



Madison County Amateur Radio Club

QSO

www.w9vcf.org

APRIL 2024

The April meeting will be held April 1st.



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From the President -

Hello All,

April showers bring May Flowers, but no one really knows what Monday April 8th is going to bring and that's why all Madison County Amateur Radio Operators have been requested to assist for the Total Solar Eclipse at locations feeding traffic information back to the Emergency Operations Center.

Each of you will be a vital and crucial piece in the operations and safety of the citizens of Madison County. Your expertise and the true meaning of Amateur Radio Emergency Services are being called upon to assist all emergency departments in our county.

Your reports will determine routes of travel for police / fire and medical responders to emergencies. The position you fill and information you pass on that day may save the life of a friend, neighbor or even family member.

We are short hams for predetermined locations so if you find yourself available please let us know.

Thanks for all you do..

-73-

Lynn

From the Vice-President -

The Ham Connection

We typically connect through the airwaves, but we also connect in person by having conversations with others in our club. Whether it is at breakfast, a Thursday morning gathering, or one of our regular meetings, having discussions with other hams affords us the opportunity to learn and practice new skills, and to develop friendships. Our discussions are not always about radios. Sometimes it is more lighthearted. We talk about everything. And we usually enjoy plenty of laughter. Hands down, the number one reason people join clubs is... wait for it... to make friends. (I know, shocking, right?) I urge you to be engaging. You don't have to have a microphone in your hand to do this. We all need to be mindful of how important it is for us to make new hams feel welcomed, and to include them in our activities. We certainly need new hams. So, let's all stay connected and help get others connected as well.

73

Tim

KD9PSR

MCARC

Meeting Minutes

Date: March 4, 2024

Opening:

The monthly meeting of the Madison County Amateurs' Radio Club was called to order at 7:00 PM by Lynn K9RLE on March 4, 2024, at the EOC with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: 37

Treasurer Report – Gerald K9GDH gave a balance as of March of \$2,149.69 and the repeater balance of \$1,094.11. Motion to accept report was by Mark W9MWM and Jeff S. AK9JS.

Secretary Report –Paula KD9SZJ nothing new to report. Motion to accept the previous report was 1st motion was Gary W9GNR and second by Mark W9MWM.

VP Report– Tim KD9PSR was absent and nothing was reported.

Trustee Report –Doug N9DR reported repeaters are working.

Activity Report – Check calendar for upcoming events. May 4 is a QSO party. Reminder about Net Control on the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

Gary W9GNR reported EMA COMM DIV. Y-T-D December

MCU	0
Active Storm Net	0
Outreach	26
Comm Div	19
Nets	145
Training	206
TOTAL	396

Points Report – Jeff Stewart AK9JS reported, Mark, W9MWM is in first place, Frank, WA9JWL is in second place, and Kenny WA9QEK is in third place.

EMA Report – Director Dyer reminded us for EMA you need to do the ICS courses to be involved. Upcoming training for Project Lifesaver and Mobile Command will be coming soon. Needing more volunteers for the Total Solar Eclipse. EMA will be taking out of the MCARC meetings.

Sick Report- W9KLA Bruce Armstrong, silent key. Steve Riley WA9CWE is home and recovering.

New Business-

- Club dues are due. Please get these in as soon as possible.
- Will be voting on points for the Thursday night net at the next meeting.
- Committee to research to buy a replacement used repeater.

New Banner to be purchased 1st motion by Jeff D. K9DYR and seconded by Dale B N9OLC.

Next Month's Meeting? Monday, April 1, 2024

Motion to Adjourn Meeting: 1st motion was Greg K9ALC and 2nd motion was the rest of the club.

UPCOMING EVENTS TO BE AWARE OF:

2024 Public Outreach Festival Dates

Pendelton June Jamboree Tuesday June 4, Wednesday June 5, Thursday June 6, Friday June 7 Saturday June 8

Madison County 4-H Fair Sunday July 21, Monday July 22, Tuesday July 23, Wednesday July 24, Thursday July 25, Friday July 26, Saturday July 27

Elwood Glass Festival Friday August 16, Saturday August 17, Sunday August 18

Frankton Heritage Days (Public Safety Party) Friday September 20, Saturday September 21, Sunday September 22

Pendleton Public Safety Day Sunday August 25 from 1pm to 4pm

EMA COMM DIV.

	<u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>March</u>
MCU	0	0
Active Storm Net	56	56
Outreach	26	0
Comm Div	19	0
Nets	214	69
Training	418	212
Total	733	337

THE EC SHACK

Gary-W9GNR

FCC to Require Two Factor Authentication for CORES Users

03/22/2024

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has announced an upcoming change to the [Commission Registration System \(CORES\)](#) that licensees use to pay any application or regulatory fees, manage or reset a password on an existing FRN, or request a new FRN. Beginning March 29, 2024, multifactor authentication will be implemented. Users will be prompted to request a six-digit secondary verification code, which will be sent to the email address(es) associated with each username. The user will then need to enter the code into CORES before they can continue.

In a [public notice](#), the FCC said this change will make the system more secure. "This additional layer of security will further safeguard against unauthorized access, thereby enhancing the overall integrity of information contained within the CORES system and improving the security of user data," it read.

The FCC recommends that users confirm they have access to their username account email and to add a secondary email address, if need be.

Resources are available for those who need assistance with the system. For inquiries or assistance regarding the implementation of multi-factor authentication on CORES, submit a help request at <https://www.fcc.gov/wtbhelp>, or call the FCC at 877-480-3201 (Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 6 PM ET).

YL - KD9SZJ - Paula

I was wondering how the total eclipse would affect the radios, here is an article that I found.

How Ham Radio Operators Do Eclipse Science

Amateur radio operators are joining forces and using radio waves to understand how eclipses affect the atmosphere.

by [Emma Lee Gometz](#), on October 13, 2023

While people across the country don eclipse glasses and turn their gaze skyward for **Saturday's eclipse**, amateur radio operators will be heading to their transmitters.

During nationwide competitions known as **QSO parties**, amateur or "**ham**" **radio operators** working in tandem can use radio waves to observe how eclipses affect the atmosphere. And that can help explain the quirks of lower frequency radio communication, which can power long-distance services like **transoceanic air traffic control**, ship navigation, and military communication.

Eclipses have a **documented effect** on a layer of free-floating ions around the Earth, called **the ionosphere**. During the day, the sun's ultraviolet rays and X-rays knock electrons off of their positive counterparts, separating the atmosphere into layers of charged particles. At night, the particles find their way back to one another and neutralize. When the ionosphere has a high density of electrons as a result of sunlight, radio signals (especially ones at lower frequencies than what your typical radio station uses) can bounce off of it and travel a great distance. But during an eclipse, darkness is focused onto specific places on Earth—neutralizing just a section of the atmosphere for a period of time. This means that eclipses, like weather and solar flares, can affect how radio works. But just how they affect it is unclear.

"We understand, on average, what the atmosphere is supposed to look like day compared to night, or June compared to January," says Dr. Nathaniel Frissell, a QSO party host and assistant professor at the University of Scranton. "But a lot of the small scale features, or the short time duration features, we just don't have a good handle on," he says. That's where ham radios come in.

During QSO parties, radio operators communicate with as many other stations as possible to see who can establish the highest number of connections, called "spots," within a given time period. Thousands of radio connections can occur all over the country in one day. This high volume, and the fact that ham radio operators use a variety of frequencies, helps researchers pinpoint the locations where an eclipse is affecting radio contact.

During the 2017 total eclipse, ham radio data showed that spots at a certain frequency (14 megahertz) started dropping out right as the path of totality passed over their midpoints. That data came from a **NASA-funded**

QSO party that Frissell threw, and research based on the event showed that radio connections **changed as a result of the eclipse.**

Understanding how changes in the ionosphere impact different radio frequencies could help radio users better perform essential communications at distances across the world. “Ham radio operators, emergency responders...ships at sea, aircrafts that are going over polar regions, they’re going to have radios that are equipped with these lower frequencies,” Frissell says.

To join the HamSCI project, **all you need to do is ask**. And, depending on where you are, build a makeshift radio station yourself. All are welcome, Frissell says. “You’ll have people with years of experience. And then you have someone who’s just thrown up some wires in a tree.

So what are your opinions on this, should be interesting on April 8.

73,

KD9SZJ

-FOR SALE-

Icom 718, 100 watt transceiver

Yaesu FT-2800M 2 meter radio

Samlex Model SEC 1223 Power supply

MFJ Deluxe Versa tuner 2

J pole 2 meter antenna

Radios come with manuals.

\$500 or best offer

Just use my house phone: 765-642-3748

Thanks. Mike Cook

**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 1st	MC ARC Meeting at the EOC, 7pm
April 8th	Full Eclipse, Madison County Emergency Management will be ACTIVATED
April 11th	MC UHF Net 8pm - 443.350MHz, PL tone 110.9Hz WA9CWE
April 16th	VE Testing at the EOC 7pm
April 25th	MC UHF Net 8pm - 443.350MHz, PL tone 110.9Hz WA9CWE
SPECIAL EVENTS	
April 8th	Solar Eclipse 1600z-2100z 20 and 10 Meters 14.313 28.405
April 15 - April 22	World Amateur Radio Day 1600z-1600z 14.313 28.405
April 27th	MERT20 Special Event 1200z-2359z 3.862 7.262 14.262
April 27th	International Marconi Day 1700z-2300z 20 and 10 meters 14.313 28.405

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	KD9PSR	kd9psr@gmail.com
Secretary	Paula Dixon	KD9SZJ	pdixon46001@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Gerald Hollon	K9GDH	gdhollon@comcast.net
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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

Hello Indiana Ham's,

The Indiana QSO Party is coming up in early May--Saturday, May 4, from 11:00a to 11:00p EDT. Here's hoping your club and club members will be able to participate this year. Propagation promises to be the best in many years, so it should be fun.

Remember the club competition part of the INQP--a fun activity which can be done with a club station or through fixed home or portable stations of individual members or a combination of all the above.

And there will be "rare county" trophies again this year--the ten Indiana counties with the least QSOs in the past five years. One trophy for the fixed station in the ten rare ones with most QSOs and one trophy for portables (one-county and county-line stations). Designated rare counties for 2024 are Adams, Boone, Carroll, Cass, Greene, Martin, Morgan, Sullivan, Switzerland, and Vermillion. Full details will be in the updated rules on the INQP web pages soon.

There are some more new activities in the wings. We'll keep you posted as they develop.

Thanks for your support. We are expecting a fun, active INQP this year. Especially with the sunspot cycle approaching max! We urge you to put the 2024 INQP on your club calendar.

Columbus (Indiana) Hamfest

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

04/13/2024

Start Date: 04/13/2024

End Date: 04/13/2024

Location: Columbus North High School Cafeteria

1400 - 25th Street

Columbus, IN 47201

Sponsor: Columbus Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.790 MHz with 103.5 Hz tone

Public Contact: Mike Idelwine , WE9MI

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