



Madison County Amateur Radio Club

QSO

www.w9vcf.org

January 2025

The JANUARY meeting will be held January 6, 2025



HAPPY NEW YEAR !!

2025

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From the President

Something new for 2025

We welcome a brand-new format for our monthly club meetings in 2025. Starting with our January meeting we will be giving more time for presentations and training. Our agenda will include some preliminaries which pertain to club events and upcoming activities, along with matters that our members will need to discuss. However, the majority of our time will be given to amateur radio. Our meetings will be less about club business and more about learning and growing in this awesome past-time we call ham radio. Our meetings will be at the same time at 19:00 hrs. on the first Monday each month.

I encourage you to get on the air whether it is on the local repeaters, HF, FT-8, or whatever your favorite mode may be, become a more active ham in this new year. Let's focus on Making Amateur Radio Great Again... M.A.R.G.A!

Tim

KD9PSR

From the Vice President

The nets are going good. If you're interested in being net control please let me know As we start a new year in ham radio we have opportunities to grow the club. This summer's outreach will be a great time to spread the word that Ham radio is a vital communications tool.

Dale

N9OLC

Monthly Meeting – December 6, 2024

Meeting Minutes

- Call to order 7:00 pm - President Tim Bailey
- Pledge of Allegiance to the flag
- Secretary report - Minutes from November Meeting -]

Motion to Accept - Lynn Edens Second - Dennis Owen

- Treasurer report
 - Beginning Balance - \$2402.72
 - Dues Deposit - \$ 20.00
 - Returned Statement Fee - \$-7.00
 - Current Balance - \$2415.72
 - REPEATER FUND
 - Current Balance - \$ 1,174.11
 - Motion to accept - Mike Cook ; Second - Charlie Dixon

- Attendance - 23 - Including 2 guests▪ Visitors: (Andrew Paul; Jean Sherman)

Gary Sherman	W9GNR	Mike Cook	KC9DJU
Jean Sherman	EMA	Dennis Owen	W9DO
Charlie Dixon	KD9RZG	Chris Mannon	KD9USK
Ike Jones	N9IKE	Tony Poitras	KD9PZR
Don Billey	W9BLY	Tom Ecker	KC9SYP
Tim Bailey	KD9PSR	Jeff Friend	KD9TXH
Aiden Paul	KE9APA	Andrew Paul	Guest
Dale Bloomer	N9OLC	Gerald Hollen	KD9GDH
Walter Hestand	KD9VVK	Lynn Edens	K9RLE
Bill Legg	KB9ECQ	Kevin Wycoff	KD9TXI
Kenny Olvey	WA9QEK	Rick Wisely	W9CGA
Steve Harney	K9SJH	Bill Davisson	KE9AYZ
Frank Dick	WA9JWF		

- **VP Report - DALE N9OLC**

Nets are going well... good participation on Wednesday nights... good questions...

Thursday nights are less populous... a great opportunity to learn to be a net controller.

Dale will meet and teach anyone interested.

- **Publication Editor - Gary - W9GNR**
195 hours... 2,860 hours for the year...

- **Activity report - Greg - K9ALC**
No Report

- **Trustee report - No Report**

- **Tech committee report -**

Found a couple better bulkhead connectors at Fort Wayne... will get them installed.

Motion to purchase by Second by Passed unanimously

- **Club points update - Kenny Olvey-**

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- **EMA Director report**

Right after the first of the year... EMA needs MOA between both clubs and EMA...

Clubs will agree to assist EMA in times of emergency with amateur radios. Last draft was 15 years ago... Need legitimate MOA.

State is going back to pushing Amateur radio as backup communication ... calling it AUXCOMM

In January - Project Lifesaver course... MCU Operator training... New county requirements... must fill out an application and be a rostered member of EMA, Physical requirements for both tasks. Project Lifesaver training in January. (2 day training) (Project Lifesaver is administered by the Sheriff's Department)

Thank you for everything the amateurs have done over the past year...

County is asking for inventory of access fobs... may do a partial recall to limit access to building

TOM ECKER... A lot of misinformation going around... Jeff Dyer is on sick leave - by county policy he cannot give any direction or work at all. He will be on leave until DEcember 31 when he will retire. Lynn is serving as interim director... he has full authority to do whatever he would like for EMA... he will be appointed executive director at the first commissioners meeting in January. Please give Lynn your full support... he will be making some updates and changes. Ask that you give Lynn full support to continue to improve EMA.

- **Election of Club Officers**

The following people were elected to these offices:

- ☐ **Vice President - Dale Bloomer (N9OLC)**
- ☐ **Secretary - Don Billey (W9BLY)**
- ☐ **Treasurer - Paula Dixon (KD9SZJ)**
- ☐ **Activities Manager - Aiden Paul (KE9APA)**
- ☐ **Publication Edtr - Gary Sherman (W9GNR)**
- ☐ **Trustee - Doug Rose (N9DR)**
- ☐ **Tech Committee Chr - Greg Hunt (N9ALC)**
- ☐ **Tech Committee - Charlie Dixon (KD9RZG),
Jeff Stewart (AK9JS)**

- **Christmas Party - Dec 7 - Anderson Grill, 9am**

- **Old Business**

Meeting format change - January 2025 Executive team will be meeting at 6:30 to conduct business that does not need to be voted on.

Website/Social Media Upgrades - Aiden in researching and indicates we need to find a web host. Gerald will look in to GoDaddy.

- **New business**

POTA monthly activity discussion/Workday - POTA can be simple... maybe the first Saturday of every other month... activate after breakfast... Other months I do a workday at EOC... perhaps once a quarter... schedule to be determined. Plans for the first Saturday of the month.

Club Membership Dues

Time to get dues paid for 2025... if you are in arrears, please get caught up. Tip jar is available at each meeting. Contributions are going to build up the reserves for maintenance and improvement.

Winter Field day - 25th-26th of January...

IKE - wants to revisit the issue of the mail... go paperless and do online banking

Dennis Owen - motion to suspend points system for a year to get system well defined, see if it can be fixed... Second by Charlie Dixon General discussion... Question called by Passed on voice vote... Unanimous

Show and Tell - POTA Pack - Tim Bailey Buddy Pole Pro ICOM 7300, Tuner, cables, power supply.

Motion to Adjourn... Dennis - Second by Charlie

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

THE EC SHACK

Gary-W9GNR

The US Department of Defense is hosting this year's Armed Forces Day (AFD) Crossband Test on Saturday, May 11.

For more than 50 years, military and amateur stations have taken part in this event, which is an interoperability exercise between amateur and government radio stations. The event is open to all licensed amateur radio operators and will not impact any public or private communications. The AFD Crossband Test is a unique opportunity to test two-way communications between military communicators and radio stations in the Amateur Radio Service. Find details, such as planned activations, frequencies, and QSL information on [ARRL News](#).

International Museums Weekends (IMW) 2024 will take place June 15 - 16 and 22 - 23.

The purpose of this event is to activate an amateur radio special event station in as many museums around the world as possible. Frequencies, bands, and modes are at the discretion of the operators, as is the museum selection. For this event, the definition of museum can be loosely interpreted. It could be a collection of old cars or one of a kind paintings from a neighborhood artist. Through this event, organizers hope to present amateur radio to the public to garner support and understanding of the hobby. The first IMW was held in 2002 with over 80 museums, featuring small, local venues and large prestigious operations. The event was especially popular among amateur radio operators in the United Kingdom. For information about registration and event awards, visit [International Museums Weekends 2024](#).

YL - KD9SZJ - Paula

Happy 2025!

So ...like so many years in the past, people seem to set goals, Have you set goal for 2025? If so, do they include activities that involve your ham radio?

Here are some suggestions: Pota (parks on the air), Mota (mount on the air), Route 66, Historical Ships Weekend, Bigfoot, and many other special events. You can find so many events to get on the air. I encourage you to get on the radio and chase these events. So much fun and sometimes a challenge to get through but well worth the challenge.

Another special goal to challenge you would be to get more involved in the club. Maybe you haven't done POTA or White River Run, then start there. Everybody's involvement is an encouragement to other. You can always learn from others if you just take the time to participate in the club's events. There is always someone to help you get involved. So let's make 2025 a year of getting more involved in the club activities and learn something as you do!

Have blessed and safe 2025,

73 KD9SZJ

-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
January 6th	MC ARC Meeting at the EOC, 7pm
January 8th	MC UHF Net 8pm - 443.350MHz, PL tone 110.9Hz WA9CWE
January 21st	VE Testing at the EOC 7pm
January 22nd	MC UHF Net 8pm - 443.350MHz, PL tone 110.9Hz WA9CWE
SPECIAL EVENTS	
January 25th - 26th	ARRL Winter Field Day 1900z-1859z ALL BANDS

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

