



Madison County Amateur Radio Club

QSO

www.w9vcf.org

April 2022



Next meeting will be April 4th, at 7pm at the EOC at 200 N Delaware St, Anderson.

AMATEUR RADIO

noun

A hobby, where people
talk about their hobby,
using their hobby.

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From the President -

Greetings everyone, I hope everyone had a safe and healthy St. Patrick's Day celebration. The Wednesday night Net is going well. I would like to see more people involved. This is a requirement for EMA Communications. We have events coming up. Don't wait to be asked for help. Volunteer willingly and learn something new that you can take home and use. 73's Lew

From the Vice-President -

SILENCE OF THE HAMS

Each of us got involved in ham radio for different reasons. Some of us were attracted to the idea of having communications in place when everything else fails while others got involved because of an interest in the technical side of the hobby. For me, I first became interested in 1968 when my dad gave me a Bearcat scanner for a Christmas gift. A couple of years later I saved up enough money to buy a base station CB radio. My entire family in the 1970's communicated with each other with CB radios having one in each vehicle. During my thirty years in public safety, I developed a strong interest in emergency communications. Regardless of what brought us into the ham radio hobby, the basic concept is listening and talking, especially in 2 and 70 meter bands. I have only been a ham for a couple of years, and I feel that I have a great deal to learn, but I quickly discovered that getting on the air and having exchanges or "making contacts" with other hams was the best thing I could do to get more comfortable with my newfound pastime. While in public safety, it was preached repeatedly to stay off the radio unless it was necessary and then only say the minimal words or codes needed to get your message across. With ham radio, I found myself having a little anxiety, worrying about saying the right thing on the air, some refer to this as "mic fright." So, I just listened for the longest time to pick up the lingo. I still must work at being a conversationalist, but I am more comfortable now being on the air.

It has been said that ham radio is the first social media platform, and we certainly need to be social. After all, what good is it to have the communication equipment if we don't communicate? Simply said, we need each other. Our Wednesday night net is a great way to share the experience of using our radios and having on air conversations with others in our organization. For the most part, it is an informal net where newbies can learn and practice saying more than just a few words. I would urge you to listen in and get a feel of the flow of things before you jump in, but don't let "mic fright" keep you from contributing to the discussion. Keep in mind, you will be among friends, a community of trusted hams, that want to help you become more relaxed on the air and to get more involved in the hobby.

I want to encourage everyone to take a few minutes on Wednesday evening and participate in our in our weekly net at 8:00 pm. Mike (KC9DJU), Gary (W9GNR), Rick (W9CGA), and Dale (N9OLC) all do a great job of facilitating our net. I sincerely appreciate their commitment week after week to not only run the net, but they also regularly sign on and interact with others on the air. If you are interested in assisting with our weekly net, I would be glad to put you in the rotation. Feel free to contact me on the air, or by way of email for more information.

Don't be a silent ham!

Wednesday 8:00 pm (20:00 Hrs.)

145.39 MHz / PL tone: 151.4

Tim Bailey (KD9PSR)

Kd9psr@gmail.com

MCARC - Minutes of Regular Meeting

March 7th, 2022

Location: EOC, 200 N. Delaware St. Anderson, IN 46016

President's Call to Order: President Lew - K9LBB called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

President's Comments: Asked member Alex Valdez, K9BLK to introduce himself. He had not attended meetings in awhile. President Lew entertained a motion by Alex to contribute a one time donation to the American Cancer Society of \$100 (see New Correspondence below). Motion was carried. Members then stated there was nothing in the ByLaws allowing the donation. Tom KA9SYP felt that club dues should not be used for donations but used for equipment purchases and repairs. He said the club had made a donation previously due to the death of a club member. President Lew stated if we donated to one charity then it might cause others to solicit the club. One member suggested we could accept individual contributions at a future date instead of using club dues. Ken, KD9PZQ requested the original carried motion (donation) be tabled, motion carried, and so ordered by President Lew.

A wood plaque with a call sign, made by Charlie, KD9RZG was shown by President Lew who said to see Charlie if anyone was interested in one.

Show and Tell: Tim W2ZV, played a video on line noise location detection and isolation that members found very informative.

New Correspondence: Solicitation mail from the American Cancer Society of Indianapolis.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning balance as of 02/07/2022	\$ 2,098.79
Expenditures	\$ 0
Dues received (2 deposits)	220.00
Previously unreported excess	.17
Ending balance in bank as of meeting	\$ 2,318.96
Additional dues accepted at meeting	40.00

Motion to accept Treasurer's report seconded and approved.

VP Tim - KD9PSR said nets are going well. Volunteers are still being accepted to run the nets.

Media/Newsletter/Awards Gary - W9GNR asked if everyone was getting the newsletter. No negative replies. Gary also gave a breakdown of the Awards Points Standings.

ARES: Gary - W9GNR stated members had volunteered 156 hours and there were 9 nets with 1 emergency activation of 8 hours for a total of 164 hours in February.

Trustee: Mark - W9MWM Repeater working fine..

Activities: Paula - KD9SZJ mentioned the 15 March Storm Spotter training at Anderson University and the Open House in April. Paula also mentioned upcoming QSO parties in various states.

Tech Committee: Doug - N9DR/Tim W2VZ. Doug passed around flyer and info on the upcoming Atlanta Hamfest. Doug showed 3 Ham Radio certificates he earned recently and was congratulated by members. Secretary Ike N9IKE brought up the shortage in the Tech Committee due to the passing of Tim KC9GBL. Conversation ensued between officers and members whether the Committee position could be filled by appointment or election. Charlie KD9RZG volunteered to fill the vacancy and it was so ordered.

EMA Jeff - K9DYR stated a lot of preparations are going on for the summer training exercise and a training session was coming up on March 14 with surrounding counties sending representatives.

New Business: Ike N9IKE stated the club has renewal coming up for liability insurance and asked about fees and if there were fees also for being an ARRL affiliate club. Jeff, K9DYR said we have to give the ARRL a list of our new officers and President Lew instructed Ike to get with Jeff to find out the requirements.

Old Business: Dues report 21 paid, 21 unpaid. Sweatshirt and T-shirt order still pending. Mike, KC9DJU will contact the company.

Sick Report: No comments.

Attendance: There were 19 members present and 1 visitor.

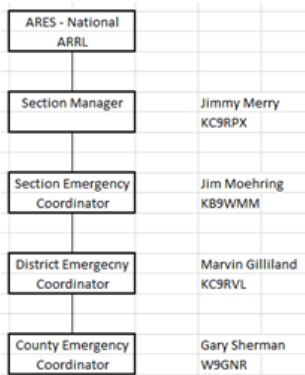
Adjournment: President Lew - K9LBB concluded the meeting at 7:53 PM.

Special Note: Many thanks to Mrs Gary Sherman (our visitor) for the excellent oatmeal cookies.

THE EC SHACK

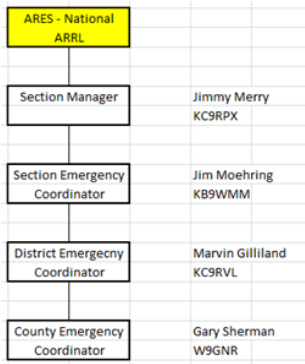
Gary-W9GNR

A.R.E.S. - STRUCTURE



As with any organization chart, it is always viewed from the top down. I'll review the structure as it is displayed. To keep this article from becoming overwhelming I will not delve into the responsibilities of each level. If you are interested in the responsibilities, they can be found at ARRL under ARES, ARES Manual. There are four levels of ARES organization — national, section, district, and local.

ARES Organization: National Level



National emergency coordination at ARRL Headquarters is under the supervision of the ARRL Field Services and Radiosport Manager or his/her designee, who is responsible for advising all ARES officials regarding their problems, maintaining contact with federal government and other national officials concerned with amateur emergency communications potential, and in general with carrying out the ARRL's policies regarding emergency communications. These functions are carried out through the ARRL field organization supervisor and the emergency preparedness program.

ARES Organization: Section Level

ARES - National ARRL			
Section Manager	Jimmy Merry KC9RPX		
Section Emergency Coordinator	Jim Moehring KB9WMM		
District Emergency Coordinator	Marvin Gilliland KC9RVL		
County Emergency Coordinator	Gary Sherman W9GNR		

The Section Level is at the State level consisting of a Section Manager and a Section Emergency Coordinator [SEC]. In Indiana the Section Manager is Jimmy Merry – KC9RPX and the Section EC is Jim Moehring – KB9WMM. The Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) is the assistant to the Section Manager (SM) for emergency preparedness. The SEC is appointed by the SM to take care of all matters pertaining to emergency communications and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) on a section-wide basis. The SEC post is one of top importance in the section and the individual appointed to it should devote all possible energy and effort to this one challenging organizational program for Amateur Radio. There is only one SEC appointed in each section of the ARRL Field Organization.

ARES Organization: District Level

ARES - National ARRL			
Section Manager	Jimmy Merry KC9RPX		
Section Emergency Coordinator	Jim Moehring KB9WMM		
District Emergency Coordinator	Marvin Gilliland KC9RVL		
County Emergency Coordinator	Gary Sherman W9GNR		

Madison County is in ARES District 6. Madison County's ARES District Emergency Coordinator is Marvin Gilliland - KC9RVL. In the large sections, the local groups could proliferate to the point where simply keeping track of them would be more than a full-time chore, not to mention trying to coordinate them in an actual emergency. To this end, SECs have the option of grouping their Emergency Coordinators (EC) jurisdictions into logical units or "Districts" and appointing a District EC to coordinate the activities of the local ECs in the district. In some cases, the districts may conform to the boundaries of governmental planning or emergency operations districts, while in others they are simply based on repeater coverage or geographical boundaries. The ARRL District Emergency Coordinator is appointed by the SEC to supervise the efforts of local Emergency Coordinators in the defined district.

ARES Organization: Local Level

ARES - National ARRL			
Section Manager	Jimmy Merry KC9RPX		
Section Emergency Coordinator	Jim Moehring KB9WMM		
District Emergency Coordinator	Marvin Gilliland KC9RVL		
County Emergency Coordinator	Gary Sherman W9GNR		
County level Ares Members	YOU		

The local ARES program is coordinated through the local Emergency Coordinator. Madison County's Emergency Coordinator is Gary Sherman – W9GNR.

The ARRL Emergency Coordinator is a key team player in ARES on the local emergency scene. Working with the Section Emergency Coordinator, the DEC, and Official Emergency Stations, the EC prepares for and engages in management of communications needs in disasters. To be appointed as an EC requires a Technician Class or higher Amateur Radio license and ARRL membership.

ARES Organization: ARES Member

The amateur who serves as a member of his or her local ARES group is in the front line of service to their community; The ARES Members are YOU. The Madison County ARES members include the Madison County Amateur Radio club, the Anderson Repeater Club and the EMA Communication Division unless you opt out. The two basic requirements for ARES membership are a valid Amateur Radio license and a willingness to serve. ARES participation at the local level may require specific training. Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization, is eligible to apply for membership in ARES. Once the application for ARES membership has been completed it should go to the local ARES EC for approval.

The above is the 'official' structure of the A.R.E.S. team. There are several other positions that do not apply to Madison County:

Assistant EC

Official Emergency Stations

Public Information Officer

As stated in the beginning, as with any organization chart, it is always viewed from the top down. However, the operation of the A.R.E.S. Plan is from the bottom up.

It all starts with an incident. As soon as Emergency Management is involved and the need for communications is recognized, the Director of EMA Communications is notified and the Communications Division members are activated per the County Communications Plan also known as EFS-2. A part of that plan is to enlist the ARES members and organizations who are not Comm. Div. members as resources for specific tasks i.e.; message handling, HF needs, additional operator needs within the EOC, etc. The Net Control is put in place and volunteers radio in for assignments. Severe weather is a prime example. Weather warning advises EMA of potential severe weather, Net Control is established, a net is brought up, volunteers call in with their status and storm spotters are deployed to specific locations and all others spot from their current location. Simple, concise and many of you have participated.

EMA then reaches out to other EMA organizations first for resources then to other County ARES organizations. What makes Madison County different from other counties is that we have a strong Communications group to call upon first. Other counties do not have that at all so their “bench” is ARES only. We have done exercises where long duration and wide area power outages require communications throughout the county. Again, a net control is established and volunteers radio their status and are assigned to locations such as Points of Distribution, shelters, hospitals, et cetera. If these events last longer than a few hours, volunteers are assigned in 10 – 12 hour work schedules. If we do not have sufficient volunteers, we contact neighboring counties for assistance in the form of additional radio operators.

Send comments or questions to W9GNR@arrl.net

THE EC SHACK

Gary-W9GNR

New Amateur Radio License Applications Fee To Become Effective April 19, 2022

03/24/2022

A Public Notice released by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on March 23, 2022, in [MD Docket No. 20-270](#), announced that new application fees for Wireless Telecommunications Bureau applications will become effective on April 19, 2022. The new fees, mandated by Congress, apply to applications for Amateur Radio licenses including those associated with filing Form 605, the Amateur Operator/Primary Station Licensee Application.

Effective April 19, 2022, a \$35 fee will apply to applications for a new Amateur Radio license, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call signs.

Anticipating the implementation of the fee in 2022, the ARRL Board of Directors, at its July 2021 meeting, approved the "ARRL [Youth Licensing Grant Program](#)." Under the program, ARRL will cover a one-time \$35 application fee for license candidates younger than 18 years old for tests administered under the auspices of the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC). Qualified candidates also would pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VEC. ARRL is finalizing details for administering the program.

ARRL had filed comments in opposition to imposing a fee on Amateur Radio license applications. The FCC initially proposed a higher, \$50 fee. In a Report and Order (R&O), released on December 29, 2020, the amount was reduced -- the FCC agreeing with ARRL and other commenters that its proposed \$50 fee for certain amateur radio applications was "too high to account for the minimal staff involvement in these applications."

ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC) Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, explained that all fees are per application. "There will be no fee for administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address. The fees will be the responsibility of the applicant regardless of filing method and must be paid within 10 calendar days of FCC's receipt of the application. For applications filed by a VEC, the period does not begin until the application is received by the Commission, a ULS file number assigned, and an email sent by the FCC directly to the applicant."

VECs and Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not collect the \$35 fee at license exam sessions. New and upgrade candidates at an exam session will continue to pay the \$15 exam session fee to the ARRL VE team as usual, and pay the new, \$35 application fee directly to the FCC by using the CORES FRN Registration system ([CORES - Login](#)).

When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each successful candidate who then will have 10 calendar days from the date of the email to pay. After the fee is paid and the FCC has processed an application, examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license or explanation of other action. The link will be good for 30 days.

Somma also explained that applications that are processed and dismissed will not be entitled to a refund. This includes vanity call sign requests where the applicant does not receive the requested call sign. "The FCC staff has suggested that applicants for vanity call signs should first ensure the call signs requested are available and eligible for their operator class and area, and then request as many call signs as the form allows to maximize their chances of receiving a call sign."

Further information and instructions about the FCC Application Fee are available from the ARRL VEC at www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fee. Details for the ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program will be similarly posted there, when available.

Volunteer Monitor Program Cautions against Operating Beyond License Privileges.

<http://www.arrl.org/.../volunteer-monitor-program...>

03/03/2022

Many of the Advisory Notices sent out each month by the ARRL Volunteer Monitor Program go to stations heard operating outside the operator's license privileges.

Typical cases often involve operators holding Technician- or General-class amateur licenses being heard on a frequency or band not permitted by their license privileges. Most recent incidents have frequently entailed FT8 digital mode operation by Technician licensees on 20 and 40 meters. Technician licensees do not have any operating privileges on 20 meters, let alone digital privileges, and FT8 is a digital protocol.

Technicians (and Novices) may operate CW between 21.025 and 21.200 MHz on 15 meters, from 7.025 and 7.125 MHz on 40 meters, and from 3.525 to 3.600 MHz on 80 meters, but they do not have any digital (data) mode privileges on these bands.

ARRL Volunteer Monitor Program Administrator Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, said licensees who need a refresher course regarding their operating privileges may refer to Section 97.301 of the rules. ARRL also has a convenient chart on its website that details privileges available to all license classes, from Novice to Amateur Extra.

As monthly Volunteer Monitor reports indicate, some General-class operators have lost their way on some bands too, and Advisory Notices have gone out to those operating outside of the General-class phone subbands. For example, on 20 meters, Generals may operate phone from

14.225 to 14.350 MHz, but occasionally, General-class operators are heard outside of that subband. On 40 meters, the phone and image subband open to General licensees is 7.175 to 7.300 MHz. Of course, Technician- and General-class licensees may operate CW on any subband on which they have operating privileges, although operation within the CW subbands is preferred by band plan.

On 10 meters, Technicians have RTTY and data privileges — including FT8 — from 28.000 to 28.300 MHz, and SSB phone privileges from 28.300 to 28.500 MHz, and may operate on CW over the entire 28.0000 – 28.500 MHz segment. Technicians may enjoy all operating privileges at 50 MHz and above.

The ARRL Volunteer Monitor program is a formal agreement between the FCC and ARRL. Volunteers trained and vetted by ARRL monitor the airwaves and report evidence that may be used to correct errant operation or to recognize exemplary on-air operation.

ARRL Indiana Section

Section Manager: Jimmy L Merry Jr, KC9RPX kc9rpx@arri.org

-FOR SALE-

ITEM	ASKING PRICE	SELLER	CONTACT
HAVE AN HAM RELATED ITEM FOR SALE? ADVERTISE HERE!! E-MAIL w9vcf.mcarc@gmail.com with your Item, asking price and preferred contact info!!			

EVENTS

Every Wednesday	MCARC 2M Net 8:00 PM - 145.390 pl 151.4 Followed by an informal ragchew on 28.465
Every Thursday	Donut Meeting 09:00 AM at the EOC
Every Saturday	Breakfast at Anderson Grill 09:00 AM at 2038 S Scatterfield Rd, Anderson
April 4th	MC ARC Meeting at the EOC 7pm
April 19th	VE Testing at the EOC 7pm
April 2-3	Louisiana, Mississippi and Missouri QSO
April 9-10	Nebraska, New Mexico, Georgia and North Dakota QSO
April 16-17	Michigan, Ontario and Quebec QSO
April 30 - May 1	Florida QSO
SPECIAL EVENTS	
April 5 - 10	Sun 'n Fun Aerospace Expo; 20m, 40m
April 16 1400z - 1800z	160th Anniversary of the Great Locomotive Chase; 20m 14.265, 40m 7.265
April 18 1400z - 2359z	80th Anniversary Doolittle Raid on Tokyo; 20m 14.228, 40m 7.178
CONTESTS	
April 10th	Rookie Roundup - Phone

Have something to contribute to the newsletter?

- Participated in any recent contest?
- Have an interesting QSO?
- Try an experimental antenna?
- Get a new piece of equipment you'd like to offer a review about?

We'd love to hear about it. You are more than welcome to write a piece about something above or something else you feel worthy of sharing. If you would like to write a piece for the newsletter, please submit your article, along with any pictures that you'd like included to the club email, w9vcf.mcarc@gmail.com.

Also, if you have anything for sale that you would like to advertise in the club newsletter, please send it to the above email.

Thank you, Gary - W9GNR

Madison County Amateur Radio Club Contact Information

Madison County Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 3044
Anderson, Indiana 46018

Officer Contact Information

President	Lew Baker	K9LBB	lbj6668@yahoo.com
Vice President	Tim Bailey	KC9PSR	kd9psr@gmail.com
Secretary/Treasurer	Ike Jones	N9IKE	ikester#hrtc.net
Activities	Paula Dixon	KD9SZJ	pdixon46001@yahoo.com
Trustee	Mark Mace	W9MWM	kd9nau@gmail.com
Technical Committee Chair	Doug Rose	N9DR	n9dr@arrl.net
Newsletter Editor	Gary Sherman	W9GNR	w9gnr@arrl.net

Meetings are at the Madison County EOC
200 N Delaware Street
Anderson, IN 46016

HAMFESTS

April 2, 2022

Columbus Hamfest

Bartholomew Co Fairgrounds

750 W 200 S Columbus, IN

April 16, 2022

Henry County Tailgate

8 am - 12 pm

W G Smith Building @ Memorial Park

2221 N Memorial Drive New Castle, IN

<http://w9ob.org>