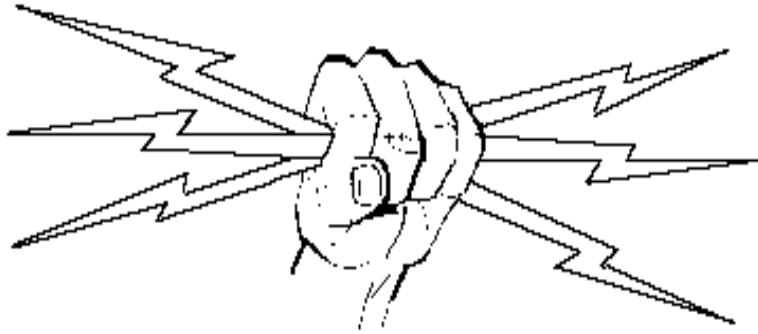


THE WCARC REPORTER



CATCH OUR SIGNAL

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 167

March 13, 2008

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

PRESIDENT	Dan Dahms	N9WNH
VICE PRESIDENT	Becky Spencer	N9RJB
TREASURER	Richard Leo	W9EEE
SECRETARY	Melanie Dahms	W9NNH
TRUSTEE	Lanny Kelly	K9OOP
TRUSTEE	Herman Smith	WB9SPY
TRUSTEE	Ewing Potts	K9RWO
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Roger McEntarfer	N9QCL

WEB SITE www.wcarc.org

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Kerry Shultz	N9STR	3-20	Thomas Presley	KB9TTY	4-10
Gregory Bateman	W0GJB	4-13	Dan R. Spencer	K9VU	4-23

MANY HAPPY RETURNS TO ALL!!

INFORMATION PAGE

Whitley County Amateur Radio Club Inc. 2008 Board of Directors

President	Dan Dahms	N9WNH
Vice President	Becky Spencer	N9RJB
Secretary	Melanie Dahms	W9NNH
Treasurer	Richard Leo	W9EEE
1-Year Trustee	Lanny Kelly	K9OOP
2-Year Trustee	Herman Smith	WB9SPY
3-Year Trustee	Ewing Potts	K9RWO

2008 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

2008 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:

Indiana ARES District 3 Emergency Coordinator	Henry Mackey	N9HM
Whitley County ARES Emergency Coordinator	David Keiser	WB9UNL

2008 Standing Committee Appointments

Activities Committee:

Becky Spencer	N9RJB	Chairperson
Melanie Dahms	W9NNH	Member
Roger McEntarfer	N9QCL	Member
David Keiser	WB9UNL	Member
Lanny Kelly	K9OOP	Member

Audit Committee:

Cathy Evilsizor	WB8ORR	Chairperson
Richard Leo	W9EEE	Member
Roger McEntarfer	N9QCL	Member

Communications Committee:

Roger McEntarfer	N9QCL	Chairperson
Melanie Dahms	W9NNH	Member
Dan Dahms	N9WNH	Member
Becky Spencer	N9RJB	Member

Education & Training Committee:

OPEN

Finance & Fundraising Committee:

Richard Leo	W9EEE	Chairperson
Dan Dahms	N9WNH	Member
Henry Mackey	N9HM	Member

Health & Welfare Committee:

Henry Mackey	N9HM	Chairperson
Melanie Dahms	W9NNH	Member
Cathy Evilsizor	WB8ORR	Member

Historical Committee:

Don Evilsizor	KA9QWC	Chairperson
Dan Dahms	N9WNH	Member
Henry Mackey	N9HM	Member

Membership Committee:

Melanie Dahms	W9NNH	Chairperson
Don Evilsizor	KA9QWC	Member
Dan Dahms	N9WNH	Member

Station & Repeater Committee:

Don Evilsizor	KA9QWC	Chairperson
Dan Dahms	N9WNH	Member
David Keiser	WB9UNL	Member
Rodney Shull	N9WNJ	Member
Roger McEntarfer	N9QCL	Member

From the President...

There are several topics I would like to discuss for this month and all are very important for us a club and a hobby at least locally, in order to survive. I would like to congratulate Roger N9QCL on his recent ARRL Section Certificate of Merit presented to him by Don KA9QWC at the February Meeting. Roger has done much for the club and amateur radio here locally we are very proud to have him as a member of our club.

Activities:

I think that Becky N9RJB along with the committee has done an excellent job in lining up the monthly programs. We must keep ahead in finding and scheduling these programs so we can advertise each one not only to current club members, but prospective new members, other clubs and anyone that maybe interested in the hobby. If you have an idea for a program please let Becky or any of the committee members know your thoughts. Upcoming programs are DX, PSK31 and CoCoRaHS.

We must now get motivated at looking at Field Day sites and all the planning that is needed in having this event.

We had three club members help at the Peabody Library Book Fair and had three members donate books. I would have like to seen a few more members step forward to assist in this worthy event. This would be a way the club could give back to the Library for allowing us to meet at their great facility. It took about hour and half with about nine people helping to tear down after the Fair. Just think how quick it would go with a few more? I'm sure the setup takes longer. Mike Hays from the Friends of the Library is asking for help again in June when they have their second Book Fair. Please keep this in mind and give an hour or so to help.

Some additional help or backups are needed for the Columbia City Early Warning Tests. This is a joint effort that involves ARES/RACES/SKYWARN and the WCARC. The tests are the first and third Mondays of every month at 12 PM weather and forecast permitting. If we have enough people to help even if it is just once in awhile it give some fellow hams a break or you might fill in when they are unable to make it. It only takes a few minutes of your time and gives us another public service that we can say we provide. For more information contact Henry N9HM EWS Test Coordinator.

Don't forget about the SKYWARN training on Thursday March 20 at the Peabody Public Library in Columbia City one at 9 AM and another at 7 PM to allow most folks to attend one or the other. Of course by the time you read this the Statewide Tornado Drill will have already taken place on Wednesday March 5th.

Audit:

I want to thank Cathy WB8ORR, Richard W9EEE and Roger N9QCL for taking time out of their busy schedules to go over the financial records of the club for FY'07. It was a definite plus I think for the newly elected Treasurer to be able to serve on the committee, so he can help the committee with whatever firsthand knowledge he has gained from prior review of the records and so he can follow through with what has been determined. While the committee had some difficulty in following the records from last year it was determined that we are in better shape than what we had been told. We are not that well off to say that we do not need to look at fund-raising ideas or that we don't need to look at cost saving measurers.

Communications:

I would like to hear some feedback on the issue of the newsletter, website etc. We decided quite some time ago to save some money by emailing the newsletter out to the club members and by putting the newsletter on the website. The cost of printing up the newsletter is rising just to have five or so copies for a meeting now costs in the neighborhood of \$8-\$11 per month depending on how long it is! Now that means that we spend around twelve members dues per year just so we can have a few newsletters available at a meeting.

For the most part the newsletter consists of a front page with birthday announcements, the second and third page consist of Board , Appointed Positions and Committee members. This is followed by the Club Roster, President and V. President articles, usually an article from Don KA9QWC or one or two other club members every once in awhile and a calendar page.

How many of you read the newsletter and or contribute something to it? I guess I am questioning the need for a separate newsletter when all of this can be put on the website as a running newspaper type of page with side click bars for specific subjects or areas of interest. .

I know myself and others appreciate what Roger N9QCL has done with the website and the newsletter over time along with the past works of Don KA9QWC, Charlie WB9FZO and Randy N9STQ. But I feel that our website is underutilized and has not essentially changed it's look and purpose from it's inception and I know others have mentioned they would like to see more and updated information posted there. I feel that we should make the full transition and move ahead. This page could contain information such as the club By-Laws and Constitution, Net Rosters, Net Control Schedules, Net Preambles, more in depth ARES/RACES/SKYWARN local information, more focus on our activities, club history, more pictures and updated links. I think we need to address not only the costs that were to be essentially removed by not printing a newsletter and removing the problem all together and putting it all on the website and in turn making the website more interesting and useful.. Let the committee know your thoughts.

Education & Training:

This topic has not been addressed and does need some research as far as the need of Technician or higher classes. But we have some immediate needs that are pressing also such as traffic handling, net operations, etc that could be taught in a class atmosphere any interest?

Finance and Fund-Raising:

We have brought up the need for fund-raising and finance reform. We have procured one fund-raising item which is flower bulb sales. The company specializes in fund-raising for clubs etc. The WCARC Board has decided to give a try as it costs the club nothing. But the rewards could be endless depending on our commitment. We keep 50% off the top of what we sell right off the bat. There is no delivery or shipping charges. But once the orders are placed all of them will be shipped to a central address and then is up to those that have gathered orders to deliver them to the recipients. The sales packets will be arriving soon. I am asking the membership to not just look at the minimum to sell but make a goal of filling at least one sales sheet. One sheet contains 17 possible order slots. Most items are in the \$10-\$15 range. Everybody should know enough people to fill one sheet per member. It is for a good cause, us!

We are also discussing how the 50/50 drawings are handled and where the money should go. We are also addressing the Health & Welfare Fund. and how it should be handled. If you have ideas, concerns, comments let Richard W9EEE, Henry N9HM or myself know as we are wanting feedback.

We are still hoping to apply for a local grant for system hardware and installation costs. With the final report of the Audit Committee and some needed paperwork we hopefully can try this again.

Health & Welfare:

I've asked the Health & Welfare Committee to come up with guidelines and protocols for that committee in writing. We have never had any type of written guide for the committee to go by and it can be a problem with new committee members not knowing what should be done. This gathering of information will include the duties of the committee, protocols for handling estates, ill, elderly or other types of assistance needed by a county ham or club member, condolence amounts and to whom etc. If you have any thoughts let Henry N9HM, Melanie W9NNH or Cathy WB8ORR know.

Historical:

Thanks to Chuck WB9DNE he has given us information regarding our Whitley County Amateur Radio Silent Key WebPage on the WCARC website. He mentioned that Paul Woods KB9DOH has become a silent key awhile ago and is gathering the information for us. Thanks Chuck!

We are in need of those photo's, rosters, newspaper clippings and internet articles you may have, that are gathering dust to share with the outside world. So cough them up and let's get them where people can view them on the club website. Give Don, Henry or myself a call if you have something that we could borrow to copy or scan.

Membership:

Melanie has been mailing out post cards that the club has a supply of to potential new members and invite a number of them every month to the club meetings and activities. We will concentrate on a new area every month. We have mailed to Cleveland and Washington Twp's and a few into Huntington County. This month we will be mailing to Jefferson Twp and part of the Roanoke area. If you know of some fellow ham that is not a member or if someone that might be interested in the hobby feel free to invite them. In fact we encourage you to do so. If you have any question you can contact either Don KA9QWC, Melanie W9NNH or myself.

Station & Repeater:

The Board approved the purchase of a DTMF hand microphone that is needed for the new Alinco DR-135T VHF radio that now belongs to the club, thanks to generosity of Charlotte Willson wife of Glenn Willson N9KXL SK. This radio will serve as a utility radio for general/event use. Are there any thoughts or ideas as to maybe a go-box to mount this radio with a power supply, battery etc to protect and house the radio for use?

Both repeaters have been updated and have increased parameters now through the Indiana Repeater Council. We are now in the process of coordinating control/link frequencies. The UHF repeater has intermittent desense again and another transmitter/receiver set has been obtained. but needs programming done. We have found that the current receiver actually interferes with itself at a certain point even without key up of the transmitter.

In other news we are working with EMA/DHS in procuring equipment and installation costs through a Interoperability Grant in 2009. We also awaiting a written MOU between EMA/DHS and the WCARC for future situations and issues.

Site procurement is still on-going at this time. We know we have one local at no cost but for only one system. This is an on-going tedious process.

Dan M. Dahms N9WNH
2008 WCARC President

Whitley County Amateur Radio Club

General Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2008

President Dan Dahms N9WNH called the meeting to order at 7:07 P.M. Those present were Members: Dan Dahms N9WNH, Richard Leo W9EEE, Melanie Dahms W9NNH, Ewing Potts K9RWO, Homer Crowder N9HRC, Dave Keiser WB9UNL, Roger McEntarfer N9QCL, Cathy Evilsizor WB8ORR, Don Evilsizor KA9QWC

Guests present were Chuck WB9DNE, Nancy WD9DBM, Jeff N9HTX, Wayne N9CUB, Roger N9MTD with guest speaker Jeff Dailey

Due to the book fair being set up in the room we meet in at the Peabody Public Library the meeting was relocated to the Cleveland Township Library in South Whitley.

The club program for the evening was presented by Jeff Dailey of Scadata Scientific on High-Altitude Balloon Launches with Taylor University. We thank him for his interesting program.

Following the program everyone enjoyed snacks and conversation.

The business portion of the meeting was suspended for the evening.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melanie M. Dahms
W9NNH

Whitley County Amateur Radio Club

Board Meeting

February 28, 2008

President Dan Dahms N9WNH called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. Board members present were: Dan Dahms N9WNH, Becky Spencer N9RJB, Richard Leo W9EEE, Melanie Dahms W9NNH, Herman Smith Jr. WB9SPY and Ewing Potts K9RWO

Club members present were: Roger McEntarfer N9QCL, Homer Crowder N9HRC and Dave Keiser WB9UNL

Secretary Melanie W9NNH read the minutes of the last board meeting. The following correction was noted. The Library book fair tear down was on the 16th of February not on the 17th of February. With the following correction the minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer Richard Leo W9EEE read the financial report for the club. Richard W9EEE stated that the WCARC had received a reimbursement check for 8 months worth of Utility bills that had not been reimbursed in to the club in 2007. It was also brought to the attention of the board that the Treasurer and President have been having troubles logging in to the WCARC online bank account through STAR Financial Bank. Richard stated that he contacted STAR on the phone and reset the password. The treasury report was approved.

After spending extensive time working on the audit the members of the audit committee Cathy WB8ORR, Richard W9EEE & Roger N9QCL came to the conclusion that the 2007 records were incomplete and they could not be determined how accurate they are. Richard stated that Cathy WB8ORR has the 2006 / 2007 financial books at this time as she had been looking them over.

It was recommended by the audit committee that we use the bank balance and the new computerized program in hopes that the 2008 records would be better kept for next years audit. It was also recommended that each session be recorded or backed up by hard drive, floppy or CD. The audit committee presented a signed report for WCARC records. With these findings the audit report was approved by the board but Dave WB9UNL stated that we should bring the Audit before the club for club approval.

Vice President Becky N9RJB stated that the April program had been set up and that Gary Stebbins would be giving a program on PSK31. Roger N9QCL then added that Gary will need a 40 meter antenna for his program. Richard then stated that he has a 20 / 40 meter dipole available that could be used. All present decided that the tree situation behind the library should be checked out before any decision on an antenna would be made. It was also stated that Carl K9LA would need the projection screen for his program in March.

Health and Welfare Committee:

Dan N9WNH stated that he had worked on Howard N9ICA radios and needs to set up a time to get them back to him. Dan N9WNH also stated that Howard N9ICA would need some help when the weather warmed up unloading items after they are brought up from Markel.

Melanie W9NNH stated that she had purchased flowers and a card for both Cathy WB8ORR and Henry N9HM XYL Judy after there surgeries. Melanie W9NNH stated that they are both doing well.

Activity Committee:

Dan N9WNH stated that Melanie W9NNH, Roger N9QCL, Rogers XYL Laura and himself helped after the Peabody Public Library book fair with clean up. The Friends of the library group also had 5 volunteers and one paid library employee and was able to complete clean up what usually takes 3 hours in 1½ hours. The Friends of the Library Group was very thankful for the help. Dan N9WNH also thanks all the member of our club that donated books to the book fair in the clubs name. The next book fair will be held in June of 2008 and they would appreciate any help or donations any one could give. At this time we are unsure if this year's field day will fall on the weekend of the book fair. Ewing K9RWO wondered how muck advertising goes on for the book fair. Dan N9WNH did not think that much advertising went on but he would check with Mike Hayes the Friends of the Library chairman.

It was also brought to the activity committee's attention by Dan N9WNH that a site for this year's field day needed to be found. Richard W9EEE said he would ask his wife about holding Field Day at his home. It was also suggested we be looking at this years field day rules. Junior WB9SPY suggested we might look into having field day at one of the fire departments at Whitley County.

Finance & Fundraising:

Melanie W9NNH explained to the group one of the possibilities for fund raising that she had found. Melanie W9NNH sent away for an introductory pack from Flower Power Fundraising. The group looked over the paper work and decided that Melanie W9NNH should order 20 fundraising packets for the next meeting.

Membership Committee:

W9NNH stated that she had been sending out 12 cards a month for the WCARC meetings to local amateurs that do not belong to the club in hopes to pull new members in.

Historical Committee:

Dan N9WNH stated that he had talked with Chuck WB9DNE at the February meeting about a possible SK Paul KB9DOH formally of the South Whitley area. Chuck WB9DBM stated that he was a SK and that he possibly died in Tennessee and that he would look further into it and get back with the club on it.

Old Business:**Club Inventory:**

It was brought up by Dan N9WNH to Herman Smith Jr. WB9SPY & Ewing Potts K9RWO that the three trustee's would need to get together and work on a club inventory list.

Board Meeting Reminder:

Board members were reminded that the board meetings will be held at 7:00 P.M. on the 4th Thursday of each month unless they fall on a holiday. Then they will be held on the 5th Thursday of the month.

New Business:**Health and Welfare:**

It was discussed by the board members that we should look into having the Health and Welfare funds in the clubs financial records. It was also brought up that the Health and Welfare committee needed to make up some guide lines for what should be given by the club and who should be receiving things in such cases as death, sickness and surgeries.

50/50 drawing:

It was brought to the groups attention the people were never taking their half of the 50/50 drawing and were always donating it back to the club. The group discussed that anyone who wins the 50/50 drawing must take their winnings at that time.

Alinco DR135 Microphone:

Dan N9WNH stated that he had looked into some pricing on a Microphone for the clubs Alinco DR135. Dan N9WNH said that the cheapest Microphone he found was on Phil's Ham Radio Store website. The board member decided Dan N9WNH should purchase the DTMF Microphone with Becky N9RJB motioning and Ewing K9RWO seconding. Motion was carried.

WCARC Oscilloscope:

Dan N9WNH stated the he had sent 3 emails and 1 letter to Dennis K3DCK regarding the clubs Oscilloscope and had heard no reply. Roger N9QCL stated that Dennis had been out of the area with work and that Dennis K3DCK had brought the Oscilloscope back to Roger N9QCL and that Roger N9QCL now has it.

Becky N9RJB then motioned to close the meeting Melanie W9NNH seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melanie Dahms W9NNH
Secretary

March

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1 HCARC ARES Net 8 PM - 146.685 ea Sat night
2 WCARC Sunday nite net - 7:45 PM 444.550 ea Sunday night	3 Siren test 12 PM 21 ARC Mtg. 7 PM	4	5 WC ARES NET 7:15 PM 145.270 ea Wed night	6 Hoosier Lake RC Mtg. 7:30 PM	7	8
9	10 RACES MTG 7:00 PM Wabash 2-mtr net 8 PM 147.030 ea Mon night	11	12 Warsaw Emergency Service net 7:00 PM ea Wed Night	13 WCARC General Mtg. 7:00 PM Wells Co ARC Mtg. 7 PM	14	15
16	17 Siren test 12 PM	18 ACARTS Mtg. 7:30 PM.	19 21 ARC net 9 PM 147.150 ea Wed night	20	21	22
23	24 HCARC Mtg. 7 PM	25	26	27 WCARC Board Mtg. 7:00 PM	28	29
30	31					

2008

April

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1	2 WC ARES NET 7:15 PM 145.270 ea Wed night	3 Hoosier Lake RC Mtg. 7:30 PM	4	5 HCARC ARES Net 8 PM - 146.685 ea Sat night
6 WCARC Sunday nite net - 7:45 PM 444.550 ea Sunday night	7 Siren test 12 PM 21 ARC Mtg. 7 PM	8	9 Warsaw Emergency Service net 7:00 PM ea Wed Night	10 WCARC General Mtg. 7:00 PM Wells Co ARC Mtg. 7 PM	11	12
13	14 RACES MTG 7:00 PM Wabash 2-mtr net 8 PM 147.030 ea Mon night	15 ACARTS Mtg. 7:30 PM.	16 21 ARC net 9 PM 147.150 ea Wed night	17	18	19
20	21 Siren test 12 PM	22	23	24 WCARC Board Mtg. 7:00 PM	25	26 W5YI Test Session 9:00 AM
27	28 HCARC Mtg. 7 PM	29	30			

2008