

Spark Gap

Volume 26, Issue 9, September 2009 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities for Twenty-Five Years*

From the President



CLUB PICNIC

The club picnic will be held on September 19th beginning at 11 AM with plans to start eating at noon and everyone is to bring a covered dish. The club will provide the usual meat serving and soft drinks. The picnic and swearing in of new

officers will be held at the Union Christian Church located at 1267 East County Road 300 South. Directions are as follows: County Road 300 South can be reached by taking US 31 South to Nineveh Road in Franklin, turn right and take Nineveh Road to 300 South. The church can also be reached by taking SR 135 South to 300 South, turn left, and continue until you see the church. Four friends down south, you can reach County Road 300 South by taking Nineveh Road north from SR 252. The church is located on the south side of the road. Talk-in will be on the 146.835 repeater (151.4 PL tone).

ELECTIONS

Ballots have been mailed out for election of officers. If you haven't received a ballot please let one of the officers know. You can either mail your ballot back. Be sure to get it mailed in time for the September 19th deadline or you can bring your ballot with you to the picnic. Several of the offices have multiple candidates so please be sure to vote this year. If you have paid your dues you should be receiving a ballot. There will be ballots available at the picnic if you lose or misplace yours. Be sure to take care of voting as soon as you arrive at the picnic. Voting will close at noon on September 19th. New officers will be sworn in following the fun and feasting.

HILLTOP CONTEST

Club members Chris Frederick KG6ZIJ and Steve Carmean K9DY are planning on participating in the annual Hill Top contest Saturday September 19th. The four-hour event is sponsored by the Indianapolis Radio Club. Each participant has to register his hilltop online and then make as many contacts as possible using simplex VHF, UHF and HF frequencies. All this while on auxiliary power. Contact Steve or Chris if you would like to participate from their "Hilltop" location.

73, Jack w8ish

KB9HSE (SK)

On Monday, August 31, 2009, Meredith Earl "JR" Osborne, KB9HSE, and former President of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club, died at Community Hospital South in Indianapolis.

JR leaves behind his second wife, Carol KC9CFK, former MARC secretary, other extended family, many friends and tons of great memories for those of us who knew him and worked with him on club activities and projects.

Graveside services with military honors were held on Wednesday, September 2nd at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Greenwood, Indiana.

On a beautiful September afternoon many of the club's members attended and said goodbye to JR. The only thing missing was the chili.

*The Official
Newsletter of the
Mid-State Amateur
Radio Club*



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

Public Service Opportunity

GREENWOOD MARCHING BAND INVITATIONAL; Saturday, September 26, 2009; 1:30 PM TO 11:00 PM

Please mark your calendars for the Greenwood Marching Band Invitational to be held at the Greenwood High School Football Field. This event has been held annually for the past thirty years and MARC has been assisting them with public safety for twelve years.

This event needs all available hams that can help due to the large numbers of spectators and the bands that come to perform. There are usually large amounts of people that come to see the bands and there are many places around the football field where they park their cars. The band organization at Greenwood High School is always appreciative of our professionalism and the service our club members provide them. As usual we will have access to food and drinks available to all that help with this event.

If possible it would be good if we could have at least 25 hams help with this event. If you have not helped in the past you are in for a real treat and also provide good exposure of Ham Radio to the public. We will conduct our net on 146.550 MHz (simplex). Talk in will be on the 146.835 MHz repeater (Pl. 151.4) until we switch to the simplex frequency. This event helps us prepare for using simplex frequencies on location if radio communications were needed during an emergency.

What you will need for the event:

1. Your favorite HT and spare battery pack.
2. Safety vest (MARC has a limited quantity) Home Depot, Menards etc.
3. Flashlight with a wand for directing traffic (these are available online)
4. A chair
5. Water, the band organization does have water but it is good to bring your own.
6. Comfortable shoes make your feet happy.

The safety vest and flashlight with a wand are very important safety items. They are needed for your safety as well as the public will know to come to you if there is a problem. You will use these safety items for other events that use HAMS for public safety.

There will be a sign-up sheet for the event at the next club meeting or contact me by e-mail. If you have a friend that is a HAM please feel free to bring them along also.

73, Bob N9SIU; e-mail n9siu at yahoo.com.

Boy Scouts JOTA

From: Peter Lenges KA9SWI Brown County Indiana

This just in from our friends in Brown Coounty Indiana. The big JOTA Soout ouring is coming up on October 16, 17 & 18, 2009. Over 1280 scouts plus some parents are coming. The boy scouts will be on the air from 8 AM till 4 PM on Saturday the 17th and they are needing amateur radio help with both the radios and in educating the scouts about Amateur Radio. There will be 1/2 hour sessions during those hours. Ham related demos are welcome during the 1/2 hour sessions. They also need help with coordination of transportation.

Anyone you can help should contact Pete at KA9SEI@yahoo.com or call him at 317-878-5997 (home) or 317-371-0985 (cell). This is our opportunity to help build the hobby and bring more young people to the world of Amateur Radio.

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

Class Update

The Technician level amateur radio class is currently planned to begin on Monday, September 14, 2009 at 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the White River Township Fire Department located at State Road 135 and Olive Branch Road. Classes would be held on the following three Mondays, same time, same plac. If you know of anyone wishing to take a class, please have them contact me at 317-887-2558 or at PIO@midstatehams.org.

Class size is limited to 14 students so registration will close when all 14 spaces are filled. The class will not be held if there is a lack of students. Final decision will be made on Saturday, September 12, 2009 whether to hold the class. If the class is not held in September we will try again next March.

VEC Testing

Our Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) team is ARRL accredited, and capable of administering any amateur radio test. As a public service, the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club sponsors test sessions after all but one of its monthly meetings. (September testing is done prior to the picnic.) Meetings begin at 8:00 AM with testing following the meeting (begins about 9:30 AM until 11:00 AM). We would love to have you join us for the meeting. Please check out our website at www.midstatehams.org for directions.

Please note: VEC testing will be held at the regular time and place on Saturday, September 19th, 2009 prior to the picnic. Testing will close at 11 AM so that our team can get to the picnic.

Hamfest/Event Info

The **Greenfield Indiana Tailgating Hamfest**, sponsored by the Hancock Amateur Radio Club will be held on Saturday, September 26, 2009 at the Hancock County 4H Fairgrounds. For directions go to www.W9ATG.com. Times are 8 AM to 1 PM. Free admission. Talk-in on the 145.330 Simplex. For more information contact Mike at 317-861-1916..

The **48th Annual Hoosier Hills Hamfest** will be held on Sunday, October 4, 2009 at the Lawrence County 4-H Fairgrounds, Bedford, Indiana. Times are from 6 AM. V.E. testing is scheduled for noon. Talk-in is on 146.730 MHz (107.2 PL). For more information contact the Hamfest Chair at kc9iai@comcast.net or call Marcie at 812-277-1458. The hamfest location is 11261 US Hwy 50 West, Mitchell, Indiana 47446

Lat/Lon: N38380560 W86.58614.

October Meeting

New officers will chair the October meeting. Please try and make the meeting in order to meet and greet those holding office for the first time. They need the support of the membership. Also if you haven't gotten your picture taken for the ID badge please stay after the meeting to get that done. Applications for club membership and ARES/RACES applications will also be available. As a reminder, if you are a member and also a member of the ARRL you can renew your ARRL membership via our club. When you do so, the club receives \$2.00 of the membership fee in order to help support the club. Also remember that MARC is considered a Special Services Club of the ARRL and receive discounts and other perks. We need for a percentage of MARC members to also be ARRL members in order to maintain that status. If you are not an ARRL member, please pick up an ARRL membership form at the meeting and consider joining today.

**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.

K9DY and W8ISH at Columbus. Photo by Mrs. K9DY.

2009 Schedule of Events

SEPTEMBER 2009

- 12 Greater Louisville Hamfest 2009, Paroquet Springs Conference Centre, Shepherdsville, KY; 8 AM - 2 PM; For more info go to website LouisvilleHamfest.com**
- 19 MARC Meeting - 11:00 AM, Franklin, IN**
VEC Testing from 8:00 AM to 11 AM. Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN. Meeting will be the annual picnic and election of officers. The picnic will be held at the Union Christian Church shelter house at 1267 East County Road 300 South, Franklin, IN beginning at 11 AM.
- 22 Fall begins**
- 26 Greenfield Indiana Tailgating Hamfest; Hancock County 4-H Fairgrounds**
8 AM - 1:00PM; Talk-in on 145.330
- 26 Greenwood Marching Band Invitational; Greenwood High School, Greenwood, IN**
1:30 PM to 11:00 PM; To volunteer contact Bob LaGrange at N9SIU@yahoo.com
- 25-27 2009 ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference**
For more info go to website www.tapr.org/dcc or call Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR) at 972-671-8277

OCTOBER 2009

- 4 48th Annual Hoosier Hills Hamfest; Lawrence Co. 4H Fairgrounds, Bedford, IN**
Talk-in 146.730 (-) (107.2 PL); for more information go to website www.hoosierhillshamfest.org
- 10 Lake County Amateur Radio Club Hamfest**
- 10 IRCC Meeting Starke County Library 2-4 PM**
- 17 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)
- 17 Indianapolis Marathon**
Contact Mike Palmer, N9FEB to volunteer or for more details. www.indyhams.org
- 31 Halloween (Goblin Patrol)**

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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.