

May 31, 2019



## ICARC NEWSLETTER

### **Officers for 2019:**

President - Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB  
Vice President - Harry Dushac K3FSE  
Treasurer - Terry Carnahan KB3JOD  
Secretary - Chris Edwards N3VFK

### **Additional Board Members for 2019:**

1. Dave Dzelsky N3DZ
2. Craig Bigler AB3XA
3. Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD
4. Cass Fitzgerald, N3FLO
5. Larry Freeman N3LT

### **LOCAL HAPPENINGS:**

Next ICARC meeting is on June 4, 2019, at Eat n' Park restaurant in the backroom at 7:30 pm. Hope to see you there.

At the May meeting there was considerable discussion of the arrangements for the airport festival and it was decided to have two sites, one in our usual location and another information site nearer to the main entrance of the event. The hope is that more folks will be aware of our activities and show some interest.

Also a new design for the club Logo was discussed with a couple of draft images presented by Chris Edwards and there were comments from a bunch of folks.

Also a reminder that a couple of local hams are planning to put up wire antennas this Summer so we should all be thinking about trying to help out when they are ready to start to work on them a bit later in the the Summer or early Fall. A couple of brief site surveys have already been done and initial plans made. Just remember that some of the mosts fun in Ham radio is getting antennas into the air so that radios can actually be used. Will likely need several folks to help out with this so keep a few weekends open for it. Im sure there will be further discussion and planning as time progresses. It's gonna be a barrell of fun!

The program for the April meeting was a very informative talk by Indiana County's Emergency Management Coordinator Tom Stutzman. He talked about the Amateur Radio Community's important role they can play when needed for disasters and other emergency situations. Mr. Stutzman showed a wide range of knowledge of the organizational structure and available communications technology and its implimentation as well as a strong desire for amateur radio operators to become credentialed participants in emergency services. It was well worth hearing.

### **NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL HAPPENINGS:**

Email as received from ARRL headquarters addressing false report of a vanity call sign fee being reinstated:

**SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB015**

**ARLB015 The FCC is Not Reinstating a Vanity Call Sign Fee**

**ZCZC AG15**

**QST de W1AW**

**ARRL Bulletin 15 ARLB015**

**From ARRL Headquarters**

**Newington CT May 16, 2019**

**To all radio amateurs**

## **SB QST ARL ARLB015**

### **ARLB015 The FCC is Not Reinstating a Vanity Call Sign Fee**

**An erroneous report this week suggested that the FCC planned to again impose an Amateur Radio vanity call sign application (regulatory) fee of \$70 for the 10-year term. This incorrect conclusion resulted from an incomplete reading of the May 7 FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the matter of the assessment and collection of regulatory fees for fiscal year 2019.**

**Although the Schedule of Regulatory Fees does show a \$7 annual fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs, a boldface heading in that section of the NPRM states, "REGULATORY FEES. This section is no longer in effect as it has been amended by RAY BAUM'S Act of 2018..."**

**Section 9(e)(2) of RAY BAUM'S Act gives the Commission discretion to exempt a party from paying regulatory fees when the FCC determines that the cost of collection exceeds the amount collected. A new section 9(e)(1) incorporated the Amateur Radio vanity fee exemption from FCC rules into the statute.**

**The NPRM makes clear in several other places that regulatory fees no longer apply to Amateur Radio licenses. The FCC eliminated the regulatory fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs in 2015.**

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As you all may know there has been rumors of defunding wwv and wwvh. But apparently the proposed federal budget for 2019 includes funding for both WWV and WWVH, at least to 2018 levels. This obviously is good news for most of us.

As most of you may know by now, the ARRL has a new CEO. Howard E. Michel, WB2ITX. He has an interesting story to tell of his early involvement in ham radio as a young boy. It may ring home for many of us. See page 9 of the December, 2018 issue of QST.

April 18 was World Amateur Radio Day. It was the 94th anniversary of the founding of the IARU (International Amateur Radio Union). ARRL CEO Howard E. Michel, encourages the creation of a non-competitive "contest" to publicize Amateur radio, in celebration of the 95th anniversary of the IARU for April 18, 2020. One may read about it on page 9 of the April issue of QST.

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

Read the approved April meeting minutes of ICARC which appear at the end of this document (Courtesy of Chris Edwards, N3VFK)

Reminder: The new county repeater, WB3CGY, is operational. The frequency pair is 146.745/146.145 and the PL tone is 131.8. The repeater is now operating at high power, with a 1.5 s hang-time and a courtesy tone.

Reminder: Several ICARC members meet every Saturday morning for breakfast in the back room of the Indiana Eat n' Park restaurant normally starting between 8:30 and 9:00 AM

If anyone would like to include information or write an article for the Newsletter please let Larry Freeman, know by email at:

[wd4hoz@gmail.com](mailto: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 original author.

## **Indiana County Amateur Radio Club**

### **Minutes of the Monthly Meeting**

**April 2nd, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Club President Doug Fitzsimmons with the Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call. The meeting started out with an informative talk by Indiana County's Emergency Management Coordinator Tom Stutzman. He talked about the Amateur Radio Community's importance & the role they can play when needed for disasters & other emergency situations. Next the minutes of the March Meeting were read by Club Secretary Chris Edwards. They were accepted and approved. The Treasurer Terry Carnahan read the financial report. It was also accepted and approved.

**Old Business:** VE Testing will be held this Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup> at 1pm at the Indiana County Emergency Management Agency. The MS Walk will not be held this year in Indiana County. It will be combined with the MS Walk in Johnstown.

**New Business:** Club Member Walter Schroth needs an Antenna put up. A possible date could be the Saturday after Easter April 27<sup>th</sup>. Several club members volunteered to help. This upcoming weekend on April 6<sup>th</sup> Joe Shupienis W3BC ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Manager mentioned the Spring Simulated Emergency Test called Operation Fury will be held from 9:30am until approx. 12:00 pm edt. It will be a Flood and Ice watch exercise. This is for all counties in the WPA Section. All ARES units within the WPA section are requested to participate. The Two Rivers ARC Hamfest will be held on Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup> from 8am until 2pm in Boston, PA. The ICARC will possibly have a recruiting table available along with our normal operating table for the Jimmy Stewart Airshow to be held on Sat. and Sun. June 8 and 9<sup>th</sup>. Set up will be on Friday the 7<sup>th</sup>. Field Day is June 22-23 this year and will be discussed at the next meeting.

**End of Business:** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting & the meeting was adjourned at 9:24pm.

### **Attendance: 20**

**Terry Carnahan KB3JOD**

**Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB**

**Harry Dushac K3FSE**

**Dave Dzelsky N3DZ**

**Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD**

**Cassius Fitzgerald N3FLO**

**Chris Edwards N3VFK**

**Phil Kopczyk K3JP**

**Bill McMillen N3QM**

**Walter Schroth KC3FVU**

**Fred Maize KM3M**

**Mark Strawcutter KC3MLA**

**Alton Strong N3PHL**

**Marcia Malcolm KD4ITP**

**Larry Freeman N3LT**

**Dave Steiner W3CDH**

**Cody Toy KK3CAT**

**John Lewis NF3Q**

**Joe Shupienis W3BC**

**Tom Stutzman (Guest Speaker)**