

President: Curtis Sherwin WB9SWD  
Vice President: Vice-President: Greg Dean, N9NWO  
Secretary: Secretary: Alex Younts, KC9CYK  
Treasurer: John Parker, KC4YGO  
Director: Bruce Stewart N9GKE

# TARA TATTLE

## Committees and Contacts:

Web: <http://w9reg.org> — Steve Van Frank W9TN  
Hamfest: Greg Dean N9NWO  
Newsletter: **TARA TATTLE** — Dave Dull WB9BRX  
[tattler@w9reg.org](mailto:tattler@w9reg.org)

## Meeting Information:

**Business Meeting:** 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm  
**Program Meeting:** 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:30  
**Location:** Tippecanoe Chapter of American Red Cross  
111 S. 7th St., Lafayette, IN 47901

## HAPPY NEW YEAR 2006

The new year adds a high tech method to the list of ways to pay your club dues. Thanks to the work of our outgoing treasurer, you may now pay your membership dues via PayPal. See the treasurer's column for details. Speaking of the 'outgoing' part. We still do not have a nominee for this important position.

Tippecanoe Emergency Management Agency, TEMA, needs our help during the monthly siren tests. A list of siren locations is included in this issue. Use the list to identify the siren you are hearing and increase the accuracy of our input to TEMA. After the test report the results via the 147.135 repeater or phone it directly into TEMA. Contact me, **WB9BRX**, if you would like to operate from the EOC and receive the siren reports. The next test will be January 7th at 11:00.

Also in this issue are more details about the new North Central Indiana Hamfest. Tentatively planned for April 1st (no joke) at the Miami County fairgrounds, this will give local hams an early opportunity to pick supplies for the spring antenna raising ritual or unload that boat anchor that has been gathering dust over the winter months.

## Minutes of the TARA Business Meeting

13 December 2005 by Alex Younts KC9CYK

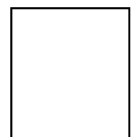
### Members in attendance:

Alex Younts, KC9CYK	Greg Dean, N9NWO
Curtis Sherwin, WB9SWD	John Parker, AB9LE
Steve Van Frank, W9TN	Eric Felz, KC9ICT
Bob Lusby, K9FOH	Dave Dull, WB9BRX
Bruce Stewart, N9GKE	Pedro Castillo, WB9RVN
Joe Rogers, KM9V	Steve Belter, N9IP

The meeting was called to order at 19:40 by **WB9SWD**.

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49 Knoll Crest Court  
West Lafayette, IN 47906



«Name»  
«Address1»  
«Address2»  
«CityLine»

# COMING EVENTS

Dates	Days	Time	Event
7 Jan 06	Sat	10:00 AM	Peru Hamfest Committee Planning Meeting -- Miami County EMA building; POC: <b>Nick - K9NQW</b>
7 Jan 06	Sat	11:00 AM	Siren Test!
10 Jan 06	Tue	7:30 PM	<b>Business Meeting -- Officer Elections! Your vote counts... Especially if you volunteer to be club treasurer!</b>
25 Jan 06	Wed	tba	<b>BANQUET</b> -- Golden Corral, US 26 E. -- in lieu of a program meeting bring the family for an evening of fun and fellowship
4 Feb 06	Sat	11:00 AM	Siren Test!
14 Feb 06	Tue	7:30 PM	Business Meeting
22 Feb 06	Wed	7:30 PM	Program Meeting
4 Mar 06	Sat	11:00 AM	Siren Test!
14 Mar 06	Tue	7:30 PM	Business Meeting
22 Mar 06	Wed	7:30 PM	Program Meeting
1 Apr 06	Sat		<b>Peru hamfest *Tentative date*</b>
1 Apr 06	Sat	11:00 AM	Siren Test!
11 Apr 06	Tue	7:30 PM	Business Meeting
26 Apr 06	Wed	7:30 PM	Program Meeting
6 May 06	Sat	11:00 AM	Siren Test!
9 May 06	Tue	8:30 PM	Business Meeting
19-21 May 06	Fri-Sun		<b>Dayton Hamvention info: <a href="http://hamvention.org/">http://hamvention.org/</a></b>
24 May 06	Wed	tba	<b>Program Meeting - Field Day Auction</b>
3 Jun 06	Sat	11:00 AM	Siren Test!
13 Jun 06	Tue	10:30 PM	Business Meeting
28 Jun 06	Wed	11:30 PM	Program Meeting

**Meeting notes from the North Central Indiana Hamfest Committee Saturday Dec 3, 2005 10:00 am -- 12:30 pm**

On Saturday, Dec 3, a group of amateur radio operators met at the Miami County EMA office to discuss the possibility of sponsoring a hamfest that would take place in March-April of each year, and be located in the north central Indiana area. The idea for this meeting originated in part from low attendance at several local hamfests and the idea that perhaps one regional hamfest would draw larger crowds, be more attractive to commercial vendors, and allow local clubs to pool their resources for hamfest activities. After having informal discussions with several amateurs in the region, it was felt that there was support for such an activity, and so the meeting was scheduled.

At this point it should be recognized that the people in attendance were not there as official representatives of their radio clubs. We met merely as interested hams that have been involved in local hamfests. It is our intent to take the results of this meeting back to our respective clubs and seek their support and endorsement for our plan.

**Nick Nickerson, K9NQW**, opened the meeting with introductions. Hams from Peru, Lafayette, Marion, Kokomo, Hartford City, Wabash, and Logansport were present. A list of attendees can be found at the end of this memo. A general discussion about our purpose was held with general agreement that one centrally located regional hamfest would likely be better than several smaller, local hamfests. We discussed possible locations and times for a regional

hamfest and agreed that Peru would be a central location and the Miami County Fairgrounds a suitable site. We next discussed what time of the year would be best for the hamfest. It was generally felt that early spring would be good. The former Southbend hamfest is being moved to Goshen and will be held in October. Ft. Wayne is held the third week of November. The Dayton hamfest is the third week of May. Based on this we felt late March or early April would be good.

There was additional general discussion about the idea, and benefits that a successful regional hamfest would bring to the north central Indiana amateur radio community. At this point there was unanimous support for going forward with our idea. We have tentatively agreed to form a committee to sponsor a hamfest to be held Saturday, April 1, 2006 at the Miami County fairgrounds. The hamfest will be called the North Central Indiana Hamfest.

Our next task will be to confirm availability of the fairgrounds. Backup dates are April 8th, and March 25th. **Greg Dean** will head the Vendor Committee and Communications/Public Relations Committee. **Linda and Robbie Robinson** will be the Facilities Committee. **Nick Nickerson** will chair the ARRL liaison and Website Committee.

Our next meeting will be held at the Miami County EMA offices Saturday, January 7th at 10:00 am. We will be using email and telephone to keep in touch and advise the hamfest committee as tasks are completed.

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The minutes of the November 2005 meeting were read, a name correction was noted. **N9GKE** moved to accept the minutes as revised, and **K9FOH** seconded; the motion passed.

The November Treasurer's report shows income of \$145.43 and expenses of \$0.00 with a closing balance of \$9,093.92. **N9GKE** moved to accept the Treasurer's report, and **K9FOH** seconded; the motion passed.

**Old Business**

**Greg Dean** attended the Greentown Hamfest Combination meeting. They plan to hold a hamfest on or near April 1st in Peru, Indiana this coming year. They plan to charge \$5 for admission and hope for an attendance of 500. The local club was concerned about participation and support of our local members if our hamfest would be combined with the Peru club, which was said to be about an hour or more away. We were also concerned about our hamfest's attractiveness to commercial vendors, which the members present saw as a valuable service. No changes were seen as necessary at this point.

**Dave Dull** visited the TEMA EOC during the last siren test. He noted that hams could really make a good impact. Anyone interested should contact **Dave Dull, WB9BRX**

**New Business**

The yearly, January dinner will be held at the Golden Coral at 6:30 on January 25th, 2006.

Elections are coming up soon. Anyone interested in a position should contact the President or Secretary.

**AB9LE** moved to create a [PayPal.com](http://PayPal.com) account to pay dues or collect donations, **N9IP** seconded the motion; motion passed.

**Joe Rogers, KM9V**, petitioned for membership. **W9TN** made a motion to accept, **WB9BRX** seconded; motioned passed.

Motion to adjourn was made by **N9GKE** and seconded by **WB9BRX**.

Meeting adjourned at 20:25.

**Treasurer's Report**

**John R Parker AB9LE**

You may now renew your TARA membership via PayPal! Simply send your dues to our club account: [treasurer@w9reg.org](mailto:treasurer@w9reg.org)

You do not need to have your own PayPal account to send money. Just logon to [www.PayPal.com](http://www.PayPal.com) and follow the direc-

tions to send money.

Dues for 2006 are:

- \$10 Single Member
- \$15 Family
- \$5 Student

If you are unsure of your membership dues status, send me an email at [AB9LE@arrl.net](mailto:AB9LE@arrl.net) and I will check the official list. The website membership page has a few difficulties and will not be updated for awhile yet.

Your checks are always welcome to me at:

**John Parker AB9LE**  
**30 Guinevere Ct.**  
**Lafayette, IN 47905-9692**

Cash can be accepted at the regular meetings, the second Tuesday of each month, 7:30 at the Red Cross, 111 S. 7th St., Lafayette.

**Tippecanoe Amateur Radio Association  
Treasurer's Report  
November 1, 2005 through November 31, 2005**

<b>Receipts:</b>			
Tim Gardner, N9LF, dues 2006	11/6/2005		10.00
Dave Dull, WB9BRX, dues 2006	11/6/2005		10.00
Major Sherwin, N9ZFG, hamfest donation	11/6/2005		85.25
Clyde Mauck, K9JWI, dues 2006	11/22/2005		10.00
Interest on CDs	11/14/2005		29.31
Interest on Savings	11/30/2005		0.87
			<b>Total Receipts:</b>
			\$145.43
<b>Disbursements:</b>			
None	11/30/2005		\$0.00
			<b>Total Disbursements:</b>
			\$0.00
			<b>Net Receipts Increase (Decrease):</b>
			<b>\$145.43</b>
<b>CDs</b>			
7 Month, 4.14%, Matures 05/16/06	Next Int 02/15	2551.80	
7 Month, 3.54%, Matures 3/17/06	Next Int 02/17	2542.07	
<b>Summary:</b>			
Beginning value of CDs			\$5,093.87
Beginning Checkbook Balance		\$314.70	
Plus outstanding checks			
Less outstanding deposits			
Beginning Statement Balance		314.70	314.70
Beginning value of Savings Account			3539.92
Beginning Cash on Hand			0.00
			<b>Beginning Assets:</b>
			<b>\$8,948.49</b>
Ending value of CDs			\$5,123.18
Ending Checking Account Statement Balance		\$429.95	
Plus outstanding deposits			
Less outstanding checks			
Ending Checkbook Balance		429.95	429.95
Ending value of Savings Account			3540.79
Ending Cash on Hand			0.00
			<b>Ending Assets:</b>
			<b>\$9,093.92</b>
			<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Assets:</b>
			<b>\$145.43</b>
			<b>Out of Balance:</b>
			<b>(\$0.00)</b>
Disbursements 12/1/2005 to 12/13/2005: Flowers for Cheryl Parker K9HER \$48.23			
Receipts 12/1/2005 to 12/13/2005: Hamfest security deposit refund \$175.00			
John R. Parker AB9LE Treasurer			

**TARA Sets 2006 Hamfest Plans**

TARA will again host its annual Hamfest the third Sunday in August at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds in the Home EC. Building. Response to the change of venue from the loved Sheep Barn was well received.

Even receipts from **N9ZFG, Major Sherwin's** food conces-

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sion were up 20%.

Could the ambiance of the Sheep Barn have suppressed appetites at previous events? One never knows, do one!

In addition to the annual Hamfest, TARA has been participating in organizational meetings to plan a regional Hamfest in Peru. That's Peru, Indiana folks! The likely venue is the Miami County 4-H Fairgrounds, with easy access via its convenient location to highways US 31 and US 24. A tentative date has been set for April 1st.

**Lynn "Nick" Nickerson, K9NQW**, Greentown Hamfest Committee, has been heading up the event planning for the Peru Hamfest. He recently advised that there will be another Hamfest planning meeting January 7th at 10 AM EST at the Miami County EMA building. Following the meeting we will go to Burger King for a pay as you go lunch. Hope to see everyone there. Another notice will be sent out next Wednesday, January 4th, as a reminder.

### Yahoo Groups

You may be interested in several groups available within the Yahoo Groups feature that relate to area hams. Go to [groups.yahoo.com](http://groups.yahoo.com) to sign up. The groups are:

Inham - Information for Indiana hams. Ongoing announcements and messages.

INQP - Information relating to the Indiana QSO Party. Much activity prior to the event.

TC-IN-ARES - Tippecanoe County ARES Information and messages.

### STILL LOOKING FOR A TREASURER!

Time to step up to the plate! I need a replacement! Officer positions at TARA are limited to two consecutive terms at a time. If you would like to take over the job for a year, contact me at [AB9LE@arrl.net](mailto:AB9LE@arrl.net). I will even make you a deal! I will pick it back up after your term is complete, so that you do not need to "get volunteered" for a second term. The data is all on Quick Books and the accounts are kept at Lafayette Bank and Trust, which has lots of convenient branch offices. I will even help!

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### Other News and Observations

#### Purdue News

**The Purdue Amateur Radio Club (W9YB)** is soliciting donations to replace the existing (and quite obsolete) packet cluster software. All donations are tax deductible. Anyone interested in helping out should contact **Tim Gardner/N9LF** at [n9lf@arrl.net](mailto:n9lf@arrl.net) or by telephone at 447-2615. To make sure that all donations get to the right place, all money will be collected and delivered directly in one batch.

**W9YB** conducts a radio net and repeater test every Monday beginning at 8pm local. The first net is on their 6 meter re-

peater (53.190 - MHz), followed 10 minutes later with a net on the 2 meter machine (146.76 - 88Hz). Finally at 8:20 a third net is conducted on the 444.5MHz + 88Hz repeater. Like the ARES Hamtivity net (Thursday, 7:30pm, 147.1235 + 88Hz), membership or affiliation with the Purdue club is not required. All amateurs are welcome.

### Emergency Manager (still) Needed

For several months now, Tippecanoe county has been without a Emergency Manager (EM). The main duties include coordinating amateur activities during real and simulated emergencies and reporting Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) activities to the ARRL and other agencies. The previous EM, **Jeff, KF9UP**, would be happy to provide additional information if you are interested in this important position.

In addition to the EM, **Pedro, WB9RVN**, is also looking for volunteers to help with the ARES Hamtivity net. This 'job' only requires a few minutes every few weeks. Running the net is a great way to keep emergency communication skills sharp. **Pedro**, the Net Manager, will provide additional information and instructions if you are interested.

### Kudos to Amateur Radio from the computer world:

This is the start of **John C. Dvorak's** *Inside Track* column as it appeared in the Nov 8 issue of *PC Magazine*, p. 93

Two weeks after **Hurricane Katrina**, it was reported that over 100 Internet networks were **still down** in Louisiana, as well as another dozen elsewhere that had been in the path of the hurricane. So much for the notion that the Web is impossible to kill. Hard to have an Internet with no power! WiMAX and other solutions are useless, too, though I suppose a generator would be useful for WiMAX. Whatever the case, the **most overlooked** participants in the Katrina relief effort were the **ham radio folks**, who were doing whatever they could as ad hoc emergency dispatchers, creating their own network within the system. These dedicated persons pride themselves on their ability to do worldwide communications under adverse conditions, and the ARRL (Amateur Radio Relay League) and its members, as well as others, were a big part of the aid effort. Of course, since amateur radio is **anything but trendy** in today's Xbox, gene-splicing world, there was zero coverage of its contribution in the mainstream press, and these people are not the world's greatest self-promoters. At least some of us are paying attention. **Good work, guys!** Bush should be giving medals to you all.

*Whither Ultra Wideband Data? By ...*