

2009 Schedule of Events

MARCH 2009

- 5 Dugger Amateur Radio Club's Hamfest, Sullivan, IN**
Sullivan Fairgrounds, Sullivan, IN Opens 7:00 AM; Talk-in 146.775 (PL 136.5)
- 7 Mini-Marathon 10K Pre-Race**
Contact Mike Palmer N9FEB at www.indyham.org for details
- 8 Daylight Savings Time Begins**
Be sure to spring forward one hour on all clocks this morning.
- 13-14 Boy Scout Lock-in, Greenwood, IN**
Greenwood High School, Greenwood, IN; Amateur Radio Operators should monitor the 146.835 repeater from 7PM to Midnight. MARC members will be assisting Boy Scouts in earning their Radio Merit badges.
- 14 Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association (WVARA), Terre Haute, IN**
Wabash Valley Fairgrounds, 3901 US Hwy 41 South, Terre Haute, IN
Talk-in 146.685 (PL 151.4) For more info contact wb9zhc@verizon.net
- 16 NWS Spotter Training, Franklin, IN**
Begins at 7:00 PM. Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN.
- 21 MARC Meeting - 8:00 AM, Franklin, IN**
Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN. VEC Testing after the meeting (approx. 9:30 am to 11:00 am)
- 28 Columbus Hamfest, Columbus, IN**
Bartholomew County Fairgrounds, Columbus, IN; Talk-in on 146.79 (PL 100)
MARC's VE Team will be there testing.

APRIL 2009

- 4 Mini-Marathon 15K Pre-Race**
Contact Mike Palmer N9FEB at www.indyham.org for details
- 5 Palm Sunday**
- 10 Good Friday**
- 12 Easter**
- 18 MARC Meeting - 8:00 AM, Franklin, IN**
Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN. VEC Testing after the meeting (approx. 9:30 am to 11:00 am)



Mid-State Amateur
Radio Club
P. O. Box 836
Franklin, IN 46131
www.midstatehams.org
317.887.2558

Spark Gap

Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the **THIRD SATURDAY** of each month in the basement of the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, Indiana 46131.

See our website, www.midstatehams.org, for maps on how to get to our meeting.

Hamfest Info

The **Dugger Amateur Radio Club's 2009 Hamfest** will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2009 at the Sullivan Fairgrounds in Sullivan, Indiana. Hamfest opens at 7:00 AM. Talk-in is at 146.775 - MHz (136.5 Hz PL). Admission is \$5.00 with children 12 and under free. For more information go to www.kc9ak.or/hamfest.html website.

The **Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association** will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2009 at the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds, 3901 US Highway 41 South in Teere Haute, Indiana. Talk-in is on 146.685 MHz (151.4 Hz PL). For more information contact Ginger Downing, WB9ZHC at wb9zhc@verizon.net.

The **26th Annual Columbus Hamfest** will be held on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at the Bartholomew County Fairgrounds, Community Building, 750 W 200S in Columbus, Indiana. Hamfest hours are 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Talk-in will be on 146.79 MHz (-600 kHz 100 Hz PL). Tickets that day are \$5.00 or \$4.50 in advance. For more information contact Marion Winterber, WD9HTN at carc_in@yahoo.com.

The MARC VE team will be at the Columbus Hamfest testing that day.

If you know of any other Indiana hamfests coming up, please contact Linda at PIO@midstatehams.org.

Anyone attending any of the hamfest listed are encouraged to take photos at the event and send them to kc9gch@arrl.net. I will try and get them on the IN ARRL Section page. ■

NWS Spotter Training

The National Weather Service will again hold weather spotter training at the Johnson County EMA training room on Monday, March 16th, 2009. The EMA training room is located at 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN 46131. The National Weather Service recommends that spotters attend a training session at least once every two to three years. Class will start at 7:00 PM.

Linda KC9GCH, is keeping an informal list of MARC members that will be attending. Send her an e-mail at PIO@midstatehams.org or call her at 887-2558 to have your name added to the list. ■

Donated Items

MARC has had the following items donated to the club. Any club member interested in any of the items should contact either Jack W8ISH or Steve K9DY. Check online at the club website under Officers for their e-mail addresses. Members will get the first chance to pick up the items at a discounted price. Any items still available at the end of the month will be sold at the Columbus Hamfest.

- ❑ Drake UV- 3 triband FM receiver with matching power supply
- ❑ B&W dummy load/wattmeter
- ❑ Allied AX-190 communications receiver
- ❑ Micronta dual-variable power supply
- ❑ ICOM 551-D 50 MHz all mode transceiver with matching power supply and 2 mics
- ❑ B&W coax switches
- ❑ Heathkit speaker (HS-1661) in green metal cabinet

Steve K9DY has researched online to determine the estimated value of each item. Funds from the sale of the items will be added to the club treasury. Again, any items remaining will be sold at the Columbus Hamfest on Saturday, March 28, 2009. ■

**WA9RDF
Repeater
146.835/
146.235 MHz
151.4 Hz PL
Tone**

**Weekly Net
Every Sunday
at 7PM ET**

***Tune in to hear
the ARRL
Newsline!***

*The Mid-State
Amateur Radio Club
sponsors a weekly
traffic and social net
on our repeater. The
net begins at 7:00
p.m. local time, and
features local news,
announcements, and
NTS traffic, as well as
rebroadcasts of
Amateur Radio
Newsline. This is a
great chance to
meet other local
amateur radio
operators and test
your operating
skills.*

MARC's 25th Anniversary

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Celebrating 25 years as an Amateur Radio club brings with it a lot of history and reminiscing. Current and many former club members packed the EOC training room for a morning of food, fun and celebration on Saturday, February 21st, 2009. Former club president Terry Grubb N9LYA provided a great breakfast soufflé and coffee from his catering kitchen. Club Prez Jack Parker W8ISH took a walk down memory lane with a list of club factoids. There have been 17 people serve as president since February 1984. Ten hardy souls have held the VP position while 13 people have tried their hand at being club secretary. Ten, count them, ten people have kept the club books in order as treasurer. Eight newsletter editors have written the news and history of the club. Only one person, Matt Payne KB9UJE has served as club webmaster.

The numbers reflect how this club has continued to grow and endure. It takes people to accept the challenge of leadership and just as important are the club members who participate in community projects.

The club received a proclamation from the Johnson County Commissioners which Jack W8ISH read to the club attendees. It was greatly received along with a proclamation from the Governor of the State of Indiana and a Certificate of Merit from the ARRL Indiana Section Manager.

CLUB FACTOIDS

- ❑ 17 Club Presidents
- ❑ 10 Club Vice Presidents
- ❑ 13 Club Secretaries
- ❑ 10 Club Treasurers
- ❑ 8 Club Newsletter Editors
- ❑ 8 Club Repeater Trustees
- ❑ 1 Club Webmaster
- ❑ 2 Club Indiana Outstanding Amateurs of the Year Awards 2000 & 2008

OTHER CLUB ACHIEVEMENTS

Our VE team led by Dave Wendt has the highest total of VE sessions in the state. Last year our VE's processed 68 candidates including 40 new Techs, 23 General upgrades and 5 Extras. Over half of those candidates came from our 3- tech classes in 2008. Estimate several hundred licensed hams or upgraded hams since starting our VE team in 1986.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Club members have spent countless hours providing communications for marathons in Johnson, Shelby, Morgan, Hamilton and Marion counties. Many have assisted neighboring counties with Emergency Communications following tornado outbreaks. The most recent flooding disaster in June 2008 recorded 18 hams assisting with emergency operations, reporting closed roads and flooded bridges.

Club began monthly meetings at The House of Franklin in 1984. Moved to Johnson County EOC in 1987.

REPEATER HISTORY

Started with an antenna mounted on top of a barn near Rocklane. Moved to the tower in Tom Carroll's backyard in Whiteland. Moved to Whiteland water tower in 1986. Moved to 200 foot club tower in Whiteland. Moved to WTTV tower in Trafalgar. Moved to Sheriff's 400 tower in Franklin. Moved to Sheriff's short tower. Moved to current White River Fire Station #51 tower in August 2007.

Repeater trustees include Paul Thomas, Tom Carroll, Larry Kemp, Charlie Sears, Steve Benson, Dave Julian, Matt Payne and Jay Chrisman. We can proudly report no Pick Slips in 25 years.

Officers

President:
Jack Parker,
W8ISH

Vice President:
Dave Daily,
KB9LOT

Secretary:
Jacki Frederick,
KI6QOG

Treasurer:
Steve Carmean,
K9DY

Repeater Trustee:
Jay Chrisman,
AA9YP

Spark Gap Editors:
Bob LaGrange,
N9SIU

Linda
Harshbarger,
KC9GCH

Spark Gap

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25th Anniversary Party



Past Presidents attending the celebration



Proclamation from the County Commissioners presented to President Jack Parker W8ISH



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Johnson County EMA Director,
Tug Sutton KC9OQY at the
party

All photos by E. Neil Cooper
KC9ODU