
THE FEEDLINE

Volume 49, Issue 3 The Voice of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club March 2025

IMPORTANT! IMPORTANT!! MARCH MEETING MOVED TO THURSDAY MARCH 6!

NOTE ABOVE ^^^^^^^^

The March meeting has been moved to Thursday, March 6 due to Wednesday March 5 being Ash Wednesday.

Moved and Seconded: Minutes of the February 2025 WIARC Meeting

The February 5th 2025 meeting of WIARC was called to order at 7pm by Allan Cermak K9AJC, President with the following members and guests present:

W9WE, KE9BVN, K9AJC, KB9GIY, KB9FIN, WB9EWM, N9JF, AB9DU, WA0VHI, WD9UFO, WA9GBC, NB4C, KD9VUW, WM4D, and guest Bailey Roy Wright

Introductions were made...

Dave KB9FIN made motion to accept December minutes, seconded by WB9EWM. The motion was accepted by membership present.

Treasurers Report: Jack KD9PPJ was not present to make report due to a knee surgery but K9AJC reported on his behalf. 41 people have paid dues so far. Three checks were written for donations to The Salvation Army, The American Red Cross, and Toys for Tots. The club liability insurance was paid in December. The ending balance on the checking acct is \$2793.57. The two CDs are \$5000 at 5% for 9months which started on 6/6/24 the other is \$8543 at 4.75% for 6 month which started on 10/11/24.

WB9EWM made motion to accept treasure's report, seconded by KB9FIN. The motion was accepted by membership present.

The executive committee met per the bylaws with KD9PPJ and went over the accounts. KD9PPJ has done a lot of work consolidating all the accounts to one bank to simplify everything. There were no issues found with the accounts. However, after discussion with KD9PPJ, the executive committee asks that everyone pay the club either online or by check. This serves to give both parties a paper trail and to simplify the books for the treasurer.

Election Committee: K9AJC accepted nominations from the floor for the repeater board vacancy

KB9FIN nominated Ed W9US who was unable to attend. N9JF made a motion that since there were no other nominations that nominations be closed and the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for W9US. The motion was accepted by membership present.

Membership Committee: Jim N9JF reported that there were three new member applications we needed to vote on: Jeremy Ferris KF0OOF, James Leahy KC0JIM, Angel Smith (No call)

W9WE made motion to accept the new members, WB9EWM seconded. The motion was accepted by membership present.

K9AJC reported that according to an email from KA0SNL there were 22-23 members who had paid their dues online and that the total number of members who had paid according to KD9PPJ was 41. Ken Harmon KE9BVN was present and requested membership. John WB9EWM made a motion to accept his request for membership KB9FIN seconded. The motion was accepted by membership present.

Jim N9JF reported according to his unofficial list there are 48 paid members.

Club Station: John WB9EWM reported the new dual band antenna has arrived we just need someone to climb the tower and change it out. He said the RT systems software for the ftm-500 has been loaded on the computer and is ready to use. He did bring up that when the antenna is switched out the coax should be tested. WB9EWM and W9US will get together on a time to accomplish the antenna work.

Contest Committee: Allan K9AJC reported that he went out for a few hours for winter field day. Some other members of the club also participated in the event. K9AJC brought up that the club attendance of the weekly nets leaves something to be desired. He asks that members of the club make an effort to attend.

Repeater Board: John WB9EWM reported that the spare is put in the 94 site and has been programmed. The manuals for the equipment have been put at both sites as well in case anything needs to be changed. Allan K9AJC brought up the missing backup thumb drives and suggested that the thumb drives be eliminated. After some discussion with the floor, it was decided that there should be backup drives but the details still need to be finalized. Dave KB9FIN made a motion to table the topic till the next meeting. The motion was accepted by membership present.

Old Business: Ballarion WD9VFO reported that the Baptist church near him would allow us to have a function at no charge as long as he is present. They do not allow drinking or smoking on the property. Allan K9AJC reported on the findings of Jack KD9PPJ that a 10' by 10' booth at the homeshow would cost \$550 with a \$200 deposit. The members present didn't think that was a good idea to pursue at that cost.

New Business: Allan K9AJC announced that he had membership cards made up and if he had missed anyone to come up after the meeting to get one. Dave KB9FIN said he really appreciated Allan taking the initiative and bringing the cards back and doing a great job on them. Jim N9JF brought up that he has been doing the newsletter for a long time and would appreciate any input on content ideas or if people want any changes.

VE TESTING: Dave W9WE reported there are currently no requests for testing.

Net Control:

March 12th- N9JF

March 19th- WB9EWM

March 26th- KD9VUW

April 2nd -W9WE

WB9EWM reminded everyone that the March meeting would fall on Ash Wednesday. The meeting has been moved to March 6th. He also introduced Roy Wright who is interested in becoming a ham.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45pm. Motion to adjourn was made by WB9EWM and seconded by WA9GBC. The motion was passed by members present.

DX News and Notes shamelessly purloined from ARRL DX News:

**QST de W1AW
DX Bulletin 7 ARLD007
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT February 13, 2025
To all radio amateurs**

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by DF4GV, KC1XX, W2GD, The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, OPDX, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

SRI LANKA, 4S. Members of the Polish DX Team will be QRV as 4S7SPG from Nilaveli from February 16 to March 1. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. QSL via SP6CIK.

CAPE VERDE, D4. A group of operators are QRV with special event call sign D450ICV until December 31 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the independence of Cape Verde. Activity is on all bands and modes. QSL via LoTW.

SAINT BARTHELEMY, FJ. Andreas, DK6AS is QRV as FJ/DK6AS until sometime in March. He plans to be active in the ARRL International DX CW contest. QSL to home call.

COLOMBIA, HK. Matt, KC1XX will be QRV as 5K4X from Medellin as a Single Op/All Band/Low Power entry in both ARRL International DX contests. QSL via LoTW.

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS, V4. Tom, K0YA is QRV as V4/K0YA from St. Kitts, IOTA NA-104, until March 4. Activity is on the HF bands. He will be active as V47Y in the ARRL International DX CW contest. QSL via LoTW.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND, VK9X. A group of operators will be QRV as VK9XU from February 18 to March 4. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and other digital modes with three stations active around the clock. QSL via DL2AWG.

Please see February 2025 QST, page 80, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details.

**NNNN
/EX**

Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act Re-Introduced

Legislation Will Increase Communication Options During Natural Disasters

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senators Roger Wicker, R-Miss., and Richard Blumenthal, D- Conn., and Representatives August Pfluger, R-Tex., and Joe Courtney, D-Conn. announced their joint re-introduction of legislation in the Senate and House to restore the right to Amateur Radio operators to install the antennas necessary to serve their communities.

Homeowner association rules often prevent Amateur Radio operators from installing antennas at their homes even though Amateur Radio has proven to be essential in emergencies and natural disasters such as hurricanes when other means of communication fail.

“Mississippians should have access to every possible means of warning for natural disasters, including amateur radio operators. In an emergency, those warnings can mean the difference between life and death,” Senator Wicker said. “The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act would remove unnecessary roadblocks that could help keep communities safe during emergencies like tornadoes, hurricanes, and fires.”

“When disaster strikes, amateur radio operators provide vital, often life-saving information, which shouldn’t be hindered by prohibitive rules or confusing approval processes. The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act eliminates obstacles for ham radio enthusiasts, allowing them to continue their communications and serve their communities in the face of emergencies,” said Senator Blumenthal.

“Natural disasters and other emergency situations that hinder our regular lines of communication are unfortunately unavoidable, which is why we must bolster our emergency preparedness by removing the barriers amateur radio operators often run into when installing antennas. Amateur radio plays a vital role in public safety by delivering critical information to people at all times. My district is home to dozens of amateur radio operators ready to volunteer in the event of an emergency, and I am proud to lead this legislation,” said Congressman August Pfluger.

“As we know from recent natural disasters, amateur radio operators in Connecticut can be a critical component of disaster response and emergency management. It is in our communities’ best interest that we give them the capabilities to operate at the highest

level, and with the re-introduction of this bill, we've taken a strong step in that direction," said Congressman Courtney.

Background:

The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act of 2025 (H.R. 1094 and S. 459) would require homeowner associations to accommodate the needs of FCC-licensed Amateur Radio operators by prohibiting the enforcement of private land use restrictions that ban, prevent, or require the approval of the installation or use of Amateur Radio station antennas. Homeowner associations have often prevented installation and use of such antennas through private land use restrictions. This has hindered voluntary training for emergency situations and blocked access to necessary communications when disaster strikes.

Among other provisions, this legislation would:

- Prohibit homeowner association rules that would prevent or ban Amateur Radio antennas;
- Specify an approval process for installing Amateur Radio antennas;
- Provide a Federal private right of action to Amateur Radio operators in disputed cases.

On behalf of America's Amateur Radio licensees, Rick Roderick, the President of The American Radio Relay League, re-confirmed the ARRL's full support for the passage of the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act of 2025 and extended his thanks and appreciation to Senators Wicker and Blumenthal and Congressmen Pfluger and Courtney for their unflinching leadership of the bi-partisan effort to support and protect the rights of all Amateur Radio Operators.

The text of the House version can be found at this [link](#).

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Latest Park Rove by N9JF and Ringo



On Saturday, February 21, I spent the afternoon and evening roaming to points south and east of home, activating some parks I had not hit so far in 2025. My goal this year is to activate parks to the level required by WWFF for an activation, that being 44 contacts minimum. This level can be met on multiple visits; there is no 10-contact minimum per activation to qualify.

The first park was KFF/US-4146, Mississippi River State Fish and Wildlife Area. There are multiple locations where this reference can be run, and the one right north of Hardin IL is a really easy one! I'd actually qualified this one the day before, but W4SIG needed Calhoun IL for one of his last 30 for USACA 6th time. (Everybody needs Calhoun for something....). At any rate, I texted Kerry and told him I'd stop in Calhoun on my way south, and he (along with a dozen others) was able to catch me on 17 meter CW.

Next was KFF/US-4118, Copperhead Hollow State Wildlife Area in Jersey County. This is one of those places that, even though you think you know where to find it, you wonder if you are lost.... I did get there eventually, pulled off the road and popped the 20 meter antenna on top of the Honda. The first couple of minutes of any activation are a bit hectic: start the computer, open a log, verify the park number, find a clear frequency, text my "following" (about 10 guys that work me regularly....want to be added to the thread??) with park number and frequency, pull up the POTA, WWFF and W6RK County Hunter spot sites and post myself. Whew. The latter of course assumes I have cell coverage. More on this later.... Then start calling CQ and see what happens. Forty-five contacts went into the log pretty quickly. I didn't see a soul on the road while I was there. Hunting season is over I guess....

Next was Pere Marquette State Park, KFF/US-1015, one of the largest parks in the state. There are lots of locations from which to run this park, but I selected the marina parking lot. There wasn't a lot of competition for parking with the river frozen and the temperature at about 12 degrees F. The setup proceeded as described, and it took only a few minutes to log 54 contacts. In most of these parks, I started on 20 meter CW and then went to 20 meter FT4 when CW slowed to under one a minute. In a couple of them, I never made it to FT4. I really would prefer to "run a park dry" on multiple bands and modes rather than "run and gun", but it takes long enough to make the minimum 44 that it's hard to work a lot of bands and still get to multiple parks in a day. Maybe that doesn't make sense. I'm still working on the logic. The bottom line is that 20 meters is where the action is most days during the day.... Both Pere Marquette and Copperhead Hollow were 20 cw only.

Next stop was at KFF/US-0287, Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge. This one has locations both in Calhoun and Jersey counties. I pulled off in the one in Jersey and put 54 contacts into the log, about a third of which were on 20 meter FT4.

So much for the "easy ones". I needed to get to Jacksonville to watch a granddaughter run at Illinois College, but there was a park along the way: KFF/US-0981, Beaver Dam State Park in Macoupin County. I knew about where to find it, but I saw some roads I had NEVER been on before and don't necessarily recommend when they are snow-covered. At any rate, I found the park. The best parking lots, unfortunately are not on high ground. Setting up, I found that I had almost no cell coverage. I took a deep breath and starting calling "CQ POTA" on 20 meter CW. Almost immediately, K2AL answered. I gave him my park number and asked him to spot me. And I continued calling CQ....and called....and called.... Finally, I moved to 20 meter FT4. I received several calls, but there is no simple way to get people to spot you unless you can tell them your park number. I tried inserting "US-0981" in the sequence without obvious results. FINALLY my text went through to W9DP and the group, and Danny spotted me with the park number. From there, things picked up considerably. I eventually ran out of takers on FT4, took a deep breath and went to 20 meter FT8. The congestion there gives me a headache, but I did work another dozen stations, I heard, but did not work, W9DP and W9WE. Now that my park number was known, I went back to 20 meter CW. The Reverse Beacon Network picked me up and spotted me, and I got another seven contacts to finish out the activation. Whew.....

Saturday's activations bring me to 23 WWFF parks for the year.

Hey, Park People!!

There's another park program out there!



WWFF.US

Follow the link! New website constructed and maintained by N9MM contains links to reference link updates, upload managers, the KFF Marathon Challenge, Get Your Park On events and a handy KFF/POTA cross-reference.

If you are “running parks”, you really should be uploading qualified logs (most of them are) to both POTA and World Wide Flora and Fauna (WWFF). WWFF has been around a lot longer, has many more European participants and emphasizes references with particular importance to wildlife.

It's easy! Just send the same .adi file you have already created for POTA and send it to one of the upload managers. I have recently passed along my uploading responsibilities to N3KAE for the 5th call area. However, I still have uploading privileges and will continue to upload my own logs plus those of any WIARC member. I've submitted logs for WM4D, W9DP, W9AWE, and NR9Q in the past. Phil, KB9GIY, recently became the newest dual-activator with 3 local logs uploaded to WWFF. Who's next?

Updated POTA stats for WIARC as of February 22, 2025: (current WIARC members)

W9DP 12 activations of 11 parks 3920 parks worked
(Danny is in my POTA logs 656 times so far....)

NU7J 163 activations of 116 parks 2405 parks worked
(Tom has been on the DL recently due to moving and messing up a leg in a fall....)

W9US 23 activations of 10 parks 950 parks worked
(Ed even called me a couple of times on CW!!!)

NR9Q 31 activations of 12 parks 744 parks worked

AA9GL 236 parks worked

KB9FIN 32 activations of 26 parks 1334 parks worked

KM9DX	118 activations of 76 parks	703 parks worked
WM4D	214 activations of 113 parks	557 parks worked
WM9DX	29 activations of 26 parks	108 parks worked
N9JF	845 activations of 480 parks	1378 parks worked
K9AJC	55 activations of 24 parks	3554 parks worked
KW9Q	29 activations of 14 parks	650 parks worked
W9MDB		191 parks worked
KB0V		184 parks worked
KA0SNL		134 parks worked
KD9TTB	24 activations of 14 parks	244 parks worked
KE0MHJ	2 activations of 2 parks	121 parks worked
KA9MOT		10 parks worked
WB2UFO		93 parks worked
W9WE	1 activation of 1 park	437 parks worked
KD9VUW	97 activations of 30 parks	500 parks worked
KB9GIY	7 activations of 4 parks	111 parks worked
KD9TVM		5 parks worked
NA9DM		9 parks worked

Join the fun! Right now, at 8:30 pm local, there are about 40 “spots” for activated parks at <https://pota.app/#/> Some of them are in Japan, but a lot are stateside, including K7CAR, who lives in a motor home on BLM lands and makes thousands of contacts every month from parks (481,000 so far!!!). He lists his QTH as “POTAville Utah” 😊

EXAM SESSION WIARC

05/10/2025
08/09/2025
11/08/2025

The WIARC (Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club) Team offers examination sessions a minimum of four times a year, in February, May, August and November. Examination

dates are published at the beginning of each calendar year. Additional test sessions may be scheduled as necessary.

Sponsor: Western Illinois Amateur Radio
Location: Bethel Assembly of God Church
839 S 12th
Quincy IL

Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) Team Liaison, Dave Scranton, W9WE, at
[210-325-7923](tel:210-325-7923) or w9we.lee@gmail.com

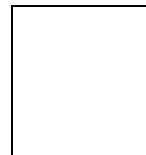
These dates and times have been listed on ARRL website. <http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>

Dave Scranton W9WE

Useful Metric Equivalents

- * 1 million microphones = 1 megaphone
- * 1 million bicycles = 2 megacycles
- * 2000 mockingbirds = two kilomockingbirds
- * 52 = 1 decacards
- * 1/2 lavatory = 1 demijohn
- * 1 millionth of a fish = 1 microfiche
- * 435.6 graham crackers = 1 pound cake
- * 10 rations = 1 decoration
- * 10 millipede = 1 centipede
- * 3 1/3 tridents = 1 decadent
- * 10 monologues = 5 dialogues
- * 2 monograms = 1 diagram
- * 8 nickels = 2 paradigms

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



March meeting: THURSDAY MARCH 6!!
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

Editor Jim Funk N9JF

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