



# ARCOVER

September 2024



The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League  
100 Years of continuous service to our communities

1924 2024

## Who We Are

**President:**  
Kermit Carlson W9XA

**Vice President:**  
Dan Nolan WA9FRY

**Secretary:**  
Art Shuter NN9I

**Treasurer:**  
Dan Harmon WA9YKK

**Director :1**  
Will Sperling W9WSS

**Director: 2**  
Pat Brod K9ANL  
**Director 3**

Paul Mitchell KC9SEB

**Director 4**  
John Greusel KC9OJV

**Past President:**  
Terry Todd W9AUV

**Programs:**  
Paul Mitchell KC9SEB

**Education / VE:**  
Dan Nolan WA9FRY

**License Trustee (W9CEQ):**  
Kermit Carlson, W9XA

**License Trustee (W9NE):**  
Denny Barfuss W9HI

**Newsletter Editor / PR:**  
Jerry Chapman N9JLC

**Webmaster:**  
Mark Van Daele K9MEV

**Membership Database:**  
Curt Sauer, W9YNP

**Net Coordinator:**  
Curt Sauer, W9YNP

## About Us

The Fox River Radio League, Inc. is a general interest Amateur Radio club serving the central Fox River Valley area in Illinois. Club records indicate the club has been in existence since at least 1924, and it has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, and a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization as specified in Federal IRS Statutes.

We sponsor training classes for those seeking a new or upgraded Amateur Radio license, license examination sessions, and participation in various local Public Service events. Our membership covers a broad variety of interests - if you have a specialized amateur radio interest, you will likely find camaraderie with one or more of our club members.

We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at Bethany Lutheran Church, located at 8 S. Lincoln St. in Batavia, Ill. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM and includes a short business portion, social time and a program presentation of interest.

Meetings are open to the public. Anyone interested in the amateur radio hobby are invited to attend. Family members are welcome.



**Fox River Radio League**  
Mailing Address:  
P. O Box 673  
Batavia, IL 60510-0673  
Email: [info@frrl.org](mailto:info@frrl.org)  
Website: <http://www.frrl.org>





From  
*the desk*  
 of....

FRRL President



*Kermit Carlson*

This month the FRRL celebrates the 100th Anniversary of our founding. The Anniversary Banquet takes place on our normal meeting night, the Second Tuesday of September, the 10th.

The preparations for our celebrations have been underway for the past two years. The members of the Anniversary Committee have spent thousands of hours planning the celebration; creating and conducting the W9CEQ Operating Event; researching club history; writing and creating the program for the Banquet evening. The list of accomplished tasks for the Anniversary is huge.

I would like to extend my most sincere thanks to all who have made this 100th Anniversary celebration a success.

Our next Membership meeting will be held on Tuesday October 8th.

73, Kermit W9XA

**President Carlson  
 Welcomes Our  
 New Members !!**



Call Sign	Name	License
N9NWA	Randy Zabel	EXTRA





# ARC OVER

## FOX RIVER RADIO LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES August 13, 2024

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the General Membership of the Fox River Radio League (FRRL) an Illinois not-for-profit Corporation

Meeting Minutes August 13, 2024.

The August meeting of the Fox River Radio League was conducted at Bethany Lutheran Church in Batavia, IL. There were 47 members in attendance and 3 members attended via Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 1930 CDT by President Kermit Carlson, W9XA.

Board members present.

President- Kermit Carlson W9XA

Treasurer, Dan Harmon WA9YKK

Secretary, Art Shuter NN9I

Director, Will Sperling W9WSS

Director, Paul Mitchell KC9SEB

Director, John Greusel KC9OJV

Director, Pat Brod K9ANL

Past president, Terry W9AUV

Minutes: Acceptance of the July 2024 Membership Meeting minutes as printed in the ArcOver were approved by the membership. Motion moved by Mike K9FE, 2nd Bob N9BTF.

Treasurer's Report: Dan WA9YKK reported the account bank balances as of August 3, 2024.

Reports:

100th Anniversary Committee Eve W9EVE: Plans for the banquet on September 10th at 5pm are proceeding. Gary K9MMS with Special events presented Special Certificates and QSL cards to the members who operated W9CEQ for the 100th and the members who worked the W9CEQ stations. Many thanks to Gary K9MMS and Greg N9CHA for their work in creating these awards.

Club Activities: Paul KC9SEB: Program tonight will be by Jerry KA9VMD on "Keeping the peace with your RF neighbors". The September meeting will be the 100th Anniversary Banquet. The October program will be Hermes Lite 2 by John KC9OJV. Club Activities: Paul KC9SEB: Program tonight will be by Jerry KA9VMD on "Keeping the peace with your RF neighbors". The September meeting will be the 100th Anniversary Banquet.

The October program will be Hermes Lite 2 by John KC9OJV.



**Reports Continued:**

**Membership/ Database:** Curt W9YNP advised we currently have 162 members. 137 members groups IO.

Dan Zielinski W9TVE reported on a display created by him and his sons Benjamin W9ZVE and Sawyer KD9WUX with many activities having to do with sound and ham radio. They demonstrated this at the Scouts STEM gathering.

**Public Information Officer:** Jerry reported on National Night out that they were able to operate and made a contact with Slovenia on a vertical antenna with only 18 watts. It was a successful outing and some contacts were made.

**Repeater:** Kermit, W9XA reported all repeaters are working well.

**Old Business:**

**Surplus Equipment Ad-Hoc Committee:** Dan WA9FRY was able to sell much of the equipment on hand.

**New Business:** FRRL insurance has been renewed with a new carrier.

**Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn by Mike K9FE, 2nd Dan WA9YKK. Meeting adjourned at 8:54 CDT.

Respectfully submitted,

*Art Shuter NN9I*

FRRL Secretary













**August Meeting**



# 2024

# SEPTEMBER

# FOX RIVER RADIO LEAGUE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900	2  LABOR DAY	3 1900 FRRL BOD Meeting 1930 FRRL 2m Net	4 1930 FRRL 220 Net 223.86 - 110.9	5	6	7
8 INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900	9 CW NET 28.150 2000  SSB NET 28.720 2030	10 BANQUET	11 No 220 Net	12	13	14
15 INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900	16 CW NET 28.150 2000  SSB NET 28.720 2030	17 1930 FRRL 2m Net	18 	19	20  NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21
22 INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900	23 CW NET 28.150 2000  SSB NET 28.720 2030	24 1930 FRRL 2m Net	25 1930 FRRL 220 Net 223.86 - 110.9	26	27	28
29	30			<b>MEMBER MEETING BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH 8 SOUTH LINCOLN ST. BATAVIA IL</b>		
 WCRA 2m Net 8pm 145.31 -6 107.2	 VARA 2m Net 8pm 146.79 -6 107.2	 FRRL 2m Net 7:30pm 147.21 +6 103.5	 Kane County ARES 2m Net 6:30pm 145.47 -6 103.5	 Northern Illinois ARRL 70cm Net 7:30pm 444.875 +5MHz, 114.8		



# ARC OVER

NEWS AND INFORMATION CENTER

*Local - National - International*

**ATTENTION!**

Due to the 100 year celebratory banquet  
there will

**NOT**

be a September membership meeting.



# FRRL Centennial Special Event Using W9CEQ – August Status Report

## CERTIFICATES AND QSL CARDS

As announced in previous months, commemorative FRRL Centennial certificates and QSL cards were made available for QSOs made during the special on-air event from June 1 through 15. As mentioned before, there are two types of certificates:

(1) For members operating from their own station, using the historic club call W9CEQ.

Gold border, gold foil sticker embossed with FRRL logo, and colored ribbons.

The quantity and colors of ribbons vary on the certificates, and they are indicative of the level of effort made.

(2) For members, and anyone, who made one or more QSOs with W9CEQ via their own call sign.

Green border, gold foil sticker embossed with FRRL logo, and gold-edged purple ribbon.

All FRRL members who operated using the call sign W9CEQ, as well as those who made a QSO with W9CEQ, via their own call sign, will automatically receive appropriate certificate/s and QSL cards. It is not necessary to make a formal request.

Amateur radio operators who are not FRRL members and who made one or more QSOs with W9CEQ operations during the event period could obtain FRRL centennial QSL cards and certificates by submitting formal requests via mail. Information about the event and instructions on how to request a QSL and certificate was provided on the W9CEQ information page on QRZ.com and on the FRRL website at frrl.org.

All certificates are mounted in a dual-certificate folder. One side holds the certificate, and the other side holds a one-page history of the formative years of the FRRL – with photos. The history sheet is printed on glossy photo paper.

The certificate format and information were determined by N9CHA Greg Braun and K9MMS Gary Hornbuckle working together to meet their design criteria. Greg designed the certificate artwork, fully composed and designed the history page, and printed all of the color certificates and history pages. Greg and Gary worked together to assemble the certificates and folders. The distribution lists / spreadsheets were made by Gary via a review of the master W9CEQ log which contained all data submitted by 17 members who operated as W9CEQ. The certificate, history, folder, and QSL card packages were prepared with respect to the appropriate spreadsheets for both W9CEQ operators and members contacting CEQ via their own calls.

Photos of both certificate types, the folder format, and the QSL card are shown below.

## SPECIAL EVENT PARTICIPANTS

29 requests were received via postal mail for W9CEQ centennial QSL cards

18 requests were received via postal mail for a certificate plus QSL card.

(No new mail requests were received since mid July.)

24 FRRL members made one or more QSOs with W9CEQ via their own call sign.

17 FRRL members operated using the club call sign W9CEQ

Six of the 17 made 100 or more QSOs, and they will be given an additional, special award at the centennial banquet on September 10.



A spreadsheet showing the W9CEQ operators, quantities of QSOs made by mode, and total number of QSOs was shown in the operating event status report in the August edition of the ArcOver.

## DISTRIBUTION OF CERTIFICATES AND QSL CARDS

As of August 16, all certificates and QSL cards have been sent in response to mail-in requests. During the regular FRRL membership meeting on August 13, 15 of 24 certificate packages, for making QSOs with W9CEQ via home call signs, were distributed (green border certificates). Also during the meeting, 10 certificate packages were distributed to W9CEQ operators. Six of the certificate packages contained items for both being a W9CEQ operator and making a QSO with the home call sign.

Unclaimed certificate and QSL card packages will be available for pick up at the check-in table for the September 10 FRRL Centennial banquet. Any remainders will be mailed.

As mentioned before, to all FRRL members who operated using the call sign W9CEQ, and to those who made one or more QSOs with W9CEQ via their own call sign, whether you made 1, a few, or many QSOs, your participation is very much appreciated. You all helped to make this event a success. Thank you.

73,

Gary . K9MMS



**Certificate for Making One or More QSOs with W9CEQ via home call sign.**







Certificate for Making 20+ QSOs while Operating as W9CEQ



Certificate for Making 100+ QSOs while Operating as W9CEQ



A galena crystal and a few feet of wire...



**1924 Wireless Club**  
Students from West Aurora High School had a wireless club since 1923. Sylvester Miller, shown in the back row, 5th from the left, was the club's instructor. Activities included radio theory, building apparatus, tuning in various broadcasts of the day, and making contacts using their club call, W9R (1924-1925).  
FRRL founding member, Edward "Cley" Chase, (front row, 3rd from left), served as VP of the club and graduated the same year. In the summer, he took the trip into Chicago and passed his license exam, receiving his call sign, 9NE, which the club uses today. Future QSL cards, newspaper articles, & club documents celebrate "Since 1924" as the founding year of the FRRL.

**1941 W9CEQ**  
Becomes our club call.  
Treasurer John McFarland W9WEX, 10 Fox St. was the address of the Aurora Recreation Center. The building no longer stands, behind this location is the back of the Paramount Theatre. Fox St. is now called East Denver Place. CTAQ - "Coy's River Quest"



**1930 FRRL**  
The earliest known photograph of the FRRL membership. The photo may have been taken at the City Hall building, downtown Aurora.  
Back row, l.r.t.  
W9EJL Louis W. Dinkel (c. 1930)  
W9GHI Thomas P. Martin (c. 1930)  
W9GZL Grote Reber (c. 1929)  
W9FJL Dallas W. Wolf (c. 1928)  
unknown  
unknown  
W9EJA Harold Hawkins (c. 1931)  
Edwards, l.r.t.  
W9CXA Stephen F. Bushman (c. 1930)  
W9ALZ Clarence H. Phillips (c. 1928)  
W9ALZ Walter W. Baetzle (c. 1927-President)  
W9DTC Joseph A. Shale (c. 1925-Sec. Treas.)  
W9CJL Paul Berg (c. 1930)  
W9RJM Clayton H. Getzler (c. 1932)  
W9BLLT Orson Watson "Watty" Gibbs (c. 1927)  
Missing: Edward "Cley" Chase W9NE (c. 1924)  
In 1928, SAJZ & SDTC wrote to the ARRL and applied for "Club Affiliation" Our first club Constitution and Bylaws were submitted.  
ARRL approval was on December 4, 1928.

**Grote Reber W9GZL**  
Became internationally known as pioneer of radio astronomy.



**1929 FRRL Logo**  
The first time our logo appears is on club stationery. "Paid for by sales to members for personal use."



**FRRL Handicraft**  
The 1st handicraft was in 1928. Early versions included Phillips Park and Exposition Park. For many years it was the main source of club income. The last handicraft was in 2019 held at Aurora Central Catholic High School in Aurora, Illinois.

**\*A galena crystal and a few feet of wire...**  
This quote from Cley Chase W9NE was printed in the Beacon-News, August 13, 1987 "In the days of homemade radios, broadcasting was spelled KYW" With scarce money to hand, Cley would go down to the old Kenzie store on Broadway and buy a Galena Crystal detector. He'd move a "cat whisker" around until a radio station signal was found.



Folder with Certificate and History Page.



# Fox River Radio League

June 1<sup>st</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>  
2024



Centennial  
Celebration

## W9CEQ

### W9CEQ

Fox River Radio League

### CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

1924 - 2024

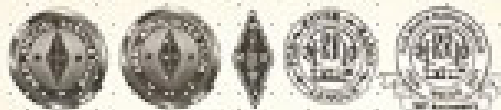
SPECIAL  
EVENT

JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>-15<sup>TH</sup>

Confirming QSO's with	Date UTC	UTC	Band	Mode	RS(T)	Operator
K9MMS	6-1-2024	1733	20	CW	599	K9DXA
	6-15-2024	1535	20	SSB	59	K9ANL
	6-15-2024	1704	15	FT8	-13	K9SEB

The Fox River Radio League was established in 1924 as a club offering a wide variety of activities and services to the amateur community. The Club serves the greater Fox River Valley amateurs in northeastern Illinois. In the early 1920's, a group of young high school students, mostly from the Aurora area, began the technological journey of wireless experimentation at a very exciting time in history. Those interested in the new technology learned the fundamentals of radio in local high schools. Wireless clubs in the 1920's were very popular with both boys and girls. Those who were intent on transmitting as well as receiving, needed to obtain a license. So, they traveled to the Chicago-US Custom-House to sit for the license-examiner who would conduct tests. Radio theory and the ability to both send and receive Morse Code were required. Little did these young experimenters know their efforts to build a club would have continued on for a century. The FRRL is an ARRL Affiliated Club and a Special Service Club. You'll find us on the air during Field Day using W9NE in honor of one of our founding members. Our GDPA station uses W9CEQ.

Fox River Radio League  
PO Box 673  
Batavia, IL 60510  
www.FRRRL.org



Thanks for the QSO's  
QSL:  PSE  TNX

73. *Ray*

Centennial QSL Card

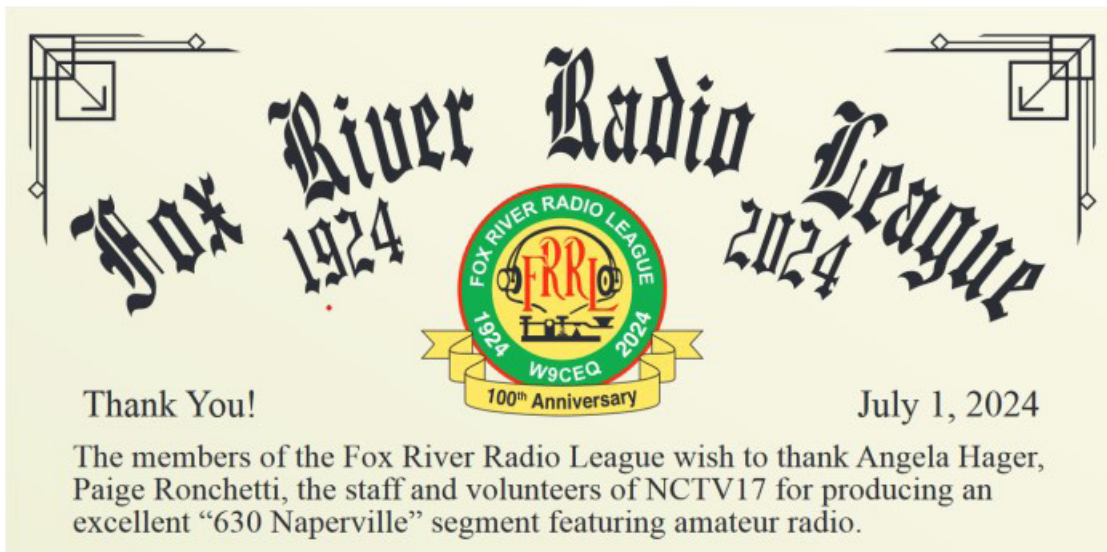


**AUGUST  
6th 2024**



**ELBURN  
&  
CAMPTON HILLS**





## How to Order CLUB BADGES

**Image Awards**

**1031 E State Street  
Geneva, Illinois**

**5% fee for Credit Cards**

**Order by Email to;**

**[ImageAwards@SBCglobal.net](mailto:ImageAwards@SBCglobal.net)**

**Ask for the FRRL Name Badge and provide Name and Callsign**



# **Celebrating a Century: Reflections from Evelyn Schneider, W9EVE, Chairperson of The Fox River Radio League's 100th Anniversary Committee**

As we mark the extraordinary milestone of our 100th anniversary, I am both honored and delighted to share some reflections from my role as the chairperson of the Fox River Radio League's 100th Anniversary Committee. Almost 2 years ago I received a phone call asking if I would consider running for a position on the Fox River Radio League Board. As a newer ham radio operator, I thought I didn't have the knowledge or skills to be an asset to the board. I was assured that my ability to speak with people and my personality were what they were looking for and not to worry. Leading this endeavor has been a journey of immense pride, nostalgia, and inspiration. Our centennial celebration is not just a reflection of our past, but a beacon guiding us toward a bright and promising future.

## **A Century of Achievement**

The Fox River Radio League's 100 years represent a tapestry of growth, resilience, and shared success. From the humble beginnings of a high school wireless club, the FRRL continues to embrace new technologies and furthers the understanding of radio through experimentation. A key function of the FRRL is to educate those interested in the hobby, and share knowledge with each other. As such, we became a cornerstone of Amateur Operators as we have navigated challenges, embraced opportunities, and forged an enduring legacy. This centennial is more than a celebration of our past achievements; it is a testament to the collective spirit, dedication, and vision of every individual who has been part of this journey.

## **The Role of the Chairperson**

As chairperson, my role has been both challenging and immensely rewarding. Steering a committee tasked with planning an event of this magnitude involves coordinating countless details, managing diverse perspectives, and ensuring that every aspect of the celebration honors our rich history while looking forward to the future. My responsibility has been to lead with clarity, enthusiasm, and a deep appreciation for the significance of this occasion. We even had some hearty laughs!

## **A Team Effort**

The success of our 100th anniversary celebration is the result of the hard work and dedication of a remarkable team. Each committee member has contributed their unique skills and insights, and their commitment has been truly exciting. From historical research, to organizing and creating our special event; from beautiful banners and posters to scanning and cataloging thousands of artifacts; from our celebration banquet to the making of a professional film production that showcases the last century of the Fox River Radio League, every task has been executed with passion and precision. This collective effort is a powerful reminder of what we can achieve when we come together with a shared purpose.

## **Looking Forward and The Celebration**

As we celebrate our 100th Anniversary, it's important to remember that our journey does not end here. The 100th Anniversary is a launchpad for future growth and innovation. We have laid the groundwork for the next chapter of our story, one that embraces new challenges and opportunities with the same spirit of excellence that has defined our past. Our anniversary events were designed to honor our past, celebrate our present, and inspire our future. Our committee work may be nearing the end, but the fruits of our labor will be showcased for the next 100 years and beyond. My hope is that other radio clubs will look at our efforts and have a foundation for their anniversary celebrations.

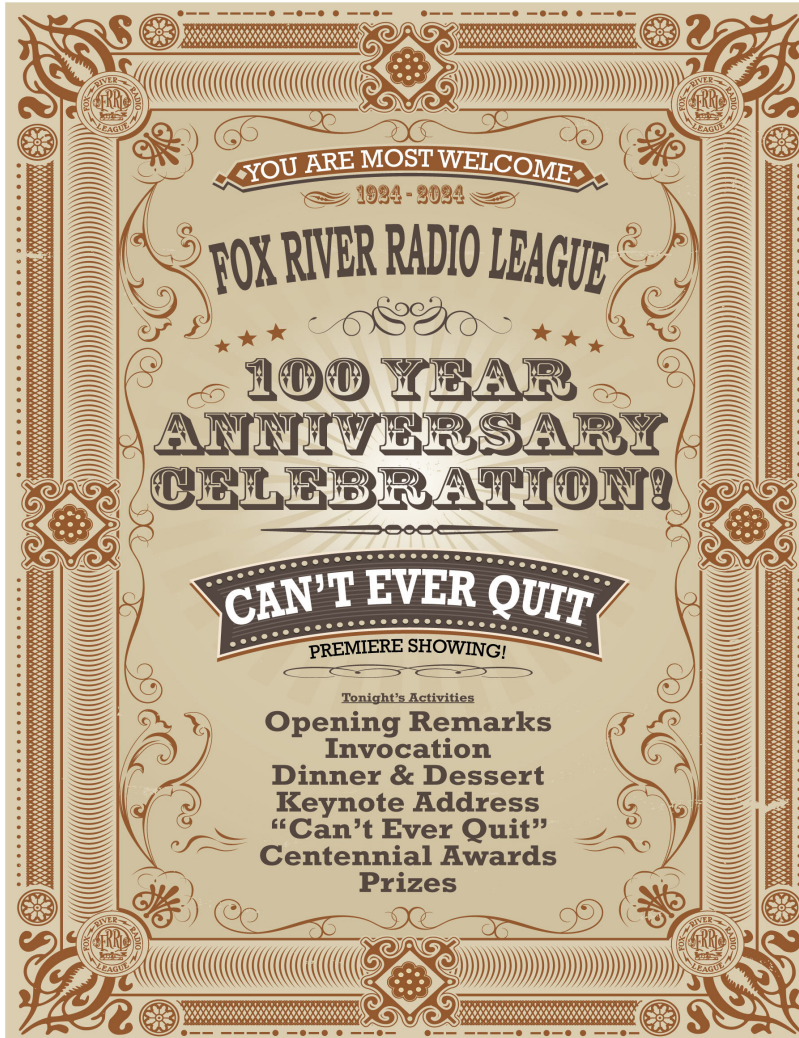


## A Heartfelt Thank You

To all our FRRL members - past, present and future - thank you. Your unwavering support and involvement have been the basis of our success. Whether you are young, or not so young, whether you've been with us for decades or are new to our radio community, your contributions have helped shape our organization into what it is today. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your chairperson. It has been an honor to be part of this historic celebration, and I look forward to what the future holds for our incredible organization, the Fox River Radio League. Happy 100th Anniversary!



**Evelyn, W9EVE**  
**100 Year Anniversary Committee Chair**  
**630-417-4849**



**September 10, 2024**  
**Bethany Lutheran Church**  
**8 South Lincoln Street**  
**Batavia, Illinois**



# W9DXCC Convention

The W9DXCC convention is held annually in the Chicagoland area.

Sponsored by the Northern Illinois DX Association, this convention is one of the premier DX conventions in the country.

Enjoy the day filled with quality programs, equipment vendors, QSL card checking, prizes, and socializing.

Be sure to end the day by staying for the convention banquet.

Friday, September 13th, 2024 (Universities)

Saturday, September 14th, 2024 (W9DXCC Convention & Banquet)

## W9DXCC Convention

### Schedule

### Programs

### Universities

### Registration



The raffle prize is an Icom IC-7300.

Raffle Prize #1



FLEX-8400

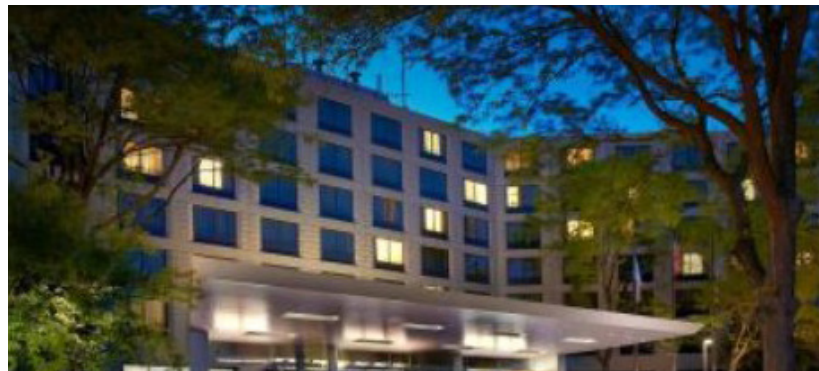
Raffle Prize #2

### Location



### Chicago Marriott Naperville

1801 North Naper Boulevard  
Naperville, Illinois 60563





# ARRL IT Security Incident - Report to Members



Sometime in early May 2024, ARRL's systems network was compromised by threat actors (TAs) using information they had purchased on the dark web. The TAs accessed headquarters on-site systems and most cloud-based systems. They used a wide variety of payloads affecting everything from desktops and laptops to Windows-based and Linux-based servers. Despite the wide variety of target configurations, the TAs seemed to have a payload that would host and execute encryption or deletion of network-based IT assets, as well as launch demands for a ransom payment, for every system.

This serious incident was an act of organized crime. The highly coordinated and executed attack took place during the early morning hours of May 15. That morning, as staff arrived, it was immediately apparent that ARRL had become the victim of an extensive and sophisticated ransomware attack. The FBI categorized the attack as "unique" as they had not seen this level of sophistication among the many other attacks, they have experience with. Within 3 hours a crisis management team had been constructed of ARRL management, an outside vendor with extensive resources and experience in the ransomware recovery space, attorneys experienced with managing the legal aspects of the attack including interfacing with the authorities, and our insurance carrier. The authorities were contacted immediately as was the ARRL President.

The ransom demands by the TAs, in exchange for access to their decryption tools, were exorbitant. It was clear they didn't know, and didn't care, that they had attacked a small 501(c)(3) organization with limited resources. Their ransom demands were dramatically weakened by the fact that they did not have access to any compromising data. It was also clear that they believed ARRL had extensive insurance coverage that would cover a multi-million-dollar ransom payment. After days of tense negotiation and brinkmanship, ARRL agreed to pay a \$1 million ransom. That payment, along with the cost of restoration, has been largely covered by our insurance policy.

From the start of the incident, the ARRL board met weekly using a continuing special board meeting for full progress reports and to offer assistance. In the first few meetings there were significant details to cover, and the board was thoughtfully engaged, asked important questions, and was fully supportive of the team at HQ to keep the restoration efforts moving. Member updates were posted to a single page on the website and were posted across the internet in many forums and groups. ARRL worked closely with professionals deeply experienced in ransomware matters on every post. It is important to understand that the TAs had ARRL under a magnifying glass while we were negotiating. Based on the expert advice we were being given, we could not publicly communicate anything informative, useful, or potentially antagonistic to the TAs during this time frame.

Today, most systems have been restored or are waiting for interfaces to come back online to interconnect them. While we have been in restoration mode, we have also been working to simplify the infrastructure to the extent possible. We anticipate that it may take another month or two to complete restoration under the new infrastructure guidelines and new standards.

Most ARRL member benefits remained operational during the attack. One that wasn't was Logbook of The World (LoTW), which is one of our most popular member benefits. LoTW data was not impacted by the attack and once the environment was ready to again permit public access to ARRL network-based servers, we returned LoTW into service. The fact that LoTW took less than 4 days to get through a backlog that at times exceeded over 60,000 logs was outstanding.

The board at the ARRL Second Board Meeting in July voted to approve a new committee, the Information Technology Advisory Committee. This will be comprised of ARRL staff, board members with demonstrated experience in IT, and additional members from the IT industry who are currently employed as subject matter experts in a few areas. They will help analyze and advise on future steps to take with ARRL IT within the financial means available to the organization.

We thank you for your patience as we navigated our way through this. The emails of moral support and offers of IT expertise were well received by the team. Although we are not entirely out of the woods yet and are still working to restore minor servers that serve internal needs (such as various email services like bulk mail and some internal reflectors), we are happy with the progress that has been made and for the incredible dedication of staff and consultants who continue to work together to bring this incident to a successful conclusion.



## Beyond The Beaten Path

This is first of (hopefully) a monthly series where I will discuss some of the less popular aspects of Ham Radio.

This month I want to share with you, "Why I Have a Special Place in My Heart for 220 MHz"

I got my Novice license as sophomore in high school way back in 1977. Before I got my license I was listening to a few strong 2 meter repeaters on a Radio Shack Patrolman VHF radio. This was the beginning of my fascination with repeaters. I wanted to talk on one and I wanted to understand how they worked. I think I read my copy of the ARRL's book "FM and Repeaters" 10 times before I understood what it was trying to tell me, Back then the repeaters were busy all the time, usually with interesting technical discussions. I spent 8 months as a novice before I got up the nerve to face the dreaded FCC examiners in downtown Chicago. After I got my Technician license I bought a 2 meter radio so I could join in on the "repeater fun". Did I mention that the 2 meter repeaters were busy all the time? I was barely able to check-in to a few nets let alone have a proper conversation. About a year later I heard a QSO where the guys were talking about the 220 MHz band. They said it was "a place with room to breathe". I thought to myself, this is exactly what I want, so I fired off an order for a Clegg FM-76 radio and some crystals (remember them?). I cut a 1/4 wave vertical and I was on the air. The repeaters were quite active but I had no problem getting "my turn" on the machine. I convinced a few friends to give 220 a try and I rarely used 2 meters after that. I have been a fan of 220 ever since. Repeater activity has been at an all-time low recently, and 220 has become a ghost town. Now that the club has the 223.86 repeater, I look forward to a resurgence of activity on my favorite repeater band.

73, W9YNP



223.86 Mhz  
Mode FM

-1.6 Mhz Offset, 110.9 access Tone





# WIRES-X IS BACK



WIRES-X is up and running on the 147.225 repeater.

The bugs have been squashed and the system is working as expected.

The node name was changed from W9CEQ-ND to W9CEQ-RPT so you may lose your saved settings.

Please give it a try - we think you will be pleased.

73,  
Curt



If you have any memorabilia about the club please contact:

Chair [Eve Schneider W9EVE](#)

**PAY OR RENEW  
MEMBERSHIP DUES  
OR  
REPEATER DONATION  
[ON LINE HERE](#)**

Membership rates are as follows:

REG: Regular dues are \$30.00 per year,

FAM: Family dues are \$40.00 per year (family members at the same address)

SRC: Senior Citizen dues (65 and older) are \$25.00 per year,

STU: Student (Full time, under 22) dues are \$25.00 per year.

MIL: Active Military dues are \$25.00 per year.

You can also help support the FRRL Repeaters by making a \$10.00 (or more!) annual contribution.



# FRRL Groups.io Group Message Board

By Curt Sauer W9YNP

The FRRL has an active mailing list group on Groups.io. Members in good standing are eligible to join the mailing group. You should receive an invite upon joining the group to the email listed in your application. Your active club membership is required to be a member of our Groups.io group.

The group provides the following features:

Messages/Mailing List

View the calendar

Access to files including the club Bylaws and Membership Roster

Access to photos submitted by members. Great for sharing projects you're working on!

How do I join?

When your FRRL club membership is confirmed you will receive an email invite from Groups.io. The club membership form requests an email to be used by the club or members to contact you for club or ham radio related subject. If you already have a Groups.io account under a different email and wish to combine them there is a second field for that email. If it is filled in, you will get the invite in that email.

When you join, you can choose a profile you'd like to display to the group, select the email address at which you'd like to receive group messages, choose how you receive group messages, and more. You can receive messages via email or by reading the message boards within the group.

If you have questions or changes please contact the Group Administrator: [GroupAdmin \[at\] frrl.org](mailto:GroupAdmin[at]frrl.org).

## **GOUPS.IO - It's more than just messages.**

When you first login to your groups.io account, at <https://groups.io>, you will be presented with a list of the groups that you belong to.

Click on FRRL|Members

You will now see the groups messages in the right window pane and the navigation pane on the left.

Messages are the bulk of what we share and there are a lot of them. The web page has a very useful search function to find exactly what you want.

The following are a few sections that some members may not be aware of.

### Photos:

Members may share photos of Ham related activities here.

Show us a picture of your shack or your latest restoration/repair.

As long as it's Ham Radio related you can put a pic here.

Just click on the "New Album" button to add your photos.

### Calendar:

This doesn't have much in it at the moment, just meeting and Net reminders, but more is planned.

### Files:

This is where the important things are stored.

Example, the club roster is located in a directory called "Roster\_and\_ByLaws"

If you can't sleep and want to read the club's ByLaws, they are here as well.

Many of the presentations given after the meetings are also here.



Between GROUPS.IO and the club web page at <https://frrl.org> you are sure to find the FRRL information that you are looking for.





**If You Have Anything**  
**For Sale**  
**To Trade**  
**Looking For/Or**  
**To Loan**  
**Advertise Here**

Golden Rules  
of Borrowing

- Return** it Quickly
- Return** it in Great Condition
- Break** it - Replace it
- Return** the Favor

Hi All,

Just a friendly reminder that the FRRL conducts regular nets on 10 meters on Monday nights local time.

7:30pm (00:30 UTC) - 28420 kHz. A net for new Hams (especially Technicians) to encourage anyone with a license to get on the air using a shortwave frequency. Many new Amateur Radio Operators find it easy to build a 10 meter antenna when they buy their first HF transceiver. Anyone with a valid FCC Amateur Radio license can join in the conversation where we can talk about anything from pets, cars, activities, antennas, radios, etc. Here is an example of a 28420 net QSO (see MP3 audio Attachment).

8:00pm (01:00 UTC) - 28150 kHz, CW 10-10 net.

8:30pm (01:30 UTC) - 28720 kHz Phone (SSB) 10-10 net. 10-10 nets are sponsored by members of the Ten-Ten International Net organization. Its purpose is "to promote activity and good operating practice on the ten meter amateur band." You do not have to be a Ten-Ten member to participate. [www.ten-ten.org/what-is-ten-ten](http://www.ten-ten.org/what-is-ten-ten)

**Tom Lebryk**  
**KD9NPR**





# W9CEQ Radio Nets



**Sunday**  
All Operators Net  
1900 hrs (7pm) local time  
147.21 103.5PL +600

**Monday**  
1930 hrs (7:30pm) local time 28.420 USB Phone  
2000 hrs (8pm) local time 28.150 CW  
2030 hrs (8:30 pm) local time 28.720 USB Phone



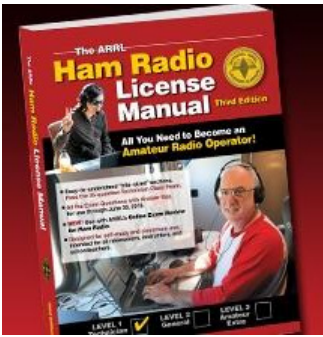
**Tuesday**  
1930 (7:30 pm) local time  
147.21 103.5PL +600  
Except for the 2nd Wednesday of the month



**Wednesday**  
1900 hrs (7:00pm) local time  
223.860 110.9kHz PL -1.6Mhz  
Except for the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

**New Time !!**

We will have an informal net with checkins and a question of the day. The goal of the net is to encourage 220 usage along with getting to know your fellow 220 Mhz users so that we can exchange usage and coverage data to ensure that we have one of the best 220 repeaters in the area.

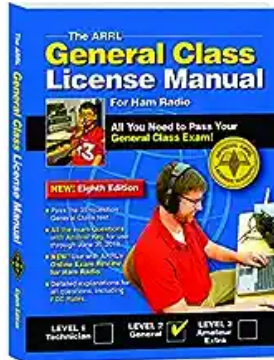


**Technician Class**  
**Wednesday Evenings**  
**6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.**

**Start: TBD**  
**End:**



**Tech & General** classes are done on **Zoom**. The Meeting Link to be distributed prior to the class.



**General Class**  
**Thursday Evenings**  
**6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.**

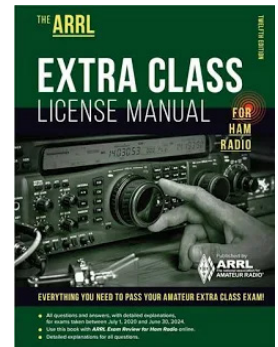
**Start: TBD**  
**End:**

**EXTRA** classes are held in person at:



**Extra Class**  
**Saturday Mornings**  
**9:00.AM. to 12:30 P.M.**

**Start: TBD**  
**End:**



The Fox River Radio League (FRRL) presents regular training classes focused toward new Amateurs interested in gaining their Technician class license or upgrading to the General and Extra class licenses.

These are free courses where you will learn everything you need to receive or upgrade to the appropriate FCC radio license.

The textbook for the class will be the official ARRL License Manual. Books are available for purchase via the club at a discounted rate by emailing [education \[at\] frrl.org](mailto:education[at]frrl.org).

Classes are instructor-led, and you can expect engaging conversations to ensue around the topics of discussion.

In addition to our regularly scheduled bi-monthly testing we will be scheduling a dedicated VE session after discussing best availability with the class participants. For more information on VE sessions, please see [VE Test Sessions](#).

**We are in need of**  
**Instructors**

If you are willing to teach a section or two contact [education@frrl.org](mailto:education@frrl.org)

Please Note that Tech & General classes are 9 weeks long..  
 Extra classes are 12 weeks long.  
 You can contact Dan Nolan at: [Education@frrl.org](mailto:Education@frrl.org)  
 if you have any questions

Students should read the material in advance of the class. Also bring an inexpensive calculator like a TI-30 x and a notebook and pencil or pen.



# VE Testing

The FRRL, in conjunction with the ARRL VEC, sponsors regular amateur examinations the third Thursday of every March, April, May and June. Ad-hoc sessions are planned during major events and will be added to the schedule here as well.

Upcoming Testing Schedule:

July 18, 2024  
September 19, 2024

Testing Location:  
Geneva Lutheran Church  
301 S 3rd St,  
Geneva, IL 60134



Please also be sure to bring:

- Photo identification
- Your FCC generated FCC Registration Number (FRN).
- The fee of \$15.00. (The FRRL receives no portion of this fee.)
- If upgrading bring your original FCC HAM Radio License (or the documentation you received) and a photocopy of your license.

If you have questions about the testing program, please email the Chairman at: [ve@frrl.org](mailto:ve@frrl.org)

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## **Illinois Traffic Net**



You can also participate in one (or all) of the Illinois Traffic Nets. Everyone is welcome with or without traffic. The nets are the North Central Phone Net, Daily (M-F) at 7 a.m. local time, on 3912 kHz LSB; the Illinois Phone Net, Monday – Friday at 4:45 p.m. local time, on 3857 kHz LSB and on Sunday at 8 a.m. on 3940 kHz; and the Illinois Sideband Net, Daily at 6 p.m. local time, on 3905 kHz LSB.



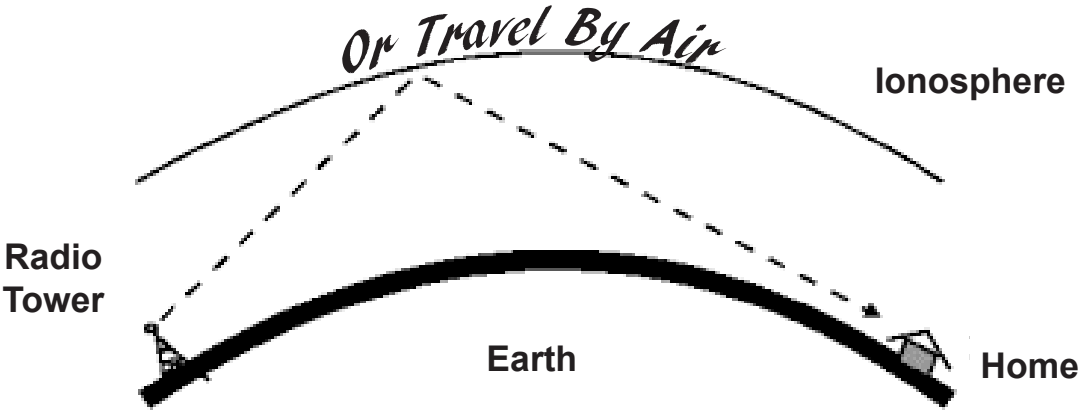




September 28 | [Red Rivers Radio Amateurs Hamfest](#), ARRL Dakota Division Convention, West Fargo, North Dakota



October 18 - 20 | [Pacificon](#), ARRL Pacific Division Convention, San Ramon, California





# Ham Fests

09/21-22/2024 Midwest Superfest

Location: Chilicothe Illinois

Website: <https://www.w9uvi.org/midwest-superfest/>



09/22/2024 CFMC Radio Expo 2024

Location: Boone County Fairgrounds Belvidere, Illinois 61008

Website: <https://chicagofmclub.org/cfmc-radio-expo-2024/>



## ARRL Contests Update



Please go to: <http://www.arrl.org/contest-update-issues?issue=2023-09-27>



# The Radio Amateur's Code

The Radio Amateur is...

**CONSIDERATE...** He never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

**LOYAL...** He offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in his country through which Amateur Radio in his country is represented nationally and internationally.

**PROGRESSIVE...** He keeps his station up to date. It is well build and efficient. His operating practice is above reproach.

**FRIENDLY...** He operates slowly and patiently when requested; offers friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

**BALANCED...** Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

**PATRIOTIC...** His station and skills are always ready for service to country and community

...adapted from the original Amateur's Code, Written by Paul M Segal, W9EEA, in 1928

© John Devoldere 0N4UN and Mark Demeuleneere 0N4WW

Taken from: [Ethics and Operating Procedures for the Radio Amateur.](#)

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## BRING BACK "RADIO IN THE PARK"

Harry Jones K9DXA" started "Radio in the Park" years ago. His idea was take your radio out to a local park and set it up and operate. Since we can't have any thing big, just take your rig, wear your mask, set up an antenna, radio and have fun.



The idea of this is bring ham radio to the public. Make a small sign with your name, call sign, and please add FRRL also. Would like some photo of your operation. May get someone to take a picture of you operating. Will try to get your picture into the news letter. Please send a short report to me at my FRRL address. [Director3@frrl.org](mailto:Director3@frrl.org)



There are plenty of volunteer organizations that could use your radio skills.



Consider volunteering  
you can make  
the difference !!



**American Red Cross**



The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible to apply for membership in ARES. Training may be required or desired to participate fully in ARES. Please inquire at the local level for specific information. Because ARES is an amateur radio program, only licensed radio amateurs are eligible for membership. The possession of emergency-powered equipment is desirable, but is not a requirement for membership.

## **ARES**

Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible to apply for membership in ARES.

### ARES Resources

• [Download the ARES Manual \[PDF\]](#)

• [ARES Field Resources Manual \[PDF\]](#)

• [ARES Standardized Training Plan Task Book \[Fillable PDF\]](#)

• [Emergency Communications Training](#)

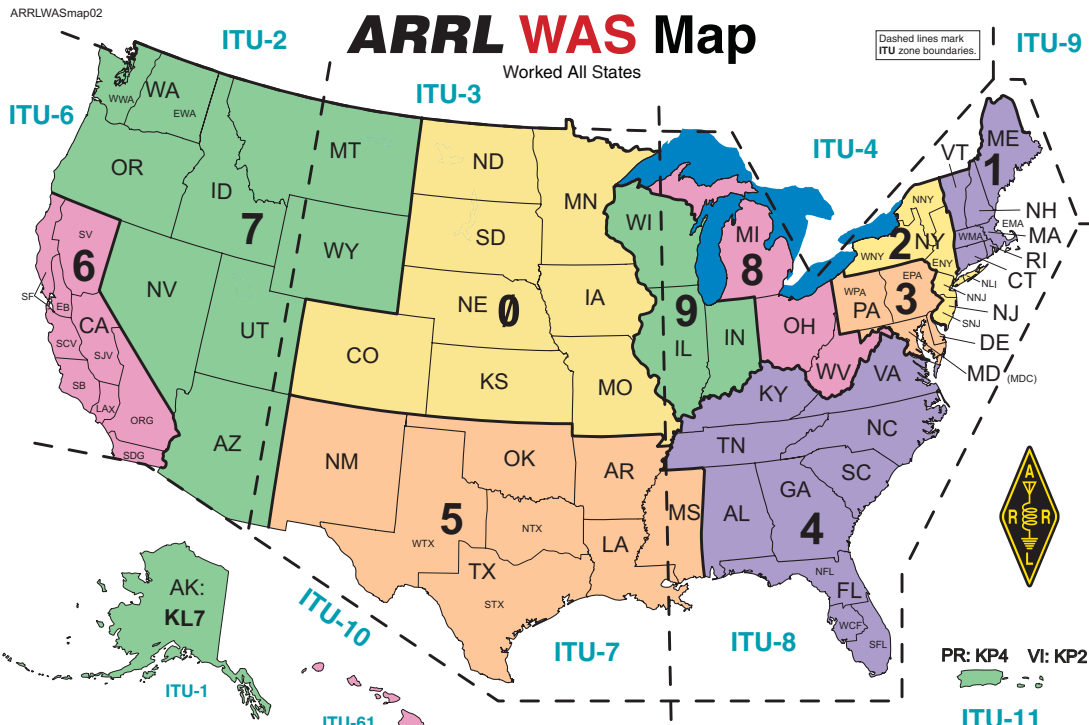
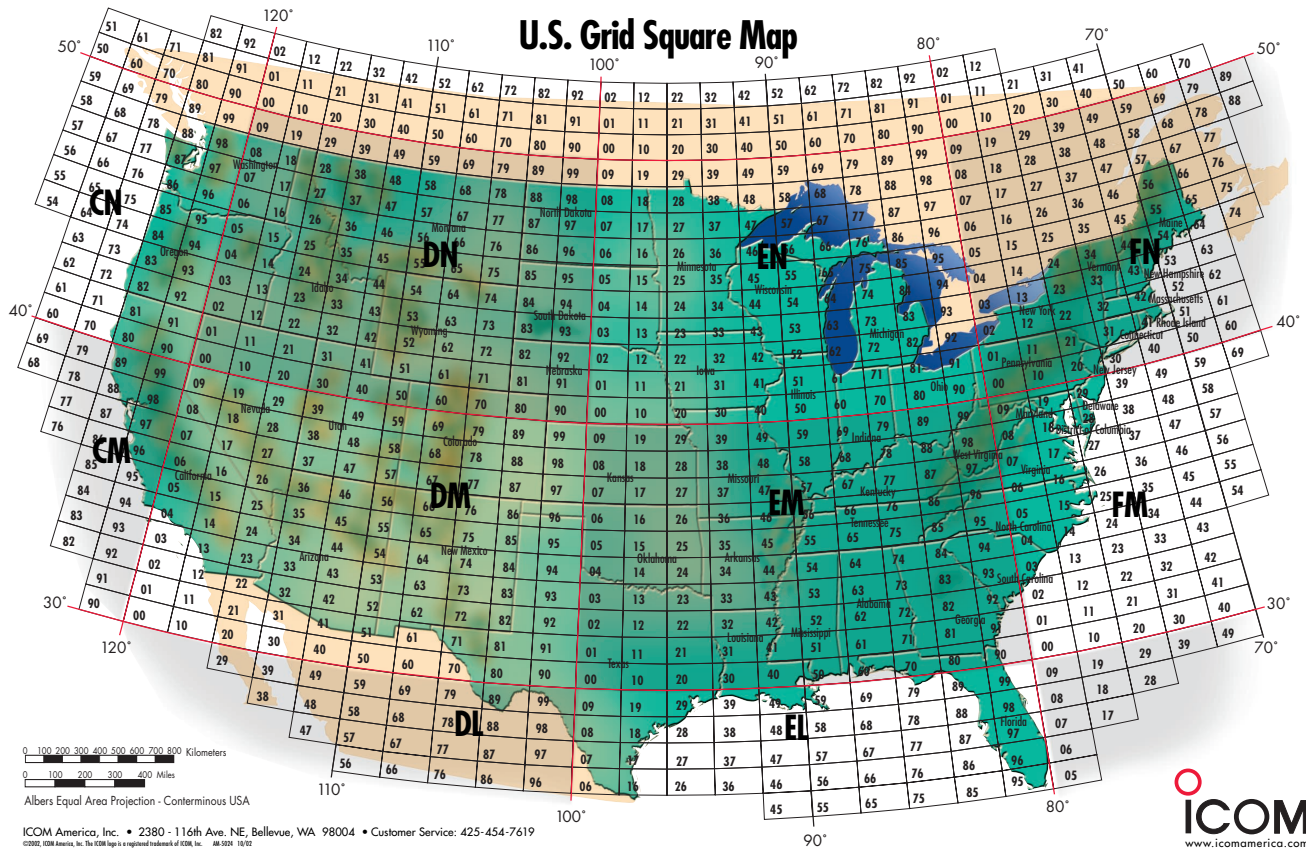


**Kane County ARES**

**Information**

[Click Here](#)





**ARRL** The national association for  
**AMATEUR RADIO**

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**ARRL We're At Your Service**

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Getting Started in Amateur Radio  
Exams  
ARRL on the World Wide Web

860-594-0200 (Fax 860-594-0259)  
Toll-Free 1-888-277-5289 (860-594-0355)  
Toll-Free 1-888-277-5289 (860-594-0338)  
Toll-Free 1-800-326-3942 (860-594-0355)  
860-594-0300  
www.arrl.org/

hq@arrl.org  
orders@arrl.org  
membership@arrl.org  
newham@arrl.org  
vec@arrl.org





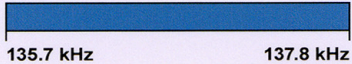
# US Amateur Radio Bands

Operator license classes: **E** = Amateur Extra **A** = Advanced **G** = General **T** = Technician **N** = Novice  
 CW operation is permitted throughout all amateur bands. Except as noted, all frequencies are in megahertz (MHz).

= RTTY, data, phone, image    
 = USB phone, RTTY, data and CW    
 = RTTY and data    
 = phone and image  
 = SSB phone    
 = CW only

## LF – Low Frequency band

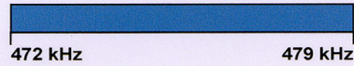
**2200 Meters (135 kHz) E,A,G**  
 1 W EIRP maximum



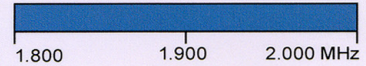
## MF – Medium Frequency bands

**630 Meters (472 kHz) E,A,G**

5 W EIRP max, except in Alaska within 496 miles of Russia where the limit is 1 W EIRP



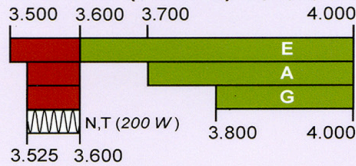
**160 Meters (1.8 MHz) E,A,G**



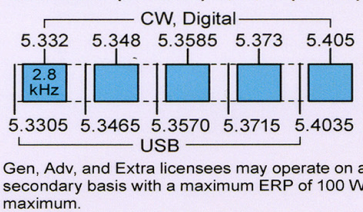
Amateurs wishing to operate on **2200 or 630 meters** must first register with the Utilities Technology Council online at <https://utc.org/plc-database-amateur-notification-process/>. You need only register once for each band.

## HF – High Frequency bands

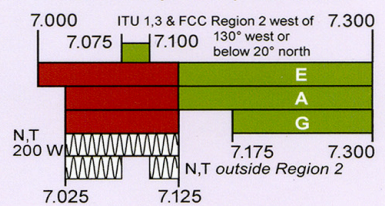
**80 Meters (3.5 MHz) E,A,G,T,N**



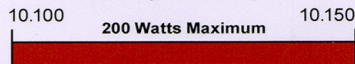
**60 Meters (5.3 MHz) E, A, G (100 W)**



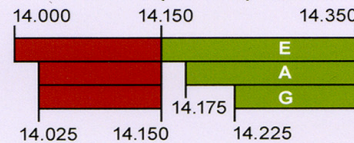
**40 Meters (7 MHz) E,A,G,T,N**



**30 Meters (10.1 MHz) E,A,G**



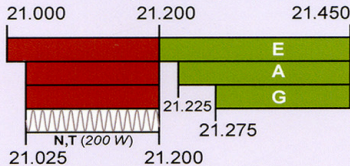
**20 Meters (14 MHz) E,A,G**



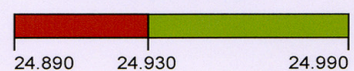
**17 Meters (18 MHz) E,A,G**



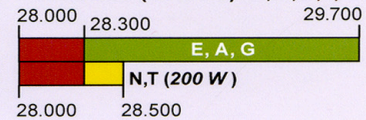
**15 Meters (21 MHz) E,A,G,T,N**



**12 Meters (24 MHz) E,A,G**

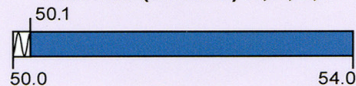


**10 Meters (28 MHz) E,A,G,T,N**

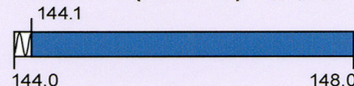


## VHF – Very High Frequency bands

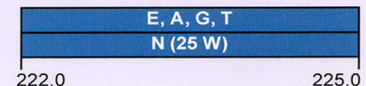
**6 Meters (50 MHz) E,A,G,T**



**2 Meters (144 MHz) E,A,G,T**

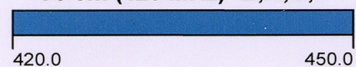


**1.25 Meters (222 MHz) E,A,G,T,N**



## UHF – Ultra High Frequency bands

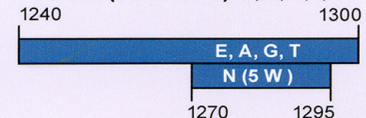
**70 cm (420 MHz) E,A,G,T**



**33 cm (902 MHz) E,A,G,T**



**23 cm (1240 MHz) E,A,G,T,N**



## SHF&EHF – Super and Extremely High Frequency bands

All licensees except Novices are authorized all modes on the following frequencies:

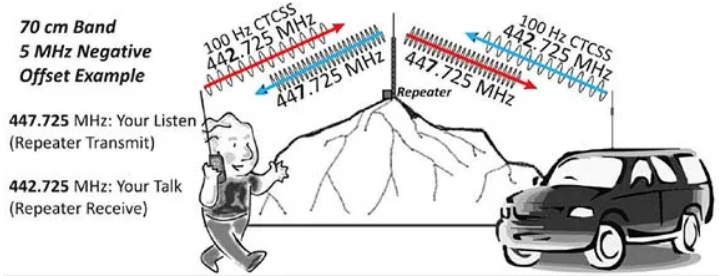
2300-2310 MHz	3300-3500 MHz	10.0-10.5 GHz	47.0-47.2 GHz	122.25-123.0 GHz	241-250 GHz
2390-2450 MHz	5650-5925 MHz	24.0-24.25 GHz	76.0-81.0 GHz	134-141 GHz	All above 275 GHz

See [www.arrl.org/band-plan](http://www.arrl.org/band-plan) for detailed band plans.

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 OTAbands rev. 1-22-20



**FRRL**



**AND OTHER  
LOCAL REPEATERS**

**FRRL Repeaters- W9CEQ**

**147.225 MHz** - Plano  
Mode: **Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X**  
+600 KHz Offset, 100.0 Access Tone

**147.21 MHz** - Elburn  
Mode: FM (Echolink Available)W  
+600 KHz Offset, 103.5 Access Tone

**444.300 MHz** - Elburn  
Mode: FM  
+5 MHz Offset, 114.8 Access Tone

**223.86 Mhz** - Aurora  
Mode FM  
-1.6 Mhz Offset, 110.9 access Tone

**442.10625 MHz (B)** - Elburn  
Mode: D-Star  
+5 MHz Offset



**Other Area Repeaters  
W9XA**

**53.910** - Batavia  
-1.0 MHz offset PL 114.8 Hz

**224.4 MHz** - Batavia  
-1.6 MHz offset PL 103.5 Hz

**443.64375 MHz** - Elburn  
+5 MHz offset DMR 311759

**443.65625 MHz** - Plano  
+5 MHz offset DMR 311760

**1292.00 MHz** - Batavia  
-20 KHz 114.8 Access Tone

**927.625** - Batavia  
+25 MHz offset PL 114.8 Hz

**W9DWP**

**145.270 MHz** - Elburn  
-600 KHz offset PL 107.2  
ARES APCO P25 NAC 293

**NIARC W9ZGP**

**147.06 MHz** - Batavia  
Mode FM +600 kHz offset PL 103.5.

**Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X Repeaters**

**K9IIR/R**

**442.275 MHz** - Schaumburg  
Mode: **Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X**  
+5 MHz, 114.8 Access Tone

**W9CHI**

**444.600 MHz** - Channahon  
Mode: **Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X 30024**  
+5 MHz, 136.5 Access Tone

**KD9FA**

**443.600 MHz** - Oswego  
Mode: **Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X**  
+5 MHz, 107.2 Access Tone

**KC9OEM**

**Primary Kane County SKYWARN / ARES**

**145.470 MHz** -St Charles  
Mode: FM  
-600 Offset, 103.5 KHz Access Tone



**444.525 MHz** -St Charles  
Mode: **Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X**  
+5 MHz Offset, Access WWTone114.8

