KARS KEY KLICKS

JOURNAL OF THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY

MAY MEETING: FLEX RADIO DEMONSTRATION

The next KARS meeting will be Tuesday, May 3rd, 7PM at the Red Cross in Bourbonnais.

The program, is to be presented by Will K9FO and Ken W9YNI. Will is going to put on the major part of the program with his FLEX 1500. It will be a live running presentation. Ken also promises to bring his Flex 5000C. We are meeting at the Red Cross again because of logistics in running an antenna to the parking lot.

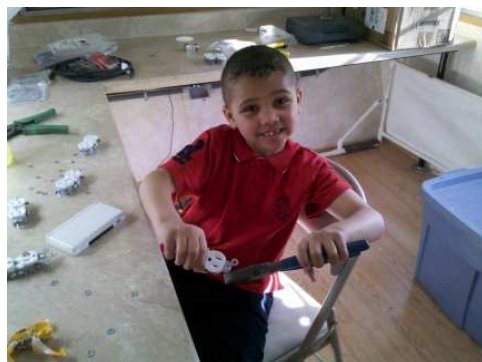No, John K9BYT is not having a temper tantrum. He is demonstrating Duck and Cover for Earthquakes at April meeting

Bill N9OE interfacing the Echolink equipment to the KARS .34/.94 repeater

Bob K9CWF celebrated his 89th birthday at the April KARS meeting

KARS KALENDAR

May 3………….....KARS General Meeting
May 7……………………Indiana QSO Party
May 20-22……….…...Dayton Hamvention!!!
May 17……………..KARS Board Meeting
May 27-29………CQWW WPX CW Contest
June 5…Starved Rock Radio Club Hamfest
June 7………..……KARS General Meeting
June 11-13……..……ARRL VHF QSO Party
June 18-19…..Stew Perry Summer Contest
June 19……....6 Meter Radio Club Hamfest
June 21……………...KARS Board Meeting
June 25-26…………..……..ARRL Field Day

The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:
146.34/.94   107.2 PL Access
449.8/444.8   114.8 PL Access
Also, co-sponsors:
145.130   107.2 PL Access
Additionally, KARS sponsors:
144.39   2 Wide Area APRS digi-peaters
145.53   KARS DX Cluster

Andrew Dau preparing outlets for the KARS EmComm Trailer

NCS FOR APRIL

May 2	KC9FAV
May 9	N9LYE
May 16	K9NR
May 23	N9LYE
May 30	N9FD

The net meets every Monday at 2100 hours local time on the 146.34/94 repeater.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May 5	KC9JQX
May 6	KC9HHT
May 8	K9FO
May 9	W9QKF
May 13	KC9KBR
May 17	KC9MZL

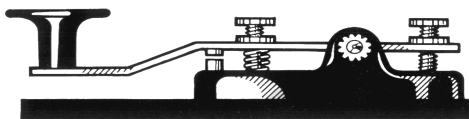If we miss your birthday or get it wrong, please let us know!

WE HAVE SUNSPOTS!

There has been a lot of action on ten meters lately...DX action! Sun spot numbers are up and so is HF activity. Twenty and fifteen meters have been open well into the night. Sounds like a lot of fun for Field Day operations!

JULY AUCTION

As you spring clean your house, garage & basement, keep an eye out for fine junque to sell at the July KARS meeting auction. That's right. The very popular October auction will be repeated in July. Don't forget!

ONLY 18 DAYS TILL HAMVENTION!

KARS HOMEPAGE— WWW.W9AZ.COM —KARS HOMEPAGE

FLEXRADIO 5000C COMPUTER UPGRADE
by W9YNI

 First I want to say there was nothing wrong with my Flex 5000 C. It worked just great, and I have never been more pleased with the Radio or with the Team at FlexRadio. I just wanted to go to Windows 7, stay up to date with the current OS and get some more head room for future Software.

    The computer in the 5000 C is a 2 Core Processor running Windows XP, and just adding more memory did not seem to be the answer.

                First the problems:

    The 6 core processor I selected is a 95 Watt CPU and draws more current than the Flex 5000 C inboard PSU could provide. It is a Mini-Box M2-ATX. When Windows was in the booting process the PSU would shut down and crash. I then called Mini-Box and purchased a M4-ATX PSU which was to be able to provide 300 watts and 350 peak. It worked and all seemed fine until I tried running a ACRONIS Backup. When it seemed to fire all the cores up, it too exceeded the PSU's current potential and Crashed.

     Heat was also an important consideration.
The solution was to remove the PSU from an Antec 450 Watt external AC Supply and mount it inside.

     Aside from the metal work and adding Stand Offs to the shelf in the 5000 C, mounting a 92 mm Fan on the front panel where the internal speaker was and a separate Power Switch on the front panel for the computer, it all went fairly smooth. Everything fits in the current computer cage. I added an opening in the top of the cage so I could keep wires short and connect them when the front panel was secured. A plate then covers up the opening. Some cutting on the back panel for the Fire Wire and AC connections was then necessary.

I have posted some Pictures of the project on my qrz.com page under my call   W9YNI

AC for power supply   **Final Assembly**   **Finished Product**

                Here is a list of the components
Mother Board   ASUS M488T-I Deluxe ITX
Memory   8 Gigs
CPU   Phenom II X6 1055T   2.8 Gig 95 Watt
Disk Drive   OCZ Vertex 120 GB Sata 2 (SSD)
Cache   L1, L2, and L3
Fire Wire   SYBA PCI-Express 1394 Model SD-PEX-FWB
PSU   Antec 450 Watt AC Unit
Misc   Power Switch, Led's, Stand off's, Toroids etc etc.

Passmark Rating   1405.1,   DPC   70 us,   CPU Utilization   4 to 7 %

 I guess I could have just purchased or built another computer and connected the Fire Wire Cable to it but this was a lot more fun and looks GREAT.
 I hope FlexRadio dosn't mind my changes, but that's Ham Radio.

73's and take a look at the Pics on qrz.com
 Ken Buser   W9YNI