

The Official Newsletter  
of the

Tippecanoe Amateur  
Radio Association

Serving the  
community since  
1951

*Business Meeting:*  
2nd Tuesday of each month  
at 7:30 p.m.

*Program Meeting:*  
4th Wednesday of each  
month at 7:30 p.m.

*Meeting Location:*  
Tippecanoe County  
Chapter of the Red Cross  
111 S. 7th Street  
Lafayette, IN 47901

Visit us on the web at:

<http://www.w9reg.org>

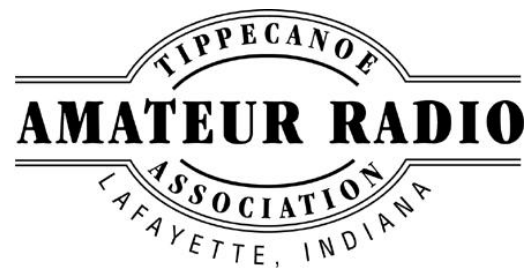
Email us at:

[tattler@w9reg.org](mailto:tattler@w9reg.org)

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# TARA TATTLER



212th Edition

DECEMBER 2004

## 2004 Field Day Results

The results for the 2004 Field Day scores have been tabulated by the ARRL. But before we get to this year's standings, let's take a look back at last year:

### 2003

Category: 2A                      # of QSOs: 929                      Total score: 3876

In 2003, W9REG had an overall ranking of 357 out of 2085 total Field Day submissions. We placed 103rd in the 2A category nationwide, 8th in Indiana overall, and 4th in the state in the 2A category. That was last year...

This year was a different story, and a completely different category. W9REG operated 3 transmitters in the class F category, from the club station, which is also considered an Emergency Operating Center (EOC). We also operated QRP, which increased the multiplier to 5. That's an easy way to increase the score with even fewer QSOs! So, without further adieu, here are this year's Field Day results...

### 2004

Category: 3F                      # of QSOs: 369                      Total score: 4475

- Overall ranking: 322 out of 2250 total FD submissions
- W9REG placed 7th in the state overall, out of 63 entries from Indiana.
- Of all the class F stations *nationwide*, we ranked 9th out of 141.
- And... in the 3F category for *all* of Field Day... W9REG was the **TOP scorer!**

## W9REG - # 1 in the 3F category!!!

Pretty impressive scoring for the 2004 Field Day effort! Granted, there weren't a huge number of class F stations that submitted entries, but we did outdo some pretty big operations.

While we may or may not choose to operate class F again next year, it was a new effort for TARA. And, W9REG did surprisingly well with the FD score! Congratulations are in order for those who participated and made the 2004 Field Day operation from the club station a success. Now it's time to start planning the 2005 Field Day!



## Minutes of the TARA Business Meeting - 09 November 2004

by Tim Gardner, N9LF, Secretary

### Members in attendance:

Steve Parker, WR9A  
Dave Dull, WB9BRX  
Cheryl Parker, K9HER  
Bruce Stewart, N9GKE

Tak Ryuzoji, KC9AMT  
Tim Gardner, N9LF  
Curt Sherwin, WB9SWD  
Alex Younts, KC9CYK

Bob Lusby, K9FOH  
John Parker, KC4YGO

The meeting was called to order at 19:30 by N9GKE.

The minutes of the October 2004 meeting were read. K9FOH moved to accept the minutes and WR9A seconded. Motion passed.

The October Treasurers report shows income of \$176.12 and expenses of \$27.60 with a closing balance of \$8865.93. K9FOH moved to accept the report. KC9CYK seconded and the motion passed.

### Old Business

KC4YGO presented a summary of the 2004 hamfest finances that clearly document the income, expenses and net profit (\$433), as well as a summary of all club finances over the past year.

WR9A presented a summary of club finances, documenting the normal operating income (membership dues) and costs (insurance, Tattler, etc), as well as the typical additional expenses (maintenance, repairs, flowers, etc).

Discussion about raising the dues then ensued. After reviewing the clear documentation presented by WR9A, everyone present was generally agreed that (after 40 years), it was time to raise the dues. The only question being, by how much. It was generally agreed that \$20 was too high, but was \$10, \$12 or \$15 per year sufficient and reasonable. After considerably review, K9FOH moved and WB9BRX seconded that the dues be raised to \$10 per year (\$5 for students and family members). Motioned passed unanimously. As required by the club by-laws, a second vote will be conducted at the December business meeting. If approved by a majority present at that meeting, the new dues rates will take effect January 1, 2005 and must remain unchanged for at least one year. Should the vote fail to pass in December, the dues will remain unchanged.

WB9BRX moved to place a moratorium on the collection of dues (at the current rate) until such time as the pending rate increase is settled. While no one will be allowed to "pay ahead" for the time being, anyone who has already paid for future years will be considered to be paid in full. (While the wording was a bit unclear, the intent was clear.). WR9A seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

K9FOH reviewed an ARRL (informal) survey taken of clubs regarding local hamfests and discussed the results of a questionnaire that he authored about our own hamfest. A number of people have agreed to help with the hamfest. A meeting will be called in the near future to organize a hamfest committee.

N9GKE reminded us once again that we need volunteers to serve as TARA officers for next year. KC4YGO has agreed to stand for re-election to the Treasurers office, but the other three positions are still wide open. Is it your turn?

### New Business

None.

The drawing for \$18 was not won by Pedro Castillo, WB9RVN.

Meeting adjourned at 20:30.

## Hamfest Survey Results

by Bob Lusby, K9FOH

The following is the analysis of the recent Hamfest quiz/questionnaire that was sent out with the TARA Tattler. I received 18 responses (including my own), which represents about 25% of our club membership of approximately 70 total. If all of the responses do not add up to 18 it is because not everyone answered every question.

1. *Did you attend the most recent TARA hamfest?*

Thirteen attended and five did not attend. More local hams/members attended the hamfest, but these were all that responded. On the high side (I'm optimistic), but based on the percentage of responses, this would indicate that about 50 local members attended.

2. *If you attended, did you set up a table or bring some equipment to put on the club table?*

Only four of the respondents brought gear or set up a table. Nine were negative. This is a very low number for local support.

3. *Did you invite someone from the local or other area to come to the fest?*

Eight did and nine did not invite someone.

4. *Did you bring or offer to bring one of our senior citizen hams to the fest?*

Only one ham made this offer and 16 did not. I expected a higher number in this category. (It didn't count if you came and were also a retiree, Tom, sorry.)

5. *Did you help with the set-up or takedown of the hamfest?*

Ten people helped and eight did not help. We have some good support for the set-up/takedown.

6. *Did you help during the fest with ticket sales, food booth, club table, etc?*

Again, a fairly high number of nine helpers and seven non-helpers.

7. *Do you think \$4 is a realistic price for a ticket?*

Nine say yes and eight say no. I probably should have pointed out that the hamfest is the club's largest fundraiser of the year. Maybe the response would have been different.

(continued on next page ...)

**\* CLASSIFIED \***

**For Sale: Dentron GLA1000 Amplifier**

80-10M, asking \$250.

Contact Kevin Craw, KA9VXS

**For Sale: MFJ 890 DX BEACON MONITOR**

It is about a year old and used sparingly. It is complete with box, power cord (12v) and the instruction manual. I looked on the R & L website,

and their price is 87.95 and I am asking \$60 or best offer for this one. You can contact me evenings on the 147.135 repeater or at 447-0147. Thank you and 73.

Jim, WA9LYC

**Wanted:** HF SSB transmitter (not a transceiver) such as a Drake, Hallicrafters, or Johnson. Want to mate it with a Drake R-8B receiver. Also looking for a Heathkit HX-30 six-meter SSB transmitter. Not interested in a restoration project. Bob, k9foh, 477-1280

**Wanted:** QRP and six-meter equipment. Always interested in models that I have not used before as well as old favorites. k9foh, 477-1280

**Wanted:** Drake VHF converter for the R-8 series receivers. Drake accessories for the TR-270 FM transceiver including the TNC-270, Demod 270, and the carrying handle. Bob, k9foh, 477-1280

**Kit building service:** Will build any of the Elecraft transceivers and/or accessories for a nominal fee. Special price for Senior Citizens and anyone with a physical disability. You purchase the items you want and I will build it for you. You must include the pre-wound toroids. Have built two K-2s, two-K-1s, one KX-1 and most of the accessories for these units. Bob, k9foh, 477-1280

**This classified ad service is free to TARA members and placing an ad is easy. Just contact WR9A or K9HER, or email us at: [tattler@w9reg.org](mailto:tattler@w9reg.org)**

( Continued from previous page ... )

8. Did you purchase something from one of the used vendors?  
Eight yes and nine no.

9. Did you purchase something new from one of the commercial vendors?  
Nine yes and eight no. More support for the commercial vendors helps to keep them coming back.

10. How much did you spend on new equipment, if any?

A couple of people said 'yes' they purchased new gear and then answered this one as "Bought no new equipment." So the numbers don't jive. The average purchase was \$33.68. I figured this using \$0, \$12.50, \$37.50, \$75, and for the over \$100 it was difference between \$100 and the actual upper amount (\$370). The average amount spent for new gear was \$about \$33.50. Anyway, the breakdown was:

1. Bought no new equipment: 8
2. Less than \$25: 3
3. More than \$25 but less than \$50: 3
4. More than \$50 but less than \$100: 1
5. More than \$100: 1

11. How much did you spend on used equipment, if any?

- Bought no used equipment: 9  
Less than \$25: 4  
More than \$25 but less than \$50: 3  
More than \$50 but less than \$100: 1  
More than \$100: 0

The average spent on used gear was about \$14. Not much support for those who brought gear to swap/sell.

12. Would you be willing to chair, or serve, on a hamfest committee?

There were six yes, one maybe (?), one (Major) committed to the Food Booth, and nine no. Those who volunteer to help with the committee are:

k9her, n9lf, kc9amt, wr9a, w9cba, k9foh, and kc9bfs (maybe)

We need one of these volunteers, or another club member, to step up and agree to chair the hamfest committee. The key issues to be addressed (as I see them) are:

1. Determine the primary purpose of the hamfest.
2. Select a better location.
3. Determine the best date to have the hamfest.
4. Determine a reasonable ticket price.
5. Address license testing.
6. What activities, if any, can/should be added to the hamfest.
7. Your issue/question goes here.

I thank all of the club members who took the time to respond to the questionnaire. I encourage you to come out to the monthly TARA meeting. Or, better yet, get on your FM rig and start talking about the hamfest or any other local activity that you may be interested in (field day, picnic, contest, Dxing, QRP, and you name it).

Cheers, Bob Lusby, k9foh

## Schedule of Events

- December 11-12: ARRL 10 Meter Contest, 0000Z Dec 11 - 2400Z Dec 12
- December 14: WIRES Annual meeting, Red Cross, 6:30 p.m.
- December 14: TARA Business meeting, Red Cross, 7:30 p.m.
- December 18-19: PSK31 Death Match, 0000Z Dec 18 - 2400Z Dec 19
- December 31: ARRL Straight Key Night

## TARA Birthdays

WA9HKK	December 7
W9YE	December 12
WA9LYC	December 17
KC9LI	December 18
W9WQS	December 28



#### TARA Officers

*President:* N9GKE  
R. Bruce Stewart

*Vice-President:* WR9A  
Stephen Parker

*Secretary:* N9LF  
Tim Gardner

*Treasurer:* KC4YGO  
John Parker

*Director:* W9TN  
Steve Van Frank

#### From the Vice-President . . .

The Western Indiana Radio Emergency Services (WIRES) is the organization that operates and maintains the WB9RVN repeater, on 147.135+ MHz (88.5 Hz CTCSS). It is undoubtedly one of the best and most popular repeaters in this part of the state.

While operating on the amateur airwaves is free, equipment does cost money to purchase and maintain. **Keep in mind that every time you use a repeater, you are using someone else's radio equipment.** Repeaters are generally provided for the amateur community to use at will, within legal and reasonable guidelines. Regular users of local repeaters are usually encouraged to help financially support the ongoing costs involved in operating and maintaining the repeater and its associated equipment.

And, such is the case with the WB9RVN repeater system that we all know and love. *You have the opportunity to show your support for this fine repeater by becoming a member of WIRES.* Dues to join WIRES are just \$25 per year (\$20 for senior citizens), which also entitles you to autopatch privileges.

The annual WIRES meeting will be held at the Red Cross building in Lafayette, Tuesday, December 14, at 6:30 p.m., an hour before the monthly TARA meeting. This is an excellent opportunity for you to join WIRES, if you are not already a member, and find out more about the WB9RVN repeater system. Please consider joining WIRES to help support the operation and upkeep of this fine repeater. If you can't attend the meeting in person, you can make your check payable to W.I.R.E.S., and mail it to: Bruce Stewart, 5 Adina Place, Lafayette, IN 47905

