

THE WCARC REPORTER



CATCH OUR SIGNAL

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 180

April 9, 2009

***WHITLEY COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC
P. O. BOX 652
COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725***

PRESIDENT	Dan Dahms	N9WNH
VICE PRESIDENT	Melanie Dahms	W9NNH
TREASURER	Richard Leo	W9EEE
SECRETARY	Ewing Potts	K9RWO
TRUSTEE	Herman Smith	WB9SPY
TRUSTEE	Lanny Kelly	K9OOP
TRUSTEE	Ed Scott	K9EJS
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Roger McEntarfer	N9QCL

WEB SITE www.wcarc.org

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Thomas Presley	KB9TTY	4-10	Gregory Bateman	W0GJB	4-13
Dan Spencer	K9VU	4-23	Steve Berrier	KB9BGW	5-2
Donald Evilsizor	KA9QWC	5-3	Ed Scott	K9EJS	5-18

MANY HAPPY RETURNS TO ALL!!

INFORMATION PAGE

Whitley County Amateur Radio Club Inc.

2009 Board of Directors

President	Dan Dahms	N9WNH
Vice President	Melanie Dahms	W9NNH
Secretary	Ewing Potts	K9RWO
Treasurer	Richard Leo	W9EEE
1-Year Trustee	Herman Smith	WB9SPY
2-Year Trustee	Lanny Kelly	K9OOP
3-Year Trustee	Ed Scott	K9EJS

2009 Appointed Positions:

Newsletter Editor	Roger McEntarfer	N9QCL
Web page Coordinator	Roger McEntarfer	N9QCL
WC9AR Station & Repeater Trustee	Don Evilsizor	KA9QWC
Station Control Operator	Henry Mackey	N9HM
Station Control Operator	David Keiser	WB9UNL
Station Control Operator	Roger McEntarfer	N9QCL
Station Control Operator	Dan Dahms	N9WNH
WCARC Club Net Control Manager	Don Evilsizor	KA9QWC
WCARC Club Net Control Operator	Melanie Dahms	W9NNH
WCARC Club Net Control Operator	Cathy Evilsizor	WB8ORR
WCARC Club Net Control Operator	Henry Mackey	N9HM
WCARC Club Net Control Operator	Roger McEntarfer	N9QCL

2009 ARRL Special Service Club Appointments:

Public Information Officer (PIO)	Roger McEntarfer	N9QCL
Official Emergency Station (OES)	David Keiser	WB9UNL
Official Bulletin Station (OBS)	Don Evilsizor	KA9QWC
Local Government Liaison (LGL)	Henry Mackey	N9HM
Technical Specialist (TS)	Rodney Shull	N9WNJ
Technical Specialist (TS)	Roger McEntarfer	N9QCL
Official Relay Station (ORS)	Don Evilsizor	KA9QWC
Official Observer (OO)	OPEN	

Indiana Section ARRL Appointments:

Whitley County ARES Emergency Coordinator David Keiser WB9UNL

2009 Standing Committee Appointments

Activities Committee:

Melanie Dahms W9NNH Chairperson
Ed Scott K9EJS Member
Richard Leo W9EEE Member

Audit Committee:

Lee Simmonds KC9CDT Chairperson
Richard Leo W9EEE Member
Ed Scott K9EJS Member

Communications Committee:

Roger McEntarfer N9QCL Chairperson
Dan Dahms N9WNH Member
Ewing Potts K9RWO Member

Education & Training Committee:

John Butcher KC9FBA Chairperson

Finance & Fundraising Committee:

Ewing Potts K9RWO Chairperson
John Butcher KC9FBA Member
Dan Dahms N9WNH Member

Health & Welfare Committee:

OPEN

Historical Committee:

OPEN

Membership Committee:

Melanie Dahms W9NNH Chairperson

Station & Repeater Committee:

Dan Dahms N9WNH Chairperson
Don Evilsizor KA9QWC Member
David Keiser WB9UNL Member
Roger McEntarfer N9QCL Member

From the President...

Because we have only had the opportunity to discuss this at WCARC Board Meetings, we have had only one ARES Meeting, no local SKYWARN meetings and I believe this has been discussed at RACES meetings. I thought it would be good to include this list in this month's newsletter as my article.

We encourage everyone for preparedness reasons to program your radios with at least all the the voice frequencies. If you have packet capabilities with a specific radio then obviously those frequencies also.

We have officially abandoned 146.460 and 446.460 simplex as far as the local simplex frequencies as these have been in use and are being used as Huntington County's simplex frequencies. We do not want to cause problems if they have a incident or event at the same time we do or for chit chat when either of us have an incident or event. Remember just because you may not hear them does not mean that someone can't hear you or you may be possibly wiping out another station. Most of the surrounding counties have simplex frequencies that they have adopted. This is why we changed and other counties have been notified of what we have adopted.

Besides our two local Repeaters frequencies, their output frequencies for simplex use, national and state simplex frequencies. We have researched and adopted the following simplex frequencies for countywide incident, events, and general simplex chit chat.

145.550 Mhz.(S) No PL Whitley Co. VHF Simplex 2 "WCVHF2"
146.550 Mhz.(S) No PL Whitley Co. VHF Simplex 1 "WCVHF1"
223.550 Mhz.(S) No PL Whitley Co. 220 FM Simplex "WC220S"
445.550 Mhz.(S) No PL Whitley Co. UHF FM Simplex 2 "WCUHF2"
446.550 Mhz.(S) No PL Whitley Co. UHF FM Simplex 1 "WCUHF1"

The 145.550 is Primary Digital and Secondary Voice. This is in the Experimental and Miscellaneous portion of the band and could be used for FM Voice, SSTV, Hell, PSK31, Packet etc.

We also have adopted a VHF and a UHF Frequency for Crossband Repeat with PL on both.

Because of the fact that the newsletter is distributed to other areas I will not be including those frequencies in this specific article.

1XX.XXX Mhz.(S) PL 131.8TX/RX Whitley Co.VHF-UHF Crossband Repeat "WCVUCR"
4XX.XXX Mhz.(S) PL 131.8TX/RX Whitley Co.UHF-VHF Crossband Repeat "WCUVCR"

You'll also notice that a 6 digit alphanumeric name has been assigned to each in the plan. Some radios have that ability and to help keep things straight for folks that have that ability. We went with 6 digit because some radios do not have more than that. Others have maybe 7 or 8 digits places.

Dan M. Dahms N9WNH
WCARC President

Vice President Report....

Well its that time again I opened my arms to welcome spring only to have the door shut in my face. I tell you what we sure have had a weird weather year from raining to flooding to a freak tornado along with the temperatures that yo-yo just to keep up with the Smothers Brothers. I usually love this time of year I really enjoy the flowers and trees coming into bloom but, this is ridiculous.

Dan and I had an interesting Saturday as we were invited to participate in the IDHS District 3 Full Scale Exercise at Grissom Air Force Base on March 28. I really enjoyed myself as I had never been to the base or participated in such an exercise. Dan and I started out in a small pop up camper that served as the Packet station. It was quite chilly and windy that day and I began to wonder if we would stay up right. I was then told by Brad K9BP that if they needed another ham to be placed somewhere I was up next. Not to long after that I was being escorted to the Joint Information Center where I was able to send and receive messages and traffic. It was a wonderful experience and I hope others get the chance in the future.

As June fast approaches so does 2009 Field Day and the local parades. I hope everyone is as excited as I am for both. I hope we can pull a decent float together in time to enter in the parades. I want to thank Ed K9EJS for gathering information on the up coming parades. I have been to the post and mail to pick up free end rolls to be used on a float if needed. I am narrowing places down for Field Day and hope to have the exact location announced shortly.

73,
Melanie W9NNH
Vice President

Whitley County Amateur Radio Club

General Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2009

President Dan N9WNH called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. at the Peabody Library. Introductions were made by members present.

Seventeen members present—see attached sheet.

One guest—James Boyer KB9IH.

Secretary Ewing K9RWO, read the minutes of the previous meeting. Corrections were made as follows: program tonight will be on **RACES**, July program by Joseph **Lawrence** K9RFZ. Ed K9EJS, made the motion and Cathy WB8ORR, seconded to accept the minutes as corrected.

Treasurer's report was given by Richard W9EEE. Eleven members from last year have not renewed club membership for this year. We have 25 paid members for this year. The treasurer's report was accepted pending audit.

Vice-President Melanie W9NNH reported that the months of May, August, October, and December's Christmas program still need to be scheduled. South Whitley's Fall Festival-parade float was discussed as a possible event to present amateur radio to the public. Also, Turtle Days, June 17-20th, could be another time for a parade float event. Further discussion on the parade float was tabled by Dan N9WNH to allow time to discuss field day. Motion was made by Lee KC9CDT, seconded by Greg KA9DTZ, then approved.

Sirens—Columbia City Communications Officer informed Dan N9WNH that the Emergency Weather Siren located in Morsches Park has been repaired by J & K Communications, Inc. Dan N9WNH will verify that the siren is fixed, then e-mail club members as to results.

Trustee—nothing

Other business:

ARES-EC, Ed K9EJS announced on March 23, Monday night, there will be a ARES meeting at the Peabody Public Library for all interested.

CathyWB8ORR stated that the repeaters at the EOC are now programmed to work simplex when needed.

Dave WB9UNL stated that Skywarn Advanced Spotter training is March 28th in Goshen.

Next Wednesday March 18th there will be a state wide tornado drill. 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. You can check in on the 145.27 repeater.

Dan N9WNH said our club liability insurance will be due soon for about \$300.00. Does anyone know of a better deal?

Dave WB9UNL moved, second by Roger N9QCL with the motion approved to pay our liability insurance when it comes due. Dan said batteries for the repeater would be the next club cost item that will need to be paid in amount of about \$150.00. Rick Brown the welder, is set to meet at Roger's N9QCL, next Tuesday to give a quote for repairing the club's tower.

Audit Committee:

Lee KC9CDT issued a letter stating that the audit report (reviewed line by line for all 2008) was completed without any questions or discrepancies. Dan N9WNH moved to accept the audit report and Ed K9EJS seconded the motion. The 2008 audit report was approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ewing K9RWO
Secretary

Whitley County Amateur Radio Club
Board Meeting
March 26, 2009

President Dan N9WNH called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Board members present were: Dan Dahms N9WNH, Melanie Dahms W9NNH, Richard Leo W9EEE, Lanny Kelly K9OOP, Junior Smith WB9SPY and Ed Scott K9EJS.

Club members present were: Dave Keiser WB9UNL.

Secretary Ewing K9RWO was absent from the meeting so Vice President Melanie W9NNH read the minutes of the previous meeting. Minutes were accepted with the following corrections:

In reference about the monthly meeting program's Dan's call sign should be N9WNH not W9WNH.

In reference to discussion as to whether our club should approach the W5YI Group members to join the ARRL through our WCARC club should read. Discussion as to whether our club should approach the W5YI Group members if they would consider asking testing amateurs at those sessions if they would be interested in joining the ARRL and or the WCARC after testing by having applications available at those sessions.

In reference to our club members need to develop a radio presentation for the Cub Scouts and the SERT kids with adults. SERT should be spelled CERT

Treasurer report by Richard W9EEE, were accepted pending audit.

There was discussion in regards to the official establishment of a Health & Welfare Fund within the WCARC Treasury to account for donations, expenses etc for bookkeeping purposes and for IRS 501 C(3) reporting. It would allow for anyone to make specific donations to the Health & Welfare Fund if desired and with the WCARC having established at least one account at this time at one of the local florists the billing of those expenses would go directly to the club. The Board also recommending a specific amount out of the general funds to maintain the needed balance throughout the year if the donation balance falls below a certain point. Any donation that was specifically given to that fund could only be used for that fund. More discussion about this will take place at the next meeting.

Vice-President Melanie W9NNH called W9WT during the meeting to ask if he needed any AV equipment and he asked for the projector and screen to hook his laptop up to.

Board Trustees: Ed K9EJS and Junior WB9SPY said they are set on pop but they are low on funds for other items. Dan N9WNH stated that he would bring this up to the membership at the April General Meeting.

W5YI VE Test Group: Someone on the board needs to talk to Roger N9QCL about signing people up for ARRL and or WCARC membership at the test sessions.

ARRL Special Service Club Certificate: At this time the club has not received the SSC certificate from ARRL HQ as of yet. It was confirmed that we have been re-designated again via the ARRL website and from Indiana Section Manager John Poindexter W3ML.

Liability Insurance: The liability insurance bill should be arriving soon. It will be \$250 again for the year.

146.550 Simplex Net: We will be trying the concept of a VHF Simplex Net to get people aware of their station capabilities and where they need to improve upon. This also lets everyone know that we are now established on our new Primary VHF Simplex frequency. We have used 146.460 and 446.460 in the past. But 146.460 has been adopted by Huntington County years ago and we were not aware of this. They have established a monthly

simplex net on 146.460 now. We need to be on a separate frequency so we do not cause problems in a real emergency when both counties maybe active. All the groups in Whitley County have adopted a Amateur Radio Frequency Plan in which 146.550 has been adopted with the ALPHA identifier of WCVHF1. At this time the Simplex Net will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month starting on the WCARES Net on 145.270(-) WC527R then is moving to 146.550.

Activities:

Monthly Programs: It was suggested by Lanny K9OOP that we look into a program on Emergency Power.

Field Day: Melanie W9NNH stated that she had contacted some members of the Whitley County Mizpah Horse Shrine Horse Patrol to ask about having 2009 Field Day at that site. . At that time the grounds are being used by the Shriners to put on a battle of the bands benefit to raise money for charity so we will not be able to use it for Field Day. It was also discussed that we look into using the 4-H Fairgrounds or one of the schools. Richard W9EEE suggested that Dan N9WNH check into this.

Parade Float: It was discussed that if we as a membership want to participate in the upcoming 2009 parades. We need to get started on finding out information on entering if there is interest and we have commitment from the membership. Richard W9EEE volunteered the use of his trailer to be made into a float. Dan N9WNH suggested we contact Shindigz in South Whitley to see if they would have seconds we could get etc.

Fox Hunt: Carl WB9YBI contacted Dan N9WNH to talk to him about possibly starting a District 3 Foxhunt a couple of times a year. After the Board discussed this, it was decided that if we wanted to do this we may not have the time until after Field Day and possibly for it to be held on Sunday afternoons.

Health & Welfare:

Melanie W9NNH stated that since no one was currently on the H&W committee at this time she had sent a card from the club members to Henry N9HM after his surgery. Since the H&W policy has taken effect we need to set up a line item in the treasury.

Station & Repeater:

Club Tower: Rick Brown met up with Dan N9WNH at the home of Roger N9QCL and took a look at the club crank up tower. He estimated that it would cost the club \$25.00 to repair the tower. This repair needs to be done by June so that it can be utilized for 2009 Field Day. At this time Rick is having generator problems and is working on getting them fixed. Right now with all of the rain the yard at Roger N9QCL's home is to wet to drive on and he also needs time to clean up the barn as the tower is buried at the back of the barn. Rick and Dan N9WNH also discussed fabricating a base for the clubs 35' tower after much discussion of possibilities such as a tripod base or looking for a trailer it was decided that Rick wanted to think on this some more. Rick also offered to keep an eye out for a trailer as he comes across them every once in a while.

400' Tower: The 400' tower that Dan N9WNH has been looking into has a 16 bay 440 antenna located at the top of the tower. A HT test from that site to the 440 Repeater at its present site at 120' Omni was done recently and found to be ok with 5 watts. This was done as a comparison to see how a HT signal at 5 watts would be from Columbia City to the 400' Tower if the antenna was only at 120' there. Obviously at 400' Omni there would be no problems. He will contact the present owner and report back what he has found out. This would be another option if so chosen to the present option of 150' Side Mount in Columbia City and would give us extended range including Countywide HT coverage and beyond possibly without the worry of installation of antenna and feed line, since it already exists.

145.270 Interference: There was discussion concerning the malicious interference we have been experiencing and what has been done to date so far. This also proves the need for continuous monitoring that is required by us anyway and the need for Radio Direction Finding skills and equipment.

ARES:

On March 23rd an ARES meeting was held. At that time it was decided that the ARES meetings will be held quarterly. This year's meetings will be held June 4th, September 3rd and December 3rd at the Peabody Public

Library in Meeting Room B. Whitley County ARES EC Ed K9EJS asks that all ARES members let him know when they attend trainings so that he can put it into the monthly ARES EC Report.

WCARG Yahoo Group:

Due to the length of the original name of the Whitley County Amateur Radio Yahoo Group and it's web address has now been changed to a shortened version. It is now:

WCARG.(Whitley County Amateur Radio Groups) <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WCARG/>

Please delete the old web address from your favorites etc and add the new web address. Please note that this serves as the ARES/RACES/SKYWAR/VE Group's webpage and also serves as an additional nonpublic website for the WCARC in conjunction with the present site located at <http://www.wcarc.org>

Members will need to join and then they can view or add files, photos or links etc at anytime. Local announcements will take place there automatically at times via the calendar on the site. The site calendar also provides a vast amount of area meeting, nets and activities outside of Whitley County also. Members are encouraged to click on the side buttons and go through the various items on the site. You can also have discussion via the site just like a blog site where many can see and view the topics.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie Dahms
W9NNH
Vice President

Whitley County Amateur Radio Frequency Plan

Whitley County Amateur Radio Frequency Plan

(This is the 144-450 Mhz. FM Mode list)

144.390 Mhz. (S) No PL	National VHF APRS "NVAPRS"
144.670 Mhz. () PL 131.8TX	Whitley Co. VHF Repeater Input "WC527I"
145.050 Mhz. (S) No PL	Indiana District 3 ARES/RACES VHF Packet BBS "D3VBBS"
1XX.XX Mhz. (S) PL 131.8TX/RX	Whitley Co. VHF-UHF Crossband Repeat "WCVUCR"
145.270 Mhz. (-) PL 131.8TX/RX	Whitley Co. VHF Repeater "WC527R"- Primary ARES/RACES/SKYWARN Repeater
145.270 Mhz. (S) PL 131.8TX	Whitley Co. 145.270 Simplex Backup "WC527S"- In case of Repeater Failure
145.530 Mhz. (S) No PL	Indiana District 3 ARES/RACES VHF Packet Node "D3VNDE"
145.550 Mhz. (S) No PL	Whitley Co. VHF Simplex 2 "WCVHF2"- Primary Digital/Secondary Voice Simplex
146.490 Mhz. (S) No PL	Indiana ARES Statewide VHF Simplex "IARESV"
146.520 Mhz. (S) No PL	National VHF FM Simplex "NVHF"
146.550 Mhz. (S) No PL	Whitley Co. VHF Simplex 1 "WCVHF1"- Primary Voice Simplex
223.500 Mhz. (S) No PL	National 220 FM Simplex "N220"
223.550 Mhz. (S) No PL	Whitley Co. 220 FM Simplex "WC220S"
430.550 Mhz. (S) No PL	Indiana District 3 ARES/RACES 9600 Baud UHF Node "D3UNDE"
444.550 Mhz. (+) No PL	Whitley Co. UHF Repeater "WC455R" (131.8 PL in future)
444.550 Mhz. (S) No PL	Whitley Co. 444.550 Simplex "WC455S"- In case of Repeater Failure
4XX.XX Mhz. (S) PL 131.8TX/RX	Whitley Co. UHF-VHF Crossband Repeat "WCUVR"
445.550 Mhz. (S) No PL	Whitley Co. UHF FM Simplex 2 "WCUHF2"
446.550 Mhz. (S) No PL	Whitley Co. UHF FM Simplex 1 "WCUHF1"
446.000 Mhz. (S) No PL	National UHF FM Simplex "NUHF"
446.100 Mhz. (S) No PL	Indiana ARES Statewide UHF Simplex "IARESU"
449.550 Mhz. () No PL	Whitley County UHF Repeater Input "WC455I"

Plan jointly approved by:

Whitley Co. ARC

Whitley Co. ARES

Whitley Co. RACES

Whitley Co. SKYWARN

April

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1 WC ARES NET 7:15 PM 145.270 ea Wed night	2 Hoosier Lake RC Mtg. 7:30 PM	3	4 HCARC ARES Net 8 PM - 146.685 ea Sat night
5 WCARC Sunday nite net - 7:45 PM 444.550 ea Sunday night	6 Siren test 12 PM 21 ARC Mtg. 7 PM	7	8 Warsaw Emergency Service net 7:00 PM ea Wed Night	9 WCARC General Mtg. 7:00 PM Wells Co ARC Mtg. 7 PM	10	11
12 Easter 6:00 PM Races Net 3.920 kHz	13 7:00 Races	14	15	16	17	18 9 AM RACES NET
19	20 Siren test 12 PM	21	22	23 WCARC Board Mtg. 7:00 PM	24	25 W5YI Test Session 9:00 AM
26	27 HCARC Mtg. 7 PM	28	29	30		

2009

May

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1	2 HCARC ARES Net 8 PM - 146.685 ea Sat night
3 WCARC Sunday nite net - 7:45 PM 444.550 ea Sunday night	4 Siren test 12 PM 21 ARC Mtg. 7 PM	5	6 WC ARES NET 7:15 PM 145.270 ea Wed night	7 Hoosier Lake RC Mtg. 7:30 PM	8	9
10 6:00 PM Races Net 3.920 kHz	11 7:00 Races	12	13 Warsaw Emergency Service net 7:00 PM ea Wed Night	14 WCARC General Mtg. 7:00 PM Wells Co ARC Mtg. 7 PM	15 Dayton Hamvention	16 9 AM RACES NET Dayton Hamvention
17 Dayton Hamvention	18 Siren test 12 PM	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Memorial Day HCARC Mtg. 7 PM	26	27	28 WCARC Board Mtg. 7:00 PM	29	30
31						

2009