

SPARKS

Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-State Amateur Radio Society

Serving the Tri-State since 1947

February 2025 – Vol. LXXVIII, No. 2



The SPARKS Newsletter is published monthly by the Tri-State Amateur Radio Society as a source of information about Club activities, and general news items of interest to the Amateur Radio community.

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Complimentary issues of the SPARKS Newsletter are available to amateur radio clubs on a newsletter exchange by e-mailing your request to sparks.w9og@gmail.com.

E-mail subscriptions are provided to all regular TARS members.

News contributions and letters/emails to the editor are always welcome.

TARS regular membership is open to all licensed Amateur Radio operators for \$25.00 a year. An Associate membership is also available to those who are interested in Amateur Radio but do not currently hold a license.

Associate membership is \$25.00 a year. Student memberships are also available for \$12.50 a year.

Membership information is available at www.w9og.net

The Tri-State Amateur Radio Society meets the second Thursday of each month at the Red Cross, 29 Stockwell Rd, Evansville IN, at 7:00 p.m.

Family and visitors are always welcome to attend.

For more information, please contact one of the TARS officers listed in this newsletter or email info@w9og.net.

Presidents Corner

February 2025

Last month I overstated/miscalculated the percentage of Amateur Radio operators in the world. It is not 40%, however, it is considered a very reliable figure that there are about 3 million active amateur radio operators on this planet with 10 of them orbiting us.

I just attended one of the best Winter Field Days I've seen TARS have. It was attended by almost 30 people throughout the day. We filled the heated shelter we were in. We had plenty of help with setup and take down. The food was outstanding. The bands were cooperating and we had a lot of fun. Thank you everyone who was involved.

I'm looking forward to our Annual Banquet this year! We are having it at Golden Corral again and this year we got a discount! We have this Banquet instead of a meeting every year to recognize each other and enjoy a meal. Please join us and bring your spouse. I'm sure there will be more information on it in this newsletter.

Our March meeting will be a 10 meter antenna build. The board decided to do a 10 meter antenna build to help facilitate a 10 meter net again like we did the year TARS turned 75 years old. The second reason 10 meters was chosen, is to help some of our technicians enjoy HF while the sunspot cycle is at a high. However, all of us will need this antenna to help us talk to each other locally on 10 meters.

If you have an idea for the club, please reach out to me. We are always looking for ways to improve and always looking for fun things to do and learn about.

Oh! I'm going to start a monthly foxhunt in February on 2m!! I'll announce it at the Banquet and I'll include the rules and such in this newsletter so you can get ready! I'll be the first Fox and my hope is that Jerry WB9ONU is the last to find me. :)

Scott Hibbs KD4SIR
President TARS 2023-25

It's time to renew your dues

A 2025 membership form is included with this mailing of SPARKS. You may mail the form with your due's payment to the address on the form, or bring it to the meeting.

Please fill out the form as it lets us update our records and make sure your information is correct.

Once again, we would like to list a membership roster in the March issue of SPARKS, so get your dues in A.S.A.P. THANKS!

February Meeting - Banquet

The February 13th meeting will be our annual banquet, to be held at Golden Corral, 130 Cross Pointe Blvd, Evansville.

TARS has the meeting room reserved to start at 5:30 pm.

This will be dutch treat, so just pay as you enter as usual and come to the meeting room to join us.

Mark KDOEE just reconfirmed that date/time with them and also negotiated with the manager a lower price. We get the buffet for **\$13.99, which is a discount from the regular price of \$16.99.**

You WILL have to tell them you are with TARS to get the discount when you pay, however.

If you want a drink other than water, it will be an additional \$2.99. Hope to see you all there.

The Contest Corner

By Mark Holland [KDOEE](#)

Contest Corner for February

Things start to wake up in February! With increased daylight in the northern hemisphere, band openings should last a little longer on the higher HF bands. At the same time, longer periods of daylight will mean less dx opportunities on the low bands. Still, excellent propagation is expected on all HF bands.

There are several QSO parties for those who enjoy them. Vermont and Minnesota are Feb. 1, South Carolina is Feb. 22, and North Carolina is Feb. 23. Please note that these are starting dates. Most last through the weekend. Also, you may enjoy the ARRL School Roundup which is a 5-day event Feb. 10-14. Help the youngsters enjoy the miracle of Amateur Radio.

The larger Worldwide events are: CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest Feb. 8-9; ARRL DX CW Contest Feb. 15-16 (the SSB side will be March 1-2); and the CQ 160-Meter SSB Contest Feb. 21-23. Be sure and check the starting times and rules before you operate.

As you can see, there is something for everyone. Enjoy!
Mark KDOEE

As always, if you want to see what contests are coming up check out <https://www.contestcalendar.com/fivewkcal.html>.

Beyond the Baofeng

By Chris Lantaff [KE9YK](#)

Antennas, Antennas and MORE on Antennas

A great go to for antenna information is **DXCommander**. Callum, M0MCX - inventor and owner of DX Commander covers everything you could ever imagine in his videos and on his blog, but he is wicked smart and able to present his ideas in an understandable fashion.

I could binge watch for days and never get enough.

<http://www.youtube.com/@DXCommanderHQ>

<https://www.m0mcx.co.uk/>

<https://www.m0mcx.co.uk/new-website/>

TARS Calendar

February

- 5 8pm Tri-State Emergency Net (Walt, WB4ZUT)
- 6 **TARS Board meeting 6:30 (ZOOM)**
- 12 8pm Tri-State Emergency Net (Herb, KB9MZH)
- 13 *** TARS Club Meeting 5:30 Golden Corral ***
- 19 Tri-State Emergency Net (Mark, KC9TYA)
- 22 **VE Testing 9am Red Cross**
- 26 Tri-State Emergency Net (Chris, KE9YK)

March

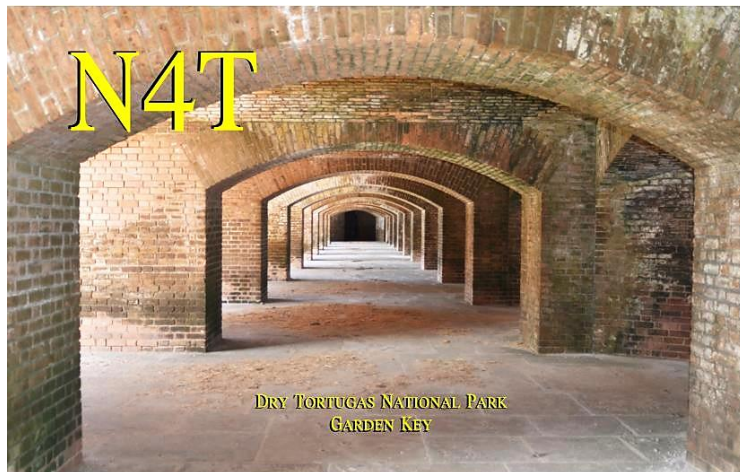
- 5 8pm Tri-State Emergency Net (Jerry, WB9ONU)
- 6 **TARS Board meeting 6:30 (ZOOM)**
- 12 8pm Tri-State Emergency Net (Dave, KC9UVG)
- 13 **TARS Club Meeting 7:00pm Red Cross**
- 19 8pm Tri-State Emergency Net (Terry, WB9KQF)
- 26 8pm Tri-State Emergency Net (Walt, WB4ZUT)

[Connect to the TARS Google Calendar](#)

Dry Tortugas National Park DXpedition

By Brian Esche [WB9QVR](#)

As some of you may be aware, I will be part of a DXpedition team heading to Dry Tortugas National Park in February. For those of you who may not be familiar with Dry Tortugas (which is probably most everyone since few people have ever heard of this park :)), here is some background info:



Dry Tortugas National Park is in the Gulf of Mexico about 70 miles due west of Key West. Nearly all of the park is actually underwater with just a few very small islands. We'll primarily be operating from Garden Key (lat/long 24.62895 / -82.87337) which is the home of historic Fort Jefferson. Our stations will be set up on the North Coaling Dock adjacent to the fort. We will also activate Loggerhead Key which is about three miles further west of Garden Key. Oh, and regarding the name of the park – it was named Las Tortugas (the turtles) by the Spanish explorers who discovered the area. It was later changed to Dry Tortugas by

British sailors to indicate that there is no source of fresh water on any of the islands. There are lots of sources on the internet which can provide very detailed information about this historic area so I won't bore you by copying and pasting that info here. However, if you're a history buff I encourage you to do a Google search for Dry Tortugas and/or Fort Jefferson and you'll find plenty of interesting facts about the park.

For the activation itself – we will be operating as N4T on nearly all the HF bands running SSB, CW and data (I'm not totally sure of the digital modes at this point). I will also be taking my Kenwood TH-D72 HT and an Arrow Antennas 146/437-10 Yagi to make some satellite contacts (concentrating on the ISS and SO-50). Since we will not have cell phone or internet service, we will be using Winlink over HF to send out daily updates. Being a set of islands within the park which contain lighthouses, these activations will count as multiple entities. A list is below. If you participate in any of these programs, I strongly encourage you to try to work us as all of these entities are very rare and some may be being activated for the first time.

POTA: US-0023

WWFF: KFF-0023

County: Monroe (FL)

US Islands: FL013S (Garden Key) FL470S (Loggerhead Key)

IOTA: NA079 (Garden Key) NA062 (Loggerhead Key)

WLOTA: 0274 (Loggerhead Key)

Grid Square: EL84np

ARLHS USA-316 (Garden Key) USA-236 (Loggerhead Key)

In addition to operating, I plan to explore both Garden Key/Fort Jefferson and Loggerhead Key very thoroughly – including snorkeling the area around Garden Key which is listed as the number 3 coral reef in the world. I'll be taking LOTS of video of the entire week-long adventure and will post edited highlights on my YouTube channel ("The World Beyond 7.121") when I return. Being 70 miles from civilization, I'm also looking forward to capturing some spectacular nighttime sky photos from our campsite on Garden Key.

More details about our adventure (including the schedule and info about the team members) can be found at the links below. You may need to be logged in to QRZ.com to be able to see the info on the N4T page.

<https://www.qrz.com/db/N4T>

<https://www.drytortugas.info/>

73 de WB9QVR

WANTED - WANTED - WANTED

The Antenna Committee is getting lazy and fat.

If you need help with your shack or an antenna install, please reach out to Scott, KD4SIR @ scotthibbs@gmail.com or Jerry, WB9ONU @ wb9onu@hotmail.com or speak up at a meeting. A dozen or so hams are ready and waiting to help.

NEW! TARS Monthly Fox Hunt

Overview:

A Fox Hunt is a radio locating event for the enjoyment and training of amateur radio operators to learn, refine, and use direction finding skills. These skills can be used to

- locate downed aircraft using emergency beacons (121.500 MHz for civilian and 243.000 for military aircraft),
- locating illegal, interfering or jamming to amateur radio, public safety or commercial radio services
- and also aid in finding lost or injured persons. Fox Hunts promote the advancement of radio direction finding skills, testing of equipment, teamwork and learn our local areas.

Rules:

The hunt will be on the third or fourth Saturday every month determined by the fox. The hunt will begin at 1PM and end when all the hounds have found the fox or until 2:30PM. We will meet at a restaurant the fox has picked at 3PM for anyone wanting to attend. A stuffed fox named "TARSan" will be given to the first hound if they are willing to be the next fox. A picture should be taken with "TARSan", the fox and winning hound for submission in SPARKS.



For the Fox:

- Use a Baofeng or other 5 Watt HT with a rubber duck antenna on 145.300 simplex. This is the national Amateur Radio Direction Finding frequency.
- Be prepared, you may need a backup ht or battery packs.
- Transmit inside or outside a vehicle that is parked. You may alternate inside or next to the vehicle.
- Your location must be within Vanderburgh County in a SAFE, publicly accessible parking space.
- The fox will start transmitting at 1pm and at every 5 minute intervals on the clock face. (1:05, 1:10, 1:15 etc). The fox must transmit for at least 1 minute and ID.
- A Fox may give hints or riddles to the location to help stragglers but they can't be dishonest.

- If you need something to talk about, make up a story about “TARSan”.
- If your location becomes unsafe or you are asked to leave, stop the hunt, notify the hounds of the situation. QSY to the TARS 79 Repeater System and take time to find a new location nearby to restart the hunt again on simplex.

For the Hounds:

- Remember to observe and respect all rules like amateur radio regulations, traffic laws, private property laws, and the spirit of the rules of the fox hunt and be a good sport with others.
- If the fox needs to relocate, please stop moving. QSY to the TARS 79 Repeater System to be informed of when to restart on simplex.
- Work as a team with other hounds and invite non-licensed persons. Remember radio direction finding is a group activation in real life. Don't be too serious, keep it fun.
- Remember the fox may alternate transmitting inside or outside their car with the HT. The signal strength can be different.
- After you find the fox, announce to everyone you found the fox, ID and then stay off the radio so others can continue.
- The winner will be the new fox for next time. Take a picture for Sparks.

BITS of Interest



We proudly confirm a robust international DXpedition to Galapagos Islands in 2025. HD8G will be on the air from April 18th to April 26th. There will be 22 ham ops from Ecuador, Brazil, India, Serbia and Russia managing 8 stations in two sites at Santa Cruz island with 1 station dedicated to satellites, 1 station dedicated to EME and 1 station dedicated to 6m. Our official advisors are NE8Z – Rick and OK1BOA – Petr. This project was launched 1 year ago. More info at: <https://www.dx-world.net/hd8g-galapagos-islands/>



DX-Adventure is thrilled to announce our upcoming DX-pedition to the beautiful South Andaman Islands (IOTA AS-001).

From March **10th to March 20th, 2025**, an experienced team of 12 operators will be active from South Andaman, operating 6 stations around the clock on bands from 10m to 160m (incl. WARC + 60m), using CW, SSB, and DIGI. Months of careful planning and preparation have brought together an international team of experienced DX-peditioners, including:

ON4AMX Marc | ON4HIL Patrick | ON5UR Max | ON5RA Pascal | ON5TN Karel | ON6CC Marc | ON7FT Jonas | ON7USB Geert | ON7RU Franky | ON8AZ Francis | PA3EWP Ronald | PA9M Marcel.

Six stations mean a lot of material and it is a big challenge to transport it all to VU4. With 1.150kg of equipment meticulously prepared, we will try to offer the best experience possible for you, covering 24/7 operations to maximize the change on having a QSO with us. VU4 ranks as **#28** for the USA and **#53** worldwide, making it a rare and exciting challenge

Stay updated with the latest news at www.dx-adventure.com.

The Light FM's Superpower Signal Shines

January 17, 2025

The late-September impacts of Hurricane Helene were among the most significant events of 2024. What stood out most was the storm's severe effects on the inland, mountainous terrain of western North Carolina. We detailed the efforts of 570 WWNC(AM) and iHeart's Asheville stations in delivering timely news and information to the region. One of the most powerful FM signals in the nation, 106.9 WMIT(FM), "The Light FM," also played a critical role. Owned by Blue Ridge Broadcasting, WMIT's transmitter is located atop Mt. Mitchell, the highest point east of the Mississippi River in the U.S. Its four-bay ERI Cogwheel antenna stands approximately 6,675 feet above sea level, operating with 36 kW ERP from a Rohde & Schwarz THR9 transmitter.

<https://www.radioworld.com/news-and-business/the-light-fms-superpower-signal-shines>

Radio enthusiasts to the rescue in emergency communications

January 25, 2025

For many participants in the world of amateur radio, the initial draw can be something like the ability to talk to people from around the world. "It starts as a hobby. You want to talk to somebody because you hear somebody else talking," said local amateur radio enthusiast Ralph Grover. But for a lot of people involved in amateur radio, also known as ham radio, it's not just for the fun of it. Amateur radio can play an important role in emergency communications, and many people involved with it are here to help. "I've been involved with ham for about 30 years. Emergency communications has always been my interest," said Chip Ferron, who is involved with Mesa County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (MCARES) and is coordinator of Region 9, the northwest region of Colorado ARES. Nationally, ARES is a branch of ARRL, a national association for amateur radio originally formed as the American Radio Relay League.

https://www.gjsentinel.com/news/western_colorado/radio-enthusiasts-to-rescue-public-plays-role-in-emergency-communications/article_1ff1107e-b7ee-11ef-908d-db75915cf2c4.html

Communicating With Satellites Like It's 1957

by: Bryan Cockfield, HACKADAY - February 8, 2025

When the first artificial satellite, Sputnik, was put into orbit around Earth, anyone in the path of the satellite could receive the beeps transmitted by the satellite provided they had some simple radio equipment. Of course, there was no two-way communication with this satellite, and it only lasted a few weeks before its batteries died. Here in the future, though, there are many more satellites in orbit and a few are specifically meant for ham radio operators. And, like the '50s, it doesn't take too much specialized equipment to communicate with them, although now that communication can be two-way. [READ MORE](#)

DX Cluster Map

A configurable color-coded DX cluster map and table.

<https://do1zl.net/dxclustermap/>

Brag Rag

Do you have something you would like to submit for the Brag Rag? Send your QSLs, special event certificates, awards, interesting photos, projects etc. to sparks.w9og@gmail.com to have them included in your newsletter.



February Birthdays!!!

KB9KVX	Larry Rudolph	2
N9EMH	Rick Dennis	8
W9FHA	John Small	14
W9CFI	Chris Lemon	21
	Marilyn Ashley	23
AB9JK	Terry Stuckey	24



Drake L4B amplifier complete with the L4PS power supply. asking \$900

Icom 740 HF transceiver. This radio has the built-in power supply. Comes with desk mic. This also has added filter installed as well. 100-watt radio. asking \$350

Heathkit SA 2040 antenna tuner. This unit is rated for full legal limit and has the roller inductor for precision tuning. asking \$200 Located in Boonville.

Contact me [KK7XT @ yahoo.com](mailto:KK7XT@yahoo.com) or call me at 406.291.5287

Thanks - Bill KK7XT

VE Testing 2025

February 22 2025 - 9AM Central time

April 26 2025 - 9AM Central time

June 7 2025 - 9AM Central time

July 26 2025 - 9AM Central time

August 23 2025 - 9AM Central time

September 27 2025 - 9AM Central time

November 22 2025 - 9AM Central time

December 27 2025 - 9AM Central time

January 31 2026 - 9AM Central time

You will need to know your FRN number. If you have a license currently you have an FRN number. If you do not yet have a license you can register with the FCC and obtain an FRN number. Go to www.fcc.gov/register.

If you need help or have questions, please let me know at n9ol@arrl.net.

Examinations will start promptly at 9:00 AM Central time.

We have no pre-registration, and examinations are administered on a walk-in basis. Details can be found at:

<http://w9og.net/ve-testing>

For more info contact: [John VanVorst N9OL](mailto:John.VanVorst@N9OL) c: 812.305.4100



Vanderburgh Co. ARES/RACES

The next meeting will be March 3/20/25, 6:30pm at the Vanderburgh Co. EMA west side training facility, [1440 Harmony Way](#).

Our meetings are usually the third Thursday of the month.

Anyone interested in emergency communication in Vanderburgh County is invited!

Contact us for more details.

Vanderburgh County Auxcomm

Chris KE9YK IN82RACES@gmail.com

Vanderburgh Co RACES Officer

c: 812.453.1972 Hamshack Hotline: 12604 WinLink: KE9YK



Warrick Co ARES/RACES

The Warrick County ARES/RACES group meets on the second Monday of each month. The meeting begins at 6:30pm and generally is completed by 9:00pm. The meetings are held on the third floor of the Court House in the EMA Conference room.

Anyone needing additional information concerning meetings or location contact: Chris L. Owen at KC9CLO@gmail.com

Hamfest Calendar

03/22/2025 - Cave City Hamfest

Location: Cave City, Kentucky, KY

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: MCARC

Website: <http://ky4x.org>

09/06/2025 - Greater Louisville Hamfest 2025

Location: Shepherdsville, KY

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Greater Louisville Hamfest Association, Inc.

Website: <http://LouisvilleHamfest.com>

10/11/2025 - Hoosier Hills Hamfest

Location: Bedford, IN

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Hoosier Hills Ham Club

Website: <https://hoosierhillshamfest.com>

Secretary Report

Tri-State Amateur radio Society

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: 01/02/2025

Meeting called to order by _____Scott KD4SIR__ at 06:30PM CST.

Board Members/Officers Present:

Scott Hibbs KD4SIR, President Jerry McCintosh
WB9ONU, Vice President Tom Hilgeman KD9PFH Treasurer John
Van Vorst N9oL, Secretary
Mark Holland KDOEE, Dir (2024-25) Ross Cecil KC9JOV, Dir (2024-25)
Terry WB9KQF, Dir (2024-25) Charlie Martin WB8LDV
Dir (2025-26) Herb KB9MZH, Dir (2025-26) Bruce
Hatfield, Dir (2025-26) Dave KC9UVG Dave wb9yig
Chris ke9yk

Reading of officer reports:

Treasurers Report ending 12/31/2024 read by Tom kd9pfh – Motion to accept by John seconded by Terry .Report was accepted.

Secretary's Report – Minutes from 12/05/2024 meeting read by John Van Vorst, N9oL – Motion to accept by Tom kd9pfh seconded by Scott kd4sir . Report was accepted.

Scott mentioned eating before the meeting to be at Zaxby's.

Welcome committee. Scott did show the business cards at the Dec meeting. Those are ready to go. Discussed emphasis on membership this year. N9oL made the point that we strive to get hams to our meetings and functions whether they pay dues and join or not. Emphasize involvement, not necessarily membership.

Shack committee-

- Hamshack Hotline phone ready
- Need a router for setting up the VPN to Jerry kc9zar network. Motion made by John n9oL to purchase router, Terry wb9kqf seconded. Motion passed.
- Need power supply in the shack near the 590 repaired. Chris ke9yk said he would take a look at it.
- The board agreed to purchase 2 power supplies, motion by Walt and Charlie seconded. Motion passed. Mark kd0ee will purchase. Hamtober fest – Request made to the 4H center for pricing for that venue. Scott is going to check also with SWIRCA. Chris ke9yk mentioned a new place in Warrick County that may be good. N9oL will ask about pricing. February banquet – decided to go to Golden Corral
- Mark kd0ee – suggested recognizing Dennis wa2usa for DXCC Honor Role achievement.
- Mark was able to get a \$3 discount for us- way to go Mark.
- Reservation has been made at Golden Corral.

Repeater committee- –

- N9oL to schedule repeater committee mtg
- The 146.790 repeater has been busy which is good.
- Need to get the computer node up to the NE repeater site. The equipment is in the Red Cross radio room.
- Need to arrange getting the node into Deaconess radio room. Equipment is in the Red Cross radio room.
- Grant from West Side Nut Club for repairs of antenna at SP Post – funds have been received.

WW2 museum – Nothing to report

December club meeting – Saturday Dec 14 1-3PM

- Refreshments – cookies, snacks, coffee, ...
- White Elephant exchange – \$15 limit
- Station accessories show and tell

- Winter Field Day January 25 Scott Twp Park. Mark kd0ee
- No updates at this time.
- Discussed antenna party committee –
- Went to Chris Mathews house and did some work, he needed to get a lift or something for the elevated work.
- Chris ke9yk will need some lines shot into trees soon.
-

Upcoming meetings-

- JAN 9 – Auction
- FEB 13 – banquet
- MAR – 10-meter antenna build night. Mark kd0ee is chairman of this event/meeting
- APR – Chris Mathews discussing Windows and Linux
- MAY –

Chris ke9yk reported that the Hamtober fest domain is coming due. Cost is \$44.98. John N9ol made motion to pay for renewal of both domains hamtoberfest.com and hamtoberfest.org. Bruce seconded. Motion passed. Club Directory – Bruce plans to take member pictures at Winter Field Day and Jan meeting.

N9oL mentioned we will need a chairman for June Field Day.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 CST.

**Tri-State Amateur radio Society
General Membership Meeting - Meeting Minutes**

Date: 01/09/2025

Meeting called to order by ______Scott kd4sir__ at 7:03PM

Intros. And show and tell

- Scott kd4sir mentioned his 'state of the club' article in Sparks.
- Scott introduced the 2025 'Eat'n Before the Meet'n Calendar. This was illustrated by Herb kd9mzh. Donations requested for these to cover printing cost.
- Welcome committee
 - o Discussed the club business cards that Scott had printed;
 - o We want to focus on membership in 2025.
- Request was made for a Event Chairman for the June Field Day event. No one stepped up yet.
- Shack committee:
 - o Walt wb9zut will take the Yaesu ftdx-10 radio home to learn more about it prior to Winter Field Day
 - o The 2 new power supplies are in and are in the club radio room.
- Discussed the February meeting which is the annual club banquet.
 - o Will be held at Golden Corral on Thursday Feb 13 starting at 5:30 (NOTE EARLY START TIME)
 - o Everyone pays for their meals, and the club will take care of the tip for the evening.
 - o When paying, tell cashier you are with the TARS group to get a discounted price.
 - o Chris ke9yk made the motion that the club pay the tip for the evening. Terry wb9kqf seconded. Motion passed.
- Winter Field Day – Mark kd0ee
 - o Concerned about the condition of the park following the ice storm of early January. Mark will monitor that situation.
 - o Computer network will not really be needed this time- we will have 2 stations operating different modes so logging can be done separately for each station.

- o Discussed food for the event
- o Mark wanted to be sure we had at least 1 antenna for 80 meters so we can pick up that multiplier.
- o Setup will start at 8am, contest starts at 10am.
- o Tom kd9pjh will get soft drinks, coffee, water and ice to the event.
- Upcoming meetings – Jerry wb9onu
 - o March is antenna build night – will build a 10-meter J-pole
 - o April – Discussion on Windows and Linux operating systems by Chris Mathews.
 - o Walt wb9zut suggested we have a meeting topic discussing digital modes and APRS.
- We then took a break and proceeded with the annual auction.

Treasurer Report

Tri-state Amateur Radio Society
Financial Report for
December 2024 (12/30/24)

Amateur Radio Society Primary Account
Opening Balance: \$7,131.92

TARS sub-accounts
General Fund sub-account
Opening Bal \$3,734.63
Receipts:
Membership \$90.00
Total Receipts --->> \$90.00

Expenditures:
P.O. Box Rental (\$200.00)
Total Expenditures---->> (\$200.00)

Ending Balance General Fund \$3,624.63

Repeater Maint & investment - Restricted acct
Opening Balance \$2,141.30
Receipts:
West Side Grant \$4,500.00
Total Receipts --->> \$4,500.00
Expenditures:
None \$0.00
Total Expenditures---->> \$0.00
Ending Balance of Repeater Restricted sub-account \$6,641.30

Red Cross Fund - Restricted Acct
Opening Balance \$1,255.99
Receipts:
VE Room Rental 11/23 \$35.00
Total Receipts --->> \$35.00
Expenditures:
Total Expenditures---->> \$0.00
Ending Balance of Red Cross Restricted sub-account \$1,290.99

Ending Balance - TARS primary Checking Account \$11,556.92

TARS IGC (IN Gaming Commission) restricted checking account:

Opening Balance	\$1,458.36
Receipts: none	\$0.00
Total Receipts --->>	\$0.00
Expenditures:	
FT-891 for Hamtober Feat raffle (check #6504)	\$0.00
Total Expenditures--->>	\$0.00
Ending Balance of IGC Restricted checking account	\$1,458.36

Tom Hilgeman KD9PFH – TARS Treasurer

Looking Ahead

2025

TARS Banquet February 13, 2025

INQP May 3rd

MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND June 7-8 2025

Lewis and Clark Trail On The Air May 31st - June 15th 2025

ARRL Kids Day June Third Saturday

Field Day June

13 Colonies Special Event July

International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend (ILLW) third full weekend of August

Route 66 Special Event September

TARS PICNIC August??

TARS 7th annual HAMTOBER FEST October ??, 2025

Jamboree-on-the-Air third full weekend in October

SKYWARN Recognition Day, First Saturday, December

2026

Straight Key Night January 1 from 0000 UTC through 2359 UTC

ARRL Kids Day Jan First Saturday

Winter Field Day January

Your input is important

Sparks is **YOUR** information source for club activities and local Amateur radio information.

In each issue we ask for submissions from club members. Tell us about your station, projects you have made or are making, anything interesting the TARS membership might be interested in.

Submission deadline is the 25th of the month.

Most any document format is acceptable.

Photos or graphics of your subject are welcome.

Send your article to: sparks.w9og@gmail.com

TARS is an [ARRL](#) affiliated club

ARRL [Indiana Section](#)

Section Manager: Bob Burns [AK9R](#)

ARRL [Central Division](#)

Division Director: Carl Luetzelschwab [K9LA](#)



TARS mailing address:

TARS

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Don't forget to check out our web page www.w9og.net

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TARS Groups.io email list: TARS@Groups.IO

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