



# RCA Amateur Radio Club

## Indianapolis, IN

ARRL Affiliated Club

[www.w9rca.org](http://www.w9rca.org)

NOVEMBER 2025

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE RCA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB WILL BE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11,  
6:30 PM AT NORTH SIDE EVENTS, FORMERLY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS,  
2100 EAST 71<sup>st</sup>, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

### RCA ARC NEWS

**OCTOBER MEETING SUMMARY** – Thanks to all who attended the October meeting. We started the meeting by commenting on the bill the ARRL is trying to get approved by congress called the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act. Letters will automatically be sent to your elected officials encouraging them to support the bipartisan bills. This legislation is intended to prevent restrictive homeowners' association (HOA) rules that currently prohibit or severely limit the installation of amateur radio antennas. They made really easy: [ARRL Wants Every Ham to Help Us Pass The Bill](#) Dave, N9KZJ, reminded us of special events coming involving the Navy and Marine Corps. There is a new version of WSJT-X now available. [Editor's note: There's some confusion here. WSJT-X v3.0.0 is NOT the one you want. Download **WSJT-X v3.0.0 improved PLUS edition**] A discussion ensued about the Yaesu IC-7300, which is getting a lot of press these days, compared to older radios like the Icom 756 Pro II and Pro III.

### AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE TEST SESSION

**Date:** November 8, 2025  
**Time:** Starting at Noon **by appointment only.**  
**Location:** Salvation Army EDS Training Facility, 4020 Georgetown Rd  
Indianapolis, IN 46254-2407  
**Contact:** **James Kajder (505) 228-3704**  
**Email:** [testing@indyradioclub.org](mailto:testing@indyradioclub.org)  
**Required:** FCC FRN and a completed NCVEC 605 license application form.  
**Laurel VEC test sessions:** <https://www.laurelvec.com/?pg=exams>

### HAMFESTS, OPERATING EVENTS, VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Nov 6	ARRL FMT, <a href="https://fmt.arrl.org/">https://fmt.arrl.org/</a> Thurs., 9:30 PM EST
Nov 8	<a href="#">Hoosier Hills Hamfest</a> Bedford, IN
Nov 8	Indianapolis Monumental Marathon
Nov 15-16	<a href="#">Fort Wayne Hamfest &amp; Computer Expo</a> , Fort Wayne, IN
Nov 15-17	ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB
Nov 29	<a href="#">WVARA Turkeyfest</a> Brazil, IN
Nov 29-30	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW

**WA7BNM** expanded contest calendar, <https://www.contestcalendar.com/> Visit the **ARRL Special Event Stations database** at [www.arrl.org/special-event-station](http://www.arrl.org/special-event-station) to find other on-the-air events and commemorations.

**Hamfest or Convention:** [www.arrl.org/hamfests](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests)

Find a license exam in your area: [www.arrl.org/exam](http://www.arrl.org/exam)  
ARRL Home: [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

## FIELD DAY 2025 RESULTS -- MORE OR LESS by FD Chairman Brian, W9IND

The big moment has arrived! The ARRL has published the official Field Day 2025 standings in the December issue of QST.

And how did we do? Believe it or not, that's not the easiest question to answer ... thanks to a bizarre error that somehow appeared in the magazine.

Here's the story: Throughout the 21st century, except during the pandemic, the top dog in Field Day has always been W3AO, the Potomac Valley Radio Club. This year they competed in Class 10A and lit up the scoreboard as usual with 36,854 points and more than 10,000 QSOs. That was more than enough to overcome another 10A club, Brazos Valley ARC, with 20,296. We finished right behind them with 20,272 – a difference of only 24 points! (But remember, we competed in 4A and had six fewer transmitters.)

So, after nailing down 3rd place in 2023 and 2024, Indy United has now achieved a three-peat, right? Well ... probably.

What's missing from this conversation is that an unknown team from Colorado – Ski Country Radio Club (K0RV) – was credited with not only achieving the highest score of 2025, but also the highest score in Field Day history! A Class 3A entrant with no GOTA team, Ski Country nevertheless managed to make 37,617 QSOs for a phenomenal total of 77,696!

Or so it says in QST. But of course, no one seriously believes that. To score 77K points with three transmitters in 24 hours, a team would have to average 522 QSOs an hour!

And that's where we stand at this moment. It seems obvious that the ARRL will need to renounce the unthinkable score and correct the online article if possible, but so far, nothing had changed. Regardless, we're claiming 3rd place until someone proves otherwise.

In the meantime, if you'd like to see the final (?) results for Field Day 2025, you can check them out here (though you may need an ARRL membership to view them):

<https://contests.arrl.org/ContestResults/2025/Field-Day-2025-FinalQSTResults.pdf>

\* \* \* \* \*

Scoring chaos aside, I couldn't be prouder of our effort. And while I wish we could have put up another 25 points and taken 2nd place, the fact that we again scored 20,000 points and pulled off a 3rd place three-peat is something that seemed impossible in the days preceding Field Day. With many of our most accomplished ops sidelined due to schedule conflicts and medical issues, I wondered before Field Day if we would even want to submit our score!

So take a bow, everyone, and take pride in the team effort that you were an essential part of!

Thanks to all! I'll be back in touch with updates – hopefully including the debunking of the 77,000-point fantasy.

73,  
Brian, W9IND  
Field Day Chairman, Indy United Amateur Radio Club  
P.S. Field Day 2026 is on June 27-28. Mark your calendars!

## 2026 ARRL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The ARRL Foundation Scholarship Program has opened the application window for 2026 scholarships. Applications will be accepted through December 30, 2025, at 12 PM EST. Students are encouraged to apply for more than 170 scholarships ranging from \$500 to

\$25,000. All applicants must be active, FCC-licensed amateur radio operators.

The scholarships were established by generous donors and are managed by the ARRL Foundation as a means to inspire youth to explore amateur radio and to pursue higher education and related career paths -- and especially in wireless communications.

In 2025, the ARRL Foundation awarded 170 awards totaling \$800,000. More information and the online application are available [www.arrl.org/scholarship-program](http://www.arrl.org/scholarship-program).

## FCC ANNOUNCES INTENT TO DELETE MINOR PART 97 PROVISIONS

As part of a [much larger overhaul focused on deleting almost 400 obsolete wireless regulations](#), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has announced plans to delete or modify four minor provisions of Part 97.

ARRL's Washington Counsel has reviewed the proposal and agrees that the deletions are to obsolete rules and will have no impact on today's modern Amateur Radio Service. One of the [deletions was suggested by ARRL](#) as part of an earlier FCC request for public input on rules ripe for deletion.

The proposed regulatory changes are to:

1. **Delete § 97.27.** This provision relates to the FCC's right to modify station licenses. The Commission rationale for deletion is that it duplicates Section 316 of the Communications Act. Its deletion will result in no substantive change to the right of the FCC to modify a station license.
2. **Delete § 97.29.** This provision specified the procedure to replace paper licenses. The FCC stopped producing paper licenses at the end of 2020, having implemented a system that allows any licensee to download license originals using the password-protected area of the FCC's ULS computer database system that is web-accessible. The ARRL proposed deleting this section in comments filed earlier this year.
3. **Delete § 97.315 (b)(2).** This provision grandfathered HF amplifiers purchased before April 28, 1978 by an amateur radio operator for use at that operator's station and also grandfathered those manufactured before April 28, 1978 for which a marketing waiver was issued. The applicability of this rule has long passed.
4. **Delete § 97.521(b) and Appendix 2.** This rule and appendix relate to VEC regions, which were based on the traditional amateur call sign areas. The FCC no longer limits VECs to regions and there is no reason for doing so given the nature of remote exams.

"Direct Final Rule" proceedings such as this are limited to rules that are no longer applicable because they have sunset by operation of law; govern an expired event; regulate an obsolete technology; regulate virtually a null set of FCC licensees; regulate an outdated market structure; or otherwise are no longer used in practice or otherwise in the public interest. The deletions will become effective 60 days after publication in the Federal Register unless the Commission finds that adverse comments filed within 20 days of publication raise significant issues that merit additional consideration.

ARRL will continue to engage with the FCC in the regulatory and rulemaking process as part of our mission to promote and protect the art, science, and enjoyment of amateur radio, and to develop the next generation of radio amateurs.

## ARRL YEAR OF THE CLUB WEBSITE CONTEST — CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

A club website can keep members informed of news and upcoming events, keep them interested between meetings and activities, teach them about ham radio skills and technology, or even make them laugh, remember, or set an operating goal — the sky's the limit! As part of ARRL's Year of the Club celebration in 2026, ARRL wants to see *your* club's website.

Enter the Club Website Contest for the chance to have your website honored in QST. Here are the rules and requirements:

The Club Website Contest is open to ARRL Affiliated Clubs that maintain a club website.

Submissions must include a completed [Club Website Contest Submission Form](#), which asks for information about your club and its website, as well as a 500-word statement on the purpose or goals of your website, and how the features and configuration of the website fulfill the purpose/goals. Part of the judging process will include a comparison of your statement with the website itself.

Winners will be notified in May 2026, with awards presented at Huntsville Hamfest in August 2026.

Winners will be announced in a 2026 issue of QST, as part of ARRL's Year of the Club celebration. The QST article may present material from the 500-word statements supplied in the winners' Club Website Contest Submission Form. Please note that winners may be asked to supply high-resolution files of specific website pages.

*Submission Deadline: Friday, January 30, 2026, 4 p.m. Eastern time.*

*NOTE: Once you send your Submission Form, you may update content (text, images, data) on your website as needed, per your club's normal operation, but you may not make significant changes to the site's structure or functionality until April 1, 2026.*

## AMATEUR RADIO RUNS WITH THE CHICAGO MARATHON

Amateur radio operators [serve their communities across the United States](#) in many ways, before and [When All Else Fails®](#). Using their skills as communicators, their personal equipment, and the Amateur Radio Service, the "hams" provide a needed boost to public safety radio systems.

The 47th [Bank of America Chicago Marathon](#), held on October 12, 2025, featured 55,000 runners from around the world. And, for this 17th year, a team of 155 amateur radio operators from 6 states assisted the 2000 medical personnel volunteering for the event.

Amateur radio operators were partnered with the medical teams to help coordinate responses, arrange for re-supplies, and provide situational awareness for the organizers.

About 60% of the amateur radio teams come from local clubs and they train their own people. There are 5 local radio clubs that have repeaters in tall buildings throughout the city to help reach some of the far ends of the course, but also deployed were 5 portable UHF repeaters, in Grant Park and in other select places where there was a need for backup resources. Organizers wanted to make sure every team had at least three ways to reach the Forward Command tent in Grant Park.

One hundred ham radio operators were stationed at the 20 course medical tents and one medical hub. They supported the medical teams and communicated their requests for transport, supplies or other course-related information, using traditional radio channels. In the Forward Command tent, the hams had 10 net control operators and logging specialists. For several years, the Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS) has been used to track some of the medical personnel in the Grant Park area. This has been a useful tool since the post-race scene is crowded with thousands of runners and friends. APRS was also used to help locate patients, medical teams, and amateur radio operators.

Medical Communications Lead Rob Orr, K9RST, said ham radio is important to the event, but is just one small component of a very complex event that requires 10,000 volunteers to be successful.

"Ham radio has a unique role and works alongside the other specialty service groups required to support an event of this magnitude. We are grateful to the hams who have shared

their expertise, time, and resources over the years. This event has shown the public, the city officials, and the runners that ham radio is very much alive and doing well.”

## ED HARE, W1RFI, LONG TIME ARRL LAB ENGINEER, SK

Edward F. “Ed” Hare, Jr., W1RFI, who spent decades as an employee of ARRL, has become a Silent Key. He died on October 10, 2025, at the age of 75 after an illness.

Hare first earned his Amateur Radio Service license as a teenager as WN1CYF (later WA1CYF and KA1CV) and was active in ham radio throughout his life. He was an avid QRP (low power) operator, earning his Worked All States certificate with 250 milliwatts on CW. In his professional life, he was an accomplished product test engineer and a leading expert on radio frequency interference (RFI). After an industry career in product testing, he came to work for ARRL in 1986.

During his tenure, Hare led the technical aspects of many important advocacy efforts taken on by the ARRL Lab, including the successful fight against Broadband over Power Line (BPL). Hare's extensive technical studies and solid factual data effectively supported ARRL's Court of Appeals submissions against the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), thus contributing substantially to ARRL's victory in causing the FCC's flawed BPL rules to be remanded to the FCC.

Hare developed a waiver process in cooperation with the United States military to allow amateur radio access to the 70-centimeter band near several high-power radar sites. He also started the ARRL RFI Program, which helps members resolve interference to their station. He was also instrumental in ARRL's 2023 defense against the high-speed stock traders' petition that would risk significant interference to amateur HF bands.

Hare was a prolific author about RFI, from articles for *QST* and *The ARRL Handbook* to articles about the practical aspects of Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) that appeared in professional trade journals. He was also one of the editors and authors of *The ARRL RFI Book*, and the author of ARRL's book on RF exposure, *RF Exposure and You*.

Hare held a seat for amateur radio on many industry committees, including several of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and on the American National Standards Committee C63, which develops standards for testing and measuring EMC.

Many radio clubs may recall Hare's popular “Stump the Speaker” feature that he held after giving presentations. Hare would allow the audience to try to stump him with radio questions and trivia. It was rarely successful.

He retired from ARRL as Laboratory Manager in 2023 but continued to serve in the Lab as a volunteer until the time of his passing.

He frequently mentored members of the ARRL staff on improving their operating skills and encouraged them to grow as radio amateurs. He was especially fond of creating new CW operators.

Hare was a member of the ARRL Diamond Club and the A1 Operators Club. The ARRL Board of Directors bestowed the ARRL Technical Merit Award on Hare in 2008 for his work on BPL, an honor that, before Hare, was last awarded in 1976 and has not been given since.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in Ed Hare's memory to the Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center at UConn. Give online by visiting <https://s.uconn.edu/ehare> or send a check to UConn Foundation, Inc., 2390 Alumni Drive, Mansfield, CT 06269. --ARRL

## EVENT MARKS 50 YEARS SINCE LAKE SUPERIOR SHIP TRAGEDY

Fifty Novembers ago, a storm stirred over Lake Superior and the USS Edmund Fitzgerald, a

ship with 29 men aboard, was swallowed up by the raging water. That tragedy in the American Midwest claimed the lives of the entire crew; they share their final resting place with the doomed iron-ore carrier.

These men are not buried and forgotten, however; their friends, relatives and former neighbors are among those who participate every year in an on-air tribute organized by the Stillwater Amateur Radio Association. Hams will be calling QRZ as WØJH from the 7th of November through to the anniversary date of the ship's sinking, November 10th.

Special events chair and past president Dave Glas, WØOXB, told Newsline that connections to this ship have emerged almost every year for the two decades of this event. A distant cousin of club member Curtis Letch, KFØPSC, was among the fatalities: Blaine H. Wilhelm, was 52 and the ship's oiler. Dave told Newsline: "Over two decades of operating our special event, we've made contact with 1,000 hams average per year worldwide. Mostly throughout North America. There's often someone who tells us of a connection they've had with one of the lost crewmen."

The hams will operate from Split Rock Lighthouse State Park. The ship had passed that lighthouse on the day it made its final trip.

For details about modes, frequencies and times - or instructions on how to get a certificate - see QRZ.com. -- K9AWM.

## DX

**Bouvetøya 3Y0K 2026 – Meet The Team, episode two (Video)** – Dennis, KT8X, co-leader of the upcoming 3Y0K Bouvet Island DXpedition, explains that the role involves far more than operating radios—it requires extensive coordination, logistics, and responsibility for the team's safety in one of the most remote and dangerous places on Earth. He shares that his motivation is to give back to the amateur radio community by providing others the chance for rare contacts, while embracing the adventure of visiting a location fewer people have reached than space. To prepare, Dennis focuses on detailed planning, emergency readiness, and physical and mental conditioning drawn from his experience as a two-time Ironman triathlete.

Follow our weekly "Meet the Team" video series shorts to learn about the mix of people involved in this most extreme Amateur Radio adventure. Visit [3Y0K.com](https://3Y0K.com) to learn more and see how You can help support the team. These videos are Sponsored by Icom America Inc

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1787070508410564/user/100069389748073/>

Video: <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1177418347635652>

– Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin

## WSJT-X USERS, NEW VERSION - Correction

**The version you really want is: v3.0.0 improved PLUS edition**

A new 3.0.0 version of WSJT-X Improved is ready for download:

<https://sourceforge.net/projects/wsjt...> It brings, among others, a new optional multithreaded FT8 decoder.

DG2YCB explains the new features here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vKAgB0Tt6Ns>

[0:00](#) Overview

[0:44](#) WSJT-X Improved vs. WSJT-X

[2:07](#) Improvements to the FT8 decoding performance

[4:47](#) The new multithreaded FT8 Decoder

[12:52](#) Other new features

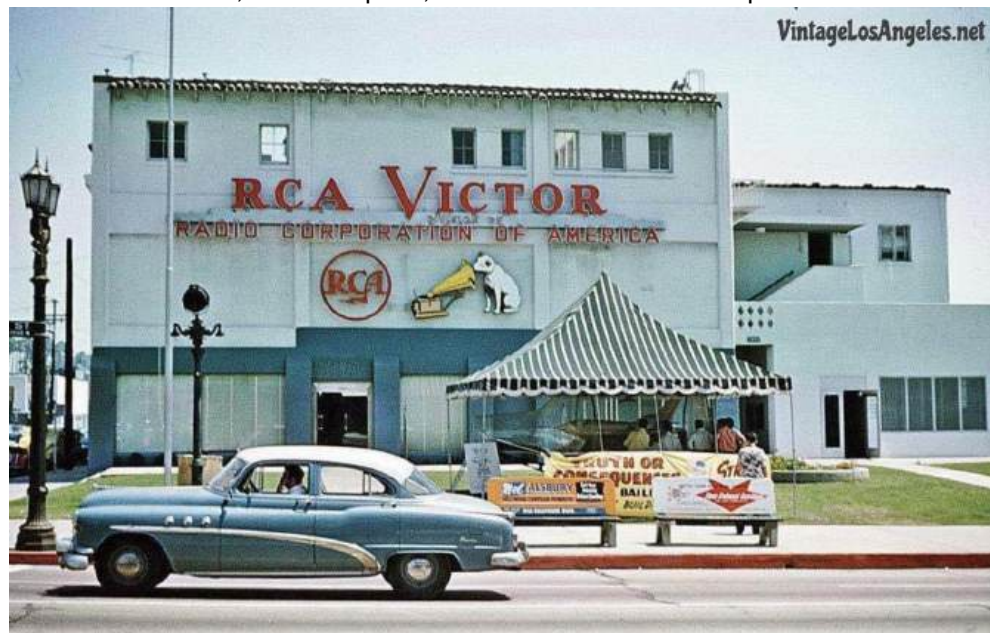


## HISTORY

Who remembers the Russian Woodpecker? About 1976 to 1989.  
<https://curiousabandoned.com/duga-1>



RCA Victor's Music center of the World, also known as RCA Studios Hollywood, and RCA Victor Studios Hollywood was located between NBC Studios and the Brown Derby and operated from March 2, 1950 to April 1, 1964 – [rockandrollroadmap.com](http://rockandrollroadmap.com)



## SHORTS

### **NEW BOOK RELEASE: SMALL ANTENNAS FOR SMALL SPACES 3RD EDITION**

Amateur radio operators love antennas — the bigger the better — but if you don't have acres of property to erect the antenna of your dreams, it doesn't mean you're effectively off the air. Ham radio is still yours to enjoy. It's just a matter of making the right antenna choices to improve your chances of success.

The third edition of *ARRL's Small Antennas for Small Spaces* by Steve Ford, WB8IMY, is a valuable resource for amateurs who live in apartments, condominiums, or houses on small lots. Filled with practical advice, this book guides you to finding the right antenna design to fit the space you have available. You'll find ideas and projects that will get you on the air regardless of where you live!

***Small Antennas for Small Spaces 3rd Edition*** is now shipping. Order from the ARRL [online store](#) or find an ARRL [publication dealer](#); ARRL Item No. 2325, ISBN: 978-1-62595-232-5, \$22.95 retail, member price \$19.95. For additional questions or ordering, call 1-888-277-5289 toll-free in the US, Monday through Thursday from 8 AM to 7 PM, and Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM Eastern Time. If you are outside the US, call (860) 594-0200. --ARRL Letter

### **QST FREE Article of the Month: "Contesting with Error-Correcting Modes: The Early Years"** look at where we stand today

With the first 8 years of shortwave contesting with FT modes behind us, Gerald Artner, OE1GAQ, provides a look at where we stand today.

Read now for FREE: [tinyurl.com/2rj6s7av](https://tinyurl.com/2rj6s7av) --ARRL Letter

**THANKS FOR READING**

**HAVE A HAPPY THANKS GIVING**

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THE RCA ARC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER IS COMPILED AND EDITED BY JIM RINEHART, K9RU AND JIM KEETH, AF9A. ALL MATERIAL CONTAINED HEREIN IS OBTAINED FROM THE SOURCES CREDITED AND EDITED FOR THIS NEWSLETTER.

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