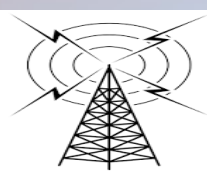


OFF THE AIR



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. 9 September 2026

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President – Eric Creech - KC9AZP
yourpropertypros@outlook.com
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splinterinhand@gmail.com
Secretary – L. B. Nickerson – K9NQW
k9nqw1979@gmail.com
Treasurer – David Larson – KD9ZZB
Awc1pastor@verizon.net
Trustee – Kevin McNeely – KB9CRA
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Newsletter Editor

L. B. Nickerson – K9NQW
k9nqw1979@gmail.com
<http://www.grantarc.org>
Member – Indiana Radio Club Council

ARRL Indiana Section Staff:

Section Manager: Robert L. Burns - AK9R
Assistant Section Manager and Section Traffic Manager:
Brian Jenks – W9BGJ
Section Emergency Coordinator: Brian P. Sexon - KD9EDR
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



Table of Contents

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Pages</u>
A Message from the Club's President	3-4
Notes from the Editor	5
September 2026 Monthly Calendar	6
Pictures from the Swayzee 5K Run	7-8
ARRL Indiana Section News	9
Membership Application 2026	10
Amateur Radio Exams	11
Hamfest	12-13
Special Events Stations	14 -17
Ham Radio Trader (For Sale Items)	20-21



Notes from the President

Building the Future of GCARC

As members of the Grant County Amateur Radio Club, we have something pretty special. We are part of a hobby with a long history, a strong tradition of service, and a community of people who are always willing to lend a hand.

But as I look around our club, I believe we need to spend more time thinking about the future.

Who will be sitting around our meeting table five, ten, or twenty years from now?

That question isn't meant to be discouraging. In fact, I believe it is an opportunity.

GCARC has been built by generations of amateur radio operators who gave their time, knowledge, and resources to make this club what it is today. They established traditions, built our infrastructure, supported emergency communications, participated in community events, organized Field Day activities and—perhaps most importantly—shared their knowledge with those who came after them.

Now it's our turn.

One of the most important things we can do for GCARC is **recruit new members and encourage younger people to discover amateur radio.**

We sometimes forget just how much our hobby has to offer. Amateur radio isn't simply talking on a radio. It combines electronics, computers, communications, engineering, science, emergency preparedness, public service, and even a little bit of adventure.

Someone interested in technology can explore digital modes, satellites, software-defined radios, or radio networking. Someone who enjoys working with their hands can build antennas and equipment. Someone interested in helping others can become involved in emergency and public-service communications. And for those who simply enjoy meeting people, there are thousands of conversations waiting to happen.

The possibilities are enormous.

The problem is that many people—especially younger people—have never been introduced to amateur radio.

That's where **we** come in.

Recruiting new members isn't just the responsibility of the club officers or a membership committee. Every one of us has an opportunity to be an ambassador for GCARC.

Think about the people you interact with every day. A friend, neighbor, coworker, family member, student, or young person who enjoys computers or electronics may have no idea that amateur radio could become a lifelong hobby for them.

Invite them to a meeting or club breakfast.

Bring them to Field Day or another event.

Let them see your station.

Give them a chance to talk on the radio.

And when someone walks through our doors for the first time, let's make sure they receive a warm welcome.

We were all new once.

Nobody walks into amateur radio knowing what every abbreviation means, how to program a radio, what antenna they need, or how to make their first contact. That's why mentorship is so important.

Continued on Next Page

Notes from the President

Continued from Page 3

The experience and knowledge within GCARC is one of our greatest assets. We have members who have spent decades learning how to operate, build, troubleshoot, communicate, and solve problems. That knowledge is something we need to pass along—not keep to ourselves.

Imagine what could happen if every experienced member helped one new operator get established.

We wouldn't just gain new members. We'd be building the future leadership of GCARC.

Those new operators could eventually become our next officers, repeater trustees, emergency-communications leaders, Field Day organizers, instructors, VE examiners, and mentors. More importantly, they will bring new ideas and new energy to the club.

I don't believe we need to choose between preserving the traditions of GCARC and embracing the future. **We need both.**

Our history gives us a foundation. New members give us a future.

So, I'd like to challenge each of us to do one thing over the coming year:

Bring someone new into amateur radio.

It doesn't have to be a teenager. It doesn't have to be someone who already knows anything about radios. It simply needs to be someone who might enjoy what we enjoy.

Introduce them to GCARC. Answer their questions. Help them get licensed. Put a microphone in their hand. Invite them to participate.

We have inherited something worth preserving.

Let's make sure we pass it on.

The future of the Grant County Amateur Radio Club isn't sitting somewhere in the distance. It may be the new ham who walks through our door at the next meeting.

Let's make sure we're ready to welcome them.

73,

Eric -KC9AZP



Notes from the Editor

First of all I want to thank the volunteers that worked the Swayzee 5K Run on August 22nd. I really appreciate you all for supporting this run and the organizers also appreciated our support.

It was brought up at the last meeting that there are 9 5K runs in Grant County from April to December. Below is a list of the runs for the rest of the year.

Oct 25, 2026 – Homecoming Donut Run 5K at the Indiana Wesleyan University – Marion, IN

Nov 21, 2026 – Indian Trail 5K Run – Mississinewa High School – Gas City, IN

Grant County YMCA Santa 5K – Elf 1 Mile Dash – Marion, IN
This 5K is in December but there is no date set for this year yet.

I will be reaching out to these organizations to see if they would like our help. Once I find out I will keep you posted on dates and the number of volunteers needed.

This Saturday is the FlyIn/CruiseIn at the Marion Airport. Again we will be setting up where we have for the past few years to expose the general public what we do as Amateur Radio Operators. We need People to come out Friday night at 5 PM to help set up. And from about 8 AM to 2 PM to show support for the club and to help tear down after the event is over.

L B Nickerson -
K9NQW
Editor

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
				Indiana D-Star Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control K9NQW	Setup for FlyIn/CruiseIn 5:00 PM Marion Airport	FlyIn/CruiseIn Marion Airport
6	Labor Day 7	8	9	10	11	12
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
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
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 KA9OPL		
27	28	29	30			
2 meter weekly net 8:30 PM Net Control K9NQW	DMR Weekly Net 8 PM Net Control K9NQW					

Notes: September 12th – Monthly Breakfast Meeting – 8:30 AM at Georgie's Cafe on the Bypass

September 12th – Monthly Siren Test – 11:45 AM

September 18th – Monthly RACES Net – 8:00 PM 146.790 (PL 141.3); 146.195 (PL 141.3); Talkgroup 311811

September 22nd - 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 Ne 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 8:00 PM on 147.195 (PL 141.3)

Swayzee 5K Run August 22, 2026



Courtesy of Ed - N9GTL

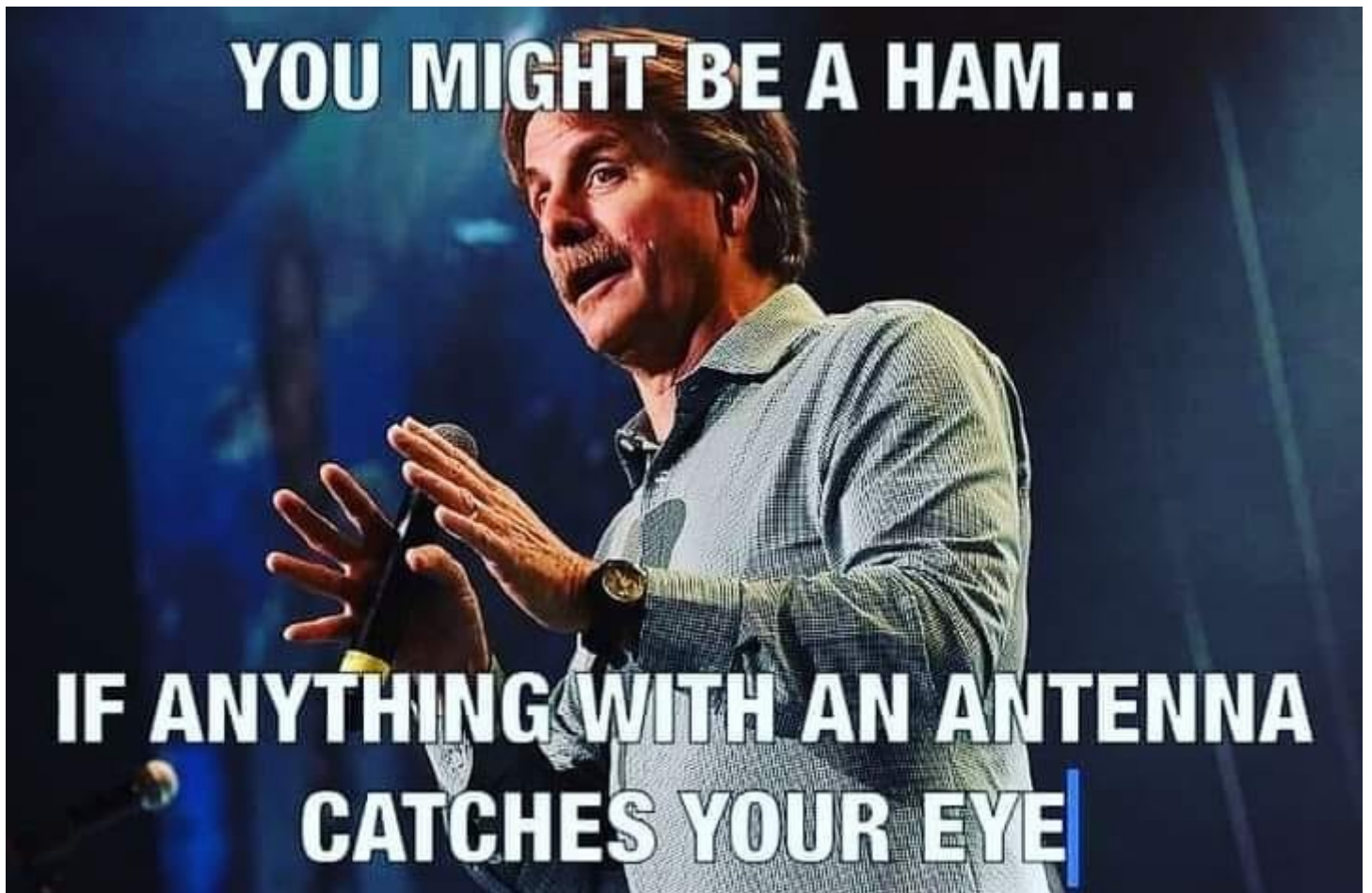


Courtesy of Ed - N9GTL

Swayzee 5K Run August 22, 2026



Courtesy Ed - N9GTL



Indiana ARRL Section News

== New Affiliated Club Coordinator ==

Let's welcome Brent Walls N9BA as Indiana Section's new Affiliated Club Coordinator! Brent's specific role will be to support ARRL-affiliated clubs, but he will also be taking on the broader mission of helping to strengthen all amateur radio clubs across Indiana, regardless of affiliation. Over the coming months, Brent hopes to learn more about clubs throughout the section, attend meetings and events when possible, and better understand both the successes and challenges facing amateur radio organizations today.

One of Brent's immediate tasks will be to help affiliated clubs update their records in the ARRL Affiliated Club database (<https://www.arrl.org/find-a-club>). This is a great tool that amateur radio operators can use to find your club, so it's important that the information be accurate.

You can reach Brent at acc@inarrl.org.

== SKYWARN and ARES ==

There appears to be a misconception regarding the relationship between SKYWARN and ARES. To be plain, ARES and SKYWARN are separate programs, though many volunteers participate in both.

SKYWARN was established by the National Weather Service in the 1970s to gather critical weather data. Because the NWS owns the program, it establishes all standards for training, qualification, and reporting. Participation is open to anyone interested in public service—including public safety personnel, utility workers, and private citizens—and is not exclusive to amateur radio operators.

Amateur radio operators acting as severe weather spotters should align their activities with NWS requirements. Ultimately, NWS is the primary customer for severe weather reports, and our mission should be to deliver the information they require.

Most NWS offices have severe weather reporting info on their websites.

== 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:

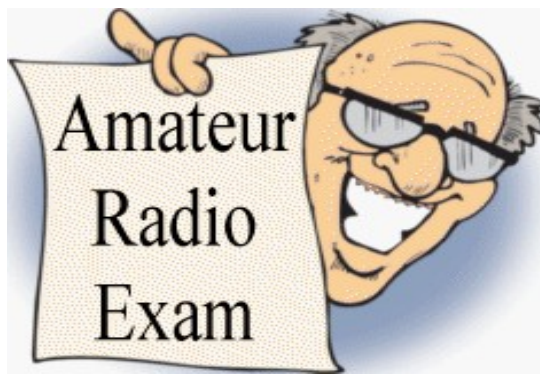
1. No voting privileges
 2. Cannot hold Office
- Partial-Year Membership: After July 1st dues are reduced to ½ the normal rate for Full or Associate Membership. (**Full Membership is \$12.50 with \$2.50 going into the Repeater Fund**)

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.



09/05/2026

Sponsor: Hancock County ARC
Time: 9:00 AM (**Walk-ins Allowed**)
Contact: Sean Waltz
(317) 753-8846
Email: waltz1972@msn.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Hancock EMA EOC
640 South Franklin St
Greenfield, IN 46140-9654
Website: <https://w9at.org/vd-testing>

09/12/2026

Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio Club W9JP
Time: 12:00 PM (**No Walk-ins Allowed**)
Contact: James Kajder
(505) 228-3704
Email: testing@indyradioclub.org
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Salvation Army EDS
Training Facility
4020 Georgetown Road
Indianapolis, IN 46254-2407
Register or Call Ahead

09/15/2026

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

09/12/2026

Sponsor: Wells County Radio Club
Time: 9:30 AM (**Walk-ins Allowed**)
Contact: Rick Allen Velasquez
(765) 348-9322
Email: ab9hp@yahoo.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Wells County Public Library
200 West Washington St
Bluffton, IN 46714-1954

09/15/2026

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
200 Delaware St
Anderson, IN 46016-2238
<https://www.andersonrepeater.club>

ON Line Testing

There was no testing listing for the Whitley County Radio Club for the month of September. Check HamStudy.org for testing.



MARC Tailgate Hamfest

Start Date: 09/12/2026

End Date: 09/12/2026

Location: Indiana Dept of Natural
Resources Parking Lot
7970 South Rowe Street
Edinburgh, IN 6124

Website: <http://midstatehams.org>

Sponsor: Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-IN: 144.520 Simplex

Public Contact: Jim Adams. KB9JMU

15 Briar Patch Road
Bargersville, IN 46106

Phone: (317) 449-5451

Email: secretary@midstatehams.org

BARA Trunk Swap

Start Date: 09/19/2026

End Date: 09/19/2026

Location: Five Pines Ministries
6597 Smith Road
Berrien Center, MI 49102

Website: <http://www.w8mai.org/index.php/club-information/bara-trunk-swap>

Sponsor: Blossomland ARA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-IN: 146.82 MHz, Neg.offset 88.5 PL

Public Contact: Frank Lemanski, AD8BU
701 Alma St.

Dowagiac, MI 49047

Phone: (269) 362-4143

Email: souta95@gmail.com



ARRL
The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO





Adrian Hamfest

Start Date: 09/20/2026

End Date: 09/20/2026

Location: Lenawee County Airport
2651 W Cadmus Road
Adrian, MI 49221

Sponsor: Adrian Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w8tqe.com>

Sponsor: Adrian Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-IN: 145.37 (PL 85.4)

Public Contact: Mark Hinkleman, NU8Z
108 E Kilbuck St.

Tecumseh, MI 49286

Phone: (517) 423-5906

Email: cqnu8z@gmail.com

ARANCI Hamfest

Start Date: 09/26/26

End Date: 09/26/26

Location: Christ Presbyterian Church
7416 E 109th Ave
Winfield, IN

Website: <http://aranciradio.com>

Sponsor: Amateur Radio Association
of Newton County Indiana

Type: ARRI Hamfest

Talk-IN: 444.250 (PL 131.8)

145.330 (PL 131.8)

Public Contact: Michael Swiader, KA9E

PO Box 215

Lake Village, IN 46349

Phone: (815) 409-5070

Email: ka9e@usa.com





Contesting



August 2026

Date: 01-02

222MHz and Up Distance Contest

08-09

EME – 2.3 GHz and Up – Wknd 1

15-17

10 Ghz and Up – Round 1

16

Rookie Roundup - RTTY

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>
08/29 to 09/12	Auburn Cord Duesenberg Festival Special Event Station	W9OU@W9OU.ORG
08/29 to 09/07	Buhl Farm Park Celebration	www.w3lif.org
08/29 to 09/02	Commemoration of the end of WWII https://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/w5j-the-special-event-commemoration-of-the-end-of-wwii.992749	
09/05 to 09/07	Return to Paradise #48	www.k7rdg.org
09/05 to 09/06	Route 66 100 th Anniversary	https://svrc.org
09/05 to	W2GSB POTA Activation	www.GSBARC.ORG
09/05	W8OG Special Event 250 th Birthday Celebration	W8OG.Org

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>
09/09 to 09/11	FRVA-ARC Fall Rally	www.frvaarc.com
09/09 to 09/16	Handiham Radio Camp	https://handiham.org
09/09 to 09/16	Handiham's Radio Camp	fred@wb4aej.com
09/11 to 09/12	Pentagon 25 th Anniversary of September 11, 2001	k4AF.org
09/11 to 09/13	The RC Jamboree Weekend	
09/12	60 th Anniversary Special Event Station	wasecavars@yahoo.com
09/12	9/11 25 th Anniversary	www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw
09/12	Baltimore Defender's Day	qrz.com/db/k3s
09/12 to 09/20	Route 66 On the Air	https://www.qrz.com/db/W6H
09/12	VARs 60 th Anniversary Special Event Station	wa0jgt@arrl.net
09/13	Blue Ridge Bonanza	W4CA.com

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>
09/16 to 09/26	PAARC Founders Week Special Event Station	https://www.paarc.net
09/16 to 09/24	The Saving of The Liberty Bell	https://www.qrz.com/db/W3L
09/17 to 09/24	Constitution Day/Week	K6qcg@verizon.net 09/19
Fred Harvey House Museum on the Air	pkarc.org	
09/19	State Line Radio Club Annual Picnic	www.statelineradioclub.com
09/19	Wright Brother's First Complete Circular Flight near Dayton, OH	secretary@bellbrookarc.org
09/20	Fort Herkimer Recognition	n2zwo@arrl.net
09/26 to 09/27	Historic Soldiers Weekend Fort Mott State Park	https://www.w2mmd.org 09/26
Steubenville-Weirton Amateur Radio Club America 250 Ft. Steuben	swarc.net	
09/26 to 09/27	Tri-states Special Event: Where SD, ND. MN meet	W0JHwhiterock@outlook.com

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>
09/26 to 09/27	Villa Rica Gold Rush Special Event	wgars.com
09/26	Volcano Days	W8PAR.ORG
09/26	White Trail Grange Car Show	cwarc.w7tt.98823@gmail.com
09/27 to 09/29	Bolton Mansion / Phineas Pemberton House	WWW.PENNWIRELSS.ORG

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

**Give a man a radio and he
will talk until the battery
quits.**



**Teach a man to radio and he
will be hopelessly addicted
for the rest of his life.**

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

Equipment For Sale

This was received from Mike - AJ9C

Not sure if anyone local might be interested in these. Jim is a friend of mine and due to age and health sold all his radio stuff. Had a 100 ft tower with mono banders and these were antennas he had in storage. I know they could be had for VERY affordable price. If no one wants them he is just going to scrap them.

FORCE 12 340N 3 ELEMENT 40 METER BEAM. THIS IS A REALLY NICE ANTENNA. IT'S HEAVY AND TAKES A HEFTY TOWER TO SUPPORT.

KLM KT-34XA TRIBANDER

KLM KT-36XA TRIBANDER REBUILD. VERY HEAVY ON A 4 INCH BOOM. NEEDS A LITTLE REPAIR, BUT ALL THERE

KLM 20 METER BIG STICK FULL SIZE BEAM ON 42 FOOT BOOM

CUSHCRAFT LFA-6M7EL 6 METER BEAM REBUILD

CUSHCRAFT LONG BOOM 2 METER BEAM

ALSO HAVE A FEW ROHN 25G 10 FOOT SECTIONS AND A COUPLE OF TOPS

A VERY NICE M2 RC2800PX PROP PITCH CONTROLLER UNIT

AND 2 PROP PITCH MOTORS

NO SHIPPING, PICKUP ONLY

JIM, AG9S ag9s@comcast.net

MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360