





The Official Newsletter of the Fox River Radio League 101 Years of continuous service to our communities

1924



2025

Who We Are

President: Kermit Carlson W9XA

Vice President: Dan Nolan WA9FRY

Secretary:
Art Shuter NN9I

Treasurer:
Dan Harmon WA9YKK

<u>Director :1</u>
Will Sperling W9WSS

Director: 2
Pat Brod K9ANL

Director 3
Paul Mitchell KC9SEB

<u>Director 4</u> 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: 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, III. 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

Website: http://www.frrl.org





— FRRL President ——



Greetings!

There is no doubt we are near the Solar Activity maximum. During the past few weeks streams of high- energy particles continue to give rise to active conditions on the HF and VHF bands -with reports of Auroral Borealis each night. VHF? Yes! I was very lucky to work VP8LP in the Falkland Islands on 6 meters during a short opening on March18th. It's certainly a special occurrence to work 10,811 km on Six Meters!

The 10 meter band has DX activity from before sunrise to well into the evening past 9PM. 100 watts and a dipole is all that is necessary to enjoy DX'ing these days.12 Meters regularly produces great amounts of DX possibilities. I strongly encourage everyone to get on the upper HF bands and enjoy this Solar Maximum.

The propagation fireworks should make

for a great Field Day this year. Pat K9ANL and Greg WB0OET have secured a very nice site for Field Day. An area on the South end of the Mooseheart Campus will play host to the FRRL FD operations this year. Our sincere thanks go

to FRRL past president Gordie KW0E for his help in helping arrange this great opportunity.

The April FRRL Meeting program on April 8th will be presented by Tom Lebryk, KD9NPR;

"Chokes: What, Why, and How."

Please plan to attend!

73 es GUD DX,

Kermit W9XA







FOX RIVER RADIO LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES MARCH 11, 2025

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

The March 11, 2025 meeting of the Fox River Radio League was conducted at Bethany Lutheran Church in Batavia, IL. There were 46 members in attendance and 6 members attended via Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 CST by President Kermit Carlson, W9XA.

Board members present:

President- Kermit Carlson K9XA

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: Motion to approve the January meeting minutes was moved by Dean KC9EOQ with 2nd by Denny W9HI. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Dan WA9YKK reported the bank account balances

as of February 11, 2025.

Reports:

Membership/ Database: Curt W9YNP advised we currently have 137 members.

Club Activities Paul KC9SEB: At the meeting tonight John KC9OJV will present a program on a pocket FT8 Device. Next month Tom KD9NPR will present a program on chokes.

Education: Dan WA9FRY: We have completed the 5th General Class. Scouts: Merit Badge University May 10, 2025 and JOTA in October

VE Update Denny W9HI – Next VE session will be March 20.

Newsletter: Jerry N9JLC: Anyone with articles please let him know.

Repeater: Kermit W9XA reported all repeaters are working well.

Field Day – Patrick K9ANL/Greg WB0OET: Field Day will be at Mooseheart June 27, 28, 29. Many volunteers are needed to help set up, operate, and take down.







Old Business:

Surplus Equipment Ad-Hoc Committee: Dan WA9FRY: Radios available on the Silent Auction.

New Business:

Kermit W9XA announced that according to the wishes of Jere Yanek KAØKPO (SK) and his family, Jere's equipment will be donated to a young amateur radio operator. According to their wishes, Jere's full HF station will be awarded to an FRRL Member under the age of 21. This station consists of an ICOM-746 Pro, ICOM PS-25 speaker, ICOM PS-125 power supply and ICOM AH-4 automatic antenna tuner. In order to be considered for the station, Please write a short statement including the answers to the following questions; What is your present station and antenna? How will you get the ICOM 746 Pro on the air once received? Please make this a short statement, as I mentioned in the club meeting - the written statement should almost fit on the back of a note-card or QSL-card. The awardee of the station must agree to create a short PowerPoint presentation about his new station and must also agree to contact the family with a note of thanks. All suitable entries will be entered into a drawing for the station which will be conducted by Dan Nolan WA9FRY and Kermit Carlson W9XA.

Kermit W9XA is looking for a club member to be the new Public Information Officer.

Upcoming Events

Next FRRL board meeting – April 1

Membership meeting – April 8

VE testing – March 20

Newsletter deadline - March 20

Field day Band Captains Zoom meeting every two weeks at 6:30pm

starting on Tuesday March 18.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn moved by Marty N9NTM, 2nd Kai KD9TTV Meeting adjourned at 8:14 CST.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Shuter NN9I

FRRL Secretary



NAME	CALL	LICENSE
Jeff Fors	N9GAZ	General
Jordan Kurtz	KE9BPO	General
Fuad Saba	KD9PWL	Technician









FOX RIVER RADIO LEAGUE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 1900 FRRL BOD Meeting 1930 FRRL 2m Net	2 1930 FRRL 220 Net 223.86 - 110.9	3	4	5
6 INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900	CW NET 28.150 2000 SSB NET 28.720 2030	8 1930 FRRL Membership Meeting No Net	9 No 220 Net	10	11	12
13 INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900	CW NET 28.150 2000 SSB NET 28.720 2030	15 1930 FRRL 2m Net	16 1930 FRRL 220 Net 223.86 - 110.9	17	18 World Amateur Radio Day	19
INFORMAL NET	21 CW NET 28.150 2000 69 SSB NET 28.720 2030	1930 FRRL 2m Net	23 1930 FRRL 220 Net 223.86 - 110.9	24	25	26
27 INFORMAL ALL OPR NET 1900	28 CW NET 28.150 2000 69 SSB NET 28.720 2030	29 1930 FRRL 2m Net	30 1930 FRRL 220 Net 223.86 - 110.9			
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE April 20th				BETHAN	EMBER MEET NY LUTHERAN LINCOLN ST.	I CHURCH
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		









NEWS AND INFORMATION CENTER

Local - National - International

Why We Love World Amateur Radio Day

April 18, 2025

Amateur Radio alerts us about a local emergency

Sometimes, thanks to Amateur Radio, we get first-hand reliable information about a local emergency, which can save lives. Television news can be slow and social media can be full of misinformation but amateur radio is often reliable.

Amateur Radio is a worldwide community

Amateur radio is a tremendous social activity. Radio amateurs often come together for different social events and radio meet-ups. The best thing is that these gatherings are available both offline and online. They are not just limited to radio amateurs alone, anyone living near the gathering can participate.

It is a day to show off

World Amateur Radio Day is a day for radio amateurs to show their skills to the world. Amateurs of different regions come together to celebrate with one another.

Amateur Radio Service was established by the I.T.U., a special agency of the United Nations formed on May 17, 1865.

International Amateur Radio Union (I.A.R.U.) was formed by the Amateur Radio pioneers in Paris on April 18, 1925, to support Amateur Radio worldwide. It was first discovered by Amateur Radio experimenters that the short wave spectrum could support worldwide propagation. The I.A.R.U. noted that in the race to exploit these shorter wavelengths, Amateur Radio was at great risk of being pushed aside.





Fox River Radio League

Amateur Radio Operators Serving the Greater Fox Valley Area Since 1924



FIELD DAY 2025 FLYER CONTEST

The 2025 Field Day Committee is in need of a flyer that promotes the FRRL 2025 Field Day outing. We will choose the winning flyer that will be announced at the April Club meeting.

Guidelines for submissions are below. Good Luck in the contest!

- 1. Contest is open to any member of the FRRL.
- 2. Submissions are due to WB00ET@OUTLOOK.COM, no later than 12N CST April 1 (no joke!)
- 3. Include your Name, Call, and E-mail address.

The following information MUST be on the flyer to qualify.

- 1. Location: Mooseheart at Mooseheart II. A map is available on the Mooseheart website if you want to use it?
- 2. Dates: June 28-29 2025
- 3. Time 6/28 10AM-5PM
- 4. ARRL Logo and FRRL Logo Like the one on this notice. Logos must be clear and not blurry.
- 5. Flyer must be on an 8.5" x 11" format. Portrait.
- 6. Must be able to copy on a standard inkjet color printer.

Optional Content

- 1. Logos that pertain to Amateur Radio, FRRL, ARRL
- 2. Pictures from previous Field Day activities.
- 3. Bright colorful backgrounds.
- 4. Cartoons about ham radio.

73 WB00ET GREG Field Day Co-Chair



3-7-2025rev. c



Equipment Donation

At the March FRRL Meeting I announced to the Club that according to the wishes of Jere Yanek KAØKPO (SK) and his family, Jere's equipment swill be donated to a young amateur radio operator. According to their wishes, Jere's full HF station will be awarded to an FRRL Member under the age of 21. This station consists of an ICOM-746 Pro, ICOM PS-25 speaker, ICOM PS-125 power supply and ICOM AH-4 automatic antenna tuner.

In order to be considered for the station, Please write a short statement including the answers to the following questions;

What is your present station and antenna?

How will you get the ICOM 746 Pro on the air once received?

Please make this a short statement, as I mentioned in the club meeting - the written statement should almost fit on the back of a note-card or QSL-card. The awardee of the station must agree to create a short PowerPoint presentation about his new station and must also agree to contact the family with a note of thanks. All suitable entries will be entered into a drawing for the station which will be conducted by Dan Nolan WA9FRY and Kermit Carlson W9XA.

Please email your responses to " <u>W9XA@yahoo.com</u>" by April 2nd in order to be considered. The announcement of the recipient will be made at the FRRL Membership Meeting on April 8th.

73, Kermit Carlson W9XA

President, Fox River Radio League



This is Jay Yanek KA0KPP, (Jere Yanek (sk) KA0KPO's son) his wife and daughter



FRRL Field Day Band Captain Zoom Phone Calls

1830hrs



April 7th June 2nd
April 21st June 9th

May 5th June 16th

May 19th June 23rd











A memorial visitation will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2025 from 10:00 am until the time of service at 12:00 pm at G.L. Hills Funeral Home, 745 Graceland Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinois. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Hap's name to your favorite charity. Funeral care provided by G.L. Hills Funeral Home and Cremation Center. For more information, please visit http://www.glhillsfuneralhome.com or call (847) 699-9003.

Hap Holly, KC9RP, founder, guiding light and moderator of the weekly amateur radio audio feature magazine known as RAIN - the Radio Amateur Information Network



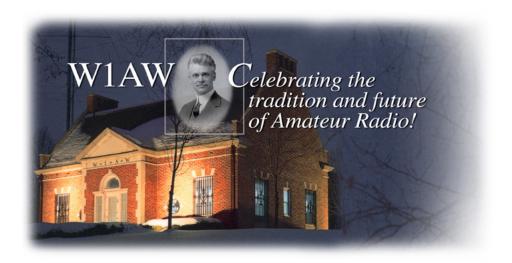
ARRL Ham Radio Open House — Site Locator Live, PR Workshop Registration

ARRL Ham Radio Open House is a national event being hosted by local amateur radio clubs in April to coincide with World Amateur Radio Day on April 18. The event is designed to highlight technical innovations in ham radio, and show off the current state of the art. It will serve as a tool to tell the story of amateur radio being a pathway to tomorrow's technical careers.

A site locator is now live on the ARRL Ham Radio Open House page at www.arrl.org/open-house. Participating clubs may enter their information so that local hams and members of the public may find the event.

A public relations workshop for those organizing an event is being held via Zoom on Wednesday, March 19. It is open to any amateur radio public information volunteer, but will be especially valuable to ARRL Public Information Coordinators, Public Information Officers, Section Managers, Affiliated Club Coordinators, club presidents, and other leaders. Registrationis required.

If you're unable to make the live interactive event, a recording will be available afterward. For more information on how to create a Ham Radio Open House at your club's station, visit www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day



W1AW is the callsign of the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station in Newington, Connecticut, operated by the American Radio Relay League. This legendary station provides daily bulletins to amateur radio operators on current activities, operating conditions and regulatory issues. Also, daily Morse code practice sessions are provided



We have a new Field Day location:

- * Mooseheart Batavia, IL
- * Enter off of Route 31, North of Mooseheart Rd. Henry Wilson St. to the gate house (shown below). Follow the FRRL Field Day signs to the grounds.



ARRL Field Day website Info: http://www.arrl.org/field-day
Thanks,

Patrick J. Brod - K9ANL & Greg Copeland - WB0OET

FRRL Field Day Chairmen







What is Field Day?



- ARRL Field Day is a radio communications event that brings together amateur radio operators within your community.
- The event is part picnic, campout, practice for emergencies, informal contest, and most of all, fun!
- ARRL Field Day is the most popular ham radio activity held annually in the US and Canada.
 - On the fourth weekend in June each year, more than 31,000 hams get together with their radio clubs, schools, or friends to operate from remote locations.



New FRRL Field Day Site!













Field Day Positions



- **Public Relations Officer OPEN** Responsible for posting notices to print and any other media. In general, publicizing our event and its location. Field Day press kit is included in Field Day packet.
- **Membership Officer OPEN** Responsible for providing membership information and guidance to visitors at the site. If a GOTA station is operating, encouraging visitors to operate. Market our Club and its activities to visiting Hams.
- Food Committee Officer OPEN Oversee all full-time & part-time Field Day participants have iced,
 water, pop, and snacks as well as organize main meals. FRRL will provide for main meals, Saturday dinner
 and Sunday breakfast. Midnight Chili. Person(s) should ensure other snacks and drinks for Friday afternoon
 staging and Saturday lunch or drinks have been arranged. FRRL will provide Drinks, water, soda and Snacks,
 chip assortment and cookies. We encourage participants to bring their own or snacks to share. BE LIKE
 ART!
- **Field Day Club Station Trustee** Denny Barfuss, W9HI is Trustee of the FRRL Club Station W9NE call sign. Denny will ensure Field Day operations conforms to FCC and event regulations, to protect the club's score and reputation. Additional responsibilities are:
 - The appropriate Band Captains license level for each station is enforced. By default, all operators are Extra Class licensed.
 - The number of transmitters in use never exceeds the number permitted by the Field Day class (e.g., 8A)
 - That no two transmitters are under the same exemption at once.
- Safety Officer Terry Todd, W9AUV. Duties include making certain antennas are safely away from power lines. Generators should be grounded properly and operated carefully. Guy wires for temporary structures or towers need to be well marked. The safety officer needs to work closely with the Field Day Chairman to ensure everyone has a safe, as well as fun time.
- GOTA Captain & Public Information Table Rubin Noceda, K9ARN & Tom Lebryk, KD9NPR. Will manage the *Get On The Air (GOTA)* station. Visitors will be directed to GOTA station where the GOTA captains will explain Amateur Radio and oversee visitors hands-on operate radio communications. Kids can get an official FRRL Field Day Sticker and/or commemorative FRRL Field Day QSL size card TBD.
- W1AW Bulletin OPEN/W9JB?? ②. Assign a CW resource to copy W1AW bulletin & Message Handling for extra points.
- Educational Officer OPEN/W9HI?? ②. Provides an Amateur radio education activity for visitors. This person would also be responsible for youth participation at the GOTA station if we happen to have some visit. Last year we had a whole Boy Scout troop earn their Radio Merit Badges.
- Event Volunteers ALL/Anyone. Part time members to help perform miscellaneous tasks and
 participate at various radio stations if desired. We always need help setting up and tearing down antennas,
 tents, cabling, etc.





Band Captains SSB & CW



Band	Mode	Phone Band Captain
80/15 Meters	SSB	Mike Urso – K9FE
40 Meters	SSB	Danny Nichols – K9WDW
20 Meters	SSB	Denny Barfuss – W9HI
10 Meters**	SSB	Jim Nevitt – N9XP (TBD)

Band	Mode	CW Band Captain
80/15 Meters	CW	Art Shuter – NN9I
40 Meters	CW	Kermit Carlson – W9XA
20 Meters	CW	Jason Burzynski – NX9Y





Band Captains Digital & GOTA



Band	Mode	Band Captain
Digital FT8	Digital	Dan Zielinski – W9ZVE
Get On The Air (GOTA)	SSB	Ruben Noceda – K9ARN & Tom Lebryk, KD9NPR All Contest Bands

Operating "Shifts" per Band

Saturday June 28th

AfternoonEvening6 PM to 12 MidShift 1Shift 2

Sunday June 29th

Late Night
Midnight to 6 AM Shift 3
Morning
6 AM to 12 Noon
Shift 4



Mooseheart Field Day Location 2025



Field Day Station Layout 2025















Thank You
From the Shack of
Patrick J. Brod — K9ANL
Greg Copeland — WBOOET









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.

Click Here





FRRL commemorative glasses are still available for \$5..



A very nice glass to have on hand for St Patty's Day !!



Please use this link to enjoy the pictures from the 100th Anniversary Banquet.

100th Anniversary Celebration Banquet Photos - Sept 10, 2024



Click Here









FRRL Club Member Launches www.AmateurRadioEvents.com to Bring Ham Radio Events to Midwest Operators By Kirk K9MSG

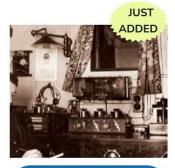
New and experienced amateur radio operators often find it difficult and clumsy to search public service opportunities, hamfests, and other local events to engage their ham radio community. To assist, FRRL club member K9MSG (Kirk in Glen Ellyn) often creates one-page summaries of hamfests and public service events and circulates them by email and through on-line postings. Of course, those summaries quickly become outdated and lead to more emails and posts. This led to the decision to retire those summaries in favor of a new resource that offers updated, expanded information 24/7 through a new website!



PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Launched in March 2025, www.AmateurRadioEvents.com makes it easy for operators in the Midwest to stay connected with their ham radio community

through comprehensive lists of upcoming hamfests, fox hunts, public service (volunteer) events,



AMATEUR RADIO HISTORY EVENTS

and more. Visitors can confirm dates/times, locations (with maps), sponsor links, costs, talk-in details, and more for over 50 area events. The site was just expanded to include one-of-a-kind access to worldwide amateur radio history events. These are events which may be experienced through virtual museum tours that are either self-guided online or facilitate via video. When available, the site also provides links to live/online learning events via Zoom.

For amateur radio operators in the Midwest, www.AmateurRadioEvents. com brings event organizers and amateur radio operators together to grow the amateur radio community. K9MSG hopes you will visit this new site frequently, add yourself to the mailing list via the sites Contact form, and use that form to provide updates and submissions about upcoming events. Watch for the site to be expanded in the future to include even more ham radio event information.



HAMFEST AND SWAPMEET EVENTS



www.AmateurRadioEvents.com







FOX HUNTING EVENTS

	Park Number	Park Name	POTA Park #	Activated
1.	225	Silver Springs State Fish & Wildlife Area	<u>US-1024</u>	
2.	47	Channahon State Park	<u>US-0987</u>	
3.	123	Kankakee River State Park	<u>US-1004</u>	
4.	113	Iroquois County State Wildlife Area	<u>US-4132</u>	
5.	57	Delabar State Park Des Plaines Fish & Wildlife Area	<u>US-0988</u>	
6.	89	Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Aera	<u>US-7638</u>	
7.	155	Mazonia/Braidwood State Fish & Wildlife Area	<u>US-4142</u>	
8.	99	Heidecke Lake State Fish & Wildlife Area	<u>US-12184</u>	
9.	83	Gebhard Woods State Park	<u>US-0995</u>	
10.	263	William G. Stratton State Park	<u>US-1032</u>	
11.	109	Illni State Park	<u>US-0999</u>	
12.	235	Starved Rock State Park	<u>US-1027</u>	
13.	33	Buffalo Rock State Park & Effigy Tumuli	<u>US-0982</u>	
14.	151	Matthiessen State Park	<u>US-1009</u>	
15.	61	Donnelley/Dupue State Park	<u>US-0990</u>	
16.	91	Green River State Wildlife Area	<u>US-4126</u>	
17.	101	Hennepin Canal Parkway State Park	<u>US-0997</u>	
18.	119	Johnson-Sauk Trail State Park	<u>US-1002</u>	
19.	153	Mautino State Fish & Wildlife Area	<u>US-4141</u>	
20.	185	Prophetstown State Recreation Area	<u>US-4100</u>	
21.	171	Morrison-Rockwood State Park	<u>US-1013</u>	
22.	161	Mississippi Palisades State Park	<u>US-1010</u>	
23.	15	Apple River Canyon State Park	<u>US-0978</u>	
24.	133	Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park	<u>US-1005</u>	
25.	261	White Pines State Park	<u>US-1031</u>	
26.	145	Lowden State Park	<u>US-1008</u>	
27.	41	Castle Rock State Park	<u>US-0984</u>	
28.	79	Franklin Creek State Natural Area	<u>US-4123</u>	
29.	217	Shabbona Lake State Park	<u>US-4103</u>	
30.	131	Kishwaukee River State Fish & Wildlife Area	<u>US-10391</u>	
31.	115	James "Pate" Philip State Park	<u>US-1001</u>	
32.	249	Volo Bog Natural Area	<u>US-4160</u>	
33.	167	Moraine Hills State Park	<u>US-1012</u>	
34.	45	Chain O'Lakes State Park	<u>US-0986</u>	
35.	11	Adeline Jay Geo-Karis Illinois Beach State Park	<u>US-1000</u>	
36.	265	William W. Powers State Recreation Area	<u>US-4107</u>	

Amateur Radio















List Provided by Rob Pothoff N9RLP

Note: blue underline text will not go to website







- The FRRL will be holding silent auctions for various pieces of radio equipment.
- The auctions will take place at the regular club meetings from November through April.
- Equipment will be available at the meeting for visual inspection.
- The FRRL has no idea as to the condition of the equipment. All equipment is auctioned "AS IS where IS"
- Payment is by cash or check due upon acceptance of your winning bid.
- The equipment to be auctioned and the auction dates are listed below

Attached is an update of what's going to be auctioned starting with the February club meeting. There are a few new items including a Yaesu FL 2100 B linear amplifier. One was recently listed for sale on QRZ for \$675.

As a note, we auctioned off a Drake R4C receiver for \$75. One just listed on QRZ for \$300 "as is"

Attached is what should be the final equipment listing with auction dates.

73's Dan WA9FRY

	FRRL Silent Auction						
Qty	Manuafacturer	Model	Туре	Date			
1	ICOM	IC 91 A	H/T				
1	Hammurland	HQ-110	Receiver				
1	Realistic	DX-150A	Receiver	3/11/2025			
1	Hammurland	HQ-129X	Receiver				
1	Hammurland	HQ-140X	Receiver				
1	Collins	75-S-1	Receiver				
1	Collins	?	Receiver	4/9/2025			
1	Yaesu	FT 1000MP Mark V	Transceiver	4/8/2025			
1	Yaesu	FL 2100B	Linear				
1	Kenwood	TS 830 S	Transceiver				
1	Kenwood	TS 530 SP	Transceiver				
2	Yaesu	FT-101-EE	Transceiver	5/13/2025			
1	Yaesu	FT-101	Transceiver				
2	Swan	CGYNET 260	Transceiver				
1	WRL	Globe Chief 90A	Transmitter				
2	WRL	Globe QZ-ZC-1 VFO	VFO				
1	Hallicrafters	HT-40	Transmitter				
1	Knight	T-150A	Transmitter	2/11/2025			
1	Heathkit	DX-40	Transmitter				
1	Yaesu	FL-101	Transmitter				
2	Knight	T-60	Transmitter				







Review of "DXFT8" HF - FT8 QRPp TRANSCEIVER AT K9DXA

Introduction:

DXFT8 is a QRPp transceiver operating FT8 mode only, requiring an antenna, and a 5v or 12v dc, 1 amp source, with RF outputs of ~400 mw or ~700 mw (switch selectable). It operates on HF bands 10m, 12m, 15m, 17m, 20m, 30m, and 40m. It is important to note that the firmware controls both the RF section, the encoding/decoding functions, and the touchscreen. There is no connection to a PC when in use.

I had no part in the development of DXFT8. I am just a happy user, particularly as a means of POTA activation.

A color touch sensitive screen has several purposes. The screen includes a waterfall segment. Two other screen segments include a left side segment that shows content of all received and sent signals, and a right side segment that shows the content of all received signals sent to the user station plus content of all transmitted signals with color coded indications. A segment with markings across the bottom of the touch screen sets various operating parameters. A micro-SD drive provides call sign and grid square input content file, as well as log data files provided in .adi format organized by date, and written by the

transceiver when an FT8 QSO is completed. The log is downloaded by connecting the microSD to a Windows PC.

A groups.io website has been set up and identified as "DXFT8."

Two modes of operation include "QSO" mode for search and pounce operation, and "Beacon" mode which will initiate a CQ and effectively turn complete transceiver control to DXFT8. If CQ is not answered, a CQ will be repeated. If a CQ is answered, the transceiver will carry out FT8 QSO until it is completed, or until a signal is lost, and a new CQ is sent.

The information to purchase the boards, download software, and manuals for building, two separate software downloads and installing, along with a user manual is located at: https://github.com/
WB2CBA/DX-FT8-MULTIBAND-TABLET-TRANSCEIVER

Major Components For The Build:

- -- STM32 microprocessor development board \$60 from STMicroelectronics. Handles rig control using custom firmware to download and install.
- -- DXFT8 Transceiver RF Board Kit \$40 from K5BCQ. The kit includes a nearly fully populated printed wiring board with a few components connecting the development board, power connector, coax cable connector, wiring material (user supplied), and two mini-toggle switches that will be mounted and soldered in place. The kit also includes stand-off mounting hardware and two marked printed wiring board panels to provide some board mounted component protection. The kit build is not difficult.
- -- Micro-SD Card Purchase locally along with an an adapter (if necessary).
- --CR2032 Coin Cell Purchase locally. Used to provide continuous power for the development board date/time function.



First Two Weeks Of Operation:

After putting it on the air, I operated "QSO" mode for a while, not getting much activity. So I moved to "Beacon" mode. In Beacon mode, I picked up a few more QSOs. I watched the pattern on the screen, and decided it was behaving as expected with good reliability. At first, I plugged earphones into the "audio received" jack on the development board. Later, I stopped monitoring the audio. Gradually, I got more confident with Beacon mode operation and walked away for short periods of time. Upon returning I was

pleased to see the screen populated with CQ's, call signs, signal reports, and 73's. After the first day I downloaded the microprocessor controlled .adi log file and reviewed the log. Almost every day for about two weeks I operated for 4-6 hrs per day. Every few days I downloaded my log, and created a composite log on my regular software. I also uploaded the composite log to LOTW. Over this initial two week period, I had about 210 QSOs, including four countries: USA, Dominican Republic, Canada, and Canary Islands.

POTA Operating:

I have taken the DXFT8 to the field to activate POTA parks. Follow the instructions to send "CQ POTA...." I was surprised at the number of POTA activation QSOs this rig worked in a short time. No need for logging material since the DXFT8 writes the .adi log file for you. Consider taking gear to a POTA activation consisting of the DXFT8, a battery and cable, and a resonant antenna and coax. That's it!

Conclusion:

This rig is fun to build, load the software, and operate. It is amazing what a sub-one watt FT8 rig can do.

72, Harry K9DXA



Who is POTA?

POTA started as a small group of USA based dedicated volunteers who created the rules, Infrastructure and and database. POTA then aquired volunteers to coordinate the call areas and sodial media.

And now POTA is all of us, over 1500 registered users from all over the world and growing every day.

Editors note:

I didn't know what Harry was saying with "72" instead of "73" so I had to look it up - It means:

"72" is an abbreviation for "best regards" that's used by operators using low power. It's part of amateur radio slang.







How To Order Club Badges

Club name tag are done by: Image Awards

1031E State Street

Geneva IL

You can email your order to: <u>ImageAwards@SBCglobal.net</u>

** If using a credit card there is a 5% surcharge**



Ask for the FRRLname badge and

Don't forget to give them your name & call sign

Question 1:

What should be done to all external ground rods or earth connections?

- A. Waterproof them with silicone caulk or electrical tape
- B. Keep them as far apart as possible
- C. Bond them together with heavy wire or conductive strap
- D. Tune them for resonance on the lowest frequency of operation





Question 2:

What hazard is caused by charging or discharging a battery too quickly?

- A. Overheating or out-gassing
- B. Excess output ripple
- C. Half-wave rectification
- D. Inverse memory effect

Answers On Last Page



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.

GOUPS.10 - 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.







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

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



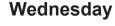






Tuesday

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

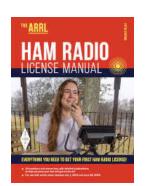




1900 hrs (7:00pm) local time 223.860 110.9kHz PL -1.6Mhz Except for the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

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.



Generl Class

Wednesday Evenings 6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.

> Start: 1/22/2025 End: 4/9/2025

EXTRA classes are held in person at:

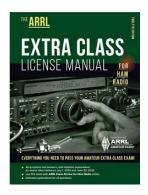


113 Oak St, North Aurora, IL 60542

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 through the ARRL website.

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.



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 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 odd month. Ad-hoc sessions are planned during major events and will be added to the schedule here as well.

Upcoming Testing Schedule for 2025

January 16 March 20 May 15 July 17 September 18 November 20 VE's Needed!!



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

Illinois Traffic Net

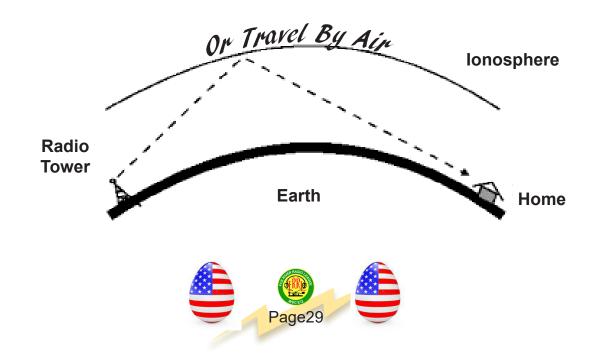


You can also participate in one (or all) of the Illinois Traffic Nets. Everyone is welcome with or without traffic. The nets are the North Central Phone Net, Daily (M-F) at 7 a.m. local time, on 3912 kHz LSB; the Illinois Phone Net, Monday – Friday at 4:45 p.m. local time, on 3857 kHz LSB and on Sunday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





Date	Time	Event	Location	Sponsor	Cost	Talk-In	Notes
04/05/2025	0800- 1000	Antique Radio Club Swapmeet	570 S Gary Carol Stream IL	Antique Radio Club of Illinois	Free	None	Donation Sale
04/26/2025	0800 1200	Ozaukee Spring Swapfest	W67N890 Washington Ave, Cedarburg, WI	Ozaukee Radio Club (W9CQO)	\$7 adult, under 12 free	146.97 127.3pl	Food, prizes, free WIFI
04/26/2025	0800 1200	Madison Hamfest	400 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, WI	Madison Area Repeater Association (MARA - W9HSY)	\$10 door, \$8 in advance	147.150 +600 123pl	26,000 sqft main hall, prizes, free parking



Date	Sponsor	Notes
05/03/2025	<u>Fight Hunger</u>	Enjoy beautiful and historic Cantigny Park in Wheaton, IL while supporting this 10K, 5K, and Kid Mile event to benefit the Northern Illinois Food Bank. Amateur radio volunteers set-up throughout the park to monitor the safety and progress of event participants. Volunteers will assist beginning at 7:00am (briefing at 7:15am) and assignments should end around 10:30am. Volunteers choose to remain for the festival, a free beverage, and the enjoyment of food trucks, music and festival activities. Click HERE to volunteer through Dan Kyburz (AA9DK) and DuPage County ARES
05/04/2025	Walk MS: Itasca 2025	Enjoy the view of Hamilton Lakes while volunteering at this 1-mile & 3-mile walk event in support of the fight against Multiple Sclerosis. Amateur radio volunteers take station throughout the course to monitor and help ensure participant safety and assist organizers with ongoing event information. Click HERE to volunteer through Rob Glowacki (N9MVO) and the Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club (SARC).
05/10/2025	STARVED ROCK COUNTRY MARATHON Ottawa, Illinois	This event offers a 5K, 1/2 marathon, and full marathon event among the awe-inspiring scenery of the Illinois River and Starved Rock area. Amateur radio volunteers operate on and along the course to provide assistance to runners, rest stops, and race organizers. Click HERE to volunteer through Scott DeSantis (KB9VRW).
05/18/2025	LILAC FESTIVAL PARADE Lombard, Illinois	Join a team that helps 'stage' parade participants, track their progress, monitor spectators and the parade route, and coordinate with organizers. This parade travels North down Main Street in Lombard before heading West on Maple. Click HERE to volunteer through Mike Wilson (N0MO).
05/18/2025	DARIEN DASH Darien, Illinois	This 5K & 10K run event also features a 1-mile walk/ run with a 'fun run' for the kids. It runs between Cass Avenue and Clarendon Hills Road between 69th and 71st street. There's a lot of ground to cover for our amateur radio volunteers who watch for safety or route concerns, report progress, and coordinate with event organizers. Click HERE to reach out to John McCarty (N9HRT) and the DuPage Amateur Radio Club (DARC).
05/26/2025	ELMHURST MEMORIAL DAY PARADE Elmhurst, Illinois	This annual event will begin at 9:30 a.m. (volunteers arrive earlier) and start at York & Third St., and makes its way to Wilder Park and eventually to Prospect Avenue and and the Veterans Memorial. Amateur radio volunteers help ensure the progress of parade participants and the safety of onlookers while assistant event personnel. Click HERE to volunteer through William Draheim (WD9END) and the York Radio Club.











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.

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. <u>Director3@frrl.org</u>











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



Consider volunteering you can make the difference!!









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

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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

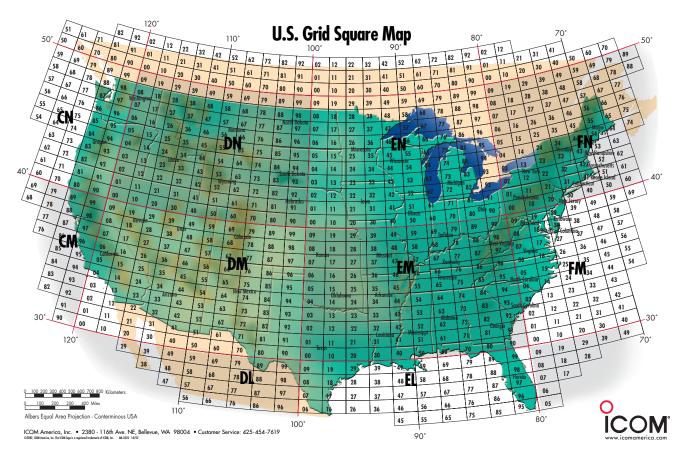
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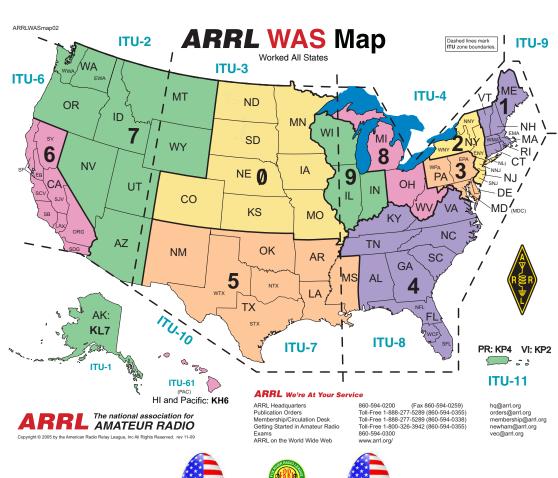








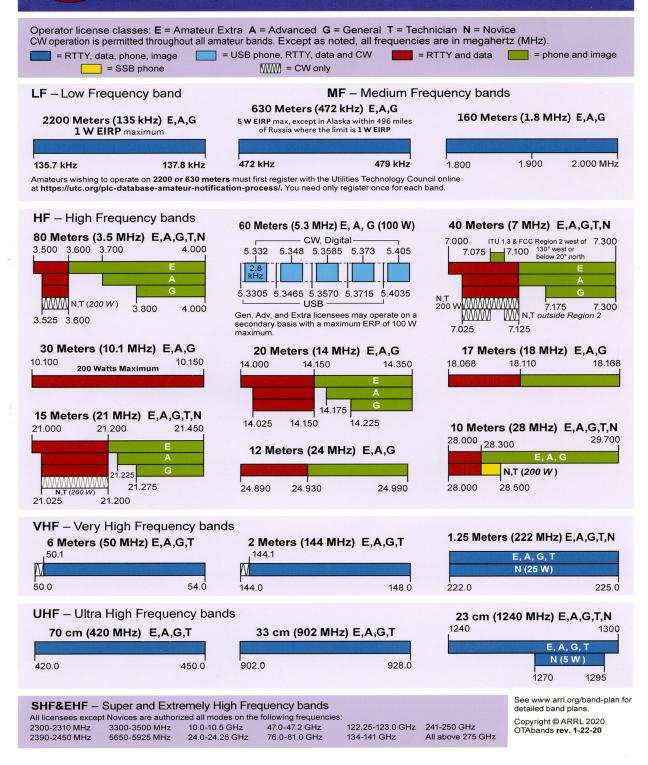




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US Amateur Radio Bands



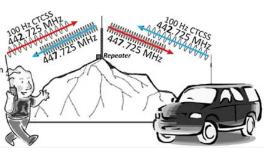




70 cm Band 5 MHz Negative Offset Example

447.725 MHz: Your Listen (Repeater Transmit)

442.725 MHz: Your Talk (Repeater Receive)



NAD OTHER TERS

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



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 MHz 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

K9IIK/R

442.275 MHz - Schaumburg

Mode: Auto C4FM / Fusion, FM, Wires X

+5 MHz, 114.8 Access Tone

W9CHI

<u>444.600 MHz</u> - 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

KC90EM
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



ANSWERS PG 23W Q1 "C"

Q1 "C" Q2 "A"