

W9JOZ

Volume 11, Issue 2

February 2021

Next Meeting is on the Air Feb. 18th at 7 pm. 145.410 repeater

Greeting fellow amateurs,

The New Year brings new challenges.

Let's try to hold the club meeting on the air on the repeater.

We are getting closer to the time when we can meet face to face. Soon members can get vaccinated against COVID.

Stay well and safe.

Dave
Kc8obh



Meetings are at the Henry F. Schricker Library on the third Thursday of each month, with the exception of December.

The library is located on west Culver Road, two blocks west of Highway 35.



Are you on the air?

Library Door locks at 7:00 p.m. so if you are late, knock loud.

**Still no in-person meetings.
But, we do meet on the
repeater.**

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Events

**Meeting is on the air, Feb. 18th 7:00 pm
on the 145.410 repeater**

Birthdays

Feb. 1st - David, KC8OBH

Feb. 4th - Bill, K9BZM

If your birthday has not been listed, it is because I do not have the date for it. If you would like it to be included in a newsletter, please email me the date. Thanks w3ml@w3ml.com

**Starke County Amateur Radio Club Weekly 2 Meter Net is
on every Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Central time.**

DAY OF WEEK: Saturday 8:00 p.m. Central time

HOST: KN9OX Repeater

FREQUENCY: 145.410 - 600

PL TONE: 131.8

New Items Listed

See all the For Sale Items at

<http://www.w9joz.org/forsale.htm>

There are a lot of them there. Updated regularly.

See the For Sale Page on the Club website. If you have items to sell email me a list with prices and contact information.

**** There are several items on Doc's SK Listing that should be on someone's want list. NEW PRICES!

If you see item on there that you are interested in, contact me and we can work out deal on it.

Notice for 2021

Even though we are not meeting in person at this time, it is imperative that we keep the Club together and active. We have commitments that the dues are used to pay.

A 2 meter net every Saturday at 8 p.m. on the 145.410 repeater. President David, KC8OBH also runs a net on the repeater on the evening of the Club Meeting at 7 p.m.

Dues for 2021 remain at only \$12.00 a year.

Paid Members for 2021:

Bill, K9BZM
Richard, K9ILU
Chester, KA9FAW
Nita, KC9PM
Tom, W9QN
Levi, WB9CAO
Wayne, K9KFT

David, KC8OBH
John, W3ML
Bart, KC9FQA
Lenny, KQ9A
Jack, WA9ZTP
Bob, KD9IHY
Jim, WB9UAR (New Member)

Please stay a member and pay your dues for 2021. Hopefully, before too long we will be able to meet again at the library.

Dues may be mailed to John Poindexter 204 South Main St. Knox, IN 46534
Checks can be made out to the Starke County Amateur Radio Club. \$12.00

If you want to pay via PayPal, you will need to send it as Friends and Family so no fees are taken out. \$12.00

Send it to w3ml@w3ml.com

John W3ML

Skywarn Spotter Training Course

All NWS Indianapolis spotter talks this Spring will be held virtually and live. We will use GotoWebinar software, which can host up to 1000 people per session. I have scheduled 6 public sessions, scattered across various days and times in March. Those times are listed below. Pre-registration will be required.

Anyone can attend any of these 6 sessions as the training will be identical in content, and I plan to keep each webinar to around 90 minutes. Unfortunately due to copyright issues and privacy concerns, these webinars will not be recorded. Other opportunities for online training exist and will be shared during this training.

Below are the dates, times and registration links for each training opportunity. People only need to attend 1 of these sessions, but they must make sure they register using the unique URL for the date they wish to attend. This information and registration links are also available on our spotter training website at <https://www.weather.gov/ind/Spotter>

List of dates and times for upcoming seminars

Please register for NWS Indianapolis Spotter Training Webinar - March 6th, 2021 on Mar 6, 2021 10:00 AM EST at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7199577262341979664>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Please register for NWS Indianapolis Spotter Training Webinar - March 8th, 2021 on Mar 8, 2021 6:30 PM EST at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1006691268592279824>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Please register for NWS Indianapolis Spotter Training Webinar - March 10th, 2021 on Mar 10, 2021 4:00 PM EST at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2011932968426083600>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Please register for NWS Indianapolis Spotter Training Webinar - March 13th, 2021 on Mar 13, 2021 10:00 AM EST at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7925758513000692496>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Please register for NWS Indianapolis Spotter Training Webinar - March 22nd, 2021 on Mar 22, 2021 6:30 PM EDT at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3726590565617200144>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Please register for NWS Indianapolis Spotter Training Webinar - March 24th, 2021 on Mar 24, 2021 2:00 PM EDT at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/892252998861824272>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar

Jimmy Merry Jr.
Indiana ARRL Section Manager

Tom, W9QN sent this in.

Kerchunking

The practice of briefly keying a microphone (hitting the push-to-talk/PTT button) to see if a repeater responds with a courtesy tone is commonly known as kerchunking (or ker-chunking) in ham-speak.



Don't do it! Don't be a kerchunker, even though it's often a quick and convenient way of verifying that you can hit a repeater.

For one, it is technically illegal. All transmissions must be identified (with rare exceptions).

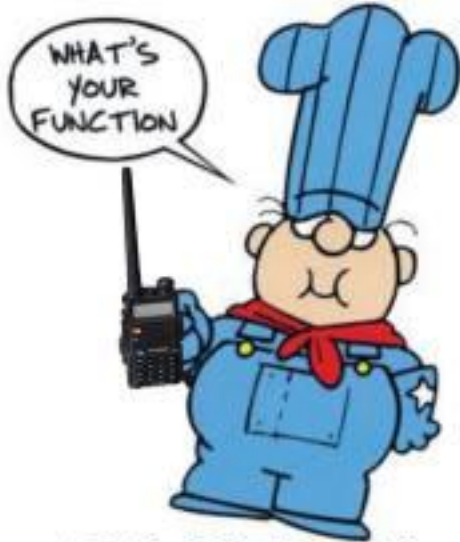
T2A06-2018: T2A06 (A)

Which of the following is required when making on-the-air test transmissions?

Identify the transmitting station

Just because you hear it happening and the probability of getting caught is very low doesn't make it right.

KERCHUNKTION



JUNCTION

However, the main reason not to key a mic without identifying yourself is that it is both annoying and disruptive. It's bad etiquette and almost always discouraged in published guidelines by the repeater owner.



If you really want to test your connection to a repeater, take the extra second to speak your call sign into the mic. Or say “testing”, followed by your call sign. Or ID and ask for a signal report, which will give you even more info than just to hear a courtesy tone.

On a related note, if you want to test transmit power or SWR or something like that; consider using a simplex frequency to avoid tying up a repeater.

Editor Note: The KN9OX repeater does not have a courtesy beep. So, you will not hear a beep when it is keyed up.

European Union DX Contest to Debut

02/01/2021

The European Union DX Contest Club ([EUDXCC](http://www.eudxcc.com)) has announced the debut of the European Union DX Contest February 6 – 7 and on the first full weekend of February thereafter, starting at 1800 UTC on Saturday and ending at 1800 UTC on Sunday. A variety of operating categories are offered, including SWL, and everybody works everybody. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, the sponsors say that the multi-multi category will be a multi-transmitter distributed category, with no more than six transmitted signals (one per band) at any time from stations in different locations.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/european-union-dx-contest-to-debut>

A New Version of WSJT-X is Now Available

02/02/2021

The *WSJT* Development Group has announced the general availability release of *WSJT-X* Version 2.3.0. A summary of new features can be found in the *WSJT-X* 2.3 [User Guide](#). The [Release Notes](#) offer additional information, including a list of important program changes since the *WSJT-X* 2.2. Upgrading from earlier versions of *WSJT-X* should be seamless, and it's not necessary to uninstall a previous version or move any files. [Installation packages](#) for Windows, Linux, and Macintosh are available. A release candidate (i.e., beta version) *WSJT-X* version 2.4.0-rc will be available soon. Its main new feature is a mode called Q65, with unique capabilities for EME and scatter propagation modes.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/a-new-version-of-wsjt-x-is-now-available>

Editor Note: Propagation guru Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA has stated many times if you want to work DX in these low sunspot cycles, digital is the way.

Some links from Tom W8FIB

Short video RFI cheap Chinese LED lamps

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SI6w0hk685w>

LED RFI noise detection and fix

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvjRwZTNLHs>

A really good explanation of “why 50 ohms?”

<https://youtu.be/I-OnQZJv35I>

If you have something for the newsletter, please send it to me before the 20th of the month.

See you at a meeting.

Sometime in the Future

73

John, W3ML

