



KARS KEY KLICKS



JOURNAL OF THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY

Volume 88 Issue 9

Editors: K9NR, K9QT
Photos: K9NR, K9QT, W9IE
Contributors: W9IE

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

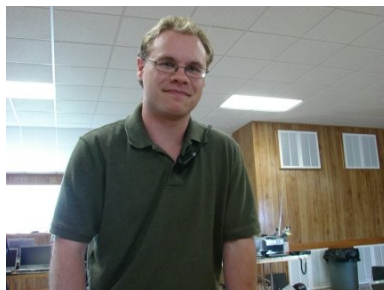
Bring a list of your favorite computer software/phone apps to the August meeting. Lets all benefit from each others experiences. Ham Radio, computer related or any really good app would be welcome!

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

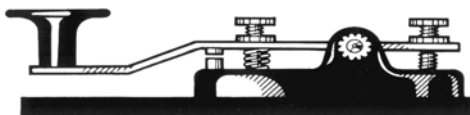
Aug. 3.....	Hamfesters hamfest
Aug 2-3.....	NA QSO Party CW
Aug 5.....	KARS General Meeting
Aug 9-10.....	WAE DX CW
Aug 16-17.....	SARTG WW RTTY
Aug 16-17.....	NA QSO Party SSB
Aug 16.....	Foxhunt
Aug 19.....	KARS Board Meeting
Aug 30.....	Foxhunt
Sept 2.....	KARS General Meeting
Sept 13.....	Radio Expo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

The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:

146.34/.94 107.2 PL Access
449.8/444.8 114.8 PL Access
145.130 107.2 PL Access

Additionally, KARS sponsors:

144.39 2 Wide Area APRS digi-peaters
145.53 KARS DX Cluster



W9AZ

FOXHUNT NEWS

Transmitter hunters were active on July 26th. 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 16th and August 30th. 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— WWW.W9AZ.COM —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



Tall Illinois corn "or" RF Waveguide/Tunnel?

N9RJM and N9FD



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

KARS HOMEPAGE— **WWW.W9AZ.COM** —KARS HOMEPAGE

KARS FIELD DAY 2014



Sections of fiberglass poles supporting the 6 and 2 meter Yagi's



Ken W9IE mans the 40 meter station equipped with the latest in SDR 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 and Will's good cooking.

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?