



President's Message

The season—and the year—are moving quickly, it seems to me. Temperatures in the 80s, weather that does not include snow, and successful license testing sessions say “spring” to me. There are still things we have to get done pretty quickly, like Superfest plans and finalized invitations for our speaker(s).

Not to worry, though: We are progressing well.

Please remember our need for someone to relieve the burden that Rich Holtman KD9ANU is carrying. A new person volunteering in the secretary's position would help to invigorate others, so keep your thinking caps on.

How many of you plan to travel to Xenia, OH, for Hamvention®? It's a great chance to see all the newest things on the ham and electronics markets and renew old friendships at the same time. Take good photos and keep some notes so you can regale us with stories on your return.

We can all enjoy!

Our Field Day 2019 is coming soon. Decide now whom you intend to bring with you to Bass Pro Shops® so they, too, can operate. Bring spouses and children to our FD 2019 potluck/picnic; that way everyone can enjoy one another's company and good eating, together with the dulcet sound of communications in the background.

Jon Dainty, NM0O, Club President

May's Club Events:

May 2nd: Board Meeting

May 9th: Club Meeting

May 22nd: ARES Net on the 075

May 30th: Superfest Meeting

June Club Events:

June 6th: Board Meeting

June 13th: Club Meeting

June 19th: ARES Net on the 075

June 27th: Superfest Meeting

Inside this issue:

Page 1: President Message
Page 2: Peoria County ARES, Sunday Night Net, Club Directors
Page 3/4/5: Minutes of Board/Club Meeting
Page 6: Repeater Updates, Chicago Marathon Presentation
Page 7: ARRL May Special Stations
Page 8: May Club Meeting Info
Page 9: FCC Testing Information,

Peoria County ARES

<u>Date/Time (CST)</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
May 1 st 8:00 pm	NET	075 Repeater
May 8 th 8:00 pm	NET	075 Repeater
May 15 th 7:00 pm	Meeting	Peoria American Red Cross

Meeting Agenda: Review of Spring Statewide ARES/AUXCOMM SET, ARES Show & Tell, Winlink Tip of the Month, Emergency Expo, Field Day and More!

Rich Holtman, KD9ANU, Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Peoria County ARES email: kd9anu@arrl.net
Winlink: kd9anu@winlink.org Cell: 309-256-4272 ARES website: <http://www.peoriacountyares.org/>

Club Sunday Night Net

The club holds a weekly net on Sunday Evening at 8:30 PM Local Time on the 147.075 repeater. All Amateurs with 2-meter privileges are invited to check in.

The Sunday Night W9UVI Net check-in results for the month are shown in the table below.

April- 7	April- 14	April-21	April- 28	Total
17	19	25	24	85

April 7th Check Ins: KD9JXR W9WTF N9SJZ N9WFT W8NWG KD9IBC KC9RAV W9WGN KD9ANU W9TGO K9DRF KD9JLX W9GLO KB9KBC K9HJZ AA9MK KC9YTT, Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

April 14th Check Ins: K8ROY KD9JXR N9SJZ N9LFE KD9IBC W8NWG NM0O W9WGN W9JDP W9TGO W9GMK KD9MOA KD9IVV KB9ATO KD9ANU KB9THI KC9RAV WB9UNM N9GZ, Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

April 21st Check Ins: W9WTF KD9JXR KD9BRV N9LFE W9JDP W8NWG W9TGO W9GMK NM0O KD9IBC N9WFT KB9ATO KD9ANU W9GLO K9HJZ WW9DLM KD9LQL N9GZ KD9HZS KD9MOA/AG KC9YTT AA9MK WB9UNM/AE KD9IVV K9JLX, Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

April 28th Check Ins: K8ROY KD9JXR KD9HZZ W9WTF KD9MOA W8NWG K9TNT W9WGN NM0O N9WFT W9GMK KD9IVV N9SJZ KD9BRV KD9IBC KC9YTT N9LFE W9TGO WW9DLM W9GLO WB9UNM KC9RAV AA9MK KB9ATO, Submitted by KD9DBQ 73

Club Directors

President Jon Dainty, NM0O; Vice President Corey Ressler, KC9RAV; Secretary, ; Treasurer Deb Suhs, KA4DEB; Directors Neil Hubert, KC8FYI (1 year); Dave Lucas, AB9DL (2 years); Trustee Tom Hunt, W8NWG,

Repeater Chair Steve Grob, KD9AER; Superfest Chair Deb Suhs, KA4DEB.

Minutes of Board Meeting

Minutes of PAARC Board Meeting – April 4, 2019

The meeting was called to order by PAARC Club Vice-President Corey, KC9RAV, at 7:04 pm. Others present were Tom, W8NWG, Steve, KD9AER and Rich, KD9ANU, plus via telephone Neil ,KC8FYI, and Melinda, K9GOA.

Tom, W8NWG, made a motion to approve the board meeting minutes from January, which was seconded by Steve, KD9AER.

The motion was approved.

There was no Treasurer Report to review, as the Treasurer was absent tonight.

A volunteer to become Club Secretary is needed – please contact any board member if interested.

SuperFest: Tom, W9NWG, reported that both he and Jon have sent emails to Valerie Hotzfeld. In addition, he plans to contact Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, of Amateur Radio Newline and Ham Nation, as a possible speaker. Tom has also contacted Ray Novak, ICOM America's National Sales Manager, to learn what is available from ICOM for ham fest door prizes – the info has been passed along to Mark, W9WGN, who is visiting HRO in Atlanta soon. The raffle license has been obtained, so now the tickets can be printed.

License Classes: No report.

Repeater Updates: Steve KD9AER reported that a tower climb in Groveland to investigate problems with the VHF antenna at 180 feet level has been canceled by the climber. Further reports that we may be experiencing a firmware issue with the new DR2X on the 075 repeater – Yaesu wants it sent in, but first Steve is confirming the firmware version, as he thinks it already has the latest version. Regarding K9PEO at 146.850 in Glasford – the Annual visit is planned for May, will update the Trustee Documents on site during this visit. Regarding the D-Star Repeaters – a password hack has been found, so Steve now has access to the controller computer.

Membership Report: No Report.

Repeaters

The PAARC operates three 2-meter repeaters, which are open for all amateurs with 2-meter privileges. The 146.250 (input)/146.850 (output) (K9PEO) repeater is located in Glasford. The repeater uses a 103.5 Hz input tone. The 147.675 (input)/147.075 (output) (W9UVI) repeater is located in Groveland. This repeater is used for the Sunday night net. This repeater uses a 156.7 Hz input tone for CTCSS squelch control. The W9PIA D-Star 144.505 (input)/145.105 (output) repeater is located in Groveland.

Membership Information

Membership in the Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club is available to any licensed amateur and is administered as follows: Voting Membership: \$25 per calendar year. Ages 18 and under, or 65 and older are \$20 per calendar year. Family Membership: Voting membership for first member and \$15 for each additional member in same household. Non-voting Membership: \$10 per calendar year for amateurs who are interested only in occasional participation. Honorary Life Memberships: are free and are awarded by a vote of the

Website: The W9UVI Domain name has been transferred to the Club, under Deb Suhs' name.

Summer Field Day: The dates set by the ARRL are June 22 and 23. We are going to be at BassPro Shops in East Peoria. Corey KC9RAV presented options for the tent rental. Tom moved that he proceed with the 20' by 40' tent, plus 8 tables and 16 chairs, this motion passed. A discussion was held regarding the timing for a picnic, which resulted in agreement that the picnic be held at dinner time, and further will consist of a potluck, including cold cuts, hot dogs, and folks bringing a dish to share (think church style potluck). No plans to charge for the picnic participation, to avoid food inspection issues.

Tom W8NWG made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Neil seconded the motion. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Submitted by Rich KD9ANU Past-Secretary, filling in at tonight's meeting.

April Club Meeting Minutes:

Minutes of the PAARC General Meeting – April 11, 2019

The meeting was called to order by PAARC Club Vice-President Corey KC9RAV at 7:12 p.m.

Tonight's program was an interesting presentation by Corey KC9RAV regarding Ham Radio and the Chicago Marathon.

Corey also presented a slide highlighting the schedule for upcoming club events.

Following Corey's presentation a short business meeting was held.

A motion was made by Mark W9WGN to accept the minutes as published in Bandbits, and that motion was seconded by Tom W8NWG. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved. Jon NM0O read the Treasurer's Report prepared by Treasurer Deb KA4DEB who was not present. A motion was made by Tom W8NWG to accept the Treasurer's Report, and that motion was seconded by Mark W9WGN. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

general membership after recommendations from the Board of Directors. Dues are payable by February 1ST of each year.

Bandbits Policy

BANDBITS is the official publication of the Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club and is distributed to all members in good standing, and to other interested parties. Permission is granted to reprint from BANDBITS provided that credit is given to the original author, if listed, and that BANDBITS is identified as the source of the material. Opinions expressed in articles and letters are those of the author and may or may not reflect those of BANDBITS or the Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club. BANDBITS reserves the right to edit any copy, and to print or refuse to print any contribution. Articles are welcome and can be sent to: BANDBITS Editor – P.O. Box 3508 Peoria, IL 61612-3508 or via E-mail at w9uvi@arrl.net Articles for BANDBITS must be received by the 25th of the month for inclusion in the next issue.

Repeater Update: In Steve KD9AER's absence, Tom W8NWG reported on repeaters. The club has decided to switch to a different tower climber, as Brian has stopped responding to messages. In his place will be a nearby climber by the name of Mike McGhee, who will be checking on the 180 ft antenna at the Groveland site on Saturday, April 13. During this climb the 075 repeater and D-Star will be off-the-air. Our annual visit to the Glasford repeater K9PEO is coming up soon. Rich KD9ANU gave a report on the status of systems and antennas being used at the Bunker for weather spotting and ARES activities.

SuperFest: Tom W8NWG reported that Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, of Amateur Radio Newline and Ham Nation, has replied to an email inquiry and is considering presenting at SuperFest.

The club is still in need of a volunteer for the office of Secretary. Please contact any board member if you are interested.

Motion to adjourn by Corey KC9RAV, and seconded by Mark W9WGN. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Submitted by Rich KD9ANU Past-Secretary, filling in at tonight's meeting.

Best Operating Practices

The ITU Phonetics are
Alpha Bravo Charlie Delta
Echo Foxtrot Golf Hotel India
Juliet Kilo Lima Mike
November Oscar Papa
Quebec Romeo Sierra Tango
Uniform Victor Whiskey X-Ray
Yankee Zulu

ARRL Field Day 2019

2019 Field day is
scheduled for June 22-23
at the East Peoria Bass
Pro Shops.

Repeater Updates

On April 13, a tower climber inspected and repaired the 147.075 repeater antenna. There was a problem with the joint in the mast that supports the series of folded dipoles that make up the DB224E antenna system. Wind was the most likely culprit, causing the joint between the two halves to loosen, thereby affecting the connection between them. This has been fixed, and you can hear the result on the air. The SWR was measurably improved, and the repeater is working reliably.

We will strengthen the antenna by fabricating a bracket for a top support. This will reduce the wind load and result in less stress on the antenna mast joint. We hope to have the bracket installed by early summer.

So now we are operating the W9UVI Repeater with the 180 foot antenna, as originally intended. The W9PIA D-Star repeater on 144.505 is back on the 160 foot antenna. We are

getting reports that the D-Star repeater is working quite well. Our next priority is to get the UHF D-Star repeater running from the same location.

In addition to this, we are looking at what can be done with the 146.85 K9PEO repeater in Glasford. This repeater does not get a lot of use, and while its coverage is not as large as the W9UVI machine, it provides important service to southern Peoria County. There are options to be explored, including linking it with W9UVI, moving it, or leaving it as is. From a public safety standpoint, we would like all of our repeaters to be accessible and robust. The PAARC Board would like your comments and suggestions.

Tom Hunt, W8NWG, Club Trustee

April Club Meeting Presentation

April's presentation was about Ham Radio and the Chicago Marathon. Ham radio operators from Illinois and surrounding states provide communication for the medical teams that watch over 45,000 Chicago marathon runners. W9UVI club members have participated in this event since amateur radio operators have been participating in this event.

Ham Radio Support

- ▶ 20 Course Medical Tents (CMT's)
- ▶ Over 1,000 medical staff
- ▶ Pre-Finish
- ▶ Grant Park Triage, 9 Teams
- ▶ Laflin Medical Facility
- ▶ Indiana Medical Facility
- ▶ 10th Year of Ham Radio Communications
- ▶ 2007 the Marathon was Stopped Because of Extreme Heat



ARRL May Special Station

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Information:</u>
May 4 th -5 th	100th Anniversary Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association	Youngstown, OH	Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association. .3825 7.250 14.250. QSL. www.qrz.com/db/w8qly
May 4 th -Oct 14 th	Lewis & Clark 1804 Expedition Old Baldy 14.325 14.245 3.970 3.950. QSL. Don Lallier, N0HWJ , P.O. Box 303, 610 Windom St., Orchard, NE 68764.	Lynch, NE	donaiddlallier@gmail.com or www.qrz.com/db/n0hwj
May 5 th - 12 th	The INDYCAR Grand Prix	Indianapolis, IN	Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 30954, Indianapolis, IN 46230. www.w9ims.org
May 8 th -10 th	Golden Spike 150th Celebration 14.255 14.040 7.235 7.040. QSL. Robert Smith, 5879 S. 4250 W., Roy, UT 84067. To commemorate the anniversary of the driving of the Golden Spike to complete the Transcontinental Railroad 150 years ago	Roy, UT	Ogden Amateur Radio Club. robert2631@gmail.com or www.w7g.org
May 12 th -19 th	National Police Week 2019 Cops Contest Club. 28.450 21.325 14.275 7.205. QSL.	Prineville, OR	SASE required for commemorative QSL exlasd@msn.com
May 17 th -27 th	EMS Week 2019 Wood County ARES/RACES. 14.275 7.275 3.975; WI WX Tac - Bramdmeister 31550. QSL	Wisconsin Rapids, WI	SASE- #10 envelope Email w9wca@winlink.org with questions. w9wca.com
May 20 th -27 th	The Indianapolis 500 The Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club. 18.140 14.245 7.245 3.840. Certificate & QSL.	Indianapolis, IN	www.w9ims.org

May Meeting Presentation

Club Meeting Thursday, May 9:

Club Member Project Expo



Bring your radio related project (antenna, radio box, soldering/electronics project, radio, etc.) to show to other club members. Share your ideas, or get new ideas from others.

A fun social event. Light refreshments will be provided.

Thursday, May 9 — 7:00 p.m

The Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club meets at the American Red Cross Building

311 W John H Gwynn Jr Ave.

Membership Dues

Membership dues are past due and need to be paid immediately. Dues can be paid in person at a meeting, by mailing a check to the club at PO Box 3508 Peoria, IL 61612, or by PayPal via the link under the Membership tab on the club's website www.w9uvi.org. Select the membership level you want, and it will take you to PayPal. You do not have to have a PayPal account to pay your dues.

Items For Sale/Donation

7 10 foot Rohn tower sections, 2 are top sections. Never used, \$140 a section or best offer. Contact Al Lurie's daughter Celeste Lurie Restrepo at 309-645-4303 if interested. Craig Thompson has been selling off N9LR's radio gear, he has several 2m radios and power supplies he would like to donate to anyone needing either. Please contact Craig by email at craig@k9ct.us if interested.

AREA FCC EXAMS

Morton: FCC Amateur Radio Exams are held at the Morton Public Library, 315 West Pershing at 12:00 noon the third Saturday of even numbered months or as noted: Feb 16, Apr 20, June 16, Aug 18, Oct 20 and Dec 15. If no one is there at that time the examiners will leave as they are all volunteers. Walk-ins are welcome. Please bring your original Radio License (if any) and a copy, and the original and a copy of any of any Certificate of Completion (CSCE) not already acted upon by the FCC. Copies are needed to send with your license application. Fee for 2019 is \$15.00. You will also need identification such as a Driver's License, and a Social Security Number. Contact Bob Bush W9WTF at W9WTF@ARRL.net for more information.

Bloomington: The schedule for W5YI-VEC Amateur Radio testing dates for 2019 are: 3/16 1:00- 3:00, 5/25, 7/20 and 11/9 are tentative dates. Testing is held at the Bloomington Public Library Community Room located at the intersection of E. Olive St. and S. East St. Entrance is off S. East St. People should contact Keith a week prior to the test for date and location. Testing begins at 1:00pm. Bring two forms of identification. You will need a copy of your current license plus and CSCE you want to apply. Contact Keith Hanson AC9S at ac9s@hotmail.com (preferred) or (309) 378-4416 for more information. Note on testing – A Social Security number is now required for all FCC exams.