



**Indiana Section
American Radio
Relay League**

Newsletter

March 2026

Section Manager: Bob Burns AK9R,
ak9r@arrl.org

Section Website: <https://inarrl.org/>

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March 2026

Friends we'll miss

For a Silent Key notice to be placed in the newsletter, and sent to the ARRL, please forward a copy of or a link to the obituary to the Bob Burns AK9R, ARRL Indiana Section Manager, at ak9r@arrl.org.

Technical Specialist Coordinator's Report

From Tom Busch WB8WOR, Technical Specialist Coordinator

Technical Specialists are urged to send their reports to Technical Coordinator Tom Busch WB8WOR (tc@inarrl.org).

February

Jeff DeLucenay KB9QG

Feb 8 - Helped Bruce N9DGL with a packet radio issue.

Feb 13 - Helped Dave K9TZ repair his VHF antenna system due to antenna damage.

Feb 13 - Generated a schedule for teaching a Technician License Class for the April time frame.

Feb 15 - Gave Larry W9QR his life time membership for allowing the Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Association to use his repeater while ours was having the tower replaced.

Feb 20 - Helped Don WB9TYJ learn to program an Anytone D578 Pro DMR radio code plug.

Feb 23 - Tuned a mobile UHF duplexer for a new analog UHF repeater for KD9QDL.

Feb 26 - Installed a new UHF analog repeater at the Altona site. The repeater frequency is 444.825 +5 MHz

Feb 27 - Don WB9TYJ and myself KB9QG replaced the duplexer harness for the W9OU 147.015 repeater. The old harness had a tee connector failing. We had to retune the duplexer after replacing the harness.

Feb 28 - Updated the documentation on the repeater systems at the Altona site. A number of coaxes were changed to use double shielded coax. Also a VHF/UHF duplexer was added on the Winlink coax for the new UHF repeater. A duplexer was added for the Channel B for the two DR-2X repeaters to use the APRS antenna for repeater control.

Feb 28 - I helped the Fort Wayne ARRL Ves learn how to do site testing using tablets instead of paper tests,

Tom Busch WB8WOR

I attended the Orlando Hamcation and went to a forum on using Tenkara fishing rods for antenna supports.

I came back with a receiver from ADSB Exchange.

I also came back with a small AM radio from an antique mall and I am working on an isolation transformer to safely work on it.

Roger McEntarfer N9RM

For the month of February, I continued keeping busy with the Whitley County Amateur Radio Club and Tamiami Amateur Radio Club meetings, and VE Testing in Indiana, Venice, Florida and nationwide with multiple teams and VEC's.

I continued working with the Whitley County W5YI VE Team with virtual remote testing.

I attended the Quarter Century Wireless Association lunch meeting in Sarasota, FL on February 2, 2026. The presentation was on AI and was very interesting.

On Friday February 6, 2026, the Venice Isle Estates Health, Safety and Environment committee, which I am part of held a HSE Expo from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. I was able to get the Sarasota Sheriff department to set up a table display and speak about Scams and helped set up the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club with an Amateur Radio demonstration outside.

March 2026

I lead the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club In-Person Test session on February 10, 2026, at the Jacaranda Library from 10AM to noon. We had six applicants at the session with four receiving a new Technician Class license and two upgrade to Extra.

I attended the Orlando HamCation event on Saturday February 14, 2026. I had a great time and bought a couple small items. I also ran the W5YI booth for an hour or so assisting with license renewals and renewing W5YI VE credentials.

On February 18, 2026, I provided Ham Club On Line (HCOL) training for several of the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club Officers. If your Radio Club is not using it, HCOL is a great tool to use to maintain your Amateur Radio Clubs.

I lead the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club In-Person Test session on February 20, 2026, at the Pine View School from Noon to 3:00 PM. We had six sixth grade applicants at the session with three receiving a new Technician Class license and one upgrading to Extra Class.

I assisted the Fort Wayne Radio Club Test Team on Saturday February 28, 2026, with their first In-Person Test Session using ExamTools and Tablets instead of the old paper tests providing training to the team. We had five applicants. One passed the Technician Test, two upgraded to General and two upgraded to Extra Class.

The Whitley County W5YI/ARRL Test Team will be conducting In Person and Virtual Amateur Radio Test sessions through the year.

ATTENTION: Free Student Testing!! W5YI Licensing Services now offers free testing for students 25 years of age or younger! Yes, you read that correct! Testing fees are covered for all 3 licenses classes, and for Technician applicants, they will also cover the \$35 application fee! Subject to valid student ID verification. If you are a student registering to test, after completing registration, please send an email to rlmcen56@gmail.com, with your name and Student Applicant, so your registration is confirmed. If you register at an In-Person Test Session, show your Student ID to the Volunteer Examiners.

Virtual test sessions are held every Monday evening a W5YI at 8:00 PM and an ARRL session at 8:30 PM.

To register for any of these test sessions visit: <https://hamstudy.org/sessions/n9rm>

Upcoming In-Person test sessions:

The Auburn Hamfest , July 18, 2026, from 10:00 AM – Noon.

To register visit: <https://hamstudy.org/sessions/n9rm>

If you need a different day or time, please let me know as we can set up testing any day of the week or time of day to fit your needs.

The cost to take the test is \$14.00 for W5YI and \$15 for ARRL.

The next WCARC General Meeting will be held on March 12, 2026, starting at 6:00 PM at the Parkview Whitley Hospital, Lower-Level Meeting Room. Program is TBD.

March

Mark Skowronski K9MQ

I spent a portion of the month assisting an individual with getting reactivated on LogBook of the World. He last used it in 2012. I was able to help him get a new certificate issued and we were successfully able to upload QSOs from his logbook (AC Log) to LOTW.

March 2026

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I continued working with the Whitley County W5YI VE Team with virtual remote testing.

I attended the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club 5th Annual BBQ&QSO Picnic on Sunday, March 26, 2026 and had a great time eating and watching all the POTA stations set up and making contacts.

On March 19, 2026, the Venice Isle Estates Health, Safety and Environment committee met and reviewed the recent HSE Expo and started the plans for the next one along with getting information to the residence on preparing for Hurricane season.

I have been working on setting up my Florida shack to operate Free DV, Winlink, VARA and FM VARA.

I continue to provide Ham Club On Line (HCOL) training for several of the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club Officers. If your Radio Club is not using it, HCOL is a great tool to use to maintain your Amateur Radio Clubs.

I continue to assist the Fort Wayne Radio Club Test Team on using ExamTools.

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The next WCARC General Meeting will be held on April 9, 2026, starting at 6:00 PM at the Parkview Whitley Hospital, Lower-Level Meeting Room. Program is TBD.

Lou Kruizinga N7BBW

We had a very successful club banquet this month. Acknowledged our Elmer of the year and Amateur of the year.

Door prizes and raffle items galore. Fun time for all.

Jeff DeLucenay KB9QG

March 5 - Replaced the duplexer harness on the W9OU 147.015 repeater. The harness was failing. The duplexer had to be retuned.

March 2026

March 11-12 Working on a Pyramid power supply. Replaced the filter capacitors. At a later date, the power supply failed.

March 20 - Helped an SKCC member to move his SKCC logger and SKCC Skimmer to a new computer.

March 22- Helped Troy KD9NZK to setup a Half wave End Fed Antenna for 20 Meters. However, the 64 to 1 UNUN gave a 10 to 1 VSWR reading. On March 30th Troy found the UNUN had a miss wiring which caused the high VSWR.

Tom Busch WB8WOR

I continue to work on my algorithm for transmitter location using received signal strength. I have it working well in simulation on Matlab. I need to see what various receiver configurations do to the results.

Section Traffic Manager's Report

From Brian Jenks W9BGJ, Section Traffic Manager

To all Net Managers, please remember to turn in your reports to Brian Jenks W9BBJ, Section Traffic Manager, by the 6th of the month (stm@inarrl.org).

| INDIANA STM REPORT MARCH 2026 | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|------|-----|------|----------|
| HF NETS | | | | | |
| NET NAME | SOURCE | QNI | QTC | QTR | SESSIONS |
| ITN | N9TU | 1274 | 119 | 1576 | 62 |
| QIN | NJ9S | 106 | 50 | 347 | 31 |
| INDIANA ARES HF | KB9WWM | 17 | 0 | 28 | 1 |
| TOTALS | | | | | |
| NETS REPORTING | | | | | |

| INDIANA STM REPORT MARCH 2026 | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|----------|-------|------------|---------|---------|-------|
| PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR ROLL | | | | | | | |
| STATION | SESSIONS | MESSAGES | APPTS | PUB SVC | EMG RES | DIGITAL | TOTAL |
| W9BGJ | 40 | 40 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 130 |
| AB9ZA | 40 | 40 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 90 |
| W9EEU | 93 | 40 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 173 |
| N9TU | 40 | 40 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| TOTALS | | | | | | | |
| STATIONS REPORTING 4 | | | | | | | |

| INDIANA STM REPORT MARCH 2026 | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------|-----------|----------|------|-----------|--------|
| ORS AND SAR STATION REPORT | | | | | | |
| STATION | TYPE | ORGINATED | RECEIVED | SENT | DELIVERED | TOTALS |
| W9BGJ | ORS | 0 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 25 |
| AB9ZA | ORS | 0 | 42 | 39 | 7 | 88 |
| W9EEU | ORS | 0 | 44 | 49 | 0 | 93 |
| W9PC | ORS | 0 | 12 | 14 | 2 | 28 |
| N9TU | ORS | 8 | 67 | 17 | 12 | 104 |

| INDIANA STM REPORT MARCH 2026 | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| VHF/UHF NETS | | | | | |
| NET NAME | SOURCE | QNI | QTC | QTR | SESSIONS |
| BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY | N9CJT | 17 | 0 | 90 | 3 |
| CASS CO ARC | KA9BYN | 72 | 0 | 123 | 5 |
| CROSSROADS DMR | K9NQW | 110 | 0 | 97 | 5 |
| CLAY COUNTY ARES | W9EEU | 61 | 0 | 105 | 5 |
| D STAR NET | K9NQW | 62 | 0 | 104 | 4 |
| IMO NET | K9SKS | 371 | 0 | 278 | 22 |
| JEFFERSON CO | N9XVB | 15 | 0 | 31 | 3 |
| MID STATE ARC | KI6QOG | 220 | 0 | 210 | 5 |
| MONROE CO SKYWARN | KC9RPX | 10 | 0 | 120 | 2 |
| SCOTT CO ARES/RACES | WR9G | 53 | 6 | 97 | 5 |
| SOUTH CENTRAL AREA | KA9OPL | 65 | 0 | 145 | 5 |
| TARS EVANSVILLE | KE9YK | 110 | 2 | 181 | 5 |
| TRI STATE 2 METER | AG8O | 316 | 0 | 529 | 21 |
| WABASH VALLEY | KC9LDJ | 116 | 0 | 186 | 5 |
| 14 | | | | | |
| NETS REPORTING | | | | | |

March 2026

| Monthly Report for D/Star and DMR | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-----|-----|-----|------------|------------|------------|
| DMR | | | | | | | |
| Date | Net Control | QNI | QTC | QTR | Time Began | Time Ended | Freq |
| 03/02/26 | KC9OWY | 21 | 0 | 17 | 20:00 | 20:17 | 442.750(+) |
| 03/09/26 | KC9OWY | 22 | 0 | 20 | 20:00 | 20:20 | 442.750(+) |
| 03/16/26 | K9NQW | 23 | 0 | 20 | 20:00 | 20:20 | 442.750(+) |
| 03/23/26 | K9NQW | 25 | 0 | 21 | 20:00 | 20:21 | 442.750(+) |
| 03/30/26 | K9NQW | 19 | 0 | 19 | 20:00 | 20:19 | 442.750(+) |
| Sessions: | 5 | 110 | 0 | 97 | | | |
| Month of Report: | March 2026 | | | | | | |
| D-Star | | | | | | | |
| Date | Net Control | QNI | QTC | QTR | Time Began | Time Ended | Freq |
| 03/05/26 | K9NQW | 15 | 0 | 23 | 20:00 | 20:23 | 443.400(+) |
| 03/12/26 | K9NQW | 15 | 0 | 21 | 20:00 | 20:21 | 443.400(+) |
| 03/19/26 | KA9OPL | 17 | 0 | 30 | 20:00 | 20:30 | 443.400(+) |
| 03/26/26 | KA9OPL | 15 | 0 | 30 | 20:00 | 20:30 | 443.400(+) |
| Sessions: | 4 | 62 | 0 | 104 | | | |
| Month of Report: | March 2026 | | | | | | |

QIN QNU

Issue Number 025 April 2026

The Bulletin for the INDIANA CW SECTION NET of the ARRL National Traffic System
 Evenings Daily on 3535 khz; alternate freq. is 1810 khz at 0000Z (7 PM Central; 8 PM Eastern)

Net Control Assignments:

| Day | SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 0100Z NCS | W9PC MARK | NJ9S BRUNO | WB9FIU RUSTY | NJ9S BRUNO | WB9FIU RUSTY | K9LA CARL | K9LA CARL |

Spring is sprung; the grass is riz- I wonder how our antennas is?

Yes, the Easter Season is upon us- time to give thanks for those things in life that are dear to us- family, friends, good health and all Time to survey our homes and yards to assess and repair any winter damage. Time to make any needed antenna repairs or upgrades, including the burial of ground radials in the XYL’s flower garden (BEFORE she plants her flowers!). It’s been a typical Hoosier winter with multiple shades of weather, sometimes all in the same day! I thank the Creator for Spring!

I’m especially looking forward to hearing on QIN from our returning “snow birds” as they find their way back North traveling from their balmy winter haunts.

Dave AD8WR is missing the use of the beautiful end-fed long wire that he decommissioned last fall; soon you may hear him on with his new 80M dipole by the time you read this. Dave says that he likes his trap vertical antenna for 40M and up, but not so much on short haul 80M work.

You may notice that Brian W9BGJ has been sporting an improved signal lately. This is because he recently moved to a different home and installed a new antenna. Good job Brian!

Jim WB8SIW spoke recently at the Michiana ARC on the topic “*The Future of Ham Radio Emergency Communications: IS HAM RADIO STLL RELEVANT?*” The efficiency and competence of our amateur radio operators today in the handling of formal message traffic were explored. James is an excellent speaker and he spoke for over two hours with much audience interaction and comment. James is the Board Chairman of Radio Relay International.

Spring also implies “Spring Clean-Up” In the ham shack, that can mean LOTS of work! I have purged much paper from my filing cabinets and even forced myself to get rid of sixty years accumulation of extraneous hardware that I’d saved for “some day”; but, then came the “hard stuff”- the electronic components, the test equipment and the ham gear. Even the old stuff- the ARC-5 receivers, the Heath AR-3, various Zenith Transosceanics, the defunct Hallicrafters S53A that I picked-up for \$20 at a hamfest with intention of refurbishing just because I drooled over it in the Allied catalogs seventy years ago and other items including my original J-38 straight key that I bought new surplus for a buck fifty way back. Yes, it’s not easy to part with those things that take us back to our younger years, but of course, to some extent it is necessary to “de-clutter” our ham shacks. The most nostalgic items in my shack I *must* retain, but



Figure 1 HALLICRAFTERS S53A RECEIVER

but some things I’ll pass along to my ham friends to use and enjoy. You might consider doing the same

Amateur Radio exists because of the service we can perform!

CU on QIN, 73 !
Bruno NJ9S

CURRENT QIN (EVE) NET ROSTER & PARTICIPATION STATS

| CALL | NAME | QTH | QNI MAR 2026 | NCS MAR 2026 |
|--------|--------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| W9BGJ | BRIAN | HUNTINGTON, IN | 4 | |
| WB9FIU | RUSTY | COLUMBUS, IN | 27 | 10 |
| W9PC | MARK | ROSSVILLE, IN | 10 | 5 |
| K9LA | CARL | FORT WAYNE, IN | 24 | 7 |
| AD8WR | DAVE | GRANGER, IN | 2 | |
| K9UT | JERRY | RICHMOND, IN | | |
| NJ9S | BRUNO | MISHAWAKA, IN | 25 | 9 |
| N9OL | JOHN | EVANSVILLE, IN | 2 | |
| KA8BJA | FRANK | COSHOCTON, OH | 10 | |
| WD4MSM | BARRY | SOUTH BEND, IN | | |
| NI9Y | DAN | MISHAWAKA, IN | | |
| WB8SIW | JIM | BUCHANAN, MI | | |
| K0TQ | MIKE | N. VERNON, IN | 2 | |
| WA2USA | DENNIS | NEWBURGH, IN | | |
| N9IVI | IVIN | PLAINFIELD, IN | | |
| WD9DWE | DENNIS | PEKIN, IN | | |
| N8AFT | LANE | COLUMBUS, OH | | |

EVENING QIN + QIN/E CW SECTION NET QUICK STATS (corrected 2/2026)

| Month/Yr | Sessions | QNI | QTC Incl net reports | QTC Minus net rpt's | QTR min. |
|----------|----------|-----|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| JAN 2025 | 31 | 120 | 29 | 4 | 323 |
| FEB 2025 | 28 | 109 | 37 | 16 | 303 |
| MAR 2025 | 31 | 106 | 44 | 16 | 296 |
| APR 2025 | 30 | 103 | 46 | 25 | 300 |
| MAY 2025 | 30 | 94 | 43 | 26 | 297 |
| JUN 2025 | 30 | 112 | 43 | 22 | 343 |
| JUL 2025 | 31 | 103 | 39 | 18 | 319 |
| AUG 2025 | 31 | 132 | 32 | 7 | 359 |
| SEP 2025 | 29 | 117 | 36 | 26 | 314 |
| OCT 2025 | 35 | 134 | 37 | 25 | 373 |
| NOV 2025 | 39 | 117 | 66 | 36 | 412 |
| DEC 2025 | 31 | 118 | 73 | 50 | 378 |
| JAN 2026 | 31 | 121 | 56 | 33 | 351 |
| FEB 2026 | 28 | 112 | 59 | 50 | 352 |
| MAR 2026 | 31 | 106 | 50 | 28 | 347 |

March 2026

Public Information Coordinator's Report

From Barry Palencer KC9WMS, Public Information Coordinator

Public Information Officers are urged to send their reports to Public Information Coordinator Barry Palencer KC9WMS (pio@inarrl.org).

DeKalb County PIO John D Maag, KD9QDL

We are getting ready for field day this year, The First Christian Church Pavilion has been reserved for this years event. We already have 7 tables rented for our Hamfest in July. The club is offering tickets for sale on our drawings on line at W9OU.ORG, You do not need to be present to win. We had one zoom meeting on discussion of parking and our new layout with expanded and more handicap parking along with the food vendor we will have this year. Last year the food vendor did not show.

We will be operating W1AW/9 at the Hamfest.

Whitley County PIO Roger McEntarfer, N9RM

I announced in the local news media: WANE TV News, WPTA 21 Alive News, WOWO, WFFT Fox 55 Media, WJHS 91.5 FM (Whitley County Joint High School) radio station, Ink Free News, Times Union News, The Post & Mail, The Hoot News of Whitley County, Adams Radio Group, Journal Gazette. HF Nets: Indiana Traffic Net and several of the local 2M and 70 CM nets around the northern Indiana area about the Whitley County Amateur Radio Club (WCARC) General Meeting on March 12, 2026, the Whitley County W5YI & ARRL Virtual Remote Test Sessions every Monday at 8:00 & 8:15 PM, and the Whitley County Amateur Radio Club (WCARC) General Meeting on April 9, 2026.

The next WCARC General Meeting will be held on April 9, 2026, starting at 6:00 PM at the Parkview Whitley Hospital, Lower-Level Meeting Room. Program is TBD.

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Affiliated Club Coordinator's Report

From Jimmy Merry KC9RPX, Affiliated Club Coordinator

Affiliated clubs across Indiana are encouraged to send a note to Jimmy Merry, ARRL Indiana Section Affiliated Club Coordinator, each month. Please include the following:

- Please be sure to send me any club news. Example: Historical events, Upcoming events, Outstanding member, etc. Include captioned photos.
- Regular updates about your club, its events, special occasions, club news, outstanding members, and other newsworthy items.

This information could let hams across Indiana know what is going on in your club. Assist hams in your area know about your club. Help membership. And assist other clubs across Indiana with ideas. Please send to kc9rpx@arrl.net.

Section Emergency Coordinator's Report

From Brian Sexton KD9EDR, Section Emergency Coordinator

Report: Form4

Division: Central

Section: Indiana

Month/Year: March 2026

History: Reported by Brian Sexton, KD9EDR, SEC on 2026-04-29 09:14:18 UTC

| | |
|---|-------|
| | |
| Number of DECs/ECs reporting this month: | 23 |
| Total number of DECs/ECs appointed in section: | 45 |
| 4. Total number of ARES members: | 487 |
| Difference in ARES members from previous month: | N/D |
| 5. Number of ARES net sessions held: | 123 |
| 6. Number of ARES net sessions held with NTS liaison: | 28 |
| 7. Number of participants in nets: | 1,898 |

| | Number | Person-Hrs |
|--|--------|------------|
| 8. Exercises this month: | 6 | 17.50 |
| 9. Training events this month: | 19 | 195.60 |
| 10. Public service events this month: | 2 | 22.00 |
| 11. Community service events this month: | 5 | 115.00 |
| 12. Emergency events this month: | 0 | 0.00 |
| 13. SKYWARN events this month: | 47 | 960.50 |
| 14. Meetings this month: | 19 | 185.10 |
| 15. Unclassified events this month: | 5 | 13.00 |

Call signs of DECs/ECs reporting:

K9WG, KA9AMP, KB9WWM, KC9AFE, KC9RVL, KC9VRA, KD9BKU, KD9DPA, KD9MRM, KD9PMT, KP4CI, KV9N, N1PJ, N9CJT, N9CWW, N9GTL, N9JPX, N9LAA, NM9R, W9COD, W9DRB, W9SOX, WR9G

Activity Details:

D3 DEC-----

D3 ARES will be reaching out to the counties with no ECs to determine ARES interest among the Hams in those counties.

ALLEN-----

Busy time in March, especially for our SKYWARN Team with 4 activations.

BARTHOLOMEW-----

Our ARES team was involved in setting up and loading in vendors for the Columbus Hamfest the evening of the 27th, so did not have that otherwise regular Friday night simplex net. That service extended into the 28th.

CASS-----

No activity in this area

DEKALB -----

The topics for March are as follows:Flash Floods, Logging & Record Keeping, Alert & Readiness and 10 Ways to Optimize your Effectiveness.

DELAWARE -----

3 Weekly Nets held on 441.900 & 146.730 repeaters, and 146.490 Simplex, 99 minutes total

FULTON -----

Our ARES group had training on how to install and use Power pole connectors. We had a busy month of Skywarn activation like many counties around us.

GRANT-----

Reg. weekly nets. Finally got county repeaters linked so have better county coverage again.

HAMILTON-----

on the 21st we worked the Sam Costa marathon. AEC's Dallas N9DAM and Matthew KD9WFK ran net control. Others worked throughout the course giving updates.

HARRISON-----

107 mins of air time

JENNINGS-----

Meshtastic presentation at EMA.
NWS basic and advanced weather spotter training

KOSCIUSKO -----

Supported the Shamrock Shimmy and 5 SkyWarn activations this month.

MARION -----

Marion County ARES had a busier month than usual with all things Severe Weather Awareness, Spotter Training and Skywarn / Weather activations. We engaged social media and non-ARES amateur radio operators with Weather Awareness information and Skywarn training. A request was made by our Section ARES EC for possible deployment to Northern counties stemming from March 9/10 storms and we had 3

volunteers available. No actual deployment was needed.

MORGAN-----
SkyWarn net on 3/22. No severe weather or damage reported...

PORTER -----
This month the focus has been on skywarn

PUTNAM -----
We had 4 ARES 2 meter Nets on Tuesday Evening at 8:00 pm. Had one that was not done because we were out of town.

RANDOLPH -----
Randolph county had 5 2mm nets this month. The Skywarn net on 147.300 and 462.700 (CH21) twice this month for severe weather. A public event was presentation for the Ladies Business Group of Randolph county. The Presentation covered ARES history and capabilities, Skywarn actions and the perception collection program that the club supports for the National Weather Services

SCOTT -----
In March, there were 5 scheduled ARES nets conducted on the Scott County EMA repeater (146.610) with 53 check-ins and a total of 97 minutes providing operators an opportunity to check and test their equipment.

SPENCER-----
5 ANALOG ABD 3 DIGITAL NETS

STARKE -----
Monitored and took Damage Report on the Knox repeater 3/11/26
Checked into a District 1 Skywarn Net and Marshall County Skywarn Net.
Checked into District ARES information net.

TIPPECANOE-----
Before the end of 2025 and begining of 2026, All hams participating in the TCARES Nets were asked to attend the first meeting of the year to fill out new ARES forms and get ID's. There are a few more hams that have not compleated the registration. February and March meeting and training have been in Digital modes of AX25 Packet, and Winlink. April will have VARA talk ~ training
Due to weather conditions, TEMA has not had their Siren test in March and April.

TIPTON -----
We attended NWS Spotter training in Tipton on March 30
We assisted EMA with Tornado Siren testing on March 10
We had 1 SKYWARN Net on March 15

VERMILLION-----
working on the repeater to get it back working for nets

Administrative and Other Comments:

D3 DEC-----
Attended the D3 Emergency Management meeting in March.

ALLEN -----

Allen County welcomes our new Asst. RC, Don Sell, WB9TYJ. Don's responsibility is the Allen County SKYWARN activities. Don's background in meteorology brings his expertise to the team.

BARTHOLOMEW-----

Busy SKYWARN month.

CASS-----

All activity from our regular weekly net. There were 5 nets with 72 check-ins and 123 minutes total time.

DELAWARE -----

Skywarn Nets held on March 11, 22 and 26

FULTON -----

Working around the weather to get our EOC towers and antennas up.

GRANT-----

Monthly meeting, siren test, and training net along with a short skywarn net this month.

HANCOCK -----

Monthly ARES meeting

HARRISON-----

107 mins of air time

MARION -----

We gained a couple volunteers to our roles this month. Extra time was spent planning and recruiting for public service events coming up in May and June.

PORTER -----

We had a lot of severe weather roll through this month and had a very active skywarn turnout.

PUTNAM -----

We had 3 Tech classes with average of 7 attending i March and we will finish up the Tech class in 2 meetings in April with testing on the last meeting in April.

RANDOLPH -----

Randolph county had 5 2mm nets this month. The Skywarn net on 147.300 and 462.700 (CH21) twice this month for severe weather. A public event was presentation for the Ladies Business Group of Randolph county. The Presentation covered ARES history and capabilities, Skywarn actions and the perception collection program that the club supports for the National Weather Services

SCOTT -----

The Scott County EMA Group will host a VE testing session Saturday, April 11th at 11:00 AM. Sessions are normally held on the 2nd Saturday of every even numbered month. Walk-Ins are welcome, but all new candidates must be registered in the FCC CORES system and have received their FCC Registration Number (FRN) before exam day. The testing location is at the Bacala Center, 69 E Wardell St, SE Corner of Courthouse Square, Scottsburg IN 47170 and is ADA accessible. For more info email: steve@wr9g.net or visit www.wr9g.net/links. 73, Steve WR9G

March 2026

TIPPECANOE-----

Working on getting more registered ARES members. Many asked decline due to ARRL Emcomm and FEMA ICS training.
Get digital comms operational.

TIPTON COUNTY-----

We attended NWS Spotter training in Tipton on March 30
We assisted EMA with Tornado Siren testing on March 10
We had 1 SKYWARN Net on March 15

Section Manager's desk

Note: Each week, I send out an Indiana Section News email for that week. If you are an ARRL member, log into your profile on the ARRL website to make sure you have "Division and Section News" selected in the "Opt In/Out" section in order to get those weekly emails. The items you see here in the "From the Section Manager's desk" section of the monthly section news are taken from the weekly emails.

Severe Weather Awareness

March is upon us and that means there's a likelihood of severe weather Indiana. Start making your severe weather preparations now.

March 8-14, 2026, is Severe Weather Preparedness Week for 2026. The Indiana Department of Homeland Security in collaboration with the National Weather Service reminds Hoosiers about seasonal severe weather threats and how to prepare for them. The statewide tornado drill will be March 10, 2026, at 10:15 am. Now's the time to get in touch with your county Skywarn team, your county Emergency Management Director, or the nearest National Weather Service office to see how you can get involved with severe weather spotting.

The National Weather Service offices that serve Indiana will be hosting severe weather spotter training sessions. To find out more, check the following websites:

Indianapolis https://www.weather.gov/ind/spotter_talks

North Webster https://www.weather.gov/iwx/Spotter_Event_List

Wilmington OH <https://www.weather.gov/iln/spottertrainingschedule>

Louisville KY <https://www.weather.gov/lmk/skywarn>

Paducah KY <https://www.weather.gov/pah/spottertraining>

Chicago IL <https://www.weather.gov/lot/seminar>

A legislative step in the right direction

The Indiana General Assembly recently passed House Bill 1152 (<https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2026/bills/house/1152/details>). This bill contains the following language regarding homeowners associations and amateur radio antennas:

SECTION 6. IC32-25.5-3.4 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]:

Chapter 3.4. Homeowners Association Regulation of Amateur Radio Antennas

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "amateur radio antenna" means an antenna, support structure, tower, feed line, or related equipment used by an amateur station as defined by 47 CFR 97.3.

Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "governing documents" has the meaning set forth in IC 32-25.5-2-3.

Sec. 3. This chapter applies only to a homeowners association's adoption or amendment of governing documents after June 30, 2026.

Sec. 4. A homeowners association may not adopt or enforce a regulation, rule, or other policy that has the effect of prohibiting a person from maintaining an amateur radio antenna on a property that the person owns, rents, or leases.

Big thank you to Hunter Reed KD9YLQ, Campbell Reed KD9GEK, and State Senator Scott Alexander for getting this legislation passed.

March 2026

According to KD9YLQ, "the bill would require that once an HOA updates its governing documents, then they have to comply with the law." There's nothing in the law that would require an HOA to change or not enforce their existing rules unless the rules were adopted or amended after June 30, 2026.

Severe Weather Awareness, part 2

Remember that I mentioned last week that we all need to be prepared for severe weather? Well, it hit parts of Indiana pretty hard this week with confirmed tornadoes in Newton, Jasper, and Starke Counties.

If your ARES team was activated for anything except Skywarn, please let Section Emergency Coordinator Brian Sexton KD9EDR know about your team's activities.

Section Manager election

My current term as Indiana Section Manager ends June 30, 2026. Nominations were solicited in the January and February 2026 QSTs. Mine was the only nomination submitted so, per ARRL policy, I was declared elected. My new term will start July 1, 2026.

Thank you to all who support what I'm doing for Indiana Section. If you have thoughts or ideas about how we can do things differently, please let me know.

Indiana Amateur Radio License Plate

Apparently, there was a disconnect between the BMV and the contractor who produces Indiana license plates. If you applied for an Indiana Amateur Radio License Plate on or after February 13, 2026, and you received the old-design plate, you can return to a BMV branch to request the new design as a replacement plate. I'm told by the BMV that there should be no cost to you.

Indiana Amateur Radio License Plate, part 2

According to BMV, the vendor issue affecting the new redesign of the Indiana Amateur Radio License Plate has been resolved.

Per the BMV: "All operators that have received the 'covered bridge' plate since 2/13/2026 do not need to return to the branch. The vendor will send them a new plate at no cost."

Also per the BMV: "If you have an existing 'covered bridge' plate (issued before 2/13/2026), you can get the new-design plate by going to a BMV branch and ordering a duplicate plate. Duplicate plates are \$9.50."

I've heard from a handful of people who have received their new plates.

DXCC Honor Roll

To attain the status of DXCC Honor Roll, you must have confirmed contacts with within 10 of the number of entities on the ARRL DXCC List. There are 340 entities on the list, so you must have confirmed contacts with 331 entities. The current ARRL DXCC Honor Roll can be found here: <http://www.arrl.org/system/dxcc/view/DXCC-HR-20260205-A4.pdf>

There is some concern among the DXing community that the Honor Roll is too difficult to attain. The people I know who are on the Honor Roll have been at it a long time and it's been a life-long commitment for many. Would it be fair to them to lower the standards for DXCC Honor Roll? Or, would a better approach be to delete entities from the list that haven't been activated in many years and aren't likely to be activated in the future?

These are questions that the DX Advisory Committee is considering. John Sweeney K9EL is Central Division's representative on the DXAC. If you have thoughts on the matter, please contact him at k9eljohn@gmail.com.

Enforcement

How many times have you heard that the FCC doesn't do enforcement anymore? Well, the truth is that enforcement is a regular activity for the FCC--but you may not always see the results of their actions.

Here are some examples of enforcement activities in the past 12 months where amateur radio was involved:

September 2025 -- A ham in Florida was given notice for "broadcasting" on 7.200 MHz.

September 2025 -- A ham in Utah was given notice for transmitting on a frequency used by the Federal government.

March 2026 -- A ham in Pennsylvania was given notice for transmitting on a frequency licensed to the county Emergency Medical Service.

I point these out because an amateur radio operator was involved. It falls on all of us to be good stewards of our frequencies and our equipment. And, I think we need to mentor new hams so that they are also good stewards.

Indiana QSO Party

The 2026 Indiana QSO Party (INQP) is only a month away and it is time to start planning and organizing county activations.

The 2026 INQP will be held Saturday May 2nd from 11:00am to 11:00pm EDT (Saturday 1500 UTC to Sunday 0259 UTC).

The rules for the INQP can be found here: <http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/rules.html>

The activity map showing the planned county activations can be found here: <http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/activity.php>

If you are planning to participate, please notify Tim K9WX (timk9wx@gmail.com) to get your participation posted on the activity map. Our goal is to have activity from all 92 counties for some period of time during the 12 hours of the QSO party. If you can only devote 30 minutes of your time during the 12 hour period that is fine. Your county will have been activated at some point during the QSO party.

Notice: Starting with the 2026 INQP, all SSB contacts will count 2 points per QSO. This is a change from previous years where SSB contacts counted 1 point per QSO. CW QSOs will still count 2 points per QSO. Contest logging developers have been notified of this change. There are no other rule changes for 2026.

Let Congress know how you feel

You can ask your Congressional representatives to support S.459 and H.R.1094 by pointing your browser to <https://send-a-letter.org/hoa/>, enter your amateur radio callsign, and click the "Send My Letters" button. The form will fill in your address information from the FCC license database and use your ZIP Code to determine the correct Senate and House members. That's all there is to it.

Upcoming Hamfests in Indiana

The up-to-date hamfest listing for Indiana, and the entire U.S., can be found on the ARRL's website at: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search> Note: Hamfests must be submitted to the ARRL in order to appear on the ARRL website. For more information, see: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfest-convention-application>

If your hamfest is not listed here, please contact Bob Burns AK9R, ARRL Indiana Section Manager, at ak9r@arrl.org

Auburn Hamfest

Start Date: 07/18/2026

End Date: 07/18/2026

Location: Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum

1600 Wayne Street

Auburn, IN 46706

Website: <http://w9ou.org>

Sponsor: Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Association

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 147.015 with 141.3 tone

Public Contact: John Maag , KD9QDL

5501 Bear Creek Pass Auburn, IN 46706

Phone: 260-438-6588

Email: jdmaag6101@gmail.com

LaPorte Tailgate Hamfest

Start Date: 07/18/2026

End Date: 07/18/2026

Location: Outdoor venue

3354 W. Shultz Rd.

LaPorte, IN

Website: <http://www.lpcarc.org>

Sponsor: LaPorte County Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.970 repeater, 131.8 pl

Public Contact: John Phillips , KA9PGC

625 Esther St. LaPorte, IN 46360

Phone: 219-878-3543

Email: ka9pgc@arrl.net

East Central Indiana Hamfest

Start Date: 07/25/2026

End Date: 07/25/2026

Location: Jay County Fairgrounds

806 East Votaw Street

Portland, IN 47371

Website: <http://inhamfest.com>

Sponsor: Jay County ARC, Whitewater Valley ARC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 443.475 +5, PL. 100.0, 145.210 -0.6 PL 97.4

Public Contact: Doug Skinner , W9KED

805 Indiana Avenue Richmond, IN 47374

Phone: 765-977-1874

Email: w9ked@comcast.net

Burning Ham!

Start Date: 08/01/2026

End Date: 08/01/2026

Location: American Legion

412 N New Albany St.

Sellersburg, IN 47172

Website: <https://www.clarkcountyarc.org/>

Sponsor: The Clark County Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.85- no tone

Public Contact: Dan Evans , K9ZF

5028 Tunnel Mill Road Charlestown, IN 47111

Phone: 812-786-9410

Email: k9zf@yahoo.com

Elkhart East Hamfest

Start Date: 08/01/2026

End Date: 08/01/2026

Location: Northern Indiana Event Center

21565 Executive Pkwy

Elkhart, IN 46514

Website: <http://www.elkharthamfest.com>

Sponsor: Northern Indiana K9DEW Repeater Network

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 147.330 PL 131.8

Public Contact: Dewey Thrash , K9DEW

53464 Baywater Place Bristol, IN 46507

Phone: 574-370-2436

Email: elkharthamfest@gmail.com

Hendricks County Tailgate Fest

Start Date: 08/08/2026

End Date: 08/08/2026

Location: Avon United Methodist Church
6850 East Hwy US 36
Avon, IN 46123

Website: <http://kc9sqd425@gmail.com>

Sponsor: Ham Emergency Radio Operations

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 145.130 MHz, W9HCA Repeater 88.5 Hz

Public Contact: Kenneth Kayler , KC9SQD
3090 Clover Dr. Plainfield, IN 46168-6933
Phone: 317-874-7068

Email: kc9sqd425@gmail.com

ARANCI Hamfest

Start Date: 08/15/2026

End Date: 08/15/2026

Location: Christ Presbyterian Church
7416 E. 109th Ave.
Winfield , IN

Website: <http://aranciradio.com>

Sponsor: Amateur Radio Association of Newton County Indiana

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 145.33 PL 131.8 and 444.250 PI 131.8

Public Contact: Michael Swiader , KA9E
PO Box 215 Lake Village, IN 46349
Phone: 815-409-5070

Email: ka9e@usa.com

MARC Tailgate Hamfest

Start Date: 09/12/2026

End Date: 09/12/2026

Location: Indiana Department of Natural Resources Parking Lot
7970 South Rowe Street
Edinburgh, IN 46124

Website: <http://midstatehams.org>

Sponsor: Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.520 Simplex

Public Contact: Jim Adams , KB9JMU
15 Briar Patch Road Bargersville, IN 46106
Phone: 317-499-5451

Email: secretary@midstatehams.org

The Hoosier Hills Hamfest

Start Date: 10/10/2026

End Date: 10/10/2026

Location: Lawrence County 4H Fairgrounds
11265 US-50

Bedford, IN 47421

Website: <https://hoosierhillshamfest.com>

Sponsor: Hoosier Hills Ham Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.73 107.2

Public Contact: Justin Elliott , KD9IGT

4470 W. Walnut Ridge Rd. Salem, IN 47167

Phone: 812-896-8002

Email: kd9igt@w9qyq.org

Hamtober Fest

Start Date: 10/17/2026

End Date: 10/17/2026

Location: Lynnville Community Center
316 IN-68

Lynnville, IN 47619

Website: <http://hamtoberfest.com>

Sponsor: Tri-State Amateur Radio Society in Evansville Indiana

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.790 PL 88.0

Public Contact: John Van Vorst , N9oL

8640 Sunny Brook Dr. Evansville, IN 47725

Phone: 812-305-4100

Email: n9ol@arrl.net

Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. (WVARA) Turkeyfest

Start Date: 11/28/2026

End Date: 11/28/2026

Location: Clay County 4-H Fairgrounds
6550 North State Road 59

Brazil, IN 47834

Website: <https://www.w9uuu.org/hamfest.php>

Sponsor: Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. (WVARA)

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.685 MHz – PL 151.4 Hz

Public Contact: Mitchell McCord , K9FDA

8356 E. Sunset Ave. Terre Haute, IN 47805

Phone: 812-241-7518

Email: hamfest@w9uuu.org



The Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Association

AUBURN HAMFEST

Saturday, July 18, 2026

Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum

1600 S. Wayne St. Auburn, IN 46706

OPEN 9 AM TO 2 PM • TALK-IN: 147.015 (141.3) 7:00 AM • LOAD-IN: 7 TO 9 AM

FREE Admission

6,000 SQ. FT. INDOOR DISPLAY



FREE AUBURN CORD DUESENBERG
Museum

View an amazing collection of classic motor vehicles.

FREE Parking

More Parking and Handicap Spaces available this year.



FOOD VENDOR

On the parking lot. Provided by Dave K9TZ

NEED MORE INFO?

VE Testing starting at 10:00 AM

Early load in, Friday 2pm to 4pm

E-MAIL: auburnhamfest@w9ou.org

PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AT W9OU.ORG

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

Indoor Vendor Tables: \$10 ea.

Order online now at www.w9ou.org

Outdoor Sales - One raffle ticket purchase for each parking space.

Contact: auburnhamfest@w9ou.org

Raffle Prizes:

1st-YAESU FT 891

2nd-XIEGU G90 HF 20W SSB/CW/AM/FM

3rd- ICOM IC-T10 Handheld

And more drawing prizes

Ticket Prices \$5.00 - Buy 2, get 1 Free!

July 18th 2026



\$5 admission per Car for Sellers or Buyers

Trailers will be an extra fee!

Setup will begin at 8am for vendors. BYOT (bring your own tables) or set up out of the back of your car/truck

Admission for Buyers will start at 10am

Talk-In 146.610 (131.8) and 146.970(131.8) negative offsets

3354 W. Schultz Rd, LaPorte, IN 46350 Under the Tower

Visit <http://lpcarc.org> for updates and more information

Sponsored by La Porte County Amateur Radio Club



Radios - Deals - Community - Fun



East Central Indiana HAMFEST 2026

Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, Indiana

• FREE PARKING • FREE VENDOR SPACES • FREE ADMISSION •
• FREE DOOR PRIZE TICKET WHEN YOU REGISTER •

EXTRA DOOR PRIZE TICKETS AVAILABLE **TALK-IN: 443.475+ PL: 100.0**
SIMPLEX: 147.54 | GMRS CH-1



Samples of Grand Prizes won in our Grand Prize Drawings at past events!



Door Prize Drawings at least every HALF HOUR



Fabulous Foxhunts!

Experience the thrill of the chase and maybe snag a great prize. With spirits high and plenty of smiles, we'll hunt down the sneaky hidden "fox" and stir up lots of fun. We'll run one hunt in the morning and another in the afternoon, pending approval from the Fox Workers Local 146 which prohibits a fox from working during a thunderstorm. Have fun!



VE Testing Session at 11:00 AM

- Also Available:**
- ◆ Breakfast
 - ◆ Lunch
 - ◆ Camping - \$20
Includes electric service and water
 - ◆ Showers
 - ◆ Dump Station

All scheduled events subject to change without notice.

Local Motels

Special rates for our out-of-town guests

Motel 6
 1147 US-27 North, Portland IN 47371
 Local Phone: 260-361-8879

Holiday Inn Express
 100 Holiday Dr, Portland IN 47371
 Book a Reservation: 1-888-465-4329
 Front Desk: 260-726-8688

Just mention the East Central Hamfest for discounted rates.

**806 E Votaw Street
 Portland, Indiana 47375**

Saturday, July 25, 2026
8 AM — 2 PM Eastern



Reserve your space
 INhamfest.com
 or call Dave at 419-733-0867

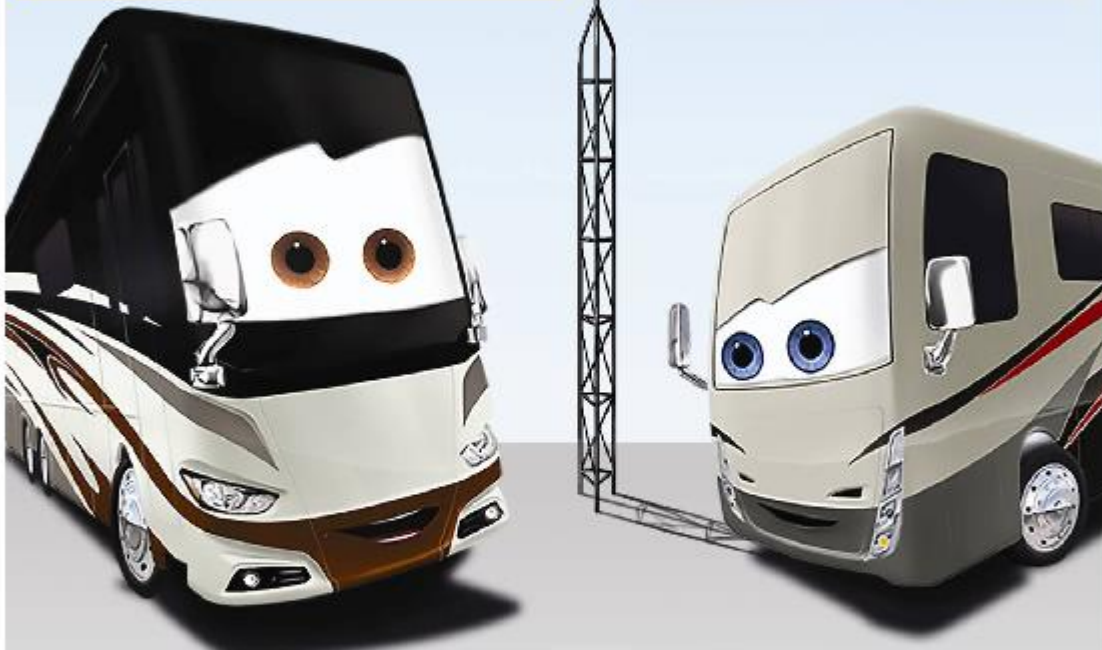
2026 ELKHART EAST HAMFEST
SATURDAY AUGUST 1, 2026
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Northern Indiana Event Center
21565 Executive Parkway - Elkhart, IN 46514

More details are available on our website
at: <https://www.elkharteasthamfest.com>.

The Northern Indiana Event Center is
a state-of-the-art convention facility
located at the MH/RV Hall of Fame in
Elkhart, Indiana. (Toll Road at Exit 96)

Questions? elkharthamfest@gmail.com



Welcome and Join us!

Indoor 20,000 sq ft of Amateur Radio, Hobby Electronics, and More Convention.
150 table flea market of retail and consumer vendors, HAM radio license exams for all classes.
\$9.00 admission includes discounted admission to the RV Hall of Fame

\$15.00 per table (\$20 the day of event)
Includes 120v/220v electric service.

One free admission per vendor / children under 14 free.

Talk-In: K9DEW Mishawaka Repeater (147.330+ 131.8pl)

Additional Reservation Info: elkharthamfest@gmail.com
Northern Indiana Event Center - 21565 Executive Pkwy - Elkhart, IN 46514





**Amateur Radio Association of
Newton County Indiana
COMMUNICATION**



HAMFEST

When: Saturday, August 15, 2026
Set -Up 6 AM Doors open 8 AM - 2 PM CDT
Where: Christ Presbyterian Church
7416 E 109th Avenue ~ Winfield, IN 46307

HOURLY RAFFLE PRIZES

VE testing and food will be available

Costs: Admission, \$5 ea. in advance (see website) or at entrance.

The vendor list will be on the website as soon as information becomes available. Tables, \$10 ea.

**For updates & Pre-Pay information @ aranciradio.com
Questions? Call Mike @ 815-409-5070!**

TALK IN ON 145.330 – OFFSET PL 131.8

WEBSITE: WWW.ARANCIRADIO.COM

Location:

The location can be reached from I 65 or US 30.

From I 65, take exit 249, 109th Ave, go east approximately 5 miles and turn left into church parking lot; If coming from the north on I 65, US 30 is exit 253, or 109th Ave is exit 249.

From I 65 & US 30, go EAST 5 miles to Randolph Street, Merrillville, IN and go south 3 miles to 109th Ave. in Winfield. Turn right (west) at the light and go about ½ mile and turn right into the church parking lot.

If coming from the east (Valparaiso area) on US 30, the distance from IN 49 and US 30 to Randolph Street, Merrillville, is 11 miles. Randolph St. is the next traffic light past the Deep River Water Park. Turn left from US 30, go south on Randolph 3 miles to 109th Ave. in Winfield. Turn right at the light and go approx. ½ mile and turn right into the church parking lot.

Hamtober Fest 2026



Southern Indiana 8th Annual HamtoberFest

OCTOBER 17, 2026

LYNNVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

LYNNVILLE, IN

7:00 AM - Noon CST

GPS 38.19453 -87.30147

----->>FREE ADMISSION <<-----

DONATIONS ACCEPTED AND APPRECIATED!

**** HamtoberFest Raffle! Drawing at Noon! ****
Fabulous prizes To Be Announced!

Raffle Ticket cost: \$10 each. Raffle Drawing held at approx Noon at HamtoberFest.

Tickets available for purchase in advance or the morning of the Hamfest!

Need not be present for the noon Raffle Drawing to win!

Door prize drawings throughout the event!

Attendees must fill out door prize entry when entering HamtoberFest - one entry per attendee!

Must be present when door prize is drawn for or we draw again!!

INDOOR TABLES \$10 EACH -- LIMITED AVAILABILITY-RESERVE YOURS NOW!!

FREE Outdoor Flea Market, Food, Fellowship