



# KARS KEY KLICKS



JOURNAL OF THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY

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March 2019

## Severe Weather Spotting in February

The next KARS meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 5th, at 7 P.M. in the first floor meeting room of St. Mary's Hospital.

Following a brief business meeting, there will be a presentation on Severe Storm Spotting. It's that time of year. Make sure you refresh your knowledge of emergency communications ops.



President Craig N9FD (foreground) presiding over the February KARS

### SEVERE WEATHER SPOTTER TRAINING

There have been no local announcements of a severe weather training seminar by the NWS this year. Consequently, There will be a video/PPT presentation on this very subject. Don't miss out!

### 2019 DUES ARE DUE

You can pay your dues in person or send to the KARS Treasurer:

**Diane N9DLD**  
2397N 10,000W Rd.  
Bonfield, Illinois 60913

Regular: \$30  
Senior: \$15  
Family: \$40  
Family Senior: \$20  
Student: \$15  
Disabled: \$15

Active military dues are waived  
Make out your checks to: "KARS"

### KARS KALENDAR

**March 2-3**.....[ARRL International DX SSB](#)  
**March 5**.....[KARS General Meeting](#)  
**March 10**.....Start Daylight Savings Time!  
**March 16-18**.....[BARTG RTTY](#)  
**March 17**.....[Sterling Hamfest](#)  
**March 19**.....[KARS Board Meeting](#)  
**March 30-31**.....[CQ World Wide WPX SSB](#)  
**April 2**.....[KARS General Meeting](#)  
**April 13-14**.....[Georgia QSO Party](#)  
**April 16**.....[KARS Board Meeting](#)  
**April 20-21**.....[Michigan QSO Party](#)  
**April 27-28**.....[Florida QSO Party](#)

### NEW RELEASE OF WSJT-X

Version 2.0.1 is now available for download. It repairs a couple of bugs and is a seamless install on top of your present version. Available at: <https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjt.html>

### BOARD MEETING

The next KARS board meeting will be held on March 19th in the banquet room at El Mexicano's 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

### HAMVENTION 2019

Are you going? Make sure you get your plans and reservations in order. In spite of the current weather, the date is rapidly approaching!

### NCS FOR MARCH

The net meets every Monday at 2000 hours local time on the 146.34/.94 All stations with or without traffic are invited to check in.

March 4 KC9CGC  
March 11 K9KSG  
March 18 N9DWE  
March 25 N9OE

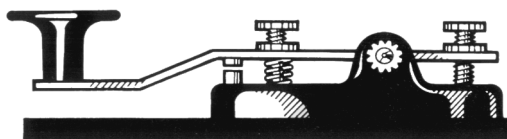
Don't forget the net!  
Mondays at 2000 hrs. local time

*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 Two Wide Area APRS digi-peaters  
KARS DX Cluster w9az.ddns.net



# W9AZ

SMCFEST 2019 has been set for Saturday August 24. The popular event has received ARRL endorsement!

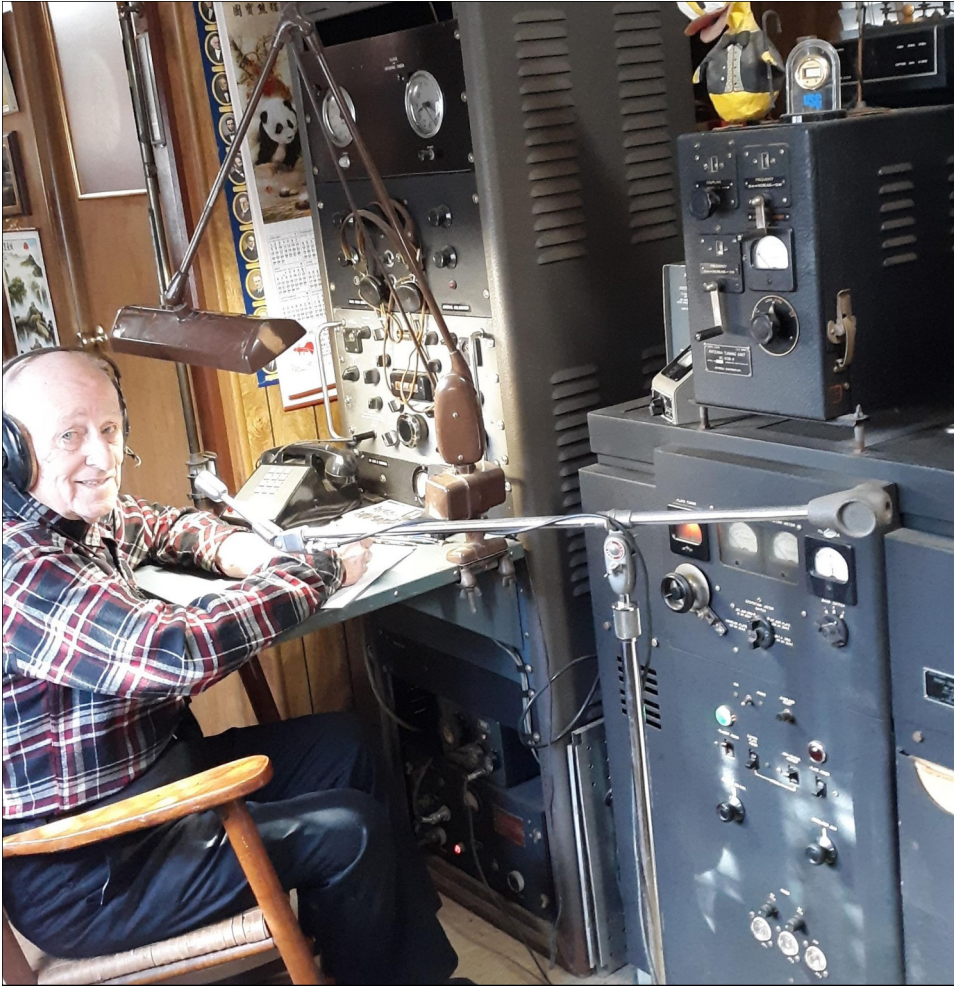
### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March 2 W9IEY  
March 2 N9DLD  
March 4 N9DWE  
March 11 KC9ZKA  
March 14 KC9OAK  
March 23 N9HJR  
March 24 K9BYT

Let the newsletter editors know if we miss your birthday or get it wrong.

## It's time to plan for Hamvention 2019!

# KARS HOMEPAGE— WWW.W9AZ.COM —KARS HOMEPAGE



## KARS SHACK OF THE MONTH—W9IEY

### W9GRS IN THE SCHOOL CLUB ROUNDUP by Troy W9KVR

Here are the raw numbers for the February School Club Round Up. Eighteen different people made at least one QSO, enroute to a station record of **213** QSO's. We tied our own record of "the 3rd most schools contacted" with **34**, and had our 3rd most total points with **70,805**. Seventh grader, Quentin, KD9LBO made **86** of our QSO's to help lead the way. We also operated as Net Control for the ICARC 2-Meter Monday Night Net as well. I don't know how it will shake out placing-wise, but we should be in the mix for another top 3 finish for this year.

A few more stats from the February SCR for W9GRS:

<b>213 QSO's (137 SSB, 65 Dig, 11 CW)</b>	<b>Combined with October SCR</b>
<b>43 states</b>	<b>50 states</b>
<b>4 provinces</b>	<b>8 provinces</b>
<b>34 schools</b>	<b>42 schools</b>
<b>8 clubs (including W1AW)</b>	
<b>13 DX</b>	<b>20 DX</b>
<b>70,805 points</b>	<b>112,895 points</b>

Looks like we were 4th in the Illinois QSO Party for Phone Only Low Power, keeping us as one of the best Low Power Phone Only stations during the ILQP and 25th overall in the Mixed Low Power.

We'll be operating as the GOTA Station once again for the Iroquois County Amateur Radio Club for Field Day 2019. Have a Great Day and 73 from the Flatlands of Illinois! Further test and photo followup in next month's newsletter

### W9IEY "DREAM" STATION

This is a picture of my "Dream" station. I grew up in South Chicago and as a teenager I discovered the short wave bands on my parent's floor model parlor radio. One ham station on 80 meters had an outstanding signal and was quite a rag chewer. He was Arnold, W8VBW (Very Best Wishes) from Benton Harbor Michigan. He had a **BC-610**. It was clear and loud just like a Broadcast Station. I decided then that I wanted one just like that and eventually wanted to talk to him.

I found an "Elmer" W9FGP and he helped me get my novice license in 1954, but I had to master the code at 15 wpm or no test. He didn't want a "LID" on the air. My first rig was a 6L6 PI-NET Homebrew with a **Hallicrafters S-38C** receiver. First QSO was on 07/15/54.

Doing odd jobs I saved up some money to buy a decent rig. It was probably going to be a Viking II. On a trip to Allied Radio at 100 N. Western, I saw an add posted for a **BC-610-E**. WOW!!!!

I talked my dad into going to see the xmtr. I didn't even know what it looked like. W9EUY had it in his garage. It was in like new condition and had never been on the air. The story was that it had been custom assembled for someone at Hallicrafters and came with a commercial speech amp. No cables or control circuits were included. He bought it at an auction. He was reluctant to sell it to a kid but a deal was made for \$250. With great difficulty dad and I got it home. Just then I caught the measles and spent some time in bed during which I was designing the control circuits. The rig (with a **Hallicrafters SX-28A**) was put on the air 10/05/55 and it is still going strong.

P.S. I did talk to Arnold with my new RIG. Station equipment today: **BC-610-E SN 386**, **BC-614** with an RME speech clipper (audio), **Collins R-390**, Hi Gain Hytower...0.5 to 30mc. 500 Watts out.

Questions and comments are welcome.  
Paul W9IEY

**Be sure to send a picture of your shack to:**  
[donk9nr@gmail.com](mailto:donk9nr@gmail.com)

Include a little write-up of your gear, and your favorite activities.  
We want to hear from **everyone!** Do it today!