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# THE FEEDLINE

Volume 49, Issue 12 The Voice of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club December 2025

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

The November 5<sup>th</sup> WIARC meeting was brought to order at 7pm by president Dave Williams KB9FIN with the following members and guests present:

KB9FIN, W9WE, KD9PPJ, KB9GIY, WE8DQI, N9JF, WA9GBC, AB9DU, KD9VUW, KE0OAA, WA0VHI, via zoom KD0HDL and WD9UFO, via phone WB9EWM introductions were made.

A motion was made by Dave WA9GBC to accept the minutes as posted in the newsletter. The motion was seconded by AB9DU and passed by the membership present.

### Treasurer's Report

Jack KD9PPJ reported the CD contains \$15,266 at a 4.1% interest rate which matures on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. The checking account currently contains \$4189.56. Phil KB9GIY is slated to take over as treasurer on 1/1/26 and will be placed on the CD when it is renewed. Danny W9DP is also on the checking account.

A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report by KE0OAA. The motion was seconded by WA9GBC and was passed by the membership present.

### Station Committee

Dave KB9FIN reported that he used the club station and new computers for the ILQP and that everything was working as it should.

Repeater Board: Everything is working fine, no issues to report.

### Contest committee

Dave W9WE reported that the ILQP went well, although it was brought to his attention that there were some people operating too close to the band edge. He reminded everyone to be observant of where you are transmitting including your bandwidth. Jim N9JF had received 363 logs as of the meeting. He will be sending out an email stating that logs are due with a 2 day grace period.

Membership: Nothing to report

### New Business

Jim N9JF and Jack KD9PPJ volunteered to be part of the nomination committee. John WB9EWM was nominated for the committee as well due to his absence.

Unfinished Business: Jack reported back that he talked to Ron at Muddy River News about running an ad for the club. He said it costs \$75 for an ad in their Facebook feed. There is also another option for a more involved ad that runs longer for \$200.

A motion was made by Dave W9WE to proceed with the \$75 ad. The motion was seconded by Shawn KD9VUW and passed by membership present.

Net control

Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>- N9JF

Dec 10<sup>th</sup>-W9WE

Dec 17<sup>th</sup>-KD9VUW

Dec 24<sup>th</sup>- Pass for Christmas Eve

Dec 31- Pass for New Years Eve

Jan 7<sup>th</sup>- N9JF

A motion to adjourn was made by Shawn KD9VUW. The motion was seconded by Jack KD9PPJ and passed by membership present. The meeting disbanded at approximately 7:40pm

Respectfully submitted, Secretary Alex WA0VHI

In case someone asks you what happened last week....

(because we are geeks and people assume we will have answers....)

"Solar activity over the last three months has fluctuated fairly regularly within an approximately 27-day period, determined by the rotation of the Sun. The positions of active longitudes do not change much, which makes it relatively easy to predict not only solar but also geomagnetic activity. However, we are still close to the 11-year maximum, so the large solar flares on November 9, 10, and 11 were not a major surprise.

"However, the fact that the coronal plasma clouds from the first two flares merged (the second, faster one caught up with the first) and caused a massive geomagnetic disturbance on November 12 could have been a surprise.

"The massive disturbance lasted only until November 13, followed by alternating calm days on November 14-15 and November 18-19 with turbulent days, for which a more accurate forecast was not possible. We are likely to see an increase in solar activity during the third 3rd of November and the first 3rd of December, with increased geomagnetic activity most likely expected in the last days of November and the first days of December. However, the regularity of fluctuations in solar and geomagnetic activity will end during this period, while it is advisable to pay attention to newly emerging active regions and the shift of coronal holes on the Sun."

DX News and Notes Shamelessly Purloined from ARRL DX News

QST de W1AW DX Bulletin 47 ARLD047 From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington CT November 20, 2025 To all radio amateurs

This week's bulletin is made possible with information provided by AA3B, 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.

**RODRIGUES ISLAND, 3B9. Kazu, M0CFW will be QRV as 3B9/M0CFW from November 23 to December 3. This includes being active as 3B9KW in the upcoming CQ Worldwide DX CW contest. QSL to home call.**

**UGANDA, 5X. Anders, SM0HPL is QRV as 5X7W until December 8. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters with QRP power, and using CW, FT8, and FT4. QSL via M0OXO.**

**GUYANA, 8R. Aldir, PY1SAD is QRV as 8R1TM until December 7. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes mostly between 2300 to 0200z. QSL direct to home call.**

**BHUTAN, A5. Abie, AB1F will be QRV as A52AA from Thimphu from November 25 to December 5. Activity will be on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB, with a possibility of 160 and 80 meters. QSL to home call.**

**EASTER ISLAND, CE0. A group of operators will be QRV as 3G0YR from November 26 to December 3. Activity will be on all bands and all modes with four to five stations active. This includes being active modes with four to five stations active. This includes being active as CE0Y as either a Multi/2 or Multi/Multi entry in the upcoming CQ Worldwide DX CW contest. QSL via RN3RQ.**

**ANTARCTICA. Lasse, DL9LU is QRV as DP0GVN from Neumayer Station II until December 2026 while here on work assignment. QSL via ClubLog.**

**ARUBA, P4. John, W2GD will be QRV as P44W from Santa Cruz from November 25 to December 2. Activity will be on all bands using CW, with an emphasis on 30, 17, and 12 meters. This includes being a Single Op/All Band entry in the upcoming CQ Worldwide DX CW contest. QSL via LoTW.**

**SABA, SINT EUSTATIUS, PJ5. Peter, PA4O and Ad, PA8AD will be QRV as PJ5C from Sint Eustatius, IOTA NA-145, from November 23 to December 1. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using mainly CW with some FT8 and FT4. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ Worldwide DX CW contest. QSL via LoTW.**

**SEYCHELLES, S7. Vaclav, OK6RA is QRV as S79/OK6RA until December 2 at various times from Mahe, and Praslin Islands, both IOTA AF-024. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using mainly CW. This includes being a Single Op/Single Band entry in the upcoming CQ Worldwide DX CW contest. QSL direct to home call.**

**ANTIGUA, V2. Bud, AA3B is QRV as V26K until December 1. Activity is on the HF bands with an emphasis on CW. This includes being a Single Op/All Band/Low Power entry in the upcoming CQ Worldwide DX CW contest. QSL via LoTW.**

**NAMIBIA, V5. Gunter, DK2WH is QRV as V51WH from Omaruru until March 24, 2026. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using SSB, RTTY, FT8, and some CW. He will be active as V55Y in various contests. QSL to home call.**

**INDIA, VU. Datta, VU2DSI is QRV as AU2JCB until December 15 to celebrate the birthday of Jagadish Chandra Bose. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB. QSL direct to home call.**

**CAMBODIA, XU.** A team of Russian Robinson Club and Miller-DX-Club members will be QRV as XU7RRC from Koh Ta Kiev Island, IOTA AS-133, from November 25 until December 3. QSL via RZ3EC.

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

#### **Upcoming Contests – Things to Do (two of my favorites – N9JF) ARRL 160 Meter (CW) Contest**

The CW-only [ARRL 160 Meter Contest](#) begins at 2200 UTC on Friday, December 5, and ends at 1559 UTC on Sunday, December 7. This is a 42-hour period with no time limitation. There are no changes to multipliers in 2025.

The 2024 multiplier list will be used for all Section-based contests for the remainder of 2025. Canadian stations located in Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut should continue to send TER (Territories) as their section.

This Top-Band event is generally not for those who are weak in radiating surface (tower or wire) — that is, you need to consider what design of antenna you can muster to get on the band, whether the popular Inverted-L, or a loaded Vertical tower or Wire of some type. Even an Inverted-Vee can generally be managed (albeit 270 or so feet from end to end), but for most of the Vertical designs you need to establish a radial system (build out the radials to whatever fit your goals — the more the better).

Don't forget the Club Competition: You can contribute your score to your ARRL Affiliated Club by selecting the club name when you upload your log. Club Competition rules are available [here](#).

And if you are still feeling the holiday's contesting spirit, just a week later, start thinking about the [ARRL 10 Meter Contest](#).

#### **ARRL 10 Meter Contest**

The [ARRL 10 Meter Contest](#) runs the second full weekend of December, starting at 0000 UTC on Saturday, December 13, and runs through 2359 UTC on Sunday, December 14. This event allows you to make contacts CW or SSB or both (Mixed) categories. Using only the 28 MHz band, both phone and CW may be used to contact stations only once per mode (there are no Digital contacts counted in this event). See [10-Meter Contest Rules](#) for more details.

**Contest exchange:** All stations send a signal report. W/VE stations, including Alaska and Hawaii, send their state or province. District of Columbia stations send "DC." Mexican stations send their state or province. DX stations send a serial number. Maritime mobile stations send ITU Region (1-3).

This is an event for newcomers as well as seasoned contesters! The 10-meter band can offer many propagation surprises, including: The elusive sporadic-E (single or multi-hop); early morning meteor Scatter; Aurora and Auroral-E; TEP; Backscatter; and Groundwave out to several hundred miles. Conditions can be open to any direction, and

rapid propagation changes are routine. All it takes is a small antenna and low to medium power (5-50 watts) at the right time to make great contacts on SSB or CW.

Don't forget the Club Competition: You can contribute your score to your ARRL Affiliated Club by selecting the club name when you upload your log. Club Competition rules are available [here](#). See the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for major ARRL upcoming contests.

## N9JF and KB9CES and Ringo on the move: 2025 Arizona episode

Melba's grandfather, two brothers and a first cousin married four sisters. This generated a lot of "double cousins" who keep in touch. One of the cousins had a set of their grandmother's china and didn't want to house it any longer. We had no room for it. A call was put out, and miracle of miracles, the daughter of another cousin would take it!

The china was in Georgia, the other cousin is in Scottsdale Arizona, and his daughter lives in Oregon. You can ship china, sure...but what's the fun of that?

### Road trip.

We first contemplated taking the stuff to Oregon, but the logistics of planning a trip to Oregon in November are a bit daunting. There were already highways closed by snow out west (never mind the fact that we've seen two lonely flakes here in Illinois....).

We drove to northeast Georgia, (detouring a little to pick up Melanie in Tennessee), spent a lovely day with the cousin and spouse there, picked up the china, came back to Illinois and mapped the route to Scottsdale. Lots of parks between here and there!

Between here and Georgia, we activated two parks in Tennessee (South Cumberland State Park and Cherokee National Forest) and one in North Carolina (Nantahala National Forest) plus a couple in Illinois (Fort Massac State Park and Washington County Conservation Area). They were mostly "quickies", just enough to get POTA credit but not enough for WWFF, Washington County being the exception.

Once we headed to Arizona, the goal was to get the requisite 44 contacts for each park. We failed to do so at only 3 of the 24 parks attempted. Parks run included one in Kansas, two in Oklahoma, four in New Mexico, and nineteen in Arizona. Somehow we missed stopping in Texas? I guess at 80 miles an hour one doesn't think so much about stopping??? Oklahoma was a "new state" for me for POTA activations.

The sites were a mixture of state parks, national parks and monuments and refuges and a couple of trails. The weather was perfect. When I parked, I tried to minimize the amount of heat coming through the van windows. Melba did her usual job of learning about the site while I operated and filling me in afterwards as to "what I could have seen if I had not been on the radio". I did a little bit of hiking, looking for rattlesnakes (I don't think they exist). We had some cool birds at various places: a Greater Roadrunner at Sonoita Creek State Natural Area and at Ute Lake SP in New Mexico, Cassin's Kingbirds at dusk in Arizona, Gray-breasted Jays and a Merlin at the Chiricahua National Monument and Black-throated Sparrows at Picacho Peak State Park.

We took a couple of “what are we DOING here???” roads, and I was glad we had new tough tires on the Honda! We saw some wildlife, mostly coyotes and one bobcat.

All in all, it was 4000 miles of fun and frolic. The equipment performed well with the only issue being the laptop battery. About 1200 QSOs went into the system, all CW and digital except for three on 2 meter FM near Tucson. My “following” consisting of W9DP, W6LEN, NU7J, N9MM and WI5D accounted for a good percentage of them. Danny now has 843 POTA QSOs with me, Tom 609, Jess 559, and Norm 375.

If you want to be added to the notification text thread, let me know. There are spots available.....

73, Jim N9JF

## ILQP Report

I hope everyone had a good time! Thanks to KB9FIN for “straw-bossing” the operation of W9OAB from the club station. We tried something new this year, offering bonus points for contacts with the club calls. I activated W9AWE from my county line at Siloam Springs SP. There should be a good percentage of the entrants who can claim bonus points from one or both of the stations.

Club members on the air included W9WE, KD9VUW, WB9EWM, WA0VHI, KB0V, W9DP, and the club stations.

The due date for logs this year was changed from 30 to 15 days, and don’t think it hurt anything. At least I didn’t hear any complaints. Most contests have shortened the interval for log submissions, and I was tired of having logs trickle in for 30 days and having to delay processing until they were all in.

We received 370 logs with a total of a bit over 52,000 QSOs. Processing is proceeding....and the scores are available as of Nov 21....

Speaking of which, I would LOVE to have an “understudy” for this process! WA9GBC has done a marvelous job of creating an Excel program that does the heavy lifting, but there is quite a bit of background that someone else needs to know about when the time comes when Dave and I are no longer available for this gig! Please talk to me if you’re even slightly interested in participating!!

Want to be popular? W1AW/9 !!

It has just been announced our first week to operate as W1AW/9 is January 21 2026.

If you are interested in joining us from your QTH operating for an hour or two that week,

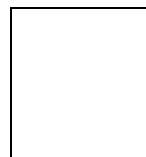
Contact soonest: W9KXQ [w9kxqjohn@gmail.com](mailto:w9kxqjohn@gmail.com) or me at [thombeebe1@gmail.com](mailto:thombeebe1@gmail.com)

We can operate all bands except 60 meters on Phone, CW, Digital.

ARRL Illinois Section Manager: Thomas H Beebe, W9RY

[w9ry@arri.org](mailto:w9ry@arri.org)

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



**December meeting: Wednesday, December 3  
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)**

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**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  
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