

# The Feedline



Spring, 2014

The Feedline

## Special points of interest:

- ARRL Field Day tests the emergency readiness of hams.
- Operations span two days utilizing many modes.
- Operation from EMA minimizes setup time but can fully test emergency capabilities.

## Field Day plans near completion

The Cass County Amateur Radio Club's ARRL Field Day Chairman has announced that plans are progressing for the 2014 Field Day exercise. Chairman Marion Bell, KA9BYN, believes that final work will be completed on time.

The Field Day location remains the same as in recent years, the EMA facility located on SR 17 just north of Logansport, the same location as the club's monthly meetings.

The CCARC members will operate as Class 2F with stations planned on 80, 40, 20, 6, and 2 meters, although not all at the same time. This will include the Get On The Air (GOTA) station and operations using SSB, PSK, and FM modes.

Setup will start around 2 PM on



Friday. Marion says a lot of help is needed for both the setup and take-down on Sunday.

With the local event held at the permanent EMA building, antennas and equipment may be in place ahead of time and other preparations completed as well.

ARRL Field Day is June 28, and 29.

## Inside this issue:

Broadcast radio - gone to the dogs	2
TEN-TEC, Alpha Amps merge	2
WWV returns briefly to 25 MHz	2
FCC rules on odd AM station app.	3
CCARC member roster	4
Dots and Dashes	6

## Carry-in meal Saturday evening set

The CCARC's Field Day tradition of the Saturday evening carry-in meal at the Field Day location continues this year. For the CCARC members Field Day goes beyond operating stations in a simulated emergency situation. It includes a social activity as well.

Supported by donations from area

merchants, family members as well as club members are welcome.

Field Day Chair, Marion Bell, KA9BYN, says plan to gather around 5PM Saturday evening. Coordination of the event is assisted by CCARC member Rae Ervin, N9YFW. Members are invited to ring a covered dish.

## It's official - Broadcast Radio has gone to the dogs

Look up K9FM in QRZ.com, and you'll find a ham in Texas. But in New Zealand, K9FM means something entirely different.

Auckland, New Zealand, is now home to a low-power FM station that has a unique target audience - local dogs that have been left at home alone and might be feeling, well, lonely. K9FM offers dog-centered programming ranging from relaxing classical music to talk shows. Shows include, "Fetch in the Park," and "Meditation with Vet Joanna." There are talk shows to hear a panel of experts discuss hot topics like, "When is a stick not a stick." There is



also a thought for the day inserted in the programming called, "Chew on this."

Jess Allsop, canine behavior consultant says dogs can focus on words they recognize and be calmed by the station's music. She said the station will really be dog friendly. Now, she says, when dogs listen to radio, they listen to programs targeted to humans.

Although the low power broadcast signal only covers part of Auckland it is on the Internet at

[www.pedigreek9fm.com](http://www.pedigreek9fm.com)

and broadcasts 24 hours a day.

*(info from [www.stuff.co.nz](http://www.stuff.co.nz))*

**"The new company offers products from QRP to full power amps."**

## TEN-TEC, Alpha Amplifiers merge

TEN-TEC of Sevierville, Tennessee, maker of amateur radio products since 1968, has merged with RF Concepts LLC / Alpha Amplifiers of Longmont, California, creating a multi-million dollar company with products ranging from QRP transceivers to full legal limit amplifiers. The new company will operate as RF Concepts.

The merger was announced by Michael Seedman, AA6DY, who said, "The

merger of these brands makes perfect sense." He added it not only creates a "powerful product line" but positions the new company for the future.

RF Concepts will continue operations in both California and Tennessee, but is seeking a new facility in Tennessee that can more efficiently house operations, engineering resources, technical and customer support services.

*(TEN-TEC press release)*

## WWV returns to 25 MHz for a short time

WWV briefly put the time broadcast station's 25 MHz transmitter back on the air last April. The Ft. Collins, CO, station had last broadcast on that frequency in 1977.

Matt Deutch, N0RGT, lead engineer at WWV, responded to an email from an Illinois amateur, Dean Lewis, W9WGV, who said he relied on the WWV signals as propagation beacons and missed the 25 MHz signal,



which would let him know that 10 meters was open.

Deutch responded by firing up the old transmitter for a series of test transmissions, and received reception

reports from as far away as Scotland.

It is unknown whether 25 MHz transmissions will be repeated again.

*(from CQ Newsroom)*

## FCC rules on unusual AM station request

The 640 KHz frequency in Terre Haute has been unused for many years. Birch Broadcasting Corp. won an FCC auction giving it the right to seek a Construction Permit putting a station on the air on that frequency.

But Birch wanted a variation. Instead of building a station and antenna system and keeping the 640 KHz frequency alive in Terre Haute, it asked the FCC to allow a move to Peotone, Illinois, increase power, and operate full time with a four-tower array.

The FCC accepted Birch's argument that not putting the station on the air in Terre Haute would not affect the pro-

gramming variety in the area since no station was on the air currently on 640, and the area remains served by several stations. The FCC also accepted the claim that a new station in Peotone would provide local service where none now exists.

Objections, all rejected, were filed claiming Terre Haute would be underserved, or that the real reason for the move was to provide another signal toward Chicago.

As part of the agreement, the Barach station operating on 640 in Zeeland, Michigan will go silent.



## Sunspot minimum near

Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, *CQ Plus* Propagation Editor, has said that we may be entering a "grand solar minimum" or an extended period of low sunspot activity. But he added that this may not be another "Maunder minimum," a 70-year period of few to no sunspots as happened in the late 17th and early 18th centuries.

He said "something changed inside the sun" and weak cycles may lie ahead.

## Canada gets 630 meters

Canada has opened 472-479 kHz for general amateur use, allowing hams access for the first time. An experimental license had been granted to the Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland for testing.

Radio Amateurs of Canada says this is a secondary allocation with a maximum of 5 watts EIRP. US hams don't yet have full access to these frequencies.

*(from CQ Newsroom)*

**"US hams do not have full access to 630. A petition to grant it is pending."**

## Petition for expanded RFID use on 70cm pulled

The FCC has dismissed without prejudice a Petition for Rule Making by Lockheed Martin that would have amended the Commission's Part 15 rules to expand deployment of the company's radio frequency identification (RFID) system in the 433 MHz band (433.5-434.5 MHz). Lockheed Martin sold its RFID business 2 years ago, but the company only this month requested that the Petition be withdrawn and the proceeding terminated.

The ARRL strongly opposed the peti-

tion saying granting it would "undo virtually all of the few interference protections" previously granted by the Commission.

The petition would have expanded the frequency range of RFID tags to 433.05 - 434.79 MHz, required listen-before-transmit protocols to avoid interference to Amateur Radio, dropped a registration requirement, and dropped rules prohibiting use outside "commercial or industrial areas."

*(via ARRL Bulletin)*

# Cass County Amateur Radio Club

## Membership roster

### Spring, 2014

<b>Call</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Expires</b>	<b>ARRL?</b>
K9DVL	David Rothermel	12/1/2014	N
K9HFC	Harry Burkhart	12/1/2099	N
K9MCI	Butch Williams	3/1/2015	Y
K9PSR	Ed Norris	8/1/2014	N
KA9BYN	Marion Bell, Jr.	12/1/2099	Y
KA9UOI	Joseph Martin	7/1/2014	N
KB9SIR	John Boughton	10/1/2014	N
KB9VMW	Thomas Denton	10/1/2014	Y
KB9WSL	Tom Murray	8/1/2014	Y
KC9CRP	Mark Babb	12/1/2099	N
KC9IDO	Anna Hendrickson	11/1/2015	Y
KC9JFU	Marisa Hendrickson	11/1/2015	N
KC9KLL	Fred Schumacher	5/1/2015	Y
KC9MVQ	John Flint	3/1/2015	Y
KC9QDN	Tom Schwartz	3/1/2015	N
KC9ZYS	Jim Carey	9/21/2014	Y
KU9F	Woodrow Hammon	10/19/2014	N
KV9N	Dan McDonald	11/1/2016	Y
N8XVE	John Mucker	10/1/2015	Y

A "Paid To" date ending in "99" indicates a Life Member.

# Cass County Amateur Radio Club

## Membership roster

### Spring, 2014

<b>Call</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Expires</b>	<b>ARRL?</b>
N9KQG	Gary Donaldson	10/1/2014	N
N9LMC	Michael Laird	8/1/2015	Y
N9OJA	Skip Perry	12/1/2016	Y
N9OJC	John Timmons	1/1/2015	Y
N9ONJ	Glenn Gaddis III	10/1/2014	Y
N9PMW	Chuck Hendrickson	11/1/2015	Y
N9WCQ	David Wandrei	7/1/2014	N
N9YJT	Tommy Werst	12/1/2099	Y
N9ZBU	Sue Norris	8/1/2014	N
N9ZMW	Charlene Henderson	12/1/2014	N
W9ALT	Walter Downham	12/1/2099	N
W9HST	Chuck Mays	12/1/2099	N
W9LVY	Phil Snider	12/1/2014	Y
W9TWH	Tom Hartoin	10/1/2014	Y
W9VP	Bill Pickart	10/1/2014	Y
WA9HMN	John Norris	8/1/2014	Y
WB9OKR	George Voltz	9/1/2014	N
WZ9Z	Mike Flinn	1/1/2015	Y

A "Paid To" date ending in "99" indicates a Life Member.



Newsletter of the  
Cass County Amateur Radio Club

Cass County  
Amateur Radio Club  
P. O. Box 1092  
Logansport, IN 46947

Phone: 574.722.2102

E-mail:  
ccarcinc@culcom.net



[www.w9vmw.org](http://www.w9vmw.org)

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.

## 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. R. F. Burns

**Club Caterer:** Art E. Choke

## Dots and Dashes

### 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.