
THE FEEDLINE

Volume 50, Issue 6 The Voice of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club June 2026

Non-AI ramblings from the east side of the county....

Weather, solar activity and travel have kept things interesting for the last month. We've had several weather-related alerts in the Tri-State Area with some damage from wind and hail. Fortunately, nothing catastrophic has occurred locally though a few trees, buildings and antennas don't look the same as they did a month ago. I think the drought is over for the time being.

If you are not part of the EMA storm spotting team, consider getting the training and volunteering. The workshop held at Town and Country Inn and Suites recently was excellent and provided a lot of information on how weather predictions are being refined to give as much timely assistance as possible to those in storm-impacted areas.

We "advertise ourselves" as being prepared for emergencies. On our recent trip to Arkansas, I ran eight parks in two days with no issues; then on the third day, I found myself with a non-functioning mag mount, no spare and no tools. WY0L's admonition: "You mean you *don't have a VOM with you??*" I feel like I've failed Obi-Wan. Running parks was not the only purpose of the trip, but that aspect of it was a bit humbling. Now that I'm home, I'm in the process of figuring out how to resurrect a mag mount with busted coax. Stay tuned....

Field Day is coming up. See article below.

73, Jim N9JF

Moved and Seconded: Minutes of the May 2026 WIARC Meeting

The May 2026 meeting of the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club was held Wednesday, May 6 at the American Red Cross building. The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by President N9JF at 7 pm.

Introductions were made with the following members present:

N9JF KB9GIY KD9VUW KD0HDL W9FGH KB9FIN WB9EWM KE9DQJ W9WE KC0QMI in person and NB4C and K9VXD via TEAMS.

Also in attendance was visitor WA9NGP (Tom).

Minutes of the April meeting were approved as printed in The Feedline on a motion by WB9EWM, second by KB9FIN and carried.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by KB9GIY. Checking balance is \$4290, Expenses for the past month were \$540, including the POBox (\$196) and IRS filing paid to Jennings Business Services (\$60), Dues received were \$20.

Report was approved on a motion by WB9EWM, second by KB9FIN and carried.

The Repeater Board report was given by WB9EWM. No issues exist that we know of.

Application for membership was received from visitor Tom, WA9NGP, licensed since 1965. Tom is looking for an HF transceiver (80-10 meters) if anyone has one to sell. Motion by WB9EWM, second by KB9FIN to accept Tom's application for membership. Motion carried. Welcome, Tom!

The Station Committee report was given by KB9FIN. There are no current issues with the equipment. It has not had much use this month.

Contest Committee Report by W9WE:

N9JF was in Indiana operating the Indiana QSO Party from five counties and four parks. It's an interesting dynamic with four QSO parties going on simultaneously. Narrow your filters!

Membership Committee report from KB9GIY:

Most people are now paying on line. KE9DQJ (Bill) is in charge of membership cards. They are available if you want one; not required.

Old Business:

ARRL Field Day is coming up the 27th and 28th of June. Dave has spoken to the Red Cross, and they are fine with us using the facility that weekend. Dave has a log program for the sideband station. Jim may have something different for the CW station. There will also be a digital station. The W9AWE callsign will be used, and we will probably be signing "3F IL" as our exchange. All members are encouraged to attend. (See article following -- .ed)

By-Laws Changes;

The following changes, previously discussed and posted to the membership for comments, were presented for approval:

- 1) Remove reference to the January Annual Meeting. Rationale: This meeting has moved to other months on occasion or has been canceled on occasion, and there is no purpose in requiring it in the by-laws.

Motion to approve the change was made by WB9EWM, second by KB9FIN and carried.

- 2) Required quorum to transact business changed from ten members in good standing to eight members in good standing. Rationale: due to weather, it is sometimes difficult to get ten members in attendance. Executive committee can also act in lieu of full membership and receive approval of actions later.**

Motion to approve the change was made by WB9EWM, second by KC0QMI and carried.

- 3) Later reference to installation of officers “At the Annual Meeting in January” to be deleted. Rationale: Officers can be installed at the regular January meeting. No longer any reference to “Annual Meeting”.**

Motion to approve the change was made by WB9EWM, second by KB9FIN and carried.

A discussion of the requirements for accepting donations was held. The By-Laws specify that such donations must be approved by the membership. The rationale for requiring such approval is to avoid having equipment “dumped on the club”.

A motion was made by W9WE, second by WB9EWM to accept monetary donations during the 2026 calendar year, subject to refusal by the Executive Board or the membership. Motion carried.

New Business: None

**Net control stations: 5/13 W9WE, 5/20 W9DP, 5/27 WB9EWM, 6/3 W9WE
6/10 W9DP 6/17 W9WE 6/24 WB9EWM, 7/1 W9WE**

Following adjournment, W9FGH presented the second half of his program on the development of commercial AM broadcast equipment.

Respectfully submitted, Secretary KD9PPJ

New Licensee

When you next see Alex Ussery from the Adams County Emergency Management team, congratulate him on becoming a new Tech licensee, Welcome to the tribe, KE9FNT!

Fun Stuff; For those interested in POTA, contesting and other madness:

[Florida QSO Party from the Everglades | N3QE, Tina & POTA](#)

[Parks on the Air Meets Contesting: Dean N6DE](#)

[Parks on the Air's Explosive Growth and the Next Chapter](#)

[Young Gun of POTA: Si WD5JR's Ham Radio Journey](#)

[Black Swamp Radio Club Is Changing the Game: Sandy KE8UTX and Craig KE8QJV](#)

[POTA Legend in the Making: Les KI5GTR on Activating, Contesting, and Going All-In](#)

[1,000 Contacts in a Frozen Tent: K3KLB's Winter Field Day](#)

[Georgia State Parks on the Air: Claude AC4SH](#)

[Your Next POTA Antenna: Mike W5REZ and the REZ Antenna Startup](#)

[General KQ4IGV: Annabel Hiraldo Charges Ahead with Parks on the Air](#)

[POTA Activations, Ham Radio Meetups & Dayton Hamvention: KB3WAV & KC3RW](#)

[A Story of Ham Radio Camaraderie: Fran Kelly KC1NDQ](#)

[Back to Ham Radio via Parks on the Air: Dan Muntz WD4DAN](#)

[US Navy \(Ret.\) Beau Turner KH7FC is POTA Active](#)

[Cross-Country Ham Radio Road Trip: Parks on the Air Dev Team Volunteer Gets on the Air](#)

[Volunteer POTA Developers Create a World Class System: Thom Martin W8TAM](#)

[Ham Radio Activation of Barbados for Parks on the Air: Chris Billings 8P9CB](#)

[Papa POTA Promotes Ham Radio in the Dominican Republic: David Lama HI8D](#)

[J8NKI Ham Radio Holiday DXpedition to St Vincent & the Grenadines](#)

[Volunteerism in Ham Radio: K4NYM and his Parks on the Air Story](#)

[Activate Parks on the Air \(POTA\) in Scotland with Ham Radio Operator Iliyas MM0MMN](#)

[Teaching the Next Generation of Ham Radio Operators: Vicki AD3I](#)

[The Parks on the Air Activator We All Hoped For: Add Hawaii to your POTA Worked All States Award](#)

[Parks on the Air at St. John in the US Virgin Islands with Ham Radio Operator NJ4Z](#)

[POTA Activating Every Day Without Fail: Meet WC1N](#)

[Ham Radio Operator W6ZD Has Activated More Parks on the Air \(POTA\) Than Anyone in 2022](#)

Field Day!

What is ARRL Field Day? You're Invited!

“The event is part picnic, campout, practice for emergencies, informal contest, and most of all, fun! ARRL Field Day is the most popular ham radio activity held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend in June each year, more than 31,000 hams get together with their radio clubs, schools, or friends to operate from remote locations.

For many radio clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights on their annual calendar. A typical Field Day site will showoff many aspects of amateur radio and its many roles.

Some groups use Field Day as an opportunity to practice their emergency communications readiness. ARRL Field Day is an annual demonstration and invites the general public and organizations to see how amateur radio can serve in an emergency, When All Else Fails®. Hams are well-known for their communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations. Despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems — or maybe because they are so complex — ham radio has been called into action, again and again, to provide communications in crises when it really matters.”

OK, that's the end of the quote from the ARRL website. So....what does WIARC do with Field Day? We do “something” every year...just because it's Field Day (“last rainy weekend in June”) and “we've always done it.”

Some years, we've joined other clubs in joint operations. Some years, we've gone “into the field” and set up totally portable sites (including the year that K4XU described our site as a “clandestine military operation”). This year, we will once more be at the Adams County ARC site. We do this to partner with our hosts and showcase our club station's capabilities.

Why? See some of the reasons above! We do it to prove we can. It helps test our ability to communicate effectively, over a period of several hours, from the club station we've built at the Red Cross. It helps demonstrate that, yes, we can provide communications over short and long paths of need. We can move information in more than one way. We have many club members who can do this. We are willing to be part of the process. We can transfer information quickly and accurately. We can function at 3 am (with the assistance of come caffeine.)

What we can NOT do is put together a successful Field Day without involving a lot of people. Field Day requires that the equipment be in good operating condition. Thank you, Station Committee!! The antennas need to be in as good a condition as possible. If they don't. we will have to figure out why or shoot ourselves in the foot! It involves some planning. We will be talking about

this at the June meeting. It requires OPERATORS SHOWING UP! We have some “iron man/woman” individuals who *could* do most of the 24 hours, but that isn’t really the goal. We’d like for a large number of club members to spend some time on the air during the weekend. I’ll be urging a commitment from many of you to be there to set up, operate, cheer, meet visitors or tear down.

If you are a seasoned operator/contester, we need your expertise. If you are a new ham, we need your curiosity, and it’s a great opportunity for you to “get your feet wet” on HF. We will be attempting to keep three stations on the air for the full 24 hours, one on SSB, one of CW and one on digital modes (probably FT8). We will be signing “3F IL” as our “exchange”, indicating to other stations that we are using 3 transmitters at a served agency in Illinois.

Come out to Field Day! We need you! 73, Jim N9JF

DX Items Cheerfully Purloined from ARRL DX News:

**QST de W1AW DX Bulletin 20 ARLD020 From ARRL Headquarters
Newington, CT May 21, 2026 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.

MARTINIQUE, FM. Darrell, AB2E, will be active as TO3E from Martinique, IOTA NA-107, from May 26 to June 2. Main activity will be during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest. Outside the contest, he will operate CW, RTTY, and FT8 with a focus on the low and WARC bands.

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, HC8. Edgar, K2IN, has been remote testing his HC8M station since May 14. He arrives on the island on May 28 and stays until June 2. He plans to operate high-power in the CQ WPX CW Contest from May 30 to 31.

ST. KITTS & NEVIS, V4. Markus, WW6W, will be QRV holiday style as V4/WW6W from St. Kitts, IOTA NA-104, from May 24 to June 1. He will operate mainly CW and FT8 on 80 to 10 meters. He also plans to participate in the CQ WW WPX CW Contest.

NAMIBIA, V5. Eric, N7XOB, is QRV as V5/N7XOB while visiting Namibia from May 20 to June 19. He will operate SSB on or near 7165 and 14265 kHz from various locations.

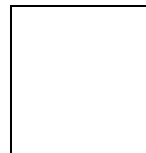
INDIA, VU. To mark the 90th anniversary of Akashvani, Manmohan, VU3YBH, will operate special event station AT90VANI from Bhopal from May 25 to August 16. Operation will be on 20, 15, 12, and 10 meters using SSB and FT8.

CANADA, VY0. Kris, KM2KM, plans to be QRV as KM2KM/VY0 from Iqaluit on Baffin Island, IOTA NA-047, between May 26 and June 3. He expects to operate CW on 20, 17, and 15 meters, running from 6 to 8 AM and 7 to 9 PM local time.

CAMBODIA, XU. The XU7AMO team at the National Polytechnic Institute of Cambodia has launched regular weekly operations on the HF bands and the QO-100 satellite. Look for activity every Wednesday at 0500 UTC on 15 meters SSB, and every Friday at 1200 UTC on QO-100 SSB.

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

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



**June meeting: Wednesday June 3, 2026 7 pm
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

n9jf@arrl.net