

# SPARKS

Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-State Amateur Radio Society

**Serving the Tri-State for over 70 years**

February 2020 - Issue No. 2



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.

Material in this newsletter may be reproduced provided that TARS and the article author is properly credited.

Complimentary issues of the SPARKS Newsletter are available to amateur radio clubs on a newsletter exchange by e-mailing your request to

[sparks@w9og.net](mailto:sparks@w9og.net).

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](http://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.

Mark your calendar, **HamtoberFest October 17<sup>th</sup> 2020.**

**Field Day 2020** will be held once again at the Red Cross. Thanks to Dave KC9UVG for stepping up to be the field day chairman.

Mike W9KXP is making arrangements for the September TARS 2020 picnic. Keep your eyes out for more information.

## **It's DUES time!**

TARS dues run with the calendar year and come due in January. You may pay at any meeting or send your membership application with payment to the club P.O. Box address on the membership application.

Did you make the Banquet?



## Condolences to the Washburne Family

Well done, good and faithful servant:

Jerry Washburne WD9GXI, Age 88, peacefully and with much anticipation passed into Heaven on January 29, 2020 after a bout with cancer. Raised in an age where fixing things was a way of life and an electrical engineer by training, few things gave him as much pleasure as removing a cover which said "DANGER, DO NOT REMOVE." An eclectic man, he excelled as a swing piano player, church pianist and layman, guppy breeder, tomato grower, Boy Scout leader, and at being grandpa the mad scientist. He will be greatly missed by many. He was preceded in death by his wife Donna Sue (Todd) Washburne in 2002 and is survived by four children, Susan (David) of El Cajon, CA, Jane of Antioch, IL, Tom (Lynne) of Evansville, IN, and Jim (Lora) of Leesburg, VA, 15 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Jerry was born and raised in Chicago, IL. He earned degrees from the University of Illinois and Valparaiso Institute of Technology and was a veteran of the U.S. Army. His engineering career involved work in several states and employers including Potter & Brumfield in Princeton, IN. He held two patents. He retired from Vincennes University in 1995, where he had taught technology and engineering courses for a decade. For many years he served as the resident Ranger for Camp Arthur near Vincennes, IN. He was a devoted Christian and an active member of Salem Church of Darmstadt, where he played piano at the first service until his recent illness.

## Eat'n Before the Meet'n

**Eat'n Before the Meet'n, Mar 12th** is at Jason's Deli, located at 943 N Green River Rd, 5:30 pm.

Come out and join us for good food, fun and fellowship before the meeting. We will leave with plenty of time to make the meeting.

In April we will meet in a new place, Salsarita's Fresh Mexican Grill at the corner of Stockwell and Morgan Ave.

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

## Winter Field Day

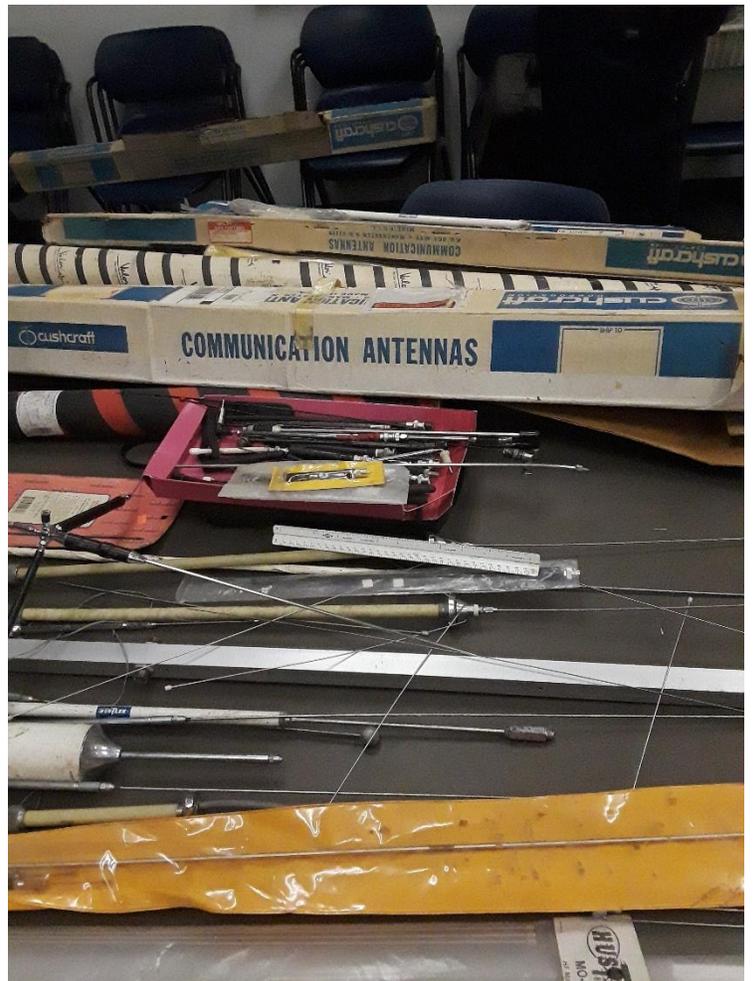
TARS participated in Winter Field Day on January 25th, at Wesselman Park.





## It's Auction Time !!!

Did you get any good deals at the TARS Auction last month? Quite a lot of "STUFF" passed thru Little Ed's hands. K9HVI was entertaining as always and managed to keep the bids moving even with the overflow of items this year.





If you missed out, mark your calendar for Jan 2021 and join in on the fun.

## 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

#### February

5	KC9TYA
12	KC9UVG
19	N9QVQ
26	KB9YWQ

#### March

4	WB9KQF
11	KE9YK
18	KB9YWQ NWS TORNADO Drill AM/PM
18	KC9TYA
25	KC9UVG

If you would like to be a Net Control Operator for the Wednesday Night Net or learn how to run a SKYWARN net.

Contact: [Chris Lantaff KE9YK](#).



The latest SKYWARN spotter classes are listed on the Paducah NWS page. <https://www.weather.gov/pah/spottertraining>  
See the web page for a full list of training available.

Henderson, Monday March 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm at Henderson EMA  
Evansville, Thursday March 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm at Red Cross

#### Elite Spotter

Evansville, Monday April 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm at Red Cross

There are also online webinars available.  
You must register online for all classes.

## VE Testing

2020 schedule coming soon!

Normally the last Sat of the month

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



Reminder the current Extra class (Element 4) **Question Pool** is valid until **June 30, 2020**. After that date you will need to update your study material.

## February Birthdays



Jonathan Brenner	KD9MJD	10th
Donald Land	KB9YWQ	10th
Keith L. MaCurdy	KC9GNM	10th
Larry Rudolph	KB9KVX	2nd
John D. Small	W9FHA	14th

## Brag Rag

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, projects etc. to [sparks@w9og.net](mailto:sparks@w9og.net) to have them included in **your** newsletter.

## Vanderburgh Co. ARES/RACES

The next Vanderburgh county ARES/RACES meeting will not be until **February 20th**, 7:00 pm at the Vanderburgh Co. West Side EMA Training Center (WEMA) [1440 Harmony Way](http://1440HarmonyWay.com).

There will not be a meeting in March as this will fall on the night of SKYWARN Spotter training.



Chris Lantaff KE9YK

Vanderburgh Co RACES Officer

[in82races@gmail.com](mailto:in82races@gmail.com) c: 812.453.1972

## Treasurer Report

December 2019 (Prepared 1/1/2020)

Opening Balance:	\$5,418.68
Receipts:	
Memberships plus donations	\$261.00
VE room rental	\$14.00
Sale of TARS IC-735 rig	\$350.00
Banquet reservations	\$28.00
Total Receipts --->>	\$653.00
Expenditures:	
Pd to Postmaster for yearly PO Box rental fee	(\$106.00)
Total Expenditures--->>	(\$106.00)
Ending Balance	\$5,965.68
Red Cross fund	\$1,269.82
TARS Treasurer	
Jeff AA9WJ	

## Secretary Report

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

Dave Sandine KC9UVG

## 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 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.**

**Most any document format is acceptable.**

**Photos or graphics of your subject are welcome.**

**Send your article to: [sparks@w9og.net](mailto:sparks@w9og.net)**

## Looking Ahead

### 2020

**INQP 1600Z, May 2 to 0400Z, May 3, 2020**

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

**TARS PICNIC Sep 12 - pending**

Route 66 Special Event September

Jamboree-on-the-Air third full weekend in October

**TARS 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Hamtober Fest Oct 17th 2020**

SKYWARN Recognition Day, Dec

### 2021

Straight Key Night Jan

**TARS AUCTION January**

ARRL Kids Day Jan

**Winter Field Day January**

**TARS Banquet Feb 6<sup>th</sup>**

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](mailto: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](http://www.w9og.net)

Facebook Group

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

TARS E-mail: [info@w9og.net](mailto:info@w9og.net)



## 2020 Club Officers - Board members

President [John VanVorst N9OL](#)

Vice President [Max Wilkinson KD9ABT](#)

Treasurer [Jeff Holt AA9WJ](#)

Secretary [Dave Sandine KC9UVG](#)

### Board of Directors

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

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

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

[Herb Alvey KB9MZH](#) (2020-2021)

[Don Land KB9YWQ](#) (2020-2021)

**Position OPEN** (2020-2021)

### SPARKS Editor:

Chris Lantaff KE9YK

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