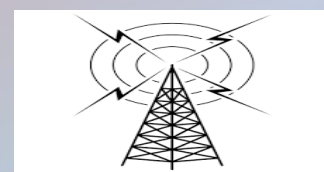


OFF THE AIR



Please visit us online at www.Grantarc.net

The GCARC is an ARRL affiliated club

“Off The Air”

is the official publication of the
Grant County Amateur Radio Club
Vol. 9 No. 7 July 2026

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Public Information Coordinator – Barry Palencer – KC9WMS
Technical Special Coordinator – Thomas Busch – WB8WO
<http://www.inarrrl.org>

Section Jobs Description

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/>

Grant County ARC Nets

What: 2 Meter Net
When: Every Sunday Evening
Time: 2030 hrs Local Time
Freq: 146.790- (PL 141.3)
Alternate Freq: 147.195+ (PL 141.3)

What: DMR Net – Indiana Crossroads Net
When: Every Monday Night
Time: 2000 hrs Local Time
Freq: 442.750+ (Color Code 1)

What: DMR Net – Indiana Statewide Net
When: Every Tuesday Night
Time: 2000 hrs Local Time
Freq: 442.750+ Talkgroup 3118

What: Dstar Net – Indiana Statewide Dstar Net
When: Every Thursday Evening
Time: 2000 hrs Local Time
Freq: 443.400+ {(W9EBN) (Reflector 24b)}

What: Grant County RACES Net
When: Every 3rd Friday of the month
Time: 8:00 PM EST
Freq: 146.790- (PL 141.3)
Talkgroup 31181



The American Radio Relay League
225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111
or phone (860)594-0200
or fax (860)594-0303



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Notes from the President

This past weekend was the Annual ARRL Field Day. Those that came and assisted with setup, participated, fellowshiped and helped tear down, thank you all for your efforts! We also received a new banner from Thomas Della-Penna KC9BBB and it received several compliments from members and others. I personally had a great time with all of you, and several provided similar feedback.

We had a few Scouts come out with parents and troop leaders, along with 6 boys from Paddock View. Several of you took time to talk and teach some things to these young people, and the feedback from both groups was extremely positive.

Now that the dust has settled, it's on to the next adventure. The Fly-in/Cruise-in is approaching fast. Those that are interested in working this event let me know as we will be forming a committee soon for planning and execution.

Lastly, the raffle drawing on Givebutter will be sent out across Indiana this week, and we encourage all of our members to share this with friends and family. Remember, winner chooses the Radio or CASH! Drawing is currently scheduled for 8/8 at our monthly breakfast if we can get to our minimum ticket sales goal.

God Bless and 73!
Eric KC9AZP

Notes from the Editor

Well another Field Day is behind us. There were a total of 9 hams from the club and 10 visitors that were present for most of Saturday. As Eric stated in his remarks the visitors were from the local Cub Scouts of Gas City and from Paddock View. Hopefully we peaked the interest in the youth enough to get involved in ham radio.

My question is: How do we get the rest of the members of the club members involved in these activities? Even if it is only for a few hours.

Our next event will be the FlyIn/CruisIn on September 5th. We will be needing help to Setup on Friday night and to tear down the equipment on Saturday.

What kind of events would you as a member of the club like to see.

I will be sending out an email to all club members on July 8th as a test to see who is getting the emails. If you receive this test email from me I would appreciate a response so That I know that you are receiving emails from me.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me 765-603-5322 or k9nqw1979@gmail.com

L B Nickerson - K9NQW
Editor

July

2026

Grant County Amateur Radio Club

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
				Indiana D-Star Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control K9NQW		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2 meter weekly net 8:30 PM Net Control KC9RAX	DMR Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control KC9OYW			Indiana D-Star Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control K9NQW		See Notes Below
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
2 meter weekly net 8:30 PM Net Control K9NQW	DMR Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control KC9OYW			Indiana D-Star Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control KA9OPL	Grant County RACES Net 8 PM Net Control K9NQW	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
2 meter weekly net 8:30 PM Net Control K9NQW	DMR Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control K9NQW			Indiana D-Star Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control KA9OPL		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
2 meter weekly net 8:30 PM Net Control K9NQW	DMR Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control K9NQW	See Notes Below		Indiana D-Star Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control K9NQW		

Notes: July 11th – Monthly Breakfast Meeting – 8:30 AM at Georgie's Cafe on the Bypass

July 11th – Monthly Siren Test – 11:45 AM

July 17th – Monthly RACES Net – 8:00 PM 146.790 (PL 141.3); 146.195 (PL 141.3); Talkgroup 311811

July 28th - GCARC Monthly Meeting 6:30 PM Marion City Hall

Other Weekly Nets:

Monday: Crossroads DMR Net at 8:00 PM on Talkgroups 8710 and 31189

Monday: Miami County ARC ARES/RACES Net at 8:00 PM on 147.345 (PL131.8)

Tuesday: Indiana Statewide DMR Net at 8:00 PM on Talkgroups 3118

Tuesday and Thursday: Miami County ARC Ladies with a License Net on 147.345(PL 131.8)

Wednesday: Blackford Amateur Radio Club Net at 8:30 PM – also on Talkgroup 31181 and 146.655

Thursday: Indiana Statewide Dstar Net at 8:00 PM on Reflector 24B

Sunday: Miami County ARC Sunday Night Ragchew net at 8:00 PM on 147.345 (PL131.8)

Sunday: Mississinewa Valley Amateur Radio Association net at 7:30 PM on 147.195 (PL 141.3)

Grant County Amateur Radio Club's Winners Choice Raffle Drawing

The Grant County Amateur Radio Club is having a raffle for an
Icom ID-50A VHF/UHF Multi-function D-Star Handheld or \$500 CASH



Raffle is open from now till August 8, 2026

1 entry = \$10.00

or

5 entries = \$40.00

<https://givebutter.com/item-for-raffle-fv17se>

All funds raised will be used towards our repeater project, continued operating and maintenance of that project. This project will provide Emergency Communications support for all Emergency Agencies within Grant County through our RACES team and our certified Skywarn storm spotters. If funds above those needs are received, it will be used to support the additional infrastructure we provide within Grant County.

Legal: Contest is operated by the Grant County Amateur Radio Club Inc. Need NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN. Participants MUST BE INDIANA RESIDENTS! Tickets sold with a mailing or billing address outside of Indiana will be forfeited. All entries will be added to our Random Name Picker application and chosen at random through this software. Once the winner is declared, contact will be made to arrange selection of the item or the indicated cash value, at the discretion of the winner. If the winner chooses the item over cash, the item will be ordered next day with the winners address used for shipping. The executive committee for the Grant County Amateur Radio Club Inc. reserves all rights and decisions of this fundraiser. If a minimum number of tickets are not sold by 8/07/2026 this drawing may be delayed until all tickets are sold at the discretion of the Grant County Amateur Radio Club Inc. Overall odds of winning 1/200. Exempt event activity notification is on file with the Indiana Charity Gaming Commission.

Colorado Hams Invited to “Activate the State” During the 2026 Colorado QSO Party — September 12

Statewide on-air event offers plaques, certificates, and a friendly, mentor-rich environment for hams of all experience levels

Colorado Springs, CO — Radio amateurs across Colorado are gearing up for the 2026 Colorado QSO Party (COQP), a fun, statewide on-air event hosted by the Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado. All hams — from first-time operators to seasoned contesters — are encouraged to get on the air and help “activate” Colorado's 64 counties.

When

Date: Saturday, September 12, 2026

Operating Hours: 8:00 AM to 9:59 PM MDT. A full day of operating fun! (That's 14:00 UTC Saturday through 03:59 UTC Sunday.)

Why Participate

Whether you work one station or chase all 64 counties, the goal is simply to get on the air and have fun. The COQP is an excellent training ground for sharpening operating skills, testing your station, and — for newer hams — getting that all-important first contact under your belt. Rules allow **unlimited operators** at a single station, making COQP a perfect "Elmering" opportunity for clubs to mentor new operators in a low-pressure environment.

POTA and SOTA activators can double-dip: schedule your activation during the COQP and enjoy increased band activity while logging contacts for both events.

Help Activate All Colorado's Counties

A key part of the COQP's success is having stations on the air from as many of Colorado's 64 counties as possible — especially the rare ones! Hams planning to activate a county (mobile, portable, or POTA/SOTA) are encouraged to **sign up in advance** so other operators know where to listen and chase. Don't wait. If your plans change, you may easily modify the listing on the website.

👉 **VIEW the full list of planned activations here:** <https://coloradoqsoparty.org/activations/>

👉 **SIGN UP to activate a county here:** <https://coloradoqsoparty.org/announce-activation/>

Modes and Categories

Operators may participate using **CW and Phone (SSB, AM, FM)** on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2 meters. (Digital modes are not permitted.)

Entry categories include:

- **In-State Fixed Stations:** CW, Phone, or Mixed (QRP, Low Power, or High Power)
- **In-State Mobile Stations:** CW, Phone, or Mixed (Low Power)
- **In-State Portable Stations:** CW, Phone, or Mixed (QRP or Low Power)
- **Out-of-State Stations:** QRP, Low Power, or High Power (fixed, mobile, or portable)

Mobile and Portable operations activating Colorado counties can also earn a **500-point bonus per county activated** (minimum 15 QSOs required).

Awards

The top finisher in each category will be recognized with a plaque. There are special achievement plaques to be awarded as well. Full award details are posted on the official rules page. All submitting log receive a **certificate**. <https://coloradoqsoparty.org/getting-started/rules/>

Get Involved

Full rules, county abbreviations, suggested frequencies, logging software recommendations, and log submission instructions are available at: <https://coloradoqsoparty.org/getting-started/>

2026 marks **America's 250th anniversary and Colorado's 150th anniversary** — a great year to get on the air and be part of Colorado amateur radio history!

The Colorado QSO Party is hosted by the **Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado (GMCC)**. For more information, visit coloradoqsoparty.org or email info@coloradoqsoparty.org

HAMXIETY



**THE FEAR OF ANTENNAS NOT WORKING
CORRECTLY ONCE THEY ARE MOUNTED
ON TOP OF YOUR TOWER.**

Grant County Amateur Radio Club Field Day 2026



Set up for Field Day



New club banner

Donated by Thomas J Della-Penna - KC9BBB

Grant County Amateur Radio Club

Field Day 2026



Charlie – KA9HDG, Mitch – W9DDX
and Eric – KC9AZP installing a
dipole antenna for Field Day

Paul – KD9TEX talking to
Some Cub Scouts about
Amateur Radio.

The Gas City Cub Scouts
Were visiting our Field Day
Site to work on their
Communication Badges.



Grant County Amateur Radio Club

Field Day 2026



Scott – KC9RAX helping set up lights in the operation area before it got dark.

Charlie – KA9HDG talking radio with John a visitor from Pennsylvania



Indiana ARRL Section News

== Technician question pool ==

On July 1, 2026, a new Element 2 Technician class question pool will take effect for license examinations. VECs and VEs must have new test designs available for use at exam sessions effective that date.

ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, advises that the ExamTools examination system will automatically switch to the new pool and exams on July 1. For ARRL-VEC VE teams using online exams at in-person sessions or for remote video-supervised sessions, no action is required. However "VE teams using paper exams must discard all older Technician tests and print new versions from ExamTools," Somma said.

You can download the new Technician question pool here:
<https://www.ncvec.org/index.php/2026-2030-technician-question-pool>
Download the public release dated February 19, 2026.

== W1AW/9 Indiana Activation ==

During 2026, ARRL will celebrate the USA semiquincentennial by holding a year-long America250 Worked All States operating event. W1AW/portable will operate from each state on two different weeks. Indiana already had an activation in February. We'll have another the week starting July 15. We now have a scheduling tool in place so you can reserve a time to operate as W1AW/9. We have several operators signed up, but there's room for more. If you are interested in operating, please contact me.

Also, the Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Association (NIARA) plans to operate as W1AW/9 from their communications trailer at the Auburn Hamfest (see below). This will be your chance to see and hear what the other end of the pile-up is like.

== Let Congress know how you feel ==

You can ask your Congressional representatives to support S.459 and H.R.1094 by pointing your browser to <https://send-a-letter.org/hoa/>, enter your amateur radio callsign, and click the "Send My Letters" button. The form will fill in your address information from the FCC license database and use your ZIP Code to determine the correct Senate



Grant County Amateur Radio Club

Membership Application 2025

Please complete this form and return it with your dues. Make all checks or money orders payable to **GCARC**. Send the printed form with your dues to the Treasurer at the address below. You may also return this application at one of the club's meetings. Please either mail or bring this application and dues to the next meeting.

Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Marion Public Library located at 610 S Washington Street, Marion, IN

Mailing Address:

Grant County Amateur Radio Club
P O Box 1786
Marion, IN 46952

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

Address: _____

Street Address or Post Office Box

Street Address Line 2

City: _____ State: _____ ZipCode: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

Email: _____

Current ARRL Member? Yes _____ No _____

Dues:

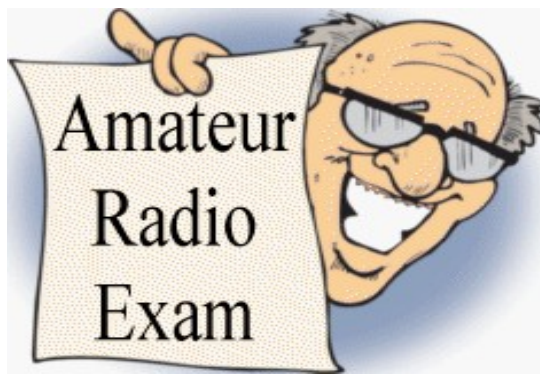
- Full Annual Membership: \$25.00 per person. (**\$5.00 goes into the Repeater Fund**)
- Family Annual Membership: Full membership + \$5.00 per person, maximum of \$30.00 per household
- Associate Membership: \$15.00 per person. (**\$5.00 goes into the Repeater Fund**)
 - Limitations on Associate Membership:
 1. No voting privileges
 2. Cannot hold Office
- Partial-Year Membership: After July 1st dues are reduced to ½ the normal rate for Full or Associate Membership. (**Full Membership is \$12.50 with \$2.50 going into the Repeater Fund**)

Please make sure you sign the form.

Signature: _____

I agree to abide by and support the Constitution and ByLaws of the Grant County Amateur Radio Club.

NOTE: **Please fill out a separate form for each family member.**



07/11/2026

Sponsor: Wells County Radio Club
Time: 9:00 AM (**Walk-ins Allowed**)
Contact: Rick Allen Velasquez
(765) 348-9322
Email: ab9hp@yahoo.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Wells Cnty Public Library
200 West Washington St
Bluffton, IN 46714-1996

07/25/2026

Sponsor: Central Indiana ARA/HCRACES
Time: 10:30 AM (**No Walk-ins Allowed**)
Contact: Joe March
(317) 224-9433
Email: jamrch54@att.net
VEC: ARRL/ VEC
Location: Hamilton Cnty Emergency Ops Center
Sheriff's Campus Training Room
18100 Cumberland Road
Noblesville, IN 46060-1624
Register or Call Ahead

On Line Testing

The following testing is being conducted
on line by the Whitley County Radio Club
Dates: July 06,13,18,20,27
Time: 08:00 PM
PreRegistration is required
Go to Hamstudy.org Find an Exam Session

07/21/2026

Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club
Time: 7:00 PM (**Walk-ins Allowed**)
Contact: Stephen M. Riley
(765) 425-4627
Email: wa9cwe@arrl.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Madison County EOC
300 Delaware Street
Anderson, IN 46016-2238
GPS Location: 119 N Jackson St
Website: <http://www.andersonrepeater.club>

07/27/2026

Sponsor: Marshall Cnty ARC
Time: 8:00 PM (**Walk-ins Allowed**)
Contact: Richard J Basham
(574) 216-6080
Email: k9ilu@yahoo.com
VEC: Laurel VEC
Location: Cornerstone Church of Argos
11525 State Road 10
Argos, IN 46501-9519

**Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, please verify with
your VE team that the exam session is being held.**



Auburn Hamfest

Start Date: 07/18/2026

End Date: 07/18/2026

Location: Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum

1600 Wayne Street

Auburn, IN 46706

Website: <http://w9ou.org>

Sponsor: Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-IN: 147.015 with 141.3 tone

Public Contact: John Maag, KD9QDL

5501 Bear Creek Pass

Auburn, IN 46706

Phone: (260) 438-6588

Email: jdmaag6101@gmail.com

LaPorte Tailgate Hamfest

Start Date: 07/18/2026

End Date: 07/18/2026

Location: Outdoor venue

3354 W. Shultz Rd.

LaPorte, IN

Website: <http://www.lpcarc.org>

Sponsor: LaPorte County ARC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.970 (PL 131.8)

Public Contact: John Phillips, KA9PGC

625 Esther St.

LaPorte, IN 46360

Phone: (219) 878-3543

Email: ka9pgc@arrrl.net



ARRL
The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO





Van Wert Hamfest

Start Date: 07/19/2026

End Date: 07/19/2026

Location: Van Wert County Fairgrounds
1055 S Washington Street
Van Wert, OH 45891

Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-IN: 146.850/146.250

Public Contact: Steve Kouts, WA8WKF
PO Box 347

Van Wert, OH 45891

Phone: (419) 771-8152

Email: stevekouts145@gmail.com

East Central Indiana Hamfest

Start Date: 07/25/26

End Date: 07/25/26

Location: Jay County Fairgrounds
806 East Votaw Street
Portland, IN 47371

Website: <http://inhamfest.com>

Sponsor: Jay County ARC
Whitewater Valley ARC

Type: ARRI Hamfest

Talk-IN: 443.475 (PL 100.0)
145.210 (PL 97.4)

Public Contact: Doug Skinner, W9KED
805 Indiana Avenue
Richmond, IN 47374

Phone: (765) 977-1874

Email: w9ked@comcast.net





Contesting



July 2026

Date: 11-12

IARU HF World Championship

ARRL.org webpage

Also for other contest that are available go to the above webpage and look under Contest Corral.

Special Event Stations

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name of Special Event</u>	<u>Webpage</u>
06/11 to 07/19	"Football/Futbol On The Air – the 2026 World Soccer Tournament	www.wc2026ses.org info@wc2026ses.org
06/12 to 07/19	World Soccer Tournament	https://www.qrz.com/db/WM3PEN
06/25 to 07/08	America250 DARC	doniphanarc@outlook.com
06/28 to 07/03	Trail to Eagle (TTE)	https://michiganscouting.org/camping/trail-to-eagle
07/01 to 07/07	13 Colonies Special Event	k2j1776@gmail.com
07/01 to 07/08	13 Colonies	https://www.qrz.com/db/K2D
07/01 to 07/07	13 Colonies Massachusetts	https://13colonies.us
07/01 to 07/06	13 Colonies SES Georgia	https://www.13colonies.us

More info on these Special Events Stations go to: http://www.arrl.org/special_events



Special Event Stations



<u>Date</u>	<u>Name of Special Event</u>	<u>Webpage</u>
07/01 to 07/08	13 Colonies Special Event	https://13colonies.us
07/01 to 07/08	13 Colonies Special Event	wm3pen.org
07/01 to 07/08	13 Colonies Special Event K2C (RI)	https://www/13colonies.us
07/01 to 07/08	13 Colonies, New York	13Colonies.US
07/01 to 07/06	Lake Ashton 250 th Anniversary Special Event	k4rla.250@gmail.com
07/01 to 07/08	Thirteen Colonies Special Event - New Hampshire	https://hamlog.online/13colonies
07/01 to 07/08	Thirteen Colonies Special Event - South Carolina	www.qrz.com/db/k2l
07/02 to 07/05	K3H Special Event Station - Eastern PA Homestead Festival	walter.skavinsky@radiostemalliance.org
07/04	USS Orleck Amateur Radio Society (OARS) July 4 th /USA 250 Event	
07/04 to 07/05	250 Years as a Country	

More info on these Special Events Stations go to: http://www.arrl.org/special_events



Special Event Stations



<u>Date</u>	<u>Name of Special Event</u>	<u>Webpage</u>
07/11	Colonial Williamsburg Special Event	https://www.k4rc.net
07/01 to 07/08	Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Dedication	
07/11	Independence Day (07-04-1776)	
07/13 to 07/19	Warrick County 4H Fair	https://warrickauxcomm.org
07/17 to 07/21	W3A Commemoration of Apollo 11 Live TV From the Moon that Allowed the World to See Mankind's First Steps on the Lunar Surface	WW-2.us
07/18	NS Savannah Launch Anniversary	qrz.com/db/k3s
07/20 to 07/25	EAA Airventure Worlds Largest Airshow	FCARC.club
07/20 to 07/26	The Brickyard 400 – Race Three	https://w9ims.org
07/25	Minnesota Mosquito Challenge	
07/30 to 08/09	Carnation Festival Special Event	https://www.8lky.org/activities/special-event-operations

More info on these Special Events Stations go to: http://www.arrl.org/special_events

Ham Radio Trader

This is a new section of the newsletter. Items on this page are for sale by hams. The following rules will apply for items to be listed on this page.

1. All items must be Amateur Radio related:

Example: Ham radio gear and computer items.

2. Ads must be submitted by the 15th of the month for the following month.

Example: For the January Newsletter must be submitted by December 15th.

Items must include the following:

Item description, picture of item in jpg form, selling price, email of seller.

You can send your ad to k9nqw1979@gmail.com

**For Sale -
Example**



Icom IC-2720H Transciever

Icom IC-2720H VHF/UHF

Transciever: VHF-144-148 MHz

UHF-440-450 MHz

Reciver Frequency Coverage:

Left side: 118-550 Mhz,

Right side: 118-174, 375-850, 910-999.99 MHZ
(less Cellular)

Mode: FM, AM Memory Channels: 212

Output Power: VHF: 50W, 15W, 5W

UHF: 35W, 15W, 5W

Power output is selectable

Power Supply Requirement: 13.8V DC

Asking: \$220.00

Contact: Nick at k9nqw1979@gmail.com