

# ***THE WCARC REPORTER***



## **CATCH OUR SIGNAL**

***NEWSLETTER ISSUE 186***

***October 8, 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](http://www.wcarc.org)

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:**

Lee Simmonds	KC9CDT	10-7	John Butcher	KC9FBA	10-10
Richard Leo	W9EEE	10-10	Amie Collins	N9OXO	10-23
Amanda Jackson	KC9QGF	10-23	Sara Wager	K9ITC	11-12

**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)	WCARC	WC9AR
Local Government Liaison (LGL)	Henry Mackey	N9HM
Technical Specialist (TS)	Roger McEntarfer	N9QCL
Official Relay Station (ORS)	Don Evilsizor	KA9QWC
Official Observer (OO)	Greg Watson	KA9DTZ

### ***Indiana Section ARRL Appointments:***

Whitley County ARES Emergency Coordinator Ed Scott K9EJS

## ***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:***

Dan Dahms N9WNH Chairperson

### ***Historical Committee:***

Dan Dahms N9WNH Chairperson

### ***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

# Whitley County Amateur Radio Club

## General Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2009

President Dan N9WNH, called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. at the Peabody Library. Introductions were made by members present. Twenty-three members present—see attached sheet. There was one guest—Rory Kerwood KC9MIC.

Greg KA9DTC, assisted by Betty KC9HYW, did a power point presentation on GeoCach.com.

Secretary Ewing K9RWO, read the minutes of the previous meeting. A motion was made by Betty KC9HYW, to accept the minutes, seconded by Melanie W9NNH. Motion approved.

Treasurer Richard W9EEE presented the treasurer's report. The report was accepted pending audit.

Old Business—the 4-H Tour-de-Loops is in the shape of a four (4) leaf clover. WCARC member assignments are needed to provide communication coverage at each of the four check-in stations.

Note-- there is a new 2 meter repeater in Kendallville on 145.300 MHz with 131.8 Hz side tone. There were several motions made for changes to the club By-Laws. However, it was suggested to make one motion at the end of this general meeting (September) to cover all the changes. This motion was made as follows: The first time reading of the changes to the By-Laws (accepted by this quorum of the general membership) shall be accepted for reading at the next general meeting in October. Motion was made by Richard W9EEE, seconded by Melanie W9NNH.

A motion to adjourn was made by Don KA9QWC, seconded by Dave WB9UNL, at 10:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Ewing K9RWO  
Secretary

***Whitley County Amateur Radio Club***  
***Board Meeting***  
September 24, 2009

President Dan N9WNH, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Board members present were Dan Dahms N9WNH, Melanie Dahms W9NNH, Ewing Potts K9RWO, Richard Leo W9EEE, and Junior Smith WB9SPY.

Club members present were Henry Mackey N9HM, and Dave Keiser WB9UNL.

Secretary Ewing K9RWO, read the minutes of the September 1, 2009 Special Board Meeting with a correction to add club member present, **Betty Watson KC9HYW**. Also, read was the August 27, 2009 Board Meeting minutes with a correction to a motion so it reads: **Melanie W9NNH, made a motion to accept today's proposed amendments to the constitution and the changes through Section II of the By-Laws**. Junior WB9SPY, made a motion to accept the minutes for both meetings with the above corrections. The motion was seconded by Melanie W9NNH. Motion accepted.

Vice-President Melanie W9NNH said the program for the October meeting is going to be given by Greg KA9DTZ, on building a portable generator using a 12 Volt alternator.

Health and Welfare—Melanie W9NNH, said Bill N9NAI, passed away. He was active by checking into our net from time to time.

Tour-de-Loops last Sunday had about 25 riders with 12 ham operators covering communications.

Electronic equipment donated to WCARC by Raytheon will be reviewed by Richard W9EEE, as soon as a copy of the list is given to him. It was mentioned that it may be best to sell most of it to a wholesale distributor.

There was a discussion about club policies. An additional review will be required in the future to add back each policy wanted by the present club. This discussion resulted in the following motion: Renew the policies regarding Repeater Trustee, control station operators as modified, and Amateur of the Year. Terminate all other present club policies. Motion was made by Richard W9EEE, seconded by Ewing K9RWO. Motion accepted.

A motion was made by Melanie W9NNH, to increase the WCARC yearly dues to \$20.00 for full membership and \$12.00 for an associate. Motion seconded by Richard W9EEE. Motion accepted.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Melanie W9NNH, seconded by Richard W9EEE. Meeting was adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ewing K9RWO  
Secretary

***Whitley County Amateur Radio Club***  
***Special Board Meeting***  
September 1, 2009

President Dan N9WNH, called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

Board members present were Dan Dahms N9WNH, Lanny Kelly K9OOP, Richard Leo W9EEE, Junior Smith WB9SPY, Ewing Potts K9RWO, Melanie Dahms W9NNH, and Ed Scott K9EJS.

Club members present were Dave Keiser WB9UNL, Henry Mackey N9HM, and Greg Watson KA9DTZ.

A special meeting was called to review the WCARC By-Laws, resulting in proposed changes being made. Melanie W9NNH, made a motion to accept tonight's corrections made to the by-laws. Richard W9EEE, seconded the motion. Motion accepted.

Ed K9EJS, made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Richard W9EEE, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 11:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ewing K9RWO  
Secretary

# ***WHEN THE FROST IS UPON THE PUNKIN***

By Don Evilsizor – KA9QWC

I am amazed at times when fellow Hoosiers or other citizens are not familiar that James Whitcomb Riley was a native of Indiana nor much about his fame. He was known as “The Hoosier Poet” and sometimes as “The Children's Poet”. But that is not necessarily the prime focus of this article. What we are thinking about is the part concerning frost – And “Old Jack Frost” a personification of “Old Man Winter” did pay his visit on Thursday, October 1, 2009. That is a typical warning sign that winter is approaching and that my fellow amateurs is the real reason for this article.

This article concerns being **prepared** in advance before winter arrives and I hesitate to begin a list of essentials A to Z on what to carry in your vehicle or elsewhere about the home. So in that regard I will include some agencies web pages you may want to peek at on the WWW.

Additionally as ham radio operators we need to think about our radio equipment and how long we can operate without normal electric utility power sources if we are to live up to our credibility of coming through in the time of need.

Winter Preparedness Checklist s and thoughts

<http://www.fema.gov/areyouready/winter.shtm>

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/brochures/wnttrstm.htm>

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/about.asp>

Another reason for going through all this as a refresher pertains to my school days in the Buckeye state.

I am a veteran of the Thanksgiving snowstorm of 1950 was the deepest in Ohio’s history. Nearly the entire state had over 10 inches and most communities in the eastern half of Ohio measured 20 to 30 inches of snow during this storm. As the storm strengthened, winds increased to over 40 mph and a severe cold wave swept the state early on Friday November 24 th dropping temperatures to near zero. The worst storm conditions occurred on Saturday November 25 th as near-blizzard conditions prevailed throughout Ohio. By late in the day, snow depths reached 20 inches in eastern Ohio and drifts were 25 feet deep. You can read about this and more on the URL below.

[http://www.ohiohistory.org/etcetera/exhibits/swio/pages/content/1950\\_thanksgivingStorm.htm](http://www.ohiohistory.org/etcetera/exhibits/swio/pages/content/1950_thanksgivingStorm.htm)

And remember this storm occurred at Thanksgiving! 73 de ka9qwc

# *Logging Programs and Keeping Track of Your QSLs*

By Gary Stebbins – KC9GGV

Logging software programs - What's FREE - what's not. Do you really need a \$150 software package for logging? Since the beginning of amateur radio the most important part of the hobby has been maintaining a log of your contacts. Your log is important especially if you are trying to obtain a specific award, such as the ARRL Worked All States (WAS) or the ARRL DX Century Club (DXCC) Award for working 100 countries (or entities). Or any of the other fine awards that are available.

Before logging by computer became popular keeping track of your QSOs/QSLs required maintaining a manual paper logbook and a checklist for the award you were working towards and keeping track of all your QSL cards.

With a computer logging program you will be able to track every contact you make by date, time, band, mode and frequency as simply as typing in the call sign of the station you are working. If your computer has access to the internet and you have an interface cable attached to your radio (if your radio supports a computer interface) the other station's information (name, address, state, country) will be automatically retrieved from one of the call sign servers on the internet (i.e. Hamcall or QRZ.com). If you operating without internet access (Field Day, portable, etc.) you can use one of the call sign database CDROMs available from Hamcall, Flying Horse or QRZ.com. If your radio is a vintage rig that does not have a computer interface you may still log by computer but you will need to enter the band, mode and frequency. The computer will retrieve the rest of the other station's information.

There are several logging packages available to the radio amateur. Some are FREE and some are not. Some of the commercial (\$\$\$\$) logging programs are LOGic 8! ([www.hosenose.com](http://www.hosenose.com)), Mac Logger DX ([www.dogparksoftware.com](http://www.dogparksoftware.com)) and ProLog2k ([www.prolog2k.com](http://www.prolog2k.com)). These are just a few of the most popular. All of the commercial programs do an excellent job of maintaining your logs and have very useful features. The prices range from \$60 to \$130 depending on the features and options at time of purchase. If you own a Macintosh computer your best solution will probably be MacLoggerDX which costs about \$95.

But, if you are a PC owner you have lots of good FREE logging solutions to choose from. My personal favorite is DXKeeper by Dave Bernstein, AA6YQ ([www.dxlabsuite.com](http://www.dxlabsuite.com)). The DXKeeper logging program is a part of a suite of amateur radio related programs that operate together.

DXKeeper is FREE, comprehensive amateur logging software that

- records and manages QSOs
- extracts name, address, and location information from
  - Callbook CDROMs: Flying Horse, HamCall, QRZ
  - QRZ.com (with a subscription, or without a subscription using Pathfinder)
  - Tracks progress towards DXing awards (DXCC, Challenge, VUCC, TopList, Marathon, WAS, WAC, WAZ, WPX, IOTA, Counties, Maidenhead Fields, Maidenhead Squares)
  - Independently tracks hardcopy QSL, eQSL.cc, and Logbook of the World (LotW) confirmations for each QSO
  - Prints QSL cards and QSL Labels, addresses envelopes, and prints address labels
  - Uploads QSOs to eQSL.cc and LotW
  - Downloads QSLs from eQSL.cc and LotW, and automatically updates your log to reflect confirmations
  - Identifies QSLs required for DXCC submission, and generates required documentation
  - Tracks DXCC verifications

- Imports and exports ADIF-compliant log files.
- Interoperates with Commander, DXView, SpotCollector, and WinWarbler
- Logs QSOs in realtime from MultiPSK, MMVARI, MMSSTV, MMTTY, and MixW

One of my favorite features in DXKeeper is the upload capability of electronic QSLs for the ARRL Logbook of the World (LotW). You will need to install the ARRL TQSL software in addition to DXKeeper on your PC. But you will only have to set your username and password information in DXKeeper during the initial setup process. From then on uploading QSO's to LotW will only require a few mouse clicks. If you are an eQSL.cc user you may automate uploads to that site also. DXKeeper will also track your paper QSL cards.

If you are going to install DXKeeper on your PC, I would suggest following the instructions on the DXLab web site ([www.dxlabsuite.com](http://www.dxlabsuite.com)). I strongly suggest that you install the DXLab Launcher program first. This will also track when updates are available for the installed programs from the DX Lab Suite. Then install DXKeeper using the DXLab Launcher. Dave provides complete instructions on the web site. All of the programs in the suite are intended to work together. These are some very powerful tools for the radio amateur and they are all FREE. You only need to install the ones you want to use. If you have a computer interface cable for your radio you will want to install Commander or you can use Ham Radio Deluxe as an alternative control program for your radio. There are instructions for setting up and integrating some of the other excellent FREE and shareware programs available for amateur radio use using special DDE or bridge programs. See the DX Lab site for all the details on other programs that can be integrated.

All I can say is, I have been using DXKeeper for almost four years now and in my opinion it is a "Keeper." 73 and Good DX.

# October

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				<b>1</b> Hoosier Lake RC Mtg. 7:30 PM	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> HCARC ARES Net 8 PM - 146.685 ea Sat night
<b>4</b> WCARC Sunday nite net - 7:45 PM 444.550 ea Sunday night	<b>5</b> Siren test 12 PM 21 ARC Mtg. 7 PM	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> WC ARES NET 8:00 PM 145.270 ea Wed night	<b>8</b> WCARC General Mtg. 7:00 PM Wells Co ARC Mtg. 7 PM	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 6:00 PM Races Net 3.920 kHz	<b>12</b> 7:00 Races	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Warsaw Emergency Service net 7:00 PM ea Wed Night	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9 AM RACES NET
<b>18</b> Packet Net ea Sunday nite @ 9:00 PM on 145.530	<b>19</b> Siren test 12 PM	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> WC ARES Simplex NET following regular net on 146.55 MHz Every 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed night	<b>22</b> WCARC Board Mtg. 7:00 PM	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> HCARC Mtg. 7 PM	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Halloween W5YI Test Session 9:00 AM

2009

# November

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>WCARC Sunday nite net - 7:45 PM 444.550 ea Sunday night</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Siren test 12 PM 21 ARC Mtg. 7 PM</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>WC ARES NET 8:00 PM 145.270 ea Wed night</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Hoosier Lake RC Mtg. 7:30 PM</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>HCARC ARES Net 8 PM - 146.685 ea Sat night</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>6:00 PM Races Net 3.920 kHz</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>7:00 Races</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Warsaw Emergency Service net 7:00 PM ea Wed Night</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>WCARC General Mtg. 7:00 PM Wells Co ARC Mtg. 7 PM</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>FW Hamfest</p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>FW Hamfest</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Siren test 12 PM</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>WC ARES Simplex NET following regular net on 146.55 MHz Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed night</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>WCARC Board Mtg. 7:00 PM</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>9 AM RACES NET</p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Packet Net ea Sunday nite @ 9:00 PM on 145.530</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>HCARC Mtg. 7 PM</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Thanksgiving</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>
<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>					

2009