

# W9JOZ

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March 2011

## The President's Corner

Phil said that we are going to have an early spring, but he doesn't live in Indiana. Either way we're not waiting, the 1<sup>ST</sup> Foxhunt is starting this month rain or shine or SNOW.

There is going to be a lot of ARES/RACES things coming up so don't miss the meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Randy KC9ISJ and I have been working with Ted Bombagetti, our EMA director and he is excited that the ARES/RACES GROUP are volunteering our services.

It is recommended that all weather spotters take a class every 2 years to keep up with the changes. From what I am hearing there is a change in the reporting and what the NWS expects out of us. So take advantage of this year classes on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Starke County will not have classes next year.

Your dues of \$12.00 are late in you wanted to be a club member.

See you at a meeting  
73  
Tony W9AL

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## Meeting March 17th

Time is 7:00 p.m.

Dues are due. Discussions on various topics.



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.

## TECHNICIAN CLASS

Starke County ARC is forming a Technician Ham Class. You can get added to a list by emailing [w9joz@w9joz.org](mailto:w9joz@w9joz.org) or by calling Tony, W9AL at 574-896-3510.

## From The Vice President's Desk

Well, the snow is probably getting everyone down about now. I know I am tired of it. Hopefully, it will be spring soon. And now for a little bit of what I have had going on in my shack. My Yaesu 857d does not like when I transmit on 20 meters, it does some crazy things like turning itself off and wiping out all the memories. I know it is a r/f problem, but what is the fix? I have installed ferrite beads on the coax, changed connectors, replaced the coax jumpers from the tuner to the radio and even turned the power down to 50 watts. It still acts up. Well, I posted a scenario on the 857 users group on Yahoo and got plenty of replies. Below is one that I have reprinted and I believe I am going to do what he has suggested and along with the others have said hopefully it will work.

*I ground all of the coax where it enters the shack from outside and have had no problems with RFI. I have recommended this as a solution to several other amateurs who were experiencing RFI in the shack, and they all report good results.*

*If the shield braid of the coax is not grounded before it reaches the radio, then the radio may become a part of the ground circuit for common-mode RF.*

*Additional equipment grounds may be used in the shack, and as several others have commented, a common ground point should be used.*

Regards,  
Dan - W7UP

Well I now have a project this spring to hopefully cure my R/F problem in the shack.  
Later,  
Randy Kc9isj

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## Upcoming Events

### Birthdays in March

AA9YQ	Joe Klecka	8-Mar
KC9NEB	Nancy Beckner	8-Mar
KC9KTV	James Beckner	25-Mar

### EVENTS

SCARC Meeting

Next meeting is March 17th.

Foxhunt

March 20 at 1:00 p.m. from the Five Star Parking Lot

Cost is 1 dollar per person.

Starke County Spotter Class  
Knox, IN March 21, 2011  
2:00 CDT and 6:30pm CDT  
Knox Fire Station - South  
US 35 and Claybough  
Knox, IN 46534  
Preregistration preferred  
Contact Information: Ted Bombagetti: (574) 772-9182

Starke County ARES/RACES GROUP meeting  
7pm at the library March 28th

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## Severe Weather Preparedness Week

**This is just the first in a series of information about Severe Weather Preparedness during the month of March. I will be sending more information to all by email during the month. W9AL**

Information provided by the National Weather Service indicates that the number of severe weather days in 2010 was relatively few, each episode that occurred packed a punch with significant wind and/or large numbers of tornadoes. There were a total of 33 confirmed tornadoes in the Northern Indiana Area, ranking 2010 as number 1 for most tornadoes in a calendar year.

1 <sup>st</sup>	33 in 2010 (19 in Indiana, 8 in Ohio and 6 in Michigan)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	30 in 1998
3 <sup>rd</sup>	27 in 1965
4 <sup>th</sup>	22 in 1974
5 <sup>th</sup>	20 in 1992 and 2001

Some of the tornadoes crossed from county to county, including 3 that either moved into or out of adjacent County Warning Areas. For these tracks, multiple intensities are indicated, representing the damage in each county. The maximum intensity for the tornado is what is officially recorded (Example: A tornado with EF2 damage in one county, then EF1 in the next will be rated as an EF2 for climate purposes).

The following is a breakdown of tornadoes by intensity according to the Enhanced Fujita Scale:

EF0 (65-85 mph)	14
EF1 (86-110 mph)	14
EF2 (111-135 mph)	4
EF3 (136-165 mph)	1

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Severe Weather Preparedness Week this year will be March 13 -19. As in years past, statewide tornado drills have been planned for Wednesday, March 16, with drill times scheduled for around 10:15am and 7:35pm (EDT).

The goal of Severe Weather Preparedness Week is to better educate people about the hazards of severe thunderstorms and tornadoes, and to help everyone be prepared should severe weather occur.

Until next month,

73

John, W3ML