



KARS KEY KLICKS



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April 2019

Frequency Measuring Test Primer in April

The [April KARS meeting](#) will be at 7PM, Tuesday April 2nd at St. Mary's Hospital Meeting Room.

After a brief business meeting, Ken W9IE will show and tell his remote antenna controller using two Arduinos followed by a program on the semi annual ARRL Frequency Test with Don K9NR. See you there!



The March KARS general meeting followed by a program on storm spotting and severe weather

STATE QSO PARTIES Party on!

April and May provide the HF operator with an abundance of domestic on-air activities. You can work on your Worked All States award or collect counties.

- April 6-7.....[Mississippi QSO Party](#)
- April 6-7.....[Missouri QSO Party](#)
- April 13-14.....[New Mexico QSO Party](#)
- April 13-14.....[Georgia QSO Party](#)
- April 13-14.....[North Dakota QSO Party](#)
- April 20-21.....[Michigan QSO Party](#)
- [Nebraska QSO Party postponed](#) (info)
- April 20-21.....[Ontario QSO Party](#)
- April 27-28.....[Florida QSO Party](#)
- May 4-5.....[Indiana QSO Party](#)
- May 4-5.....[Delaware QSO Party](#)
- May 4-5.....[New England QSO Party](#)
- May 4-5.....[7th Call Area QSO Party](#)
- May 11-12.....[Arkansas QSO Party](#)

Don't forget to work the W9AZ operation in Perry County, Indiana on May 4-5!

NCS FOR APRIL

[The net](#) meets every Monday at 2000 hours local time. All stations with or without traffic are invited to check in.

- April 1 KD9CGC
- April 8 K9KSG
- April 15 N9OE
- April 22 K9NR
- April 29 N9DWE

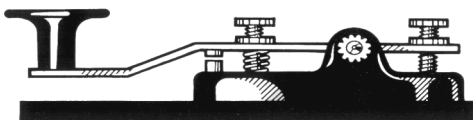
Don't forget the net!

- ### KARS KALENDAR ***
- April 2.....[KARS General Meeting](#)
 - April 14...[ARRL Rookie Roundup SSB](#)
 - April 16.....[KARS Board Meeting](#)
 - May 7.....[KARS General Meeting](#)
 - May 21.....[KARS Board Meeting](#)
 - May 18-20....[Dayton HAMVENTION!!!](#)
 - May 25-26...[CQWW WPX CW Contest](#)
- See tentative Foxhunt dates in next column >>>>
<<<< See the special State QSO Parties to the left

The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:

- 146.34/94 107.2 PL Access
- 449.8/444.8 100.0 PL Access
- 145.130 107.2 PL Access

Additionally, KARS sponsors:
144.39 2 Wide Area APRS digi-peaters
KARS DX Cluster w9az.ddns.net



W9AZ

FOXHUNT CALENDAR

After a long, cold winter there is a pent up demand for a transmitter hunt!

[To that end we have put together tentative dates, all Saturdays, for April, May & June...](#)

- April 6 April 13 April 27
- May 11 May 25
- June 1 June 8 June 15 June 22

These avoid major radio events, Hamvention, etc. It will not be back-to-back Saturdays as listed as we try to space the hunts every two weeks. Of course, the weather is the big variable and can make the final selection a moving target! Consequently, we will finalize dates as we go along.

INDIANA QSO PARTY

Operations are gearing up for the 2019 Indiana QSO Party to be held Saturday May 4th. There will be lots of activity as the INQP coincides with the New England and 7-Land QSO Parties held the same weekend.

K9NR, W9IE, N9FD and WT2P will be operating Multi-Single from AK9F's farm in rare Perry County Indiana. They plan to use the W9AZ call sign.

For rules and operating aids, check out the HDXCC site at:

["www.hdxcc.org/inqp"](http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- April 1 WU9D
- April 4 KC9OQQ
- April 11 WB9WEC
- April 17 N9MBR
- April 19 WB9WOC
- April 25 W9IE
- April 26 K9CS
- April 28 N9NAH

If we miss your birthday or get it wrong, please let us know!

Have you made your Hamvention plans?

First transmitter hunt of 2019 Saturday March 23rd



**Ready at the start...KB9VR,
N9DWE & N9HJR**

Come and
find me



if you
think you
can!

It was a beautiful Spring Saturday and the perfect day for the first transmitter hunt of the year.

Everyone was primed and ready after the winter hunt hiatus. As usual the hunting teams gathered at the starting point at the Meadowview Shopping Center and Fox Craig N9FD snuggled into his foxy den. He promised to "go easy" on us for the first hunt of the season. Nobody believed him of course!

First place went to Don K9NR and second to Billie K9QT. After the hunt, everyone retired to the Chicago Dough Company pizza palace and commiserated on the events of the day.

The next hunt will be either April 6th or April 13th (both Saturdays) depending on the weather. The fox will be Don K9NR.



Paul W9IEY & Terry



Billie K9QT at the finish



**Arriving hunters greeted by
the Fox N9FD**



Craig N9FD the Fox!



Winner K9NR at the Fox's Lair



**Fox N9FD folding up
his 32ft mast**

POLISH DXPEDITION POSTPONED DUE TO STORMS

In a "switch to safety" move, the [3Y0I](#) landing on [Bouvet Island](#) has been aborted and the Atlantic Tuna and crew are returning to South Africa port.

Upon their arrival at Bouvet, the ship encountered fierce storms...100+mph winds and 36ft waves which tore the radar and communications antennas off the ship and into Davy Jones locker. At times the ship listed as much as 45 degrees. Clearly, a trip to Bouvet is not for the faint of heart...Jerry WB9Z and the crew from last years attempt can attest to that! The DXpedition leaders made it plain the this was only a temporary postponement and not a mission cancellation. They have their work cut out for them as the winter season is setting in down there. We wish them success and most of all SAFETY!

BOARD MEETING

The next KARS board meeting will be held on April 16th in the banquet room at El Mexicano Restaurant on Riverstone Parkway off of I-57 Exit #308.

All KARS members and spouses are welcome to attend.

Eat at 6:00. Meet at 7:00

It's only about 48 days till Dayton!

KARS HOMEPAGE—**WWW.W9AZ.COM**—KARS HOMEPAGE

ACTION FROM THE W9GRS SCHOOL CLUB STATION IN WATSEKA



Above: W9GRS station

It is a landmark year for W9GRS School Station as we celebrate our 10th year active on the air. As we look at the results from past ARRL School Club Round-ups we can see only a handful of non-collegiate schools have reached this benchmark and we're proud to still be on air. The station began in 2008 with awarding of an ARRL Education to Technology Grant which helped with initial equipment to help establish on-air activities. Since that time the school has been a regular participant in the bi-annual ARRL School Club Roundup (SCR), ARRL Sweepstakes, Illinois QSO parties, and a variety of other contests. They were a guest station for the ARRL's Centennial Celebration helping represent Illinois as W1AW/9 and are currently helping folks get Iroquois County into their logs in celebration of Illinois' Bicentennial Challenge. W9GRS has been the GOTA station for the Iroquois County Amateur Radio Club's Field Day operations and have operated portable and mobile during school field trips as well. This year in the October SCR, W9GRS, led by 7th grade student Quentin Meredith, KD9LBO, finished in 3rd Place in Middle School Division for their best finish since October 2011 and making the most digital/cw contacts overall! They also helped the KARS cause in the Illinois QSO party, pulling in over 200 SSB qso's and 16,669 pts. W9GRS was recently featured in the October 2018 Spectrum Monitor as well.

Current W9GRS station equipment: Transceivers - Kenwood TS-480SAT (HF); Yaesu FT-8800 (VHF/UHF) Power Supplies - Kenwood KPS-15, Astron RS-20m Antennas - Cushcraft R-6 Vertical (6m-20m) mounted on school roof 6 meters above ground using steel-girder roof groundplane, Cushcraft VHF/UHF tri-band yagi at 6 meters, Alpha-Delta 40m/80m/160m dipole oriented east to west 7 meters above courtyard between white pine trees. All operations are barefoot, doing the most with the least! Typical operations take place near the QSL board displaying QSL cards from other school stations and some of the "wallpaper" W9GRS has earned. The station set-up is on a mobile cart, facilitating the ability to utilize interactive white-board technology for presentations and large group operations.

Below: Cushcraft 20M-6M vertical

Top: KD9LBO at the controls
Below: Cushcraft 20M-6M vertical



Awards: Regularly places in top 5 in SCR Middle School Division with National Championships in Oct. 2010 and Feb. 2011. Top Ten in ARRL CW Sweepstakes School Division and top 2 among non-collegiate schools in SSB Sweepstakes. They have had several high finishes in various state QSO parties. DXCC #44,725 (159 confirmed); WAS #54,198; Worked All States Triple Play Award #1944 (first non-collegiate school to earn this).

Sponsor/Trustee: Troy J. Simpson W9KVR with approximately 30 students participating in operations over the course of the school year.

Remember to send a photo of you and your shack today! Include a little write-up of your gear, antennas and favorite activities.