



November 30, 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 December 3, 2019, at Eat n' Park restaurant in the backroom at 7:30 pm. Hope to see you there.

Remember its officer and board election night so please attend.

Thanks go out to the folks who helped reinstall Chris' (N3VFK) antenna after the ladder feedline broke. You all know who your are. Thanks again! The antenna still does not tune properly on 10 m. We will attack that problem later in the Spring.

**Remember** Some local hams may be planning to put up wire antennas this Summer or Fall so we should all be thinking about trying to help out when they are ready to start to work on them. Just remember that some of the most 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. Hopefully, there will be further discussion and planning as time progresses. (We are still hoping and waiting that something happens before the weather gets bad! If I had a beard it would be getting gray by now.)

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

The new county repeater, WB3CGY, is still operating nicely. 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

## **INTERESTING HAM RADIO NEWS**

The ARRL contest calendar lists the following contests for December, 2019

Friday - Sunday, Dec 6-8

### **160 meter World Wide DX CW only**

1. Objective: For Amateurs worldwide to exchange information with W/VE amateurs on the 160-meter band CW only. DX-to-DX QSOs do not count for contest credit.

1.1. Stations located in overseas and non-contiguous U.S. Territories may be worked by DX stations. This includes Alaska KL7, the Caribbean US possessions KP1-KP5, and all of the Pacific Ocean territories KHØ-KH9, including Hawaii KH6. These stations can work BOTH domestic stations (US and VE) as well as DX stations around the world. Check your software *before* the contest to be sure it will accept these QSOs.

2. Date and Contest Period: Starts 2200 UTC Friday December 6, and ends 1600 UTC Sunday December 8, 2019. This is a forty-two hour period with no time limitation.

Saturday and Sunday Dec 14-15

### **10 meter SSB and CW only**

1. Objective: For Amateurs worldwide to exchange QSO information with as many stations as possible on the 10 meter band.

2. Second full weekend of December. Starts 0000 UTC Saturday; runs through 2359 UTC Sunday

Sunday Dec 22

### **Rookie Roundup CW only, 100 Watts PEP maximum**

1. Mission and Objective:

Mission: To encourage newly-licensed operators (“Rookies”) in North America (including territories and possessions) to operate on the HF bands and experience competitive Amateur Radio operating. Experienced operators (“Non-Rookies”) are strongly encouraged to participate and help new operators – either on the air or in person.

1.1 Objective: Rookies exchange information with as many other stations as possible on the 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter HF bands. Rookie entrants are encouraged to read “**HF Contesting – Good Practices, Interpretations and Suggestions.**”

2. Contest Period: Event runs for **6 hours** (from 1800 to 2359 UTC) on Dec 22, 2019.

## **NEW RULES - MORE ROOKIES!**

You can be a Rookie if you were first licensed in 2019, 2018 or 2017 - send the year you were first licensed in the exchange.

If you were licensed before 2017 you can also be a Rookie if you made your first Amateur Radio contact during 2019, 2018 or 2017 or if you haven't made any contacts on the contest mode (SSB, CW, or RTTY) before the Rookie Roundup contest, send the current year (2019) in your exchange - either of these reasons qualify you as a Rookie for just one year.

- Rookies will attempt to make as many contacts as possible during this 6-hour event. Rookies work everyone - and non-Rookies work only Rookies.

**(Go to ARRL Contest Calendar website for all details)**

**First ever transatlantic 2 meter QSO reported:**...As reported by Newsline, D41CV, the Manteverde Contest Team in the Cape Verde Islands used 500 watts and a half dozen stacked dipole antennas using the FT8 mode to contact FG8OJ in Guadeloupe who was using 100 watts and a 14 element Yagi antenna. A distance of about 2398 miles was covered and this is longer than the distance between Ireland and Newfoundland.

**New Ham Gear for the International Space Station:** Kenwood has donated two TM-D710GA transceivers to the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program in order to update the equipment on the space station and in the training facilities in Russia. One will replace the aging equipment on the station and one will be used as a backup for crew training on the ground in Russia.

**QRZ.com Beefs Up its Security:** QRZ is offering its online users enhanced security options. It is now offering registered users the ability to use a "two- factor authentication" (2FA) hoping to make it more difficult for password phishers and fraudulent posters. They are also going to require anyone marketing gear through the Swapmeet forum to enroll in its Verified User program.

**Petition Seeks a New Amateur Band at 40 Mhz :** Michelle Bradley, KU3N, a Maryland amateur has filed a petition for rulemaking with the FCC, seeking a secondary amateur frequency allocation at 8 meters in the 40-41 Mhz range. Michelle feels that the new spectrum would spark the next generation of 'Makers' in the fields of science, technology, education, and math ..etc... She notes that since there is currently no mass-produced equipment for this band that "makers" will have to make their own gear. **The petition number is RM-11843 and short comments are being accepted via FCC's Express Electronic Comment Filing Service.**

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

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 10/01/2019**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Club President Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB with the Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call. The minutes of the August Meeting were read by Club Secretary Chris Edwards N3VFK. They were accepted and approved.

**Old Business:**

Bill McMillen N3QM announced that there will be no VEC testing on Oct 5<sup>th</sup> as previously planned. A full discussion of the club helping with the Boy Scout Camporee on October 12<sup>th</sup> took place. It will be held at Camp Seph Mack on Yellow Creek Lake. The theme this year is big foot & the club discussed conducting a fox hunt as part of the big foot theme. We would need four or five people to be involved. Also, will we tie in the PA QSO party as part of it? As many club members were unable to attend this meeting an email will be sent out this week to gauge interest in this event. No new business.

**End of Business:** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting & the meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm.\_

**Attendance: 12**

Terry Carnahan KB3JOD  
Dave Steiner W3CDH  
Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB  
Dave Dzelsky N3DZ  
Chris Edwards N3VFK  
Bill McMillen N3QM  
Fred Maize KM3M

Larry Freeman N3LT  
Ernest Clark KC3FVX  
  
Paul Morris K3VAR  
Phil Kopczyk K3PJ  
Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD