



NEWSLETTER

Officers for 2015:

President - Craig Bigler AB3XA
Vice President - Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB
Treasurer - Terry Carnahan KB3JOD
Secretary - Larry Freeman N3LT

Board Members for 2015:

1. Craig Bigler KB3LBU
2. Terry Carnahan KB3JOD
3. Dave Dzelsky N3DZ
4. Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB
5. Larry Freeman N3LT
6. Carl Hvozda N3PIE
7. Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD
8. Phil Kopczyk K3PJ
9. Elmer Sorisio KB3WG

LOCAL HAPPENINGS:

Corrections: In April's newsletter I gave double kudos to those who manned two positions during the MS Walk, unfortunately, I left out one very important person, Elmer Sorisio-KB3WG. Elmer please forgive an old man with a weak mind! Thanks to Alton Strong-N3PHL for pointing out the mistake. I'm glad someone reads this stuff!

NATIONAL EVENTS

As you all may know the Dayton Hamvention was held on May 16,17,18 at the Hara Arena in Dayton, Ohio. It is generally one of the highlights of the ham-radio year for many of us who have been attending for several years. As always there were literally thousands who attended from most parts of the planet Earth. However, this observer notes that the attendance was down from last year as it was in previous consecutive years. There were slightly fewer vendors as well as general attendees. It will be interesting to see how it plays in QST and other venues. In the past they have tended to be overly optimistic about the attendance. That being said, the weather was great except for a couple of "gulley washers", one on Friday afternoon and one on Saturday afternoon. I think there was also some light rain on Sunday but I was not there, so I cannot say for sure. I must say that the flea-market area is still amazing in its sheer size. I thought that prices were a bit high for some of the common hobby stuff; for example I noticed that Jennings vacuum variable capacitors 15,000 volts and 20-1000pF were going for about \$250.00. Fairly common elements for Bird watt meters were going for about \$150-\$180, although I found a 400 – 1000 MHz, 50 watt unit for \$80 which I immediately bought. I hope it works! I got to see the new expensive ICOM radio and the new Flex SDR. Also, Yaesu was there featuring our new repeater including the RC210 repeater controller. Interesting enough the folks that I spoke to about the repeater-controller combination did not know much about the RC210 other than to say that it really is not as plug and play as one may think from the ads. I told him about our experience so far and indicated that it does indeed work fairly well. In any case it was very much fun to be there and I would recommend it to anyone at least once. One can see many interesting things, can get a lot of exercise walking and eat a lot of really bad food!

OTHER NEWS NATIONALLY:

(Reprint from last months Newsletter issue)

As published in the April issue of QST magazine page77: The FCC's "Paperless" License Policy is in Effect

The FCC will no longer routinely issue paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The official Amateur Radio license is the electronic Universal Licensing System (ULS) record. Licensee's will be able to printout an official authorization as well as an unofficial "reference copy" from the ULS License Manager. A new license applicant who has an FCC registration number (FRN) and a valid email address under "Applicant Information" in the ULS will receive an official ULS-generated authorization via email. New applicants lacking an FRN will receive one in the mail as well as a temporary password in order to access the Commission Registration System (CORES). No one will automatically receive a license document.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Ham Radio Exam Session

Oct 3, 2015

N3QM, Bill McMillen wkmcmillen@gmail.com

Airport Awareness Weekend: June 13 and June 14, 2015 Jimmy Stewart Airport, Indiana, PA. Set up will be on June 12.

Field-day: Last full weekend in June of 2015, and it will be at The Blue Spruce park for the first time. Set up will be on June 26.

OTHER INFORMATION

(If anyone would like to include information or write an article for the Newsletter please let the ICARC Secretary know by email at: wd4hoz@gmail.com) The only caveats are: The editor reserves the right to alter the format for publication purposes. The content may also be modified contingent upon accuracy and appropriateness of the contained material. The latter may be subject to the approval of the author.

Elmer Sorisio-KB3WG indicates that all components of the repeater-controller combination are now functioning

Walter Dzelsky-W3NFY a founding member of ICARC, is currently in Scenery Hill Manor nursing home. Our best wishes and prayers go with him for a speedy recovery.

THINGS FOR SALE:

From the estate of Silent Key Jimmy St Clair, N3TQR

- Kenwood TS430S 160 through10 m hf rig,100w, contains the FM board (very good to excellent condition): \$350.00 (firm)
- Kenwood AT250 automatic antenna tuner with interface cable for the TS430S (good to very good) \$125.00
- Kenwood Desk Microphone: MC 60 (very good to excellent) \$60.00
- Astron RS20A 12V, 20 ampere continuous duty power supply (very good to excellent) \$60.00

Inquiries contact Larry Freeman via email at wd4hoz@gmail.com (The equipment may be inspected at the June 2, 2015 ICARC meeting.)

Rusty WB3EUQ – contact information:

Rusty is at the Hollidaysburg Veterans Home, a Pennsylvania state facility just south of Altoona. Please note that he is not in the Altoona VA Hospital. He is in Eisenhower Hall and it's nursing care. The phone number for his room is (814) 695-1635. You may call at anytime. He does have a cell phone. For his cell phone (724) 388-1202.

Rusty's mailing address is :

David O'Donnell *(David is his actual name)*
 P.O. Box 319
 Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

If you go to see Rusty: When you get to Eisenhower Hall (the large building with the WWII tank in front of it, as you first come onto the grounds) You will need to sign in at the Security desk – they will direct you to his unit, North 2. The security guards have room charts and know the residents.

Minutes of May 5, 2015 ICARC Meeting

Attendees:

Craig Bigler-AB3XA	Dave Steiner-KA3KFA	Fred Maize-KM3M
Doug Fitzsimmons-K3LAB	Dave Dzelsky-N3DZ	Larry Freeman-N3LT
Karl Hvozda-N3PIE	Phil Kopczyk-K3PJ	Alton Strong-N3PHL
Elmer Sorisio-KB3WG	Matthew Scott-KC3ETO	Ian Bigler-KC3DTE

Guests:

Denny Clark (KB3HZM), Earnest Clark and Randy Thompson

Call to Order:

The "Board" meeting started at about 7:00 PM. Folks used this time to order food, eat, converse and discuss many general items of interest to the club at large. The time was also used to set up audio equipment. Craig Bigler -AB3XA, President, called the general meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Secretary's Report

Larry (N3LT) asked that the previous meeting minutes be discussed and approved. He made a motion to accept the minutes and Dave Dzelsky seconded the motion. The Motion was voted on and accepted unanimously.

Larry also announced that there is some radio equipment from Jimmy St. Clair available: Kenwood TS430S HF rig, microphone, automatic antenna tuner, and a power supply. Those who are interested contact him (wd4hoz@gmail.com).

Treasurer's Report:

Terry (KB3JOD), the Treasurer, sent a detailed financial report by email:

The Treasurer's written report was presented by Larry (N3LT).

Fred Maize (KM3M) made the motion to accept the report and Elmer Sorisio (KB3WG) seconded. The motion was voted upon and carried unanimously.

Repeater Update:

Elmer (KB3WG) said that the new controller is installed and working but is a work in progress. There are some issues with timing that need to be addressed. Conversations with Ken at ARCOM have been helpful we think. There is still much work to be done.

Monday Night Net Update:

Dave S. (K3KFA) said the net was held successfully. He is looking for volunteers to take net control for June, July, and August. Dave also pointed that EMCOM in on May 30, 2015 at UPJ. There is also a FEMA course in July in Butler. Craig (AB3XA) pointed out that EMCOM wants an RSVP but Dave S. said it really was not necessary.

Monday Night NBEMS Practice Update:

Phil Kopczyk (K3PJ), Terry Carnahan (KB3JOD), and Roger Bartlebaugh (N3ULC) were on the last Monday in April. It was suggested that the July meeting could be a session directed towards the members learning to use NBEMS. No firm commitment was made on this.

Old Business:

Concerning the letters produced by Denny Pressler a few suggestions were made to alter them slightly. Alton Strong suggested that we leave out the "Fox" hunt terminology. Dave Steiner, suggested that maybe the "non-pay" aspect of ham radio should be emphasized more. Craig Bigler suggested donations not be limited to a specific amount since it tends to imply a onetime donation. The discussion will be continued at the next meeting with continual polishing of the letter until we are satisfied.

Airport awareness day will be pretty much the same as last year. We will be operating as a special event station and Fred (KM3M) has already notified the ARRL. Craig sent emails to John Pividori for use of the antenna tower, and generator to alleviate the power issue that cropped up last year. He foresees no problem with this at this point in time.

Craig (AB3XA) reported that after inspecting the sites (Fred, Larry, Craig, Joe and Ian) and meeting (Craig and Larry) with the Parks Director (Ed Patterson) the board of directors of ICARC decided to have field day at Blue Spruce park. The membership seemed to be in general agreement with this. Fred Maize suggested that we limit our operations to three stations with sufficient antennas along with a couple of experimental antennas. We should set up signs and provide literature for visitors. Should also have a Get On The Air (GOTA) station (Possibly one of the three stations) for those unlicensed folks who want to operate. We need to keep it simple so that we do not burn ourselves out during set-up. Dave D. offered his go kit as a simple setup. There are some limitations in that we cannot have open fires and we will need at least one portable john because the park restrooms are far away from the site. May also need a 2m antenna for using the 91 repeater or maybe a cross-band repeater. Craig also mentioned the possibility getting a cell phone booster system from the county. Craig hopes to get some folks to camp out so he won't be alone.

Hopefully, there will be a fourth station operating under a different call sign (WB3CGY) on Sunday at the EMA center. This was generally agreed upon. We can firm many of the details at the next club meeting.

Sign-up sheets were passed around for both airport awareness and field-day. Setup for Airport awareness will be June 12 and for Field-day June 26. Respective tear-downs will be June 14 and June 28.

New Business:

There was discussion about offering free membership to those candidates (nonmembers of ICARC) who pass an exam in one of our exam sessions. The final suggestion takes the form: Those non members who pass in April get free membership for the balance of the year. Those who pass in October get the whole of the next year free. Alton Strong (N3PHL) offered a motion to accept and Elmer Sorisio (KB3WG) seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Phil (K3PJ) suggested that we offer a class in October like last year. There was general agreement on this but no formal decision. However, it was decided to let folks know (at airport awareness and field-day) that a class is tentatively planned for October and to get contact information for those interested.

Phil suggested that we advertise at the Cook Port and Indiana fair and other venues such as fire departments for publicizing the club activities including any classes.

Craig was approached by Jim Bertuzzi to ask if anyone would be interested in being a merit badge councilor.

No 50/50 drawing was held but a collection was taken in the amount of \$28.00 and donated to the club.

Craig Bigler (AB3XA) asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alton (N3PHL) made the motion and it was seconded by Fred (KM3M). The vote to adjourn was unanimous and Craig adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:43 pm, May 5, 2015

Respectfully submitted by the Secretary, Larry (N3LT)

Webmaster: Roger Bartlebaugh
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