May 2000

166th Edition

T.A.R.A. Tattler

> Program Night

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

F I E L D D A Y AUCTION

See Page 8 for full schedule of Field Day Activities

KB9RLT won \$30.00 May 9th 2-----Drawing June 13th for \$6.00-----0

TTTTT AAA RRRR AAA T A A R R A A T AAAAA RRRR AAAAA T A A R R T R Α R A A

President N9GKE Bruce Stewart Vice-Pres WB9NIF Steve Van Frank Secretary W9YE Bob Martin Treasurer N9ZFG Major Sherwin Director WB9SWD Curtis Sherwin Hamfest WB9BRX David Dull www.w9reg.org

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COMING EVENTS

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24MAY00 WED 1930 Program Meeting, Field Day Auction

3JUN00 SAT 0600-1300 Sangamon Valley RD & Shooting Stars 4-H Club Hamfest, Illinois State Fairgrounds, giant covered flea market, indoor exhibits, commercial venders, VE sessions, free parking TDalk-in 146.685, $5.00

3JUN00 SAT 0800 IRA Hamfestival, Hudsonville Fairgrounds near Grand Rapids, MI, free parking, overnight camping $10, VE Exams at 1030, Talk-in 147.16 link repeater system

4JUN00 SUN 0600-1500 Starved Rock Radio Club Hamfest, Princeton, IL
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4JUN00 SUN 0600-1500 Starved Rock Radio Club Hamfest, Princeton, IL
Bureau County Fairgrounds, Princeton, free outdoor flea
market, free parking, free on-site camping,
Talk-in 146.955 (103.5Hz), \$7.00

11JUN00 SUN Six Meter Club of Chicago Hamfest, Wheaton, IL A/ARRL 13JUN00 TUE 1930 Business Meeting

18JUN00 SUN Lake County ARC Dad's Day Hamfest, Crown Point A/ARRL

20JUN00 TUE 1830 ARRL/VEC, Walk-ins allowed, UAW Local 1166, 2760 North 50 East, Kokomo, IN 46902, contact: Terry L Miller, 765-457-2449 A/ARRL.ORG

21JUN00 WED 1940 Special TARA Meeting, logging software

24JUN00 SAT FIELD DAY {{See Page 8 for schedule}}}
25JUN00 SUN FIELD DAY {{{See Page 8 for schedule}}}

28JUN00 WED 1930 Program Meeting, Field Day post mortem

8JUL00 SAT Indianapolis Hamfest Association Hamfest A/ARRL 9JUL00 SUN Kankakee ARS Hamfest, Peotone, IL A/ARRL

11JUL00 TUE 1930 Business Meeting

18JUL00 TUE 1830 ARRL/VEC, Walk-ins allowed, UAW Local 1166, 2760 North 50 East, Kokomo, IN 46902, contact: Terry L Miller, 765-457-2449 A/ARRL.ORG

23JUL00 JUN Fox River Radio League Hamfest, Sugar Grove, IL A/ARRL

26JUL00 WED 1930 Program Meeting, tentatively a presentation on antenna modeling software

29JUL00 SAT 0900 ARRL/VEC, Walk-ins allowed, sponsored by Clinton County ARC, Frankfort Public Library, Courthouse Square, 208 West Clinton Street, Frankfort, contact: Samuel F Paul, 765-659-1720 A/ARRL.ORG

6AUG00 SUN Land of Lakes Hamfest, Angola A/ARRL 8AUG00 TUE 1930 Business Meeting 13AUG00 SUN Kokomo & Grant County ARCs Hamfest, Greentown A/ARRL

TARA Business Meeting Minutes -- 5/9/00

The meeting was called to order at 7:32pm by President Bruce Stewart N9GKE. Minutes from the 4/11/00 business meeting were read. Curtis Sherwin WB9SWD moved to approve the minutes as read. Bob Lusby K9FOH seconded, and the motion carried. Major Sherwin N9ZFG gave the Treasurer's report and received no questions. He noted that the club T-shirt orders were due at the meeting.

Old Business

- We will try to have the presentation by J. B. Van Sickle K9KRE on August 23. The 4/26/00 program meeting was canceled due to a death in Van's family.
- Steve Van Frank W9TN indicated the new key procedure is now in place. If you want a key to the station, make a request to a club officer and the officer will in turn request a key and alarm code from the Red Cross. You will then pick up your key and alarm code directly from the Red Cross. This will help the Red Cross keep a single accurate database of people with access to the building.
- Steve Van Frank presented the list of surplus equipment published in the April newsletter for approval. Some discussion took place, and the trailer hitch was removed from the list at the request of Curtis Sherwin. The hitch should stay with the club trailer. Also, it was noted that the club owns two vertical antennas that are not on the surplus equipment list, and these will be put back on the tower. Bob Lusby moved that the equipment on the list be sold with the exception of the trailer hitch. Jack Freeman KF9CT seconded and the motion passed.
- The 9913 coax that we previously authorized Curtis Sherwin to buy from an estate sale has not yet been paid for, but Curtis is going to measure the coax to determine the total price and request a check from the Treasurer. We need this coax for Field Day.
- Don't forget the Field Day auction 5/24/00! Bob Lusby volunteered to be an auctioneer.
- Dave Dull WB9BRX sent in the paperwork to insure that our hamfest is an ARRL sanctioned event. Bruce Stewart reported he has been in touch with the right person, and this is now straightened out.

New Business

- Jack Freeman volunteered to see if we can store the plywood hamfest tables and even the club trailer out at Purdue Salvage. The hamfest tables are not used for Field Day, but are stored in the trailer and must be moved every year. Also, the weight of the plywood is hard on the trailer springs.
- A Field Day budget was discussed. Several items need to be purchased before the next business meeting (primarily at Dayton), and so should be proposed now. Curtis Sherwin noted the need for more ladder line, rope, and pulley blocks. He volunteered to look for these items at Dayton. He made a motion to approve up to \$150 for these items. Bob Lusby seconded, and the motion passed. Steve Van Frank described the battery backup scheme we have discussed and will use at Field Day. This involves building a few battery backup boxes. Two will be paid for by the club, and three others will be paid for by club members and loaned to the club for FD. The two boxes that the club will keep will be useful all year providing battery backup in the club station for the Corsair and the FT-847. So, this expense is not really just for FD. The cost for the two boxes with the required cables and high current connectors may total up to \$200. Every attempt will be made to lower the cost by combining orders with the other club members who are building these boxes. Some parts will be searched for at Dayton. Also, the need for screened dining fly type tents for FD was discussed. Since we agreed at the last planning meeting that we will not use air conditioning, the stations will be housed in tents. We have five stations planned. Tim Gardner KB9JDE has volunteered to loan us one tent, so we need four more. Curtis Sherwin reported seeing them at Big Lots for \$40. Steve Van Frank volunteered to acquire these items. Bob Lusby moved that the club approve \$400 for the battery backup boxes and the four tents. The motion was seconded by Dave Dull and the motion carried.
- Marty Lynch KA1LXG was admitted as a new member on a motion by Steve Van Frank seconded by Steve Belter WB9SGP. Marty recently moved to the area. Welcome, Marty!
- Steve Van Frank noted that the old key list is inaccurate as members have come and gone over the years. The Red Cross has indicated that the alarm codes come from a fixed pool, and it would be good to return some codes so new ones may be issued. It would be impractical to recover all the unused keys and alarm codes. Steve investigated rekeying the three locks involved, and it would cost \$69. The rekeying has been approved by the Red Cross. If we rekeyed, active members would keep their current alarm codes, but inactive codes would be returned to the Red Cross. It was noted that in the past the club used to charge members for keys. Steve reported the keys will cost approximately \$1.80, so charging \$2 for each key would cover our cost. Jeff Stewart KF9UP moved that the club rekey the locks and start charging members \$2 for each key issued. Curtis Sherwin seconded and the motion carried. We will have to pick a date to rekey the locks and exchange keys. Watch the newsletter for details. Use the current keys until further notice.

Finally, someone won the drawing! Jim Haynes KB9RLT was present to collect his \$30. Jack Freeman moved to adjourn and Dave Dull seconded and the meeting adjourned at 8:39pm.

Respectfully submitted, Steve Van Frank W9TN, V. P.

TIPPECANOE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Treasurer's Report April 1, 2000 through April 30, 2000

Income Received:	Date	<u>Amount</u>
Dana Hoggatt KB9SSS Dues 2000 & 2001	4/14/00	\$12.00
Dana Hoggatt KB9SSS Battery Donation	4/14/00	\$10.00
Michael Brown KB9WFN Dues 2000	4/14/00	\$6.00
Curtis Sherwin WB9SWD Field Day Auction 19	· -	\$52.00
Various member - TARA 2000 shirts	4/30/00	\$221.50
Interest on Savings	4/30/00	\$221.50 \$7.49
	4/30/00	Φ7.4 9
Т	Total Income:	
Disbursements:		
Bruce Stewart - N9GKE - Flowers (Wiggins & V	Vard) 4/8/00	\$60.00
Curtis Sherwin - WB9SWD - Trailer tire - 1999	4/30/00	\$15.00
т	otal Disbursements:	\$75.00
Summary:		
Beginning Checking Account Balance	4/1/00	\$163.10
Beginning Savings Account Balance	4/1/00	\$4,600.81
Beginning Value of CD (Issued 11/08/95, APR 4	4.20%) 4/1/00	\$6,877.45
Beginning Cash on Hand	4/1/00	\$12.00
В	Beginning Assets:	
Ending Checking Account Balance	4/30/00	\$175.60
Ending Savings Account Balance	4/30/00	\$4,608.30
Current Value of CD (Matures 5/8/00)	4/30/00	\$6,877.45
Ending Cash on Hand	4/30/00	\$226.00
Ending Assets:		\$11,887.35

Major W. Sherwin N9ZFG Treasurer

Thanks to those that got information for this issue to me in a timely manner, so we could get on our way to Dayton on Thursday.

Word from the ARRL is that they have processed VE information from sessions prior to April 15, approx 35,800 of them.

They are expecting more than 13K new Generals & in excess of 10K new Extra class hams. Expect four weeks before you receive your license.

TARA Meeting Attendees	Date	: 5-9-00
Name.	Call	Count
Jack D. J. Leeman	KF9CT/AEL	1
June Sturent	NGGKRJARC	2
Bob Lusten	KGFOH	3
Water Linch	KALLXG	4
My M. Sh	N9ZF6	5
Lin Haynes	KBPRLT	6
JEFF STEWART	KF9UP	7
Dave McCormick	169 DV	8
Steve Yan Frank	W9TN	9
Dove Oull	W69BRX	10
Steve Belter	WB9SGP	11
Lawre Kochl	KZ92	12
		13
		11

TARA Meeting minutes, 4-26-00

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Bruce Stewart at 7:35 pm.

The primary purpose of this meeting was to review past uncompleted motions from prior meetings. This was not possible because J. B. Van Sickle was not able to be present because of the death of his father.

Bruce Stewart, Pres., suggested that we not read the past minutes nor keep minutes of this meeting due to the circumstances.

A brief discussion was held concerning FD plans by Steve Van Frank. It was suggested by this author that we reserve the decision concerning air conditioners -to be decided after we see how hot it is on FD. That was agreed to unanimously.

No other business was discussed and the meeting was adjourned.

respectfully submitted by Bob Martin.

Membership List

WB9NIF is now W9TN

Michael Brown (new member) has received his call, KB9WFN

N9QAP's change in address & tx 1308 South 775 East Lafayette, Indiana 47905-9470 765-296-8591

Correction on W9YE's e-mail address: w9ye@wcic.cioe.com

NEW MEMBER KA1LXG Martin J Lynch 1037 Roberts Street Lafayette, Indiana 47904

* Mendelson's reopens after fire: Have no fear. A fire that struck Mendelson's Liquidation Outlet April 24 won't keep the parts peddler away from Dayton Hamvention. The Dayton Daily News reports the fire was apparently a case of arson. No one was hurt, but the fire caused an estimated \$110,000 in damage to the building and inventory. The store was closed for a day but has since reopened. A \$1000 reward has been posted.

John's got a great start on the member and field day pages. If you can help with pictures from field day please email them to John (or to me) or bring them with you to Saturday breakfast. His working pages are not yet linked to the homepage (www.w9reg.org).

From: John Martin, KB90QC::::::::

I was wondering if you would put something in the Tattler for me. I am working on two web pages for the club. The first one is a member list. It is pretty much The second one is the one I done. need help with. It is going to be of field day. Would you put something in the Tattler asking for old field day pictures, any newspaper articles about it, etc? Please ask them to give a brief description of what is going on and who the subjects are (for pictures) so I can include that in the caption. If they want to email them to me, my address is kb9oqc@home.com . My phone number is 765-463-0009 if they want to make other arrangements for me to get them. I'm keeping the pages fairly simple to start out with, but will jazz them up a little when I get more time. I just want to get something up as soon as I can. If you care to preview them, they are at:

http://members.home.com/kb9oqc/w9reg/members.html

http://members.home.com/kb9oqc/w9reg/fieldday1.html

The field day page is pretty much blank until I get some content. I took some pictures from the 1998 field day, so I will scan the better ones and add them.

Thanks, John Martin KB9OQC

One more thing - if you have a web site and want it linked to your name on the member list, contact me either by phone or email and I'll make the change.

One more thing - if anyone wants a link to their home page on the member list page, they can email/phone that information to me as well and I'll set it up.

A/KB9OQC

Dayton Hamvention

(This is just a small portion of the article on the fire in New Mexico. We had seen an article on a similar installation, but thought some of you might find it interesting. K9KRE)

Amateurs in the Los Alamos area have been using VHF repeaters—including one buried underground—to handle emergency traffic. "Communications is going very well," Knight reported. He said the underground repeater—the solar—powered KB5RX machine on 145.19 MHz—has been a mainstay in the Los Alamos emergency response effort.

"It's down in a 32-gallon drum, down in the ground below several feet of dirt," he explained. A piece of Heliax feedline connects the repeater to a fiberglass antenna. "The thing we were worried about was the fiberglass antenna, which is on top of the tower, and the flames were licking up at the tower, but it's still operational," Knight said. "We're still using it for communication, and it's going 24-hours a day." Before you criticize people, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them. you've got a mile-long head start. And you have their shoes.

* Grosse Pointe Woods Hamfest canceled: Gerald Ro Rosner, N8FGK, has announced that Michigan's Grosse Pointe Woods Hamfest, scheduled for Sunday April 16, and sponsored by SEMARA has been canceled. The Hamfest Committee made the decision based on a lack of advance table sales and dealer participation. SEMARA apologized for any inconvenience.—George Race, WB8BGY

de The ARRL Letter V19 #15 14APROO

(I understand that by the time most of you see this, THE EVENT will be over, including the concert by the Smothers Brothers, hopefully without a snowfall and other unpleasant weather we have survived during our 40+ years of attendance.

A/K9KRE

de RF-CARRIER; XLIII #07 Apr. 00

Hamvention Jim Graver, KB9SP0

{Excerpts only}

Interest in the 2000 Hamvention continues to be high. Advanced ticket sales are up over 10% vs 1999 and the "Holiday Mailer" continues to bring in ticket orders.

Romania has the distinction of being the country requesting the most invitations from amateurs wishing to attend Hamvention this year. Plus, one amateur radio club has already written me about getting their own "Hamvention" started!

There will be Hamvention-related articles in both the April and May issues of QST Magazine. The April issue will feature a five page article on "How Hamvention Happens". The May issue will feature a one page article on "Dayton Hamvention 2000 - A Once-in-a-Lifetime-Gathering". Be sure to check them out.

What's the difference between a taxidermist and a tax collector?

want the world to beat a path to your door is to lay down to take a nap.

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Field Day Planning Continues

Steve Van Frank W9TN

We had another successful planning meeting after the May business meeting. Thanks again to everyone who stayed to talk about Field Day. We had another great turnout. The main topic this time was station design. I proposed that we split the two main HF stations by band instead of by mode. In the past, one station has operated exclusively CW and the other one phone. This simplifies logging, as for FD each band/mode combination is a separate "band" as far as logging and dupe checking is concerned. To avoid the problem of sharing logs between the two stations, each station is assigned exclusive band/mode combinations for the duration of FD. We tend to operate as if the stations were split by band, anyway, because it is difficult for the phone station to be on the same band at the same time as the CW station due to interference. If both stations could run both modes, then we could have two phone or two CW operators on at the same time (on different bands). This may help get more utilization out of the stations. If we use the same antennas we have been using the past few years, the stations are already split by band to some degree. The loop can be used on 160 and 80, whereas there is no good support for those bands on the H. We discussed the pros and cons and decided to try the following split this year:

- 160, 80, 20 all modes plus 15 CW on the loop - 15 phone plus 40 and 10 all modes on the H
- This split gives good day and night bands to both stations. We'll see how it works!

We also decided to put up another antenna for the loop station, but it could also be used by the H station depending on where we put it. Bruce N9GKE volunteered to loan us an R7 multiband vertical. Bruce is going to investigate the mounting options with help from Jack KF9CT.

Logging software was discussed briefly, and it was decided to stick with TR Log. We have been using it since 1998 and it seems to work well, so there is really no reason to switch.

We discussed the whole air conditioning/trailer/tent issue again this month during the business meeting. To clarify, we decided to not use air conditioners as a way of greatly simplifying the power system design. This decision affects other aspects of FD. For example, the TEMA trailer only really works when we have an a/c going in it, because that trailer has poor ventilation. That means we probably can't run a

station in the TEMA trailer. Even the other loaner trailer last year needed its a/c running on Saturday when it was so hot (until we lost the big generator). So, we're left with tents like the VHF station used last year. We may be able to use the club trailer or even the TEMA trailer. It will depend on the weather and what we have time to do to the trailers. But, we have to have a plan that will work without the trailers, and that plan is to use tents (see the business meeting minutes). I hope that clears that up, and I am sorry for any misunderstanding on that issue.

The following people more or less volunteered to be station managers for our five stations:

\Rightarrow	Jeff KF9UP	HF H station (40, 15SSB, 10)
\Rightarrow	Bob K9FOH	HF Loop stn (160, 80, 20, 15CW)
\Rightarrow	Tim KB9JDE	VHF station (6, maybe more?)
\Rightarrow	Steve WB9SGP	Satellite station
\Rightarrow	Curtis WB9SWD	Novice/Tech station

The station managers are responsible for getting their stations set up and on the air. We will all work together to make sure the managers have the resources they need for their stations.

At our next (and last!) planning meeting after the June 13 business meeting, we'll go over the setup plan and any other issues we may still have. Now, here's a schedule of FD events:

- May 24 Field Day Auction 7:30pm at the Red Cross
 June 13 Next planning meeting about 8:30pm (after
- the business meeting)
- June 21 Logging software training and computer setup 7:30pm at the Red Cross
- June 23 Field Day setup 1:00pm at the Indiana Veterans Home
- June 24 Field Day setup 8:00am at the Indiana Veterans Home
- June 24 Field Day operations begin at 1:00pm and continue for 24 hours
- June 25 Field Day tear down 1:00pm until about 5:00pm
- June 28 Field Day wrap-up meeting 7:30pm at the Red Cross

Come join us! Everyone is always welcome, and we can always use the help.

HOW TO GET TO THE VETERANS HOME

Go north on Soldiers Home Road from West Lafayette. Go past Cumberland and through the S curve. After you pass the cemetery, look for the entrance to the Veterans Home on your right. This is actually the back entrance (the main entrance is on SR43, also known as N. River Road). Follow the road in and bear left and look for us on the left near the large clearing. We usually monitor the 147.135+ repeater during setup.