Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Club

W9OU – 147.015 – AUBURN, INDIANA

Alternate Simplex: 147.440 • 147.535

February, 2011

Meeting 8:00 a.m. – Second Saturday – Ryan's Restaurant, Auburn

NTS Traffic Handling explored

Lou Everett, Sr., KA5LOU

"The purpose of this net is the handling of traffic…" words taken from the preamble of the Tri-State 2-Meter Net, held daily at 7 PM EDT.

Even though the handling of traffic is stated as a primary purpose of the local net, traffic has been virtually non-existent until recently. Dan Ward, N9WLW has become very active in traffic handling and has reintroduced the activity, creating significant interest. As a result of Dan's involvement, he has invited Lou Everett, Sr., WA5LOU to make a presentation at our February meeting. Lou is from Cumberland, Indiana and serves in the following ARRL positions: **ARRL** Indiana Section Traffic Manager; **ARRL** Net Manager, Indiana Traffic Net; **ARRL** Official Relay Station; **ARRL** A-1 Operator Club Member; **ARRL** ARES Member. Be sure to join us at the February 12 meeting to welcome Lou and his XYL to Auburn!

President names committee chairs for 2011 year

Congratulations to the members that have stepped up to accept committee positions for the current year.

Public Information Officer ..... Rick DeBolt, KC9OAW
Meeting Presentations ..... Dan Ward, N9WLW & Barb Ward, W9WOZ
Membership ..... Pat Stemen, KA9NVZ
Public Service Events/Emergency Communications Rick DeBolt, KC9OAW
Field Day Coordinator ..... Rick DeBolt, KC9OAW
License Training ..... Dave Southern, KC9YY
License Testing ..... Dave Southern, KC9YY
Newsletter ..... Jack Dold, W9OWO

Monthly Meeting

Sat. February. 12, 2011

8:00 a.m.

Ryan's Restaurant

I-69 at SR 8 in Auburn

NIARC affirms name, chooses website

To end a period of confusion, members of NIARC agreed to affirm the club's name as listed in its Constitution: "Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Club." The confusion arose when occasional inadvertent use of the term "Northeast" attained common use in the name. Adding to the misunderstanding was the generally-accepted usage of "NEIARC" for the club initials.

After a brief discussion at the January meeting, members affirmed the club name and chose *www.W9OU.org* as its official website, electing to permanently discontinue the use of *www.NEIARC.org*.

Visit NIARC on the web:

www.W9OU.org

DeKalb ARES Emergency Coordinator resigns

Dave Southern, KC9YY has submitted his resignation as DeKalb County Emergency Coordinator for Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES). At the time of this writing, a successor has not been named. ***See announcement on page 2.***

Emergency communications on-air meeting scheduled

By Jack, W9OWO

Providing Emergency Communications is a long-time tradition of the amateur radio service. Amateurs take pride in their readiness to assist the public when all other means of communication fail or become unreliable.

Jack Dold, W9OWO

Providing this valuable public service is not possible without preparation and training. Volunteers who expect to assist in emergencies must prepare ahead of time in order to avoid *becoming* the problem, rather than *curing* the problem. There is no such thing as "organized chaos."

Dave Southern, KC9YY has resigned his position of Emergency Coordinator for the DeKalb County ARES. To this date, I have not been advised of the appointment of a successor.

The fact that DeKalb County has no E.C. does not make our area immune from the possibility of need for emergency communications. The Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Club must fill the void and prepare ourselves for a situation that we hope never happens.

There will be an on-the air meeting for all members of ARES and for anyone else that may be interested in joining this volunteer service. This meeting will be conducted on Wednesday, February 2nd at 7:30 p.m. local time on the simplex frequency: 147.440. The purpose of this meeting will be to make plans for arranging the necessary training and practice to develop emergency communication skills. This will be a formal meeting and those wishing to participate will be expected to check in at the start of the meeting.

W9OU repeater suffers rare failure

The club's W9OU repeater suffered a partial failure on Friday, January 14th, leaving Net Control Operators struggling to identify checkins throughout the weekend. The cause of the problem was traced to a shorted polyphaser lightning arrestor that was sending most of the received signals to ground. Strong signals from nearby stations were able to communicate but weaker signals simply couldn't get through. Repairs were completed early the following Monday and reports indicate that the repeater is back in excellent condition.

Bike 101 Lakes event scheduled

By Bill Cance, KC8UBC

The Bike 101 Lakes bike ride will take place on Saturday, May 14, 2011. The starting and ending point will be the Coldwell Banker parking lot on CR 200 W. just north of the Fun Spot near Angola. The ride consists of four separate rides of 11, 32.7, 62 and 106.3 miles reaching into three states. Last year, Steuben County ARES, Allen County ARES, the Branch County (MI) Amateur Radio Club and some unaffiliated hams supported the event. Altogether, there were over 30 hams assisting with communications along the routes. Anyone interested in helping with this year's event should contact Mark Tritch, KC9GUY phone 260-494-6437.

Dan Ward, N9WLW named Net Manager

Dan Ward, N9WLW has been named Net Manager for the Tri-State 2-Meter Net, meeting nightly on the club's W9OU repeater, 147.105. The net currently has NCO's for every evening with three reserve operators available for fill-in.

NIARC Member Roster

Harold Adams, WA9KWO
Jack Bortner, N9YR
Josh Bowsman, KB9MSA
Paul Brewer, KA9RVJ
Dick Byers, W9RRB
Bill Cance, KC8UBC
Gary Carpenter, N9GIS
John Chalmers, WD9GOO
Rick Cocklin, KC9GAT
Roger Correa, KC9IPL
Rick DeBolt, KC9OAW
Johathan Decker, AB9XT
Jack Dold, W9OWO
Jeff Freese, KC9RSC
Al Gengnagel, W9VKW
Dave, Keller, KC9EDB
Norene Keller, KC9EDA
Anna Keller, KC9GDD
Doris Kray, KB9UQI
Gerry Kray, K9DFC
Lester Lee, KA9LTP
Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ
Tammy Murray, KC9CTS
Tim Murray, W9THD
Joel Rahrig, KC9GVD
Leonard Shaffer, WD9CVX
Marty Simmonds, KK4PI
Dave Southern, KC9YY
Patricia Stemen, KA9NVZ
Richard Toy, WB9VDK
Mark Tritch, KC9GUY
Dan Ward, N9WLW
Barbara Ward, W9WOZ
Bill White, KB9YTR
Les Wooster, KC9PJQ

Club offers quarterly testing opportunity in Auburn

Amateur license testing will be offered every three months this year according to Dave Southern, KC9YY. The local VE's are affiliated with the W5YI Group.

The location and time of testing will be announced well in advance of the testing date.

Those wishing to test in Auburn should bring:

1. Two forms of identification, one of which must be a photo ID
2. A copy of your current FCC license if upgrading
3. $14.00 cash for the testing fee

Anyone can become a ham except representatives of foreign governments. There are no age restrictions. If you can pass the written tests, you can be a licensed ham operator. There have even been 6 year old ham operators. The entry level license is the Technician Class license. That license class began in 1991 and now has the largest number of participants. To become a Technician Class operator, you need only pass one very simple (35 question) multiple choice written tests (Exam Element 2) to obtain your FCC license.

Until April 15, 2000, there were six classes of Amateur Radio operator license, each authorizing varying levels of privileges by passing written exams and or a 5, 13 or 20 WPM Morse code test. As of April 15, 200 there are only three, Technician, General and Amateur Extra Class and Morse code exams were reduced to a single 5 WPM Element 1 exam for General and Extra.

Then effective February 23, 2007 the FCC removed all testing requirements for Morse Code for all classes of licenses.

The written examinations are comprised of questions taken from the various question pools:

- Technician Class Question Pool, effective July 1, 2010, valid until June 30, 2014
- General Class Question Pool, effective July 1, 2007, valid until June 30, 2011
- Extra Class Question Pool, effective July 1, 2008 valid until June 30, 2012

The class for which each applicant is qualified is determined by the degree of skill and knowledge of operating a station that the applicant demonstrates by passing a license examination before a team of three volunteer examiners (VE's). New amateur operators start at the Technician class and then advance to the General Class ...and to the top-of-the ladder Amateur Extra Class.

JOIN THE

Tri-State 2-Meter Amateur Net

Each Evening at 7:00 p.m.

147.015

2011 NIARC Calendar of Activities and Events

Feb 12	Meeting, Ryan's-8 AM
Mar 1	Basic Skywarn training, Auburn
Mar 5	Board meeting
Mar 12	Meeting, Ryan's-8 AM
Mar 12	License testing, Auburn
Mar 19	Advanced Skywarn training, Goshen
Mar 19	Marshall Hamfest
Apr 9	Meeting, Ryan's-8 AM
May 14	Meeting, Ryan's-8 AM
Jun 4	Board meeting
Jun 11	Meeting, Ryan's-8 AM
Jun 11	License testing, Auburn
Jun 25-26	Field Day
Jul 9	Meeting, Ryan's-8 AM
Aug 6	Angola Hamfest
Aug 13	Meeting, Ryan's-8 AM
Sep 10	Meeting, Ryan's-8 AM
Sep 10	License testing, Auburn
Oct 8	Meeting, Ryan's-8 AM
Nov 12-13	Ft. Wayne Hamfest
Dec 10	Meeting, Ryan's-8 AM
Dec 10	License testing, Auburn

Rev. 01/2011

Watch this space for changes and additions.

License Testing

NIARC test sessions: **2nd Saturday in March, June, September and December** at 8:30 a.m. in Auburn. (Location TBA)

Whitley Co. test sessions: **Last Saturday in January, April, July and October at** 9AM. The sessions will be held at the Eagles Lodge 306 W. Van Buren St. in Columbia City, Indiana.

Ft. Wayne (No schedule found)