



March 31, 2020

ICARC NEWSLETTER

Officers for 2020:

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

Board Members for 2020:

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

LOCAL HAPPENINGS:

The approved minutes, courtesy of Chris Edwards, for the February ICARC meeting, can be read at the end of this document.

Due to the COVID 19 virus the April ICARC meeting and Exam session have been cancelled. Also, the breakfast gathering at Eat n' Park restaurant has been cancelled until further notice

THINGS YOU CAN DO TO STAY SAFE

Follow the guidelines put forth by the Federal and State government health officials.

STAY ISOLATED AT HOME AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE

WASH HANDS FREQUENTLY AND DISINFECT FREQUENTLY USED SURFACES

KEEP HANDS AWAY FROM EYES AND FACE, IF POSSIBLE

COVER YOUR COUGHS AND SNEEZES

IF YOU MUST BE OUT, KEEP YOUR DISTANCE FROM OTHERS (AT LEAST 6 FT)

IF YOU MUST BE SHOPPING, AVOID CROWDED AISLES AND SMALL CROWDED STORES , ALSO WEAR GLOVES AND A MASK IF POSSIBLE

SOME SYMPTOMS OF COVID 19 INFECTION

FROM THE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC)

Generally, people may be infected with the virus for 1 to 14 days before developing symptoms. The most common symptoms are fever, tiredness, and dry cough. Most people (about 80%) recover from the disease without needing special treatment.

More rarely, the disease can be serious and even fatal. Older people, and people with other medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease), may be more vulnerable to becoming severely ill.

People may experience:

cough, fever, tiredness, difficulty breathing (severe cases).

Using available preliminary data, the median time from onset to clinical recovery for mild cases is approximately 2 weeks and is 3-6 weeks for patients with severe or critical disease.

In the event that you feel that you or a family member may be infected, seek medical assistance in your local area.

INTERESTING HAM RADIO NEWS

From page 77 of the February issue of QST we noticed that University of Scranton Professor Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, has won a \$1.3 million National Science Foundation (NSF) grant. Nathaniel, will be studying weather effects in the ionosphere by leveraging a network of ground-based amateur radio stations. He is designated as the Principle Investigator (PI) and will implement his Distributed Arrays of Small Instruments (DASI) project over three years. As PI, Nathaniel (a space scientist) will head a collaborative team that will develop ground-based space science observation instruments and the necessary software. Nathaniel is also known and respected in the ham radio community as the founder of HamSCI, the Ham Radio Citizen Investigation initiative. It was an honor and pleasure to have Nathaniel and his family visit the ICARC site at the Jimmy Stewart Airport Festival for the past two years. In fact he operated one of the stations last June at the 2019 event. Hopefully, we will see him and his family again this coming year at the event.

February QST on page 75 reports that the FCC is amending the RF exposure safety rules for amateur radio. {Under the revised Section 97.13(c): (1), "In lieu of evaluation with the general population/uncontrolled exposure limits, amateur licensees may evaluate their operation with respect to members of his or her immediate household using the occupational/controlled exposure limits in Section 1.1310, provided appropriate training and information has been accessed by the amateur licensee and members of his/her household," the amended rule says.

"RF exposure of other nearby persons who are not members of the amateur licensee's household must be evaluated with respect to the general/uncontrolled exposure limits. Appropriate methodologies and guidance for evaluating Amateur Radio Service operation is described in the Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) Bulletin 65, Supplement B," The revised rule concludes.

Meeting with FCC OET Chief Julius Knapp and senior staff in early November, ARRI asked the FCC to make available on the internet a calculator to facilitate making the correct calculations the rules require.}

Note that all text between the curly brackets represents the exact text of the QST article including all grammatical rules and punctuation infractions therein. Do you all remember when sentences were supposed to be short and to the point?

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**

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 .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 02/04/2020

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Club President Doug Fitzsimmons with the Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call.

Reports: The minutes of the January Meeting as well as the November 2019 meeting were read by Club Secretary Chris Edwards. Both sets of minutes were accepted and approved. Harry Dushac Club VP read the financial report. The financial report was accepted and approved.

Old Business: There was no old business discussed.

New Business: Dave Steiner & Harry Dushac recently attended a meeting given by REA Electric Service to explore broadband for their rural customers. Dave gave a report on the meeting about concerns on possible RF interference to ham bands as experienced in other parts of the country. To end the meeting Doug gave a presentation on how to use FT8.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, was approved & the meeting was adjourned at Approximately 9pm.

Attendance: 20

Terry Carnahan KB3JOD (Tres.)
Harry Dushac K3FSE (VP.)
Chris Edwards N3VFK (Sec.)
Paul Morris K3VAR
Larry Freeman N3LT
Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD
Alton Strong N3PHL
Walter Schroth KC3FVU
Carl Hvozda N3PIE
Andrew Duli AD3AD

Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB (Pres.)
Dave Dzelsky N3DZ
Ernest Clark KC3FVX
Mark Strawcutter KC3MLA
Dave Steiner W3CDH
Bill McMillen K3ZYK
Phil Kopczyk K3PJ
Jefferey Tobin KC3NJE
Joseph Buckles KC3ONZ
Leonard Walizer