

Anderson Repeater Club, Inc.

September, 2020

The next Club meeting is Tuesday, September 1, 7:00PM at the EOC Training Room. The Technical Session will be presented by Dave, WA9IVB, discussing refurbishing of old tube equipment. Dave has several “old” rigs that he sometimes uses and will have pictures of. He will discuss not only the cleanup aspects, but also the component replacement that is often required. Masks are still a necessity for us “old timers”.

We have been honored with 2 new member applications to vote upon at the meeting; Gary Wigner, KD9NAW, and Tim Bailey, KD9PSR. Both are considered temporary members until the membership officially approves them as full members. Our Club will then have 5 new members this year. That’s a great indication of the visibility and the benefit that our Club provides to the amateur community in Madison County. Be sure to welcome our newest members at the meeting.

Our Treasurer and Trustee Tim, KB9VE, has continued to have health challenges. He was able to come home in early August, then went back to the hospital and rehab. We’re hoping he’ll be back home soon and able to communicate with us again.

Our VE Test sessions continue to be productive in bringing in new hams to our hobby. In July we had 3 new licensees and 2 upgrades. In August we had 6 new licensees and 2 upgrades. That brings our 2020 results to 29 new licenses and 13 upgrades. We’ve already exceeded our highest new licenses record! We have also welcomed a few new hams in our County.

If you have equipment for 6 meter SSB, there is a net on 50.140 every Sunday evening at 2000. It’s called the East Central Indiana 6 Meter Net, and is primarily guys in Delaware County. They also have an informal rag chew net on Wednesday evenings at the same time. They have been conducting the net for 9 months or so to help increase activity on 6 meters.

I a few of us made it to the East Central Indiana Hamfest on August 15 in Winchester. It was a nice Hamfest and is growing, this being their second year. They gave away a lot of really nice prizes over the course of the day. If you are into hamfests you might consider it for next year. It takes an hour to get over there and is free admission.

The White River Run Communications Exercise is this Saturday, the 5th. We’ll meet at the EOC at 8:00AM for the safety briefing and assignments. The first race starts at 9. Should be done by 11:00. If you can make it you’d be welcome. Communications on the .82 repeater.

This time of the year is usually pretty quiet as Club activities go. I hope that you are still enjoying the hobby.

See you on Tuesday,
73, Steve

Minutes of Meeting – July 7, 2020

The regular Club meeting was called to order at 1900 by the President, Ferrin, N9VZL. All were welcomed and there were no visitors attending.

Everyone reported having received the Newsletter and the Minutes of the May meeting. Upon a motion by KC9GBL and second by W9GNR all present voted in favor of accepting the Minutes as printed.

The **Treasurer's Report** was offered by WA9CWE since Tim, KB9VE, is still unable to attend. Initial checking balance as of May 5, \$2,965.78. Dues deposit of \$20. No Debits. The Current balance is \$2,985.78. Upon a motion by KC9GBL and second by KD9NAW all present voted in favor of accepting the Report as given.

Correspondence: WA9CWE reported that the PO Box rent is due this month. He moved that the \$118.00 fee be paid from the treasury. With a second by K9TZJ, all present voted in favor of paying the bill.

There were no Silent Keys reported. Alan, NA9LA, attended Field Day and is in good spirits. It's not likely he'll be back in the area for several more months. Steve reported that he had talked with Tim, KB9VE, and he is looking forward to going home tomorrow, and hopes to be back on the air in the near future. He is looking forward to attending meetings again. Lew, K9LBB, is doing well. He attended the last VE Test Session.

.82 Repeater Report – Trustee Tom, KA9SYP, reported it's still working fine.

.09 Repeater Report – Trustee Tim, KB9VE, was not present, but several members reported that there is a lot of IRLP activity and several good technical nets held.

.39 Repeater Report – The repeater is back on the air.

223.86 Repeater Report – Trustee Alan, NA9LA, was not present. No one present has been using it, but it is reported to be id'ing.

443.350 Repeater Report – Trustee Steve, WA9CWE, reports it's working. Not much activity.

VE Team Report – Steve, WA9CWE, reported that the last 2 sessions were well attended. So far this year we've had 31 candidates resulting in 20 new licenses and 8 upgrades.

ARES Report – EC Gary, W9GNR, reported that May had 260 man-hours logged, and June had 11 activities resulting in 340 man-hours. A number of ICS courses have been reported as passed by our members.

Warning Division Report – Dale, KV9W, reported the there is a better chance of rain Thurs/Fri and next week will be hot. Tom, W9EEL, commented that the thunderstorms that we have seen recently are "Pulse Thunderstorms" that can come and go in about 10 minutes. They can't really be predicted. NWS calls them "Popcorn" thunderstorms.

Web Page Report – Tom, W9EEL, reports that it is current with all information that has been provided.

EMA Report – Director Tom, KA9SYP, reported that they have been really busy. The storm that went thru yesterday resulted in damage and power outages in Anderson. He is in charge of the County COVID project for reimbursement. There was a District 6 Directors meeting today here. The State coordination for the event has not been good. All District 6 distributions are going thru Madison County. He expects we'll continue to deal with it for another month or two. The federal funds can only replace equipment and direct expenses. Cannot use them to stockpile.

Old Business – None

New Business – Steve passed around a received card on available DMR radio information. Jeff, K9DYR, reported that several members are working on Task Books.

On Saturday, July 18 Mike, KC9DJU, plans to take MCU-2 to Shadyside Park and set up to operate for the day. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

The **Door prize**, a Baofeng Handheld donated by Dave, KB9NTG, was won by Gary, KD9NAW.

Technician Presentation – Doug, N9DR, made a presentation on FT-8 digital mode. It included an “Introduction to Ham Radio Digital Mode” that provided information on how it works. A full exchange on FT8 takes about 100 seconds. It’s pretty much a canned format with call, grid square and signal strength. The program on the laptop pretty much handles all of the exchange. All that is required is an SSB transceiver and a computer. The program is SWJT-X. Ferrin, N9VZL, has been working FT8 from the EOC, and he demonstrated how it works. Steve reminded everyone that Technician Class Licensees can use FT8 on 10, 6 and 2 meters. It’s a weak signal mode so high power isn’t required.

The meeting was closed at 2027 upon motion of KC9GBL and KD9NAW.

There were 14 members present.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Riley, WA9CWE, Secretary, ARC