



WISCONSIN SECTION NEWSLETTER

Issue Date: September 2024
WI Section Manager, Jason Spetz, KC9FXE

From the Section Manager

Greetings all!

I'm pretty sure I ran into the fall season change on the way back from HRO Superfest on Saturday. I passed through a cold front that dropped the temperature by twenty degrees and they've stayed that way all week. I'm not complaining.... YET!

HRO was a great time. I was in attendance on Saturday and engaged in a lot of good conversations with folks. Thanks to **Tom Czaja, KG9EE**, for representing the ARRL both days of the fest. On Friday, Tom was joined by Division Director **Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA**, and Vice Director **Brent Walls, N9BA**. On Saturday, Tom and I were joined by out Section Youth Coordinator, **Etienne Robitaille, K9ZN**.



As always, there were a lot of good forums, testing, vendors and food. Additional photos are included at the end of this newsletter.

Find a club is a place on the ARRL website where people can search for club information by geographic locations. Like any database, it's only as good as the information that it contains. If you are an affiliated club, be sure to update your club's information on the site. This can be done by the club president or contact person. If your leadership has changed, I can assist you in updating your information and assigning your updated leadership. Just drop me an email and we can get that started for you. Here is the web link to the club page: <https://www.arrl.org/find-a-club>

The **Simulated Emergency Test (SET)** is next week. More information appears further down in this newsletter, but I wanted to provide the following information:

The SET report forms are back online and available for any section that wishes to use them. The link below will take you to the landing page that will allow you to fill Form A, Form B, and to upload additional documents like press releases and supporting documents.

[ARRL SET Data Forms](#)

Hope to see you at the ARES Conference on November 2nd.

Until next time... 73!

General Announcements, Events and Reminders

Lake Geneva area tower looking for a new home: A new resident in the Lake Geneva area is putting the feelers out to have a "high tower and antenna" removed from their property. Those are all the details obtained other than the following contact info: Dave Foss dbfoss99@gmail.com



New Benefit for ARRL Members Announced

This week the ARRL is launching a new partnership with Grouper, Inc., a company administering group activity benefits for 15 million Medicare Advantage and Supplement members. Their focus is on promoting social fitness and healthy aging through partnerships with various groups, clubs, and associations. Members aged 65 or over benefit from Grouper's program via their Medicare supplemental plans.

ARRL members can check their eligibility on the Grouper website by answering two questions: are you at least 65 years old, and which health plan do you have? Eligibility is determined without sharing any personal information. If eligible, a member will receive a \$50 check from Grouper. In addition, if a member continues to stay active in ARRL and amateur radio activities - such as attending ARRL Affiliated Club meetings, getting on the air with friends, going to hamfests, or even just socializing with other members at the coffee shop -- Grouper will send \$20 social wellness incentive every three months. That's a potential \$130 in payments in one year: \$50 + \$20 every three months = \$130 per year. Payments continue as long as a member demonstrates they are active, and the \$50 payment is made again on the anniversary of their initial payment (and as long as they remain active for 9/12 months).

The Grouper payments will offset a member's ARRL dues, radio club dues, and other amateur radio expenses.

Here is the web link for more information: <https://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-announces-partnership-with-grouper>

FAQ

What is Grouper?

Grouper is leading a social fitness movement that encourages healthy living through meaningful social connections and shared experiences.

Grouper helps you to access benefits through your Medicare Advantage or Medicare Supplement plan to pay for part or all the activities that keep you socially connected and healthy. Join the movement!

What Does Grouper Pay For?

Grouper partners with health plans that offer their members activity benefits. We help you connect to social activities that match your passions. As you stay socially active and participate in qualifying in-person activities with your group, we work with your health plan to support the cost of your membership dues and make other benefits available to you related to your social activity. If you qualify, you will receive an Initial Payment of \$50. For every three months of recorded activity, you will receive an additional \$20. These payments remain ongoing as you remain active in your group and report your participation to us.

Why Does My Insurance Plan Offer This?

We believe, and research has found, that staying active and having fun with friends is a winning combination. Joining and participating in clubs, associations and social groups has proven to have a positive impact on health and protect against social isolation and loneliness. Our health plan partners agree!

Is This a Gym Membership?

No, it's way better! For decades, health plans have offered gym memberships as a fitness benefit designed to keep their eligible members healthy, but health plans found that group activities that members love are 10 times more popular than gym memberships. And an ever-growing body of medical and clinical evidence confirms the health benefits of being part of a group activity.

What's the Catch?

There is no catch! Grouper recognizes what medical and social research has now well documented: building and maintaining social connections become more difficult as we age. We believe that activities with others is an important part of the solution, and we are committed to bringing people together and rewarding activity. Simply put, group activities lead to longer and healthier lives. By partnering with health plans that share our values, Grouper helps eligible members access and make the most of their health plans activity benefits available through their health insurance plans.

How Do I Know If I am Eligible?

It's easy! Simply sign up on our website. We check your eligibility with your health plan and will notify you of your status. Eligible? Great! Get started right away. Not eligible? That's OK. Check back in with us again soon. The number of health plan partners we work with is continuously expanding.

What Information Will I Need to Share to Check Eligibility?

You will need:

- Health Plan Name

- Age

What Information Will I Need to Share to Receive a Check?

After your eligibility is confirmed, we will collect the following information to verify your insurance and issue a check:

- Basic contact information (Name, Phone, Email, Zip Code)
- Health plan information
- In some cases, we might ask for your membership number if you are already part of a group or club.

How Do I Receive Payment?

Sign up and provide your health plan member ID so we can check your eligibility. Once your eligibility and group membership are confirmed, Grouper will send you an initial payment of \$50. For each three months of activity after that, we will send \$20, if you stay active and keep us updated on your in-person social activity!

How Long Does it Take to Receive My Check?

You can expect to receive an initial \$50 check by mail within 45 days of completing the full enrollment process and being declared eligible for Grouper. Additional \$20 payments will be made after every three months of reported activity.

When Do Payments Stop?

You will receive \$20 every three months for as long as you are active in your group!

How often do I receive a \$50 payment?

A member is eligible to receive the Initial Payment annually on the anniversary of the last initial payment if member has accrued 9 months of activity in the prior 12 months. If 9 months have not been achieved, the member will become eligible for the payment as soon as the 9th active month is achieved.

How Do I Confirm that I Actively Participate in a Group?

Confirming your activity is important and simple. Each month, we will remind you to log onto your account and share how often you have had in-person participation in ARRL activities. Engaging in ARRL activities may include participating in local radio club meetings, attending training for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service®, and competing in ARRL Contests. You can also log your involvement in hamfests, ARRL Field Day, and informal get-togethers with other ARRL members, or even portable operating outings with friends who share your passion for amateur radio.

What if I Have to Take a Break From My Activities?

We know that life sometimes gets in the way of even your favorite activities. As soon as you report three active months (they do not have to be in a row), you will receive your ongoing \$20 payment. It helps to report your activity every month, so you don't lose track.

Is My Privacy Protected?

Yes. Your information is not sold. We only share your information for the purposes of administering your activity benefit provided to you by your health plan and to connect you with social activity groups, as explained in our Member Terms of Service, as well as our Privacy Policy.

Is Grouper an Insurance Company?

No. We are not a health insurance company, and we do not sell health insurance to members. We partner with health plans that offer activity benefits to their members and encourage healthy and meaningful connection to members like you through social activities.

Who Do I Contact if I Need Help Signing Up or Have Questions?

Our friendly Member Engagement Team at Grouper is here to help! Give them a call at 833 445-2400 or email them at info@hellogrouper.com.

Why do you need to know how much my club/association dues cost?

This helps us as we update our offerings to improve our member experience. Better understanding your needs (including what it costs to be part of your group), allows us to better serve you.

Do I get credit for all the months I was active before enrolling with Grouper?

Unfortunately, no. Your initial and ongoing payments are tied to your enrollment with us. That said, if you enrolled with us a while ago, you may be able to receive payment for past activity.



ARES Group Registration

Much like the club listing, the ARRL has a place for ARES groups to register their organizations. I encourage each of your ARES organizations to register and remember to keep the information up to date. This will provide a good place for people to find ARES organizations in their area with accurate contact information. Registration only takes a couple minutes.

Register at: <https://www.arrl.org/ares-group-registration>



If you're having issues renewing your **FCC Amateur Radio license**, check out these helpful resources:

- Easy to follow website with instructions and screenshots by W0IS: <https://w0is.com/LicenseRenewal/FCCRenewalInstructions.htm>
- ARRL Website: <https://www.arrl.org/cores-uls-registration>
- Video featuring ARRL VEC Department Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM. You'll also hear from ARRL VEC "expert" Josh Nance on a few common issues he tends to help folks out with over the phone: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DI8nmjRJg4>

News From Around the Section

Wisconsin ARES / RACES Conference 2024

Saturday, November 2, 2024 - McMillan Library, Wisconsin Rapids

More information at <https://wi-arrrl.org/events/>

Section Emergency Coordinator / ARES Report

Kyle Schaefer, KC9SDK, Wisconsin SEC:

Online registration for the annual ARES/RACES Conference is now active and members are encouraged to sign up early. If you plan to spend the night before in a hotel you should book that early also since that weekend is the WIAA state cross-country meet in the Wisconsin Rapids area and hotels will likely fill up quickly.

I hope everyone had a useful and productive summer. As we begin the fall season our focus begins to shift from our summertime activities of supporting the plethora of marathons, bike races and community events to that of preparing for our annual SET (the Simulated Emergency Test). This year the ASEC for Training Dan Lenz, KB9IME and Richard Polivka, N6NKO have been working hard to develop a type of "Dark Skies" scenario for the state to participate in. They have been coordinating with our section net manager Denny Rybicke, K9LGU. The SET will take place on Saturday October 5th this year. Since most counties and districts are or may be testing other parts of their response plan and, in an attempt to bring our drills into HSEEP compliance (this drill is not), we are leaving a lot of room for local jurisdictions to test their own plans while still being able to meet at least some of the objectives of the state plan.

We understand that not all counties will take part in this drill, some have other drills planned with other supported groups, we only ask that you advise ARES/RACES leadership so we can support your efforts.

The goal of this year's SET is to test as many of our systems as possible and effectively transmit and receive properly formatted message traffic between and within jurisdictions.

More details regarding the SET Exercise will be forthcoming in the days leading up to the SET.

Public Information Coordinator Report

From Myron Oestreich, KB9STB, Section Public Information Coordinator:

Happy September, Wisconsin hams! We've entered the time of year where the kids are back in school, the parents are celebrating that the kids are back in school, and Walmart has started putting out their yuletide decorations in one part of the store and the Halloween decorations in another part. I saw that this morning and couldn't believe my eyes.

With the fall coming up, there are many opportunities to promote amateur radio and learn about things related to the hobbies. Throughout the state, there are many fall festivals taking place. In late September and October, there are (give or take) about a dozen different festivals going on that a local group could set up and talk all things radio with the public or run a special event station on-site so attendees can see firsthand how radio works. A little pre-event planning, exchanging a few emails and some coordination could yield a fun day of operating and spark interest in becoming a part of the hobby.

On November 2, the annual Wisconsin ARES/RACES conference is being held at the McMillan Memorial Library in Wisconsin Rapids. I'm sure it'll be talked about a bit in this month and next month's newsletters, so I won't belabor the topic much, but this event is the one to get you up to date on what's happening in ARES/RACES, the section and the division. The conference also gives you the chance to learn either new topics or a new twist on an old topic you may not be familiar with. I've heard that the Media Relations 101 presentation should be a good one, but that was just what I heard on the breeze...nudge nudge, wink wink. The registration window is open for the conference, and we really encourage you to consider attending. It's a great chance to learn and network.

Please remember if you have an event coming up and you'd like a hand getting the word out for it, help is available for the asking. Assistance could be as simple as needing an "outsider's" head to bounce an idea off, as involved as drafting and distributing press releases and sharing information far and wide, or even a simple "hey could you share this on Facebook" to promote what you have coming up.

Until next time, have a safe month and good DX.

Section Traffic Manager Report

Wisconsin Section

August 2024

How to properly voice message preambles

FAQ # 277 Yes, this applies to all of us. For an NTS message preamble, to do it right, start by actually saying the word, "number." That tells the receiver it's started. Then say the *digits* of the message number. (two five –not twenty five) Don't use the proword "figures" here. Message numbers should be only in figures anyway – no decimals, dashes, slant bars or letters. Give the precedence (usually routine) but don't introduce it by saying it's the precedence. The receiver knows that. Then use phonetics to voice any handling instructions like HXC or HXG.

Next, say the call of the originating station phonetically. There's no need to introduce it by "from" or "*amateur call*" or "*mixed group*" in the preamble. "From my station" is considered poor practice. State the check without labeling it and without any prowords – just the figures of the group count. The receiver already knows what goes in that blank. "With a check of..." is redundant.

Without introducing it, voice the place of origin clearly – probably with phonetic spelling if the receiver doesn't know the place. Then give the time (if any) with just the figures and any label such as CDT. Again, you don't have to say it's the time. Then, without introducing it, say the

date – month and day (probably not the year) *without* the proword “figures.” Follow that with the name and address of the recipient using ITU phonetics. No need for “Going to...” or “With an address of...” Then just say, “Break,” listen, and start the text. That’s the quick, easy, and correct way. Just say what’s in the blank. Do not introduce each part.

ICS213 messages work the same, if the receiver is familiar with the format (and we should be). Just begin with what’s in block #1 – if it’s used. That’s the incident name. You don’t have to *call it* “the incident name.” Then say what’s in block #2, the name and position of the intended recipient. You don’t need to explain. Then go to block #3, the name and position of the person it’s coming from. No description or “from” needed.

Block #4 is the subject and possibly preceded by a message number and group count. Here, you could say “message number” and “in X groups” if it’s necessary and then the subject. A comment like “With a subject of...” would be more extraneous words. Just say it. Then say the date, day and month (Block #5), and the local time in 24-hour format (Block #6). Say, “Break,” listen, and start the text.

Extra words and unnecessary descriptors can be distracting and time consuming as well as increasing the chance of mistakes. Sending a message in the correct way, although we’re amateurs, sounds much more professional and it works better. K9LGU/STM

...and don’t forget about our nets:

WISCONSIN TRAFFIC NETS

| Name Of Net, Frequency, Local Time | Net Manager | Net Control Stations | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|
| | | 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 NX9K | W9RTP | KB9IME | WD9FLJ | NX9K | N9VC |
| Wisconsin Side Band Net (WSBN) 3985 or 3982.5 KHz, 1700 | AG9G | NX9K KA9BAE | N9VC | KC9FXE | KB9GO | WB9WKO | AG9G | AC9F |
| 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 | AG9G | WB9ICH |
| 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:

Superfest - A note to the Ham Radio Community

September 20th to 21st marked the 2024 annual HRO Superfest. In my perspective, Superfest provides an exceptional opportunity to see how the ham radio community is evolving and, more importantly, to engage with fellow operators and see how school clubs are forming. With HRO offering amateur radio license testing, it was a chance to meet and encourage new youth ham radio operators.

This year, in particular, highlighted the strides the ham radio community is making in growing the next generation of operators. I've noticed an increasing interest in amateur radio in schools, with both students and educators showing excitement about integrating it into their STEM programs. It's inspiring to see educators embracing amateur radio, especially at the high school level, as a tool to build not only career skills in areas like electrical engineering and radio propagation but also lifelong skills like troubleshooting, critical thinking, and networking.

These new school clubs are just the beginning. There are plenty of opportunities for local hams to get involved—whether through mentoring, donating equipment, or offering advice. One of the most rewarding aspects of being a Section Youth Coordinator is seeing students' curiosity and enthusiasm drive this initiative forward. Their eagerness to learn and engage with the hobby is truly inspiring.

A huge thank you to everyone who has helped get these clubs off the ground. This is a community effort, and with continued support, we can make a lasting impact on the next generation of amateur radio operators.

School Club Roundup

From October 21st to October 25th, the ARRL School Club Roundup event will be taking place. This exciting event is designed to engage school clubs in amateur radio and give students a fantastic opportunity to participate in a contest that spans a wide variety of bands. It's a great chance for schools to experience the fun and learning that comes from real radio communications.

The contest includes nearly every band available to amateur radio operators, with the exception of 60 meters, 30 meters, 17 meters, and 12 meters. While repeaters aren't allowed, everything else is. The contest is divided into four categories: Elementary, Middle School/Junior High, High School, and College, allowing clubs from all educational levels to participate and compete.

If you're looking for more information about logging results, advice for success, or other helpful resources, be sure to visit the ARRL's official page at <http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>.

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

Ozaukee Radio Club Fall Swapfest Tom Czaja, KG9EE, ARRL Wisconsin Assistant Section *Manager*



Jim, K9QLP, and Jeananne, N9VSV, ORC Vice-President



The Ozaukee Radio Club held their Fall Swapfest on September 7, 2024 at the Cedarburg Firemen's Park. Even though it was quite chilly, the sun was shining brightly and there were approximately 190 attendees including 35 vendors. It was a pleasure speaking with many of the attendees and supporting the ORC which is an ARRL Maximum Society supporter. Congratulations to the ORC on a successful swapfest.





Successful 2024 Lighthouse!

de: Fred Schwierske, W9KEY

For those who missed it, the third full weekend in August (8/16 – 8/18/24) marked the 27th anniversary of a great amateur radio event - the *International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend*.

We again activated the historic 1860 Lightstation as a joint ORC and LEFROG Club Activity. It's a beautifully restored museum operated by the Port Washington Historical Society. Thanks for inviting us back!



Early weather forecasts were grim, showing high chance of rain and storms the entire weekend. ORC's STEM committee cancelled our West Bend Library special event scheduled for Thursday, realizing library visitors were unlikely to enjoy ham radio in the rain. Our Lighthouse group struggled with the same problem, but decided to proceed with planned setup

beginning Friday noon. A combination of heat, humidity, and occasional showers kept the dedicated volunteers quite “damp” the entire afternoon. But our excellent (and large) crew completed antenna deployments by 3:30 PM.

The station consisted of a 30 foot tower with Tribander, Pneumatic Mast holding the far end of a 40 meter dipole, two pop-up canopies, assorted tables, power cords, coax cables, and a stunning 4K Geochron map display ready for early Saturday activation.



The 20 meter morning shift is getting started.
Bill K9GN, Nancy KC9FZK, & Stan WB9RQR.



Joe KD9RAW operates UV protected QRP with a portable Vertical antenna in the background.

Electronic set-up began 7:00 AM Saturday. We were On Air by 8:00, first with the 20 meter station, followed shortly by 40 meters, and finally a QRP multi-band vertical which again battled unsuccessfully with nearby structural obstacles.



Bill, AC9JV and Tom, KC9ONY struggle with marginal 40 meter conditions.



Bill, K9GN and Joe, KD9RAW running the 20 meter pile up. Lots of stations calling.

The Bands were disappointing Saturday morning, but 20 meters came alive around Noon and continued active through Sunday – often providing modest pile-ups.

Lighthouse Weekend is not a contest. Operators spent time discussing history of the 1860 Lightstation, which served as an active aid to navigation from 1860 to 1903, plus describing the magnificent view of Lake Michigan.



Scott, KD9YEW logging for ARRL Wisconsin Assistant Section Manager Tom Czaja, KG9EE.



Fred, W9KEY logging for Scott, KD9YEW at the 20 meter microphone.

2024 International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend included 400 worldwide participating Stations, 60 of them in the USA - about the same as last year.

In spite of marginal band conditions, the 40 meter (dipole) station logged 149 contacts. Conditions were much better on 20 meters, with 556 contacts.

Our weekend totaled 705 Contacts, including 15 Lighthouses.

A huge "Thank You" to **Tony Schneider, AD9BR** for transporting the equipment trailer. Having the trailer on-site greatly simplified set-up logistics.

Also of note (but not shown) is **Mike Harrington, N9FPG** who is processing the incoming QSL Card requests – Thanks!

HIGHLIGHTS: Following Log analysis & repairs - final statistics for the 2024



Bill (the Cookie Man) Schnell, AC9JV at the computer with Jim, K9QLP.

International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend are summarized below:

We operated as Amateur Radio Station W9CQO - one of 60 USA and 400 Worldwide Lighthouses entered in 2024.

705 Total Contacts, including 15 Lighthouse to Lighthouse Contacts.

9 Operators in the Log, but several people neglected to “sign in” to the computer logging program. Remember whenever working Field Day or any special event – **always** enter your Name & Call into the computer when starting your session. Failing to do so results in your work being incorrectly credited to the previous operator.

It's a tough event to work QRP – Joe, KD9RAW struggled with the proximity of his ground mounted vertical to other antennas and metal structures.

Fell short of last year's 750 contacts / 22 Lighthouses, but at the request of Lighthouse staff we operated fewer hours on Saturday,

Station ambiance enhanced by Cherri, K9WOC who logged several hundred contacts while husband Jerry, K9FI supervised.

ARRL Wisconsin Assistant Section Manager Tom Czaja, KG9EE again visited and took a turn at the microphone.

Surprisingly excellent weather, decent 20 meter conditions, enthusiastic operators, and a wonderful venue!

Our Lighthouse for the event - US0114 which was part of the QSO exchange with other lighthouses.

1860 Light Station Museum
311 Johnson Street
Port Washington, WI 53074



Loren, N9ENR and Fred, W9KEY setting up the 40m station. Who needs an instruction manual?



ELMER

by Rich Regent, K9GDF



Upcoming Fests and Conventions

October 19, 2024 – Hidden Valley ARC 1st Annual Hamfest

Location: Lancaster, WI

Sponsor: Hidden Valley Amateur Radion Club

Website: <https://www.kc9kq.net/hamfest/>

November 2, 2024 – ARES Conference / State Convention

Location: Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Sponsor: Numerous

Website: <https://wi-arrrl.org/events/>

March 16, 2025 – Tri County WI Hamfest

Location: Fort Atkinson, WI

Sponsor: Tri-County Amateur Radio Club

Website: <https://www.W9MQB.org>

April 26, 2025 – ORC 45th Annual Spring Indoor Swapfest

Location: Cedarburg, WI

Sponsor: Ozaukee Radio Club, Inc

Website: <https://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org>

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

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

HRO Superfest Photos



WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY

AUGUST 2024

| NET | QNI CHECK -INS | QTC TRAFFIC | QTR TIME | SSNS SESSIONS | NM NET MANAGER |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| BWN | 1052 | 1524 | 3288 | 31 | K9LUK |
| BEN | | | | | NX9K |
| WSBN | 426 | 223 | 699 | 31 | AG9G |
| WSSN | | | | | KB9ROB |
| WIN/E | 139 | 277 | 317 | 31 | WB9ICH |
| WIN/L | | | | | W9RTP |
| WI ARES/RACES HF | 30 | 23 | 95 | 4 | WB9WKO |
| WI ARES/RACES VHF | | | | | KA9KJE |
| WI ARES/RACES DIGITAL | 239 | 2035 | 5760 | 4 | KB9MMC |
| totals | | | | | |

P S H R SUMMARY AUG 2024

| POSSIBLE POINTS > | 40 nets | 40 tfc | 30 appt | 5 /hr. sked events | 5 /hr. emrg events | 10ea bbs/ web pg | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | T |
| N9VC | 40 | 40 | 30 | 250 | 0 | 20 | 380 |
| KC9FXE | 40 | 40 | 20 | 25 | 30 | 10 | 165 |
| K9LGU | 40 | 40 | 30 | 45 | 5 | 0 | 160 |
| WB9WKO | 40 | 40 | 30 | 40 | 0 | 0 | 150 |
| AG9G | 40 | 40 | 30 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 135 |
| NX9K | 40 | 40 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| KB9GO | 40 | 40 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 90 |
| KC9UC | 30 | 40 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 90 |

WISCONSIN SECTION
STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY August 2024

| STATION | ORIG | RCVD | SENT | DLVD | ATT | TOTAL |
|---------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----------|
| NX9K | 486 | 119 | 641 | 0 | 0 | 1246 -BPL |
| WB9WKO | 0 | 429 | 317 | 4 | 0 | 750 - BPL |
| N9CK | 0 | 311 | 286 | 0 | 0 | 597 - BPL |
| AG9G | 0 | 300 | 164 | 0 | 0 | 464 |
| KB9GO | 0 | 262 | 104 | 1 | 0 | 367 |
| KC9UC | 0 | 102 | 139 | 0 | 0 | 241 |
| N9VC | 0 | 107 | 46 | 0 | 0 | 153 |
| K9LGU | 0 | 55 | 58 | 1 | 0 | 114 |
| WJ9L | 0 | 42 | 48 | 4 | 1 | 95 |
| KC9FXE | 0 | 18 | 53 | 5 | 0 | 76 |
| KB9ROB | 0 | 47 | 13 | 10 | 0 | 71 |
| KA9BAE | 0 | 21 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 38 |
| W9RTP | 0 | 23 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 29 |
| WB9ICH | 0 | 24 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 26 |
| W9RNA | 0 | 10 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 18 |
| KA9KJE | 2 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 10 |

WNA Meeting Sep. 7, 2024

The quarterly meeting of the Wisconsin Nets Association, Ltd. was called to order by NX9K at 12:19 PM on 7268 KHz. The purpose of the WNA was reviewed.

Roll: Chair: NX9K, Secretary: KB9ROB, Treasurer: N9VC, Members-at-Large: KA9BAE, WB9ICH (WD9FLJ absent) SM: KC9FXE, STM: K9LGU, ASTM: N9VC.

BWN: AG9G – DELEGATE

BEN: NX9K/NM

WSBN: AG9G/NM

WSSN: KB9ROB/NM -

WIN/E: WB9ICH/NM -

WIN/L: K9LGU/DELEGATE -

WARES HF: WB9WKO/NM

WARES VHF: NONE

WARES DIGITAL: NONE

VISITORS: K9AJP, KA9GNG, W9GHT

KB9ROB: Minutes from the meeting of 06-28-24 have been emailed. (K9LGU, AG9G) to approve minutes – Carried.

NX9K, Chair – The next quarterly meeting will be December 7.

Secretary's Report – KB9ROB – No reports since last meeting

N9VC: Treasurer's Report- Balance \$350 has not changed. Filing with the state will be next month. (WB9ICH, AG9G) Motion to accept - Carried.

KC9FXE: Section Manager Report – Jason thanked all those who facilitate the nets and noted that more participation would be appreciated. To those who do check in to help the nets\ please follow net procedures.

K9LGU: Section Traffic Manager Report – The annual Simulated Emergency Test is scheduled for October 5 to test emergency-operating skills and the readiness of our equipment. Watch for announcements and be aware of your local ARES/RACES unit's plans. Because the word “set” has 430 meanings (most of any in the Oxford English Dictionary) please refer to the SET by the acronym S E T – like we do with FBI, CIA, and FCC.

We owe a big debt of gratitude to our net managers, net controls, and liaison stations. They've been able to keep things on schedule even at times with other events taking priority. Trading assignments, helping out, and filling in have kept our nets going even under poor propagation.

Operators who would like to receive the monthly STM Report should send an email to K9LGU@arrl.net and ask to be added to the distribution list.

This year's state ARES/RACES Conference is scheduled in Wisconsin Rapids on November 2. One presentation on the agenda will be about the state of our NTS nets. Registration details will be on the state ARRL website.

Wisconsin Section net 2024 totals as of September 1, 2024, are 21,990 stations; 36,573 pieces of traffic; in 1538 sessions.

Here are three traffic-handling reminders to pass along.

Figures are said individually, so it's “Figures six seven” not “Sixty seven” and “One five” not “Fifteen.” And remember the difference between the figure “zero” and the letter O.

If you're going to **spell** a group in the text of a message, it works like this. *First*, you say the word in the text. Then you say “I spell.” Then you spell it phonetically. Then you continue with the text. Don't forget to say the word first so the receiver knows what you'll be spelling. Don't just start the spelling.

If you use “I say again” to repeat a group in a message text to correct or prevent a mistake, it works similarly. Say the word or group; then say “I say again”; then repeat the group.

N9VC : ASTM Report: Jim offered his position as ASTM to any volunteer. There were none.

N9VC : Digital Report: Jim reported that during the first 8 months of the year the board passed 40,188 messages through. Its monthly average is 5023.5 as an MBO. It runs well although some who have access to it do not use it.

BWN Report – AG9G Delegate – The BWN net manager is K9LUK. The net meets every morning from 5:30 to 7:15 to pick up weather data. A template set by the NWS years ago is followed for each message. It includes a message number, the 24-hour high temperature, low temperature, current temperature, 24-hr precipitation and 24-hr. snowfall and snow depth during winter. Dwight pointed out that net procedures haven't changed. Listening to this net and any net will show newcomers the correct net protocol. Seven NCS operators with KG9B as an alternate keep the net running smoothly. They get relays from stations around the country. The last three months saw 3108 check ins handling 4534 pieces of traffic in 9187 minutes making 92 sessions. Averages are 34 daily check-ins with 49 messages daily in typically 104 minutes daily. Stations and traffic numbers are starting to increase with the change of seasons.

BEN Report – NX9K/NM Kris shared that June-July-August totals showed 913 stations, traffic 884, in 1,495 minutes of those 62 sessions. The grand total from January through August was stations: 2,599, traffic: 2,596 in 4,110 minutes making up 244 sessions. All participants did a great job under some poor conditions.

WSBN Report – AG9G/NM – Conditions are finally improving. Thanks to net controls and liaison stations and those who filled in such as K9STN. Please note that the net may shift to USB if crowded conditions on the band require it. Here are our numbers for the last 3 months. With the band conditions as such the amount of traffic handled stayed similar to the previous 3 months.

The 3 month totals since the last WNA meeting follows:

QNI 1220 13/session

QTC 563 6/session

QTR 1959 min 21 min/session

SESSIONS 92

The propagation is still creating tough conditions for the net but in the last few weeks it appears that conditions have been better and we are seeing a little higher count in checkins. Thanks to all the NCS for keeping the net running efficiently even on the tough nights and for the stations that assist with relays. Thanks to K9LGU and N9VC for handling much of the liaison work to Early WIN.

Again thanks to all the Net Control stations who are doing a great job with the net. Summer brought vacations and other events which required some changes to the normal schedule and I appreciate all who were willing to help out by swapping nights or just covering the open nights.

I appreciate all the stations who take time at 5pm to check into the net. Whether you bring traffic, receive traffic or just check in, you keep the net going. Without your check ins there would be no need for the net and none of the traffic would be handled.

73

Dwight AG9G

WSBN Net Manager

WSSN Report – KB9ROB/NM – This is the first of the daily CW nets each day on 3555KHz. Net controls will slow to any speed of a station checking in. There are openings in 4 of 7 nights for net controls. Volunteers needed. August had 148 check-ins passing 48 pieces of traffic in 356 minutes. Messages passed here are both local and thru traffic which goes to WIN.

WIN/E Report – WB9ICH/NM – Larry showed WIN/E has total Avg 144 check-ins (8 per night) Traffic is usually about 244/mo. That averages to 3 or 4 / session. 294 min in a month yields 5-6 minutes per session. Net is doing well. Liaisons could use some relief. Net reports may occasionally be routed via WIN/L.

WIN/L Report – W9RTP/NM- Report via K9LGU Delegate indicated that Late WIN continues to provide the route for incoming traffic from 9RN/L to the BEN the next day. Typically, five or six stations check in. As the season changes, it may be necessary to shift to 1.805 MHz. at times. Net is doing okay.

ARES/RACES HF Net – WB9WKO/NM – Ron reminded all that the net meets each Sunday at 8 am on 3967. ECs, DECs, and ARES members discuss current issues and offer some practice handling traffic. August saw some lower numbers during the summer with 42 checkins, 43 pieces of traffic, in 95 minutes of 4 Sundays. That brings the yearly totals to 462 checkins, 129 messages, in 1,007 min in 33 meetings.

ARES/RACES VHF Net – NO REPORT

WARES/RACES DIGITAL Net – NO REPORT

OLD BUSINESS – NONE

NEW BUSINESS – Election of Officers -

Motion to open nominations (AG9G, K9LGU) – Carried. The following members were nominated: Chair NX9K; Secretary KB9ROB ; Treasurer N9VC; Members at Large WB9ICH, KA9BAE, WD9FLJ

Motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for the slate offered (N9VC, AG9G) Carried.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn (KC9FXE, AG9G) Carried. Meeting closed at 1:04 PM.