

# Spark Gap

Vol. 29, Issue 1, January 2012 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities for twenty-eight Years*

---

---

## ***FCC News: Radio Amateurs Not Affected by Narrowbanding Requirements***

The FCC released a *Public Notice* on January 6, reminding land mobile licensees, frequency coordinators and equipment manufacturers that they have less than one year to transition to narrowband operations in the 150-174 and 421-512 MHz bands. While the latter frequency range includes amateur service allocations, radio amateurs are not affected by the narrowbanding requirement. Land mobile operation is permitted in parts of the 421-430 MHz band in the areas around Detroit, Cleveland and Buffalo, and land mobile licensees in these areas are among those who will have to migrate to narrowband (12.5 kHz or narrower) technology by January 1, 2013. Amateur operation is not permitted along the Canadian border (north of Line A as defined in the FCC Rules) in the band 420-430 MHz.

..... *ARRL Newsletter January 2012*

---

### *Letter from our Indiana Section Manager:*

Hello,

I want to welcome Mark Westermeier, N9OZ to our Indiana Section team as the new Technical Coordinator.

Mark resides in Carmel, Indiana and enjoys low power digital HF, along with technical problems of all types, as well as electronics construction and repair projects. Mark dabbles in many different areas of amateur radio, including ATV, which he still enjoys.

Currently, Mark is the Executive Director, Carmel Clay Parks, in Carmel, IN. He previously owned and operated Radiocom in Indianapolis. His experiences in Electronics dates clear back to 1969 when he started as a two-way radio technician and moved to being a Field Technical Representative for Motorola.

Mark and his staff of Technical Specialists are more than welcome to help you with any technical problem that you may have. If they do not know the answer, they will find someone that does, either here in Indiana or through me to ARRL HQ.

We could still use more Technical Specialists throughout the State.

The ones we have now are located in these cities:

N9OZ, Carmel; WB8WOR, Bloomington; NI9Y, Mishawaka; W9BGJ, Fort Wayne;

N7BW, New Albany; WB9L, Knox; N9OCL, Columbia; KB9BVN, New Whiteland; N9FSX, Osceola; KB9VTK, Laotto; N9LYY, Attica; AC9AZ, Terre Haute, and WA9FGT, Petersburg.

As you can see, we do have a lot of areas that still need coverage by Technical Specialists.

If you are interested in being one, and feel that you can help fellow Amateurs out with a problem, please look over the requirements here: <http://www.arrl.org/technical-specialist>

You must be a member of the ARRL and send in a report to Mark every month detailing what activities you performed in regards to the position.

Interested? Send Mark an e-mail detailing your qualifications for being a Technical Specialist to [n9oz@arrl.net](mailto:n9oz@arrl.net)

73

John Poindexter, W3ML  
Indiana Section Manager  
ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio™

+++++



**Our good friend Myron Coy, KC9ODW, passed away in December from a year long illness. Myron was first licensed in August 2008 after completing the MARC Technician Class course. Myron first approached club members while attending the June White River Township Fire Departments Strawberry Fest. He loved amateur radio and was a regular attendee at club meetings. Myron upgraded to General Class in October 2009. He often worked many of the public service events, reported for Skywarn nets and worked HF from his western Greenwood hamshack. His smiling face and good humor will be missed. At the age of 73, Myron Coy-KC9ODW is a silent key.**

*On Our MARC...*

How are you doing with your New Year's Resolutions? Does the 2012 list look remarkably like the one from 2011? Have your good intentions already started to fray around the edges? I know I am always planning to eat better, exercise more, get 8 hours of sleep each night, and take some vacation. Who knows, maybe one of these years I will surprise myself and successfully complete one these! In the meantime, let me suggest three resolutions that I think we can all accomplish.

- In 2012, let us all resolve to be active in the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club. We are extremely fortunate to have an excellent meeting location, a first-rate radio room, and a strong repeater, so let's take advantage of them. Attend monthly meetings, participate in club activities, help out at community events, and serve the county during severe weather.
- Let's show our support for the club, its members, programs, classes, and website, by keeping our dues paid up-to-date. Our memberships run January through December, so if you have not done so already, please renew for 2012 soon. While we do not have facilities and tower rentals as some clubs do, we do have annual costs for insurance, our web domain, tax filings, Repeater Council dues, equipment repairs, materials costs, etc.
- In the year ahead let's all make a commitment to help foster the future of amateur radio by sharing its stories and our experiences with others. Bring a friend to a meeting, assist with a licensing class, help a scout earn a merit badge, let a son, daughter, or grandchild get on the air.

Hopefully, you will feel that these resolutions are as important and achievable, as I do.

Happy New Year!

Bob - KC9NJM  
*President*

+++++

## **HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?**

**2012 MARC dues are now due, please see Jacki KI6QOG at the January meeting.**

***Annual dues are still a very reasonable \$ 18.00***

+++++

## **ONE DAY TECH CLASS SCHEDULED**

The Mid-state ARC has scheduled an 8-hour Technician License Class for February 11, 2012. This entry level **amateur radio license** class will begin at 8AM and end with a 35-question exam. The class is *free* but we recommend you purchase the **ARRL** "*Ham Radio License Manual*". The book is available on-line at: **www.arrl.org/** in the Licensing and Education section.

Please read and review this workbook before coming to class on February 11th. We have a lot of material to cover in a short time.

We encourage all club members to pass this information along to potential hams.

Class size is limited. Please register at **secretary@midstatehams.org/**

Again, the class begins at 8AM in the training room of the Johnson County Sheriff's office. Food and snacks will be provided for class members. We look forward to welcoming you into the exciting hobby of **Amateur Radio**.

Jack Parker, W8ISH  
Class Coordinator

# 2012 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## January 2012

### 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)

## February 2012

### 11 ONE DAY TECH CLASS

Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN (8 Hour Class with testing after completion of the class)

### 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)

## March 2012

### 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)

## April 2012

### 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)

## 2012 Indiana Hamfests

<b>Feb 25</b>	<b>Cabin Fever Hamfest</b> , LaPorte Civic Auditorium, LaPorte IN, 7 AM till 1 PM CST, <a href="http://k9jsi.org/">http://k9jsi.org/</a> , Info <a href="mailto:N9ROH@csinet.net">N9ROH@csinet.net</a>
<b>Feb 25</b>	<b>Brownsburg Hamfest</b> , American Legion Post 331, Brownsburg IN, 6AM-3:30PM, Talk-in 147.015+, Contact: K9MSG <a href="mailto:dlucas002@indy.rr.com">dlucas002@indy.rr.com</a>
<b>March 3</b>	<b>Dugger Hamfest</b> , Dugger Community Building, South Hicum Street (just off State Road 54) Dugger, IN 47848, <a href="http://www.kc9ak.org/hamfest.html">http://www.kc9ak.org/hamfest.html</a>
<b>March 10</b>	<b>Terre Haute Hamfest</b> , Indiana State University Dede Activity Center, Terre Haute IN, <a href="http://w9uuu.org/">http://w9uuu.org/</a>
<b>March 31</b>	<b>Columbus Amateur Radio Club Hamfest</b> , Community Building in Columbus, Indiana <a href="http://www.carcnet.org/">http://www.carcnet.org/</a>
<b>April 21</b>	<b>North Central Indiana Hamfest</b> , Miami County 4-H Fairground, Miami County Road 200 North & Mexico Road, Peru IN <a href="http://www.nci-hamfest.net/">http://www.nci-hamfest.net/</a>
<b>May 12</b>	<b>South Bend Indiana Hamfest</b> , Elks Club, 3535 E. McKinley Avenue, South Bend, IN <a href="http://www.w9ab.org/">http://www.w9ab.org/</a>
<b>July 14</b>	<b>Indianapolis Hamfest</b> , Camp Sertoma, Indianapolis, <a href="http://www.indyhamfest.com">http://www.indyhamfest.com</a>
<b>Oct. 6</b>	<b>Hoosier Hills Hamfest</b> , Lawrence County 4H Fairgrounds, 11261 US Hwy 50 West., Bedford , <a href="http://www.w9qyq.org/">http://www.w9qyq.org/</a>
<b>Nov. 17-18</b>	<b>Indiana State Convention, Fort Wayne Hamfest &amp; Computer Expo</b> , Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, <a href="http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com">http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com</a>

# 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](http://www.midstatehams.org), for maps on how to get to our meeting.

Everyone is welcome, you do not have to be a HAM to attend our meetings or a member of the club.

---

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

**Club Officers:**  
**President: Robert Jones – KC9NJM**  
**Vice President: Dave Daily – KB9LOT**  
**Secretary: Bruce Tisdale – KC9ICP**  
**Treasurer: Jacki Frederick – KI6QOG**  
**Repeater Trustee: Jay Chrismon – AA9YP**

**Weekly Net: Sunday evening 7:00 PM ARES/RACES members and ALL RADIO AMATEURS**

---

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

*P.O. Box 836  
Franklin, Indiana  
46131*

***Editor: Robert LaGrange N9SIU***

***Please send your articles to my email [n9siu@yahoo.com](mailto:n9siu@yahoo.com) no later than the 3<sup>rd</sup> of the month***

