



SPARK GAP

Vol. 39, Issue 9, September 2022 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities*

ON OUR MARC:

This month MARC will be holding our annual picnic in lieu of our monthly meeting. The picnic is this Saturday, 9/17 at the Case Shelter in Independence Park Greenwood. The Case shelter is about half way up the hill on the right. Parking is at the top of the hill. We plan to meet at 11 am and start cooking so we can eat by noon. **Please bring lawn chairs** as there is limited bench space. We will have hamburgers, hot-dogs, and non-alcoholic beverages, so please bring a dish to share. The election for Treasurer will be held at the picnic as well (each of the other positions are unopposed this year).

I have initiated a MARC Amateur Radio Book Library for club members. So far we have Basic Radio, Understanding the Key Building Blocks by Joel Hallas W1ZR, Small Antennas for Small Spaces, Projects and Advice for Limited-Space Stations by Steve Ford WB8IMY, and The ARRL Handbook for Radio Amateurs, The Standard in Electronics and Communication 2000 (all info is still valid in 2022) by The ARRL. If you have any Amateur Radio related books you'd like to donate, in particular a General and/or Amateur Extra study guide, we'd be happy to have them. Rhonda, WS9H has volunteered to be Librarian, so contact her to sign out a book. We plan to keep a list of books on our website, but we are just now putting the Library together.

If you have a MARC Radio Room Key Card (HID Key Card), and you have not yet provided the serial number to Jacki, KI6QOG, please do so immediately. We will need to soon disable unaccounted for key cards.

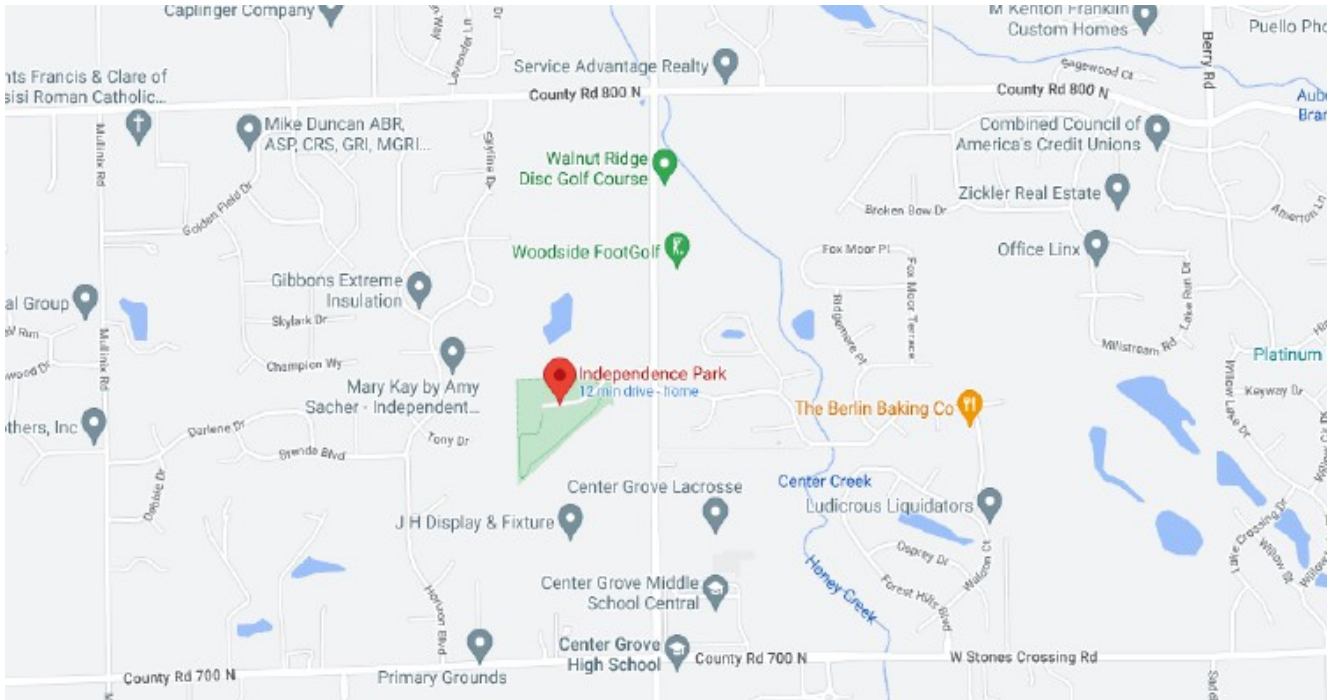
Our MARC 40th anniversary is next year. We would like to get a banner made to display at events such as an open house, etc... but need a design. If you have an interest in graphic design, please design a banner and submit a file of the design to any Board member. We are considering applying for a special event call sign when we hold an event for our club anniversary.

I hope to see you all at the picnic Saturday.

73,

Tim WC9G

Case Shelter Independence Park Greenwood



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

KC9VLU - Jacob Lovrinic

CHANGE IN FREQUENCY FOR MARION COUNTY ARES

Effective immediately the Indianapolis area 146.760Mhz repeater now requires a 151.4 encode tone. Many people may already have this programmed since it has been the decode tone for quite some time.

The 146.760MHz 151.4PL repeater is the Marion County primary SkyWarn repeater. It is normally linked to the 443.250MHz 100PL repeater during active nets.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns

Have a great week and 73

Matthew Bechdol W9SOX
Marion County ARES EC
Marion County Skywarn
www.mcinares.org

I have included this information since Johnson County borders Marion County and we need to be able to contact Marion County ARES if necessary due to an emergency or natural disaster.

JOHNSON COUNTY ARES

The ARRL ARES Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is going to be held Saturday October 1st in the morning. This is the date suggested by the National ARES to have this communication exercise. I will be contacting surrounding counties to see if they will be having their SET on that same date. This could be a good opportunity to make contact with the surrounding counties and other counties in Indiana participating on this date. During times of emergencies it is good to communicate with the counties around Johnson County and get to know some call signs as well as locations that they are transmitting from.

I would like to have a short meeting concerning the ARES SET for this year after the MARC Picnic this coming Saturday. I should have more information about this exercise and also could use members ideas to make this a good exercise for Johnson County ARES. We will be using the ARRL forms and guidelines for this exercise and would also like to include Winlink as a mode of communication passing traffic.

Hopefully the SET will be completed by noon time Saturday October 1st and will not interfere with any weekend plans. Johnson County did very well in ranking with the other states that participated in the ARES SET 2021. All amateurs are welcome to participate in this exercise where ever they are and with the radios they normally would use.

Any questions about this years SET please feel free to contact me.

Bob N9SIU, Johnson County ARES EC n9siu@yahoo.com

The 5th QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo is returning September 17 - 18, 2022.

The fully-interactive and full-featured virtual ham radio convention will provide great interactive presentations, new content, and excellent networking opportunities including 50+ amateur radio presentations on a wide variety of subjects.



Check out the full list of [Presentations](#) and get the downloadable schedule. For the first time, anyone can share their latest ham radio project, technology, operating mode, DXpedition, or history in the new Project Gallery. Submit your presentation article, video, or slideshow at [Project Gallery Submission](#).

Meet with ARRL representatives and other exhibitors in state-of-the-art video lounges. Visit the ARRL booth to meet over live video with ARRL staff and get your specific questions answered. Other exhibitors will answer product questions, provide technical training, etc. Tickets are only \$10 and grant full access to the Expo weekend, presentations, Project Gallery, and Exhibitor video lounges as well as the 30-day post-Expo on-demand period where all presentations and resources are available.

For more information and to purchase tickets, go to www.qsotodayhamexpo.com. --
ARRL is a QSO Today Expo Partner. ARRL News September 2022

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•**Join or Renew Today!** Eligible US-based members can elect to receive [QST](#) or [On the Air](#) magazine in print when they join ARRL or when they renew their membership. All members can access digital editions of all four ARRL magazines: *QST*, *On the Air*, *QEX*, and *NCJ*.



Nuclear Power Plant Exercise Includes Amateur Radio Emergency Service

The Ohio Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) just completed a dry-run exercise for the Perry Nuclear Power Plant in Lake County, Ohio. ARRL Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator Stan Broadway, N8BHL, said the drill was practice for the federally judged exercise scheduled for September.

The Ohio Emergency Operations Center (EOC) amateur station, W8SGT, was utilized and on the air to communicate with several counties in northeast Ohio. Amateur radio serves in the emergency planning as a backup communications resource. The actual exercise is focused more on the power plant and its operation, but the state EOC is involved for the process.

"In real life, this was a low-key type of exercise for us. It does not involve a lot of hams or activity, just establishes the line of communication," said Broadway. "It's satisfying to know, through many conversations during the planning stage, that amateur radio is a key ingredient to assure communication with the state."

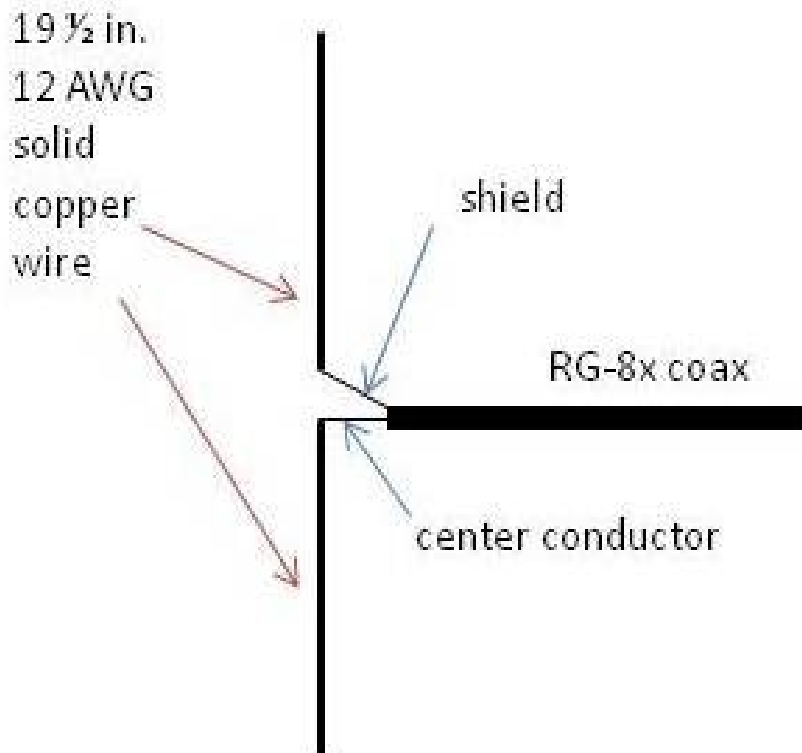
Ohio ARES is also working on a Simulated Emergency Test (SET) drill for October 1, 2022. For more information about the Amateur Radio Emergency Service®, visit www.arrl.org/ares.

Two Meter Antenna

It's likely your first Ham radio purchase was a 2 meter or dual-band HT. Unfortunately, the rubber duck antenna that came with it isn't the best choice for maximum signal. If you're tired of people telling you your signal is weak, the simplest remedy is an improved antenna.

You'd be surprised how well this simple vertical antenna works, and it can be built with basic materials: wire and **coaxial cable**. You can tape it up on a wall or window. For outside use, enclose it in 1/2 inch PVC pipe with a tee in the center and end caps.

2 meter vertical dipole



INDIANA HAMFESTS

September 10, 2022

MARC Tailgate (Free)

8am to 12pm

1 Caisson Drive Franklin, IN <http://www.midstatehams.org>

October 8, 2022

Hoosier Hills Hamfest

8 am

Lawrence Co Fairgrounds

11265 US-50 Bedford, IN

www.w9qyq.org

October 15, 2022

TARS - Octoberfest

7 am - 2 pm

Lynnville Community Center

416 W ST RD 68 Lynnville, IN



MID-STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the **THIRD SATURDAY** of each month at the Johnson County REMC building 750 International Dr. Franklin, IN 46131

See our website, 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.

W9MID Repeater:

146.835/
146.235 MHz
(151.4 Hz PL Tone)

Club Officers:

President: Tim Aldridge - WC9G
Vice President: Rhonda Curtis - WS9H
Secretary: Jim Adams – KB9JMU
Treasurer: Jacki Frederick - KI6QOG
Repeater Trustee - Chris Frederick – KQ9Y

W9MID Repeater:

443.525/
448.525 MHz
(151.4 Hz PL Tone) YEASU SYSTEM FUSION (C4FM)

**Weekly Net: Sunday evening 7:00 PM ARES/RACES members and ALL RADIO AMATEURS
146.835/146.235 MHz (151.4 Hz PL Tone)**

The Official Newsletter of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 836
Franklin, Indiana
46131

Spark Gap Editor: Robert LaGrange N9SIU

Please send your articles to my email: n9siu@yahoo.com no later than the 2nd week of the month.



Thanks to Johnson Co. REMC for the use of their building for meetings and testing.