



ICARC NEWSLETTER

Officers for 2015:

President - Craig Bigler AB3XA
Vice President - Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB
Treasurer - Terry Carnahan KB3JOD
Secretary - Larry Freeman N3LT

Additional Board Members for 2015:

(Officers are automatically board members)

1. Dave Dzelsky N3DZ
2. Carl Hvozda N3PIE
3. Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD
4. Phil Kopczyk K3PJ
5. Elmer Sorisio KB3WG

LOCAL HAPPENINGS:

The September 1 meeting of ICARC went smoothly with discussion of various items of interest to the club: PAQSO party, other upcoming events...etc. The complete discussions on all topics are summarized in minutes presented at the end of the Newsletter.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Ham Radio Class for the Introductory License: confirmed for four sessions 6:00-9:00 PM Oct 7, 14, 21, 28 with an alternate on Nov 4, 2015. It will be held at the EOC building on Haven Drive in Indiana, PA. The exam will be given during the last session. Remember, we had 100% pass rate last year with a similar schedule so, hopefully, we can do it again!

There is also an Exam session on October 3, 2015.

Contact: N3QM, Bill McMillen wkmcmillen@gmail.com

INTERESTING TIDBITS IN RADIO NEWS:

There is an interesting article in the September issue of CQ magazine about Jamboree on the Air. Note that some folks from ICARC are participating in this. Also from CQ we learn that the ARRL is increasing its annual dues by \$10. This will make the dues \$49 and take effect at the beginning of 2016. Also an FCC decision now elevates the Amateur radio service from being a secondary to being the primary service across the 160 m band. The upper part of the band 1900-2000 kHz had been the primary domain of the radio-location service but has not been used for that purpose for years. In addition the frequency range has been authorized for the use on offshore buoys used by commercial fisherman. The latter has been going on, illegally, for many years with no significant complaints to the FCC therefore they decided to make it legal rather than force the fishermen to install new buoys. These changes were put into effect on August 6, 2015. **CQ Reports that the ARRL Board of Directors Adopts a New HF Band Plan change for 75/80 meters** at their July meeting. The ARRL will petition the FCC to reduce the phone portion of the band by 50 kHz and add 50 kHz to the CW/RTTY/DATA segment of the band. It will also seek to get RTTY and data privileges on the band for Novices and Technicians. The 3600-3650 kHz segment, currently restricted to Extra Class phone, will be open to all for CW, RTTY, and data under the proposal. The petition will also seek RTTY/data privileges for Novice and Technicians on 15 meters. There are a few other issues in the petition related to frequencies for automatically controlled data stations. **FCC Field Office closures:** Radio World reports that the FCC field office closures will include: Anchorage, Buffalo, Detroit, Houston, Kansas City, Norfolk, Philadelphia, San Diego, San Juan, Seattle, and Tampa. Operations will continue in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Columbia (MD), Dallas, Denver, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, Portland (OR), and San Francisco. In addition, there will be two Enforcement Bureau, rapid-response teams that work from the Denver, and Columbia offices. All field agents will now be required to be electrical engineers. **(The author comments about this latter requirement: This seems, in my opinion, to be a foolish requirement in that you really need experienced, practical folks working in the field and excluding some of the older,**

more experienced field agents based upon their formal education seems to me to be a serious mistake.) On the enforcement side of radio things, CQ reports that the FCC has proposed a \$22,000 fine against Michael Guarnsey, KZ8O, of Parchment, Michigan for repeated interference with other amateurs and failing to identify. Apparently, the infractions go back more than a decade and he ignored repeated written warnings. Additionally, the FCC proposed fining David Telassi, W4BHV, of Ringgold, Georgia, \$1,000 for, repeatedly, failing to identify. There is bound to be a moral to this but just remember to treat others with respect and courteousness or as you would like to be treated over the air. **On the bright side**, CQ reports that, fifteen year old, Anna Veal, W0ANT, of Littleton, Colorado has been named both, the Newsline Young Ham of the Year and the ARRL's Hiram Percy Maxim awards recipient for 2015. Both of her parents are hams and she was first licensed at age 8 years. She currently holds a General Class license. **So for all you young folks out there, you don't have to be an old crumudgeon to enjoy the benefits of amateur radio!** (But, it does help, he says with tounge in cheek.)

Other Stuff:

For those of you who have never done a contest other than Field Day, I discovered, thanks to Fred Maize (KM3M) another contest called the Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) that is a tremendous amount of fun. It occurs the first Saturday after Labor Day and lasts for only eight hours (1600-2400 UTC). It is the easiest and most laid back contest you will find. Restricted to phone and the only report is your call and state. Its slow enough that you can have a nice conversation, there is no pressure. When you are done you turn in your log and a summary sheet by email. I highly recommend it for anyone who wants to try a contest for the first time. There is a nice website that explains it very well (<http://www.ospota.org/ospota/index.php>) or just google "ospota".

OTHER INFORMATION

(If anyone would like to include information or write an article for the Newsletter please let the ICARC Secretary know by email at: wd4hoz@gmail.com) The only caveats are: The editor reserves the right to alter the format for publication purposes. The content may also be modified contingent upon accuracy and appropriateness of the contained material. The latter would, of course, be subject to the approval of the author.

Walter Dzelsky-W3NFY a founding member of ICARC, is currently in Scenery Hill Manor nursing home under Hospice Care. Our best wishes and prayers go with him.

Rusty O'Donnell-WB3EUQ – contact information:

Rusty is at the Hollidaysburg Veterans Home, a Pennsylvania state facility just south of Altoona. Please note that he is not in the Altoona VA Hospital. He is in Eisenhower Hall and it's nursing care. The phone number for his room is (814) 695-1635. You may call at anytime. He does have a cell phone. For his cell phone (724) 388-1202.

Rusty's mailing address is :

David O'Donnell (David is his actual name)

P.O. Box 319

Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

If you go to see Rusty: When you get to Eisenhower Hall (the large building with the WWII tank in front of it, as you first come onto the grounds) You will need to sign in at the Security desk – they will direct you to his unit, North 2. The security guards have room charts and know the residents.

Indiana County Amateur Radio Club

September 25, 2015

Minutes of September 1, 2015 ICARC Meeting

Attendees:

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Craig Bigler-AB3XA, President | Fred Maize-KM3M | Matthew Scott-KC3ETO |
| Doug Fitzsimmons-K3LAB, V. President | Dave Dzelsky-N3DZ | Marcia Malcolm-KD4ITP |
| Dave Steiner-KA3KFA | Phil Kopczyk-K3PJ | Joe Rankin-KC3CDG |
| Jerry Keihl-WB3DUD | Terry Carnahan-KB3JOD, Treasurer | Elmer Sorisio-KB3WG |
| Larry Freeman-N3LT, Secretary | Carl Hvozda-N3PIE | |

Guests:

Call to Order:

The "Board" meeting started at about 6:58 PM. There was discussion by the board of the 50/50 and how it now violates the "small games of chance" law in Pennsylvania. Given the potential for a \$10,000 fine, the Board of Directors voted to eliminate the 50/50. Craig Bigler brought up the idea of a hamfest in the future given our relationship with Blue Spruce park but nothing definitive was discussed. Work on the county antenna trailer was discussed with the potential of having the county mount a generator on the trailer so that only one trailer is needed at events such as field day. Craig also mentioned the boy scout Camporee at Seph Mack camp set for September 25-27 and the Jamboree on the air event to be held at Dave Steiners on 10/17. In lieu of a 50/50 it was decided by the board to pass out tickets for a drawing to give away a new repeater directory that was obtained from the ARRL sponsored Leadership Workshop. The time was also used to set up audio equipment.

Craig Bigler called the general meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

Secretary's Report

Larry Freeman (N3LT), Secretary, asked that the previous meeting minutes be discussed and approved. Dave Dzelsky (N3DZ) made a motion to accept minutes and Terry Carnahan (KB3JOD) seconded the motion. The Motion was voted upon and carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Terry, Treasurer, presented a detailed financial report.

Larry Freeman made a motion to accept the report and Doug Fitzsimmons seconded. The motion was voted upon and carried with one dissenting vote.

Repeater Update:

Elmer said that it is working fairly well. Larry pointed out that there is a repetitive low volume audio "click" noise in the repeater background when it is transmitting. This was first noticed by Dave Steiner some time ago. It seems to be in the receiver chain and can be easily heard during the Monday night net. We don't know if its internal or external. Must keep an ear on this and troubleshoot. It was suggested to put an independent receiver in the shack to see if it goes away. The .685 repeater was discussed and apparently the smoke was let out of it so it does not work anymore. Elmer is troubleshooting this.

Monday Night Net Update:

No discussion here.

Monday Night NBEMS Practice Update:

No discussion here.

Old Business:

Coverage tests for the Veterans Day parade will be rescheduled. Larry Freeman will contact committee members Dave Steiner and Al Fister about setting up the test, hopefully for a Sunday.

Licensing class update : The class is a go. dates and times at Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, 6:00-9:00 PM with an alternate on Nov. 4 at the same times. The location is at the EOC in Indiana. There are currently seven potential students registered. Doug Fitzsimmons. will schedule a meeting for final planning. The public service announcements on the radio seem to have been effective.

Indiana County Amateur Radio Club

September 25, 2015

The Club Leadership Workshop sponsored by the ARRL and given by Joe Shupienis (W3BC) ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator for Western Pennsylvania was held at the Quality Inn on Wayne Avenue in Indiana, PA on August 22, 2015 from 9:00 am-4:00 pm. ICARC was well represented by Doug Fitzsimmons (K3LAB), Terry Carnahan (KB3JOD), and Larry Freeman (N3LT). There was some discussion of its merits and things learned such as the fact that our 50/50 violates PA law concerning Small Games of Chance and could lead to a fine up to \$10,000. That's why the board decided to eliminate the 50/50. Donations are welcomed by ICARC.

Craig Bigler (AB3XA) reminded us of the Fall Camporee at Seph Mack for the boy scouts (9/25-9/27) and welcomed anyone who wanted to participate to help setup and operate stations so the boys could be introduced to amateur radio. He also mentioned the Jamboree on the air at Dave Steiner's home on October 17 and welcomed anyone who wants to participate. The antenna's will already be set up from PA QSO party.

There was also considerable discussion concerning the PAQSO party (October 10 and 11). It will be held at Dave Steiner's place and the club decided that there will be three stations set up. Dave has two antennas already but club will set up any other that is necessary like a dipole or G5RV. Not likely to operate on 160 m this year. Setup under the pavilion was discussed: pros and cons, necessary cabling and need for headphones ...etc.

New Business:

There was discussion of the new membership form created by the secretary. Several revisions will be made as per the instructions of the club members and brought to the next meeting: Fred Maize made a motion to make the Birthday optional and to eliminate the redundant indication of ARRL membership. Doug Fitzsimmons seconded the motion. The motion was carried with one dissenting vote. (See attachments at the end of this document and be ready to discuss at the next meeting on Oct. 6, 2015.)

Dave Steiner set up the Christmas celebration dinner at Hoss' for Decemeber 19 at 6:00 PM. It will also be treated as a fundraiser.

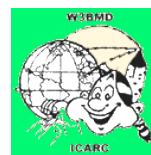
Dave reported that ICARC made \$100.97 from the previous fundraiser/dinner at Hoss'.

50/50 Drawing: ELIMINATED . Donations will be accepted.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Joe Rankin and Seconded by Carl Hvozda.
Craig Bigler, President, adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:47 pm

Respectfully submitted by the Secretary (N3LT)

Second Revision: latest revised membership form



Indiana County Amateur Radio Club Membership Application

CURRENT DATE (M/D/Y): / / Membership Status(I,A,S,F): New _____ Ongoing _____

Individual Membership (I) — \$35.00 Associate/Student Membership (A, S) — \$20.00

Family Membership (F) — \$50.00 {Two voting members per family}

*** Please complete the applicable information below: ***

Name: _____ DOB: _____ (Optional)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: _____ FISTS: _____ ARES: _____ RACES: _____

Other: _____ DOB: _____ (Optional)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: _____ FISTS: _____ ARES: _____ RACES: _____

Other: _____ DOB: _____ (Optional)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: _____ FISTS: _____ ARES: _____ RACES: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Other Phone: _____

Email: _____ Other Email: _____

♦ Do you belong to **A.R.E.S. / R.A.C.E.S.** of another County, if so which one: _____

♦ Is it OK to put your name onto the **R.A.C.E.S / A.R.E.S** emergency call list? Yes ___ No ___

Signature _____ Date _____

Please return this form along with a check or money order payable to ICARC, to:

Terry Carnahan (KB3JOD)
Box 102
Brush Valley, PA 15720

Date Received _____ Amount \$ _____ (Cash) (Check) (MO) Number _____

The club info & newsletter is available on our web site at: www.qsl.net/w3bmd

First Revision of old form



Indiana County Amateur Radio Club Membership Application

CURRENT DATE (M/D/Y): / / Membership Status(I,A,S,F): New _____ Ongoing _____

Individual Membership (I) — \$35.00 Associate/Student Membership (A, S) — \$20.00

Family Membership (F) — \$50.00 {Two voting members per family}

*** Please complete the applicable information below: ***

Name: _____ DOB: _____ (Year Optional)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: _____ FISTS: _____ ARES: _____ RACES: _____

Other: _____ DOB: _____ (Year Optional)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: _____ FISTS: _____ ARES: _____ RACES: _____

Other: _____ DOB: _____ (Year Optional)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: _____ FISTS: _____ ARES: _____ RACES: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Other Phone: _____

Email: _____ Other Email: _____

♦ Do you belong to **A.R.E.S. / R.A.C.E.S.** of another County, if so which one: _____

♦ Is it OK to put your name onto the **R.A.C.E.S / A.R.E.S.** emergency call list? Yes ___ No ___

♦ Are you a member of the ARRL? Yes _____ No _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please return this form along with a check or money order payable to ICARC, to:

Terry Carnahan (KB3JOD)

Box 102

Brush Valley, PA 15720

Date Received _____ Amount \$ _____ (Cash) (Check) (MO) Number _____

The club info & newsletter is available on our web site at: www.qsl.net/w3bmd