



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

---

## *February 2024 Newsletter*

---

### **Upcoming IRC Meetings and Events:**

**February 24:** Indy Radio Club POTA event. Noon to 3:00 at Fort Harrison State Park.

**March 8:** Station Set-up considerations with K9RU, KB9RDS, and KJ9B 7:30 PM at Salvation Army EDS.

**April 12:** ARRL Panel presentation & discussion. AK9R and others. 7:30 PM At Salvation Army EDS.

---

### **Highlights from the February Meeting:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 by Club Vice-President, Dave Miller, K9RTT. There were 26 in attendance.

First time attendee, Lori Wachtman, KC9DPC, was welcomed to the meeting.

Next month's meeting will be a presentation by K9RU, KB9RDS, and KJ9B, on considerations when setting up your station.

Under upcoming events, Jeff Hammer, N9NIC, announced that the Indy Radio Club will be hosting a Field Day site this year. More information will be forthcoming. Ken, KJ9B, announced that the club will be doing another W9JP POTA activation on Saturday, February 24th *[more information in this newsletter]*. Jim, K9RU, reminded those

present that the ARRL can help you renew your license as a no cost service for ARRL members.

Next, K9RU introduced our presenter, Dave Arland for his annual Consumer Electronics Show review. Dave is Executive Director of the Indiana Broadcasters Association. This was his 33rd year going to CES. The show started in 1967 in NY. There were 3500 companies represented at the show this year with the equivalent of 47 football fields under roof. Dave worked in the ATSC booth. Terrestrial Television Broadcasting is transitioning to the ATSC 3.0 standard (from ATSC 1). Indianapolis currently has at least the 4 major networks (ABC, CBS, NBC, and Fox) broadcasting in ATSC 3.0 (also called Nextgen TV). All of these are currently broadcast from the former WTTK tower.

Dave was very impressed, and tempted, by the food booth close to the ATSC 3 booth that was serving BACON WRAPPED HOTDOGS!

Some of the things that were seen in this year's "Eureka Park", where the latest ideas are promoted, were:

- Chef AI devices (<https://chefaicookware.com/>)
- Lots of environmentally friendly products.
- Basically a "smart device" intended to replace a whiteboard. This device is placed on your refrigerator, and interfaces with its app. You then speak to the device what is needed on your shopping list, and that is added to the list generated by the app.
- A "Keurig" type device that makes beer.
- A company selling Electronics kits for kids.
- A "Personal Helicopter" concept (Yikes!).
- A security app for women called "The Sorority".
- The [Pawbby](#) "ultra self cleaning" litter box.
- "Birder" binoculars that identify the bird you're looking at.
- [GermPass](#) disinfecting system for keypads, door handles, and other publicly handled items.

Dave showed examples of the State of Indiana predominately on display.

He said there were lots of robots, including a massage robot. He also saw a baby formula monitoring device.

In the "retro" category, there was a Crosley branded Mini record player, as well as many other brands of "yesteryear" that are "not dead yet", including RCA, Blackberry, Toshiba,

and Sharp. In televisions, there were several vendors showing off their transparent TVs. One of the more “interesting” devices was the [LG Labs “DukeBox”](#), incorporating an old-school tube type audio amplifier behind a transparent OLED panel. Among the largest TVs on display was the TCL 98” TV.

As always, there were several questions from the group after Dave’s presentation.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

## **Ham Radio News:**

### **HELP NEEDED FOR LOCAL EVENTS**

With Spring comes events that need Ham Radio volunteers. Here is a listing of the events that need our help (in chronological order, with links):

1. [Sam Costa Half Marathon](#) (March 23)
2. [Owen Putnam 50/50](#) (March 23)
3. [Carmel Marathon](#) (April 13)
4. [500 Festival Mini-Marathon](#) (May 4)
5. [500 Festival Parade](#) (May 25).

Consider volunteering for any of these events that you can.

### **WEATHER SPOTTER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

Even though we’re currently in the midst of lovely Indiana winter weather, spring IS coming. Springtime in Indiana normally means storms. So, for storms, we need storm spotters. Here is a listing of Spotter training classes for some of the “donut” counties:

**Marion County:** March 7, 6 pm to 8 pm at Salvation Army EDS

**Marion County:** March 20, 2 pm to 4 pm at Indiana State Fairgrounds, Purdue Extension Bldg.

**Hendricks County:** Feb. 24, 11 am to 1 pm at Hendricks County Gov. Ctr., Danville

**Hamilton County:** March 2, 9 am to 11 am at Carmel-Clay Middle School, Carmel (registration required)

**Morgan County:** Feb. 20, 6 pm to 8 pm Location TBD

**Hancock County:** March 21, 6 pm to 8 pm at Ninestar Connect, Greenfield

The complete list of training sessions for the state (including several on-line sessions) can be found at <https://www.weather.gov/ind/spotter#train>

## **IN PERSON TECHNICIAN CLASS COMING UP**

If you or someone you know is interested in getting licensed, there will be a 2 day in-person class on April 13 and April 27, with testing after the class on the 27th. This class will be hosted by the LDS Church ERC group. The class will be held at 201 Eastview Drive, Franklin, IN 46131. Contact Bruce Enz, W9ENZ, at [bruceenz@gmail.com](mailto:bruceenz@gmail.com) to register and for more information.

## **ANOTHER INDIANAPOLIS RADIO CLUB POTA EVENT**

After canceling our last scheduled POTA event due to cold weather, we're going to host another club POTA operating event at Fort Harrison State Park on Saturday, February 24, starting around noon, and going until 3:00 or so. We're going to be at a different location from our previous events. This time, we will be up by the Visitor Center and Museum (see screenshot next page). The plan right now is to have two HF stations on the air, and we will be using Gordon and Ellen Brock's (KD9RUE and KD9RUD's) enclosed tent to protect us from the wind. This will be a great opportunity to experience the fun of Parks on the Air activity on the HF bands.

As on any club activation, everyone will use the club's call (W9JP), but anyone that is registered in the POTA systems will get credit for contacts they make. If you're new to the POTA program or new to HF this is a great chance to get some experience. If you are currently a Technician, or not even licensed, come on out. There will be control operators at the radios to help you out.



## **ARRL MEMBERS GET NOTICES OF LICENSE EXPIRATION**

ARRL Members will automatically receive an Amateur Radio License Renewal Notification from ARRL via email. This notice is sent once the license is just outside the 90-day window for renewal. Amateurs can renew no sooner than 90 days before the expiration of their license. For all the details, go to <http://www.arrl.org/expiration-notice>

## **HAMVENTION TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW**

Even though we're firmly in winter right now, Hamvention is almost right around the corner. That's right, Friday, May 17 through Sunday, May 19, arguably the largest hamfest in the US, Hamvention will be taking place just 2 hours east of Indianapolis, in Xenia, OH. Advance tickets are available now for Hamvention for just \$26 each, a savings of \$4 each over purchasing at the gate. Tickets can be purchased online by going to <https://hamvention.org/purchase-tickets/>

## **UPCOMING CENTRAL INDIANA TESTING SESSIONS (check with sponsor before planning to attend)**

Anderson IN 46016-2238

Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club

Date: Feb 20 2024

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Jeffrey L. Dyer

(317) 775-3415

Email: k9dyr@arrl.net

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Madison County EMA EOC

200 N Delaware St

Anderson IN 46016-2238

Website: <http://www.andersonrepeater.club/>

Lafayette IN 47901-1141

Sponsor: Tippecanoe County VE Team

Date: Feb 24 2024

Time: 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

Contact: Elizabeth M. Flowers

Email: [tippecanoeveteam@gmail.com](mailto:tippecanoeveteam@gmail.com)

VEC: LAUREL VEC

Location: Lafayette

Pre-Registration Required

Visit Website to Pre-Register

511 Ferry St

Lafayette IN 47901-1141

Website: <https://www.tcvet.info/>

Gas City IN 46933-1155

Sponsor: GCARC

Date: Feb 27 2024

Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

Contact: Mitchell D. Miller

(765) 661-5893

Email: [mitchmiller55@gmail.com](mailto:mitchmiller55@gmail.com)

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: EMA Building

3921 S Garthwaite Rd

Pre-register only, contact ahead

Gas City IN 46933-1155

Website: <https://www.grantarc.net/>

Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc

Date: Mar 02 2024

Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: William F. Wootton

(812) 876-8689

Email: [KC9ACL@ARRL.NET](mailto:KC9ACL@ARRL.NET)

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: First United Church - Call or email ahead due to COVID-19

2420 E 3rd St

Register at 11:30am

Testing at 12 NOON

Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Indianapolis IN 46218-2169

Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio club W9JP

Date: Mar 09 2024

Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

Contact: James K. Rinehart

(317) 721-1458

Email: [testing@indyradioclub.org](mailto:testing@indyradioclub.org)

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility  
4020 Georgetown Rd  
Indianapolis IN 46218-2169

Franklin IN 46131-9733  
Sponsor: Mid State Amateur Radio Club  
Date: Mar 16 2024  
Time: 9:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: Jacqueline M. Frederick  
Email: ki6qog@yahoo.com  
VEC: LAUREL VEC  
Location: Johnson County REMC  
750 International Dr  
Franklin IN 46131-9733

Greenfield IN 46140-9654  
Sponsor: Hancock County ARC  
Date: Mar 16 2024  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: David Keiser  
(317) 440-8486  
Email: kc9urp@hrtc.net  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Hancock EMA EOC  
640 South Franklin St  
Greenfield IN 46140-9654  
Website: <https://w9atg.org/ve-testing2/>

Anderson IN 46016-2238  
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club  
Date: Mar 19 2024  
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: Jeffrey L. Dyer  
(317) 775-3415  
Email: k9dyr@arrl.net  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Madison County EMA EOC



200 N Delaware St  
Anderson IN 46016-2238  
Website: <http://www.andersonrepeater.club/>

Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Sponsor: GCARC  
Date: Mar 26 2024  
Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: Mitchell D. Miller  
(765) 661-5893  
Email: [mitchmiller55@gmail.com](mailto:mitchmiller55@gmail.com)  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: EMA Building  
3921 S Garthwaite Rd  
Pre-register only, contact ahead  
Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Website: <https://www.grantarc.net/>

## **FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER**

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at [http://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews\\_indyradioclub.org](http://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews_indyradioclub.org).

## **SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS**

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)

## Signals from the Past:

### From the February 1964, Ama-Chewer:

The recent trip of two of the pupils of the Indiana School for the Blind to the Federal Building to take the test for a General class license was another step forward in amateur activities at the school. This will be the first time that a General license has been issued to one of the pupils while he was still attending school.

---

## Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- Indy Radio Club POTA event: Feb. 24, Noon to 3:00 at Fort Harrison St. Park
- Cabin Fever Hamfest: Feb. 24, 7:00 am to 1:00 pm CENTRAL TIME, at La Port Civic Auditorium, La Porte, IN
- Dugger Hamfest: Feb. 24, 8:00 am to noon at Dugger Community Center.

## 2023 & 2024 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – [president@indyradioclub.org](mailto:president@indyradioclub.org)
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - [vp@indyradioclub.org](mailto:vp@indyradioclub.org)
- Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - [secretary@indyradioclub.org](mailto:secretary@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Kyle Bandy, KC9GLR - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org](mailto:w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org)

**To Pay Dues or Donate to the club, go to**  
<https://tinyurl.com/irc-dues-payment>

**Or Scan this QR Code with your smartphone:**

