

# Anderson Repeater Club, Inc.

**March, 2021**

Our March meeting is Tuesday, March 2, 7:00PM at the EOC Training Room. Please plan to attend. We are all looking forward to meeting in person again! Masks and Social Distancing is required and the desks and chairs are arranged to support that. We will have a Technical Presentation related to an antenna installation (held over from the October meeting). This should be of special interest to new hams who aren't sure where/how to get up a simple VHF/UHF outside antenna. It will also include some information on antenna basics.

Our January meeting, held on-the-air, was well attended, although we'd hoped to have even greater attendance than our in-person meeting. We had 19 check in, which is about our usual meeting attendance. If we hold future on-the-air meetings please make a special effort to participate.

We are accepting dues contributions for 2021. As of mid-February we had 16 who had submitted their dues. We'd be happy to receive your \$20 at the meeting, or you can still mail them to the Club PO Box: Anderson Repeater Club, PO Box 615 Anderson, IN 46015 . The list of members on the Web Site is current so you can check there if you are uncertain if you have paid. Your membership certificate will be available at the meeting. We also encourage other hams in the area to support our Club and the repeaters by submitting a membership application which is available on the Web Site, or at the meeting. As required in our By-Laws all NEW applicants must be approved by vote of the membership at a meeting. As you know its always been an affirmative vote!

The Dayton Hamvention has been cancelled again. It has been announced that the 2021 Hamvention will not be held this year. For those of us who have made that pilgrimage yearly for many years it's a second year of loss. Let's hope that next year will be better for our hamfest calendar. Right now Indy and Fort Wayne Hamfests are planned. Cross your fingers!

Our VE Team was not able to conduct testing in January or February. We're hoping that March will be a good opportunity for those interested in licensing to be tested. We will be back to our regular schedule of the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tuesday of each month, 7:00PM at the EOC. As you have probably read the FCC plans to implement a \$35 fee for licensing or renewals very soon. If you are thinking about upgrading you might want to get it done prior to the implementation of the new fee structure. Applications (605 Form) now require an FRN and will soon require an email address. Come prepared with that information. The ARRL Web Site has been updated with our planned test dates.

Our yearly Club report to the ARRL has been submitted now that the officers have been elected for 2021. Our Club has been an Affiliated Club since 1979, and we're proud of that. A requirement is that at least 50% of the members are ARRL members. We were at 89% last year, so there is no issue with meeting that requirement. It also reflects the value that our members place in supporting the League (and enjoying QST Magazine).

The State of Indiana requires that we submit a Corporate Status Report every other year. In the past Tim had taken care of it. This year it was completed and submitted by the Secretary. It's a \$21 fee with the submission.

A concern for our Club occurred when our Treasurer Tim, KB9VE, became ill and could not perform the duties required. Tim had been Treasurer for 39 years and had the routine well in hand. Anyway, Steve, WA9CWE, had also been on the checking account, so he was able to get the checkbook and handle the responsibility. Some members pointed out that we wouldn't want to be in that situation in the future, so it was decided that the President and Vice-President should be added to the account. We have completed that task, and now all 4 of the Officers are on the account with our new Treasurer Gerald, K9GDH, as primarily responsible.

A local person who wanted to become a ham but didn't find a testing opportunity recently tested in an on-line opportunity. He obtained his license 1 day after passing the test. Usually for our VE Team testing it takes about 2 ½ weeks to show up in the FCC Database. He used [www.hamstudy.org](http://www.hamstudy.org). The site lists many on-line testing opportunities. It apparently takes some computer capability but is certainly an alternative for someone wanting to test. Our VE Team has decided that we will not get involved in on-line testing especially since there are other teams who are already set up and successfully conducting them. This is an opportunity where you don't have to be local to participate.

In case you did not see the ARRL Members Only distribution back on February 4, there was a nice article about amateur radio in the Indiana Department of Homeland Security – First Responder newsletter. <https://www.in.gov/dhs/files/Hoosier-Responder-2021-02.pdf> You might take a look at it and a couple of other interesting articles in this issue.

Jeff asked that I remind everyone that the meeting will be a good opportunity to get your EMA/ARES Task Book signed for any items that you have completed. Any FEMA IS courses that you have completed and need to get a certificate added to your training record can be submitted to Jeff.

As of February 16 the Hancock Co. UHF repeater on 444.450 has changed its CTCSS to digital code 465 (from 88.5). Their VHF repeater remains unchanged at 88.5. This is apparently due to an interference problem that has not been identified and resolved.

As you may have noticed the rules for Field Day 2021 have been modified so that home stations can work other stations for points and submit them as an addition to a club score. This might be a good way to boost the total score for the MCARC entry this year. If you are an HF operator and have an interest please consider that for FD this year.

See you on Tuesday,  
Steve

## Minutes of Meeting – January 5, 2021

The regular Club meeting was called to order at 1900 by the President Ferrin, N9VZL, **ON THE 146.820 REPEATER** as a result of the EOC Training Room not available (Covid situation). Ferrin introduced the current Officers and they checked in. Following that all on frequency checked in:

**N9VZL, W9GNR, WA9CWE, K9GDH, W9EEL, KV9W, KA9SYP, K9DYR, K9BLK, KB9NTG, KD9NAW, KD9PSR, N9DR, KD9NAU, W9CGA, KC9DJU, KE9XF, KC9UKD, KC9GBL (19 total)**

Ferrin asked if all had received the Newsletter and there was no indication of not having been received. No issues or corrections to the recorded Minutes were noted and the minutes were accepted as published in the Newsletter.

**Issue #1** was the election of Officers for 2021. The current slate of Officers had been re-nominated and there were no other nominations offered. Therefore, the officers for 2021 were elected as follows:

President: Ferrin Nice, N9VZL  
Vice-President: Gary Sherman, W9GNR  
Secretary: Steve Riley, WA9CWE  
Treasurer: Gerald Hollon, K9GDH  
Technical Committee: Tom Harbron, W9EEL, Dale Bales, KV9W, Gary Sherman, W9GNR  
.82 Repeater Trustee: Tom Ecker, KA9SYP  
.09 Repeater Trustee: Jeff Dyer, K9DYR

**Issue #2** was the need to replace the Weather Station located at the EOC that the Club maintains. The description was explained in the Newsletter and the total project cost to the Club is \$565.93. Upon motion of KC9GBL and second by KE9XF the **authorization was given** to purchase the new station.

**Issue #3** was acceptance of the Treasurer's Report as published in the Newsletter. There were no questions or objections, so the Treasurer's Report was Accepted as published.

**Silent Key:** Gene Sample, K9RPZ, was announced (December 9).

**Illness:** Alan, NA9LA, is recovering and expects to be back in 2-3 months.

**Correspondence:** WA9CWE reported that the Invoice for the Club Liability Insurance has been received and is due before the next meeting. The cost is \$323.20. Upon motion of WA9CWE and second by W9GNR that the bill be paid there were no objections and the Insurance bill will be paid.

WA9CWE reported that a thank you note had been received for the memorial for KB9VE.

**Madison County ARC Repeater (145.390) Report:** Doug, N9DR, has been analyzing the problem with the main RF package and also the backup package and believes that the issue might be in the Duplexer. He's going to pursue that issue first since the problem is the same with both RF packages.

**146.820 Repeater Report:** Tom, KA9SYP, reports that no issues have been reported to him.

**147.090 Repeater Report:** Jeff, K9DYR, reported that he had been in contact with K9DC in Indianapolis who runs the IRLP system. He's familiar with our system and has access to the computer. Jeff and he are going to get together so that Jeff can learn more about how it's set up. (In the past Tim, KB9VE, had handled all of the IRLP system). Ferrin reported that he had listened and enjoyed the New Year's Eve activity on the IRLP. W9CGA reported that he made a total of 31 contacts thru the IRLP, mostly overseas contacts.

**Web Site Update:** Tom, W9EEL, reported that it is up and running and is current with all information forwarded to him.

**Weather/Warning Div Report:** Dale, KV9W, reported that we have been fortunate this winter and there is nothing at the moment to be concerned about. The 3 month forecast expects above average temperature and above average moisture, unsure as to how it will come down.

**ARES Update:** Gary, W9GNR, reported that the November activity was 213 volunteer hours, December was 250 volunteer hours. For the year there were 1932 volunteer hours totaled.

Gary also reminded everyone that dues can be paid to the ARC PO Box 615, Anderson, 46015, and for the MCARC at PO Box 3044 Anderson, 46018.

**VE Team Update:** WA9CWE reported that for 2020 the Team conducted 10 test sessions. There were 53 Candidates resulting in 29 new licenses and 19 upgrades. We averaged 5.7 VE's present. For the 10 years that our Club has been conducting tests we have held 119 test sessions with 311 candidates resulting in 165 new licenses and 114 license upgrades.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Ferrin reminded everyone that they can pay their dues at the next meeting or send it to the PO Box. More info is on the web site.

Steve, WA9CWE, reported that he and Jeff were going to pick up the equipment from Gene, K9RPZ, and would be holding an on-line auction of it as we have done in the past offering it to the MCARC, ARC and EMA Comm Div members and the receipts going to the Clubs. More info will be upcoming once we see what it is.

**Upcoming Events:**

January VE Testing has been cancelled.

Thursday MCARC Donut Meetings have been cancelled until further notice.

The Saturday morning breakfast get-together continues with social distancing.

February 1 MCARC Meeting may be on-air or in person, to be determined.

February 2 Comm Div. Meeting may be on-air or in person, to be determined.

The March ARC meeting may be on-air or in person, to be determined.

Winter Field Day will be on January 30 & 31 and will be operated from home

The on-air meeting was adjourned at 1937.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Steve Riley, WA9CWE, Secretary, ARC