

Fort Wayne Hamfest Gang



Left to Right: KG9O, N8NPW, WD9AIH, KD8PAZ, KB9VF, WD8ANZ, WB8M



Left to Right: Bob - WA9SHG, Phil - W9PMA, & Joe - K8JMM



Left to Right: Madison & Charlie - WD9IQV, George - N8NPW, and Minnie—KD8PAZ

What a good looking group. Maybe we can get a larger group together at Dayton later this year. I think Helen and I are going to make it there this year. Thanks for the pictures! 73, Rick (WØPC)

Inside this issue:

Fort Wayne Hamfest	1
Net Preamble & Closing	2
January Net Schedule	3
Bigger Signal - WAØQQD	3
QSO-King 160-6 Antenna	4
February Net Schedule	5
QSO-King Web site	5
DX Net Resumes - DF4IZ	6
March Net Schedule	7
K8DSS - Revised Fla. Shack	7
FCC Proposed Changes	8
April Net Schedule	9
KB9VF's Powerhouse	10



The GM Nets meet daily Monday through Saturday on 7.277.5 MHz at 18:00Z and Tuesdays on 14.277 +/- QRM at 16:15Z

Would you like to help out
with Net Control Duties?
Contact our Net Manager
George, KB9VF
kb9vf@Comcast.net

Net Preamble & Closing



Net Preamble

This is (your call), today's net control. This net is composed of employees and retirees of the General Motors Corporation .

This net meets daily on this frequency for the purpose of getting better acquainted, expanding our knowledge, and improving our operating techniques. We promote friendship among participants in many locations who have many talents and have or have had a variety of work assignments. The General Motors nets are international in scope on some bands, and visitors are always welcome to check in. Please stay carefully tuned to net control at all times. This is (your call) (working for or retired from) (your) Division in (your city), (state). My home QTH is (where you live). My name is (your name) and we will now take check-ins, one at a time, please.

Net Control Stations:

George, KB9VF
Rick, WØPC
Verle, K8VW
Bill, WB9YUR
Denny, N8XLS
Bill, WD9AIH
Phil, W9MPA
Bob, K8MPV
George, N8NPW
David, ABØHU
Charlie, WD9IQV
Fred, WD8ADG
Ed, K8DSS
Chuck, WA8IHI
Wally, WB8M
Walter, DF4IZ

Net Closing

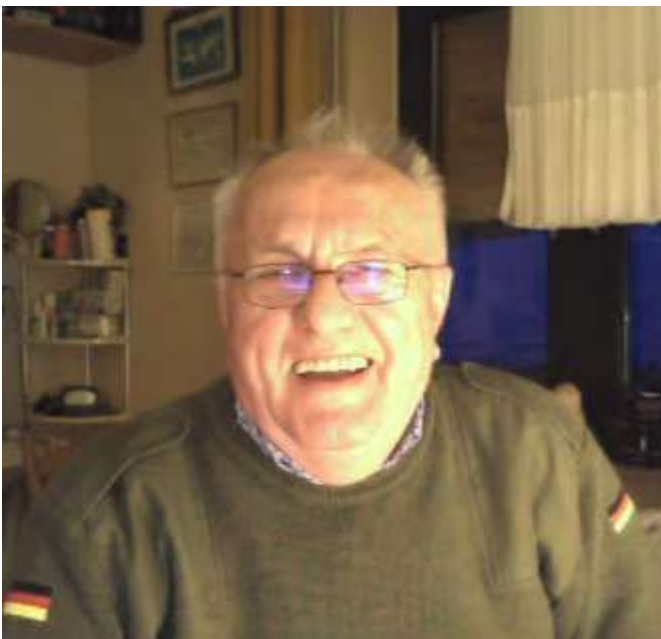
Are there any late check-ins for the net? (pause for late check-ins). Is there any further business for the net? (pause for any further business) Having no further business, we will close the net at this time. This net is composed of General Motors employees, retirees, and visitors. We meet each day, Monday through Saturday, on or about this frequency, at (1700z or **1800z**). Thank you for your participation and please return often. This is (your call) now closing the net. 73 and Good Afternoon.

**Turn on the radio and tune us in. We are on 40-meters
Join us on or about 7.277.5 MHz at 18:00Z**

Net Control Schedule

January 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Notes: DX Net, 1615Z, 14.277 +/- QRM: Walter, DF1IZ Net Control		1 W9PMA - Phil, DF4IZ - Walter	2 N8XLS - Denny	3 ABØHU - David	4 WD9IQV - Charlie	5 WA8IHI - Chuck
6	7 WD9IQV - Charlie	8 KB9VF - Geo, DF4IZ - Walter	9 WD9AIH - Bill	10 K8MPV - Bob	11 K8VW - Verle	12 WB9YUR - Bill
13	14 N8NPW - Geo	15 W9PMA - Phil, DF4IZ - Walter	16 N8XLS - Denny	17 ABØHU - David	18 WD9IQV - Charlie	19 WA8IHI - Chuck
20	21 K8VW - Verle	22 WD8ADG - Fred, DF4IZ - Walter	23 KB9VF - Geo	24 WD9AIH - Bill	25 WØPC - Rick	26 K8MPV - Bob
27	28 WB9YUR - Bill	29 N8NPW - Geo, DF4IZ - Walter	30 W9PMA - Phil	31 N8XLS - Denny	Notes:	



Our DX Net is now in full swing. Walter, DF4IZ is our net control station. He put in a pretty good signal from Steinwenden, Germany. (14.277 +/- QRM @ 16:15Z Tuesdays)



Bigger Signal from John - WAØQQD

It seems to me (WØPC), that every time my neighbor John checks into the net, he gets better signal reports than I do. We both have similar Icom transceivers and Ameritron amplifiers. I live in the country and have my fan dipole stretched out in a flat top configuration and John lives in the city on a small lot. His antenna snakes around his back yard. My signal with my amplifier on is about what John's is running barefoot. So... What's the Trick? If I didn't know him so well, I'd say he was kidding about not running his amp. I went over to his house to find out what his secret weapon was.

John is retired from Boeing where he did the electrical wiring on fighter jets from the F4s thru the F18s. His wiring jobs are really a work of art. He makes all his own interface cables that look just like store

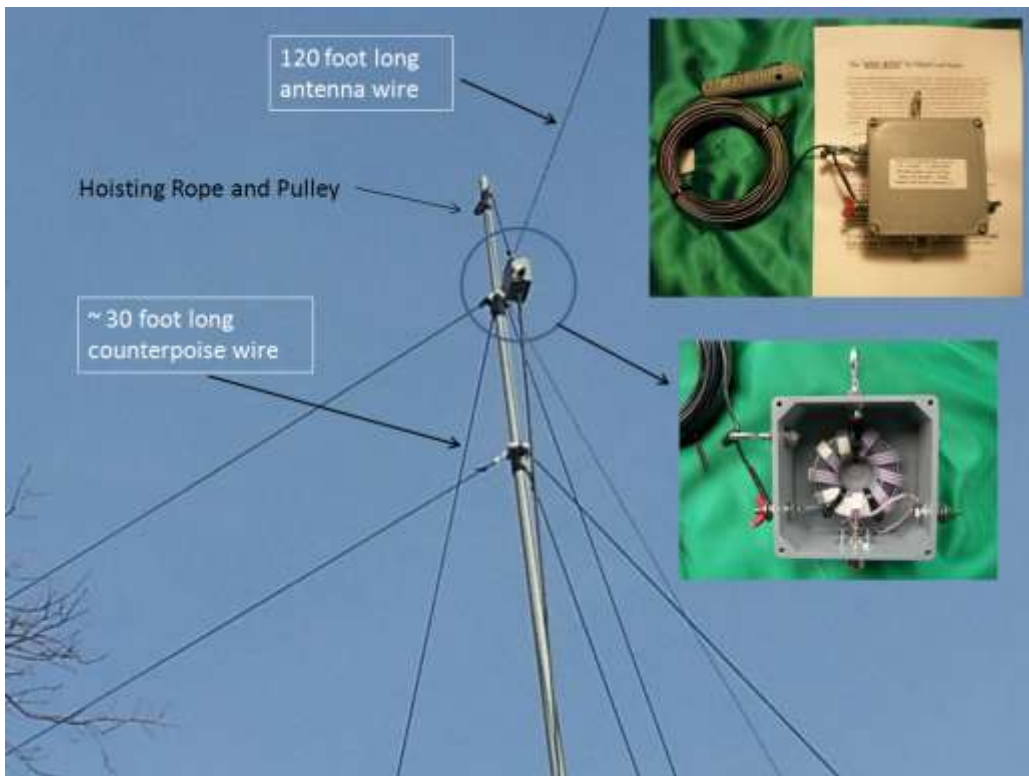
bought commercial parts. You know, some people are talkers and others are doers. Well, John is a doer. He gets an idea and makes it work.



With John's help, I got some pictures of his antenna system and support along with the web sites for parts and information. I may have to build one of these for myself. John and I both are active on all the HF bands including VHF and UHF. His station work's them all.

Antenna: QSO-King 160-6 Meters

Support: 38' fiberglass telescoping pole from: Maximum Gain Systems, Inc.



John Reed, Jr.
WA0QQD
O'Fallon, MO
Licensed and
active for ~50
years

Net Control Schedule

February 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Notes: DX Net, 1615Z, 14.277 +/- QRM: Walter, DF1IZ Net Control					1 ABØHU - David	2 WØPC- Rick
3	4 WA8IHI - Chuck	5 WD8ADG - Fred, DF4IZ - Walter	6 WØPC- Rick	7 KB9VF - Geo	8 WD9AIH - Bill	9 K8MPV - Bob
10	11 WB9YUR - Bill, DF4IZ - Walter	12 K8VW - Verle	13 N8NPW - Geo	14 W9PMA - Phil	15 N8XLS - Denny	16 ABØHU - David
17	18 WØPC- Rick	19 WA8IHI - Chuck, DF4IZ - Walter	20 WD8ADG - Fred	21 WØPC- Rick	22 KB9VF - Geo	23 WD9AIH - Bill
24	25 K8MPV - Bob	26 K8VW - Verle, DF4IZ - Walter	27 WB9YUR - Bill	28 N8NPW - Geo	Notes:	

The “QSO-King” antenna is made in Missouri and can be found on ebay at:

http://www.ebay.com/itm/QSO-KING-160-6-meters-1-5-KW-end-fed-ham-antenna-/170935174374?pt=US_Radio_Comm_Antennas&hash=item27cc87c4e6

The easy way to find it is to do a Google search for “QSO King Antenna”. The search took me right to the location where you can select between 3 different sizes of antennas from QSO-King.

This fiberglass multi-section slip-up mast is a one man operation once the guylines have been set. Just flip up the lock tab and the sections come down easily. It's suggested to mark a line to prevent over extending the section during extension. The manufacturer makes several different size mast combinations along with the guying rings. (MGS) Max-Gain Systems, Inc. web site is:

<http://www.mgs4u.com/fiberglass-push-up-mast.htm>

John uses a 4" x 4" post in cement to be the base support. To make things easy to work on, John custom made a pivoting base for the Fiberglass mast. You can

see a couple of clamps higher on the post to hold the mast upright before you would extend the slip-up.

"e-Ham.net" (<http://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/7536>) reviews gives Max-Gain Systems, Inc. 5/5 rating.

MFJ also sells a fiberglass push up mast. Our local ARES Rapid Response Team has used the MFJ model. Maybe we didn't guy it correctly... but it broke. We switched to the MGS mast and haven't had any problems. They do bend like a long fishing pole until you get the guylines positioned and secured.



**Aluminum Mounting Plate
Pivots in the Center**



Guy Rings can be used with either a 3 or 4 direction guying method.

Net Control Schedule

Jan. 2013

March 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Notes: DX Net, 1615Z, 14.277 +/- QRM: Walter, DF1IZ Net Control					1 W9PMA - Phil	2 N8XLS - Denny
3	4 ABØHU - David	5 WD9IQV - Charlie, DF4IZ - Walter	6 WA8IHI - Chuck	7 WD8ADG - Fred	8 WØPC- Rick	9 KB9VF - Geo
10	11 WD9AIH - Bill	12 K8MPV - Bob, DF4IZ - Walter	13 K8VW - Verle	14 WB9YUR - Bill	15 N8NPW - Geo	16 W9PMA - Phil
17	18 N8XLS - Denny	19 ABØHU - David, DF4IZ - Walter	20 WD9IQV - Charlie	21 WA8IHI - Chuck	22 WØPC- Rick	23 WD8ADG - Fred
24	25 KB9VF - Geo	26 WD9AIH - Bill, DF4IZ - Walter	27 K8MPV - Bob	28 K8VW - Verle	29 WB9YUR - Bill	30 N8NPW - Geo

Attached is a pic of the shack here in Florida. It fits in an office armoire in the den, so it meets the requirements of the "boss". Beside the monitor is my new/old TS440, K1EL Winkeyer USB, ClearSpeech DSP filter and a MFJ 941E antenna tuner. The mic next to the monitor is the one I use with the remote and the one below is a new Heil HM-12 and it is hooked to the TS-440. **The new addition is the KX3 QRP rig to the left of the monitor.**

The stealth antenna system is a 20M end-fed halfwave (which works fine on 40M with a 33 ft. counterpoise) and a W3EDP all band long wire, fed with a 9:1 unun and a 17 ft. counterpoise. The latter antenna runs along the eave and then lies on top of the roof tiles, but it works surprisingly well. 73, Ed - K8DSS



ARRL Files Petition for Rulemaking with FCC to Create New MF Band at 472-479 kHz:

ARRL Files Petition for Rulemaking to Create New MF Band at 472-479 kHz:
from The ARRL Letter on December 13, 2012
Website: <http://www.arrl.org/>

http://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/spectrum_wall_chart_aug2011.pdf

At the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12), delegates approved a means of satisfying Agenda Item 1.23: a 7-kilohertz-wide secondary allocation between 472-479 kHz for the Amateur Radio Service, with a power limit of 5 W EIRP (or 1 W EIRP, depending on location). Before this portion of spectrum is made available to radio amateurs in the US, the FCC must first approve its use and amend its rules to reflect the change. As such, the ARRL filed a Petition for Rulemaking on November 29, asking the FCC to amend Parts 2 and 97 of its rules and create a domestic Amateur Radio allocation at 472-479 kHz, conforming to the allocation status and limitations set forth in the international Radio Regulations. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-files-petition-for-rulemaking-with-fcc-to-create-new-mf-band-at-472-479-khz>.

FCC Seeks Comments on Proposed Changes to Amateur Licensing Rules

In October, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) -- WT Docket No. 12-283 -- proposing to amend the Part 97 rules governing the Amateur Radio Service. Specifically, the Commission is proposing to modify the Amateur Radio Service rules to **grant examination credit for expired and beyond-the-grace-period-for-renewal Amateur Radio operator licenses; to shorten the grace period during which an expired amateur license may be renewed; to revise the time a call sign is not available to the vanity call sign system correspondingly, and to reduce the number of volunteer examiners needed to administer an amateur license examination.** The NPRM also asks for comment on amending the rules to permit remote test administration.

Editors Comment: WØPC

I think these proposed changes are a very good thing for amateur radio. From a VE standpoint, if you test a person who has an expired Technician license that was issued prior to March 1987, once they pass the Tech exam, they are grandfathered into a General license. If my license were to laps, I would have to take all amateur exam over because I never held a Technician or General license. The change would allow people to re-enter the hobby after their life settles down and they now have time.

Net Control Schedule

April 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Notes:	1 W9PMA - Phil	2 N8XLS - Denny, DF4IZ - Walter	3 ABØHU - David	4 WD9IQV - Charlie	5 WA8IHI - Chuck	6 WD8ADG - Fred
7	8 WØPC- Rick	9 KB9VF - Geo, DF4IZ - Walter	10 WD9AIH - Bill	11 K8MPV - Bob	12 K8VW - Verle	13 WB9YUR - Bill
14	15 N8NPW - Geo	16 W9PMA - Phil, DF4IZ - Walter	17 N8XLS - Denny	18 ABØHU - David	19 WD9IQV - Charlie	20 WA8IHI - Chuck
21	22 WØPC- Rick, DF4IZ - Walter	23 WD8ADG - Fred	24 KB9VF - Geo	25 WD9AIH - Bill	26 K8MPV - Bob	27 K8VW - Verle
28	29 WB9YUR - Bill	30 N8NPW - Geo, DF4IZ - Walter	Notes: DX Net, 1615Z, 14.277 +/- QRM: Walter, DF1IZ Net Control			



Outhouse Race - Lake of the Ozarks & Trophy Winner

George King, KB9VF's Powerhouse Station in Alexandria, IN



George sitting in front of his Re-manufactured Kenwood TL-922 Kibble and Bits warmer



Here are some pictures of my tower and antenna. The tower is cranked up to about 42 ft. It's not all the way up, as you can see, by the loop in the coax. Max height is 52 ft.

The tower is a Telex-Hygain "HG52SS crank-up". This is Jim Jackson's old tower.