

SPARKS

Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-State Amateur Radio Society

Serving the Tri-State for 75 years

October 2022 - 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.

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@gmail.com.

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.

October TARS meeting

– How To Work Amateur Satellites With Your HT!!

Clint Bradford, K6LCS, AMSAT Ambassador, ARRL Instructor and Affiliated Club Coordinator will join us and give a presentation titled 'How To Work Amateur Satellites With Your HT!'.

You do not need 100W of transmit power nor expensive antenna arrays to work the FM voice amateur satellites! Many hams already have the necessary equipment to "work the birds." This presentation will walk you through ALL the steps needed to successfully work several ham satellites - including the International Space Station.

Clint will join us via Zoom to put on this informative and entertaining presentation.

Plan on joining in as well on October 13, 2022 at 7PM!



THIS will be an IN PERSON OR ZOOM MEETING. The ZOOM meeting login information will be sent as a separate email. This should be a fun and very informative event.

Eat'n Before the Meet'n

We will have a meetup before the regular TARS meeting for anyone that wants to join us.

Come out to Long John Silvers, 2350 E Morgan Ave at Boeke in front of the Rural King.

We will meet at 5:30, for you to grab a bite to eat, swap stories and whatever else you want, giving us time to make it to the Red Cross for the meeting.

Hamtober Fest 2022 THIS SATURDAY!!!

The 4th annual Hamtober Fest **October 15, 2022** at the Lynnville Community Center
416 West RD 68, IN-68 Lynnville, IN 47619

Website: <http://www.hamtoberfest.com>

TALK UP YOUR HAMFEST on all nets and if you are attending a hamfest take a few fliers!

Raffle tickets are now on sale and will be available at the club meetings.

TARS 75 Anniversary Special Event On The Air

We had 433 QSO's with 9 ops submitting logs. We received 33 requests for QSL cards which have been answered.

Officer Elections

It's election time once again and we are looking for volunteers.

We will take nominations during the Sep and Oct meetings and also solicit nominations via e-mail to elections@w9og.net

The Offices open for election are:

President, Vice Pres, Treasurer, Secretary and Board of Directors - 3 POSITIONS UP FOR ELECTION

The only requirement is that you are a current TARS member in good standing and have been a TARS member for at least 1 full year. If you are interested in serving or would like to learn more, contact the election committee. elections@w9og.net

Hamtober Fest 2022

The 4th annual Hamtober Fest **October 15, 2022!**

Location: Lynnville Community Center

416 West RD 68, IN-68 Lynnville, IN 47619

Website: <http://www.hamtoberfest.com>

TALK UP YOUR HAMFEST on all nets and if you are attending a hamfest take a few fliers!

Raffle tickets are now on sale and will be available at the club meetings.

RON LILE KORL SK



It is with great sorrow to announce that Ron Lile KORL passed away Friday Sep 30th.

Lynnville, IN. – Ronald Edward Lile, 75, of Lynnville, Indiana passed away on Friday, September 30, 2022 at his home.

Ron was born in Louisville, Kentucky on February 9, 1947 to the late John

Everett and Gladys Irene (Day) Lile.

Ron served proudly in the United States Air Force during Vietnam. He retired after many years as an Electrical Engineer from ERI in Chandler. He was a member of the IEEE and authored the chapters on Antenna Design in the IEEE tech manual. He was on the Community Emergency Response Team, enjoyed woodworking and was a Ham Radio Operator as the call sign KORL.

<https://www.koehlerfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Ronald-Edward-Lile?obId=26024660>

TARS Calendar

October

- 1 **VE Testing 9:00 am Red Cross**
- 5 Tri-State Emergency Net (Chris, KE9YK)
10m Net following on 28.405 +-
- 6 **TARS Board meeting 6:30**
- 12 Tri-State Emergency Net (Mark, KC9TYA)
- 13 **TARS Club Meeting 7:00pm Red Cross**
- 15 **The 4th annual Hamtober Fest**
- 19 Tri-State Emergency Net (Dave, KC9UVG)
- 26 Tri-State Emergency Net (Terry, WB9KQF)

November

- 2 Tri-State Emergency Net (Walt, WB4ZUT)
10m Net following on 28.405 +-
- 3 **TARS Board meeting 6:30**
- 5 **VE Testing 9:00 am Red Cross**
- 9 Tri-State Emergency Net (Herby, KB9MZH)
- 10 **TARS Club Meeting 7:00pm Red Cross**
- 16 Tri-State Emergency Net (Don, KB9YWQ)
- 23 Tri-State Emergency Net (Mark, KC9TYA)
- 30 Tri-State Emergency Net (Chris, KE9YK)

December

- 1 **TARS Board meeting 6:30**
- 3 **VE Testing 9:00 am Red Cross**
- 7 Tri-State Emergency Net (Dave, KC9UVG)
10m Net following on 28.405 +-
- 8 **TARS Club Meeting 7:00pm Red Cross**
- 14 Tri-State Emergency Net (Terry, WB9KQF)
- 21 Tri-State Emergency Net (Walt, WB4ZUT)
- 28 Tri-State Emergency Net (Herby, KB9MZH)

Beyond the Baofeng

Chris Lantaff - KE9YK

If you haven't logged into the NEW FCC CORES site and obtained your username now would be a good time to do so.

We had discussed this a few months ago and I'm sure you have put it off, but that might be a mistake when it comes time to renew your license. I recently helped someone with their renewal and it involved jumping through several hoops to get it done.

One thing I finally realized was that even if you have changed your license address your old address is still associated with your FRN number. After a couple of help tickets were filed everything eventually worked out.

Once you have your new CORES username set up and FRN associated with it, when renewal time comes around it should be pretty painless.

SO DON'T WAIT TILL THE LAST MINUTE.

Snake Antenna

Jerry McIntosh WB9ONU

Jerry has an article on the SNAKE antenna from his presentation on odd antennas he has used. It is attached with this mailing of SPARKS. Also his presentation is available online, see note from Scott KD4SIR below.

Note: From Scott KD4SIR,

I posted on groups.io that Jerry's presentation on "Odd Antennas (that work)" is now online at <https://youtu.be/B-FYPXJAYXk>.

I would like to have a qsl card from Darwin Covert W9KVE. The card can be one he created for himself, or one he sent someone else in his lifetime.

He was our first Treasurer and I need it to complete my collection of qsl cards from our first officers. I'll pay \$10 for it. Please look around. :)

My email is scotthibbs at gmail

Scott KD4SIR

Brag Rag

A note from Dennis WA2USA:

I recently received an award after becoming a Colorado Mountain Goat scoring over 1000 points climbing mountains in Colorado in the Summits on the Air program, SOTA. It took me nine summers to accomplish.

My challenge every year was to get ready for the physical challenge, hiking anywhere between 9 to 14 thousand feet carrying an Elecraft KX2, battery, antenna and other gear, i.e. water, first aid kit, food and cold weather clothing.

Along the way, I met many local hams who taught me navigation skills and hiking techniques. I hope to keep doing this for years to come. BTW, all my contacts were CW totaling 5557 Qs from 170 activations/summit climbs.

Dennis - WA2USA

Congratulations Dennis, hope you have many more exciting years of adventures, you old goat!

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@gmail.com to have them included in your newsletter.



October Birthdays!!!

WB9KQF	Terry McCrary	10
KC9TYA	Mark Thienes	11
N9JCA	Chris Matthews	23
K9KDJ	Ken Johnson	26



VE Testing

The next VE Testing session will be Nov 5th.

Examinations start promptly at 9:00 AM Central time.

Testing location is the Evansville Red Cross at 29 S Stockwell Rd Evansville IN



2022 Ham Radio Test Sessions

November 5th 9AM

December 3 9AM

Details can be found at: <http://w9og.net/ve-testing>

For more info contact: [John VanVorst N9OL](mailto:John.VanVorst.N9OL) c: 812.305.4100

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, upcoming events, topics of general interest and from time-to-time good old-fashioned rag chewing.

We are currently holding a 10m net immediately following the 2m net on the **FIRST WED OF THE MONTH** as part of our 75th anniversary celebration.

Look for us on or about 28.405.

All of the techs out there with HF give us a try.

Vanderburgh Co. AUXCOM

The next Vanderburgh county ARES/RACES meeting October 20th, 6:30pm at the Vanderburgh Co. EMA west side training facility, [1440 Harmony Way](#). Anyone interested in emergency communication in Vanderburgh County is invited to participate.



Vanderburgh County Auxcomm

Chris KE9YK IN82RACES@gmail.com

Vanderburgh Co RACES Officer

812.453.1972 Hamshack Hotline 12604

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

Treasurer Report

Financial Report for
August 2022 (prepared 9/1/2022)

Opening Balance:	\$5,875.31
Receipts:	
Membership	\$25.00
Tee Shirt Sales	\$28.50
VE Testing	\$14.00
Total Receipts --->>	\$67.50

Expenditures:	
Total Expenditures--->>	\$0.00

Ending Balance	\$5,942.81
Red Cross Funds	\$1,374.82
Funds available to TARS	\$4,567.99

In the June Financial Report, I failed to add the \$21.00 VE Receipt collected to the Red Cross Balance. The Red Cross balance is now \$21. more and funds available to TARS is reduced by \$21.

Tom Hilgeman KD9PFH
TARS Treasurer

Secretary Report TARS Board Meeting

TARS Board Meeting 9/1/2022

Zoom meeting called to order at 6:30 by John N9OL

Members present, John N9OL, Scott KD4SIR, Tom KD9PFH, Chris KE9YK, Jerry WB9ONU, Dave KC9UVG, Mike W9KXP, Herb KB9MZ, Don KB9YWQ, Dennis WA2USA, and Dave WB9YIG

- Treasurer Report Tom KD9PFH ending balance of \$5942.81 accepted
- Secretary Report Chris KE9YK, accepted
- Repeater update: Dave WB9YIG has set the 75/15 repeater to digital only to make it ready for the digital link to be installed.
Mike W9KXP discussed the maintenance issue at the Burnt Prairie repeater.
Dave and Mike will go Wed and take care of replacing the repeater fans and cleaning and sealing the building if necessary.
John N9OL said he had made some updates and restarted repeater computers.
John also mentioned that the 6.79 repeater still needs an update.
- Scott ask about a meeting on C4FM and repeaters
- John N9OL said that we had a couple of shirts that were wrong and they are in the process of getting that fixed.
- 75th Special Event: QSL cards are in and Dennis will work on them when he returns.
- Hamtoberfest – Discussed volunteer positions and a couple of volunteers will help Mark with parking.
We will have raffle tickets at the meeting and still looking for equipment donations.
Brian WB9QVR volunteered to help price the equipment and Dave WB9YIG will help.
Herby requested a flier to take to Hutch and Son.
- Next meeting C4FM presentation. Bring radio to meeting and any questions you have. Will also talk about repeaters.
- Nov meeting: Chris KE9YK on antennas
- Dec meeting: Jerry ARRL QSL Bureau and Scott on QSL cards.
- Jan meeting: Logging programs and how to do logging.
- Feb Banquet, start thinking about locations.
- John discussed new radio room chairs. The ones we have are not in good condition and we should discuss replacing them. Anyone with any connections on a possible donation? John will look into pricing.
- Scott would like to look into rearranging the radio room. Make a committee? Sound proofing?

- Tom presented an invoice from USI for a service fee and tax from field day. \$15.00 and \$22.00.
Herby made a motion to pay. Second be Mike. Motion Passed.

Meeting adjourned 7:30pm
Respectfully submitted
Chris Lantaff KE9YK, TARS Secretary

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@gmail.com

Looking Ahead

2022

TARS 4th annual Hamtober Fest 2022

Great SHAKEOUT third Thursday of October : October 20th

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

SKYWARN Recognition Day, First Saturday, December

2023

Winter Field Day January xx 2023

Straight Key Night January 1 from 0000 UTC through 2359 UTC

ARRL Kids Day Jan First Saturday

TARS AUCTION TBD once we get back into the Red Cross or find a suitable place to hold an auction

TARS Banquet Feb

TARS PICNIC / INQP May

MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND June

ARRL Kids Day June Third Saturday

Field Day June

13 Colonies Special Event

National Night Out first Tuesday of August

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

Route 66 Special Event September 11-19

Total Solar Eclipse North America April 8, 2024

TARS is an [ARRL](#) affiliated club

ARRL [Indiana Section](#)

Section Manager: Bob Burns [AK9R](#)

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 Groups.IO <https://groups.io/g/TARS>

TARS E-mail: info@w9og.net

2022 Club Officers - Board members

President [John VanVorst N9OL](#)

Vice President [Scott Hibbs KD4SIR](#)

Treasurer [Tom Hilgeman KD9PFH](#)

Secretary [Chris Lantaff KE9YK](#)

Board of Directors

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

[Charlie Martin WB8LDV](#) (2021-2022)

[Don Land KB9YWQ](#) (2022)

[Herb Alvey KB9MZH](#) (2022-2023)

[Jerry McIntosh WB9ONU](#) (2022-2023)

[Dave Sandine KC9UVG](#) (2022-2023)

SPARKS Editor:

Chris Lantaff KE9YK

E-mail: sparks.w9og@gmail.com