



KARS KEY KLICKS



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March 2021

February ZOOM Meeting A Success... March General Meeting to be the Same

Be Sure To Be Ready!

The good news is that the pandemic unleashed upon the world by the Communist Chinese dictatorship is in steep decline as the US nears herd immunity.

The bad news is that there is still need for precautions.

The good news is that the February General Meeting via ZOOM was a success with a good turnout!

The bad news is that many members didn't check in.

The good news is that it is very easy to do and you'll be glad you did!

You will need a computer with an Internet connection, a sound card, a speaker and a microphone. Most any laptop or desktop these days qualifies. Log in ahead of time in case you need to make any adjustments.

The links for both the Regular and Board meetings are on page two of this newsletter.

Renew old acquaintances and meet up with and visit with friends you haven't seen in a year!

Don't forget! Mark your calendar!

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 1 KD9NPQ
March 8 K9KSG
March 15 N9OE
March 22 N9LYE
March 29 N9DWE

Don't forget the net!

Mondays at 2000 hrs. local time



Saturday March 20 is the
Vernal Equinox a.k.a.
"The First Day of Spring!"

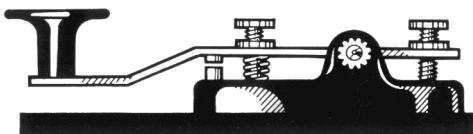
KARS KALENDAR

March 2.....KARS General Meeting
March 14.....Daylight Savings Time!
March 16.....KARS Board Meeting
March 20.....Vernal Equinox
March 27.....KARS Weather Net Test
April 6.....KARS General Meeting
April 20.....KARS Board Meeting

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

EXAM SESSION

There is a pent up demand for an exam session in our area.

See "Need for exam session on page two for more details."

KARS KONTEST KALENDAR

March 6-7.....ARRL DX SSB
March 13-14.....Oklahoma QSO Party
March 13-14...Stew Perry 160 Contest
March 13-14.....Idaho QSO Party
March 14-15.....Wisconsin QSO Party
March 20-21.....Virginia QSO Party
March 20-21.....Russian DX Contest
March 20-22.....BARTG RTTY
March 27-28.....CQWW WPX SSB
April 3-4.....EA RTTY Contest
April 3-4.....Mississippi QSO Party
April 3-4.....Louisiana QSO Party
April 10-11.....Nebraska QSO Party
April 10-11.....New Mexico QSO Party
April 10-11.....Georgia QSO Party
April 10-11...North Dakota QSO Party
April 17-18.....Michigan QSO Party
April 17-18.....Ontario QSO Party
April 18...ARRL Rookie Roundup SSB
April 24-25.....Florida QSO Party
April 24-25.....SP DX RTTY Contest

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 State QSO Party Season Again!

KARS HOMEPAGE— WWW.W9AZ.COM —KARS HOMEPAGE

ARRL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The [Reverse Beacon Network](#) has announced some enhancements. Pete Smith, N4ZR, said, "Thanks to Mark Glenn, K7MJG, the RBN beta site's world map now displays currently and recently active RBN nodes, along with spots. Red dots denote nodes that have made at least one spot in the last 30 minutes."

The ebook, [Capture the MAGIC of Six Meters](#), by Jim Wilson, K5ND, is available for free download. It covers propagation, equipment, software, antennas, awards, and contesting, as well as assistance in finding the magic, Wilson says.

NEED FOR EXAM SESSION

KARS has been contacted by people wanting to take license exams locally. This strong desire to join the ranks of Amateur Radio has even resulted in an offer to provide a publically accessible site where individuals could take their test while maintaining healthy spacing. VE Liaison Craig N9FD will be working on this issue. If you are a VE Examiner, contact Craig to offer your services.

FUTURE MEETING QTH

While Zoom meetings work pretty well per se, in the coming months, we will probably be able to have real public in-person meetings.

However, considering that we have been meeting for years in a hospital, with all that that implies, there is a possibility that KARS might not meet there again for the foreseeable future.

This begs the question: where else in the Kankakee area can the group meet, for little or no cost, until the time come when we can return to St. Mary's meeting room. Scott K9ABN's inquires in the past revealed that the Bourbonnais Community Room could be available to us. Anyone have any other ideas? If so, contact Craig N9FD at ccahan2002@yahoo.com

73, Art K9XI

ARRL MEMBERSHIP

KARS is an ARRL Affiliated Club and while not absolutely required, we strongly encourage every licensed Amateur Radio Operator to be an ARRL member. The hobby would simply not exist without the ARRL pressing our interests in Washington and you get a subscription to QST Magazine as one of the many benefits of membership!

Don't delay...join today!

EMERGENCY

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATES

Brian Hanners, KD9NPQ

I met with Becky Powell on Feb 16th. She is the Sheriff's Director of the Emergency Management Agency (EMA). They hold quarterly meetings and yearly disaster drills. EMA is also responsible for annual severe weather seminars and the testing of the sirens. I will be sending out an email for those who let me know of their desire to participate in emergency communications regarding free classes she would like us to take. She has a list of everyone who contacted me about participating and will make ID badges when their printer gets back up and running.

On the topic of weather, I would like to have a test run weather net tentatively set for Saturday March 27th at 3pm. Please let me know if through email if this will work for you (w9az_ecc@yahoo.com). This will be a good time to test your range and ability to hit the repeater if you have not already done so.

When is the last time you sent in a paragraph or two to the newsletter?

What's new with you?

KARS MARCH GENERAL MEETING ZOOM

Craig Cahan is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.
Topic: KARS March General Meeting
Time: **Mar 2, 2021 07:00 PM** Central Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88564229254?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88564229254?pwd=cHZ4TS81TzZ5Uks2NnlKM1hxZlMxQT09)
[pwd=cHZ4TS81TzZ5Uks2NnlKM1hxZlMxQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88564229254?pwd=cHZ4TS81TzZ5Uks2NnlKM1hxZlMxQT09)
Meeting ID: 885 6422 9254 Passcode: 800253



FIRST FOXHUNT OF 2021

The prognosticators are calling for next Saturday March 6th to be sunny with temps around 50! We have already had inquires as to when we will have our first hunt for 2021.

With that in mind, we are setting the first hunt of the season for 1PM next Saturday March 6th. Fox to be announced. Please reply your intentions so we can plan accordingly to K9NR. donk9nr@gmail.com

KARS MARCH BOARD MEETING ZOOM

Craig Cahan is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.
Topic: KARS March Board Meeting
Time: **Mar 16, 2021 07:00 PM** Central Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88326411628?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88326411628?pwd=b2R1Rkc5OGtJYTcwVzJya1QzOU5pUT09)
[pwd=b2R1Rkc5OGtJYTcwVzJya1QzOU5pUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88326411628?pwd=b2R1Rkc5OGtJYTcwVzJya1QzOU5pUT09)
Meeting ID: 883 2641 1628 Passcode: 942729
One tap mobile
+13126266799,,88326411628#,,,*942729# US (Chicago)
+13462487799,,88326411628#,,,*942729# US (Houston)

“I have been through some terrible things in my life, some of which actually happened!” ...Mark Twain



Mac KK9R formerly KM9Z received his DXCC Honor Roll plaque around the end of January 2021. Mac states "Finally!!! 23 years to obtain. 11 of those 23 years I was off the air in between putting the station back up. It took three stations in Illinois and one in Florida. I got the last three countries in 2020 for Honor roll. Z66DX was my last confirmation. I am so excited and happy. I will hang this on the wall proud to display with Sparky's former call sign." Mac was very active in KARS when he first started in the hobby. Introduced to DXing by Jerry WB9Z the DX bug didn't take long to bite needless to say Mac hit the ground running. Now having earned coveted DXCC Honor Roll status we congratulate him on a hard fought job well done! Now living in southern Florida Mac obtained the call of close friend and fellow railroader Richard "Sparky" Sparenberg KK9R who became SK in 2013. Good DX Mac!