

# W9JOZ

Volume 12, Issue 9

September 2022

Meeting September 15th at 7:00 pm.  
Knox Community Center.



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?

## QSL CARDS

If you have QSL Cards that need to be checked for an ARRL Award, contact John and he will put you in contact with an ARRL Card Checker in our area. Steve, KD9HL is the card checker.

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## Events

**Meeting at Knox Community Center  
Corner of Pearl and Lake Street  
September 15th  
Time will be 7:00 pm**

## Birthdays

Sep. 20 - Steve, KB9GPW

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

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**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

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## For Sale Items

**New items listed from the Collection of K9KFT Gear.**

**If you see something on his list that you would like make an offer on, send an email to  
w9joz@w9joz.org with your offer.**

**It will be passed on to Bill who is handling the sale.**

**See all the For Sale Items at**

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

**There are a lot of them there. Updated regularly.**

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

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## Notice for 2022

**\*\*\*\* Dues for 2022 remain at only \$12.00 a year. \*\*\*\***

### **Paid Members for 2022:**

- 1. Bob, KD9IHY**
- 2. Jack, WA9ZTP**
- 3. Linda, KC8PKY**
- 4. Bryan, KE9ML**
- 5. Levi, WA9CAO**
- 6. Paul, N9QYK**
- 7. Ed, KD9MVW**
- 8. David, KC9OBH - President**
- 9. John, W3ML - Secretary/Treasurer**
- 10. Tom, W9QN**
- 11. Bart, KC9FQA**
- 12. Steve, KB9GPW**
- 13. Bill, K9BZM**
- 14. Richard, K9ILU**
- 15. Nita, KC9PM**
- 16. Jim, WB9UAR**
- 17. Don, WA9 KRT**

**Please be a member and pay your dues for 2022.**

**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**

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John W3ML

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**Dues for 2022 still only \$12.00**

**We had over a dozen members not pay dues in 2020 & 2021. It would be nice to have them back in 2022.**

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## **For Sale**

### **Selling Everything - It All Must Go**

Paul, N9QYK is selling off all his stuff he has collected over the years. If you are interested in knowing what he has, give him a call at 574-772-2021.

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### **From David KC8OBH**

This is a review and some added details that were discussed on Saturday as well as additional information provided by me from District 1.

Emergency Coordinators please pass this information to all your ARES and NTS volunteers.

On Saturday, October 1, 2022, Indiana District 1 and District 2 Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES®) will be participating in a joint Simulated Emergency Test. This will be a functional exercise to test and evaluate ARES® capabilities to collect and relay both Health & Welfare as well as operational messages. Utilizing VHF/UHF and HF to send messages via voice and digital amateur radio. Messages will be passed from counties to district and from Indiana District 2 to Indiana District 1. Indiana District 1 will then send messages to the State/Section and relay any information back to District 2.

Each county will have tasks assigned by their individual Emergency Coordinator (EC). Each county will have a designated station to relay information to and from the district 2 net.

The Incident Command System (ICS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS) should be

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followed for this exercise. Health and Welfare messages will be sent using the ARRL Radiogram format, operational messages/requests will be sent using the ICS form 213. All digital messages should include my phone number to respond to: [574] 377-9812. District 1 will relay the message to me as if I am the intended recipient of the message. This will also allow for confirmation of messages received.

Important things to remember for this exercise:

1. Start and end all communications with “EXERCISE, EXERCISE, EXERCISE”
2. When using tactical callsigns:
  - a. Identify yourself at the end of your transmission with your personal callsign
  - b. when calling another station, you should use the tactical callsign for that station, not an individuals callsign
  - i. You may not know who the operator is you are calling
  - ii. A particular operator may have been reassigned and not be who you need to talk to.
3. Each county will insure they check into the district net at the beginning of the exercise (1700Z on 147.33), monitor and be able to respond to traffic on the district net throughout the exercise.
4. At the conclusion of the exercise each station will check out of each net they are on. The district 2 net control station will close the net once all other stations have checked out of the net. If a station fails to check out and is not able to be contacted the DEC will make alternate attempts to contact and advise the NCS how to proceed.

With this exercise I will need a few stations for net operations for the district 2 net.

1. One station to be voice Net Control Station (NCS) on 147.3300 MHZ + 0.6MHZ, PL 131.8
2. One station will operate a FLDIGI station for sending messages Olivia 8/1K, waterfall centered on 1500, Frequency 7.120, on USB
3. One station will operate a VARA Winlink station for sending/receiving messages

Brian P. Sexton, KD9EDR  
District Emergency Coordinator  
Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)  
Indiana District 2  
2251 S. Old Ditch Rd.  
Warsaw, IN 46580  
cell: 574-377-9812

## Links

From Levi, WB9CAO

**New Battery Tech**

Just sending along this article about an MIT professor's new idea for an improved battery technology. Really fascinating.

<https://news.mit.edu/2022/aluminum-sulfur-battery-0824>

There are videos on youtube as well.

Sadoway has also developed a high-capacity liquid metal battery for industrial scale storage that is being tested in Nevada and maybe elsewhere. It also uses materials that are abundant and inexpensive and can be locally produced in most places.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tkUniKbUqp0>

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## **Handy Hint**

### **Laying Ground Radials (An Update)**

*By Steve Mollman-KD9HL*

#### **Radial Wire Metal Anchor Pins**



In the December 2017 issue of the NWIDX Club Newsletter Handy Hints, we discussed a method of burying ground radials and feed lines without digging. That method included advice on making “Anchor Pins” out of scrap wire or old metal coat hangers.

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Since that time, a ready-made alternative has appeared on the market-preformed Anchor Pins. They are available in various quantities and sizes from Menards and DX Engineering.

[http://nwidxclub.weebly.com/uploads/1/8/8/2/18825430/nwidx\\_club\\_december\\_2017\\_newsletter.pdf](http://nwidxclub.weebly.com/uploads/1/8/8/2/18825430/nwidx_club_december_2017_newsletter.pdf)

<https://www.menards.com/main/building-materials/landscaping-materials/landscaping-fabric/yardworks-trade-4-landscape-garden-staples-50-pack/91407/p-1444421189237-c-13236.htm?tid=777691708270792206&ipos=12>

<https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/dxe-stpl-100p>

<https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/dxe-stpl-300p>

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## Route 66 On the Air Special Event

09/02/2022

The annual Route 66 On the Air Special Event will take place September 10 - 18, 2022. The purpose of the event is to commemorate the history of the "Mother Road" connecting the east and west United States.

Now in its 23rd year, the Northern Arizona DX Association (NADXA) started the event, which is now coordinated by the Citrus Belt Amateur Radio Club (CBARC) in San Bernardino, California.

There will be 21 stations with 1x1 call signs on the air from Chicago, Illinois, to Santa Monica, California, all with consecutive calls starting with W6. NADXA will operate three of the 21 stations, including W6G (Flagstaff, Arizona), and W6S (Arizona Rover 1). They'll set up at various spots along Route 66 east of Flagstaff, and W6T (Arizona Rover 2) will be set up in Bellemont. Later in the week, the event will be moved to Parks, on old Route 66, west of Flagstaff.

The history of the Mother Road began in 1926, when US Highway 66 was established. It was the first major improvement to the link between the west coast and the nation's heartland. Through stories, songs, and TV shows, the highway came to symbolize the freedom of the open road, inspiring many to see America in its entirety. The demise of Route 66 began in the 1950s, as construction began on the new interstate highway system. US Route 66 was officially decommissioned in 1986, but today, small portions of the highway still exist in several states.

For more information on participating stations, certificates and decals, and the Route 66 On the Air Special Event, visit the [Citrus Belt Amateur Radio Club \(CBARC\)](#) and [Northern Arizona DX Association \(NADXA\)](#) websites.

Visit the ARRL Special Event Stations database at [www.arrl.org/special-event-stations](http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations) to find other on-the-air events and commemorations.

<https://www.arrl.org/news/route-66-on-the-air-special-event-1>

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# Box 88, Moscow

How many remember when you could only send QSL cards to hams in the USSR by mailing them to Box 88, Moscow?

All QSL's in and out of the USSR were handled by the government controlled CRC, Central Radio Club, and they used the central address, "Box 88, Moscow, USSR."

The USSR QSL Bureau and CRC occupied an entire building in Moscow and had a sizeable staff. It also had an actual "P.O. Box." . This is where incoming QSL cards from all over the world would be deposited for the CRC, and subsequently distributed to the amateurs of the Soviet Union.

Any QSL's that came with money or IRCs were seized and taken by the CRC. IRC's were used for CRC's outgoing postage and the cash was deposited in the CRC bank account and used by functionaries who traveled to IARU Conferences abroad. Russian hams never saw any of this. Nothing went to waste.

DX'ers called Box 88 the "Bottomless Pit" because it seemed that QSL cards would disappear, often forever. Turnaround times of five to six years were common.

Except for a few standard styled cards available from the CRC, Soviet hams had to handcraft their cards (commercial printing services were banned). They would often take post cards or greeting cards and overprint them with their call letters. The call letter stamps were hand carved from artist erasers!



*A handcrafted QSL Card from Asiatic Russia c. 1970*



As of the writing of this article, because of the Russian/Ukrainian War, postal service between the USA and Russia is suspended. The only way to confirm a QSL is via Logbook of the World.

The Central Radio Club has been superseded by the **Russian Amateur Radio Union** (in Russian, **Союз радиолюбителей России**, Romanized as **Soyuz Radiolyubitelei Rossii**) which is the national organization for amateur radio enthusiasts in Russia. The organization uses **SRR** as its official abbreviation, based on the standard Romanization of the Russian name.

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*Edward Kritsky, NT2X in the lobby of the Moscow Central Post Office by the infamous “Box 88”*

*(NT2X is an émigré from Russia)*



*The Infamous and Notorious "Box 88"*



*Moscow Central Post Office*

If you have something for the newsletter, please send it to me before the 25th of the month.

See you at a meeting.

73

*John*, W3ML

