



WISCONSIN SECTION NEWSLETTER

Issue Date: August 2023
WI Section Manager, Jason Spetz, KC9FXE

From the Section Manager

Greetings everyone,

Welcome to the August edition of the Wisconsin Section Newsletter. Don't be fooled, it's actually almost September already! That said, we have added two new events to the calendar, so there's plenty of activity left before (hopefully before) the first winter storm. The Milwaukee Repeater Club is now on the schedule for their Friendly Fest on November 4th, and the Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club is holding their Hamfest on November 5th.

The Wisconsin ARES conference is also coming up on November 4th. This year will be the 25th conference! Look for additional information coming soon to wi-arrl.org.

I recently traveled to La Crosse and to Chippewa Falls for their annual hamfests. Both were great events, and it was fun to visit with hams from those areas. I didn't get any numbers from La Crosse, but Chippewa reported that they saw 162 attendees, 17+ vendors and nine people who tested. I'm looking forward to sharing some photos from La Crosse next month, and I can share the following news story from Chippewa: [The Number 18 News](#)

As the hurricane season seems to be ramping up, please note that the Hurricane Watch Net may become active on 7268Khz and 14325Khz to support the National Hurricane Center with weather data and damage reports from the affected areas of a tropical storm. The HWN has net controls and relays around the country. They do not look for stations to check in from outside affected areas. You can visit hwn.org for net activation information.



On August 20th I met with the ARES leadership. It was the second in a series of scheduled meetings in which some expectations were relayed and a lot of forward movement initiated. Look for updated SOGs, plans, task books, etc. in the near future. I also expect that you will see ARES leaders and members will be more informed and involved, across the section, as we move forward. We have a great team of people doing some great work and I look forward to having them share that work with you on a regular basis.

September QST has incorrect date for Midwest Superfest in Chillicothe, Illinois

September QST, page 86, shows an error in the date for the Midwest Superfest at Three Sisters Park in Chillicothe, Illinois. It is **not** September 9. The actual dates are **September 16 – 17**, and ARRL regrets the error. This ARRL-sanctioned hamfest is sponsored by the Peoria-Area Amateur Radio Club, and more information is found at www.w9uvi.org/midwest-superfest-2023.

Additional information about hamfests and conventions can be found [here](#) on the ARRL Web.

That's all for now...

73 to all!

General Announcements and Events

In case you missed it, the following two items are reprints from ARRL Club news.

VOTA Update

The ARRL yearlong operating event recognizing volunteers continues to attract attention online and on the bands. With favorable conditions and near-record turnouts for operating events, many hams are getting the chance to contact more and more ARRL volunteers. We encourage you to take a look at the ARRL Volunteers On the Air (VOTA) website for the latest schedule and list of volunteer points. More information is being added as we go. W1AW/ stations are being activated each month, and this is your chance to contact as many as possible.



Operators around the country are working the volunteer lists and the W1AW/ stations each week. This is the Year of The Volunteer, and we thank each and every ARRL volunteer for their dedication to amateur radio.



ARES Leadership: Be sure you are getting your monthly reports to Kyle either directly or through your DEC. We need those numbers (even if nothing) each month. It is the responsibility of all ARES leadership to be sure the monthly report is submitted and that it accurately depicts what we are doing.



An **AUXCOMM (Auxiliary Communications)** class has been scheduled for October 21-22 at the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office in Oshkosh, WI. This 20-hour, 2-day class will focus on auxiliary communicators and their role in the ICS structure. Successfully completing the course is also a prerequisite to starting an AUXCOMM position task book.

More information:

Registration is on the WEM Training Portal at
<https://www.trainingwisconsin.org/DeliveryDetails.aspx?classid=cf99b410-abe1-44d3-a0f2-7c51c1bacf3b>

Please feel free to contact me or
interop@widma.gov<mailto:interop@widma.gov> with any questions. Please
distribute this information widely, I would love to see a full class!

News From Around the Section

The following field service appointments have been made:

- **Daniel Anderson, KD9PCD**, Emergency Coordinator – Sauk County
- **David Ziesmer, KD9HJJ**, Emergency Coordinator – Brown and Kewaunee Counties

Thank you both for volunteering to serve!



If you have anything you would like to have included in the Section Newsletter, please send it in an email to the [Section Manager](#).

Section Emergency Coordinator / ARES Report

Kyle Schaefer, KC9SDK, Wisconsin SEC:

More to come in future publications, but for this month please see the message sent from Josh Johnson, ARRL Director of Emergency Management:

Good Morning everyone. I hope everyone is faring well. We have found ourselves in a very active emergency event situation around the country. Between continued monitoring of Hilary as it moves farther North to fires around the country and now watching a string of tropical systems in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico. It appears that Texas will be affected tomorrow by what could potentially be a tropical storm by the time it makes landfall. We are also still in communication with leaders in Hawaii during the recovery there.

I just wanted to reach out to everyone and let you know we are continually monitoring all these systems as they affect us all. We also wanted to remind you that we have equipment available to you during an event and can be to you usually within 24 hrs. as needed. Please email ares@arrl.org if you have questions, requests, or information to share with us. Please let us know if you have any deployments during any events please let us know about those. It helps us share the word regarding HAM radio activity during an event. It also helps us share the story of the important role you all play during disaster response and gives credit for the work you are all doing around the country.

Please reach out to us if you have questions, requests, information or just need to discuss anything. We are here to support you.

The top priority for us and hope for you all is that everyone stays safe with as little impact to your self and family as possible.

Josh Johnston, KE5MHV
Director of Emergency Management
ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®
225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-1400 USA
Tel: (860) 594-0333 FAX: (860) 594-0303
jjohnston@arrl.org
www.arrl.org

Section Traffic Manager Report

STM Report Wisconsin Section

July 2023

Traffic Is Still Terrific

FAQ # 264 One more time. Hey, Kids, what time is it? It's time for a quick review of last July's review. When it comes to passing formal NTS traffic, the format doesn't change. The standardization makes the process more efficient. Each of the four main parts – preamble, addressee, text, and signature – is essential.

The preamble includes the message number – so we can document the message; the precedence – so we can prioritize it; and the handling instructions – if necessary to deliver it or confirm delivery. In the plans for NTS 2.0, two new handling instructions are being added. One is HXI which indicates that an encapsulated message is included which must be relayed so as to be deliverable in a particular format. For example, that might be a spreadsheet in a WINLink message. The second is HXR, which requires the delivering station to notify the actual originator of the message confirming that the recipient has personally received the message. The confirmation is addressed to whoever signed the message, not like HXC which is addressed to the originating station

The preamble then lists the station of origin – so we know who first put the message into the system; the check – so we can verify the number of groups in the text; the place of origin – so we can track the message; and the time and date – so we know how long it's been in the system.

The addressee, address, and phone number or email address are the next crucial part. Groups here are carefully spelled out and always verified if there's any question. There's a break between the phone number or email address and the text. On voice, the sending op says, "Break." On CW, it's <BT.>

In the text, each group is sent clearly and deliberately, with pauses that may help the

understanding. There's another break after the text and then the signature. By the way, a closing like "73" goes with the text before the break. The signature is the name and title after the break.

An NTS message is always in this order so we never have to label (say) the parts as we send them. The receiver knows that the station of origin is next or that the signature is going to follow the break after the text. Identifying each part as it's sent is redundant, unneeded, superfluous, repetitive, and as unnecessary as an "s" on 73.

An ICS213 message works the same way with a predictable format. We might, however, identify the parts for an ICS-213 message if the receiver isn't familiar with that form. 1. Event name 2. To name and position 3. From name and position 4. Subject (including a message number and precedence if any) 5. Date 6. Time (24-hour clock) 7. Text 8. Signature.

The very best way to learn correct passing of messages is by careful listening and then by actually sending and receiving messages properly. Do it. Then do it again.

As pointed out last year, we want redundancy for emergencies, so – as part of the Department of Redundancy Department – for several years I've been lucky to have N9VC as ASTM to offer training, protocol reminders, and be the back-up STM if I get hit by a bus. He tells me he will continue to be ready – just in case – and I'll still be watching for those buses. 73 – K9LGU/STM-WI

...and don't forget about our nets:

WISCONSIN TRAFFIC NETS		Updated 07/26/2023						
		Net Control Stations						
Name Of Net, Frequency, Local Time	Net Manager	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
Badger Weather Net (BWN) 3984 KHz, 0600	K9LUK	KB9GO	K9LUK	N9NBC	W9CPY	W9IHW	AG9G	WB9WKO
Badger Emergency Net (BEN) 3985 KHz, 1200 ALT 7270 KHz	NX9K	WJ9L	WJ9L	W9RTP	N9VC	WD9FLJ	NX9K	NX9K KA9BAE
Wisconsin Side Band Net (WSBN) 3985 or 3982.5 KHz, 1700	AG9G	NX9K KA9BAE	N9VC	KC9FXE	KB9GO	WB9WKO	AG9G	AC9F K9ILJ
Wisconsin Slow Speed Net (WSSN) 3555 KHz, Daily 1800	KB9ROB	KB9ROB	N9VC	*	*	*	AG9G	*
Wisconsin Intrastate Net - Early (WIN-E) 3555 KHz, 1900	WB9ICH	WB9ICH	K9LGU	KC9UC	N9CK	N9VC	*	*
Wisconsin Intrastate Net - Late (WIN-L) 3555 KHz, 2200	W9RTP	AG9G	K9LGU	KC9UC	N9VC	N9VC	W9RTP	W9RTP
ARES/RACES Net 3967 KHz, 0800 Sunday ALT 3977.5 or 7250	WB9WKO	*						
WI ARES/RACES Digital Net Tuesday on WINLink 7PM Mon - 7PM Tues	KB9MMC		KB9MMC					
WI ARES/RACES VHF Net on WECOMM Frequencies Last Thursday of the month 7PM	KA9KJE					KA9KJE		

* Net Control Operator needed. Contact Net Manager for information.

Section Youth Coordinator Report

From Etienne Robitaille, K9ZN, Section Youth Coordinator:

Last month, I tried a new format for my newsletter, where instead of having the main focus on things I've done during the month, I instead gave an idea of something YOU could pursue. This seemed to be a very big hit, and I'm glad that you guys enjoyed it. It was a fun write, and I can appreciate that you wish to take action over the issue we do have. With that being said, I decided on making my newsletter on one topic that can help educate you on this topic on some of the things that I've learned myself through data from research.

— Why video games are the best advertisement for ham radio, not social media —

One of the most common things I hear working in this field is how we present amateur radio to a platform where kids are on. One of the most common ways I hear this is through social media; Twitter (Or X as it is referred to now), TikTok, Instagram, etc., etc. However, being in high school myself, and that being one of the two primary types of youth we should be targeting (The other being college), I find that my peers tend to remember something if it's through a video game. While I will admit that I infrequently play video games just due to my workload, almost all of my friends who are aged 15-18 play some type of video game.

Besides Instagram and Snapchat, which are primarily used for texting anyways, social media isn't used frequently. The one exception to this is TikTok, but this isn't very effective either. For those unfamiliar, quoting from Investopedia,

"TikTok is a social media app dedicated to short-form videos created for and consumed by users. The length of the videos is 15 to 60 seconds. The format lends itself to entertainment and comedy."

There are two main issues as to why this isn't very effective.

- Video length: Amateur radio is a very complicated hobby. It is a very tough struggle to condense what amateur radio to be appealing within 60 seconds, let alone all of what amateur radio is actually capable of such as emergency communications, boy scouts, contesting, etc.
- Entertainment value: I've never really looked at an electronics circuit and outright laughed at it; that'd be absurd. When surrounded by entertainment content, any sort of video we'd post would look like an advertisement, which is something that most would just skip over to get to more entertaining content. People come to TikTok to relax and unwind, not get bombarded with a load of information about a complex hobby.

So, now that at the very least a few questions have been raised on the whole social media idea, allow me to present why video games may be a more effective solution. Firstly, it's just outright more engaging. If we present amateur radio as a game, people are automatically going to be more engaged, which allows us time to show off the various ways amateur radio can be used, show off the key concepts of amateur radio, and make it fun, which is something that an advertisement on TikTok can't do. Secondly, you're able to control how difficult you make amateur radio. In a TikTok advertisement, you'd have to show amateur radio in all of its complexity. This can be extremely overwhelming and can deter people from the hobby just from seemingly being too complex. However, in a video game, it is a lot easier to start slow.

Think like a video game tutorial; developers don't just throw an entire game in its complexity at you, they slowly introduce different mechanics at you until you're finally ready for playing the final game. In the same way, you don't just throw the entirety of amateur radio at someone in 60

seconds, you slowly introduce bits and parts of the hobby to someone until they finally grasp the whole thing. Video games give you the ability to do that, not TikTok advertisements.

Currently, the ARRL is funding a project that is tackling this, so our organization is already taking action, and I've shared parts of this project in my newsletter before, but I wanted to explain my perspective on this issue and tackle something that I personally believe to be a bad approach to getting kids into amateur radio.

Contact Me:

Please email me at et.k9zn@icloud.com if you have any questions or issues about my Section Youth Coordinator work. Response times can range from an hour to a day.

Member Contributions

EAA AirVenture 2023 Special Events Station
Tom Czaja (KG9EE) Wisconsin Assistant Section Manager



John, KC9TFM, and Tom, KG9EE, operating The special events station at the EAA AirVenture



John, KC9TFM, and Michael, KN9P, operating the special events station at EAA AirVenture 2023.



Mike, KD9QFP, operating the 40-meter Special Events Station.



W9ZL Special Events Station at EAA AirVenture 2023

The Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club, W9ZL, has been sponsoring a special events station at the EAA AirVenture at Whitman Field in Oshkosh since 1989. The Fox Cities ARC is a very active club, sponsoring many events throughout the year and draws members from a large area in the Fox Valley area and beyond.

I had the honor of operating the station with the members of the club this year. The station was operational from July 24 to July 29, 2023. Although propagation was marginal, many contacts were made, and a lot of networking took place. The location of the station is on the North end of the airport and is part of the KidVenture program. It was a pleasure to see many young people stopping at the station and asking questions about ham radio. Kudos to Chairperson Jon Oldenburg, AB9AH, FCARC Special Events Coordinator who coordinated the special events station.



Ozaukee Radio Club International Lighthouse Lightship Activation

Tom Czaja, KG9EE, Wisconsin ARRL Assistant Section Manager



Port Washington 1860 Lighthouse
US0114



Tom, KC9ONY, Operating the 40 Meter Station



Fred, W9KEY, and Bill, K9GN, Operating the 20 Meter Station

The Ozaukee Radio Club (W9CQO) and the LEFROG (Local Emergency Field Radio Operating Group) Radio Club held a joint special events station on August 19 and 20, 2023 at the historic Port Washington Lighthouse and Light Station Museum. The special events station was activated for the International Lighthouse Lightship Activation weekend. The 1860 lighthouse guided maritime traffic on Lake Michigan during the 19th and early 20th centuries. The lighthouse is designated as ILLW Lighthouse US0114. The operators made many contacts during the operational period including lighthouse to lighthouse contacts. Kudos to Fred, W9KEY, for organizing the event and to Loren, N9ENR, for his technical assistance setting up the station and keeping it operating.



National Night Out and Ham Radio

A Good Combination

by Vic WT9Q

National Night Out is an annual nationwide event that takes place on the first Tuesday in August. Police and Fire Departments from around the country set up displays at local parks. They also invite organizations to set up booths. It is like a mini-fair with food, demonstrations, police cars, fire trucks, and sometimes even a helicopter.

The Wisconsin Amateur Radio Club based in Washington County has had a booth at the Germantown National Night Out for many years. They promote their club and ARES.

This year the Washington County ARES group decided to expand the event. We contacted our Emergency Manager about our idea. He mentioned it at a monthly police Chief's meeting and obtained contact information for the Slinger and Jackson police departments. We contacted the officers and they were happy to have us participate. Washington County ARES, the Washington County Amateur Radio Club, and the Wisconsin Amateur Radio Club created a joint project.

We held a few planning sessions and assigned teams of two for each location. We ordered banners for display and flyers from the ARRL. We made a handout with ARES repeater information and local club websites. We set up 2 meter and HF stations. We demonstrated severe weather spotting and reporting to the National Weather Service office in Sullivan, WI. We even had code oscillators so visitors could hear their names in Morse code.

We believe this project was a success. We promoted ARES and our local ham radio clubs. The public, members of the police and fire departments, and even a few ham radio operators learned more about ham radio activity in Washington County. We all enjoyed the event and we plan on doing it again next year.



Embracing Change in Amateur Radio: Effective Communication for Growth and Unity

George B. Lampere, Ph.D. – AB9CQ

Introduction:

In the early 1900s, a wave of wireless communication enthusiasts emerged, giving birth to the first "wireless" club at Columbia University in 1908. Over the past 120 years, these amateur radio operators, known as Ham Operators, have cultivated a culture of curiosity, experimentation, and innovation. Their relentless pursuit of enhancing communication has led to valuable contributions within the amateur radio community, earning recognition from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and society at large.

Amateur Radio's Impact and Responsibility:

Amateur radio operators play a vital role in serving the public interest, providing emergency communications during crises and contributing to the welfare of communities. Operating within established guidelines and regulations is crucial, as it allows operators to enjoy the hobby freely while upholding principles that protect their rights. These operators possess exceptional communication skills, enabling them to send and deliver messages in challenging conditions.

Challenges in Communicating Change:

Despite their communication prowess, amateur radio operators sometimes struggle to effectively communicate change within their own community. The cultural inclination to question and evaluate proposed changes can lead to opposition or resistance. Operators require time to process information and align it with their training and behavior. To increase acceptance, change communication must address their emotional responses and provide a clear connection to the organization's mission and purpose.

Addressing Emotional Responses to Change:

To manage emotions and attitudes within the amateur radio community, leaders should unite the organization by relating the problem statement to the purpose, goals, and mission. When operators feel connected to the mission, they become energized, committed, and perform better. Operators should be actively engaged in finding solutions, rather than being treated as passive bystanders. Communication about change should be clear, concise, and free of jargon, ensuring it is relatable and easily understandable. Active listening to feedback, concerns, challenges, and ideas builds trust and establishes a strong relationship.

A New Change Message Format:

To develop effective communication that guides people through major change and increases acceptance, a structured, five-step approach can be followed:

1. Identify your target audience: Understand the culture and expectations of those who will receive the message.
2. Problem Statement: Clearly state the problem driving the need for change, including relevant facts and associated risks. Avoid suggesting solutions at this stage.
3. Value Statement: Describe the organization's purpose and the value it provides. This perspective helps put the problem into context and highlights the organization's mission.
4. How Statement: Explain how the organization delivers value, focusing on the elements of the solution and describing the benefits it offers.
5. What Statement: Describe how the solution will be implemented to align with the organization's purpose.

Example Change Communication:

(1. Target Audience)

To: ARES East Central District in Wisconsin

(2. Problem Statement)

Some ARES message traffic has been compromised due to incomplete information and improperly formatted messages, causing delays in passing messages. After action reports identified operators' lack of familiarity with the message format.

(3. Value Statement)

As members of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, we believe in our united commitment to efficiently and effectively support our Served Agencies during emergencies. Our purpose is to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the general public.

(4. How Statement)

To uphold our commitment, we prioritize continuous improvement through standardized procedures, ongoing training, and an agile approach. This enables us to meet the changing demands of the agencies we serve and maintain a strong emergency communications capability.

(5. What Statement)

To uphold our high standards, we have implemented the following requirements for ARES members:

1. Completion of the EC-001 course within the first six months of joining ARES to attain qualified membership status.
2. Participation in an EmCom exercise at least once per quarter.

Conclusion:

Amateur radio operators have played a pivotal role in the evolution of wireless communication over the past century. Their dedication to innovation, adaptability, and public service has established amateur radio as a valuable and respected community. To effectively communicate change within this community, it is essential to address operators' emotional responses, align the message with the organization's mission and purpose, and foster active engagement and trust. By following a structured change communication format, we can guide operators through major changes while increasing acceptance and unity, ensuring the continued growth and success of amateur radio.

In Memoriam

We have been made aware of the following members who have become silent keys since the last publication.

- David Witt, WD9W, of Fond du Lac – [view obituary](#)

On behalf of the Wisconsin Section, our condolences go out to the family and friends of our fellow hams who have passed. May David rest in peace.

If you become aware of a silent key, from our section, please contact the [Section Manager](#) or Assistant Section Manager, [Tom Czaja, KG9EE](#) with the details.

Upcoming Fests and Conventions

August 26, 2023 – Circus City Swapfest

Location: Baraboo, WI
Sponsor: Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://yellowthunder.org/>

September 9, 2023 – ORC Annual Regional Fall Swapfest

Location: Cedarburg, WI
Sponsor: Ozaukee Radio Club
Website: <https://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org/>

September 22-23, 2023 – HRO Superfest / State Convention

Location: Milwaukee, WI
Sponsor: HRO Milwaukee
Website: Not Provided

November 4, 2023 – ARES Conference / Wisconsin Section Convention

Location: Wisconsin Rapids, WI
Sponsor: ARRL Wisconsin Section - ARES
Website: <https://wi-arrrl.org/events/>

November 4, 2023 – Friendly Fest

Location: Milwaukee, WI
Sponsor: Milwaukee Repeater Club
Website: <http://mrc91.org>

November 5, 2023 – FCARC Swapfest

Location: Kaukauna, WI
Sponsor: Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.fcarc.club/hamfest.php>

November 18-19, 2023 – Central Division Convention

Location: Fort Wayne, IN
Sponsor: Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society
Website: <http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>

*** See these items and additional Section information on the [ARRL WI Section website](#). ***

ARRL Wisconsin Section
Section Manager: Jason Spetz, KC9FXE
kc9fxe@arrl.org

****Attachments follow****

WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY July 2023

NET	QNI CHECK-INS	QTC TRAFFIC	QTR TIME	SSNS SESSIONS	NM NET MANAGER
BWN	1166	1575	3159	31	K9LUK
BEN	262	306	426	31	NX9K
WSBN	380	210	583	31	AG9G
WSSN	150	54	356	31	KB9ROB
WIN/E	141	201	314	31	WB9ICH
WIN/L	153	38	254	31	W9RTP
WRACES HF	64	15	114	5	WB9WKO
WRACES VHF	0	0	0	0	KA9KJE
WRACES-DIGITAL	149	1940	5760	4	KB9MMC
totals	2465	4339	10966	195	

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY JULY 2023

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
NX9K	572	131	890	0	1593
WB9WKO	0	485	375	2	860
N9CK	0	245	221	0	466
AG9G	0	281	150	7	438
N9VC	0	387	39	0	426
KB9GO	0	205	83	0	288
KC9UC	0	64	80	0	144
K9LGU	0	42	58	1	101
WJ9L	0	45	50	6	101
KC9FXE	0	14	51	6	71
KB9ROB	0	46	10	8	64
KA9BAE	0	12	20	0	32
WB9ICH	0	16	2	0	18
W9RNA	0	8	3	1	12

WISCONSIN SECTION P S H R SUMMARY JULY 2023

POSSIBLE POINTS >	40	40	30	5 /hr.	5 /hr.	10ea	T
	nets	tfc	appt	sked events	emrg events	web pg	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
N9VC	40	40	30	335	0	20	465
KC9FXE	40	40	20	25	15	10	150
WB9WKO	40	40	30	30	0	0	140
AG9G	40	40	30	20	0	0	130
K9LGU	40	40	30	5	15	0	130
NX9K	40	40	20	0	0	0	100
KC9UC	40	40	10	0	0	0	90
KB9GO	34	40	10	0	0	0	84