

SPARKS

Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-State Amateur Radio Society

Serving the Tri-State for over 70 years

May 2021 - Issue No. 5



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.

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 contact one of the TARS officers listed in this newsletter or email info@w9og.net.

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

This Thursday TARS will hold the club meeting in Wesselman Park at 6:00 pm!

We will meet at one of the shelters for an informal gathering.

Google map link : <https://goo.gl/maps/8aG96wx5Mf3pskc38>

Wesselman Park is located at 602-560 N Boeke Rd, Evansville, IN 47711

This is north on Boeke Rd from the Lloyd just past Swonder Ice Arena.

Bring a chair and beverage and visit with some friends you haven't seen for a while.

Amazon Smile

To set up your Amazon Smile account to donate to TARS with every Amazon purchase you make, click our unique link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/35-6042852>.

Now when making an Amazon purchase from your browser online, login via

smile.amazon.com

[this is important as it's only via smile we will receive a donation] then make your purchases as usual and TARS will get a donation. If you use your mobile app, just turn on AmazonSmile and it will connect you automatically.

Turn on AmazonSmile in your mobile app.

Open the app and find 'Settings' in the main menu (☰). Tap on 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.

IT IS THAT EASY!



Make your plans now to participate in the TARS 2021 Field Day!

Hamtober Fest

Hamtober Fest

TARS Hamtober Fest is a go for 2021
October 23rd 2021 at the Lynnville community center.
Watch for more information soon!

www.HamtoberFest.com

TARS INQP 2021

– Interlake Recreation Area
Oh, you missed it! YES, you did!



Russian Robinson Club Announces Activation of Rare IOTA Islands in the Aleutians

The Russian Robinson Club ([RRC](#)) has resumed its plans to activate rare Kiska Island (IOTA NA-070) and Adak Island (IOTA NA-039) in



Alaska's Aleutian Islands chain in July for Islands On The Air ([IOTA](#)) enthusiasts. Plans to activate these islands in 2020 were called off because of COVID-19 concerns.

The uninhabited Kiska Island (52.06° N, 177.57° E) lies in the North Pacific's treacherous Bering Sea, which RRC calls one of the most intense patches of

ocean on Earth and where strong winds, freezing temperatures, and icy water are the norm. The island also features the prominent conical Kiska volcano. Kiska Island is a National Historic Landmark and part of the Aleutian Islands World War II National Monument and the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge (AMNWR). Permission to visit is required from both Alaska's Maritime National Wildlife Refuge and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

The KL7RRC team plans to have a minimum of two stations on the air on 40 - 6 meters, SSB, CW, and FT8. Operators will place special emphasis on the difficult trans-polar path to Europe.

The 56-foot aluminum sailing vessel *Seal* will make the 1,000-mile journey along the Aleutians to Kiska with a stop at Dutch Harbor to pick up Tim, NL8F, and the gear sent in advance to his location. The team will continue sailing west to Adak Island, where some team members will activate Adak Island on June 30 - July 3. The SV *Seal* will pick up the entire crew there, which will have flown in by July 3. Then, they hope to arrive at Kiska and be on the air as KL7RCC on July 7 - 12, before the return sail to Adak and flights home. Additional KL7RRC activity may take place from Adak July 14 - 16.

Donations are welcome. QSLs for KL7RRC (Kiska Island NA-070) and KL7RRC (Adak Island NA-039) are via N7RO. All donors will receive direct QSLs.

Updates will be posted on the Russian Robinson Club website. -- Thanks to Hal Turley, W8HC, via [The Daily DX](#)

A slot is open for a fifth operator. Contact team leader [Yuri, N3QQ](#), if interested.

NOW... Single-Sideband for Everyone!



"Phasemaster - Jr."

Up to 50 watts output.
Fixed or mobile, 6-12v fil.
SSB, AM, PM or CW.
9 mc phasing circuit.
Less power supply
and tubes.

Kit **\$74.50**
Wired & tested **\$92.50**

Other Famous Items:
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TENNA — SWITCH
SPECIAL SSB COMPONENTS

Write for literature



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MANUFACTURERS OF PRECISION ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

FAQ available for information about the new FCC RF Exposure Rules

Dear ARRL Central Division Member

Very few changes to the FCC regulations have given rise to as many questions to the ARRL as has the recent re-write of the FCC's RF Exposure rules. A new Frequently Asked Questions about the new changes to the FCC RF Exposure rules is available. The FAQ was created by Mr. Ed Hare, W1RFI, Laboratory Manager for the ARRL with the help of the members of the ARRL RF Safety Committee.

The ARRL RF Exposure FAQ can be found at;

<http://central.arrl.org/docs/RFX%20FAQ%20V1.3.pdf>

I hope that this FAQ will help answer many of the questions about the recent changes. The HQ team is working on an update to all of the information available on the ARRL.org website. If you have questions or suggestions for inclusion on this topic, please email tis@arrl.org and your email will be answered by a member of the ARRL Laboratory staff.

73, Kermit Carlson W9XA

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

May	5	KE9YK
	12	KC9TYA
	19	KC9UVG
	26	N9QVQ
June	2	KB9YWQ
	9	WB9KQF
	16	WB4ZUT
	23	KC9TYA
	30	KE9YK

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](#).

VE Testing

2021 Ham Radio VE Test Sessions

Feb 27
Apr 24
May 29
June 26
July 31
Aug 28
Sep 25
Dec 18



ATTENTION!!!

The Tri-State Amateur Radio Society VE Team is currently holding all VE test sessions at the Vanderburgh Co. EMA west side training facility, 1440 Harmony Way in Evansville. This is the building behind the old school building. Look for the tower and antennas and enter the side door by the tower.

You will need to know your FRN number. If you have a license currently you have an FRN number. If you do not yet have a license you can register with the FCC and obtain an FRN number. Go to www.fcc.gov/register.

If you need help or have questions please let me know at n9ol@arrl.net.

Examinations will start promptly at 9:00 AM Central time. We have no pre-registration, and examinations are administered on a walk-in basis.

Details can be found at: <http://w9og.net/ve-testing>
For more info contact: [John VanVorst N9OL](mailto:John.VanVorst@arrl.net) c: 812.305.4100



Vanderburgh Co. ARES/RACES

All Vanderburgh Co ARES/RACES in person meetings are canceled until this COVID-19 emergency has passed and currently using ZOOM.

Our meetings are the third Thursday of the month starting at 6:00pm.

Watch your email for the ZOOM meeting login details.

If you would like to participate and are not currently a Vanderburgh Co. ARES/RACES member contact us for the login information.

Feel free to check in to the Vanderburgh Co ARES net **each Tuesday at 8:00pm** on the 146.790 repeater.



Vanderburgh County Auxcomm

Chris KE9YK IN82RACES@gmail.com
Vanderburgh Co RACES Officer
812.453.1972
Len N9QVQ len.n9qvq@gmail.com
Vanderburgh Co ARES EC
812-963-0027

Warrick Co ARES/RACES

The Warrick County ARES/RACES group meets on the second Monday of each month. The meeting begins at 6:30pm and generally is completed by 9:00pm. The meetings are held on the third floor of the Court House in the EMA Conference room. Anyone needing additional information concerning meetings or location contact: Chris L. Owen at KC9CLO@gmail.com.

May Birthdays!!!

Michael Brewster	KC9BUH	29th
Danielle Day	KC9YIL	26th
Jeremy Matthews	K9EPD	20th
Rick Neukam	KD9MY	19th



Indiana Hamfest & Tailgate Schedule

(As of 14 April 2021)

May 22
Henry Co. Tailgate
8 am to 12 pm
Memorial Park
2221 N Memorial Dr - New Castle
www.w9ob.org

July 9 & 10

Indianapolis Hamfest

2021 - ARRL – Indiana Section Convention

Marion County Fairgrounds

7300 E Troy Ave – Indianapolis

<http://indyhamfest.com>

July 10

Auburn Hamfest

Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum

1600 S. Wayne Street – Auburn <http://W9OU.ORG>

July 31

East Central Indiana Hamfest

Randolph County Fairgrounds

1885 S US Highway 27 - Winchester, IN

<https://sites.google.com/view/ecindianahamfest>

August 7

Elkhart Hamfest Northern Indiana Event Center

21565 Executive Parkway - Elkhart

<https://elkharteasthamfest.com/>

August 14

Hendricks County Tailgate Fest

Avon United Methodist Church

6850 E. Highway 36 – Avon

October 2

Hoosier Hills Ham Club Hamfest

Lawrence Co. 4H Fairgrounds

11265 US Hwy 50 W – Bedford, IN

http://www.w9qyq.org/pdf/2021_Hamfest_Flyer.pdf

October 16

Shelbyville Tailgate Hamfest

Blue River Valley ARS

8 AM - 12 PM

Shelby Co Fairgrounds

500 Frank St

Shelbyville, IN

<http://www.brvars.com>

OCTOBER 23

Hamtober Fest

7 AM - 12 PM

Lynnville Community Center

416 W ST RD IN-68 - Lynnville, IN

<http://www.w9og.net/hamtoberfest-hamfest-2021>

November 13 & 14

Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo

2021 - ARRL - Central Division Convention

Allen County War Memorial Coliseum

4000 Parnell Ave – Fort Wayne

<http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>

Secretary Report

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

Dave Sandine KC9UVG

Treasurer Report

Budget:

March 2021 (prepared 4/1/2021)

Opening Balance: \$4,300.26

Receipts:

Memberships \$122.50

Total Receipts --->> \$122.50

Expenditures:

Lynnville Hamtober Fest reservation (\$375.00)

Total Expenditures--->> (\$375.00)

Ending Balance \$4,047.76

Red Cross Account \$1,283.82

Funds Available to TARS \$2,763.94

Jeff Holt AA9WJ

TARS Treasurer



Looking Ahead

2021

TARS AUCTION ~~January~~ TBD

TARS Banquet ~~February~~ TBD

MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND June

ARRL Kids Day June Third Saturday

Field Day June 26-27

[13 Colonies Special Event](#)

National Night Out first Tuesday of August

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

Light Up 2 Meters Night August

TARS PICNIC ~~Sept~~ TBD

Route 66 Special Event September

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

TARS 3rd annual Hamtober Fest Oct 23, 2021

SKYWARN Recognition Day, Saturday, December

Straight Key Night January 1 from 0000 UTC through 2359 UTC

ARRL Kids Day Jan First Saturday

Winter Field Day January 30-31 2021

INQP 2022

[Total Solar Eclipse North America April 8, 2024](#)

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

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

2021 Club Officers - Board members

President [John VanVorst N9OL](#)

Vice President [Dennis Martin WA2USA](#)

Treasurer [Jeff Holt AA9WJ](#)

Secretary [Dave Sandine KC9UVG](#)

Board of Directors

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

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

OPEN (2021)

[Mike Townsend W9KXP](#) (2021-2022)

Scott Hibbs KD4SIR (2021-2022)

Charlie Martin WB8LDV (2021-2022)

SPARKS Editor:

Chris Lantaff KE9YK

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