



The Feedline



Fall, Winter 2013

The Feedline

Special points of interest:

- ARRL staffers tell club members that having a website and newsletter are good.
- Adding minutes to the website, might help members not attending meetings.
- Over half of CCARC members must be League members for the club to remain an "affiliated" club.

ARRL staffers visits CCARC meeting

Attendees at a summer meeting of the Cass County Amateur Radio Club were rewarded with a visit from a husband and wife team from ARRL.

Lou Everette, WA5LOU, was joined by his wife, Doreen, AE5QM, to offer their insights in creating and sustaining a successful amateur radio club. Lou is the ARRL Section Manager for Indiana while Doreen holds the post of Affiliated Club Coordinator.



Doreen Everette, AE5QM, left, and Lou Everette, WA5LOU, pose with CCARC President Phil Snider, W9LVY at a summer club meeting.

The two said that the CCARC is doing a lot of things well, from establishing a website to having a club newsletter. But he also suggested some ways to involve members who may not attend meetings regularly, like posting the meeting minutes on the CCARC website. Their discussion included a recommendation to keep

the website current and include pertinent links to ARRL and other ham-related sites.

Lou did remind attendees that over 51 percent need to be ARRL members for the club to remain affiliated. But he added there are benefits like reduced costs for some services.

Inside this issue:

- Wayne Green, W2NSD, SK 2
- CCARC marks 60 year milestone 2
- Should 440 repeaters be linked? 3
- Program HTs for emergency use 3
- A solution for a poor HT manual? 3
- Dots and Dashes 4

Field Day official results announced

CCARC Field Day Chairman, Marion Bell, KA9BYN, says the results for the ARRL sponsored event are now official.

There were 310 contacts with under 150 watts utilizing ten operators. The total number of points was 1480.

He compared this to the totals for

2012, which included 310 contacts, 20 operators, for 1882 total points.

Modes used included SSB, PSK, FM and CW with stations running on HF and VHF / UHF.

Marion said he was hoping more operators would be available next year.



Wayne Green, W2NSD, becomes silent key

Wayne Green was described as colorful and also controversial, among other words. Besides being licensed as W2NSD (“never say die” as he said it phonetically), Green was the noted editor of *CQ Magazine* until his controversial departure around 1960. It was then Green went on to found 73, which he headed until it ceased publication in 2003.

Green also founded and published several other magazines over his career, including *80 Micro*, *Byte*, *CD Review*, *Cold Fusion*, *Kilobaud Microcomputing*, *RUN*, *InCider*, and *Pico*. He was the author of many books and main-

tained a website that promoted his on-line bookstore.

He was a Navy veteran and served during WWII aboard the USS Drum submarine. He was also reported to have piloted an Air Force C5B cargo plane.

Green took to task everyone from the ARRL to the FCC in his regular editorials.

Green was 91.



Photo by Joe Eisenberg, K0NEB, during the 1987 Dayton Hamvention

“A nearby tower can become an unintended part of the AM station’s antenna system.”

Changes made to measuring AM interference

New regulations have come from the FCC intended to protect AM Band signals from interference caused by new communications towers. The process of “proofing” or “proving” a new structure will not impact existing AM signals.

Instead of requiring field measurements, “computer modeling software” may now be used, saving time and money, says the Commission.

“A nearby tower can become an unin-

tended part of the AM station’s antenna system, reradiating the signal and causing distortion to the authorized pattern,” the FCC said.

All communications services come under the new rules, which require them to notify all nearby AM stations of their intentions. The FCC credits an ad hoc committee of broadcast consulting engineers, manufacturers, and broadcasting for making recommendations.

CCARC passes 60 year milestone

The Cass County Amateur Radio Club began in 1953 with eight interested hams who decided to form the “Cass Co. Radio Club” with the common interest of Amateur Radio. It is one of the few such organizations to survive in continuous existences for this long. In later years the word “Amateur” was added to the name.

Because of founders’ dedication and vision to form the CCARC, around a quarter century ago, then members voted to bestow lifetime membership

status to the founders.

The group has met in a variety of locations on different days over the 60 years, from the library, to local restaurants, to the current meeting spot, the Cass Co. EMA building on Saturday mornings. Membership at one time numbered nearly 80 members, and would sometimes create “standing room only” during meetings.

Of the original group, only one, Chuck, W9HST, is known to survive.



CCARC votes '14 officers

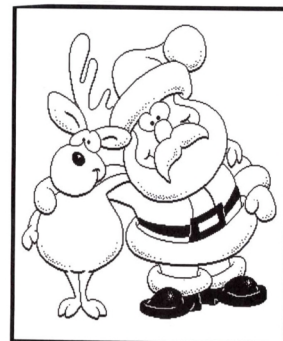
During it's December meeting, members of the Cass Co. Amateur Radio Club voted to retain most officers for 2014 who had served in 2013.

The officer slate is Phil Snider, W9LVY, President; Dave Rothemel, K9DVL, Vice President; Tom Murray, KB9WSL, Secretary, and Dave Wandrei, N9WCQ, Treasurer.

In a separate motion, the following members were elected to the Board of Directors positions: Marion Bell, KA9BYN; John Flint, KC9MVQ; and Ed Norris, K9PSR. Other positions are appointed by the President, as shown on page 4.

Is there interest in linking one of the CCARC repeaters to other repeaters in the area? This question was raised at a recent CCARC meeting.

To provide more activity and increase coverage, the possibility was discussed to link 440 MHz repeaters that could include Logansport, Culver, Peru, Kokomo, and Marion. Keying one would key them all, if linked.



Program radios ahead of time for emergencies

CCARC members know to turn on their handheld radios to the main local repeater during an emergency. But many don't know the backup plan should the main repeater go down.

CCARC President, Phil, W9LVY, offered the following recommendations during a recent club meeting.

"If the repeater goes down, then tune to the repeater output frequency of 147.180 to operate simplex," Phil

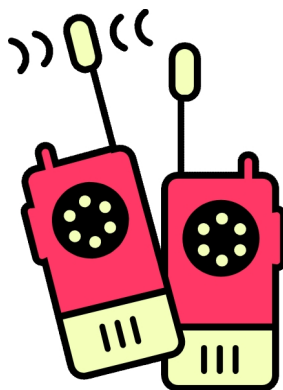
recommends. He also suggested programming the national simplex frequency of 146.520 into radios.

Since many newer radios have complex programming procedures, this should be done ahead of time, not while an emergency is ongoing. Phil says just add 147.180 simplex and 146.520 simplex to available memory channels.

"If the main repeater goes down, switch to 147.180 simplex."

Is there a solution to that incomplete HT manual?

Many hams now own one of the new handheld VHF / UHF radios made in China. Those same hams have also noted that the manual provided with the radios is often very lacking in detail.



The "Chinese Radio Documentation Project" was created to help. One of its first projects was creating a better manual for the popular Baofang UV5R HT radio. The result of this effort can

be found here:

<http://radiodoc.github.io/>

Click on the "Go get it" link and you will find the manual in PDF format.

There is no cost, but the authors ask to be given credit if you share this information.

Manuals for other radios are planned.





Newsletter of the
Cass County Amateur Radio Club

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Cass County Amateur Radio Club Officers

President: Phil Snyder, W9LVY

Vice President: Dave Rothermel, K9DVL

Secretary: Tom Murray, KB9WSL

Treasurer: Dave Wandrei, N9WCQ

Directors At Large: Marion Bell, KA9BYN; John Flint, KC9MVQ; Ed Norris, K9PSR

Testing Coordinator: Dan McDonald, KV9N

Emergency Coordinator: Dan McDonald, KV9N

The FEEDLINE Editor & Publisher: Ed Norris, K9PSR

Trustee of Repeaters: Phil Snider, W9LVY

Education & History: Anna Hendrickson, KC9IDO

Mailing Specialist: Dave Wandrei, N9WCQ

Web Site Specialist: Brandon DeLorenzo, KC9LVB

Club Radio Engineer: Mr. RF Burns

Club Assistant Weather Forecaster: Les Humid

Dots and Dashes

Access the CCARC website
with your smart phone!



The Cass County Amateur Radio Club is an Indiana Not For Profit Corporation in continuous existence since 1953.

Repeaters

The primary repeater operates on 147.180 MHz and is located at the Chase Park water tower with an open receiver. An additional receive site is located at the Cass County EMA building. These are accessed with a 77 HZ sub-audible tone. The VHF transmitter also transmits a 77 Hz tone. Setting your receiver to *decode* will reduce unwanted signals. A second VHF repeater also is located at the Emergency Management building and operates

on 145.230 MHz. A UHF repeater transmits on 443.650 MHz from the EMA building. All transmit offsets are standard.

Repeaters may be out of service from time to time for repairs or upgrades. The club station is W9VMW.

CCARC Meetings

Meetings are held the third Saturday of each month at 9:00 AM at the Cass County Emergency Management Agency building, 2 miles North of Logansport on SR 17. Dues are \$15.00 per

year. Immediate family members may join for an additional \$5.00.

Amateur License Tests

Test sessions for all classes of amateur radio licenses are offered the third Saturday of each month at approximately 10:00 AM, immediately following the club meeting. Testing is held at the Cass County EMA building, 2 miles North of Logansport on SR17. Pre-registration is preferred but not necessary. The CCARC is affiliated with The W5YI Group.

