

July 31, 2017



ICARC NEWSLETTER

Officers for 2017:

President - Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB
Vice President - Ernest Clark KC3FVX
Treasurer - Terry Carnahan KB3JOD
Secretary - VACANT

Additional Board Members for 2017:

1. Dave Dzelsky N3DZ
2. Craig Bigler AB3XA
3. Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD
4. Phil Kopczyk K3PJ
5. Joe Rankin KC3CDG
6. Larry Freeman N3LT

LOCAL HAPPENINGS:

The Eagle Project, first proposed in 2015, is now complete. Initial antenna testing was done on August 3, 2015 and the project was deemed feasible. Phil Kopczyk-K3PJ, Dave Dzelsky-N3DZ, and Larry Freeman-N3LT met with David Fyock, his father, a friend of David's, and two ladies who provided wonderful sloppy joes and dessert at Wesleyan Methodist Church in Dixonville on July 24, at about 6:00 pm. There were no significant problems attaching the, exterior, N-connector or the, interior, PL259. When the measurements are good the soldering goes well. Interestingly, a small butane torch with a solid soldering tip was used to solder the large center, copper, conductor and it worked very well, even outside on the N-connector. The first attempt at soldering the inner conductor to the pin failed but with Phil's help keeping a positive force on the pin and cable the soldering worked flawlessly on the second try. The soldering really was a two person operation. The shield was crimped with a nice crimper provided by Dave Dzelsky. The crimper was hard to close so Dave got David F. to exert some youthful strength and that did the trick. David's father sealed the connection with some sort of self adhering and sealing tape so connections should be good for years to come. The rig was connected and tested at low power (5 W) by communicating with the 146.91/31 repeater near Homer City, in fact each of us was able to check into the Monday night net without any problems. David had gotten all the correct items so the installation went well. It took a little over an hour and of course we then had to eat!

The preparation done by David, and his dad, made it easy! They had a pick up with tailgate down in just the right position so that a couple of people could easily work with no strain. There was also a small step ladder for getting into the bed of the truck with very little effort. Dave Dzelsky-N3DZ had all the correct tooling and instructions with necessary cut dimensions for the lmr 400 superflex cable. It was almost a cake-walk

Inspection of the antenna setup indicates a nice, safe tower structure with an appropriate concrete footer, of about 30 ft in height, attached to the corner of the building. Within the building, the rig will be housed in a lockable metal box attached to the wall inside a closet located on the second floor. Its a very nice, protected, setup with easy access for authorized folks. The cable is coiled up neatly and stored in the metal box along with the radio, and can be easily extended out into the main room where ample space exists for operations.

Also, there is a good possibility of getting a couple of new hams out of this (David and his Dad)!

So it turns that the Eagle Project was a project well planned, executed, and implemented by Mr. David Fyock. Well done David! Thanks to all of you who helped make this happen.

Photos for Airport Awareness and Field Day:

Airport Awareness Photos courtesy of Dave Steiner



Field Day Photos Courtesy of Bill McMillen



As you can see by the looks on their faces and haggard appearance it has been a rough day!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesday, August 1, 2017 ICARC meets in the back room of Indiana Eat n' Park restaurant. The board meeting starts at 7:00 pm and the general meeting begins at 7:30 pm.

Wednesday, August 2, 6:30 PM, Crucible walk phanning session at Doug Fitzsimmons home.

Breakfast at the Indiana Eat n' Park restaurant each Saturday starting at 8:30 am in the back room.

OTHER INFORMATION

Read about the July 11 meeting of ICARC in the meeting summary at the end of this document.

(If anyone would like to include information or write an article for the Newsletter please let Larry Freeman, 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 would, of course, be subject to the approval of the original author.

Summary of July 11, 2017 ICARC Meeting

Attendees:

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|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Doug Fitzsimmons-K3LAB, President | Ernest Clark-KC3FVX | Chris Edwards-N3VFK |
| Terry Carnahan-KB3JOD, Treasurer | Denny Clark-KB3HZM | Walt Slomski-KA3PFE |
| Jerry Kiehl-WB3DUD | Walter Schroth-KC3FVU | Dave Dzelsky-N3DZ |
| Joe Carpentieri-KA2BRH | Dave Steiner- W3CDH | Larry Freeman-N3LT |
| Addie Carpentieri | Kieth Rearick-KC3FVZ | Phil Kopczyk-K3PJ |
| Joe Rankin-KC3CDG | Cass Fitzgerald-N3FLO | Mark Longwell- KC3AHP |

The board meeting started at about 7:00 pm but no business was transacted.

The regular meeting was called to order by Doug Fitzsimmons at about 7:26 pm.

The pledge of allegiance to the flag of the USA occurred.

Roll call occurred.

Financial Report: Terry provided the financial report for June which was approved by vote of the members present.

Net update: Dave Steiner reported that the net was about the same as previous.

Paul Morris presented a program on ARRL DXCC (Century Club) involves working entities all over the world. Paul has 309/338 worked and award chasing. qsl or lotw submissions accepted. DXCC challenge

IOTA: Islands on the Air sponsored by Great Britain can get a RSGB certificate. Paper QSL's only.

ARRL: WAS worked all states, qsl and lotw

CQ: WAZ worked all zones

Good presentation ended at 7:49 PM

Old Business:

Airport festival went well with plenty of help and over 150 contacts. Plans are to assemble on Aug.1 at about 7:00PM and affix labels to envelopes

Fieldday operated 2A setup support and participation was weak not nearly at level of airport festival. Take down was a much better than setup. Bit over 270 contacts.

Can book blue spruce 51 weeks in advance

Terry made a motion to book blue Spruce now for next field day. Phil seconded the motion. voted on approved.

Crucible Walk

Doug may be able to pull one operator or maybe two from Kittanning club. 9 committed from our club one for sure and another possible from the Kittanning club.

Larry F., Doug F., Ernie and Denny C., Mark Longwell, Dave Dzelsky, Cass F., Terry C., Joe R., Dave S.

New Business: County approved kenwood repeater for Blue Spruce proposed by Terry and Terry has a wb3cgy 146.745/145 freq tentatively coordinated at least on a temporary basis. pl tone 131.8

Options on our ICARC repeater: do nothing except basic maintenance, pay to have someone go up the tower and replace antenna and feedline. Cost will be very high. Is it worth the cost given the usage?

Another option is to expand discussions with the county for free antenna space on one of their towers.

Phil also suggested linking the Blue Spruce rptr. to the ICARC antenna.

Joe made a motion to open discussion (Doug and Terry) with the county about our situation with the antenna noise and tower with the discussion deferred until the Blue Spruce repeater is up and running. Terry seconded. Voted on and passed.

There was \$23.00 dollars donated.

This meeting was adjourned at about 9:05 PM