

THE WCARC REPORTER



CATCH OUR SIGNAL

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 174

October 9, 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:

Richard Leo W9EEE 10-10

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:

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...

I know long time no hear at least as far as the newsletter goes. Yes I did not make the deadline for my article last month, so I will make up for it here a little this month. Well in the last few months we have taken care of a number of issues, events and other articles of business. We have also initiated the start of projects. Some of which we have went further than ever before in the history of the club. But they are not complete and all of them require other "hoops to jump through yet" Some of this is time consuming communication between various individuals and agencies, research and the rest of it is accumulating the funds needed to finally move forward.

One of the goals I wanted to pursue this year was the possibility of obtaining 501C(3) status for the club. This would enable us to be tax exempt and be able to not only accept donations and have it be a tax deductible incentive to those individuals or companies that do donate. But it is almost a prerequisite for any grants, surplus government equipment donations or reduced price purchases. This was started years ago and was never finished by the club. One of my ideas of forming a Fundraising and Finance Committee was to have this committee tackle this task or at least get it started rolling. So far we have some initial paper work found and I have done a very brief study on it. I'm hoping that we can get a little further on this before the end of the year and terms. If the current members of the Board are not reelected or decide not to run I hope the incoming Board will push for this to be accomplished in the year 2009.

I would like to jump on my soapbox for a minute and remind the folks here reading this to take all that is being said into consideration and really try and give some effort to it in the near future. That's means the next day in my definition! We have some hams that live here in the county that:

A: Have never been on the air

B: Are not on the air now

C: Do not check into our local nets (or maybe any net)

D: Do not belong to the WCARC

E: Are not members of the WCARES Group

F: Are not members of the WCRACES Group

G: Are not members of the WC Skywarn Group

H: Do not come to meetings, trainings & events

I: Do not come up on the air during emergencies or activations whether they belong to any of these groups or not.

Now some may have a reason or they have extended the problem from a reason to an excuse. But there are some out there that just don't know where to look and who to ask. Some may have been licensed years ago and because of life changes etc. they have let their activity and skills lapse per se but maybe they kept up their license. Some of course have let it expire, then later on regretting doing so. Let's face it it is sometimes tougher as one gets older to accomplish some of these things with the enthusiasm as you once did when you were younger. Yes this is true, although for some that maybe retired etc. this may give them something to do when they are inclined to rather than twiddling their thumbs part of the day.

I'm not here to make anyone mad, but to point out to the "core" group of doers that are getting older, some are already gone from us now, that the "slackers" maybe just don't realize how low are numbers are? And for some they do not know what ARES does or RACES is etc. For some they are not interested in some activities but they would be in others if they knew we did them or would do them with their help along with others. This is one of the things that I am finally noticing and we all need to improve. We need to communicate and reach out more. They other side needs to give us a listen and be receptive. We may not "corral" everyone but we can work on those folks that are members now along with the members yet to be. The "gospel" needs to reach out to the community in whole so they know what we do and why we do it. Yes it is a hobby, but we also provide public service and we also are a non-profit "do-good" group.

Which brings up my other point. We will be asking for nominations at the October meeting and again at the November meeting prior to the elections that evening. Also be thinking about a member of the club to nominate for Amateur of the Year Award that has went above and beyond over the years or someone that has made a great difference in our group even in a shorter amount of time. If you are currently serving on the present Board now, consider serving another term. If you are not then consider running for a Board position. Last but not least, please consider serving on a committee next year or helping out in some other way. We DO NEED YOUR HELP!

We have had some very good programs this year and I appreciate those folks for taking time out to come to our meetings and educating us about their areas of interest or expertise. I guess since my last writing we have had Brad N9MTF explaining about his Repeaters and the Echolink Node. And of course Vicky AE9YL and Carl K9LA have saved us twice this year and we have enjoyed their programs on DX and YL's in Amateur Radio. Let's keep up the good work on this.

I also want to comment on the Whitley County 4-H Tour de Loops II Bike Tour that we handled countywide communications for again this year. This event is sponsored by the Whitley County 4-H Bicycle Club and the Columbia City Optimists. This ride is a "FUN-draiser" that benefits the 4-H Bicycle Club program. I would like to thank the following for assisting this year. Roger N9QCL, John KC9FBA, Don KA9QWC, Cathy WB8ORR, Ewing K9RWO, Steve KB9BGW, Robin KB9PCF, Dave WB9UNL, Becky N9RJB and my loving and patient XYL Melanie W9NNH. I have submitted this activity to ARRL HQ and to our SM and SEC.

We also need to be thinking about the upcoming Fort Wayne Hamfest that we will have a club table at for you to bring your items in that you want to dispense with. All we ask is that you label them well with a name, callsign and your price. We also ask that you help by manning the table so some of us are not their forever and can enjoy the hamfest and some of us serve as workers there to! It does provide for a handy meeting place at the hamfest along with a seat to rest as the chairs are very few there. And we need to be deciding on where to go for our December Christmas Party. There has been some places mentioned and we will discuss that further at the October meeting. Let us know where to want to go!

73,
Dan M. Dahms N9WNNH
WCARC President

Whitley County Amateur Radio Club

General Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2008

President Dan N9WNH called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Members present: Dan Dahms N9WNH, Melanie Dahms W9NNH, Richard Leo W9EEE, Becky Spencer N9RJB, Ewing Potts K9RWO, Lee Simmonds KC9CDT, Homer Crowder N9HRC, Dave Keiser WB9UNL, Roger McEntarfer N9QCL & John Butcher KC9FBA

Guests present: Jeff VanNess N9HTX & Julia Leo

Guest speaker: Vicki Luetzelschwab AE9YL & Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

Secretary Melanie W9NNH read the minutes for the general meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

Richard W9EEE gave the treasurer's report. Treasurer's report was approved pending audit.

Vice President Becky N9RJB thanked Vicki Luetzelschwab AE9YL for putting on this month's program with such short notice. Becky stated that the club's October program would be on amateur radio fox hunting put on by Al Burke WB9SSE & Jim Pliett K9OMA. Becky then asked for ideas for a place to eat for this year's Christmas banquet.

Board Trustee: Dan N9WNH gave a copy of the last inventory list to Ewing K9RWO. Dan said that he would also email a hard copy to the trustees. Ewing stated that the trustees needed to meet up and come to Dan N9WNH, Melanie W9NNH & Roger N9QCL QTH to take inventory & label items.

Activities Committee:

John KC9FBA stated that his son was in cub scouts and that they are looking for someone to help put on a program in January or February of 2009. Dan N9WNH thanked John for the information and that we need to keep this in mind. But because the event will occur in 2009. It will be up to the 2009 Board and Committee to handle this and we do not know who those people are yet until after the elections.

Tour de Loops II: Tour de Loops II will be held on Sunday, September 21st with an official start time of 8:00 am. It was suggested by a couple of people that the club members meet some place other than Richards for breakfast. Bob Evans was suggested but, due to no one knowing what time they open and no one wanting to wait to find out it was decided that we would meet at Richards at 7:00 am for breakfast. At this time Eric Blank still has not let us know if there will be a Knobby Bike SAG and Trail at Morches Park and where the Raber SAG will be located..

Ham Fest Table: It was decided that we would get a table at the upcoming Ft Wayne Hamfest and Lanny K9OOP may try to get a table beside us again.

Health & Welfare Committee:

Melanie W9NNH stated that Dan N9WNH's son Steven had knee surgery due to a football injury. He is in a full leg cast and walking on crutches. Once he gets his cast off he should be starting physical therapy.

Finance & Fundraising:

The Flower Power fundraiser will be extended until the September board meeting.

Melanie W9NNH stated that she had been to Papa Johns to check on their by one get one free fundraiser. In talking with the store manager she found out that there is a chance that this fundraiser may not be going on due to the profit loss for Papa Johns. They should be coming up with some kind of replacement and the club needed to check back later.

Historical Committee:

Dan N9WNH stated that he had submitted all of the SK information to Roger N9QCL and that it is all caught up now

except for Roger putting it on the clubs website.

Station Repeater Committee:

Dan N9WNH stated that Don KA9QWC at this time had not set up a station repeater committee meeting.

Chris Larko Q101: Dan N9WNH spoke with Chris Larko by email because at this time Chris is too busy to sit down and meet. He stated that he has a spot for us located at the 200' mark of the 300' tower.

ERS tower: At this time we are still waiting for a call from Steve Woody regarding the tower.

Parkview Hospital: We are still waiting for a name of a contact person from Jim KB9WWM.

Coesse Tower: At this time we now have a positive nod from the local EMA Director and Don West. It is now in Dan N9WNH hands to get a final draft to ISP. Also at this time a club in south western Indiana still has things tied up but it is advisable we keep moving so we still will be next in line.

County Highway Tower: Cathy Broxon-Ball is investigating to see if we can place some radio equipment on the tower. At this time two out of the three commissioners were out of town so she could not get things rolling.

Clubs HF Tri-Bands: Dan N9WNH stated that he needed some volunteers to help put the pieces of the HF Tri-Bands together located at Don KA9QWC & Cathy WB8ORR QTH. Richard W9EEE & Lee KC9CDT volunteered to meet on Saturday the 20th.

The club meeting was adjourned. Snacks were enjoyed along with a YL program put on by Vicki AE9YL and Carl K9LA.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melanie Dahms W9NNH
Secretary

Whitley County Amateur Radio Club

Board Meeting

September 25, 2008

President Dan N9WNH called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Board members present were: Dan Dahms N9WNH, Melanie Dahms W9NNH, Ewing Potts K9RWO, Lanny Kelly K9OOP & Junior Smith WB9SPY

Club members present were: Dave Keiser WB9UNL, Homer Crowder N9HRC & Ed Scott K9EJS

Secretary Melanie W9NNH read the minutes of the last board meeting. The minutes were approved as read with Junior WB9SPY motioning and Lanny K9OOP seconding.

Activities Committee:

The program for October will be on amateur radio fox hunting put on by Al Burke WB9SSE & Jim Pliett K9OMA. They have requested that a laptop be available for them to use. At this time there is still a need for a program for the month of November. Melanie W9NNH stated that she turned in a request for the use of a laptop for the October meeting. Dan stated that he would contact the library tomorrow to make sure that the message was passed on.

Melanie W9NNH stated that she had contacted Timothy Bontrager twice by email and had not received a response about a program for the Christmas banquet.

Ideas were then tossed around for places to eat for the upcoming Christmas banquet. The ideas are as follows: Golden Corral - Warsaw, Brown Stone - South Whitley, Eagles Nest - Columbia City, Timmy's Nook - Tri-Lakes & Cross Roads - 9 & 14.

Tour de Loops II was held on Sunday, September 21st starting at 8am. Dan N9WNH thanked all those that took part this year. Dan also stated that he really appreciated the help because he found that some of the sags would not have been manned as some of the Optimists and 4-H club members left two of the sites before being released. Dan also suggested to Eric that for next year he might check with Jefferson Township Fire Department to use as a possible sag spot. It was also stated that next year all sag sites need some kind of canopy or enclosure for people to get out of the sun.

Health & Welfare Committee:

Dan N9WNH stated that we needed to get a hold of Bill KB9MDR and see how he is doing after the passing of his mom Mariam Shull KB9RGJ.

Finance & Fundraising Committee:

Dan stated that the Flower Power fundraiser is due tonight during the meeting. If you do not have it you need to get it to Dan no later than Monday morning.

Melanie W9NNH stated that she had been to Papa Johns to check on their by one get one free fundraiser. In talking with the store manager she found out that there is a chance that this fundraiser may not be going on due to the profit loss for Papa Johns. They should be coming up with some kind of replacement and the club needed to check back later

Melanie stated that we needed to check into the Subway fundraiser to possibly replace the Papa Johns fundraiser.

Station/Repeater Committee:

Club Tower: We now have one quote of \$45 from Whitley Manufacturing and Welding to repair the clubs 50' crank up tower. Dan N9WNH stated that he had contacted Rick Brown. Rick stated that he has a portable welder and he is willing to come out to Roger N9QCL's QTH to give a free quote if we want one. Rick says he thinks he can fix it for between \$40 & \$50. It was motioned to repair the tower including material with Junior WB9SPY motioning & Lanny K9OOP seconding.

Coax: Dan N9WNH said that Bill KB9MDR had told him at one time that he has some coax he would like to get rid of. At this time the club does not own any coax and for events we have to lean on club members. It was discussed that maybe we

might want to purchase Bill's coax for the club or maybe give Bill equal value of membership.

Q101 Tower: Dan N9WNH spoke with Chris Larko by email and he stated that he has a spot for us located at the 200' mark of the 300' tower. The spot will be free for us to include electricity & room in the shack. We do need to get more clarification on what he expects. There is also a dual band 150/450 antenna on the tower already but, we do not know if it would work with our equipment. We would need to get 215' of 1/2" heliax and have it installed.

ERS Tower: Dan N9WNH stated that he had talked with Steve Woody and that he said if we are interested in getting on the new tower that we need to contact the city and get a letter to relinquish their spot. Steve says we could be located no higher than the 150' mark. Other details need to be discussed yet..

Coesse Tower: Dan N9WNH stated that he sent a letter to Major Doug Biggs.

County Highway Tower: Cathy Broxon-Ball was to be contacting the County Commissioners about this site.

It was suggested that we look into seeing what will happen to the tower on the current Parkview Whitley site. Dan stated that he is already in the process of doing this.

75 Ohm CATV Hardline: It was voted upon at the August general meeting to sell the clubs 1/2" 75 Ohm CATV Hardline for \$100. After it was put on qth.com it sat for a length of time with no inquiries. Dan N9WNH lowered the price to \$50 and still had no inquiries. It was discussed and motioned to take it to be scrapped with Lanny K9OOP motioning & Ewing K9RWO seconding.

Utility Reimbursement: At this time the county reimburses us for our utility bill. For the past 12 years we have been providing our service on the 1st & 3rd Monday to the city in checking the tornado sirens. Dan contacted Mayor Jim Fleck and Rosie Coyle to see if the city would be willing to pick up the utility bill. At this time we still have not heard from either of them. Dan stated that he would get a hold of Terry Wherry to see if he can get things rolling.

NE Indiana Packet Workshop II: A packet workshop will be held on October 18th at the Peabody Public Library in Meeting Room A. We are hosting the event. Light snacks & beverages will be provided. Guest speaker will be Bradd KA9LCF.

Mosley HF Tri-Bands: TA 33 is mostly complete. TA 34 is missing approximately \$100.00 worth of parts.

Becky N9RJB motioned that the meeting be adjourned with Ewing K9RWO seconding.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Melanie Dahms W9NNH
Secretary

October

<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 Lake County ARC Hamfest Crown Point, IN
12 Kalamazoo Hamfest Kalamazoo, MI	13 RACES MTG 7:00 PM Wabash 2-mtr net 8 PM 147.030 ea Mon night	14	15 21 ARC net 9 PM 147.150 ea Wed night	16	17	18
19	20 Siren test 12 PM	21 ACARTS Mtg. 7:30 PM.	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	31	

2008

November

<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 Fort Wayne Hamfest
16 Fort Wayne Hamfest	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						

2008