

May 31, 2016



ICARC NEWSLETTER

Special Edition in Memory of Mr. Walter E. Dzelsky-W3NFY

Officers for 2016:

President - Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB
Vice President - Ernest Clark KC3FVX
Treasurer - Terry Carnahan KB3JOD
Secretary - VACANT

Additional Board Members for 2016:

1. Dave Dzelsky N3DZ
2. Craig Bigler AB3XA
3. Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD
4. Phil Kopczyk K3PJ
5. Elmer Sorisio KB3WG
6. Larry Freeman N3LT

LOCAL HAPPENING:

The ARRL publication: Antenna Physics: An Introduction, along with a short biography attached to the inside of the front cover, has been approved by the Indiana Free Library for placement therein as a memorial to, Sikent Key, Mr. Walter E. Dzelsky-W3NFY. (The approved version shown below is slightly shorter in length to the original composition.)

The book: Antenna Physics: An Introduction is dedicated to the memory of Mr. Walter Edward Dzelsky-W3NFY (1921-2016) by the Indiana County Amateur Radio Club (ICARC) in tribute to his commitment to the club, the radio art, and his community.

Walter was born in Johnstown, Pennsylvania to immigrant parents from Poland: Frank and Florence Dzwilewski.

Walter discovered "ham" radio (also called amateur radio) as a teenager due to an older neighbor who became his mentor when he was young. This, ultimately, led to him being in charge of the communications staff aboard the US Army Hospital ship, Wisteria, during WWII at the age of 19. By this time he was a master of the Morse Code as well as communications by Semaphore flags and Signal Lights. Another critical duty was direction finding using radio beacons to aid the Captain in navigating through mine fields and other obstacles. As a result he spent a considerable amount of time with the Captain and they became good friends. He told the humorous story of the Captain letting him "steer" the ship and ending up making all the mates stationed on the fan-tail of the ship seasick due to the zig-zag he imparted to the rear of the ship.

His ability and knowledge for designing and fabricating antennas of various types was a Godsend of information for local hams and ICARC members who wanted help learning how to "roll their own". He could discuss this topic for hours on end. One of his proudest moments in radio was when his son, Dave, N3DZ, obtained his Extra Class license in 1996; something that Walt did not attempt until 2005 in order to regain frequency privileges that the FCC had taken from hams of his generation. Interestingly enough Walt was so good at Morse code that when he took the 20 word per minute code test he copied the full text in his head with no mistakes. He used no pen or paper. He stayed active in ham radio until his health deteriorated in 2014. His passion for amateur radio led him to help organize and become a founding member of the Indiana County Amateur Radio Club (ICARC).

Walter also had a passion for roller skating. This led to him meeting Miss Olive Wetzel who became his wife on August 18, 1945. They skated as a dance team at rinks all along the eastern seaboard and up into New England. Amazingly, Walter continued to skate into his mid eighties and his innate talent was still very obvious. He and Olive moved to Homer City after he was honorably discharged from the Army in 1946 and made their life together there. In addition, he formed the first Boy Scout troop in Homer City and was a member of the Homer City United Methodist Church. Walter was employed at the Syntron Company in Homer City for his entire professional life where he was a supervisor and a well respected expert in all technical enterprises of the company.

Walter was a mentor, not just to young folks, but also to many new (but not so young) ham radio licensees who often sought his advice and guidance. He was highly respected and admired as a Husband, and Father, as well as for his contributions to his profession, the community, and the radio art.

So, if you happen to read this brief biography, it is hoped that when you use this book you will think of Walter and smile.



The regular ICAR meeting of May 3 went smoothly with a presentation by Mr. Joe Shupienis-W3BC, ARRL Club Liason for the Western Pennsylvania Section. As always Joe gave a nice presentation that held everyone's interest and clearly informed us about some of the benefits of being an ARRL affiliated Club.

The MS Walk went off without a hitch. In fact it was very successful for ICARC with 15 hams showing up to participate. Of note is the fact that Ian Bigler, as an ICARC participant, walked the entire long path as the followup person to keep track of the "final person" in the group of walkers. Of further note is the fact that three of our newer hams participated for the first time: Mike Biconic-KC3FPY, Lauren MacMullen-KC3FVW and Cass Fitzgerald-KC3FLO. Thanks to you all for making this such a successful event. One additional happening that made this a milestone is the initial, successful, use of Solar power for the command center station, thanks to Mr. Terry Carnahan-KB3JOD. It was clear that Terry made a significant investment in time and equipment to make this possible. Note the solar cells in the photos below. Noteworthy also is the fact that the repeater was not tied up in that we were able to use a simplex frequency for the entire event. It worked out very well. See a couple of photos below provided by Fred Maize (below left) and Joe Rankin (below right).



Other Stuff:

The Dayton Hamvention was held from May 20-May 22 and this newsletter author was fortunate to be able to attend and have a great time. As usual it was a nice event with large crowds and many vendors in the commercial buildings and the flea market area. Of course there was the traditional rain on Saturday. In general the weather was cloudy and cool so the walking was relatively easy. As large as the event is, there were many empty spots in the fleamarket and the crowds in the building were not as congested as expected during the rain. It leads one to feel that attendance may have been down this year. We will see what the official attendance number is later.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesday, June 7, 2016 ICARC meets in the back room of Indiana Eat n' Park restaurant. The board meeting starts at 7:00 pm and the general meeting begins at 7:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you all there.

There is a scheduled ICARC dinner at Hoss' restaurant in Indiana on Saturday, July 9, starting at 6:00 PM. Try to be there, it is the first social event of the season. Also, ICARC can make a little money if you happen to show up.

There is a scheduled test session for October, 2016. For more information contact Mr. Bill McMillen, N3QM (724) 397-2702

Email: wkmcmillen@gmail.com

Possible upgrade class sometimes this year, so stay tuned....

OTHER INFORMATION

(If anyone would like to include information or write an article for the Newsletter please let Larry Freeman, N3n 1972LT, know by email at: wd4hoz@gmail.com or wlf@auxmail.iup.edu) 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 original author.

Rusty O'Donnell-WB3EUQ – contact information:

Rusty is not doing well and remains 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

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.

Summary of May 3, 2016 ICARC Meeting

Attendees:

Doug Fitzsimmons-K3LAB, President	Carl Hvozda-N3PIE	Dave Overdorf-KC3DTH
Craig Bigler-AB3XA	Alton Strong-N3PHL	Ian Bigler-KC3DTE
Dave Steiner-KA3KFA	Terry Carnahan-KB3JOD, Treasurer	Roger Bartlebaugh-N3ULC
Larry Freeman-N3LT	Ernest Clark-KC3FVX, Vice President	Cassius Fitzgerald-KC3FLO
Bill McMillen-N3QM	Lauren MacMillen-KC3FVW	
Jerry Kiehl-WB3DUD	Fred Maize-KM3M	

Guests: Joe Shupienis-W3BC

The business meeting started at 7:00 pm. The regular meeting was started by Doug Fitzsimmons at 7:30 pm. He introduced our speaker Mr. Joe Shupienis-W3BC, ARRL Club Liason for the Western Pennsylvania Section. Joe spoke about the advantages of being an ARRL affiliated club and was appreciative of our acting so rapidly last year in activating our affiliation. He also suggested that we apply to become a special service club. He sited all the activities in which we, as a club, participate throughout the year, indicating that we do much more than many of the clubs in the Western Section and would have no problems with the application. As in the past, his presentation was nicely delivered, very interesting and well received.

Larry discussed the books to be dedicated to the memory of Walt Dzelsky, W3NFY and indicated that he would take care of it. He is also writing a short biography to go into the books to be donated to the Indiana Free Library (Antenna Physics: an Introduction) and Homer City Library (RSGB Antenna File).
(RSGB is the Radio Society of Great Britain)

Terry provided the financial report and it was voted upon and accepted by the membership.

Dave Steiner reported on the net operations and thanked Jerry for taking the net. He also brought up the scheduling of a fund raising event at HOSS' restaurant for July 9 at 6:00 pm. Dave also suggested that we start each meeting with the pledge of allegiance. His proposal was ammended by Doug, to include a verbal roll call by call sign and first name. This proposal was voted upon and passed.

Doug reminded us of the site visit scheduled for Thursday to tighten the guy wires on the tower.

Terry reported that the MS walk was successful with 15 hams showing up to provide communications .

Craig brought up the Crucible walk along the Laurel Highlands Trail to be held in September and there was some discussion and interest by several of the members. It was decided to have a small group meet with the organizers of the event to get more specific information.

\$31.00 was donated to the club.

This meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM