

# The Long Wire

*Newsletter for the Clinton County Amateur Radio Club of Indiana*

## **Officers:**

President: Bill Caldwell,  
KC9ERL

Vice-president: Chris  
Hosfield, KC9CQD

Sect/Treas: Terry  
Lenahan, WM9M

Emergency Coordinator:  
Mark Phillips, W9PC

VE Coordinator: Sam  
Paul, W9AH

Repeater Coordinators:  
Larry Neal, N9SFA and  
Jon Crispen, K9JRC

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## 2004 – A Year in Review

The year 2004 experienced several new and/or restarted activities that boosted the club visibility. Thanks to each individual that have played a part of each of these activities, your help is appreciated. We have seen more participation in our local club thru participation in the many activities such as emergency communications, code practices nets, a club website, semi-monthly newsletters, purchasing club shirts, and many, many more.

During the past year, we had several emergency communications drills to test the readiness of our association. With the participation in these activities and the volunteer effort of many club members, CCARC has members ready to step up and provide the tool of communication for Clinton County if that uninvited event happens in your neighborhood. The participation with local entities has included the Red Cross, EMA, Clinton County Sheriff, St. Vincent Hospital-Frankfort, the County Health Department and the Rossville Ambulance service.

A newsletter was started during the early part of the year, with several club members contributing to the publication during the course of the year. The purpose of "The Long Wire" newsletter is to provide semi-monthly communication to each club member via e-mail. The name is new for this edition and as many of you know, a long wire depending on its orientation provides a great radiation pattern to transmit across the air-waves. Therefore, that name was chosen to communicate with each of you from your various locations throughout the community.

This newsletter is not typically mailed thru the US Postal service as you might expect. It is email'd instead, communications fast with special emphasis on saving the club money so club funds can be used for equipment and other more directly related activities. We

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## Club Trailer News

Yes, for many of you who don't know, the CCARC now has an emergency communication trailer. The trailer was originally a 24 foot camper, however, this is about to change.

A work party is scheduled for the month of March to get together, provide a little

elbow grease, and begin the transformation into its future look.

If you would like to participate, mark these dates on your calendar. March 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM will be the first of the work parties to come forth. If the date sounds familiar, it is during

the first weekend of the county school's spring break. Now just in case we have a little rain (or snow-it is March after all), the following weekend March 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM is the backup date. Please come out and be a part of this activity.



*"What's in your wallet?"*

*Do you have your  
current club member  
card, signifying your  
2005 dues are paid?*

*New membership cards  
will be passed out at the  
March Club Meeting to  
all those whose dues  
have been paid.*

## January Club Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:** W9AH, Sam; K9DGS, Don; KC9DHI, Bruce; KC9ERL, Bill; K9FUE, Bill; KF9IZ, David; KB9JDW, Craig; KB9LKD, Tony; WM9M, Terry; K9MD, Steve; N9SEZ, John; N9SFA, Larry; KB9ZNN, Duane

Bill Stong, K9FUE, celebrating his 79<sup>th</sup> Birthday attending the meeting.

**Minutes:** Minutes were reviewed, amended, and approved. K9FUE motion to approve, seconded by K9DGS.

**Treasure Report** - \$1490.23. According to the constitution, a treasures report is to be made each quarter to detail expenditures and deposit information. This quarters report includes expenditures - to W9PC, reimbursement for purchased trailer, \$500; Frankfort Public Library (meeting room fee, \$36.00. Deposits - \$100.00 trailer donation; club dues received, \$40.00.

**Testing Report:** Quarterly testing to be January 22 at the library.

**ARES & RACES Reports:** None

**Hot Dog Festival Committee Report:** Discussions about the location of the boot. Further discussion will continue for location during this month.

**Repeater report:** 440 MHz repeater has been taken for repair.

### **Old Business:**

Shirts are in, W9PC will deliver next month.

K9FUE will be moving to Wesley Manor at the end of the month. He has donated several antennas to the club. Thanks Bill!

Return to the discussion about having a Technician Class. The Boone County Club will be having one coming up soon, but we will help conduct the testing session. CCARC does plan to perform a class in the future.

### **New Business:**

WM9M and KC9ERL will ensure 2005 meetings at the library are secured.

2005 club dues received at the meeting from K9DGS, KF9IZ, KB9JDW, K9MD, N9SFA, KC9DHI for a total collected including dues and donations of \$115.00.

K9FUE motion to adjourn, seconded by K9DGS.

## ARRL Membership and Club Commission

Did you know? If you are interested in becoming an ARRL member, please let one of the club officers know. ARRL Affiliated Clubs receive a commission for every new ARRL membership and renewal they submit to ARRL Headquarters.

Under the ARRL Club Commission Membership

Recruitment Program clubs retain \$15 for each NEW membership and \$2 for each renewal submitted (regular and senior memberships only). A NEW MEMBER is defined as any individual who has never been a member of ARRL or any individual who has not retained a membership for

two or more calendar years prior to the application submission. A RENEWING MEMBER can renew at anytime, even before their current membership term expires.

If you are not a member, consider joining today and receive the benefits of ARRL membership.

## February Club Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:** Sam, W9AH; Don, K9DGS; Bruce, KC9DHI; Kevin, KC9DYM; Bill, KC9ERL; Phillip, KB8HFO; John, W9ILO; Jon, K9JRC; Tony, KB9LKD; Terry, WM9M; Steve, K9MD; Mark, W9PC; John, N9SEZ; Duane, KB9ZNN

**Minutes:** Minutes reviewed, amended, and approved. KC9DYM motion to approve, seconded by K9JRC. Voted unanimous.

**Treasure Report:** balance of \$1765.23.

**RACES Report:** None

**Repeater Report:** 440 Repeater is still in Kokomo. K9JRC has \$40.00 in expenses. KC9ERL motion to reimburse and W9AH to seconded. Antenna is now broken at the Rossville Ambulance building. A motion has been made by K9JRC, seconded by KC9DYM, to swap the dual band antenna that is on the elevator give it to the EMA to replace. K9JRC is donating a 440 antenna to go to the Elevator. Motion passed.

**ARES Report:** Two visitors from the Red Cross, Tarry Rhine and Jennifer Cota. Both are members of the disaster teams. They have been involved with several disasters and is on the board for disaster relief. They are interested in becoming amateur radio operators.

### Net report:

- End of the month totals: December 10.4 man hours for 4 nets. 31 total checkins, 12 different stations.
- 2004 Totals: 48 Monday nets, 8 code practices, 3 drills, 4 skywarn nets - 63 total nets, 241 man hours for the year.

**Trailer Report:** No new information. We need to plan a working/review party to see where we stand and what supplies we need. Party scheduled for 19 of March, rain/snow date on 26 of March, at 1:00PM.

**Testing Report:** The quarterly testing was at the end of January on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. KC9HBF new technician, and KC9GLD for upgrade of theory. March 5, will be special testing for Boone County class, will be from 9:00-11:00.

### Old Business:

- Shirt are delivered.
- Hot Dog Festival, no additional location information. WM9M is authorized to get a vanity call, W9PC and KC9ERL motion and second to reimburse expenses.
- W9PC brought forward a memo to discuss emergency procedures.

### New Business:

- 2005 Club dues received from K9ERL, W9PC, W9ILO, W9AH, WM9M, K9JRC (minus reimbursement) for a total of \$90.00 collected.

W9ILO motions to adjourn, W9AH seconded.

## Logbook of the World (LotW)

ARRL's *Logbook of the World* (LotW) system is a repository of log records submitted by users from around the world. When both participants in a QSO submit matching QSO records to LotW, the result is a QSL that can be used for ARRL award credit.

To minimize the chance of fraudulent submissions to

LotW, all QSO records must be digitally signed using a digital certificate obtained from ARRL. Obtaining such a certificate requires verification of the licensee's identity either through mail verification (US) or inspection by ARRL of required documentation (non-US).

Software developed by ARRL

can be used to convert a log file (in ADIF or Cabrillo file format) into a file of digitally signed QSO data, ready for submission to LotW.

LotW began operation on September 15, 2003.

You can start by visiting: [www.arrl.org/lotw](http://www.arrl.org/lotw)

*"The Clinton County Amateur Radio Club meets the first Tuesday night at 7:00PM of each month at the Frankfort Public Library on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor."*

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*"The Dayton Hamvention is scheduled for May 20, 21, & 22. Have you made your plans to attend?"*

## Lightning FAQ - Spring is around the corner.

**Question:** How does lightning form?

**Answer:** Lightning, a flow of electrical current between the earth and storm clouds, occurs as varying charges of positive and negative polarity build up in the atmosphere during a storm. The result is a discharge or current sent rushing toward

the earth. As this downward force nears the earth's surface, positive charges rise up to meet it. As the negatively charged stepped leader thrusts toward the ground readying to discharge its energy, its path is erratic. Nearing the earth, positive charges are attracted by it and strain up from roof edges, lighting

poles, antennas, etc. When the two opposing charge systems meet, they create a closed circuit. As the path to the ground is completed, a flash is created.

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*"During 2004, CCARC had 63 nets for a total of 241 man-hours."*

## 2004 Weather Facts (from the NWS newsletter)

The 2004 severe weather season in central Indiana was marked indelibly by one day, May 30<sup>th</sup>, when 15 tornadoes raked the Indianapolis County Warning Area. The state as a whole was slammed by 23 tornadoes that day, 4 over the state's yearly average of 19. For the season, the 39 counties in central Indiana served by us here at

Indianapolis experienced 23 tornadoes, 62 large hail events, 119 damaging wind events, and 44 flash flood events. The estimated tornado count for the state for 2004 stands at 42, with the two strongest events being the Peru and Marengo F3s on May 30<sup>th</sup>, and the strongest in the Indianapolis county warning area being the Dayton and Indianapolis

F2s on that same day.

*Commentary - Even Clinton County operators were visibly tracking the tornado that touched down in Dayton. While other operators tracked yet another cell that moved through the county during storms earlier in the year.*

## Testing

During the January 2005 testing session, we had two successful candidates. KC9GLD, Harley Patterson completed the element 3 testing. KC9FBH, Aaron Edwards, passed the technician exam and is another new amateur to the state of Indiana.

The next two testing sessions are on the calendar, with the first being a special exam session, open to all, but scheduled to provide

testing for the conclusion of Boone County Amateur Radio Associations Technician class. That test date is Saturday, March 5, 2005 at the Frankfort Public Library starting at 9:00.

The regularly scheduled testing session will return on the 3rd Saturday in April (the 23<sup>rd</sup>) again starting at 9:00 AM.

We have a great group of VE's who will do everything

possible to ensure your testing goes smoothly and comfortably. Some of the VE's include W9AH, Sam; K9DGS, Don; W9ILO, John; WM9M, Terry; K9MD, Steve; and W9PC, Mark.

## Clinton County ARES Information

### EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS Via Amateur Radio

**ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service):** Serves individuals and all agencies except EMA. Also provides support to RACES for EMA (see below). Mission: To provide voluntary non-commercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.

**EC (Emergency Coordinator),** Co-ordinates and directs ARES activities in the County. Appointed by the Indiana Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL):

Mark Phillips W9PC, Emergency Coordinator  
6507W CO RD 800N 765-379-3335 home  
Rossville, IN 46065 765-448-5950 work  
Phillips@geetel.net 765-419-7019 cell

**Assistant EC, appointed by EC:**

Jon Crispen, K9JRC	Terry Lenehan, WM9M	Larry Neal, N9SFA	Bill Caldwell, KC9ERL
765-379-3477 home	765-296-6598 home	765-659-4048 home	765-654-5637 home
765-863-1830 cell	317-276-6232 work	765-654-5749 shop	765-659-7347 work
765-417-0472 page		765-242-4048 cell	

**RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service):** Provides back-up communication for EMA.

**RO (Radio Officer),** Co-ordinates and directs RACES activities in the County. Appointed by county EMA director:

Jon Crispen K9JRC, Radio Officer (see above)

**In the event of a Communications Emergency:** Contact the EC, or one of the Assistant EC's. Describe the situation and the communication needs. The EC or assistant will determine an appropriate Amateur Radio response and take the necessary action, including contacting personnel, deploying personnel and equipment, and managing Amateur Radio activities relevant to the situation.

## Testing your knowledge

**1.** The scientist who first observed sunspots and loss of vision by staring into the sun:

- A. Edison
- B. Galileo
- C. DaVinci
- D. Marconi

**2.** Why is the lowest ionosphere layer to affect radio propagation in North America the D layer:

- A. The A, B, and C layer occur only over the poles.
- B. The A, B, and C layers

are too thin to affect HF.

- C. The D layer is actually the lowest layer.
- D. The A, B, and C layers occur only during atmospheric disturbances.

**3.** The radio operator aboard the Titanic sent SOS, along with an older distress call:

- A. Help
- B. CQD
- C. QRZ
- D. QCK

*Answer 1:A; 2:C, So why did they not name it the A layer? When it was named, the scientists were not sure that it was the lowest layer; they reserved A,B and C in the event lower layers were discovered; 3:B, CQ meant calling any station and the D meant "distress or danger".*

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*"The CCARC AREA/RACES net meets each Monday evening at 8:00PM on the 146.610 MHz repeater system."*

Clinton County  
Amateur Radio Club

## Dates to Remember

<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>
1, Club Meeting	1, Club Meeting	4, Net – W9PC/NCS
5, N9SFA Birthday	5, Special – VE Testing Session	5, Club Meeting
7, Net – W9PC/NCS	7, Net – W9PC/NCS	6, KC9DHI Birthday
14, Net – N9SEZ/NCS	14, Net – N9SEZ/NCS	11, Net – N9SEZ/NCS
21, Net – N9SEZ/NCS	21, Net – N9SEZ/NCS	18, Net – N9SEZ/NCS
28, Net – KC9ERL/NCS	27, ARES Emergency Net	23, VE Testing
	28, Net – KC9ERL/NCS	24, ARES Emergency Net
	28, KB9JDW Birthday	25, Net – KC9ERL/NCS

### Continued (front page) 2004 – A Year in Review

will however, send a copy of this newsletter, via US Mail, to as many active amateur radio operators in the county as possible during the beginning of this year, to let them know what is happening in our local club.

The club has a new website, <http://www.qsl.net/wm9m/ccarc.htm> and we really hope that each of you check-in for the latest helpful information. Since August 2004 we have had more than 700 visitors to the website.

Through the persistence of some club members, we now have a new club shirt, jacket, and hat to provide visibility of our club outside of just field day and club meetings. Contact one of the club officers to get your order started.

### *About Our Organization...*

The CCARC is an amateur radio club located in Clinton County, Indiana. The club supports and participates in many activities, including Field Day, SkyWarn activities, Emergency Communications, and testing to name just a few. CCARC also supports the N9SFA and K9JRC repeaters located southeast of Frankfort, IN in the community of Cyclone. Membership to the club is open to all licensed amateur radio operators and for those interested in learning more about this great hobby.

**We're on the Web!**

See us at:

[www.qsl.net/wm9m/ccarc.htm](http://www.qsl.net/wm9m/ccarc.htm)

**CLINTON COUNTY ARC**  
Terry Lenehan, WM9M  
9348 West CR 550 North  
Mulberry, IN 46058



**COMPANY NAME**  
**STREET ADDRESS**  
**CITY, STATE 00000**