

# Anderson Repeater Club, Inc.

January, 2024

Our regular meeting to start 2024, our 55<sup>th</sup> year as a Club will be on Tuesday, January 2, 7:00 PM at the EOC Training Room. Please plan to attend. This will be an important meeting as we elect officers for the new year. We'll also have a Technical Session as always, this time related to Baluns/Ununs/Chokes.

Keep an eye on our website and the list of current members for 2024. We have several who the Treasurer has received dues and we are trying to keep the list current. If you have not yet submitted your \$20 for 2024 bring it to the meeting or send it to our PO Box: Anderson Repeater Club, PO Box 615, Anderson, IN 46015. Our 2023 membership was 46 with 9 new members for the year. That is a wonderful addition to the 41 members that we had in 2022. It is appreciated that so many of you find value in our meetings and in support of the Club repeaters. And of course, the support of the EMA Communications Division is unwavering.

The election of Officers for 2024 will be held for all positions. The current slate of Officers are willing to continue, but we really need a new Secretary to take over for me. After so many years I'm ready to pass it on to someone else. If you are willing to serve let one of the officers know.

Our VE Team has been successful in providing an opportunity to become an amateur or to upgrade. In 2023 we conducted 12 test sessions serving 54 candidates resulting in 29 new licenses and 19 upgrades. We averaged 6.4 VE's at the test session. Thanks to the VE Team: K9LBB, KV9W, WA9JWL, K9DYR, W9EEL, K9ALC, K9TZJ, N9IKE, N9VZL, WA9CWE, NA9LA, AK9JS, KB9Y . We plan for 2024 (our 14<sup>th</sup> year of conducting regular test sessions) to again offer testing on the third Tuesday of each month. If you would like to upgrade, or if you know of someone who wants to become licensed you can "walk-in". Our testing opportunities are posted in the ARRL Web Site listing.

The Amateur Extra Class test question pool changes on July 1, 2024. If you are considering upgrading you might consider this update. When a question pool is updated it looks like this: 82 new questions, 101 question eliminated, 350 modified to improve wording. In this case the Extra question pool will have 603 questions of which 50 will be on the test.

You may know that on November 13, the FCC rule changed to remove symbol rate restrictions on amateur radio digital emissions. <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-hails-fcc-action-to-remove-symbol-rate-restrictions> . This has resulted in 2 questions being changed in the General Class question pool (G1C05 and G1C02). If you are studying for General you might look for the update in the on-line testing that hopefully you are utilizing from one of many sources.

I know that there are many of you who have experiences related to amateur radio that you can share with the members at a meeting. Please think about offering a technical session or at least tell us what you think would be of interest. It doesn't have to be a polished presentation, just offer us what excites you in the hobby.

Questions have been raised as to how to renew your amateur radio license. It can be done through various organizations that will do it for you for a fee. However, you can do it yourself on-line. The October issue of QST had an article walking through the steps. We have placed this article on our website for your reference as your renewal approaches. Look under "License Exams" for a link "License Renewal Information". We might all take time to update our information in the new FCC CORES system. The old system didn't automatically take our information and link it to our FRS number. We have to do that ourselves. This article explains the quick steps to accomplish that.

I hope that you are looking forward to our club activities as much as I am for this coming year. Our club is only as strong as its members. Join us for another year of friendship and fellowship.

73,  
Steve, WA9CWE

### **Anderson Repeater Club November Meeting Minutes from Tuesday November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Special Pre Meeting Note - In absence of Secretary Steve Riley, Club Member Lynn Edens was assigned by President Nice to take minutes.

Anderson Repeater Club bi-monthly meeting was held on Tuesday November 7<sup>th</sup> at 19:00 hours at the Madison County EOC located at 200 North Delaware Street Anderson, Indiana 46016.

Meeting called to order at 19:00 by President Nice, a roll call was taken of members present.

1 new application – David Lowe and dues paid President Nice stated would act this at the January meeting. President entertained a motion to accept minutes from the October meeting that was emailed out to all members. Motion was made by Anthony Poitras (KD9PZR) 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gary Sherman (W9GNR) motion passed, minutes approved.

President Nice stated he had not been informed or heard of any silent keys this past month but reported Secretary Riley was under the weather and that's why he was not present.

Club Treasurer Gerald Hollon gave club treasury report - last months ending was \$3,944.39 with \$60 deposited for dues giving a new account balance of \$4,004.39.

Motion made to accept the treasurer report – Motion by Jeff Stewart (AK9JS) 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dale Bales (KV9W) motion past.

Trustee Report – Tom Ecker (KA9SYP) not present for W9OBH.

Lynn Edens (K9RLE) reported that the 09 repeater seemed to be working fine and Repeater Trustee Jeff Dyer (K9DYR) communicated with a friend in Arizona on the IRLP and we've been advised seems to be working great.

Lynn also reported on the 220 repeater that Alan Weber (NA9LA) came a couple weeks ago and tested, worked on the system and checked programming. Range is only a few miles on a handheld, Alan was going to try and get an antenna analyzer for 220 and check the antenna system. Doug (N9DR) advised he had one that would do 220.

Dale Bales (KV9W) EMA Warning Group reported that the National Weather Service in Indianapolis hosted their annual virtual fall/winter weather seminar this week and NWS is thinking due to the very strong El Niño that our area is looking at a milder winter season with warmer than average temperatures and less precipitation (snow) fall than normal. One estimate is 10 inches or less of snow fall for the entire winter season with middle to end of December being the key to winter weather.

Dale also reported that Tuesday March 12<sup>th</sup> 2024 will be the yearly NWS Madison County Stormnet training at

York Performing Arts Center on the campus of Anderson University.

Announcements – Gary Sherman (W9GNR) reported last month 3,149 hours were volunteered by the group. He stated he forgot his other announcements sheet and had nothing more to report at this time.

Lynn (K9RLE) gave the EMA report due to Director Dyer (K9DYR) not being present.

Lynn reported the new tower tentative date to get put up is the week prior or week of Thanksgiving and that all hardware had been bought, he also reported the uhf 443 repeater is owned by EMA and that EMA had J&K Communication come and test the system and go through it. Lynn went on to say the tech who came out was the one who sort of helped build the repeater and all tests came back good with no issues. The repeater was bought in 2011 and the only issue was the antenna is older from the 80's and getting some age on it.

Lynn thanked all Madison County Amateurs for all they do and being a part. He and Director Dyer attended the State EMA Conference last week and many counties don't have an amateur group.

He gave a short update on next years eclipse and said amateurs would play major role. More on this will continue to come under the direction of Director Dyer.

Club President Nice spoke about nominations for the clubs 2024 officers and elections, president opened the floor for any nominations. No nominations were given, and President Nice said would leave it open and more discussion and vote at the January meeting.

President reported on VE testing that 4 individuals passed there test this past month with 2 being local and already engaged in the county club and the other 2 being from outside the county.

Old Business - No Comments

New business – No Comments

Show and Tell - Doug (N9DR) brought in and showed and explained his electric vehicle charger and how it could be plugged into a typical household outlet.

Tom Harbron (W9EEL) gave a presentation on the club's website and walked the members through the different pages and explained them. He said if anyone would be interested in learning the website and how to host and operate it he would be more than happy to show and walk them through its operation because he wasn't going to be around forever to take care of it. Tom also asked for help keeping the calendar and events page updated by getting him dates and information and anything that needs on the calendar.

Frank Dick (WA9JWL) gave a presentation on his UHF repeater and its history and operation and explained the digital aspect of the repeater and said all members are welcome to use and operate on the repeater.

Frank also stated that the Chief Anderson Club UHF net is at 9pm on Sunday night and all are welcome to check in and join in with the Chief Anderson, he said after the repeater net they have a simplex net but he wasn't sure of the frequency.

Ferrin gave a presentation on SDR, the device and website to monitor frequencies worldwide and explained how it worked and attempted to show but few were online.

Jeff Stewart (AK9JS) made a motion to adjourn the meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gary Sherman (W9GNR) at 20:40

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Edens

11/08/2023