

Anderson Repeater Club, Inc.

July, 2025

Our regular meeting will be Tuesday, July 1, 7PM at the EOC Training Room. Please plan to attend. At this point the parking lot gate off of Jackson Street is still open evenings, so it's the preferred entrance to the EOC. We will have a technical session on Antennas.

Also, bring a few extra dollars with you. We will raffle a Baofeng UV5R3Band (144/220/440) handheld. Raffle tickets are \$1 each, and all proceeds go to the Club treasury.

If you have not paid your dues for 2025 yet, please bring them to the meeting. If you are unsure if you've paid, check the club web site as the listing of members is current.

Members, remember that we have a 220 repeater (223.860/151.4) fully operational on the tower at the EOC site. It ID's every 10 minutes, but I'm yet to hear activity. Feel free to get on and ID. There are models of the inexpensive Baofeng handhelds (UV-5RX3 @ \$27.99) that include 220 in addition to 2 and 440. There are other 220 repeaters around central Indiana that can be accessed also.

Although our Club is primarily focused on our VHF/UHF repeaters locally most of our members are General or above, and as always we encourage our Technician Class members to take advantage of the many more aspects of the hobby that the higher class licenses offer. Although obtaining an amateur license no longer requires CW knowledge, many of us still have some ability to receive/send CW and enjoy that challenge. If you would like to learn or improve your CW operating skills there are many "clubs" that focus upon CW. One that focuses upon beginner CW is the Straight Key Century Club (<https://www.skccgroup.com>) . On the site is a pulldown called "CW Beginner's Corner" that walks you thru CW and the standard ways of conducting a CW QSO. They also sponsor monthly "Two-Hour SK Sprint" and other events that allows those of us who are "not fast" to make lots of contacts. Another group, the K1USN Radio Club (<https://k1usn.com>) is another group dedicated to the CW operation. They conduct weekly "Slow Speed Test" events for 1 hour every Friday afternoon and Sunday evening that is dedicated to slower speed operators. The Friday afternoon event will typically have 80 or so operators that turn in their contact scores on 3830scores.com (<https://3830scores.com/index.php>) . If you are thinking about taking the plunge into CW operation contact K9TZJ or WA9CWE (and perhaps other members) for information/encouragement.

Our VE Team continues to hold test sessions the third Tuesday of each month. We have been able bring several new candidates into the hobby and offer the opportunity to upgrade too. The fee continues to be \$15 for the VEC (ARRL) and then upon successful completion of the test the \$35 fee to the FCC is required (on-line). So \$50 for a 10 year license isn't too bad considering the enjoyment that our hobby offers. So far this year we have held 6 test sessions resulting in 5 new licenses and 5 upgrades. We have candidates from all over the state attend this popular mid-week testing opportunity. Since we are now submitting the

paperwork electronically the next morning the FCC database is updated and new licenses issued as soon as the candidate submits their fee, usually within a day or so.

If you use QRZ.com (<https://www.qrz.com>) to look up licensed amateurs or items for sale you may have noticed that there are issues of “The Logger’s Bark” Magazine from the Radio Club of Tacoma listed each month. It is worth your time to call that up and read thru it. The Newsletter is outstanding in quality and information related to our hobby and history. There is also a Newsletter called the “Communicator” from the Surrey Amateur Radio Communications (British Columbia) that is worth the read also. This month’s issue has some really interesting article on the Heathkit Cantenna. There are also articles on basics such as “Balanced vs. Unbalanced Feedlines and Antennas”.

Another thing to remember....Even though we are a “repeater club” with the purpose of maintaining and utilizing our repeaters, as amateurs we are expected to also understand and be able to operate our equipment for other aspects of our hobby. For example, two meters and 440 have excellent opportunities to communicate on “simplex” channels, and there is a lot of activity on 146.520. Also, there is some activity on 446.000 simplex. As EMA Communications Division members we are expected to be able to communicate on 146.580 simplex. That means that we should already have our handhelds and mobiles (and base station) pre-programmed for needed frequencies. We all get complacent with operation on the primary repeater(s), but we must be able to program our equipment as needed in the event of an emergency or other event. That may mean having the manual for the radio handy, but also to actually “do it” from time to time so that we know that we can. Having a Baofeng pre-programmed via Chirp is just fine, but the ability to stick in additional channels manually is important too, even if it’s just changing the PL. Don’t be an “Appliance Operator”, be proud of your amateur license by understanding and properly utilizing all of your equipment capabilities.

The Auburn Hamfest is coming up on July 19. It’s north of Fort Wayne, about a 2 hour drive, but it’s a nice hamfest, and you get free admission to the Cord Duesenberg Museum. It is worth the drive up there if you are looking for a nice hamfest. Also the East Central Indiana Hamfest is on July 26 at Portland, Jay County. This had been the Winchester Hamfest, and it’s another nice event. Worth your drive over there.

I think that it would be interesting to know a bit about our members and how they got into our hobby and their interests and station. **Jeff, AK9JS**, is our first member to offer input as to how he started and what his station looks like:

- 1972-1978 CB radio Sparkomatic 23 channel Crystal controlled. Half wave Radio Shack ground plane antenna. Turner +2 desk mic.
- 1978 Novice test (KA9DAD) on lunch hour at work at USPS by Neil Clark K9UJK. Sent to be graded at Chicago. Passed
- 5 wpm. I used Radio Shack’s “Tune in the World with Ham Radio “ course. Built a Heathkit HW-8 QRP radio. 80,40,20,15 meters Used the CB antenna on 15. No privileges on 20.
- !98? Technician license for 2 meter Fm voice privileges. I bought a used Wilson Mark IV crystal controlled 2meter handheld 5 watt 6 channel at the Indy hamfest. Neil Clark, my work friend, N9UJKmade the deal so I could observe having no bargaining experience. A local friend gave me a

converted 1 channel RCA Carphone, all tubes, on FM 6 meters running a single 6146 output tube crystal controlled for a local repeater.

- Late 1980's General class license. Tested in Indianapolis at a Holiday Inn on an extended lunch from USPS. I believe they were FCC examiners. Theory and 13 WPM code. I ran a well used Swan 350 Transceiver all tubes but maybe one transistor. \$400 watts PEP input to 2 6CL6 sweep tube finals. I had a mobile DC converter for it but never used it. Actually used it to increase my code to take the General test. I believe I had a dipole and home built tuner from scavenged parts.
- Fast forward a couple of years. I used the controversial Dick Bash KL7IHP book "The Final Exam" for the Advanced test which I took at Linwood Madison County Clubhouse. VE's Frank Dick WA9JWL and I believe WA9CWE Steve are on my CSCE from that test. Bash was doing what everyone including the FCC is doing today. He was the first to publish actual questions and answers from the test.
- June 2021 I passed the Amateur Extra Exam at the present Madison County EOC and promptly rejoined the Madison County ARC and the Anderson Repeater Club (currently Treasurer). I became a VE and member of EMA (634).
- Over the years I have enjoyed home brew antennas and tuners. I also enjoyed learning to use various pieces of test equipment.
- Its still my favorite hobby and enjoy serving others.
- Jeff Stewart AK9JS VE EMA 634



Anderson Repeater Club Monthly Meeting

May 6, 2025

Call to Order – Ferrin N9VZL 19:05

Attendance - 15 Registration: K9RLE, Lynn Edens, KC9DJU, Mike Cook, W9EEL Tom Harbron, W9BLY Don Billy, KD9RZG Charlie Dixon, WA9JWL Frank Dick, W9DO Dennis Owen, AK9JS Jeff Stewart, KD9NHQ Paul Meuthing, W9GNR Gary Sherman, KC9BCZ Scott xxxxx, KE9XF Dave Sargent, N9VZL Ferrin Nice, N9DR Doug Rose, KD9PZR Tony Poitras

New member Application – None

Minutes - Minutes of the last meeting were distributed via email. Motion to accept Lynn (K9RLE) ; Second – Sergeant (KE9XF) PASSED

Sickness - Steve Riley (WA9CWE)- Went to ER at Methodist on Sunday... had emergency surgery on Monday... going home today... limited activity today.

Silent Keys – Dennis Maxey W9DM - Mike Corbin

Treasurer's Report - Beginning Balance \$4747.34 Deposits @20.00 Expense \$200.00 Ending Balance \$4567.34 Motion to accept by ; DO Second by GNR - Approved

TO be Deposited...\$ 120

New Balance.....\$ 4687.34

Correspondence - Indy 500 Parade - Communicators needed

Repeater Updates -

W9OBH – 146.82 Trustee Tom Ecker - KA9SYP

New radios from the EMA on the .82... ICOM IC2700 - installed - sound good.

Another issue - the antenna for .82 is a mobile mag mount on the barn... exploring other antenna situations. Bought programming software... .82 radi only has MADCO frequencies... 443 radio has all the other counties... also has .82 simplex... Tracing and documenting antennas... Brian Frank - BLF - has a commercial Kenwood repeater for sale... came from Frankton Fire Department... Maybe 10-15 years old... no other Information... At some point the antenna on 443 will need to be replaced...

KB9VE – 147.090 Trustee Jeff Dyer - K9DYR - No Report

W9CWE – 443.350 Trustee Steve Riley - W9CWE - No Report

KC9JWO – 223.860 Trustee Lynn Edens - K9RLE - Not much traffic...

W9VCF – 145.390 Trustee Doug Rose - N9DR - No Report

Weather Report – Tom Harbron - W9EEL - Improving - will continue through weekend except Thurs and Fri - a little cooler... could see a few small shower Thurs and Fri. Mothers day will be beautiful

EMA REPORT - Lynn Edens - Guys were in the barn today and did some testing on the HF mobile antenna...
.Volunteer hours Gary Sherman - W9GNR

VE Testing – April - 3 people tested... 1 Tech, 1 General, 1 Extra

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ACTIVITIES - Gary Sherman - W9GNR

Wednesdays - MADCO at 8pm, followed by Ragchew

Thursdays – Donut Meeting - 9am

Saturdays – Anderson Grill - 9am

May 20 – VE Testing

OLD BUSINESS - Next bill will be post office box... coming up in July

...

NEW BUSINESS - Upcoming events... Summer schedule... Link to Google forms...

SHOW & TELL - Jeff Stewart... presentation of equipment from days gone by... Ferrin Nice - Repeater video...

Motion to adjourn – Harney (K9SJH) Second - Sargent (KE9XF) ADJOURNED 19:56

Respectfully submitted, Don Billey - W9BLY



The Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Association

AUBURN HAMFEST

Saturday, July 19, 2025

Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum

1600 S. Wayne St. Auburn, IN 46706

OPEN 9 AM TO 2 PM • TALK-IN: 147.015 (141.3) and LOAD-IN: 7 TO 9 AM

EARLY LOAD-IN FRIDAY, 2 TO 4 PM
(unless otherwise notified)

FREE Admission & Parking

6,000 SQ. FT. INDOOR DISPLAY SPACE



VE Testing at 10:00 AM

NEED MORE INFO?

E-MAIL: auburnhamfest@w9ou.org

Indoor Vendor Tables: \$10 ea.

Order online or by mail, info at www.w9ou.org

Outdoor Sales - Buy raffle ticket(s)

\$5/ea space (buy 2, get 1 free)



FREE Admission to the:

**AUBURN CORD DUESENBERG
MUSEUM**

View an amazing collection of classic
motor vehicles.



FOOD VENDOR
(at outside sales area)

Raffle Prizes:

1st- XIEGU G90 HF 20W SSB/CW/AM/FM

2nd- C3 Electronics Band Pass Filter
(C3 Electronics is an Auburn Hamfest vendor)

3rd- Yaesu FT65

4th- \$50 Gift Certificate, DX Engineering

Raffle ticket Prices \$5.00 ea - Buy 2, get 1 Free!