



KARS KEY KLICKS



JOURNAL OF THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY

Volume 93 Issue 6

Editors: K9NR, K9QT, N9IO
Photos: K9NR, K9QT, NN9T, DARA
Contributors: NN9T

June 2018

Field Day - Burkina Faso Xpedition Program at June Meeting NV9L named Amateur of the year at HamVention (Pg 2)

The next KARS meeting will be June 5th, 7PM at the public meeting room in St. Mary's Hospital. Use the South Main Entrance

After the general meeting, there will be planning for Field Day and a DVD on the XT2DX Burkina Faso DXpedition (courtesy of Greg WR9L).

See you there!

TRANSMITTER HUNT

The [next foxhunt](#) will be Saturday, June 9th at **12:00PM**. Usual rules and start location apply. K9KSG to be the fox. Because Field Day is two weeks later, we will probably schedule an evening hunt around then. Likely June 12, 13 or 14 (Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday). Figure the best evening for you and let K9NR know ASAP.

NCS FOR JUNE

The net meets every Monday at 8 PM local time on the 146.34/.94 repeater. All stations with or without traffic are invited to check in.

| | |
|---------|--------|
| June 4 | KD9CGC |
| June 11 | N9FD |
| June 18 | N9OE |
| June 25 | N9ETT |

Don't forget the net!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

| | |
|---------|--------|
| June 2 | W9EJM |
| June 5 | KD9CGC |
| June 5 | KD9CGB |
| June 8 | K9ABN |
| June 10 | N9OQC |
| June 17 | K9BKR |
| June 20 | KC9LBZ |
| June 26 | KF9DM |
| June 26 | W9IOU |
| June 30 | K9BAK |

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



Ken W9IE describing the extremely useful family of micro-controllers at the May KARS meeting

KARS KALENDAR

| | |
|----------------|--|
| June 2-3 | Kentucky QSO Party |
| June 3 | Starved Rock RC Hamfest |
| June 5 | KARS General Meeting |
| June 9 | Transmitter Hunt |
| June 9-11 | ARRL June VHF QSO Party |
| June 16-17 | West Virginia QSO Party |
| June 17 | 6 Meter Club Hamfest |
| June 19 | KARS Board Meeting |
| June 23-24 | FIELD DAY |
| June 30 | Transmitter Hunt |
| July 3 | KARS General Meeting |
| July 14 | Transmitter Hunt |
| July 14-15 | IARU HF World Championship |
| July 15 | KARSFEST |
| July 17 | KARS Board Meeting |
| July 21-22 | CQ Worldwide VHF |
| July 21-22 | NAQP RTTY |
| July 28 | Transmitter Hunt |

KARSFEST! JULY 15

Shack of the Month NN9T (Pg 3)

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 | |

KARS FIELD DAY

Attention all KARS members:

Field Day setup will start at 10AM Saturday June 23rd. KARS operations will commence at 1PM local and run around the clock till 1PM Sunday. We will be operating portable with emergency power. All members are invited to participate.

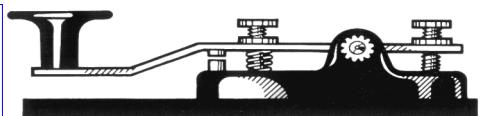
Camp all night if you like or come and go as you please.

Everyone is invited to participate in the Saturday dinner cookout! Dues paying KARS members who participate in the setup, teardown, or operation are entitled to free burgers and brats (or whatever you prefer to bring) with Will K9FO manning the charcoal grill. Remember to bring chairs, (a small folding table is a good idea) table service, mosquito spray and beverage as well as a side dish or dessert to share with your fellow hams. See you at Field Day.

Come to the meeting for directions or check out the ARRL Field Day operations map on the League web page.

A big thank you to Kevin N9REG and his family for again hosting KARS Field Day at their lovely location. Please don't drive on the grass.

ARRL Field Day is the largest operating event in Ham Radio, so don't miss out! ([DIRECTIONS KARS FD](#))



W9AZ

JOIN THE FUN AT ARRL FIELD DAY!

Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L, is 'Amateur of The Year,' Announced at Hamvention



Val NV9L

We are proud to have Val as a member of KARS. Congratulations Val, well done!

Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L, of Crescent City, Illinois, is the 2018 Hamvention "Amateur of the Year." The Hamvention Awards Committee -- chaired by Michael Kalter, W8CI, and Frank Beafore, WS8B.

"I am extremely honored to even be nominated for Amateur of the Year, let alone to win this award," Hotzfeld told ARRL. "I would like to thank the Hamvention Awards Committee. Their decision must have been a tough one, as I am certain the other nominees have done an outstanding job representing this hobby too. I would also like to thank those who mentored me throughout my different learning phases of this hobby. Not only has Amateur Radio been a life-changing experience for me, there are so many helpful hams in this hobby that it just feels natural to give back."

First licensed in 2006, Hotzfeld has been very active in local Amateur Radio clubs and in ARES. Once she "discovered" HF, she became obsessed with DXing and contesting. In the past few years, she has enjoyed inviting new hams to her station to DX or contest. She has been the pilot or lead pilot for four major DXpeditions. Hotzfeld also is a co-host of the Ham Nation webcast and has created how-to videos on YouTube for the ham radio community.

In 2017, Hotzfeld became engaged in public service, first traveling to Texas in the wake of Hurricane Harvey to help rescue small animals. She subsequently was deployed to Puerto Rico with the American Red Cross for 3 weeks as part of an Amateur Radio volunteer contingent, facilitating critical communications after Hurricane Maria.

KARS HOMEPAGE - WWW.W9AZ.COM - KARS HOMEPAGE



KARS SHACK OF THE MONTH—NN9T

Send in your shack photo today!

TUNING THE BANDS

As we leave the Spring Equinox behind and move toward the summer Solstice, DXing on the HF bands often drops off a bit.

At this point in the solar cycle, **10 and 12 meter** openings are getting pretty rare and these bands behave like VHF. However, "E" Skip openings do occur, so don't completely ignore these bands. **15 meters** opens irregularly and is worth checking out frequently.

20 & 17 meters are currently the main daytime DX bands with action often extending well into the evening.

30 meters will be open to somewhere pretty much around the clock.

40 meters tends to go long early in the day and is often open to Europe in the late afternoon.

80 & 160 meters are tough this time of year...short nights, long days and often brutal QRN makes DX very difficult.

However, summertime **6 meter** propagation is cranking up with openings from the Midwest to the deep south, the far western states, the east coast and even to Central and South America. As we head into June, look for possible European activity. Also, check out **2 meter SSB/CW** for tropo propagation. Lots of fun to be had!

KARS BOARD MEETING

The [Board Meeting](#) will be held on June 19th in the private dining room at El Mexicano's Restaurant by the Hilton Hotel and Walmart south of town near the I-57 exit. Eat at 6 P.M. Meeting at 7 P.M. All members and spouses are welcome.

SEE YOU AT FIELD DAY!

NN9T's SHACK

Currently enjoying FT-8 mode on 160m 75m 40m 30m 20m 17m 15m and 10m.

Antennas:

160 meters Inverted "L" 180' long, about 50 feet vertical and the remainder horizontal, feed point at base of 50 foot tower and tuned with motorized air variable controlled from shack.

80 meter and **40 meter** combo inverted vee dipole feed point at about 45 feet.

10/15/20 meter driven element from a tribander up on house at about 30 feet.

2 meter Hustler G6-144b on top of the tower.

Radios currently are **Flex 6600M**, **Icom 756 Pro III**, **Icom 706 mk2g**.

Been Mostly on SSB for last 20 years with some digital modes. Have WAS on 160m and & 75m.

I Come from a family of Hams. Father was WA9BXI, older Brother N9YIY and younger brother KB9WLX.

Been enjoying Hamming it up since recently retired.

CONTEST HALL OF FAME

Two new members were inducted to the CQ Contest Hall of Fame, which honors those contestants who not only excel in personal performance but who also "give back" to the hobby in outstanding ways. CQ Contesting Editor David Siddall, K3ZJ, presented Hall of Fame plaques at an induction ceremony held at the annual Dayton contest dinner on May 19.

The 2018 inductees to the CQ Contest Hall of Fame are:

Andy Blank, N2NT - Nominated by the Frankford Radio Club and Tom Wagner, N1MM - Nominated by the Yankee Clipper Contest Club.

N1MM, of course, is well known for originating what is the most popular contest logging software in the world...N1MM+

The CQ Contest Hall of Fame was established in 1986 to recognize those amateurs who have made major contributions to the art of radio contesting. This year's inductions bring the total number of members of the CQ Contest Hall of Fame to 71.

Transmitter Hunt—May 12



WD9FYF - K9QT



N9HJR



WD9FYF - N9OE - N9BMB



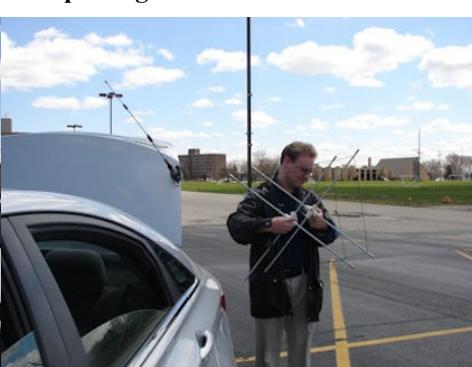
A gathering of eagles? Turkeys?



W9IEY & Terry at the fox's lair

Winner N9FD with foxes
N9IO & N9IOQ

Transmitter Hunt - April 28

N9BMB & N9OE
That doesn't look quite right Dad!WU9D
Sporting a transmitter hunt smileGrandpa N9IO & Grandma N9IOQ
with granddaughter SophiaK9KSG explains to W9IEY that he is
pointing his antenna the wrong wayN9FD trying to get his #@\$*& antenna
assembledThe fox K9NR with tied teams N9DWE/
KD9JMS & W9IOU/K9UNO family