



Madison County Amateur Radio Club

QSO

www.w9vcf.org

AUGUST 2023

The August meeting will be August 7.



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From the President -

Happy August Club Members, the year is more than half over. July was active to say the least. Thank you to everyone that participated in all the long events the club was represented at. It takes everyone to make the club a success. It was a tiring month for sure. Thank you to all the Net Controllers.

I thought in this newsletter we would refresh on the Madison County Spotter Program which most of us are a part of.

EMA receives and puts out weather guidance from the Madison County Emergency Management Warning Division Members. EMA Warning Division utilizes multiple different sources and resources when tracking approaching storms some of which are not available or understood to just anyone. They go much deeper than just using radar you pull up on your phone.

Warning looks at the outlook from the Storm Prediction Center along with NWS for Madison County not just all of central Indiana.

So many times forecasts that are published are a general overview of what the Weather Service says is possible, not guaranteed. Sometimes radar is not always what it seems. This is why EMA looks to Warning division to advise of weather information.

Even with all the technology used by the National Weather Service to prepare for severe weather, storm spotters still give the most complete picture of what's really happening in and around severe storms. Radar simply cannot tell everything. Storm spotters are the eyes and ears in the field.

Madison County has used amateur radio as a method of communicating with local spotters and emergency management for decades. Amateur radio operators provide invaluable service in support of the storm spotter program by using their unique communications capabilities to share critical information between the NWS, emergency management and storm spotters.

When needed, a Net is called to assist in gathering ground truth and other weather-related information to assist the Warning Division. Some Spotters may be sent to specific locations around the county to report weather as requested by the Net control. Some spotters may report from home. All provide valuable input to the Warning Division.

When severe weather is anticipated, Radio operators should monitor our local repeater for updates. When Net Control elevates the status to READY, communicators begin the check-in process and announce their availability. When the status is elevated to ACTIVE, communicators will be dispatched to areas of concern.

Amateur Radio operators NEED to provide clear and accurate information. Hail, Wind, Rain, and Lightning are all critical pieces of information. REPORT WHAT YOU SEE, NOT WHAT YOU DON'T SEE!

Hail is considered SEVERE when it is 1" or greater in size.

Wind is considered SEVERE when it is > 58 mph.

Rain – volume (flooding?)

Lightning – how many strikes and where.

After a weather incident, Amateur Radio operators may be dispatched to gather damage reports and monitor water levels. Damage Assessment teams help determine the severity of an event. If a lot of rain has fallen, flooding may be the next danger to watch for.

This effort is vital to help keep our citizens safe and where possible, protect property. The Warning Division will take these reports into account when monitoring the weather conditions.

General procedures for participation in the Madison County StormNet Program

All licensed Amateur Radio Operators in Madison County are invited to actively participate in the program. More participants result in improved accuracy of local warnings.

Successful completion of one or more yearly training classes is required for assignment to an observation point.

When in **STANDBY** Status monitor the network more closely to understand the potential for activation and the potential timing/severity of the situation.

- Make certain your batteries are charged and equipment properly programmed.
- Attach an improved temporary antenna to your vehicle if you typically utilize a handheld.

When in **READY** Status check into the formal net and LISTEN for updates of the situation.

- Check in with the Net Control station even if you cannot leave home (A-3).
- Provide for the safety of your family.
- Prepare for assignment to an observation point if possible (A-1).
- Check your “ready bag” for necessary equipment, maps, paperwork, etc.
- Prepare your communications equipment for possible loss of primary power.
- Review your “field of view” and ability to provide visual reports from home.
- If possible volunteer to monitor SKYWARN Nets in adjacent Counties.
- Monitor for real-time updates from the Warning Division to the Network.

When in **ACTIVE** Status observers are dispatched to the designated Observation Points and radio traffic is limited to transmissions directly related to the situation in Madison County.

- If assigned to an Observation Point proceed at the best SAFE speed.
- Monitor closely for situational updates.
- Notify the Net Control when you have reached the assigned location.
- Provide observations when in-route only if requested by Net Control.
- Make sure your radio is in “high power” and your signal strength is maximized.
- Expect regular requests for weather/observation updates, especially if in the high activity area.
- REPORT WHAT IS, NOT WHAT ISN'T HAPPENING.
- Utilize TACTICAL designation.

If participating from home:

- Monitor closely the net reports for your own safety.
- When reporting, provide your General location (500S & 109; 53rd & Main; 1 mi. west of Frankton).
- Provide reports to the Net Control ONLY if you are in a high activity zone or if the Net is tracking a Squall line/front passing your area.
- Observe from your location and report large Hail, Funnel Clouds and Tornadoes.
- **DO NOT REPORT WHAT ISN'T HAPPENING.**

Recognize that the Net Control Station and the Warning Division members may be operating on three or more radios/frequencies and dealing with inputs that may not be heard on this Operational Network. Be patient and understanding of the task at hand. Warning Division members are also interfacing with the NWS and preparing/delivering warnings to our citizens.

Hopefully this is a good reminder on the way we should be operating..

See everyone at the August meeting..

-73-

Lynn

From the Vice-President -

If you try any of the numerous activities in ham radio, or simply rub elbows with fellow hams, you are apt to find yourself picking up additional technical information about radios, on-air procedures, electronics, digital communications, and more. It's just part of the nature of ham radio. As you advance your learning of ham, your technical knowledge and skills will broaden. Never stop learning!

73

Tim - KD9PSR

Madison County Amateur Radio Club

200 N Delaware St

Anderson Indiana 46016

Minutes of the June 5th 2023 Meeting

14 June 2023

President Lynn Edens K9RLE opened the meeting at 7:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

General Comments by the President:

President Lynn mentioned the successful sale of two club HF radios and the purchase of a Yaesu FT-991A. He also reminded members of the Pendleton June Jamboree on 6-10 June and we would have the trailer set up with handouts. Also the Run the Mounds on June 10th and we need some more communicators. Lynn also stated that Summer Field Day is the 24-25 June at the Main Street Church of God. He stated that the county 4-H fair would be 7-17 to 7-24 and members would be needed to man the booth there.

A motion was made to donate \$150 to the church for the club using their facility. Motion Passed. A motion was made to end the Post Office Box rental. Motion Passed. A motion was made to authorize up to \$1000 for the purchase of a refurbished repeater. Motion passed. A motion was made to allocate \$150 for the purchase of protective cases for the club radios when mobile. Motion passed. A motion was made to cancel the July meeting on July 3rd due to the long weekend. Motion passed. A request for interest in a CW class showed 4 members said yes. A motion was made to pay for club comprehensive insurance for club equipment. Motion passed. A motion was made to move \$497.11 from main club acct to repeater fund acct. Motion passed. A motion was made to pay Dennis Owen \$1273.65 for the Yaesu FT-991A. Motion passed. A motion to accept AG6TH Ray C Stankewitz passed.

Show and Tell: Doug N9DR brought in a Heil headset he won at the Dayton Hamvention.

New Business: Dale N9OLC has suggested a new Technician Class would likely be held starting in Sept with no more than 15 students. He said they would have to pay \$32 for their book and the club cannot charge a fee. The Club will sponsor it.

A new club facebook page will be designed and implemented by a committee composed of Paula KD9SZJ, Greg K9ALC, and Alan NA9LA. They will also start a new club internet page as getting access to passwords is not possible. Joe Heller has volunteered to help set up the social pages. One new application for membership was received by Ray C Stankewitz AG6TH.

Secretary/Treasurer Report:	Previous Bal	\$3666.51	\$469.11 Repeater Fund
	Donations	20.00	28.00
	Donuts	14.04	

Radio sales 1025.00

Grand Total \$4720.55 includes: \$497.11 for Repeater Fund

Ike, N9IKE requested to close the Post Office Box as Jeff Dyer, K9DYR said the club can use the EMA mail address. He said this will save the club \$168.00 per year. Most mail received is solicitations. He will handle address changes.

Vice President Tim KD9PSR: Nets running smoothly.

Media/Newsletter/Awards Gary W9GNR: Points leaders 1) KC9DJU 2)AK9JS 3)W9GNR 4)W9MWM 5) WA9QEK
Past month 115 training, 230 hours (month) and 1570 volunteer hours ytd.

Trustee Mark W9MWM: All Repeaters functioning normally.

Activities Greg K9ALC: Calendars in ECC. UHF net is going well. We need to encourage participation. Brent N9BA (Hancock County) has offered his equipment for a fox hunt in Pendleton but there was no interest.

Tech Committee: Dennis W9DO, Steve K9SJH and Jeff AK9JS: Dennis purchased a Yaesu FT 991A for the club at the Dayton Hamvention. Dennis reported the club needs hard case containers for transporting the radios. He agreed to check out local sources. While members discussed the condition of the 145.39 repeater, i.e. having to go to the hospital and reset it, Doug N9DR suggested he has a friend who may be able to provide the club a refurbished repeater for \$500-800. Tech committee will research a replacement repeater.

EMA Jeff K9DYR and Lynn K9RLE: The club members were unable to place conduit (wiring) under the ground before the construction crew closed off that opportunity. He said the new tower footer will be poured soon but needs new coax. He said Doug N9DR donated a new antenna for the tower.

Sick Report: Steve WA9CWE is not feeling well. Dave KB9NTG fell and is not getting around well. Al Wendling WD9AL has passed. He was a long time VE and sat on 160 test sessions.

Old Business: Inventory of both clubs equipment next to the vehicle bays is complete.

President Lynn adjourned the meeting at 8:07 pm.

Attendance: 21 members, 2 visitors.

Tech Committee Report



EMA News

W9VCF Member Activity Points for July

1	AK9JS - Jeff	184
2	KC9DJU - Mike	153
3	W9GNR - Gary	143
4 tie	WA9QEK - Kenny	127
4 tie	K9RLE - Lynn	127
5	W9MWM - Mark	118

Complete list of members is posted in the ECC bulletin board

To date, W9VCF have volunteered 2,668 hrs. Congratulations.

EMA COMM DIV.

	<u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>July</u>
MCU	63	0
Active Storm Net	356	17
Outreach	292	92
Comm Div	83	0
Nets	552	78
Training	1,058	131
TOTAL	2,404	318

YL - KD9SZJ - Paula

Learning something new,

Oh, the fun of the hunt! I got brave enough to do the 13 Colonies Event. It was so much fun to try to get all of them. I didn't get the bonus ones but could hear them. The rush of trying to contact all thirteen colonies in about a week and to get them to contact you through the many pile ups was exciting. Since then, I have contacted Spain and Slovenia. I contacted two amateurs doing parks on the air in California. These guys were having so much fun on the radio, they had me laughing. They were so much fun to listen to and encouraging in the art of amateur radio that they would hoop and laugh all during their contacts with everyone. One contact asked if they had been drinking. Their reply was no, that is the bad thing about it, we haven't. If you can contact KJ6ER or KG6UO (Uncle Oscar), we can all learn from them to just have fun and enjoy the chase of the hunt. They were tag-teaming. Don't be boring on the air, just have fun. Live, laugh, and love. Life is too short.

KD9SZJ

THE EC SHACK

Gary-W9GNR

UFilers Seek Extension on Shortwave Petition. ARRL to File Comments.

07/31/2023

[Updated 7/31/2023]

Since May, [ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®](#) has been reviewing the rules proposed in a petition before the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) from the “Shortwave Modernization Coalition” (SMC). The ARRL Laboratory has been studying the petition out of concern for potential interference to Amateur Radio communications.

Comments on the petition, RM-11953, were due to FCC by July 31, 2023 (see previous [ARRL News](#) story). However, a 30-day extension of time was requested by both Skywave Networks LLC and FlexRadio Systems.

The timely request from Skywave automatically triggered an extension to the filing deadline. Under FCC rules, when a request for extension is made within the appropriate timeframe, commenters may file comments until a date set by FCC when it rules on the extension request, or no earlier than two business days after the FCC decision. On Monday, July 31, the FCC denied the request for extension. Comments therefore may continue to be filed through Wednesday, August 2.

In its petition, SMC, a group that appears to represent high-speed stock trading interests, has proposed amending the FCC Part 90 rules to allow introduction of high-power digital communications to the shortwave spectrum that in many instances is immediately adjacent to the amateur HF bands.

ARRL’s comments on the matter will be based on the analysis by its laboratory and guided by its experienced Washington, D.C. regulatory affairs counsel. ARRL will use the extension to best represent the interests of its members and the Amateur Radio Service.

Antenna Regulation and Zoning

IMPORTANT NOTICE: *These brief outlines are not substitutes for getting legal advice. ARRL has heard from amateurs who did not obtain legal advice before trying to handle an antenna restriction, and the result was getting a decision that was not to the ham's liking.*

Amateurs facing zoning difficulties are highly encouraged to:

- 1) Read the article "[PRB-1 and CC&Rs - What Should I do Now?](#)" from the May 2007 QST;*
- 2) contact an attorney; and*
- 3) obtain [Antenna Zoning for the Radio Amateur](#).*

ARRL Volunteer Counsel -- lawyers who are hams -- are listed on the [ARRLWeb](#). The book, [Antenna Zoning for the Radio Amateur](#), is filled with excellent ideas on how to prepare for, and make your presentation and application to a local zoning board. The book is a complete treatise on this subject, and can be ordered on-line or by calling toll free 1-888-277-5289 or by contacting your Amateur Radio book dealer. The cost of the book, which includes a CD-ROM with good examples of zoning presentations, is less than the fee for most zoning applications.

One final warning: DON'T CUT ANY CORNERS! Cutting corners may well weaken your case. Remember: at the hearing, your presentation will be 80% of the battle, and 100% of the basis for any record, if the case ends up going to court.

ARRL Volunteer Counsel and Consulting Engineer Programs

[ARRL Volunteer Counsel Program \(legal advice\) and Referrals](#)

[ARRL Volunteer Consulting Engineer Program \(engineering advice\) and Referrals](#)

ARRL VC's and VCE's will give an initial consultation at no charge.

Note: If you are an amateur and lawyer or a professional engineer and would like to enter into one of these programs, check the appropriate section above for an application.

-FOR SALE-

ITEM	ASKING PRICE	SELLER	CONTACT
SEE BELOW		Steve WA9CWE	

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

FOR SALE: Steve, WA9CWE, wa9cwe@arrl.net or 765-425-4627

- Bird Wattmeter, Model 4431, with 5W 100-250 Element. N connectors with UHF adapters - \$200
- Telewave Model 44A Wattmeter, 5/15/50/150/500 W, 20-1000 MHz - \$200
- NOVA VNA-H4 Vector Network Analyzer - \$75
- TINY SA Spectrum Analyzer - \$50
- MH-C777 Universal Battery Charger/Analyzer - \$50
- Kenwood TH-22AT 2 Meter Handheld, Charger & 2 Bats - \$75
- Baofeng UV-5R3 Triband Handheld, Charger & 2 Bats - \$50

FOR SALE: Jon Shannon, W1JTS at email shannon1943@myyahoo.com

ICOM IC-7300 with SM 50 desk Mic	\$1,000.00
ICOM IC-5100A missing head cable	\$ 250.00

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
August 7th	MC ARC Meeting EOC 7pm
August 10th	MC UHF Net 8pm - 443.350MHz, PL tone 110.9Hz WA9CWE
August 15th	VE Testing at the EOC 7pm
August 18th-20th	Elwood Glass Festival
August 24	MC UHF Net 8pm - 443.350MHz, PL tone 110.9Hz WA9CWE

SPECIAL EVENTS

August 4th - 5th	US Coast Guard 233rd birthday 1400z-0400z 3.552 7.025 14.052 21.052
August 7th - 13th	The Brickyard 400 3.840 7.245 14.245 18.140
August 13th - 19th	Navajo Code Talkers 7.265 14.265 18.133 21.265

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

P.O. Box 3044

Anderson, Indiana 46018

Officer Contact Information

President	Lynn Edens	K9RLE	redens@madisoncounty.in.gov
Vice President	Tim Bailey	KC9PSR	kd9psr@gmail.com
Secretary/Treasurer	Ike Jones	N9IKE	ikester#hrtc.net
Activities	Greg Hunt	K9ALC	RWilco.85@gmail.com
Trustee	Mark Mace	W9MWM	kd9nau@gmail.com
Technical Committee Chair	Dennis Owen	W9DO	w9do@arrl.com
Newsletter Editor	Gary Sherman	W9GNR	w9gnr@arrl.com

Meetings are at the Madison County EOC

200 N Delaware Street

Anderson, IN 46016

Elkhart East Hamfest

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

08/05/2023

Start Date: 08/05/2023

End Date: 08/05/2023

Location: Northern Indiana Event Center

21565 Executive Parkway

Elkhart , IN 46514

Website: <http://elkharteasthamfest.com>

Sponsor: Northern Indiana K9DEW Repeater Network

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 147.330+ PL 131.8

Public Contact: Elkhart East Hamfest , K9DEW

PO Box 772 Bristol, IN 46507 VE testing from 10 am-12 noon

Phone: (574) 370-2436

Email: elkharthamfest@gmail.com

Hendricks County Tailgate Fest

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

08/12/2023

Start Date: 08/12/2023

End Date: 08/12/2023

Location: Avon United Methodist Church

6850 E. US Hwy 36

Avon, IN 46123

Website: hendricksares.org

Sponsor: Ham Emergency Radio Operations

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 145.130 MHz PL-Tone 88.5

Public Contact: Kenneth A Kayler , KC9SQD

3090 Clover Dr. Plainfield, IN 46168

Phone: 317-874-7068

Email: kc9sqd425@gmail.com