

# KARS KEY KLICKS

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August 2014

## Station Software at the August Meeting

The next KARS meeting will be August 5th, 7PM at St. Mary's Hospital in the public meeting room. Use the south entrance.

Following a brief business meeting and final KARSFEST plans, there will be a program will be on "Station Software and DX Information." CU there!

### KARSFEST 2014 A SUCCESS!

At a time when hamfests are shrinking, the 2014 KARSFEST was a considerable success. Unusually beautiful weather really helped to boost attendance this year.

There was a large flea market with a lot of smiling hams carrying out new found treasures. Kudos to Chairman Craig N9FD and co-chair John N9LYE. A job well done!

More pics and info in the September issue.

### SOFTWARE/APPS

Bring a list of your favorite computer software/phone apps to the August meeting. Lets all benefit from each others experiences. Ham Radio, computer related or any really good app would be welcome!

### NCS FOR AUGUST

The net meets every Monday at 2100 hours local time on the 146.34/.94 or 145.130 backup repeater. All stations with or without traffic are invited to check in.

August 4	N9LYE
August 11	N9RJM
August 18	N9OE
August 25	N9FD

Don't forget the net!



KARSFEST chairman Craig N9FD  
Photos will be in Sept. newsletter

### KARS KALENDAR

Aug. 3.....	<a href="#">Hamfesters hamfest</a>
Aug 2-3.....	<a href="#">NA QSO Party CW</a>
<b>Aug 5.....</b>	<b><a href="#">KARS General Meeting</a></b>
Aug 9-10.....	<a href="#">WAE DX CW</a>
Aug 16-17.....	<a href="#">SARTG WW RTTY</a>
Aug 16-17.....	<a href="#">NA QSO Party SSB</a>
<b>Aug 16.....</b>	<b><a href="#">Foxhunt</a></b>
<b>Aug 19.....</b>	<b><a href="#">KARS Board Meeting</a></b>
<b>Aug 30.....</b>	<b><a href="#">Foxhunt</a></b>
<b>Sept 2.....</b>	<b><a href="#">KARS General Meeting</a></b>
Sept 13.....	<a href="#">Radio Expo hamfest</a>
Sept 13-14.....	<a href="#">WAE DX SSB</a>
Sept 13-15.....	<a href="#">ARRL Sept. VHF Contest</a>
<b>Sept 16.....</b>	<b><a href="#">KARS Board Meeting</a></b>
Sept 19-20.....	<a href="#">W9DXCC Convention</a>
Sept 20-21.....	<a href="#">Peoria Superfest</a>
Sept 27-28.....	<a href="#">CQWW DX RTTY</a>

*The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:*

<b>146.34/.94</b>	<b>107.2 PL Access</b>
<b>449.8/444.8</b>	<b>114.8 PL Access</b>
<b>145.130</b>	<b>107.2 PL Access</b>

*Additionally, KARS sponsors:*

<b>144.39</b>	<b>2 Wide Area APRS digi-peaters</b>
<b>145.53</b>	<b>KARS DX Cluster</b>

### FOXHUNT NEWS

Transmitter hunters were active on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Billie K9QT, the fox, was parked on 1000 E. Road midway between 6000 N and 7000 N. The road, which appeared to be little traveled on Google Earth, ended up being a busy thoroughfare. Clay N9IO was first with 7.3 miles, followed by the hunting team of Rolie N9RJM and Paul W9IEY (&XYL Terry) with 8.9 miles. They hunted independently and shared one vehicle. Other hunters were: Craig N9FD, Don K9NR and the team of Jim KB9VR and John N9DWE. Everyone did exceptionally well finding the fox in good time and with low mileage. Pics on Page 2.

**Upcoming foxhunts will be held on August 16<sup>th</sup> and August 30<sup>th</sup>.** If you've never hunted you can ride along to see how it's done. Hunts start at 11 AM at Meadowview shopping center and last for up to 2 hours, when everyone meets at a predetermined location for lunch.

### BOARD MEETING

The KARS board meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 19th at El Mexicano's.

Ideas for future programs will be discussed.

Eat at 6PM. Meet at 7PM.

All members are welcome.

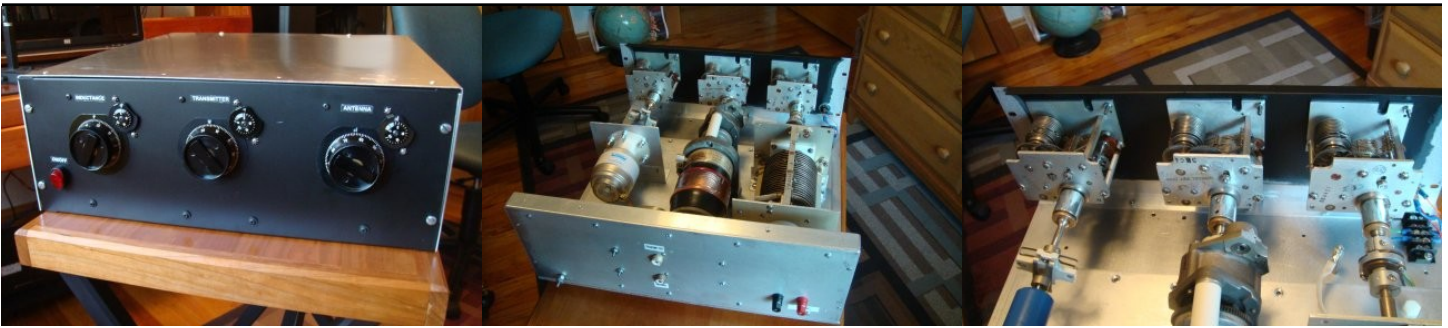
### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

K9TP	August 9
K9JMS	August 12
KC9MZQ	August 22
N9ECM	August 29

Let us know if we miss your birthday or get it wrong.

## Ham Radio and Summer...AHHH!

# KARS HOMEPAGE ì WWW.W9AZ.COM ì KARS HOMEPAGE



## THE FINAL ANTENNA TUNER

by W9IE

I have built more Antenna Tuners than anything else in my 30 some years of Ham Radio. I hope this will be the last! Thanks to Don K9NR in helping find the vacuum variables at Dayton this year.

The Circuit is a standard "T MATCH" which is used in most of the tuners on the market. I originally wanted to use, and did have working, computer control of the roller Inductor using a stepper motor. However, in the final analysis I took the approach of manual control of all three elements using Collins turns counters out of a 1954 military radio. They were not cheap but added a neat feel and look to the design. This is the only part of my HF Station that has KNOBS! Hi. Hi. There was a LOT and I mean LOT of mechanical work in building it and getting everything to line up along with special connections to the turns counters that I had to build/machine. Building is fun!

Above are a few pictures of the project...ENJOY!

KEN W9IE

## FOXHUNT PHOTOS 7-26-2014



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K9QT and N9IO



N9DWE and KB9VR driving



Terry xyl of W9IEY (first time as Co-Hunter)

## THANKS ROLLIE!

Rollie N9RJM showed up for a special Antenna Party a couple of weeks ago. My Tower was in need of some special attention. It is an 85 foot Tilt Over and Crank Up. It was not going to be an easy job to re-fabricate the mounting bracket for a new pulley. It was really more than I could handle myself.

Rollie volunteered but did not know he was in for TWO days of work. We also found out that the entire cable that pulls up the center section had to be replaced. Some binding spots had to be modified and the list goes on and on...

Thanks again Rollie, for all the hard work. The thing should last quite a while now.

Ken W9IE

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# KARS FIELD DAY 2014



Sections of fiberglass poles g i d d c f h ] b [ ' h \ Y ' \* ' U b X ' K ] ' ' Ð g ' [ c c X ' W c c \_ ] b [ "



Ken W9IE mans the 40 meter station equipped with the Mate1 MUSD1 gear (FLEX RADIO 6700)



Master chef Will K9FO tends his gourmet burgers and brats



John N9LYE, Field Day chairman inside KARS well equipped EmComm unit.



Hungry hams prepare to chow down. So much food, so little time. Everyone takes a break to enjoy the goodies from home

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## FIELD DAY

ARRL Field Day, the single largest operating event in ham radio, is history. The KARS operation went well with beautiful weather helping out.

We operated 3A with a GOTA and VHF station. The 6 meter propagation gods did not smile on Field Day this year. Consequently, only a few VHF contacts were made. However, action on the HF bands was good and contacts poured in from all over the country.

K9FO saw to the natural power source bonus points and also cooked up the usual excellent Saturday evening dinner.

Special thanks as usual to Kevin N9REG for hosting KARS on his beautiful rural QTH. **Thanks Kevin!**



SRO!  
W9OE & K9NR work on logging program while others help out

The 20 meter Moxon antenna that helped bag many contacts

## Have you worked any of the W1AW Centennial Stations?