

# SHORT SKIP - FROM THE PARADE STAND

By Tim McGillen/N9CA 2023 LCARC President

[www.W9LJ.org](http://www.W9LJ.org)

## October 2023 issue

\*Click on [blue or underlined wording](#) to open the internet topic links

**OCTOBER'S Club Meeting**: Friday October 13th (always the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month) at 7:30PM.

LCARC meetings are now on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the 7 story EMA/Lake County health department building at 2900 W. 93<sup>rd</sup> Ave Crown Point Indiana.

Ample parking. Handicap accessible and you do not need to be a LCARC member to attend.

Don't be left out. New Club members receive both 2023 and 2024 Club membership for just \$20.

Program: \* **Free Prize raffle** for all current Club members as of October 13th

- Four ARRL Books, HR world map, coffee mugs, hats & more
- Refreshments
- 80M HF antennas plus useful antenna theory
- dipole – OCF – vertical – bobtail – Carolina Windom – inverted “V” – loops – end fed – long-wire – G5RV –

**The LCARC Information NET** Every Wednesday - at 8:00pm. 147.000 and 442.075 (pl 131.8) Informal, informative, and fun. A great way to stay connected with local hams in 30 minutes. \**You do not need to be a Club member to check in.*

## **Porter County Outdoor Emergency Siren Test-Net**

will be Tuesday October 3rd at 11am. Pre check-ins will start at about 10:55am. **Note:** This month we will be using the K9PC VHF repeater (146.775 MHz, - offset , 131.8 PL). Help support the ARES D1 Porter EMA by being an “ear” on the ground during the monthly Emergency Siren test.

## **Lake County Outdoor Emergency Siren Test-NET**

Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 Either N9IAA repeater 146.685 pl 173.8 (if it is back on-line) or K9PC repeater 146.775 pl 131.8

## **Indiana ARES Simulated Emergency Test (SET)**

**From Allen Bottorff** <ac9eb@outlook.com>

To:aresd1@groups.io

Sat, Sep 30 at 2:45 AM

Indiana ARES will be conducting a section-wide Simulated Emergency Test on October 14. All ARES teams around Indiana are encouraged to participate. For more information, contact [ac9eb@outlook.com](mailto:ac9eb@outlook.com) or the Private e-mail on this site.

Or, go to:

<https://inarrl.org/emcomm/2023-indiana-ares-simulated-emergency-test>

\*It is my understanding that Lake County Indiana Stations participating in the ARES SET should use: KA9QJG 2 meter repeater to check-in 147.045MHz pl 131.8

## **N9IAA Repeater Temporarily Off-The-Air !**

The N9IAA repeater (146.685 pl 173.8) a local go-to resource for ARES D1 nets, local SkyWarn nets, Tornado Siren Test nets, and weather spotter reports has been off the-the-air for several weeks now.

**While N9IAA/r is off the air** due to technical issues, Paul WD9GCO, the Amateur Radio Newsline anchor, is graciously allowing ARES District 1 use of the K9PC Repeater for a back-up and use for ARES events. 146.775Mhz , - 600KHz off-set, pl 131.8 Hz



**ARES** Amateur Radio Emergency Service

**ARES D1/ SkyWarn** Tuesday FM NET 8:00pm.

Moved to K9PC Porter Co. repeater 146.775 pl 131.8

Alternate K9JSI LaPorte Co. repeater 146.619 pl 131.8

Spotter Net K9JSI LaPorte Co. repeater 146.970 pl 131.8

*\*ARES membership not required*

**SkyWarn** Net Wednesday FM NET 7:00pm W9SRC/r 146.640 pl 107.2

**ARES Indiana HF SSB Net** Sunday 4:00 PM CDT – Look for it at 7.272 MHz +/- on LSB

## **ARRL Contests October 2023**

7-8 **Collegiate QSO Party**  
16-20 **School Club Roundup**  
28-29 **EME - 50 to 1296 MHz**

## **Meet the Raspberry Pi 5!**

The newest Raspberry Pi is here! The next iteration of the Raspberry Pi single board computer features a 64-bit quad-core Arm Cortex-A76



processor running at 2.4GHz, Raspberry Pi

4GB and 8GB delivers a 2–3x increase in CPU performance relative to Raspberry Pi 4. Alongside a substantial uplift in graphics

performance from an 800MHz VideoCore VII GPU; dual 4Kp60 display output over HDMI; and state-of-the-art camera support from a re-architected Raspberry Pi Image Signal Processor. USB bandwidth is doubled vs Pi 4.

Sales at: <https://www.sparkfun.com/news/8391>

YouTube comparison Pi 4 vs Pi 5 video: [https://youtu.be/jL\\_PND9jem4](https://youtu.be/jL_PND9jem4)

## From DX-WORLD.net

The **Swains Island** dpxpedition team - W8S - is expected to begin operations October 4<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup>. Maidenhead grid AH 48. Planned operations are; 160 through 6 meters on SSB, CW, EME, & digital.

Swain's is the most northern island of American Samoa. No permanent inhabitants. Swain's "Island" is actually a small coral atoll of just 0.94 square miles, with a water filled lagoon dead center.

More info at: <https://www.dx-world.net/w8s-swains-island/>

How-to for best propagation: <https://youtu.be/qEjU5WxiRGc>





Image by ISS Expedition 15 crew - ISS015-E-19240, Public Domain,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=49305691>

## **NEW how to - HF APRS & HF Winlink - on ANDROID Devices**

YouTube video link: <https://youtu.be/Mu4jaqYS1QA>

## **Upcoming Indiana Hamfests**

**Oct 14**, Lynnville, Ham-tober Fest, Lynnville Community Center, 416 West IN-68, Lynnville, Public Contact: Dennis Martin WA2USA, Phone: 812-598-8333, Email: [wa2usa.ham@gmail.com](mailto:wa2usa.ham@gmail.com)

**Oct 14**, Bedford, Hoosier Hills Hamfest, Lawrence County 4-H Fairgrounds, 11265 US-50, Bedford, Public Contact: Nathan Lowery KB9GMU, Phone: 812-675-2450, Email: [hamfest@w9qyq.org](mailto:hamfest@w9qyq.org)

**Oct 21**, Shelbyville, Shelbyville Tailgate Hamfest, Shelby County Fairgrounds, 500 Frank St, Shelbyville 46176, Public Contact: John Walker K9SVL, Email: [inprinter@comcast.net](mailto:inprinter@comcast.net)

**Oct 28**, Nashville, Brown County Free Hamfest, Brown County High School, 235 School House Ln, Nashville IN 47448, Website: <https://w9bci.org/index.cfm>

## HAMFEST/CONVENTION

**10/07/2023 - Kalamazoo Hamfest** EDT 2 hour drive East on I-94

**Location:** Kalamazoo, [Michigan](#)

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Kalamazoo SMART Club and Kalamazoo Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://www.kalamazoohamfest.com>

## Live VE Session

### EXAM SESSION

**10/14/2023 | Valparaiso IN 46383-4820**

**Sponsor:** Porter County ARC

**Location:** Valparaiso Public Library

**Time:** 9:15 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

**IMPORTANT FOR – 1<sup>st</sup> Time VE Exam Candidates:** You are **REQUIRED** to register in the FCC CORES system and receive a FCC Registration Number (FRN) before exam day. For FRN registration information, see item #4: [Exam Session Requirements](#)

Candidates could go directly to the FCC CORES User Account and Registration page: <https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do>

Click [Here](#) for FCC CORES Tutorial Videos.

\*List of VE Teams that offer On-line Exam Sessions [Go Now](#)

**Updated Apple IOS app for iPhone & iPad**



## WSPR watch 4+

Shows WSPRnet & PSKreporter

Access Informatics

Designed for iPad

★★★★★ 4.7 • 55 Ratings

Free

info at:

<http://blog.marxy.org/2023/09/wspr-watch-version-4-is-out.html>

## How-To Use APRS and Winlink on Android Phone

Off the grid how-to: <https://youtu.be/Mu4jaqYS1QA>





## Junk-Box Loading Coil for QRP Antenna 40M > 10M

Using a 17ft collapsible MFJ-1956 whip

Catalog: <https://mfjenterprises.com/products/mfj-1979>

Review: <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=3457>

Article link: <https://wb3gck.com/2023/09/24/junk-box-loading-coil/>

## NEW FX-4CR - up to 20w - QRP HF Radio

Review: <https://youtu.be/WfK5wITCzhQ> \$550

HF SDR with Bluetooth audio connection for wireless **digital** operation, 80/60/40/30/20/17/15/12/10m and 6m TX and RX. 15-20w TX on HF and 5w on 6m. Built-in sound card. 48 kHz spectrum waterfall display. High quality machined aluminum case.

A very cool digital radio (batteries not included). Replaces the FX-4C look alike shown



***Please, mark your calendars! Don't miss out on the great raffle.***

***Looking forward to seeing you at 7:30 PM Friday October 13<sup>th</sup>***

***73, Tim/N9CA***