



**Fox River Radio League**  
**“Established 1924”**  
**An ARRL Special Service Club**  
**W9CEQ PO Box 673 Batavia, IL 60510**



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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the General Membership of the  
Fox River Radio League (FRRL) an Illinois not-for-profit Corporation  
Held at the Prisco Center in Aurora, IL

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Meeting Minutes June 12, 2007

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM by Greg Braun, N9CHA – President with 65 members present.

Question of the Month: None due to information and program length

Minutes of the previous meeting were posted to the web, printed in the Arc Over and available for review.

Treasurers Report: Cash & Accounts = \$7,834.66 Certificates of Deposit = \$15,820.95

### Committee Reports

**Database:** 165 paid members. Reminder Roster should be published and ready for distribution at the April meeting.

**Cougars Night:** July 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM tickets are \$10 see Ken, N9WCK if you would like to buy tickets.

**Hamfest:** Need help setting up on Saturday July 7<sup>th</sup> starting around 5PM and on Sunday starting around 6AM. The QST listing was fouled up, offering things we did not know about. ARRL apparently did a cut and paste from another clubs submission. However since it was printed we will provide an antenna forum, provide for a QRP rig judging, (no mobile installation judging), foxhunt and HF Demo Station. VE testing will take place at 10AM (reminder that the General question pool changes July 1<sup>st</sup>). There will be a club table available for members selling items on a consignment basis with 10% going to the FRRL.

**REPEATER: Analog-** Three new controllers have been purchased, one for each repeater and another as backup. They are equipped with a DVR for announcements. If necessary in case of sudden failure one controller can run both repeaters. They can be operated by internet or RF control link. General housekeeping and weed control were done at the site. We learned that this summer 6 of the 7 guy anchors and guys will be replaced in anticipation of a new 50,000 watt Qualcomm transmitter which may go up on the tower. Our UHF repeater may move to an existing antenna at the 700 foot level. Regarding the interference and static, there is a jumper between the main coax and cross band coupler, during a recent tower climb, water was found in the jumper. The tower climbers changed the jumper and replaced the coupler with a spare. The VHF machine is running at about 36 watts forward power, 9 watts reflected. There is a possibility that the antenna may need to be replaced. The cost for this would be around \$2000 with another \$500 for tower climbers. Because bad weather moved in during the original climb, the workers will return at a greatly reduced cost to recheck the work and redo it if necessary. If this does not help the SWR then a new antenna will most likely be necessary. Work may seem to take a long time to get done; this is because work must be coordinated between the site owner, tower owner, AM Station WBIG, tower climber and FRRL.

**D-STAR-** When the system was implemented there were 12 users, we are now up to 24 on 442.100. 15 kHz of bandwidth is allowed between repeater pairs, a D-Star signal is 6.5 kHz wide, and therefore the IRA is looking towards experimenting with spectrum sharing. The FRRL and NSRC (North Shore Radio Club) will test a new system known as “splintering”. NSCR and FRRL will share 442.100 with the NSRC moving down 6.5 kHz and the FRRL moving up 6.5 kHz so our machine will be at: 442.10625 MHz. If successful it will allow more repeaters to use the same amount of spectrum.

[www.ilra.net](http://www.ilra.net) has more information and explanation. [www.w9ceqillinoisdstar.org](http://www.w9ceqillinoisdstar.org) shows users. The experiment will run for one year.

**LAPTOP COMPUTERS:** The FRRL received 7 laptop computers from the St. Charles School District for our use. We can not sell the computers. They will be set up with ham radio software and a committee will be arraigned to handle distribution and control of the machines.

**FIELD DAY:** Lunch will be from 12-1 on Saturday. Dinner 6-7PM and Sunday breakfast from 7-8AM. We need volunteers with trucks to help get tables and chairs from Oswego High School to Jericho Park on Friday and back to the school on Sunday. We will have a larger Welcome Tent, more tents to keep people under cover for meals, breaks and socializing. Set up is anytime after 1PM on Friday and operations will start at 1PM Saturday, concluding 1PM Sunday. City of Aurora is providing the generator again. Coolers are needed and if you visit, please bring a bag of ice.

KA9GGF, STEFAN KOCZO, FRRL Member, SK June 9<sup>th</sup>

With no further business a motion to adjourn was made by KC9FQV, seconded by N9NTM, approved.

Break and program to follow

Respectfully Submitted:

John Spasojevich, K9COE – FRRL Secretary