



# Madison County Amateur Radio Club



February 2017

**The Next meeting will be at 7 PM on Monday , February 6, 2017 at the EOC at 200 N. Delaware Street, Anderson**

### President's Message

Hi, and welcome to the Madison County Amateur Radio Club February newsletter. I hope everyone had a nice New Year's day, and is ready for the new month. A lot of things are going on in the new building. I think almost all of the new grounding wire has been ran, thanks to Tim Galbraith and Dale Bales. Good job! We may go ahead and setup for the wire to the big tower soon, and see how that works out. Sometime, the 40 ft. towers will be set, and then, we'll be ready for use.

The net has been going very well. If anyone wants to try their hand at running it, please feel free to try it. all the information is on the website. It's a fun way to meet others, and builds confidence, in case of us ever needing to check in to the traffic net, or if needed at the EOC during a callout.

If anyone has heard of a member that is, or, has been in the hospital, or, laid up, please let one of the officers know. I checked in with Dick, WA9STB, the other day. He's slowly getting better, Mike, KC9LWK, mentioned that his dad, Pete, KC9ORK is also on the mend.

We've had several good groups at breakfast also. Every Saturday morning at Eva's at 9am. the coffee's pretty good, and so's the food! We average around 7 or 8 most Saturdays. And, don't forget every Thursday morning at 9am is the famous "Donut meeting". Terry has been bringing the donuts. Thanks, Terry. Its really appreciated!

The next meeting will be February 6th, at 7 pm. Not sure if we have a speaker. Doug, N9DR recently visited ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Conn. He took pictures from the facility, and said he would give a slide show in the future.

I hope to see everyone at the February meeting. Stay warm, and plan some new antenna projects! "73" Mike, KC9DJU

### Events

Every Wednesday	MCARC 2M Net 20:00 - 145.390 pl 151.4 Followed by an informal ragchew on 28.465
Every Thursday	Donut Meeting 09:00 at the EOC
Every Saturday	Breakfast at Eva's 09:00 at 832 Broadway St, Anderson
Feb 6	MCARC Meeting 19:00 at the New Madison County EOC
Feb 7	EMA Communications Meeting at 7.00 PM at the New Madison EOC
Feb 13-17	School Club Roundup
Feb 15	License Exams (Anderson Repeater Club)
Feb 18	Brownsburg Hamfest <a href="http://www.hears.org">http://www.hears.org</a>
Feb 18-19	ARRL International DX Contest - SSB
Feb 24 - 26	CQ 160M SSB Contest

**MCARC – Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
Monday, January 2, 2017  
Location: EOC, 200 N. Delaware Street, Anderson, IN

**7:00** Mike-KC9DJU called the meeting to order. Introductions were made since there were some faces we haven't seen in some time.

Tim-KB9VE described how the grounding system for the radio room is being installed and how we should tie into that grounding system. It attaches directly to the grounding loop around the building.

**Minutes:** Motion to accept minutes of the December 5, 2016 meeting by Dave-KB9NTG / Lew-K9LBB -passed.

**Secretary Report:** No correspondence

**Treasurer,** Jeff-K9DYR: Last month's report was an estimate due to the treasurer not having proper paperwork with him. The reported balance was \$2,756.16. The corrected report is actually \$0.22 in the club's favor.

The closing balance last month was \$2,756.38.

Beginning balance	\$2,756.38
Expenses (Memorial)	\$ 30.00
Income	\$ 209.43
Dues	\$180.00
Donation	\$ 29.43

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Ending balance (APPROX) \$2,935.81

Motion to accept, Dave-KB9NTG / Lew-K- LBB - passed

**Officer Reports:**

**Trustee, Alan-KC9JWO:** No report

**Newsletter, Mike-KD9CDO:** Newsletter went out with no hitches. Mike will check with George about the format that should be sent to Alex-K9BLK.

**Tech Committee, Doug-N9DR:** No report.

**Activities, Dale-KV9W:** No report.

**VP:** Net is going well.

**Sick report:** Dick-WA9STB has been having health problems and Dale-KV9W is also feeling poorly.

**Business:**

1. Officers for 2017 are as follows:

- a. President Mike Cook KC9DJU
- b. V-President Mike Brown K9MI
- c. Sec/Treas Jeff Dyer K9DYR
- d. Activities Dale Bales KV9W
- e. Trustee Alan Weber KC9JWO
- f. Tech Chair Doug Rose N9DR
- i. Committee Dennis Owen N9OWN
- ii. Committee Terry Zivney N4TZ

2. Motion to purchase two Polyphasors made by Dennis-N9OWN / Alex-K9BLK – Passed. Tim-KB9VE will order these.

3. There is an area in the pole barn with skids for items for the tailgate. Mike-KC9DJU will inventory during the donut meeting and make available for Facebook, our web page, and Craig's List.

4. We are reserving several variations for our web address (W9VCF.com, .org, .net, etc.) and these cost money. Dennis-N9OWN will talk to George-AC8GT to coordinate this and we will only reserve what is needed.

5. Repeater repair status: Contact with the Motorola repair facility in Indianapolis has been made. They are moving but should be in their new location on or around 1/5/2017. We will make arrangements to get the repeaters in for repair as soon as they are ready.

**Program:** Alan-KC9JWO provided information on the 1.25cm repeater he has purchased. This operates on 223.86mhz with a pl-151.4. Alan has donated the use of his repeater to EMA for the benefit of Madison County residence. The system is installed at the EOC with the antenna mounted to the big tower.

**8:15 Adjourned.** Dennis-N9OWN / Dave-KB9NTG made motion to adjourn – passed

**NEXT MEETING:** February 6, 2017 at the EOC at 200 N. Delaware Street, Anderson  
Respectfully Jeff-K9DYR

It Should be noted that dues can be mailed into our Post Office Box Address: **Madison County Amateur Radio Club**  
**P.O. Box 3044. Anderson, Indiana 46018**

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### **Noise floor report does not inspire confidence**

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Last June, the FCC's Technical Advisory Committee asked licensed and unlicensed users of the electromagnetic spectrum to answer some questions about the noise they were experiencing and whether or not it was affecting their services. Specifically, they asked:

- \* Is there a noise floor problem?
- \* Where does the problem exist? Spectrally? Spatially? Temporally?
- \* Is there quantitative evidence of the overall increase in the total integrated noise floor across various segments of the radio frequency spectrum?
- \* How should a noise study be performed?

Well, the results are in, and Radio World recently published a summary of the responses that the FCC received (<http://www.radioworld.com/business-and-law/0009/noise-floor-where-do-we-go-from-here/338242>). The FCC received 93 replies from 73 (great number, eh?) different people or organizations, including:

- \* 23 companies/industry organizations
- \* 39 RF professionals (broadcast and wireless)
- \* 31 licensed radio amateurs
- \* 9 responders did not reply to the questions asked

Respondents included the ARRL, the Society of Broadcast Engineers, the National Association of Broadcasters, the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council, ATT, and the National Electrical Manufacturers Association. I found especially interesting comments from the Society of Broadcast Engineers. They include:

- \* Increased cooperation is needed between manufacturers of Part 15 devices and users of radio spectrum to identify noise sources and take appropriate remedial action.
- \* Radiated emission limits below 30 MHz in the FCC Part 15 rules for unintentional emitters should be enacted. There are presently no radiated emission limits below 30 MHz for most unintentional emitters.
- \* Reduced Part 15 limits for LED lights should be enacted to be harmonized with the Part 18 lower limits for fluorescent bulbs.
- \* Better labeling on packaging for Part 18 fluorescent bulbs and ballasts to better inform consumers of potential interference to radio, TV and cellphone reception in the residential environment.
- \* Specific radiated and/or conducted emission limits for incidental emitters, such as motors or power lines, should be enacted.

- \* Conducted emission limits on pulse-width motor controllers used in appliances should be enacted.
- \* Substantially increase the visibility of enforcement in power line interference cases.

Other organizations made similar comments.

While the report is encouraging, it won't mean a thing if no action is taken on these issues. Given that the FCC is cutting back on its field offices, and our president-elect has said that he plans to reduce the number of governmental regulations, I'm not optimistic that we'll see the noise situation get better before it gets worse. What do you all think?

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When he's not battling the noise floor at his QTH, Dan blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, writes the "No Nonsense" amateur radio study guides and teaches ham classes. You can contact him by e-mailing [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

### **For Sale List**

Yaesu FTDX-3000 HF Transceiver with Yaesu MD-200 Desk Microphone and RT Software/Cable	\$1500.00
ICOM IC-7000 HF/VHF/UHF Transceiver with separation kit, mobile mount and RT Software/Cable	750.00
Ameritron ATR-20 Manual Tuner	200.00

#### **Contact David Hood WA9IVB (WA9IVB@ARRL.NET)**

GAP Speaker with power supply	100.00
GAP Speaker without power supply	90.00
Radio Shack SWR Meter 3-30Mhz	50.00
West Mountain Radio ISOPower	50.00

#### **From Gene Smith's Estate**

**Contact the club at [w9vcf.mcarc@gmail.com](mailto:w9vcf.mcarc@gmail.com) for more information.**

## Madison County Amateur Radio Club Contact Information

**Madison County Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 3044  
Anderson, Indiana 46018**

-  [www.w9vcf.org](http://www.w9vcf.org)
-  [w9vcf.mcarc@gmail.com](mailto:w9vcf.mcarc@gmail.com)
-  [www.facebook.com/w9vcf](http://www.facebook.com/w9vcf)
-  [@w9vcf](https://twitter.com/w9vcf)
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### Officer Contact Information

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Vice President	Mike Brown	K9MI	mbrown710@comcast.net
Secretary/Treasurer	Jeff Dyer	K9DYR	k9dyr@arrl.net
Activities	Dales Bales	KV9W	dibales@anderson.edu
Trustee	Alan Weber	KC9JWO	kc9jwo@outlook.com
Technical Committee Chair	Doug Rose	N9DR	n9dr@arrl.net
Newsletter Editor	Mike Hoggatt	KD9CDO	hoggattm@gmail.com

Meetings are at the Madison County EOC  
200 Delaware Street  
Anderson, IN 46016