

---

---

# THE FEEDLINE

Volume 49, Issue 11 The Voice of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club November 2025

---

## Moved and Seconded: Minutes of the October 2025 WIARC Meeting

The October 1st 2025 meeting of WIARC was called to order at 7pm by Dave KB9FIN, President with the following members and guests present: WA0VHI, KD9PPJ, WA9GBC, N9JF, AB9DU, KD0DKE, KD9CPR, KB9GIY, KE9DQJ, KD9VUW, W9WE, KB9FIN, and NB4C via zoom.

Introductions were made...

Dave WA9GBC made a motion to accept September minutes, seconded by Jack KD9PPJ. The motion was accepted by membership present.

### Treasurer's Report:

Jack KD9PPJ reported that Mr. and Mrs. Way already paid their dues for 2026. The CD has \$15,266 plus interest at 4.1% and matures 11-23-25. We have \$4189.56 in checking. Phil will be put on some of the treasurer's accounts such as the checking account. Jim N9JF made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, which was seconded by Dave WA9GBC. The motion was passed by the membership present.

### Station Committee:

Dave KB9FIN reported that the repeaters are functioning as they should. Shawn and Dave worked on setting up the ts590s and has it hooked up but need to make some adjustments for it to work well with the club station software. Jim N9JF has everything set up for the club station to be a bonus station for the ILQP.

### Contest Committee:

Dave W9WE brought up that the California QSO party and the Pennsylvania QSO party are coming up and can be used for good practice for the ILQP on the 19th. He also said to check out [contestcalendar.com](http://contestcalendar.com) which is a great resource for finding upcoming contests.

### Unfinished Business:

The cork board for the QSL cards has not yet been purchased, but will be soon. The dinner meeting which had been discussed has been tabled till spring.

### Membership;

Nothing to report

### New Business:

The Elmer list has been turned over to Andy the webmaster, nothing has been posted on the website yet. Jack KD9PPJ brought up the possibility of running an ad with Muddy River News for \$75 to bring more exposure to the club. After some positive discussion, Jack said he would gather some more info regarding the duration and format of the ad

and report back next meeting. Bob AB9DU said he would be willing to help Jack with composing an ad.

**Net Control:**

**October 8th- W9WE**

**October 15th- KD9VUW**

**October 22nd- W9DP**

**October 29th -W9WE**

**November 5 th - W9WE**

**November 12 th KD9PPJ**

**November 19 th KD9VUW**

**November 26 th W9DP**

**December 3 rd N9JF**

Bob AB9DU made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Shawn KD9VUW. The motion was passed by the membership present. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:40pm.

## **Central Division Members -**

There is a grassroots movement underway to show lawmakers how much Americans value amateur radio. Grassroots campaigns succeed when ordinary people take action together. Your support and involvement can make the difference and lead to real, lasting change. Your voice and support is vital to the passage of this legislation.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act is making its way through Congress. This bill will ensure that licensed operators have the tools and access needed to stay ready and continue serving communities when disaster strikes. But Congress needs to hear from real people like you.

Here's how you can help:

1. Send a letter to your elected representatives. Fill out your letter of support by pointing your favorite web browser to <https://send-a-letter.org/hoa/>. Simply fill in your callsign and hit the "Send My Letters" button. These letters will be hand delivered to members of Congress.
2. Spread the word. If you have already sent your letters, now is the time to advocate. Share information about how to send a letter with your fellow amateur radio operators at club meetings, breakfast gatherings, hamfests and other events. Every conversation builds momentum and support.

More information about the efforts can be found at <http://arrrl.org/current-legislation>.

Thank you for standing up for emergency preparedness, public safety, and the future of the amateur radio service.

**ARRL Central Division Director: Brent A Walls, N9BA**  
[n9ba@arrrl.org](mailto:n9ba@arrrl.org)

**DX News and Notes Shamelessly Purloined from ARRL DX News:  
QST de W1AW DX Bulletin 42 ARLD042 From ARRL Headquarters**

**Newington CT, October 16, 2025 To all radio amateurs**

**This week's bulletin is made possible with information provided by N4ML, W2GD, The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, OPDX, Contest Corral from QST, and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM websites. Thanks to all.**

**TANZANIA, 5H. Maurizio, IK2GZU, is QRV as 5H3MB from Ilembule until November 20 while volunteering at a school here. Activity is in his spare time on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes. QSL direct to home call.**

**NAURU, C2. Phill, C21TS, is QRV until November 30. QSL via LoTW.**

**THE GAMBIA, C5. Lui, YT3PL, and Luc, F5RAV, will be QRV as C5R and C5LT, respectively, from October 18 to November 7. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. This includes being active as C5R in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL C5R direct to YU5R, and C5LT direct to F5RAV.**

**WALLIS AND FUTUNA ISLANDS, FW. A group of operators will be QRV as FW5K from Wallis Island, IOTA OC-054, from October 20 to November 7. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters with three stations active. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via LoTW.**

**FRENCH GUIANA, FY. Renato, PY8WW, is QRV as FY/PY8WW from Saul. Activity is on the HF bands using mostly FT8. QSL via LoTW.**

**OGASAWARA, JD1. Koutarou, JP1IHD, will be QRV as JD1BQP from Chichijima Island, IOTA AS-031, from October 19 to November 2. QSL to home call.**

**SAN ANDRES AND PROVIDENCIA, HK0. A group of operators are QRV as 5K0UA from San Andres, IOTA NA-033, until November 3. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via operators' instructions.**

**ARUBA, P4. John, W2GD will be QRV as P40W from Santa Cruz. Activity will be on all HF bands, with an emphasis on 30, 17, and 12 meters, using CW as time permits. He will be a Single Operator/All Band entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via LoTW.**

**Please see October QST, page 77, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details.**

## Gearing Up....

One argument/cheerleading for POTA is the fact that many members of WIARC and thousands of hams world-wide have, in the last few years, developed the capability to put a working station in the field with little notice in case of an emergency situation. Such capability should potentially be of immeasurable value to the public should “the grid go down”.

On that note (preparedness, not an emergency at the moment), I spent some time this afternoon getting ready for three separate but related operating events. This week (as I speak, October 12-19) is “Earth Science Week” for WWFF, wherein I am authorized to use the callsign N9G as part of the festivities. Immediately thereafter (actually contiguously ) I will be operating on October 19-20 as W9AWE in the Illinois QSO Party. Immediately thereafter, Melba and I will be scuttling across the country and running parks as....<gasp>.... N9JF!

I have not been on the radio in 3 weeks. Are the batteries charged? Is the software loaded? (Different for the parks and for ILQP). Can I find all of the cables? How many radios to take? How many antennas? Do they all work? Will the key paddles work this time, or will be operating CW with a straight key? I'll be using one vehicle for the QSO party and a different one for the trip West. Can I remember to switch everything to the right vehicle? Can I FIND everything? I've been running parks from four different vehicles....

For an old retired guy, I seem to have very little free time, or at least very little when I am willing/able to get out and ‘do radio’. I'm five days into Earth Science Week, and N9G has not hit the air yet. This afternoon, I hope to change that. Perhaps some of the above questions will be answered....

De N9JF/N9G/W9AWE....

.....and Analyzing....

OK, since the paragraphs above were written, N9G and ILQP have come and gone. How did it go? Were my worst fears realized? Am I still licensed? Will I ever see Auntie Em again??

Here's how some of it went down....

N9G: I had waaaay too much to do the week of October 12-19 to spend any reasonable amount of time on the air. I activated one park....ONE...park, to the tune of about 120 contacts. Everything worked fine except for the key paddles, which drove me moderately crazy. It would get worse. See W9AWE story below. I was one of about a dozen 1x1 calls on the air for “Earth Science Week” for WWFF, and I hated not to make a better showing, but...at least I got on for a bit....

**W9AWE/ILQP:** Thanks to Trustee **WB9EWM** for permission to use the club call in ILQP. We tried something different this year, making both **W9AWE** and **W9OAB** “bonus stations” for ILQP. **KB9FIN** straw-bossed the **W9OAB** operation at the Red Cross, and I took **W9AWE** afield.

My spot at the Adams/Brown line on the north side of Siloam Springs SP worked out well as far as parking and access was concerned. At the last minute, I grabbed a 40 meter dipole, thinking it would be more effective than a mag mount vertical for in-state contacts. However, when I got to the parking lot and looked around for a good place to hang the antenna, I realized I had not brought enough lines along to get the center of the antenna into a tree, nor enough to string out from the ends in an insulating manner. About five minutes of head-scratching convinced me to just go with the mag mounts and be done with it. I was already 45 minutes late getting started. One mast went on the van with two 40 meter Hustlers and an 80 meter Hustler, and the other mast had the 17’ extended vertical set for 20 meters.

The Honda generator started on the first try. However, the rascal needs some serious maintenance. It never did run smoothly, and it gave off enough fumes to be irritating no matter where I parked it. At least the voltage was stable enough that the 991a never complained.

I fired up **N1MM** on the laptop, found a clear spot on 20 CW, spotted myself on the POTA site and began calling CQ. **W6UB** called almost immediately. I found that I could not send his callsign accurately to save my life. The paddles kept sending random dashes. No amount of adjustment helped. Either I got random dashes or no dashes at all. **W6UB** eventually went away....others called....I ignored them....

I turned off the keyer in the radio, turned the paddles on their side and used one side as a straight key for the rest of the contest. Was it “fun”? Not really. Some days are like that. In an eight-hour event (or 7 in this case), there is not a lot of time for trouble-shooting equipment. I’m sure there are a lot of people out there who have a very low opinion of the nitwit who was operating at **W9AWE**.

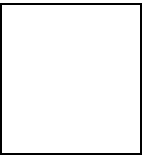
Other than that, the contest went fairly well. Conditions on twenty meters were so good that I never went to the higher bands, and forty was noticeably slower when I tried it a few times. I actually attempted a few contacts on 40 SSB, but it was rough sledding and not very productive. The “fun factor” was just not present when it was impossible to break pileups or to generate them when calling CQ.

I did eventually try 80 meters. Signals were good. There were several IL stations in rare counties with big pileups including **AD4EB**. I tried a few times to catch him without success.

The sun went down about 6:45. Half an hour later, I asked myself, “Am I still having fun?” “Um...nope.” Time to close the station and drive home before the deer get suicidal.

A bit over 300 contacts, mostly on CW, and a very stiff right arm....  
I’ve received exactly 300 logs so far. We are traveling. We activated one park in Kansas today and will get one in Oklahoma tomorrow morning. I’ve never activated an OK park previously. Then it’s on to Arizona. De **N9JF**

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



**November meeting: Wednesday, November 5  
7 pm  
Adams County American Red Cross  
Building, 24<sup>th</sup> 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](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)**