

---

---

# THE FEEDLINE

Volume 48, Issue 5 The Voice of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club May 2024

---

---

**IMPORTANT**

**IMPORTANT**

**IMPORTANT!!**

**MAY MEETING IS AT THE EMA ANNEX AT 30<sup>TH</sup> AND LINDELL; PARKING ON NORTH SIDE OF BUILDING!!!**

**Moved and Seconded: Minutes of the April 2024 WIARC Meeting:**

**The April 3, 2024, meeting of WIARC was called to order at 7 pm by President W9US with the following members and guests present:**

**W9US, KB9FIN, KB9GIY, WB9EWM, KB9WDC, W9WE, W9WEB, N9JF, K9VXD, KB9FIN, KD9CPR, KD9VUW, KD9PPJ, W6JFL, KD0HDL, KE0OAA, WM4D, WA0VHI, K9AJC.**

**Introductions made...**

**A motion to approve minutes from the February meeting was made by K9AJC and second by W9WE and approved by members present.**

**Treasurers Report: Jack, KD9PPJ, stated that balances on the accounts were \$3400 in the checking account and \$4700 in the saving account and the 2 CD accounts were around \$6200, one CD is in the process of being renewed and has been deposited in the savings account and once he has full access it will be turned back into a CD. The E.I.N number issue was looked at and the E.I.N number at the bank did not match what we had been filing taxes under. IRS contacted and they will be sending KD9PPJ an official document with the E.I.N number that the club has been filing taxes under and then it will be updated with the bank and any contributions made. Jack also brought up to the club members present a Domain listing bill for the website domain yearly cost. The bill was \$288. Cost was discussed within membership and the billing needs to be checked on with Andy KA0SNL, the club's webmaster, to see if this is an actual charge or just a spam type fraudulent billing. John WB9EWM brought up the bill he paid for the \$137.58, for the repair on the repeater that was sent in. The motion was made by W9WE, seconded by K9AJC, and approved by members present. Another bill of \$10 was brought up by Jim N9JF for the not-for-profit with the Illinois S.O.S. Motion was made by W6JFL and seconded by WA0VHI and approved by members present.**

**Repeater Board: John WB9EWM reported that the new 146.940 repeater has been installed at the WGEM site but will be removed and there appears to be a problem in which we are losing half of the power at the duplexer. John is proposing that we replace the duplexer with a new one after he researches duplexers and pricing. He will report his findings at the next meeting. Currently the 146.940 Fusion repeater and duplexer are being moved to the new site. John stated that he swept the SWR at the new site and the SWR is 1.9 to 1, which is a little on the high side but leaving alone at this time but if this antenna does not work out, when WGEM strips their tower we will get our antenna back**

and Emergency Management has stated that they will pay to have the antenna changed out on the commercial tower that we are using at the new site. Emergency Management uses the 146.940 repeater for storm spotting within the area. John reported that he and Dave KB9FIN went over to Scott's KD0DKE in Canton about the storage he is allowing us to use, and John stated that they did drop off several boxes over there and that the storage area looked good and thanked Scott for volunteering this space. Need to get out to the KHQA site and get that all cleaned out. John also stated that He and Dave KB9FIN have figured out on how to remotely deactivate the repeaters and that info will be given to the repeater board members. Clean up day will be announced by email later. John is also advising that we just take the old 146.940 repeater over to B&W and get what we can get for it. It is old equipment and replacement parts are not being built for it anymore. The decision to scrap the old equipment is being investigated.

**Contest Committee:** Jim, N9JF reported about the Missouri QSO party that is happening on the 6 and 7<sup>th</sup> of April 4, 2024. You can find more information about the MOQSO at <https://www.contestcalendar.com/weeklycont.php#16199>. Jim stated that all ILQSO party certificates have been sent out and he believes that Danny W9DP has all the plaques ready to be mailed out or already has done that. Which means that last year's ILQSO party has officially come to an end and now we need to start planning the 2024 ILQSO party.

**Membership Committee:** Jim, N9JF reported that Jack KD9PPJ sent him his updated membership list of all that have paid dues for the current year, and he has compared it to his list and they both agree. Currently, it shows only 52 paid members so far for the year and about 20 others that have not paid as of this time. Jim will coordinate with Jack to ensure that the lists are correct before the letters go out.

**Club Station:** Shawn KD9VUW states that the American Red Cross is going to be doing some renovating and painting the radio room. Basically, the whole room is going to be repainted and all equipment looks like it is going to have to be moved out of the room. No date has been set. Shawn states that he tried to call Nancy, and he could not contact her. Dave W9WE stated that during the Friday meeting at the Red Cross he would find out more about this issue. John WB9EWM stated that if the meeting room was going through renovations that he had another meeting place for us to go to for next month's meeting.

**Old Business:** Hamfest report: W6JFL reported on Hamfest and needing volunteers to help and work the Hamfest. Asked if anyone owned a Laser printer. No response from anyone present at the meeting. Pam KB9WDC and Mary W9WEB brought up the left-over condiments being split up between the 2 clubs. Motion was made by Joe W6JFL and seconded by John WB9EWM. Approved by members present. Time was set to meet at the American Legion in Palmyra between 5pm and 6pm to set up on Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May. *Anyone wanting to help and volunteer their time please contact Joe W6JFL 559-904-2352, Don KD0HHN 573-719-9002 or Danny W9DP 217-430-2046.* Pam and Mary asked if they can get in to the Legion to look at the kitchen to get a good look at what they are going to have available to use.

**New Business:** Dave W9WE brought up that the Hannibal Club is Testing on April 10, 2024, and VE's are needed. Philip KB9GIY and Ken WM4D volunteered to assist with testing.

**NCS stations:** May 1 – W9WE, May 8 – W9WE, May 15 – K9AJC, May 22 – WB9EWM, May 29 – W9US, June 5 – W9WE

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:49pm.

Respectfully submitted by K9AJC.

Who's going to Dayton???

## 2024 ARRL National Convention at Dayton Hamvention -- Program and App Available

The 2024 ARRL National Convention, hosted by Dayton Hamvention®, is just a month away, and the convention program guide is now available at [www.arrl.org/expo](http://www.arrl.org/expo). The ARRL Events app is also ready to use, encouraging everyone planning to attend to preview all of the Hamvention exhibits, forums, and related activities.

Download the free [ARRL Events](#) app, or access the content from an internet [browser](#). The app is offered in partnership with Hamvention, and it contains Hamvention's full program and live updates, so attendees can browse and schedule forums, find affiliated events, and preview the extensive list of exhibitors. During the event, attendees can use many of the app's other features to follow the hourly prize drawings organized by the Dayton Hamvention Prize Committee and browse building and site maps.



The MyProfile icon in the app allows users to add their name, call sign, email address, and any additional information they would like to share with other Hamvention attendees. Additionally, the MyBadge icon displays a QR code of your event badge that can be scanned by another attendee or exhibitor using the Scan Badge icon to instantly share contact information with other hams at the event. The app is available for Apple and Android smart devices. You can also access the web browser version, which is optimized for nearly any browser or mobile device.

Use the app to preview many of the informative presentations planned by Hamvention and ARRL that cover a variety of topics and interests to help grow your skills as a radio amateur -- no matter where you are in your journey.

Young hams and young newcomers to amateur radio are reminded to register for the 2024 ARRL Youth Rally, which will be held on Saturday during the convention. While Hamvention offers free tickets for youths aged 12 through high school, advance registration for the Youth Rally (\$20) includes a tee shirt to wear on Saturday, a badge, a lanyard, and a reusable tote bag. [Register](#) for the Youth Rally now (11 to 21 years of age).



Hamvention and the 2024 ARRL National Convention is May 17 - 19 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center, in Xenia, Ohio. In the lead-up to the convention, the venue has finished making improvements to the flea market area. The walking paths have been topped with gravel and rolled to make the paths smooth and safe.

Complete information about this year's event can be found on the [Hamvention](#) website, [Facebook](#) page, and at [www.arrl.org/expo](http://www.arrl.org/expo).

Tidbit from *The ARRL Letter*:

## Amateur Radio Saves Family in Death Valley National Park



Death Valley National Park is in a remote desert in southern California, where mobile phone networks are spotty at best. On Saturday, April 6, a radio amateur and his family were enjoying the park when their vehicle became stuck in mud in a dangerous area. Without access to a cell network, the ham called for help on the 10-meter band.

According to a news release from the Black Swamp Amateur Radio Club, Caleb Gustwiller, KD8TGB, jumped into action.

Gustwiller was monitoring from Ohio when he picked up the distress call. He was able to hear the call sign and the general location of the ham in distress. He lost the signal to the noise, so he wrote a post in the Parks on the Air® Facebook group asking for other hams to listen for the calls.

Several hams contacted emergency officials in southern California, which led to the ham and their family being rescued within a few hours by park rangers. The club stated in their Facebook post: "Without Caleb hearing this distress call, it could have quickly become a very deadly situation for the operator and his family."

[Much of Death Valley is below sea level. It's one national park we've not visited yet and certainly not a location to be traveled without adequate preparation!! -- N9JF]

## A Visit to AD4EB in Tennessee!

After working Jim, AD4EB, scores of times in various contests, it was high time to meet him in person! Our only previous “almost-meeting” (that I know of) was several years ago when Melba and I were driving up Interstate 24 near the Kentucky-Tennessee border. We met a van that was festooned with antennas, and I was suspicious of just who might be driving it. I had Jim’s phone number and called him to confirm that, yes, we had just “met” on opposite lanes of the highway!

Today was much more satisfying! Jim (with Melody driving) had once again blown away the field in the Illinois Mobile category in last year’s ILQP, and the plaques were due for delivery. He received one for the Mobile category (sponsored by N9GZ) and one for having the most CW QSOs (sponsored by the Clay County ARC) in the contest. A trip down to watch our grandson play baseball made an opportunity to deliver these in person.



Jim has retired (sort of) from Saturn/GM in Tennessee and is a regular participant not only in ILQP but a number of other QSO parties across the country. He and Melody are packing and ready to head south for next weekend’s Florida party.

The KIA van, which unfortunately I forgot to picture, is well-equipped with antennas for all bands. Inside the second seat is a great operating position with an IC-7610 and a computer loaded with N1MM+ and customized with various shortcut keys for sending and logging.



The “outside view” of the premises is rather nice with a couple of Stepp-IR antennas, a nice rotating system, extensive lightning protection, and an inverted V and some inverted L’s for the low bands.

The lightning protection did not “come with the house”. It was a response to a very costly strike a few years back. Jim does NOT want a repeat of that!

Jim and Melody also have a huge number of nest boxes for Purple Martins and an appreciative flock of birds utilizing them this nesting season. There were a lot of them perched on the Stepp-IR’s when I arrived. I’m not sure how that influencing the tuning of the elements....

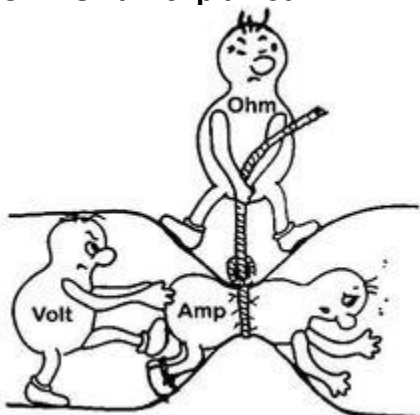


## Morse Code: Keeping it Alive

[https://youtu.be/1taa-quTHJI?si=iZecvuqRch\\_tPJn2](https://youtu.be/1taa-quTHJI?si=iZecvuqRch_tPJn2)

Dave Scranton W9WE

## Ohm's Law explained....



**DX News shamelessly purloined from *ARRL DX News***

**QST de W1AW DX Bulletin 16 ARLD016 From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington CT April 18, 2024 To all radio amateurs**

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

**BHUTAN, A5. Janusz, SP9FIH and Leszek, SP6CIK are QRV as A52P and A52CI, respectively, until May 4. Activity is on 40 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes. QSL via Club Log.**

**EASTER ISLAND, CE0. A group of operators are QRV as 3G0YA until May 6. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via DJ4MX.**

**OGASAWARA, JD1. Harry, JG7PSJ will be QRV as JD1BMH from Chichijima, IOTA AS-031, from April 22 to May 4. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and RTTY. QSL direct to home call.**

**WAKE ISLAND, KH9. Tom, NL7RR is QRV as KH9/NL7RR until May 15. Activity is generally on 20 meters using SSB around 0700z. QSL direct to home call.**

**BELGIUM, ON. Special event station OT2024EPIC is QRV until May 19 to promote the seventh edition of the Antwerp Port Epic cycling race. QSL via operators' instructions.**

**ANTARCTICA. Igor, RQ8K is QRV as RI1ANE from the Base Progress, IOTA AN-016, until May 2025. Activity is in his spare time. QSL via RN3RQ.**

**LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS, VU7. Lal, VU7LAL is QRV from Agatti and Kavarathi until May 31. Activity is on 40, 20, and 10 meters. QSL direct.**

**LAOS, XW. Vincent, XW4KV is QRV from Vang Vieng until June 1. Activity is on 15 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL direct to F4BKV.**

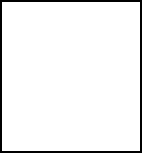
**MACAO, XX9. Wai, XX9CM is usually active on 17 meters using SSB around 1430 to 1900z. QSL direct.**

**SOUTH SUDAN, Z8. Diya, YI1DZ is QRV as Z81D from Juba until May 31. Activity is on 40 to 6 meters, and possibly 160 and 80 meters, using SSB and FT8. QSL via OM3JW.**

**Please see April QST, page 76, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details.  
NNNN  
/EX**



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



November meeting: Wednesday May 1, 2024  
7 PM

**NOTE NEW TEMPORARY MEETING SITE!**  
**30 TH AND LINDELL**  
**PARKING ON NORTH SIDE OF BUILDING**

**W9AWE – W90AB**

**The Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club, Inc.**

WIARC homepage: <http://www.w9awe.org> e-mail to [w9awe@qsl.net](mailto:w9awe@qsl.net)

WIARC email reflector: [wiarc@mailman.qth.net](mailto:wiarc@mailman.qth.net)

**Sponsors of**

**Analog repeater W9AWE/R on 147.630/030 Tone Rx and Tx 103.5**

**Analog repeater W9AWE/R on 146.340/940 Tone Rx and Tx 123.0**

**Analog and Fusion repeater W9AWE/R on 448.900/443.900 Tone Rx and Tx 103.5**

**Analog and Fusion repeater W9AWE on 147.795/147.195 Tone Rx and Tx 103.5**

**All repeaters are located on the north side of Quincy IL**

**ILLINOIS QSO PARTY**

**Newsletter input due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month**

**Editor Jim Funk N9JF**

[n9jf@arrl.net](mailto:n9jf@arrl.net)