



Madison County Amateur Radio Club

QSO

www.w9vcf.org

December 2024

The DECEMBER meeting will be held December 2, 2024



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From the President

I am excited to share with you a change that will take place in 2025. Starting in January, our executive board will meet 30 minutes before our regularly scheduled monthly meeting to address the business portion of our club. Our regular meeting will take place at its normal time at 7:00 pm. I believe this change will make our monthly meetings more productive by allowing us time to focus on amateur radio. This new meeting format will begin with a few preliminaries; however, the majority of our time will be spent on training and hands on projects that will help us all to develop better skills. Just a few of the things our meetings will include will be open forum discussion on antennas, grounding, DX logging, digital modes, and many more items to help us get the most out of being a ham.

Our Christmas party will be a breakfast this year on December 7th at the Anderson Grill located at 2038 S. Scatterfield Road. We will meet for this special gathering at 9:00 am, and you are welcome to bring your spouse. I'm sure you'll enjoy warm fellowship and plenty of laughter.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and I hope the new year will bring you health and happiness.

73

Tim

KD9PSR

Monthly Meeting - November 4, 2024

Meeting Minutes

- Call to order 7:00 pm - President Tim Bailey
- Pledge of Allegiance to the flag
- Secretary report - Minutes from October Meeting - Read aloud...

Motion to Accept - Dyer Second - Lynn Edens

- Treasurer report
 - o Beginning Balance - \$2402.72
 - o Dues Deposit - \$0.00
 - o President's Fundraising - \$.00
 - o Current Balance - \$2402.72
 - o REPEATER FUND
 - o Current Balance - \$ 1,174.11
- Motion to accept - Lynn Edens ; Second - Gary Sherman
- Attendance - 24 - Including 2 guests

Gary Sherman W9GNR	Mike Cook KC9DJU
Jean Sherman EMA	Dennis Owen W9DO
Charlie Dixon KD9RZG	Chris Mannon KD9USK
Bill Debrot KE9BRA	Tony Poitras KD9PZR
Don Billey W9BLY	Ferrin Nice N9VZL
Tim Bailey KD9PSR	Jeff Dyer K9DYR
Aiden Paul KE9APA	Andrew Paul Guest

Dale Bloomer N9OLC

Gerald Hollen KD9GDH

Jeff Stewart AK9JS

Lynn Edens K9RLE

Greg Hunt K9ALC

Kevin Wycoff KD9TXI

Kenny Olvey

WA9QEK Rick Wisely W9CGA

Scott Mercer KE9BCZ

Bill Davisson KE9AYZ

▪ **Visitors: (Andrew Paul; Jean Sherman)**

• **VP Report - DALE N9OLC**

Run the Mounds... thanks to all operators who attended... one of our better runs... Next event like this is White

River Run in June 2025. Nets are doing well - if anyone wants to be a net controller, see Dale.

• **Publication Editor - Gary - W9GNR**

Hours from the Newsletter October - 153 Volunteers hours. 2663 total MCARC volunteer hours this year.

• **Activity report - Greg - K9ALC**

Calendars are available...

Numerous Veterans day special events... Check Club Newsletter for times and frequencies.

Arrl sweepstakes 16th-17th... check ARRL for contest rules and further information. This is a phone contact

contest - After breakfast - come to EOC to

On the same dates there is a moon bounce on the same two days... go to ARRL website to join that event. (1Ghz

band range.)

Thursday nets... Discussion... the Thursday nights... the second net this month is on Thanksgiving... should we

postpone? The net will operate on Thanksgiving - ALC will be net control.

Next month, need to discuss Winter Field Day... need to get ideas for that event.

Fort Wayne Hamfest Nov 16-17 - War Memorial Coliseum

- **Trustee report - No Report**

- **Tech committee report - Nothing new to report... we have a couple bulkhead connectors that are starting to**

wear out. Should be able to get replacements at Fort Wayne

Motion to purchase by Dale Bloomer (N9OLC) Second by Jeff Dyer (K9DYR) Passed unanimously

- **Club points update - FINAL REPORT for 2024 - Posted in radio room- Kenny (WA9QEK), Mike Cook (KC9DJU), Mark**

Mace (W9MWM), Walter Hestand (KD9VVK), Frank Dick (WA9JWL) are the top 5

Dale (N9OLC)- Points Committee has met briefly and started some discussion - events will have multiple point

opportunities... will meet on a Sunday night to get things hammered out.

- **EMA Director report**

Mounds Run - EMA Exercise... from our perspective we appreciated the participation in the tactical net. It gave

all of us an opportunity to listen to net control and hear how it is handled. Lots of opportunities on all nets...

Sunday, Wednesday, and Thursday, for people to exercise net controller. Really good exercise.

Really good year... great help on outreach and other events. We will have more opportunities in 2025.

- **Old Business**

Nominations for Office - Responsibilities of Officers read aloud by Tim Bailey (PSR)

- **Vice President - Dale Bloomer (N9OLC)**

- **Secretary - Don Billey (W9BLY)**

- **Treasurer - Paula Dixon (KD9SZJ)**

- **Activities Manager - Aiden Paul (KE9APA)**
- **Publication Editor - Gary Sherman (W9GNR)**
- **Trustee - Doug Rose (N9DR)**
- **Tech Committee Chair - Greg Hunt (N9ALC)**
- **Tech Committee - Charlie Dixon (KD9RZG), Jeff Stewart (AK9JS)**

**Motion to close nominations - Dennis Owen (N9DO); Second by Gerald Hollen (K9GDH)-
Passed Unanimously**

**Absentee ballots will be Created by Dennis Owen (N9DO), Don Billey (W9BLY) will send out
email to all members**

**in good standing asking if they would like an absentee ballot. If they request one they will
receive one by email,**

and can return it the same way.

Christmas Party - Will be at Anderson Grill at 9am on Saturday, December 7.

- **New business**

Discussion about Monthly Meeting Format

**President Bailey brought up the idea of separating the business portion of the meeting into an
officers'**

**meeting, making minutes available to the club at large. His observations - has learned the
most from**

**donut meetings and Saturday breakfasts... would like to move toward and informal club
meeting and**

**gathering time. Possibility of a couple different topics going on at the same time around the
room.**

**Several comments - most in favor of the idea... at least for a trial period of time. Aiden was
trying to**

**allude to another format for meetings in his presentation... also the possibility for longer
presentations**

Important to get the word out to membership about the change in format beginning after the first of the year

A lot of events have asked for MCARC presentations/presence at their events... first is in June at

Pendleton, then monthly thereafter. We will need between 250 and 300 information packets, and need

to develop some specific HAM infographics or other eye catching handouts. We should also be doing

something to get into the schools.

Open house? 24-hour open house, well publicized... majority if the event to be held in the parking lot.

Canopies, generators, etc... will also have the building open.

Also - Spotter Training in March...

Aiden will meet with Tim Bailey to talk about website updates

Key function of this club is HF... we need to keep focused on the HF band.

Equipment insurance is coming due... around \$200 - Motion to approve Dennis Owen (W9DO), Second

Dale Bloomer (N9OLC)

Good of the order - Greg (K9ALC) - N9BA - Brent Walls - elected to Central Division Director of ARRL...

Greg will reach out to see if we can get literature from ARRL for handouts.

Motion to Adjourn... Dennis Owen (W9DO) - Second by Jeff Stewart (AK9JS)

Respectfully Submitted,

Don Billey

W9BLY

Technical Committee Report – December 2024

The year is quickly winding down and Tech Committee activity has slowed in anticipation of the new officers taking over. As was discussed at the November meeting, the Tech Committee acquired 2 new bulkhead connectors to replace the worn connectors on the counter in the Emergency Communications Center. These will be installed by the end of the year.

As I approach the end of a two-year stint as Tech Committee Chair, I would like to thank all who have helped me through the many tasks at hand. We started with simple upgrades to the tower trailer, installed the bulkhead connectors in the ECC, and insured that everything was properly grounded. Next came the replacement of the FT-897 and the FT-920 with a new FT-991A. We installed a 160M off-center fed dipole on the new tower at the Health Department building and acquired an auto-tuning all-band antenna for the FT-991A. Field Day, Winter Field Day, and Parks on the Air helped us devise a new configuration for the half wave end fed that proved to be a solid performer. In the coming year I will continue to work on a hinge system for the tower trailer to make it easier to deploy. I still have some fabrication to complete. I am sure there will be other projects I can assist with.

I would like to thank Jeff Stewert and Charlie Dixon, the other elected Tech Committee members, for their work and support. I also need to acknowledge Ferrin Nice, who can set up a ladder and be up on the roof before I have time to think about it. This has been a team effort, thank you all for your support.

Respectfully,

Dennis Owen, W9DO

EMA COMM DIV.

	<u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>November</u>
MCU	20	0
Active Storm Net	123	0
Project:LifeSaver	2	0
Outreach	390	45
Comm Div	69	0
Nets	702	50
Training	1,366	100
EMA Activation	188	0
Total	2,860	195

THE EC SHACK

Gary-W9GNR



YL - KD9SZJ - Paula



-FOR SALE-

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
December 2nd	MC ARC Meeting at the EOC, 7pm
December 12th	MC UHF Net 8pm - 443.350MHz, PL tone 110.9Hz WA9CWE
December 17th	VE Testing at the EOC 7pm
December 26th	MC UHF Net 8pm - 443.350MHz, PL tone 110.9Hz WA9CWE

SPECIAL EVENTS

December 7th	Pearl Harbor 1800-2100z 7.275
December 14th	Pearl Harbor Remembrance 1700-2359z 7.250 14.320 14.070
December 17th	Wright Bros. First Flight 1400-2100z 7.217 14.317 21.317

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	Tim Bailey	KD9PSR	kd9psr@gmail.com
Vice President	Dale Bloomer	N9OLC	dbloo42927@aol.net
Secretary	Don Billey	W9BLY	don.billey@gmail.com
Treasurer	Gerald Hollon	K9GDH	gdhollon@comcast.net
Activities	Greg Hunt	K9ALC	RWilco.85@gmail.com
Trustee	Doug Rose	N9DR	n9dr@arrl.net
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

HAMFESTS



Wh..What??

No Hamfests

