
THE FEEDLINE

Volume 49, Issue 1 The Voice of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club January 2025

IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT

**THE JANUARY 2025 WIARC MEETING WILL BE ON THURSDAY JANUARY 2!
IF YOU SHOW UP ON WEDNESDAY THE 1ST, YOU WILL BE IN THE MINORITY!**

Moved and Seconded: Minutes of the December 2024 WIARC Meeting:

The December 4, 2024, meeting of WIARC was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ed Cozart W9US, President, with the following members and guests present:

KB9FIN, KD9PPJ, K9AJC, KD9VUW, KB9GIY, KD0HDL, AA9GL, N9JF, WB9EWM, WA0VHI, W9WE, WM4D, KE9BVN, KB9WFL, W9US, KDODKE, WD9UFO, Paula N, Roy H, and no one on Zoom.

Introductions were made...

John WB9EWM motioned to accept the September meeting minutes, seconded by Allan K9AJC, motion accepted by membership present.

Treasurers Report: Jack KD9PPJ reported that the club insurance policy was paid and up to date and good through January 2026. KD9PPJ the 2 CD's, both at Mercantile Bank, the first was at \$5000.00 at a 5% rate and the second was at \$8543.00 dollars with a 4.75% rate. The checking account had a balance of \$2705.00 dollars in it at this time. At this time the electronic payment system for dues is up and running and several members have already paid dues online and is working as expected. Ron, AA9GL made the motion to accept the Treasurers report. Seconded by John, WB9EWM and accepted by membership present.

Repeater Board: John WB9EWM reported that repeaters were all up and running. He ran a test on the 195 repeater and took the P.A. off the 030 repeater and set it for 50W and put the P.A. on the 195 repeater. Not too much noticeable difference. WB9EWM stated that they did this to actually figure out if the 195 repeater really needed to have a 100W amplifier on the repeater? Bottom line was that the amplifier is not needed on the repeater. The ground wire issue was taken care of and there are little things that need to be done, but that takes time and will all get resolved.

Membership Committee: Jim N9JF stated that at this time there were 73 paid members in the club and that 16 members had already paid their 2025 dues. Nothing further to report.

Club Station: John WB9EWM reported that the antenna ordered through DX Engineering has been pushed back and is due to be shipped out next month and the RT Systems programming software needs to be downloaded to the computer in the radio room so the New dual band Yaesu radio can be programmed correctly.

Contest Committee: Jim N9JF spoke about the Illinois QSO party from October 20th, 2024, is now finalized. All information was sent to the Webmaster and should be posted on the website shortly. 2024 was larger than 2023 with more contacts and log entries.

To get the most up to date information about upcoming contests and QSO parties, go to <https://www.contestcalendar.com/weeklycont.php#16199>.

Nomination Committee: Jim N9JF reported that the nomination committee spoke to everyone they could and are happy to present, Allan K9AJC for President, Dave W9WE for Vice President, Alex WA0VHI for Secretary and Jack KD9PPJ for Treasurer. John WB9EWM for Trustee. The membership was asked if there were any nominations from the floor and nothing was heard. Discussion was had as to how to go about the vote, and it was decided that a motion could be made by acclamation. Shawn KD9VUW made the motion that all officers were elected by acclamation and second by Jack KD9PPJ, and accepted by all membership present.

John WB9EWM brought up that a new repeater board member needs to be elected due to the vacancy of him being elected as trustee. Point of order was called by Jim N9JF and after discussion it was decided that this needs to be brought to the membership's attention during the January meeting and voted on during the February meeting. All understood and agreed.

Congratulations to the newly elected board members of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club.

Old Business: John WB9EWM spoke about getting up to Gloria Macomber, AC0KV in Luray Missouri to help with getting an antenna set up for her to get her back on the air. WB9EWM, with Dave KB9FIN, Ed W9US, Dave WA9GBC and Jim N9JF traveled to Northeastern Missouri on a very chilly Saturday morning and had the unique experience to assist Gloria in getting an antenna up, tuned and working for her to get back on the air. Thank you, Gentlemen, for volunteering and your time spent assisting another in the hobby.

Hannibal Hamfest was brought up and reported that the Hannibal Club did not look to have it this year due to no one wanting to take the lead this year and it was tabled to be looked at towards the middle of next year again.

Ballarion WD9UFO stated that the church that he attends in Plainville Illinois might consider allowing something like a Hamfest take place inside the church and on its grounds and that it may not be expensive to rent out. WD9UFO will speak to the Pastor of the church and bring that information to the January meeting.

New Business: Jack KD9PPJ brought to the attention to the members about donations from the club this time of year. In the past we have made donations to the American Red Cross, The Salvation Army, and Toys for Tots. Jim N9JF made the motion for \$50.00 dollar donations to each of the groups mentioned. John WB9EWM seconded the motion, and it was accepted by the membership.

KD9PPJ also suggested that we get a table at the Home Show that happens in March here in Quincy, and thought it was a good idea to get the club out to the public and what

we do as a club and as Amateur Radio Operators. He will investigate prices for tables and get more information. Tabled until January.

John WB9EWM brought to the attention that March 5, 2025, was Ash Wednesday and asked that we look at the possibility to change the meeting night to another night for those who would be attending evening services with their churches. Discussion was made about Thursday night, March 6, 2024. Scott KD0DKE brought to the attention that the Red Cross may have meetings that night which could interfere with the Club meeting being moved to that date. Dave W9WE was tasked with calling the Red Cross to see if there would be any scheduling conflicts.

JUST A REMINDER – The January meeting that was scheduled for the first Wednesday of the month is scheduled for Thursday the 2nd of January due to the 1st being New Years Day. Membership had a discussion during the November meeting and a motion was made and passed to hold the January meeting on the first Thursday instead of the first Wednesday. See you all on January 2nd, 2025.

NCS Stations: NCS stations were discussed and here are the following Net Control Operators:

December 25th, 2024 – NO NET DUE TO CHRISTMAS

January 1st, 2025 – W9DP

January 8th – N9JF

January 15th - KB9VUW

January 22nd – K9AJC

January 29th – W9WE

February 5th – W9US.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:40 pm, Motion to adjourn was made by John WB9EWM and seconded by Shawn KD9VUW, motion passed by members present

Respectfully submitted by K9AJC.

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ILQP WRAPUP:

“It’s a wrap.” Final results of the fracas are at <https://w9awe.org/ilqp/>. I am planning to post an analysis and summary later, but the basics are done. – N9JF

DX Stuff Shamelessly Purloined from *ARRL DX News*

SB DX @ ARL \$ARLD047 ARLD047 DX news DX Bulletin 47 ARLD047

From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT December 19, 2024

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by F5SJB, UR5BCP, The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, OPDX, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

ISRAEL, 4X. Special event stations 4X8NER and 4Z8NER will be QRV from December 25 to January 2, 2025. QSL via 4Z5MU.

FIJI, 3D2. After his New Caledonia operation, Gerhard, OE3GEA will be QRV as 3D2GE from Nadi, IOTA OC-016, and Nacula, IOTA OC-156, from December 25 to January 7, 2025. Activity will be holiday style on 30 to 10 meters using only CW. QSL to home call.

FRENCH POLYNESIA, FO. Hardy, DL7JLL is QRV as FO/DL7JLL from Mangareva Island, IOTA OC-063, until January 15, 2025. Activity is on 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB. QSL to home call.

OGASAWARA, JD1. Harry, JG7PSJ will be QRV as JD1BMH from Chichijima, IOTA AS-031, from December 23 to January 3, 2025. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and RTTY. QSL direct to home call.

AUSTRIA, OE. Special event station OE65XMAS is QRV until January 6, 2025. QSL via bureau.

POLAND, SP. Special event stations HF0CLAUS and SP0CLAUS are QRV until January 6, 2025. QSL via bureau.

EAST KIRIBATI, T32. Members of the Rebel DX Group are QRV as T32TTT until January 1, 2025. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL via LoTW.

CAMEROON, TJ. Thierry, TK1CX is QRV as TJ/TK1CX until the end of February 2025. Activity is in his spare time on 20 to 10 meters using mostly FT8 and low power. QSL via EA5ZD.

INDIA, VU. Kaustav, VU2UUU is QRV with special call sign AT2025 until January 15, 2025 while studying winter propagation, and monitoring solar cycle conditions. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via operator's instructions.

ANTARCTICA. Oleg, ZS1ANF is QRV as ZS7ANF from Wolf's Fang Runway, IOTA AN-016, until February 2025. Activity is in his spare time on 40 to 10 meters using mostly CW. QSL via DL5EBE.

Please see December QST, page 59, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details NNNN /EX

Morse out of my league:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0k8y9kq>

BBC documentary on international Morse Code competition

ARRL Kids Day is Only a Couple of Weeks Away on January 4, 2025



**Kids Day runs from 1800 UTC - 2359 UTC.
Operate as much or as little as you like.**

The event is designed to give on-the-air experience to young people, to foster interest in getting a license of their own, and give older hams a chance to share their stations and love for amateur radio with their children. You can share the excitement with your own kids, grandkids, a Scout troop, a church, or the general public!

Bellevue (Nebraska) ARC and The Science Club at Yates Illuminates kids show their On The Air certificates from January 2024 Kids Day.

All participants are encouraged to post their story and thumbnail photos to the [Kids Day Soapbox page](#). Tell the world about your operations, the fun you had, and the contacts you made! Remember, ARRL must have a completed [release form](#) in order to include youth photos (younger than 18 years of age) in ARRL publications.

There will be a second ARRL Kids Day on June 21, 2025.

More information, including frequencies, suggested exchanges, and how to download a certificate, can be found at [Kids Day](#).

This is a lot of fun! Grab a grandkid, neighbor kid (with parental permission of course, and even better, with participation....) and get on the air! It's not a 'contest'. Suggested exchange is name, age and favorite color, but use your imagination! -N9JF

For still more fun:

ARRL Straight Key Night will be January 1, 2025, from 0000 UTC through 2359 UTC. This 24-hour event is not a contest but rather a day dedicated to celebrating our CW heritage. Participants are encouraged to get on the air and simply make enjoyable, conversational CW QSOs. The use of straight keys or bugs to send CW is preferred. There are no points scored and all who participate are winners. All authorized amateur frequencies may be used but activity has traditionally been centered on the HF bands. Entries for Straight Key Night must be received by January 3, 2025. Votes for "Best Fist" and "Most Interesting QSO" will be tabulated and included in the results. Send your information to straightkey@arrl.org or by mail to ARRL Straight Key Night, 225 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut 06111. For more information, contact contests@arrl.org or (860) 594-0232.

I'll miss K0CA in this one. Cliff and I often connected on Straight Key Night.

PARK STUFF:

Major item (locally) in the news: Bob Bangert Park a.k.a. Sid Simpson State Park, has been RESTORED to the POTA list due to some creative bugging of the responsible parties (for park designation) by WM4D!! Go nuts, guys! There are 3 "kilos" so far at this park.

Montebello State Park is no more, POTA-wise. It *was* US-1011. It still *IS* KFF-1011 for those of you who submit to WWFF. (And if you don't...why not??? Just send me your POTA .adi files!)

Siloam Springs: Several recent activations there by "new faces": N9OZ from Indiana (he hit a whole bunch of local parks with data), KA9YHJ (Virginia IL) also a lot of local parks, but on SSB. KA9ZLR (Beardstown) same parks, also on SSB, W9BLW (local ham, has been to our meetings...his first activation!) There are over 11,000 QSOs from this one and 4 kilos with KM9DX leading the pack.

Fall Creek Overlook: Pretty sure it's closed until April 1, though you can walk in. Approaching 100 activations of this one, with 3 kilos so far.

Wakonda SP; also a good fall-back. Four kilos from this one so far.

NU7J has moved. He has plans for significant antennas at the new QTH and continued park activations. The bad news is that he hurt a leg recently and has had surgery. Probably no climbing for him in the near term 😞.

N9JF will be out at the end of the month for WWFF "Get Your Park On....Winter Chill" on December 28 and 29 as N9G.

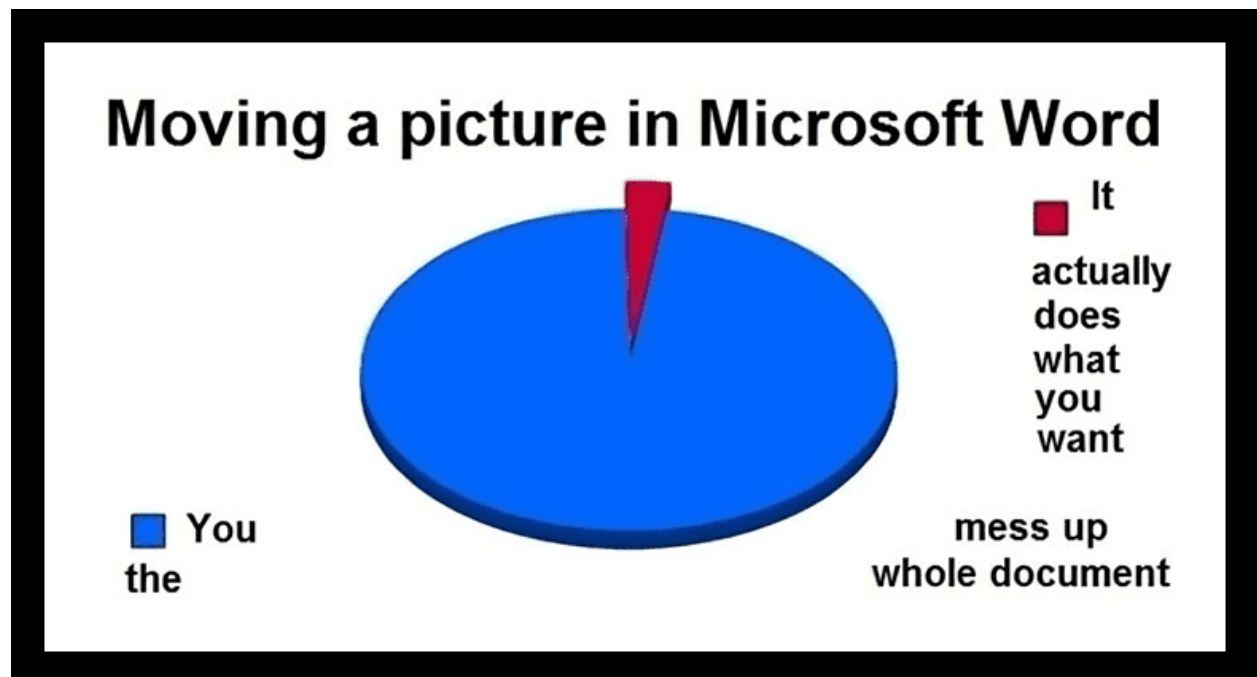
It's "find a way to run a park and not freeze to death" season. Mag mounts and Hamsticks/Hustlers are your friends!

I thought I'd get out a couple of weeks ago and activate a park on 160 meters during the ARRL 160 test. Didn't happen. Maybe in January for the CQ contest....

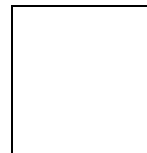
Updated POTA stats for WIARC as of DEC 21, 2024:

W9DP	12 activations of 11 parks	3726 parks worked
NU7J	163 activations of 116 parks	2404 parks worked
W9US	20 activations of 8 parks	884 parks worked
NR9Q	31 activations of 12 parks	722 parks worked
AA9GL		216 parks worked
KB9FIN	32 activations of 26 parks	1320 parks worked
KM9DX	112 activations of 70 parks	656 parks worked
WM4D	208 activations of 108 parks	543 parks worked
WM9DX	24 activations of 21 parks	89 parks worked
N9JF	810 activations of 473 parks	1330 parks worked
K9AJC	52 activations of 24 parks	3458 parks worked
KW9Q	29 activations of 14 parks	643 parks worked
KO0KER		5 parks worked
WG0ATS	5 activations of 2 parks	153 parks worked
W9MDB		191 parks worked
NI9M	30 activations of 12 parks	74 parks worked
KB0V		156 parks worked
KA0SNL		134 parks worked
KD9TTB	24 activations of 14 parks	244 parks worked
KE0MHJ	2 activations of 2 parks	119 parks worked
WB2UFO		72 parks worked
W9WE	1 activation of 1 park	369 parks worked
KD9VUW	94 activations of 30 parks	474 parks worked
KB9GIY	4 activations of 2 parks	94 parks worked

In case you wonder why I don't include more pictures in [*The Feedline...*](#):



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



November meeting: Thursday January 2,
2025
Adams County American Red Cross
Building, 24th and Koch's Lane, Quincy (west
½ block from intersection then north on
driveway)

W9AWE – W9OAB
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
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 20th of the preceding month
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