
THE FEEDLINE

Volume 46, Issue 5 The Voice of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club May 2022

Rumblings from the President's Dungeon

Weather, it is what it is. I am glad I don't make my living by forecasting what will happen next. Same can be said about propagation. Don't like it today? Wait a day or two and it will change. One thing I have noticed recently, as the higher bands are open more often, voice and CW activity has been picking up, not just FT8. I think it may be that the FT8 watering hole on each band gets so crowded that some venture off to try their luck on other modes. Summer Es season is upon us as well, creating even more opportunities for activity.

It is hard to plan to be outside enjoying balmy temps or huddling inside out of the wind and rain, but we all know we are just a few short weeks away from summer-like temperatures. For now, it makes it more challenging to plan our meeting location. Hopefully, we will be able to return to meeting in the Red Cross soon, maybe even in May. I'll be sure to let everyone know when we learn something for sure.

Hamfest season is upon us and hamfests are back. I plan to attend the Moultrie Amateur Radio Klub event in Sullivan, IL <https://www.qsl.net/mark/hamfest/> at the end of April. Dayton is just around the corner. We not discussed having our hamfest this year, and there have been a couple of questions about if we are or not. My take has been if no one is willing to volunteer to help up front, we should not start planning. On the other hand, I feel we provide some service to the area hams by having our hamfest; and as long as we are not going in the hole every year, we ought to keep it up. It is probably too late for anything this year other than an impromptu free tailgate. We will soon need to make decisions about having one next year.

As mentioned in an email on the club email reflector a while back, KD9QGE upgraded to Extra at the April Hannibal test session, I have not heard if he is contemplating changing his call sign or not. At any rate, congratulations to Drew. I am sure his Dad, WM9DX and Grandpa, WM4D, are very proud!

As I indicated in a recent email, we have been asked for a few operators to help with communications for the Bridge the Gap for Health run/walk coming up May 14th. I know a few members already intend to help; but having a few more volunteers would be welcome. Contact Don Cole, ND9U, if you are interested in helping or just want more information. Email Don at coledlock@yahoo.com or text 217-779-0804 for more information.

I hope to see you at the next meeting, May 4th, wherever we wind up having it.

Danny W9DP

Moved and Seconded: Minutes of the April 2022 WIARC Meeting

The April 2022 meeting of the WIARC was held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022 in the meeting room of the Quincy Public Library.

The meeting was called to order by President W9DP at 7 pm with the following members and guests present:

W9DP, N9JF, WA9GBC, W9US, W9GQK, AB9DU, AA9GL, K9VXD, KC9FSQ, W9WE, WB9EWM, K9AJC (ZOOM), NB4C (ZOOM), WM4D, KD9QGE, Brian & Kristen Garrett

Minutes: approved as printed motion KB9FIN, second WB9EWM, carried

Treasurer's report: no changes, motion AA9GL, second KB9FIN, carried

Repeater board has not met. "Still getting rid of stuff". WB9EWM passed around a chart showing where antennas are located on the KHQA tower. John has inquired of ICOM as to how to check a DStar radio. No response yet.

Contest committee: Lots of QSO parties coming up

Station committee: Still not accessible

VE committee de W9WE: Test next Wednesday 4/13 at Hannibal; (post-meeting); 4/16 test session available if desired

Committee will make decisions as to which books to buy for a "library package".

WA9GBC showed sample membership cards. WB9EWM moved, second KB9FIN to proceed with cards with Treasurer signature; pass

Motion to adjourn WB9EWM second W9WE; pass; adjourned 7:45 pm

Respectfully submitted, N9JF Secretary

Borrowing from KB6NU.COM

A great resource to help your knowledge base. This question has come up and here is the answer. <https://www.kb6nu.com/2014-tech-study-guide-control-operator-and-control-type/>

An important concept in amateur radio is the control operator. Only a person for whom an amateur operator/primary station license grant appears in the FCC database or who is authorized for alien reciprocal operation is eligible to be the control operator of an amateur station. (T1E02) The FCC presumes the station licensee to be the control operator of an amateur station, unless documentation to the contrary is in the station records. (T1E11)

An amateur station is never permitted to transmit without a control operator. (T1E01) The station licensee must designate the station control operator. (T1E03) When the control operator is not the station licensee, the control operator and the station licensee are equally responsible for the proper operation of the station. (T1E07) The control operator

of the originating station is accountable should a repeater inadvertently retransmit communications that violate the FCC rules. (T1F10)

The class of operator license held by the control operator determines the transmitting privileges of an amateur station. (T1E04) At no time, under normal circumstances, may a Technician Class licensee be the control operator of a station operating in an exclusive Extra Class operator segment of the amateur bands. (T1E12)

Two related concepts are the control type and control point. An amateur station control point is the location at which the control operator function is performed. (T1E05)

Local control is the type of control being used when transmitting using a handheld radio. (T1E09) Operating the station over the Internet is an example of remote control as defined in Part 97. (T1E10) Repeater operation is an example of automatic control. (T1E08) APRS network digipeaters operate under automatic control. (T1E06)

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/fivewkcal.html>

I'm planning on FQP at end of the month. Please check out these two sites for more information i 73 Dave Scranton. W9WE

Testing is May 7 at 1:00 pm Bethel Church 🏠 12th & Jefferson Question??? w9we.lee@gmail.com

Contesters pages: upcoming 5 weeks.

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/fivewkcal.html>

Self study:: www.weather.gov/sew/spotter

www.weather.gov/spotterguide/reports

I was thinking ☺ some of the club might like to read magazines, or study. I have many books that I can loan them. I'm sure collections are available in membership so you don't have to buy them. Let me know what you're interested in reading.

w9we.lee@gmail.com Dave Scranton W9WE

Parks on the Air Stuff de N9JF

The two "parks programs" (POTA and WWFF) are going stronger than ever. There are regular weekend (and sometimes week-long) activities to showcase the parks in a particular part of the country (TX, FL, OH are examples) plus the everyday activations of parks, monuments, historic sites and refuges throughout the world. Right this minute (noon CDST) there are 20 activations posted on the "spots page" for POTA. There is always someone to "chase".

The two programs have different awards structures. One award I have been chasing in POTA is the “Kilo” award, given for making a thousand contacts as an activator from a park. Within a few days of each other, I achieved my “Kilo” from two parks: KFF-1023/K-1023 Siloam Springs State Park and KFF-4122/K-4122 Fall Creek Overlook State Natural Area. These are both accessible, not too far from home and offer good places from which to operate. There are others on my “hit list”, but I still have a ways to go.


It was fun to run into KB9FIN at Sid Simpson/Bob Bangert park a few weeks ago. Dave had just finished running the park on 20 SSB as I came in to run it on CW and digital modes. There is never a problem getting chasers, even if you’ve run the park several times before. I know some keep track of the parks they have worked; but I think others are like me....just work anybody you can hear!!


WM4D and KD9QGE are getting involved in the program as well, so watch for them on the bands!


73, Jim N9JF

Hamvention 2022 Anybody local going??



 Friday, May 20, 2022

 Saturday, May 21, 2022

 Sunday, May 22, 2022

[Greene County Fairgrounds](#)

120 Fairground Road, Xenia, OH 45385 [\[map it\]](#)

Hamvention, the world’s largest amateur radio gathering at Greene County Fairgrounds.

From the *ARRL Illinois Section News*:

(This is “old news” that came out in late March, but it’s relevant. Those of you who are ARRL members...and you should be!!...may have seen it already. Those who are not, or who might have missed it...)

ARRL.ORG Homepage is Changing

Early next week, our homepage will have a new look. You’ll also notice a new streamlined menu to help you quickly find what you need.

What this means to you:

ARRL.net email forwarding will still be functioning.

Your Member Profile Page will be easier to update and navigate. Your existing usernames will be in the system, but for your security, you will need to create a new password the first time you access your profile.

A consolidated checkout lets you renew, donate, and shop all in one transaction!

Need help?

We’re here for you! Call us (888-277-5289) Monday – Thursday from 8 am – 7 pm (ET) and on Friday from 8 am – 5 pm (ET) or email us at membership@arrl.org.

Have comments on the new online experience?

Let us know what you like about our new look and your suggestions for future updates at members@arrl.org.

Chrome, Microsoft Edge, and Safari are the preferred browsers.

ARRL Illinois Section

Section Manager: Dr Thomas H Beebe, W9RY w9ry@arrl.org

From *ARRL Club News for April 19, 2022*

Using Phonetics to Improve Communications

Doug Mansor, WA8UWV, PCARS

If you've been a ham for a few years, you are probably aware of the phonetic alphabet and have used it or at least have heard it being used on the air. As a new ham, you might have encountered the phonetic alphabet while studying for the test but stashed it away in the back of your mind for later study if needed.

The phonetic alphabet we use as hams is sometimes referred to as the NATO phonetic alphabet, and is considered the standard for general use on the air. It consists of words that represent corresponding letters of the alphabet. It is important to use this standard

to prevent being misunderstood on the air, such as when giving your call sign, location, or name to a rare DX station or any station under noisy conditions.

It may be fun to create a unique set of phonetics to represent your call sign, but that is not likely to improve communication. When the standard phonetics are used, you will eventually learn to associate that word with the corresponding letter. It's the same mechanism that is used to interpret Morse code. Instead of thinking of "dit dit dah dit" as the letter "F," you simply hear "F" when that code is presented. So, instead of hearing the word "bravo," you would actually hear the letter "B." If the other station uses nonstandard words to represent the letters in their call sign, you would have to take the time to think how each word is spelled and then what the first letter is. By the time you have accomplished all that, you will have missed the next two words (letters). For example, my call is WA8UWV. If I say, "Whiskey Alpha Eight Uniform Whiskey Victor," it would be readily understood. If I say, "We all ate ugly white vegetables," it would take a while to translate.

When checking into a net, the Net Control Station (NCS) is often required to report the call signs of stations reporting in. If a letter of the reporting station's call is misinterpreted, the NCS report will be incorrect. In regard to the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society (PCARS) net, where ten check-ins for each week in a row will entitle you to a certificate, an error in reporting your call might cause a disqualification.

How easy is it for a letter to be misunderstood? I have often mistaken similar sounding letters.

As an example, the following groups of letters tend to sound similar.

Sounds Alike: BCDEGPTVZ AJK QUW IY SX

This group of letters tend to have unique sounds and are less likely to be mistaken.

Unique Sounding: FHLMNOR

As you can see, more letters have the potential to be mistaken than not. The results are highly dependent on the enunciation practiced by the speaker and radio conditions.

Bridge the Gap May 14

The Adams County EMS is again organizing communications for The Bridge the Gap run/walk that will be held May 14 from 7:00 AM until about 1:00 PM local and they are looking for a few radio operators. If you would like to help with this or to find out more about the details of what would be expected of you if you did help, contact Don Cole by email at coledlock@yahoo.com <<mailto:coledlock@yahoo.com>> or text Don 217-779-0804.

This is a great example of how we can perform on behalf of the community and I highly recommend giving it a try. The intention is to use the 146.940 repeater for ham radio communications, you will most likely need to provide your own radio, but they may have a loaner or two if you want to help and do not have a VHF radio to use.

Danny W9DP

IF you already know all you need to know (or care) about the change in licensing fees, you may cheerfully skip the next couple of pages..... -ed.

From the ARRL Members Only Website:

(We knew this was coming.... -ed)

From the ARRL
In case you missed it this morning.....
FCC Application Fee Instructions

FCC \$35 Amateur Application Fee Effective Date Announced

The new Amateur Radio license application fees will take effect on April 19, 2022. The Federal Communications Commission's authority to impose and collect fees is mandated by Congress.

The \$35 application fee, when it becomes effective on April 19, will apply to new, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call sign applications. The fee will be per application.

Administrative updates, such as a change of name, mailing or email address, will be exempt from fees.

VECs and Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not have to collect the \$35 fee at exam sessions. Once the FCC application fee takes effect, new and upgrade applicants will pay the \$15 exam session fee to the ARRL VE team as usual, and pay the \$35 application fee directly to the FCC by using the CORES FRN Registration system (CORES - Login).

When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each successful candidate who then will have 10 calendar days from the date of the email to pay. After the fee is paid and the FCC has processed an application, examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license. The link will be good for 30 days.

Additionally, the FCC stated that applications processed and dismissed will not be entitled to a refund. This includes vanity requests where the applicant does not receive the requested call sign.

The FCC published the notice in the Federal Register on March 23, 2022, stating that the amateur radio application fees, including those associated with Form 605 application filings, would become effective on April 19, 2022.

Further news and instructions will follow as the FCC releases them.

FCC Instructions (not applicable until fees take effect on April 19):

If paying fees for an application filed via the Universal Licensing System, please use the CORES FRN Registration system (CORES - Login).

FEE SCHEDULE (not applicable until fees take effect on April 19):

INDIVIDUALS

\$35 FEE: New, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call sign applications. All fees will be per application.

NO FEE: Administrative updates, such as a change of name, mailing or email address, or license cancellation.

AMATEUR RADIO CLUBS

\$35 FEE: New, renewal, trustee change, and vanity call sign applications. All fees will be per application.

NO FEE: Administrative updates, such as a change of name, mailing or email address, or license cancellation.

**ARRL News Story about the FCC Application Fees:
FCC Application Fees Unlikely to Go into Effect Until 2022**

FCC Registration Help:

<https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/publicHome.do?help=true>

To access CORES with a (Payer) FRN:

<https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/paymentFrnLogin.do>

ARRL Illinois Section

Section Manager: Dr Thomas H Beebe, W9RY w9ry@arrl.org

Important Message from ARRL VEC

By Maria Somma, AB1FM, ARRL VEC Manager



The FCC released a [Public Notice](#) on March 23, 2022, stating that the amateur radio application fees, including those associated with Form 605 application filings, would become effective on April 19, 2022. The Federal Communications Commission's authority to impose and collect fees is mandated by Congress.

The \$35 application fee, when it becomes effective on April 19, will apply to new, renewal, and modification applications that request a new vanity call sign. The fee will be per application.

Administrative updates, such as a change of name, mailing or email address, and modification applications to upgrade an amateur radio licensee's operator class*, will be exempt from fees. (*this new information was just confirmed by FCC staff on Tuesday, March 29.)

VECs and Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not have to collect the \$35 fee at exam sessions.

Once the FCC application fee takes effect, new applicants will pay the \$15 exam session fee to the ARRL VE team as usual and pay the \$35 application fee directly to the FCC by using the [CORES FRN](#) Registration system. VEC and VE team licensing procedures will not change.

When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each qualifying candidate. The candidate will have 10 calendar days, from the date of the application file number being issued, to pay. After the fee is paid, and the FCC has processed an application, examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license or, in very rare instances, an explanation for why the application was dismissed or denied. The link will be valid for 30 days.

Per usual procedures, examinees that pass multiple exams at one session, will have one application transmitted to the FCC reflecting the highest-level license class earned. Again, our procedures will not change. The new license candidates will have an extra step before the license is issued. VE teams can point candidates to our [FCC Application Fee](#) webpage. Our new ARRL VEC CSCEs also include information about the application fee and points candidates to the webpage. The FCC rule pertaining to CSCEs will not change. CSCE credit will continue to be valid for 365 days, starting from the date of issuance.

For VE teams holding exam sessions the weekend before April 19, the FCC advised that applications not received by the FCC before April 19 will be subjected to the fee. The ARRL VEC urges teams to upload sessions via our documents upload page to get your

sessions to us as quickly as possible. Assuming the FCC electronic batch filing (EBF) system is functioning properly on Monday, April 18, the VEC staff will work to get these to the FCC before April 19. Email the VEC department at VEC@arrl.org for the upload instructions.

Additionally, the FCC stated that the fee for applications processed and dismissed will not be refundable. This includes vanity requests where the applicant does not receive the requested call sign. However, returned applications that are missing information will not require an additional fee, if the missing information is submitted to the FCC within the proper amount of time.

Youth Licensing Grant Program

Anticipating the implementation of the fee in 2022, the ARRL Board of Directors, approved the ARRL [Youth Licensing Grant Program](#) in July 2021. Under the program, ARRL will cover a one-time \$35 application fee for license candidates younger than 18-years old for tests administered under the auspices of the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC). Qualified candidates also would pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VEC. ARRL is finalizing details for administering the program.

Further news and instructions will follow as the FCC releases them. Details for the ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program will be posted when available. For additional information, visit the resources below.

ARRL VEC Application Fees webpage:

arrl.org/fcc-application-fee

ARRL News Story: arrl.org/news/new-amateur-radio-license-applications-fee-to-become-effective-april-19-2022

FCC CORES Video Tutorials: fcc.gov/licensing-databases/fcc-registration-system-cores/commission-registration-system-video-tutorials

FCC Registration Help: apps.fcc.gov/cores/publicHome.do?help=true

From the *ARRL Members Only* website:

Come join us for the ARRL Illinois Section Convention to be held at the Midwest Superfest 2022 in Peoria, IL on September 17-18, 2022.

<https://www.w9uvi.org/paarc-superfest-2021/>

DX News cheerfully stolen from *ARRL DX News for April 21, 2022*

ZCZC AE16
QST de W1AW
DX Bulletin 16 ARLD016
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT April 21, 2022
To all radio amateurs

SB DX ARL ARLD016
ARLD016 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by The Daily DX, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

CYPRUS, 5B. Philipp, DK6SP is QRV as 5B4AQC until May 2. He is emphasizing operations on the 30, 17, and 12 meter bands, as well as 6 meters, and Satellite QO-100, using CW and various digital modes. QSL via LoTW.

MOZAMBIQUE, C9. Pedro, CT7AHV is QRV as C91AHV from Chinonanquila, Matola Rio until May 4, and only during weekdays. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL to home call.

SAINT MARTIN, FS. Marco, KC9FFV is QRV as FS/KC9FFV until the end of 2022. Activity is in his spare time on 40 to 6 meters. QSL via IZ1MHY.

MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1. Take, JG8NQJ/JD1 has been QRV using CW on 15 meters between 0800 and 1100z. QSL via JA8CJY.

DENMARK, OZ. A group of operators are QRV as 5P5BI/p from Bornholm Island, IOTA EU-030, until May 1. Activity is on the HF bands with three stations. QSL via ON6EF.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA, P2. Alberto, EA4PL is QRV as P29LL from Port Moresby. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via EA7FTR.

SERBIA, YU. Special event station YU75ACR is QRV from the city of Zajecar until December 31 to mark the jubilee of the foundation of the Amateur Radio Union. QSL via operators' instructions.

Please see April QST, page 74, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest web sites for details.

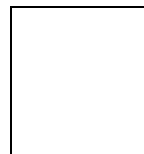
NNNN

/EX

Canada's ISED Has Granted Hams the Right to Use Special Call Signs in Honor of Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee

In honor of Queen Elizabeth II's 70 years on the throne (her Platinum Jubilee), Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) has approved the use of special call signs for Canadian hams from May 15 to July 14, 2022. These dates correspond with the busy early summer operating season and will be available to all Canadian amateurs who wish to use the special call signs on all occasions, including ARRL Field Day, the June VHF Contest, the RAC Canada Day Contest, and the IARU World Championship. See the Special Event Listing on the Government of Canada [website](#).

Western Il. Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 3132
Quincy, IL 62305-3132



May meeting: Wednesday, May 4, 2022

Location TBD! Watch the club reflector and listen to the Wednesday night nets for info!

W9AWE – W90AB

The Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

WIARC homepage: <http://www.w9awe.org> e-mail to w9awe@qsl.net

WIARC email reflector: wiarc@mailman.qth.net

Sponsors of

Voice repeater W9AWE/R on 147.630/.030 Quincy

Voice repeater W9AWE/R on 146.340/.940 Quincy

**Voice repeater W9AWE/R on 448.900/443.900 Quincy
147.03 and 448.9:103.5 sub-audible tone; 146.94 123.0**

D-STAR repeater W9AWE on 147.795/.195

D-STAR 446.89375/441.89375

ILLINOIS QSO PARTY

Newsletter input due by the 20th of the preceding month

Editor Jim Funk N9JF n9jf@arrl.net