

# Anderson Repeater Club, Inc.



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**May, 2024**

Our next regular meeting of 2024 will be on Tuesday, May 7, 7:00 PM at the EOC Training Room. Please plan to attend.

Keep an eye on our website and the list of current members for 2024. We still have several from whom the Treasurer has not 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. Our current paid membership stands at 36. We truly appreciate that so many find value in our meetings and in support of the Club repeaters. And of course, the support of the EMA Communications Division is also appreciated.

Our VE Team continues to provide opportunities to become an amateur or to upgrade. Thanks to the VE Team: K9LBB, KV9W, WA9JWL, K9DYR, W9EEL, K9ALC, K9TZJ, N9IKE, N9VZL, WA9CWE, NA9LA, AK9JS, KB9Y. This year our team again offers 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.

REMINDER: 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.

We believe 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 thru 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 thru 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.

As a relatively new operator, I am excited and looking forward to the upcoming events and activities for this year. I invite and encourage you to join us for another year of friendship and fellowship.

73,  
Don Billey, W9BLY (Portions borrowed from Steve Riley’s letter WA9CWE)

### Minutes from March 5, 2024 Club Meeting

**Call to Order** – Ferrin N9VZL 19:00

Attendance: 31 including one guest

Call Sign	Name	License	Call Sign	Name	License
KC9DJU	Mike Cook	General	W9CGA	Rick Wisely	General
W9GNR	Gary Sherman	General	W9EEL	Tom Harbron	Extra
EMA 697	Jean George	X	WB9KUL	Charlie Sowders	Advanced
K9GDH	Gerald Hollon	General	K9DYR	Jeff Dyer	General
KE9XF	Dave Sargent	Extra	KA9SYP	Tom Ecker	General
W9DO	Dennis Owen	General	KD9PZR	Anthony Poitras	General
WA9RCY	Harry Burkart	General	KV9W	Dale Bales	Extra
AK9JS	Jeff Stewart	Extra	K9ALC	Greg Hunt	Extra
KD9RZG	Charlie Dixon	General	KD9NHQ	Paul Muething	Technician
KD9NAW	Gary Wigner	Technician	KD9WIG	Justin Roberson	Technician
W9BLY	Don Billey	General	N9DR	Doug Rose	Extra
TBD	Steve Likens	X	N9OLC	Dale Bloomer	General
N9JJK	Jorge Silva	General	WA9QEK	Kenny Olvey	General
KD9VVK	Walter Hestand	General	WA9JWL	Frank Dick	Extra
K9RLE	Lynn Edens	Technician	K3TTE	Audry Lowe	General
			K9TTA	David Lowe	General

Visitors... Steve Likens

Last meeting minutes distributed via email

Motion to accept – Lynn K9RLE Second – Charlie KD9RZG PASSED voice vote

Silent Keys – Bruce Armstrong W9KLA – Jeff Stewart (AK9JS) reported... Met at Main Street for Field day last year – donut meetings... joined club... stage 4 cancer... Passed recently

#### Sickness

Tom Ecker KA9SYP – Present tonight.. getting better...

Tim Bailey – KD9PSR – Under the weather

Steve Riley – WA9CWE – Recovering from heart attack – Home, 3<sup>rd</sup> week... rehab 3x week... contact with Ecker regularly...

Steve Harney - Steve was here last night... he had chest pains this morning... had a heart cath today... no serious issues... may stay overnight...

## ADMINISTRATIVE

Steve Riley stepped aside as Secretary... Motion to accept Don Billey (W9BLY) as the new Secretary

Motion by – Jeff K9DYR      Second by – Charlie - KD9RZG      PASSED by voice vote

## Treasurer's report- Gerald – K9GDH

Balance – 4284.39    \$320 deposit (Dues)

Expenditures – Liability Insurance... \$ 200    Current balance... \$ 4404.39

PASSED by voice vote

## Correspondence

None

**Ham of the Year Wall plaque...** Jeff Stewart asked for nomination for Ham of the Year.... After discussion among the committee it was decided that Dale Bloomer (N9OLC) be named Anderson Repeater Club Ham of the Year for 2024

## Repeater Updates

W9OBH – 146.82      Trustee Tom Ecker    KA9SYP  
Repeater seems to be working well

KB9VE – 147.090      Trustee Jeff Dyer      K9DYR  
Seems to be working... some reports of intermittent RF issues...

W9CWE – 443.350      Trustee Steve Riley      W9CWE  
Operating well

KC9JWO – 223.860      Trustee Lynn Edens    K9RLE

Did some testing recently... Jeff, Lynn, Ferrin... took a 220 radio back there... disconnected antenna... plugged it into a 220 radio... fairly certain antenna system is not the issue... Issue seems to be the repeater itself... Up to the club to decide next steps...

Took 220 antenna from ceiling... put it on 20 foot mast... different 220 radio in ECC... could talk to Indy and hit their repeater without any problems

Asked about running coax directly into the radio room... would need to go through 4 12" concrete walls... cannot run it outside and back in... cost prohibitive... to remain in compliance installed a temporary antenna... EMA no longer needs 220 system... up to the club to maintain/repair

**DISCUSSION...** can we send the repeater back and have it retuned...

Problem is somewhere in the repeater system, not the antenna. Internal to repeater...

Several people have looked at it and cannot identify the issue...

Doug N9DR will look at it...

Dale N9OLC and Doug N9 DR both have 220 SWR meters... Repeater is not tolerant of SWR issues... especially with duplexer.

Public safety tower... only one person can climb... cost ~ \$ 1000 to climb the tower.

A variety of other options are being explored looking for a cost effective solution.

W9VCF – 145.390      Trustee Mark      W9MWM  
OK – running well

## Weather Report – Dale Bales KV9W

Next Tuesday – Storm Spotter Training – York Performing Arts... 6pm – doors open at 5

Next few months warmer than average... rain appears to be a bit above average.. Guesses through June

**EMA REPORT - Jeff Dyer**

EMA Purchased Antenna and coax for Winlink station .. it is a CMS hub... 2 meter hooked to computers you can send email using winlink.

**Volunteer hours W9GNR**  
February.... No MCU

Outreach	Comms	Nets	Training	February	YTD
26	19	66	93	178	396

**VE Testing DYR**

5 in February... 1 upgraded to Extra (Local)... Said he would be joining the MADCO Club because of possibility of attending via ZOOM

**Signup sheet for eclipse...**

For April 8 – time slots for spotters...  
Need 440 radio need to know if you are using HT or mobile...  
Three time slots...

**ACTIVITIES W9GNR**

Storm Spotter Training – 10:15 – Statewide Tornado Siren test... will be broadcasting from EOC  
Thursdays – Donut Meeting  
Saturdays – Anderson Grill  
Thursdays...  
March 19 – VE Testing  
W9VCF  
March 12 – Storm Spotter Training  
Time Change – 2am Sunday... Spring Forward

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Interest in combining the 2 clubs... motion to instruct the officers to discuss possibilities with MCRC officers and bring findings back to the body  
Motion by – Jeff Dyer DYR Second by – ALC – Greg K9ALC PASSED by voice vote  
90% belong to both clubs  
Committee should be executive boards... elected officers of both clubs... Solicit input from membership... concerns, ideas, questions

**SHOW & TELL – None**

**Repeater videos presented by Ferrin W9VZL...**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eYgSGEChO7w> How do HAM Repeaters Work  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ebx6GrES36U> Tour of the Woodford Repeater Assoc

How do HAM Repeaters Work  
Tour of the Woodford repeater

**Technical Presentation = Raspberry Pi/ PiHole - Greg Hunt - K9ALC**  
PiHole.net IP driven advertisements/popups... can be bypassed...  
Movies – websites... All open source..

**Motion to adjourn – Harry Burkhardt WA9RCY Second - Tom Harbron - W9EEL**

ADJOURNED 19:58

Respectfully submitted,  
Don Billey - W9BLY



Dayton Amateur Radio Association Convention

**2024 Dayton Hamvention® Dates May 17-19**

For more information on the Dayton Hamvention® go to [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org)

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**Get Hamvention Alerts - text: Hamvention to 888777**

Friday: 9 AM to 5 PM

Saturday: 9 AM to 5 PM

Sunday: 9 AM to 1 PM

Questions regarding RV & Camper Camping please call 937-372-8621 Extension 12 or email [GCExpoCenter@gmail.com](mailto:GCExpoCenter@gmail.com)

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## Indiana ARRL Events

May 4 – North Central Indiana Hamfest – Marion, IN

June 8 – Monroe County Hamfest – Bloomington, IN

7/20 – Auburn Hamfest – Auburn, IN

7/27 – East Central Indiana Hamfest – Portland, IN

8/3 – Elkhart East Hamfest – Elkhart, IN

8/10 – Hendricks County Tailgate Fest – Avon, IN

8/11 – ARANCI Hamfest – Lake Village, IN

10/12 – Hoosier Hills Hamfest – Bedford, IN

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**Anderson Repeater Club**  
**P. O. Box 615**  
**Anderson, IN 46015**  
**W9OBH@ARRL.NET**