

CLINTON COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

CLUB
OFFICERS

President: Bill Caldwell (KC9ERL)

Vice President: Bruce Butler (KC9DHI)

Sec./Treas.: Terry Lenehan (WM9M)

Testing Liason: Sam Paul (W9AH)

County Emergency Coordinator: Mark Phillips (W9PC)

Repeater Trustees: Larry Neal (N9SFA) & Jon Crispin (K9JRC)

Youth Coordinator: Kevin Hall (KC9DYM)

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The Long Wire

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

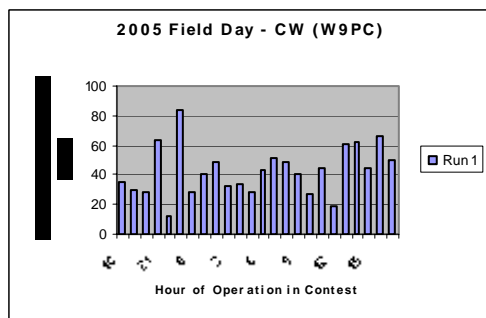
JULY/AUGUST 2005

Field Day 2005—June 25 & 26

Wow! Anybody else have as much fun at Field Day as I did? What a great weekend for setup, tear-down, and just playing on the radio. Other than being just a little warm, it was nice not to have to deal with rain or thunderstorms for the whole weekend.

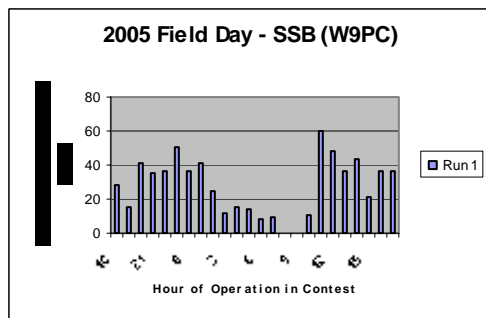
Another plus for the weekend, was we did get better than the previous year. In fact, unofficially, we had 467 more contacts this year than during 2004. Great job to all of you who helped make this another great year.

In fact, if you want to see how much better we have done, take a little look at these numbers of contacts at the CW station for 24 hours.



Overall, the CW station made 291 more contacts during the FD2005 than it did during FD2004.

The SSB station was much better this year as well with a total of 660 contacts for the 24 hours period. Here is a look at the contacts during each hour of the competition:



The GOTA station also pulled a great year. As the name signifies, Get-On-The-Air, the intent is to get those who don't have much experience a chance to operate. For those who didn't know, several Boy Scouts were in attendance at the camp this year by coincidence, and they were a fantastic audience. Several, had a chance to work the airwaves and helped us get the maximum number of points allowed in the field day event for making at least one contact by a person under the age of 18. Take a look at these eager scouts:



In fact, here is a smile of the face of one of those that got his first contact:



Now just in case you are wondering, the camera was set for the wrong month, but it still is great to have the pictures. Thanks W9AH—Sam!!!!

*Did you know, there are 15802 amateur radio operators in Indiana. 3626 Extra Class operators, 1661 Advanced Class operators, 3200 General class operators, 1384 Tech Plus operators, 5866 Tech class operators, 740 Novice class operators. ** Source QRZ website.*

July Club Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Sam, W9AH; Don, K9DGS; Bruce, KC9DHI; Bill, KC9ERL; Bill, K9FUE; John, W9ILO, Jon, K9JRC; Terry, WM9M; John, N9SEZ;

June minutes reviewed, and approved. KC9ERL motion to approve, seconded by K9JRC.

Treasure Report: \$1467.83

ARES Report: no report

RACES Report: no report

Net Committee Report: no report

Repeater Report::

K9JRC reported the new repeater has been purchased and is at Kokomo for installation into the repeater system. Cost for the repeater was approximately \$260. A report will be forthcoming next month with additional details.

Trailer Report:

No information yet on the plates, more to come next month.

Testing Report::

The next testing session will be July 23rd, 9:00-11:00 here at the Frankfort Public Library.

Old Business: no report

New Business:

WM9m shared results from the SSB station. 660 contacts for the 24 hours period.

K9FUE motion to adjourn, K9DGS seconded.

A Little Trivia

- 1.) Which of the following was called a Hartley?
 - A. a type of variable condenser
 - B. a type of self-excited oscillator
 - C. a type of generator
 - D. an early spark gap receiver.
 - 2.) What were "Baldies"?
 - A. an award given to hams who used too much power.
 - B. glass triodes with a smooth round top.
 - C. Old round-top table radios.
 - D. Earphones popular in the late 20s and 30s.
 - 3.) What was the "Super Wasp"?
 - A. a superhet receiver
 - B. a high speed key
 - C. a mobile antenna
 - D. a power amplifier
- 1.)B; The Hartley was a very popular self excited oscillator used by many hams in the early thirties. 2.) D; The nickname given to Baldwin Earphones which were widely used by hams in the twenties and thirties. 3.) A, The Super Wasp was a superhet receiver manufactured by Pilot Radio in the early thirties.

Could it be in your back yard next? (from the ARRL website)



The many flavors of BPL: BPL comes in several different varieties. Examples of how they sound are found on ARRL video recordings of interference in four [BPL field test sites](#), available on the ARRL Web site. First, you're only likely to hear a BPL signal if there's a BPL field test or system in operation in your area. BPL signals occupy continuous blocks of spectrum, but they will sound somewhat different than

power-line noise, which often will have a strong 120-Hz component and generally are stronger on the lower bands, growing progressively weaker as one moves higher in frequency. BPL signals can be "noiselike," but with no significant 120-Hz component, or they can appear as a series of very close-spaced carriers--about 1 kHz apart. The carriers can be modulated, often sounding something like a telephone ring. The closed-space characteristic is a signature. Birdies every 15 kHz, for example, are not from BPL, although they could be from a nearby computer, switching-mode power supply or harmonics from a TV set's horizontal oscillator. BPL occupies considerable spectrum, but not in the same man-

ner that power-line noise does. The onset of BPL vs frequency will be somewhat abrupt, perhaps inaudible or weak at 4.5 MHz, but increasing rapidly in signal strength by the time you get to 4.6 MHz, just as an example. The same effect is seen in reverse at the upper end of the spectrum in use. Some BPL systems use HomePlug modems, which notch most amateur bands. In those systems, WWV might be affected on 10 MHz, but by the time you get to 10.1, the noise is reduced, only to pick up again outside the amateur band. This will be the case for each amateur band (except 60 meters).

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



Everyone is getting last minute instructions before the big event starts from W9PC. The food is another great tradition of our Field Day event.

KC9DYM—Kevin (right), K9FUE—Bill (left) are demoing some of the special software used for alternative modes of operation.



Swap Shop

- For Sale or Trade: Hy-gain TH3-MK3 full size 3 element beam. Nearly 20 years old, but in storage for more than 10 years. Comes with Hy-Gain balun and handles more than 1 Kw. WA9HCU@netzero.net
- For Sale: Butternut HF-6VX and TBR-160S \$200.00. It is a vertical antenna for 80, 40, 30, 20, 15,

10 meters and overall height is 26 feet. The TBR-160S is the 160 meter add on kit. Which is included for the above listed price. Contact W9PC at phil-lips@geetel.net.

If you have some items you would like to see used by another amateur please let me know and it can be

added to next months newsletter.

August Club Meeting Minutes

Join us for the weekly ARES/RACES net each Monday evening at 8:00 (0100Z) on the club repeater at 146.61 MHz.

Have you checked in to the ITN or QIN traffic nets? ITN meets daily at 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM on 3.910 MHz QIN meets daily at 9:30 AM and 7:00 PM on 3.656 MHz.

Attendees:

Sam, W9AH; Don, K9DGS; Tyler, KC9DYL; Kevin, DC9DYM; Bill, KC9ERL; Bill, K9FUE; John, W9ILO; Jon, K9JRC; Tony KB9LKD; Terry, WM9M; Mark, W9PC; John, N9SEZ; Larry, N9SFA; Duane, KB9ZNN; and Lance Winn (new radio operator license candidate) from Clarks Hill.

Minutes: Minutes approved as read. W9PC motion to approve, seconded by KC9ERL.

Treasures Report:: \$1541.88

ARES Report: No report

Net Report:

A full report of nets will be at next months meeting. We did have one SkyWarn net on the past Tuesday during the storms that passed thru. The net had to move to the 147.54 simplex frequency due to the storm and problems with the 146.61 repeater. A recommendation is for everyone to get a battery for emergency operation. During the storm we experienced a major power outage throughout the county and everyone went silent. We need to ensure that people communicate even after the storm to report any damage or problems that might have occurred. We lost track of most participants just because, when the power went out, everybody quit reporting. The general feeling is that we need to do a much better job of handling emergency situations. Secondly we found that the 147.54 frequency was being occupied by a neighboring county, we are investigating the use of 147.51 for emergency simplex to minimize some of the problems we encountered.

Additionally, we discussed some of the traffic that was forwarded to the Boy Scout Jamboree in Virginia.

RACES Report: no report

Repeater Report:

The club will experiment with the old W9FAM 440 repeater to test and see if it still works. Report to come later. The intent is to get the 442.575 repeater back working in the near future.

Youth Report: No report

Trailer Report: The trailer worked well for Field Day, just a few more improvements to come in the near future.

Testing Report: Testing occurred in July. We had 5 candidates for testing, and passed two that are now newly licensed technicians from Noblesville and Carmel.

Old Business:

Field Day scores: 1029—CW QSOs, 954—SSB QSOs (GOTA and SSB station); 1983 QSOs total. 6024 total points collected with all bonus points possible except for a satellite QSO. There was some general discussions for future decisions to determine if we move up a class to 3A or remain at 2A. (Post meeting, the ARRL had 20 2A stations send in their logs and 5 3A stations send in their logs)

New Business:

Broad Ripple Hamfest—August 6, 2005

Greentown Hamfest—August 14, 2005

Lafayette Hamfest—August 21, 2005

K9FUE motion to adjourn, W9PC seconded.

Field Day Pictures



Here is a great picture of the Club Emergency trailer with one of the generators and the 100 ft. The generator and lift were supplied by N9SFA.



At the CW station during a shift transition point. Closest to farthest from the camera: NA9U— John; N9LJX—Scott; W9FAM—Vern; W9PC— Mark.



Getting the antennas in the right spot is nearly as important as any activity. Here l-to-r, KC9ERL—Bill; WM9M—Terry; and KC9DHI—Bruce.



At the GOTA station K9JRC—Jon is pedaling the stationary bike which has been modified with an alternator for rig operation. What an exercise.



At the SSB station left to right, KC9DYM—Kevin is logging and WM9M—Terry is working the pile-up for contacts. Most contacts at this station were made on 40m.



At the GOTA station KC9ERL—Bill is logging a few contacts. This station was the primary station for welcoming visitors and the under 18 year old participants.



W9PC — Mark demo'ing an alternative mode for visitors.



Its not just the logging of contacts and good food, but it is the stories and good fellowship that happens during the weekend. KB9ZNN, KC9ERL, K9FUE, KC9DHI

Clinton County Amateur Radio Club

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The **CCARC** is an amateur radio club located in Clinton County, Indiana. The club supports and participates in many activities, including **Field Day**, **SkyWarn**, **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.

The Days Ahead...

August 2005

- 1 – ARES/RACES Net – W9PC/NCS
- 2 – CCARC Club Meeting @ Frankfort Public Library 7:00pm - ??
- 8 – ARES/RACES Net – N9SEZ/NCS
- 15 – ARES/RACES Net – WM9M/NCS
- 22 – ARES/RACES Net – KC9ERL/NCS
- 26—Happy Birthday to W9AH—Sam
- 28 – ARES Emergency Net (3.910 MHz @ 1300Z)
- 29 – ARES/RACES Net – KC9ERL/NCS

September 2005

- 2—Happy Birthday to N9MTA-Jimmie
- 5 – ARES/RACES Net – W9PC/NCS
- 6 – CCARC Club Meeting @ Frankfort Public Library 7:00pm - ??
- 12 – ARES/RACES Net – N9SEZ/NCS
- 19 – ARES/RACES Net – WM9M/NCS
- 20—Happy Birthday to K9MD—Steve
- 25—Happy Birthday to W9PC—Mark
- 25 – ARES Emergency Net (3.910 MHz @ 1300Z)
- 26 – ARES/RACES Net – KC9ERL/NCS
- 27—Happy Birthday to N9SEZ—John

October 2005

- 1-National Simulated Emergency Test
- 3 – ARES/RACES Net – W9PC/NCS
- 4 – CCARC Club Meeting @ Frankfort Public Library 7:00pm - ??
- 10 – ARES/RACES Net – N9SEZ/NCS
- 17 – ARES/RACES Net – WM9M/NCS
- 22—VE Testing @ Frankfort Public Library 9:00-11:00
- 23 – ARES Emergency Net (3.910 MHz @ 1300Z)
- 24 – ARES/RACES Net – KC9ERL/NCS
- 31 – ARES/RACES Net – KC9ERL/NCS