



The Indianapolis Hamfest

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May 5, 2020

To all Amateur Radio Operators,

For 49 years, the Indianapolis Hamfest has provided one of the premier hamfests in the Midwest. This year was to be our golden anniversary, fifty years, and an accomplishment that few have realized. It is with great disappointment that we inform the amateur community that under an abundance of caution and our desire to follow Indiana Governor Holcomb's 5 step plan, that we will not have the Indianapolis Hamfest this year.

There were a number of factors that lead to this decision. First, the Marion County Fair board has had a change in management and they booked another event on our dates. Disregarding our over 40 year relationship with them, they refused to correct the error. We would have had to reschedule for another date which would have probably conflicted with other hamfests and meant that many of our faithful vendors would not be able to attend. We found this unacceptable.

Second, even though the Governor's plan called for large events after July 4th, it still required that social distancing rules be maintained and that all of the hamfest staff be medically evaluated. We felt that it would be nearly impossible to comply with these requirements.

Third, at this time it is still very unclear that opening up will not cause another rise in cases as people begin to resume social gatherings. We felt that we do not want to be part of the problem.

So, at this time the staff of the Indianapolis Hamfest want to extend our profound thanks to all of our loyal vendors, our flea market sellers, and to all the fellow amateurs who have supported our show for 49 years. We look forward to the 50th running of the greatest hamfest in the state of Indiana in 2021.

On behalf of the entire staff, be safe, stay healthy, and join us next year,

Mike Sercer, WA9FDO
General Chairman