

Anderson Repeater Club, Inc.

May, 2025

Our regular meeting will be on Tuesday, May 6, 7PM in the EOC Training Room. Please plan to attend.

I hope that you have submitted your dues contribution for 2025, our 56th year as a club. Reminders have been sent out, and those who have contributed have had their membership certificate emailed to them. The membership list on the web site is current, so if you aren't listed please bring your dues to the meeting.

You may have seen that the ARRL Repeater Directory for 2025 is now available as a hard copy (\$19.95). They note that it is data from the Repeater Book web site (www.repeaterbook.com). This is a free web site that requires only registration, and you must have an amateur or GMRS license (they beat it against the FCC database apparently). Anyway, if you don't need a hard copy go to the web site and register and you can search any number of ways for repeaters nationwide or worldwide (amateur or GMRS). For example, if you search for all repeaters within 25 miles of Anderson, IN it will list out 39 amateur systems. You can also search for coordinated repeaters in Indiana in a similar way at the Indiana Repeater Council web site (www.ircinc.org). Repeater directories typically obtain information from the repeater councils. There are other web sites that list GMRS repeaters in a similar way.

A bit of Ham Trivia although not directly related to our club. Neil Rapp, WB9VPG, has been named the 2025 Hamvention Ham of the Year. Neil was born in 1970 in Vincennes, IN, and became WN9VPG at age 5, the youngest person in the world to pass an FCC Amateur License exam (Novice). At age 7 he passed the General (again the youngest) and at age 9 the Advanced (again the youngest). He got his Extra at age 20. Neil has been active in Indiana amateur radio and made lots of news when he became licensed. He has been a teacher over the years and has started a number of high school radio clubs. He is also active in a number of on-line amateur related endeavors. If you want to learn more about Neil, check out his QRZ.COM page, it's interesting and you can see his novice CW copied test page.... Looks like a 5-year-olds writing, but he got 114 characters in a row correct (only needed 25)! I guess you are never too young or too old to become an amateur.

Another bit of local ham trivia. Of the "alive" hams in Madison County:

- 1) Tom, W9EEL, was first licensed in 1953 as W0PQK (Technician), 73 years ago.
- 2) Frank, WA9JWL, was first licensed in 1957 as KN9VZN (Novice), 68 years ago.
- 3) Charlie, K9TZJ, was first licensed in 1959 as KN9TZJ (Novice), 66 years ago.
- 4) Steve, WA9CWE, was first licensed in 1962 as WN9CWE (Novice), 63 years ago.

Back in the day you could generally tell where a ham was located because your call was for the specific call district you lived in. If you moved to a different district you had to get a new call for that district. If you were operating mobile or portable in a different district you identified as "WA9CWE mobile 8" for example. In today's world of vanity calls there is no way to know for certain where a person is likely located.

Most of you probably know of the "Silent Key" plaque in the EOC. This is a long-term project of the County Club to recognize the passing of members of the two clubs. If you look at those calls and names listed, it represents the long history of amateur radio in our county and certainly a lot of RF talent. Thanks to Mike, KC9DJU, for his dedication to placing the new entries as needed.

You may have seen a flyer for the Auburn (Indiana) Hamfest on Saturday, July 19, 9AM to 2 PM. This is a nice hamfest and is located at the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum in downtown Auburn. Admission and parking are free as is admission to the museum on that day. If you have any interest in old cars in addition to radio stuff it is worth your time to drive up for the hamfest. Indoor and outdoor vendor/flea market.

Our VE Team continues to hold monthly test sessions. Our March session resulted in 1 new Technician and 1 upgrade. In April we had 1 new Technician licensee. Thanks to the Team members who show up each month to support our hobby.

From the April 14, 2025, ARRL Indiana Section News:

Service to the public is one of the basic principles of amateur radio. This service is one way that we can express our appreciation to society for giving us access to valuable radio spectrum. If you would like to volunteer your time, your talents, and your equipment for a few hours in support of a local public event, contact your ARES Emergency Coordinator or EMA Director for information. There are many events around Indiana that need amateur radio operators, so step up and lend a hand.

== Welcome Net ==

With the dismantling of the W9WIN linked repeater system, the "Welcome (to Amateur Radio) Net" will be divided into "regional" nets. In Indianapolis, "The Welcome Net - Indy" will be held on the W9ICE 146.97 (107.2 tone required) repeater. In the event of a Central Indiana Skywarn net on the 146.97 repeater, the Welcome Net will be canceled for that evening. The Welcome Net - Indy will meet weekly at 8:00 pm Indianapolis time starting on Wednesday, April 16. The Welcome Net will continue to be a great place for new hams to get used to using their radios. While these nets are intended to help new hams, all amateurs, whether licensed 1 week or 20+ years, are welcome to check in. Welcome Nets are "conversational nets", where after initial check ins, a topic for discussion is posed by the net controller and then those that have checked in are encouraged to comment on the evening's topic. The Welcome Net thanks Dale Schieman WB9YCZ and Frank Swindler WB9OPR of the W9ICE group for their permission to use the 146.97 repeater for the Welcome Net - Indy!

73,
Steve, WA9CWE
Secretary, ARC

Anderson Repeater Club Monthly Meeting
March 4, 2025

Call to Order – Ferrin N9VZL - 19:00

Attendance: 19 Registration:

Call Sign	Name	License
KD9RZG	Charlie Dixon	Extra
KD9RDZJ	Paula Dixon	General
KC9DJU	Mike Cook	General
N9JJK	Jorge Silva	General
K9VZL	Ferrin Nice	Extra
K9RLE	Lynn Edens	Technician
W9BLY	Don Billey	General
AK9JS	Jeff Stewart	Extra
W9DO	Dennis Owen	Extra
W9GNR	Gary Sherman	General

Call Sign	Name	License
KE9XF	Dave Sargeant	Extra
KD9PZR	Anthony Poitras	General
KA9SYP	Tom Ecker	General
N9OLC	Dale Bloomer	General
K9DYR	Jeff Dyer	General
WA9IVB	Dave Hood	Extra
KE9BCZ	Scott Mercer	General
KD9PSR	Tim Bailey	General
WA9JWL	Frank Dick	Extra

Minutes:

Minutes of the last meeting were distributed via email.

Motion to accept – Charlie Dixon KD9RZG Second – Dave Sargeant KE9XF. PASSED voice vote

New member Application:

Silent Keys:

Noticed that Dennis Maxey is not on the board... was a retired sheriff's deputy - was on both clubs for a long time

Sickness:

Steve Riley WA9CWE - Unable to be here tonight...

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning Balance \$ 4207.34
Deposits \$ 540.00
Expense \$
Ending Balance \$ 4747.34 (\$500 in Dues over 2 months)
Motion to accept by Dave Sargeant KE9XF... Second by - Charlie Dixon KD9RZG
Approved by voice vote

Correspondence:

Columbus Hamfest - April 6 8-11 am

Repeater Updates:

W9OBH – 146.82 Trustee Tom Ecker KA9SYP Seems to be working well

KB9VE – 147.090 Trustee Jeff Dyer K9DYR Seems to be working well... Lynn - the repeater runs off of a HotSpot Wifi box... EMA pays for it... The current hot spot will be out of date in May... new hot spot is 5G and will need to be installed... a couple of technical people will need to accompany Lynn to install and activate/reconfigure the computer... The password and configuration will all need to be reset.

Update computer? Replace it with a donated laptop? Raspberry Pi? New hotspot has a CAT5 data port...
Jorge Silva has offered a NetBook... small footprint...
Research needs to be done... will run on Raspberry Pi 4b or 3
Jeff Dyer and Ferrin to research/make recommendations/Suggested an IRLP class
W9CWE – 443.350 Trustee Steve Riley W9CWE No Report
KC9JWO – 223.860 Trustee Lynn Edens K9RLE Not much activity... seems to be OK –

We found something on the website - kind of confused... on the repeater club website it lists .09 but not the .39 as StormNet backup. Neither is easy to get into. 443 has best coverage... but not everyone agrees with using 443 as primary...
Opinion expressed that we make the 443 the backup repeater not just for stormnet but for any amateur events.
Can we do a double call on both frequencies?
W9VCF – 145.390 Trustee Doug Rose W9DR

Weather Report: Ferrin N9VZL

Wednesday, 1-1/2 “ or rain or more... turning to snow... NWS is concerned between March 12-12... get things in place for first 70 degree days, also may be the start for storm season. First POSSIBLE severe weather. Normal/Temp... Above Normal Precipitation

EMA REPORT: Lynn Edens - K9RLE

Beginning Mobile Command Training... once monthly...
NWS - email indicated that all in person training has been suspended... they are doing virtual... only two scheduled. One is tonight, one is this Saturday from 9-11 Hoping to add more training.
Walter and a few others found a good storm spotter online training. Certificated spotter training.
NWS having a shakeup - likely a RIF... we will incorporate some storm spotter training soon. Main MCU training will happen a couple times per month.
Thank you to the project Lifesaver training... now have 14 certified Project Lifesaver operators
David Cain gave receiver to EMA... now have six. They are distributed North, South, and ECC. 14 Subscriptions to Active 911. That is the notification system for Project Lifesaver. Community Hospital will reimburse EMA for the cost of subscriptions.
New EMA Communication/Command trailer is complete. Multiple radios and antennae. Self powered... its own generator... End fed antenna can mount to the hitch. Field Day/POTA the trailer will be able to roll out.
VE Testing - Session this past month - 3 candidates... one tech, one upgrade to general, one upgrade to extra. None were directly from Madison County.

ACTIVITIES: Gary Sherman W9GNR

March 8 - Workday
March 18 - VE Testing
March 29 - POTA
PI day - Cherry Blossom Events
Thursdays – Donut Meeting
Saturdays – Anderson Grill
May 21 – VE Testing
W9VCF

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

SHOW & TELL:

Special Events Binder - Charlie Dixon KD9RZG... POTA - 860 parks... FT-891
Doug Rose N9DR - Presentation on Hamcation in Orlando... Updates in radio technology... looking for a new

rig, a lot of technology changes...

Location, Antenna, skill level, radio in order of importance. Last 10 years a lot of change in radio with digital systems incorporated. A lot of SDR

If your radio is older than 10 years - a lot of differences.

NC0B.com... Sherwood Engineering

FRAM2 Mission... all Civilian Space Flight

Motion to adjourn – Charlie KD9RZG Second - Dave Sargeant KE9XF ADJOURNED 20:13

Respectfully submitted, Don Billey - W9BLY