

W9JOZ

Volume 2, Issue 5

May 2009

The President's Corner

We are one more month closer to Field Day. April showers bring May flowers. Everybody remembers that, Don't you? Let just hope there not Water Lilies. I still see water sitting in some of the fields. Looks like we will be doing Fox Hunts this year, a tentative schedules is for the 3rd Sunday of the month. For more info listen to the NETS....Hopefully by fall we will all be experienced in that part of the hobby. I heard some antenna and tower work going on so we are getting out on the nice days, including myself. From my experiences the bands have been crummy, but I am still making a few good contacts (I just have to work them a little harder). Remember the Indiana QSO party at Hughie's house on the 2nd; bring food and drinks. May birthdays are Nancy Fosnough KC9JQO on the 14th and Garland Collins KC9GKZ on the 16th, HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU..... Look for the FOX.

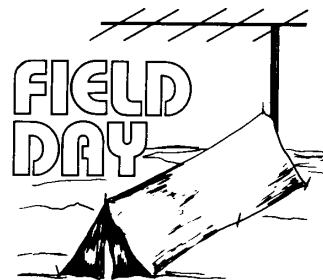
CU at the meeting

73

TONY W9AL

Meeting May 21st

Field Day will be the main topic.



One month to go. Are you ready to beat the other counties again? Get on the air and practice making contacts, staying up late working the bands. Get ready!

The last Michigan City Newsletter stated they were planning to get over 2000 contacts.

Guess they really want to beat us.

Don't forget Saturday May 2nd at Hugh's for the Indiana QSO Party.

Operations will be a good practice for Field Day.

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Know Code

This cute play on words is used by many Morse aficionados who want to world to think that in order to be a "real ham" one must be proficient at telegraphy. Nothing could be further from the truth.

In the early part of the twentieth century many ships at sea used Morse code to communicate and knowledge of the code was required so as to not cause interference to seafaring communications.

In the USA and many other countries Morse proficiency is no longer a requirement for any Amateur Radio license but it is still a favorite operating mode for many however if we are to be effective communicators in the twenty-first century then we will need to know a lot more than Morse code. Basic computer skills such as saving and sending files, configuring software programs and interfacing transceivers with computers have become characteristic with Amateur Radio today. A working knowledge of wireless networking and digital communication can prove to be invaluable during an emergency.

With so many facets no single activity can define Amateur Radio. Ham radio has always been a journey of discovery and a quest to learn and experience new things. From spark to vacuum tube to solid state to digital, ham radio has always been on the move. It takes a lot more than Morse code to be an effective radio amateur.

From the ARRL Club Newsletter
Submitted by Tony W9AL

Here they are getting ready for the Fox Hunt. See more two pages down.



Indiana QSO Party

This Saturday's (May 2) Indiana QSO Party is going to be full of activity, with plans for all 92 counties to be represented and dozens of stations already planning full-time efforts. The party runs from noon to midnight EDT (11-11 CDT) on 160 thru 10 meters SSB and CW.

Certificates for each entry category, each Indiana county, each state/province/territory and each country will be awarded where significant effort or competition is evident and 12 plaques will be awarded for the winners in each category! In addition, this is a great chance to earn your "Worked All Indiana Award" in a single day! You can even get a certificate for working N9I, N9N, N9Q, and N9P (all four) and another certificate for working Bison Stampede special event station, W9UUU.

The idea is for Hoosiers to work as many stations as we can, anywhere. Hams in other states try to work as many Indiana stations as they can. We count many points for contacts, and multiply our total points by the combined number of states, Canadian provinces, and Indiana counties that we work (see rules for details - www.hdxcc.org/inqp).

For a map of the state showing the stations who have already announced operating plans, see www.hdxcc.org/inqp/activity.php. Don't assume that because a county has a mobile's call in it that everyone who needs that county will get a chance to work it. Mobiles may just be "passing through", and many participants might miss them. A second, third, or even fourth mobile still can't work as many stations as one steady (but not necessarily loud) fixed station with a dipole. You can contact kj9c@iquest.net before Saturday to have your call included on the map.

This is our chance to show the world that hams in Indiana are active and that we are darned good operators. If you can't operate HF, consider teaming up with another ham to go for the Multi-Single plaque. Or perhaps your club can operate in a pre-Field Day shakedown, or even collect enough individual member scores to win the Top Club Award.

For operating rules, operating hints, a list of Indiana Counties, links to logging software, and a downloadable publicity package, go to www.hdxcc.org/inqp. The publicity package also lists all the plaques to be awarded in addition to the usual county and state certificates.

Bonus points are awarded for working Bison Stampede station W9UUU just once. There is a certificate for working N9I, N9N, N9Q, and N9P (all four) and another for working W9UUU. And if you can collect QSLs from just 60 counties you can qualify for the Worked All Indiana certificate.

This should be a fun day... please get on, if even for a short time, to help make our state visible (or audible). The Indiana (and neighboring state) hams who go to great lengths to activate some of those "rare" Indiana counties (as portables and mobiles) would really appreciate putting your call in their logs.



But the winners are:



April 26, 2009

Today was a beautiful day for a fox hunt. The weather was nice and sunny but windy. Mike WB9L was the fox for this month. He was 8.3 miles away from the Five Star parking lot where we started. It took a few minutes to set up but when it all started we took our hand held radios and our directional antennas and we went searching for the fox. The signal started in the Northerly direction and away we went. It took 38 minutes to find the fox. The top 4 Places were:

1st Place: Janet (KC9HUG) and Tony (W9AL)

2nd Place Joe V. (KB9GQS) and Randy (N9CPX)

3rd Place: Hugh (WO0P)

4th Place Gary (KB9OLZ) and Paul (N9QYK).

After the fox hunt was over, we went to McDonalds to get a bite to eat.

Next month's fox hunt is tentatively scheduled for Sunday May 17th at 1:30 p.m. Location to start the fox hunt will be announced at a later date.

Starke County Amateur Radio Club Treasurer's Report – First Quarter 2009

Balance as of January 16, 2009 \$469.52

Balance as of April 15, 2009 \$482.74

Submitted by Janet, KC9HUG

That's all for this month.

73

John, W3ML