Submission deadline is the 25th of the month.

Most any document format is acceptable.

Photos or graphics of your subject are welcome.

Send your article to: sparks@w9og.net

Looking Ahead

2019

Jamboree-on-the-Air third full weekend in October
SKYWARN Recognition Day, Dec 7 2019

2020

Straight Key Night Jan

TARS AUCTION January

ARRL Kids Day Jan

Winter Field Day January 25/26 2020

TARS Banquet Feb

INQP May

MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND June

ARRL Kids Day June

Field Day June

13 Colonies Special Event July

National Night Out first Tuesday of August

International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend (ILLW) third full weekend of August

Route 66 Special Event September

http://w6ibt.org/?page_id=15

Total Solar Eclipse North America April 8, 2024

TARS is an [ARRL](#) affiliated club

ARRL [Indiana Section](#)

Section Manager: **Jimmy Merry KC9RPX**

kc9rpx@arrl.net

TARS mailing address:

TARS

P.O. Box 4521

Evansville, IN 47724

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

Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TARSw9og>

TARS E-mail: info@w9og.net



2019 Club Officers - Board members

President [John VanVorst N9QL](#)

Vice President [Max Wilkinson KD9ABT](#)

Treasurer [Jeff Holt AA9WJ](#)

Secretary [Dave Sandine KC9UVG](#)

Board of Directors

[Mark Thienes KC9TYA](#) (2018-2019)

[Len Schmitt N9QVQ](#) (2018-2019)

[Herb Alvey KB9MZH](#) (2019)

[Rick Jackson K9EXY](#) (2019-2020)

[Dennis Martin WA2USA](#) (2019-2020)

[Mike Townsend W9KXP](#) (2019-2020)

SPARKS Editor:

Chris Lantaff KE9YK

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