

Anderson Repeater Club, Inc.

November, 2020

Our regular meeting will be on Tuesday, November 3, at 7:00PM at the EOC Training Room. Please plan to attend. Our meetings have been well attended as we usually have at least 20 members/guests in attendance. We'll have a Technical Session related to the recent installation of an antenna including some antenna fundamentals. Also we'll present a listing of useful web sites for Amateur Radio Operators. Come to get your copy!

Also remember to VOTE on Tuesday.

I'm sorry to report that Bill Griffin, N9XXT, became a Silent Key on October 17. Bill had been a very active member of the Club (23 years starting in 1994) and EMA for many years. His health had been poor recently. We will miss him as a regular check-in on the Sunday evening net. His XYL is Vera, KB9JFS.

Again, I'm sorry to report that Tim Galbraith, KB9VE, became a Silent Key on October 22. Tim has been a member since 1979, 42 years. He became Treasurer in 1980 and continued thru this year (41 years). Tim was Ham-Of-The-Year in 1988. He has been Trustee of the .09 repeater since 1981, and a VE since 2016. Tim was very active in EMA and also the MCARC. He was also Treasurer of the Indiana Repeater Council, '78 and '79. We will miss Tim's support of Amateur Radio. He has been a very important leader of our Club for many years.

The loss of Tim will mean that we need a new Club Treasurer for 2021 and also a Trustee for the .09/IRLP repeater. If you are interested in either of those responsibilities let one of the Officers know and/or mention it at the meeting.

We are accepting dues contributions for 2021. Bring them to any meeting, or submit the \$20 to the PO Box: Anderson Repeater Club, PO Box 615, Anderson, IN 46015. Please DO NOT drop them off at Tims shop, as he's no longer there. Dues are accepted at any time, so pay when it is convenient for you. By the way, we have 36 members this year (membership list is current on the web site).

We will be opening nominations for officers for 2021, our 52nd year. All of the current officers will be willing to serve again, but we are always open to (and now need) "new blood" in the leadership. We will accept nominations at the November meeting and hold them open until the January meeting when we will vote for the new team. As a reminder the current team is:

President:	Ferrin Nice, N9VZL (1)
Vice-President:	Gary Sherman, W9GNR (1)
Secretary:	Steve Riley, WA9CWE (39)
Treasurer:	Tim Galbraith, KB9VE (41)
.82 Trustee:	Tom Ecker, KA9SYP (27)
.09 Trustee:	Tim Galbraith, KB9VE (40)

Tech Committee: Tom Harbron, W9EEL (39)
Dale Bales, KV9W (6)
Gary Sherman, W9GNR (2)

Remember too, that nominations are being accepted for the Club “Ham-Of-The-Year”. In our 51 years we have had 18 hams recognized for this honor. As shown on the plaque on the Training Room wall: “In recognition of outstanding achievement of the Anderson area amateur who distinguishes himself in public service, friendship, technological and other ideals of Amateur Radio”. If you want to submit a nomination contact Jeff, K9DYR (2018 recipient) and submit it confidentially. If enough nominations are made for a particular ham the award will be made and the new name added to the plaque. Check the web site to see who has received this honor in the past. You will note that they are/were (9 are SK’s) some of the most active and influential members of our ham community.

Our VE Team has been successful in the last few months supporting our hobby. The September session resulted in 1 candidate successfully upgrading (Club member W9TDV), and the October session resulted in 4 license upgrades.

We continue to look for interesting Technical Sessions for each meeting. Last meeting had a good presentation by Dave, WA9IVB. If you have something communications related we’d like to hear about it. It isn’t necessary to be a fancy PowerPoint, just Show-And-Tell if that works for you.

Our club has been fortunate over our entire life to be able to meet at the county CD/EMA EOC. That benefit has been the result of our steadfast support of the communications mission of EMA in support of our county. Our new EOC is one of the best in the State, and our County Director has provided strong support of amateur communications with a fine **Emergency Communications Center**, MCU-1, MCU-2, storage space and most importantly tower space for our repeaters. Our EOC is used frequently by other local and statewide organizations. In October Tom hosted the State DHS Director, and District meetings are regularly held at our site. In fact, the facility is used daily by groups other than our membership. Those visitors should come away with a very positive view of our facility and our organization. Our **ECC** is a frequently visited part of our EOC preparedness resources. Unfortunately, it’s not always up-to-snuff when it comes to appearance. In fact, it is sometimes an embarrassment. There is no reason why our members cannot leave the ECC room in a condition that we’d be proud to show to others. One chair per operating position, the appropriate log and notepads in front of each radio, the radio equipment itself ready to be turned on and used and other items removed from the room if not a direct contribution to the communications mission is what should be expected. **It’s up to every member and every other user of the ECC to make certain that they leave the room in better shape than it was when they walked in. If we do we can continue to say we support the EMA organization 100%. Otherwise, we are not responsibly doing our part to continue our 52 year tradition.**

Not quite repeater related, but Doug, N9DR, has earned the 5 Band DXCC Award (DX Century Club). This ARRL award has been offered for many years, and recognizes that the ham has “confirmed” contacts with at least 100 different Countries on each band (80, 40, 20, 15, 10, the original HF bands). This is quite an achievement as less than 10,000 hams have ever achieved

it. Doug is now working on endorsements for some of the other HF bands now. Congratulations to Doug for his skill and perseverance.

I recently acquired a 220 MHz radio that I have on a UHF antenna in my attic. I was pleasantly surprised at the amount of activity on that band. There are at least a dozen repeaters within a 30 mile radius of Anderson, and several are active. One in Indy is linked full time to Echolink and there seems to be a couple of others that are linked to other repeaters. Repeater linking seems to be popular for repeaters on this band.

I'll be discussing at the meeting activity on 6 meter SSB. This is another band that will surprise you, especially when the band conditions are good. There is a 6 meter net out of Muncie on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. There are usually around 10 locals who check in. There are other areas that have nets also. We old timers remember back in the '50's and '60's we used 50.4 AM in the same way we use 2 meter FM today. We'll talk about that too at the meeting.

See you on Tuesday.

73, Steve

Minutes of Meeting – September 1, 2020

The regular Club meeting was called to order at 1900 by the President, Ferrin, N9VZL. Introductions were provided by all present, and new ham Scott Walton, KD9QFB was introduced.

New member applications for temporary members Tim Bailey, KD9PSR and Gary Wigner, KD9NAW were presented and upon a motion by WA9CWE and a second by K9TZJ that both be accepted as full members of the Club all members present voted in favor. Both were welcomed to the Club.

The Minutes of the last meeting were provided in the Newsletter and upon motion of KD9NAU and second by K9DYR, all present voted to accept them as printed.

The Treasurer's report was provided by WA9CWE since our Treasurer, KB9VE, was not present. The Treasury balance was \$2,985.78 on July 7. There were no deposits and a debit of \$118 for the PO Box rental for the next year. The new balance as of September 1 is \$2,867.78. Upon a motion by W9GNR and a second by K9TZJ that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented all present voted in favor.

Correspondence: Steve, WA9CWE, reported on a "Notice of Proposed Rulemaking" at the FCC that would require a \$50 fee for amateur licenses and other amateur related functions on the FCC website. Everyone needs to review that potential action and submit a comment to the FCC ASAP.

Silent Keys and Illnesses: There were no Silent Keys reported. Jeff reported that Alan, NA9LA, had been in and can drive now. He's still working on his house in Anderson, so it'll be a while before he's back here full time. Steve, WA9CWE, reported that Tim, KB9VE, had a set-back and is back in the hospital to be followed by rehab before he can come home again.

.82 Repeater Report: Jeff, K9DYR, reported that last Sunday evening a problem developed when he put in the Controlled Net code resulting in a seemingly open squelch. The Test net was moved to the .39 repeater. The condition hasn't re-occurred.

.39 Repeater Report: It is still working using the backup RF package. The nets continue to be conducted.

.09 Repeater Report: The Tech Net is still conducted on the IRLP and the repeater seems to be working well.

223.86 Repeater Report: No report of activity.

443.35 Repeater Report: Gary wants to set up a regular net. A test is going to be done to see how the coverage from Elwood is so that it might be used in StormNet events too.

VE Testing: Steve, WA9CWE, reported that the July session had 7 candidates resulting in 3 new licenses and 2 upgrades. The August session had 8 candidates resulting in 6 new licenses and 2 upgrades. So far for the year we have had 46 candidates (47 in all of 2019), 29 new licensees (exceeds 2019) and 13 upgrades (16 total in 2019). Thanks to the VE's who attend each month.

ARES Report: Gary, W9GNR, reported that he reported 206 man-hours for July and 233 man-hours for August.

Warning Team Report: Tom, W9EEL, reported that there is no severe weather expected over the next week. Perhaps some rain tonight, but the weekend should be nice.

EMA Report: Jeff, K9DYR, reported that the intent is to ramp up the training again now that things are returning more to normal. He's been distributing supplies for the other Counties in the District that have been delivered here. There are many skids of materials in the barn. After the Exercise on Saturday there will be MCU training.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Announcements: Ferrin reminded everyone of the MCARC Donut meeting on Thursday at 9AM at the EOC, and the Saturday morning, 9AM, breakfast at the Anderson Grill. The White River Run is this Saturday & Steve discussed it briefly inviting anyone who wants to participate to come out for the 8AM briefing. The MCARC is going to participate in the "Parks On The Air" from Mounds Park on Saturday the 12th. The regular schedule of other events are planned.

Steve reminded everyone of the "Ham-Of-The-Year" award that is awarded at the first meeting in 2021. Jeff, K9DYR, was the last recipient and will be receiving any nominations. See the Web Site for information on the award. Only 18 hams have received this award in the 50 years of the Club.

Door Prize: Ferrin announced that a headset donated by N4TZ has been won by Dave, WA9IVB.

Technical Presentation: Dave, WA9IVB, provided the Technical Presentation dealing with primarily refurbishing of old tube equipment. He noted that "Simple Green" and water works great along with "Deoxit" for controls (don't use contact cleaner on plastic items). Cleaned equipment gets dried in an oven at 175F for 15 minutes. Other discussion about antenna work by Dave led to "Liquid Tape" over "Silicone Rubber Self Fusing Tape" is best for external connections as it will come off clean (electrical tape doesn't). Dave also recommended that only black cable ties get used for outside applications. Dave also provided other information on broadcast stations in the Indy market.

Upon a motion by K9TZJ and K9BLK the meeting was closed at 2028. There were 20 present at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Riley, WA9CWE, Secretary ARC