

The Radio Hill Gazette

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From the Editor

Welcome to another edition of the Radio Hill Gazette.

November starts the mad rush of holidays, secular and otherwise. Don't get caught up in festivities and miss out on some great operating chances this month. The ARRL Centennial QSO Party is still underway, with plenty of opportunities to score points and work states. This is also Sweepstakes month, with CW 1-3 and SSB 15-17. CQ WW CW is 29-30. Excellent chances to make some contacts, domestic and DX.

Speaking of contacts and events, I recently received my operating certificate for finishing first in W9 (4th in US) in the 2014 CQ WPX CW, another one for a first place in W9 (2nd in US) in the 2013 CQ WW RTTY. Perhaps a first place finish in America's heartland is not very glamorous, but my name (my call, actually) is forever etched in the record books.

This is just a small impact I've made in the world of amateur radio. What about the rest of you, what contributions have you made, how will you be remembered? What are you doing, have you made any memorable contacts? Have you received any special QSL cards? Maybe you made a very long range contact with minimal power? The few operators at the bottom of the world (ie Antarctica) are on the air several times a week, have you made contact with any of them?

I encourage those of you who just sit next to the speaker, listening, to key up and try to make contact. Many times, these distant stations have better antennas than we have, and they can hear us better than we can hear them. It can be tough if the operator is working through a pile up, but you can often find them before the pile up begins. Case in point, one morning before work near sunrise, I ran across New Caledonia (do you know where this place is?) calling CQ. So, I threw out my call. It took a few tries, but he got it right, and we exchanged information. We made it work and a new country is in my log. As I sat there relishing my contact, I noticed the pile up growing – HA, I got through first!

Anthony
Editor, RHG



Technician Licensees – Why Not Try Low Power HF CW?

Ron Stone, KA3J

[From the QRP-Tech mailing list. You can find the original article at <http://www.eham.net/articles/32380> You might find the comments useful, too.]

Would you like to contact hams around the world using a simple antenna and a radio that isn't much larger or more costly than a VHF/UHF handheld? If you're willing to invest a modest amount of time to develop some new skills, consider using low power HF CW. What follows will prepare you for a successful introduction into this exciting facet of ham radio.

Why Learn CW?

Simply put, CW is a highly effective, engaging and elegantly simple mode. Relative to phone (SSB), CW can provide a 12-17 dB advantage – that's 2-3 S units! This means that a 5 watt CW radio can be as effective as a 100 watt SSB radio. While some digital modes (e.g., PSK31, JT65) are even more effective, a computer must handle encoding, transmission and decoding. This adds some cost and complexity and removes you a bit from the action. With CW, you handle the encoding and decoding which also enhances your sense of accomplishment. Plus, CW is conversational like phone and you're likely to enjoy the camaraderie that CW operators share.

CW's unique and rewarding user experience has resulted in its continued popularity. A quick tune across the bands will confirm this. Or, take a look at contest statistics. During the 2013 Field Day, CW provided 42% of the total QSOs, phone – 54% and digital – 4%. Similarly, during the 2012 Sweepstakes there were 500,739 CW QSOs and about 575,000 phone QSOs.

Is CW Difficult to Learn?

An eHam survey (5/6/2001 <http://www.eham.net/survey/337>) indicated that about 80% of hams could learn it without too much trouble and most either found it easy (16%) or challenging but fun (47%).

To find out how it would be for you, spend an hour or two using one of the excellent, free training programs. These programs can be found on lwo.net, justlearnmorsecode.com, G4FON.net, and on other websites. If you enjoy the first few lessons, continue. Even if you find it a bit tough, keep one thing in mind. Some hams who struggled learning CW or even hated it initially now love it and use it almost exclusively.

Will Learning CW Require a Lot of Time?

The Navy's former training course required 80 hours to achieve a fairly high level of proficiency (18 WPM) and included learning to type. The time you'll need to become sufficiently proficient to get on the air will likely be somewhere between 40-60 hours. This is probably just a small fraction of the time you spend on the hobby in one year.

What's the Best Method for Learning CW?

You'll find a variety of theories and gimmicks on the Internet about how to best learn CW. In the end, it all comes down to learning the sound of about 40 characters (letters, numbers, and punctuation) and a few special symbols. The Koch method in combination with Farnsworth timing, which is incorporated into the training programs mentioned above, is a widely accepted approach.

To begin, try to practice about a half-hour every day. You'll learn one new character at a time and your initial character speed should be no less than 15 WPM. *[My experience shows to start no lower than 20 WPM, it will pay dividends later. Faster is even better. Ed.]* You can set the Farnsworth timing to increase your character and word spacing to reduce your effective speed to perhaps initially 6-8 WPM. This approach forces your brain to focus on the sound of each character rather than individual dits and dahs while providing you time to recognize and record each character. After you achieve at least 90% accuracy with a new character, you should adjust the Farnsworth timing to increase your effective speed. You can begin practicing sending at any time.

Does Low Power (QRP) Offer Significant Benefits?

While QRP (5 watts or less) won't appeal to everyone, an eHam survey (7/6/2007 <http://www.eham.net/survey/871>) indicated that about 50% of hams use QRP at least part of the time. You may want to consider using it for one or more of the following reasons:

It can substantially reduce the cost of your station.

A new entry-level 100 watt HF multi-band, multi-mode transceiver with power supply will cost at least \$700 - \$800 (e.g., Icom 718, Yaesu FT-857) while a decent used radio and power supply will cost at least \$400. QRP single-band crystal controlled transceiver kits start as low as \$40 (e.g., RockMite – qrpme.com) or around \$100 for a single-band radio kit that is tunable (e.g., MFJ 9340K, TenTec 1340). A new, assembled single-band QRP radio will cost \$150 (e.g., MFJ 9340W) or \$200 for a multi-band radio (e.g., TenTec 506 Rebel). A small power supply or set of rechargeable batteries with charger will run about \$40.

You'll also need to spend about \$70 for coax, wire, rope, connectors, and homemade insulators to build a simple antenna like a dipole. Some portable antennas will cost a lot less because little or no coax is needed. In addition, you'll need a paddle or straight key that will cost at least \$30 - \$50 (see electronicsusa.com, vizkey.com) unless you build your own. For example, my almost no-cost "paddle" consists of two momentary tactile switches mounted on my handheld radio or on a prototype board.

You can find many other equipment choices and learn about their strengths and weaknesses in the eHam product reviews.

It facilitates operating portable.

QRP is quite popular for portable operation because the equipment is very small, light and energy efficient. In fact, many hams use QRP just for this purpose. For example, I use my homebrew 1 watt 20 meter handheld radio with an 8 foot whip antenna at my favorite beach in Florida (see my qrz.com page for details: <http://www.qrz.com/db/KA3J>). This past winter, I operated about 45-60 minutes per day on 82 days, had 222 QSOs and worked 34 states and 47 countries including Australia 7 times.

It may provide a more thrilling experience.

This is the key factor that may drive your interest in QRP. After using typical 100 watt radios for 28 years, I needed a new challenge and decided to homebrew a radio. I built a very simple 2 watt, 40 meter QRP transceiver that I used with a dipole up 50 feet. My initial low expectations quickly vanished as I casually worked all states and 86 countries while having many fine rag chews. I almost always made a contact within 15 minutes of turning the radio on.

QRP brought back the magic of radio for me and made operating exciting again. Now, 18 years later, it still amazes me that I can often communicate over thousands of miles with a simple antenna and a radio that fits in my pocket or hand. Every QSO feels special especially when I'm using a radio I built. This feeling is magnified when I operate portable, work a rare station in a pile-up, have a great rag chew, or work other QRPers.

So if you really enjoy developing your skills and seeing what you can accomplish with minimal gear, QRP may be for you.

Can a Beginner be Successful with Low Power?

Many hams, including QRP enthusiasts will tell you "no". The concern is that a beginner will have difficulty making contacts and quickly become frustrated. However, this will not occur if you adopt the right attitude and approach. AK4YH discusses his approach and success in his eHam article: Starting Ham Radio, The Road Less Taken (2/22/2014 - <http://www.eham.net/articles/31559>). It is interesting to note that entry level HF licensees are required to use low power (10 watts) in some countries, including England, Japan, and Australia. Here are some suggestions that will help ensure your success.

Adopt Reasonable Expectations

Be mindful that your signal will be at least 13 dB (about 2 S units) weaker than many. This means:

- You will not be able to contact every station that you hear
- Your CQs will not usually be answered quickly.
- You will need to be very patient and may not always be successful when trying to work a rare station in a pile-up.
- When conditions are poor or a particular propagation path is marginal, a contact may only be possible due to the more capable station and trained ears on the other end.

Use 40 or 20 Meters and Operate when Conditions are Most Favorable

The most popular bands for QRP are 40 and 20 meters because they have the most activity, good propagation throughout the solar cycle, and reasonable antenna size. To operate on 20 meters, you'll need to upgrade to General which only requires about 10 hours of studying (source: hamradiolicenseexam.com). This is well worth the time because 20 meters is great for day-time DX and portable operation. Also, a 20 meter antenna can be half the size of a 40 meter antenna and be equally effective at half the height. The upgrade will also give you access to other bands that are good for QRP.

It's best to operate when there is plenty of activity on the band and when propagation can best support a QRP signal. I've had good success on both 40 and 20 meters during late afternoon and early evening and on 40 meters well into the night. You'll need to determine what times work best for you in your area. Use reversebeacon.net to find out where and how well you're being heard at any time. Even with very low power (< 1 watt), you'll often be heard at least at one distant reverse beacon location.

Put Up a Good Antenna At Home or Go Portable

A simple center fed dipole probably offers the biggest bang for the buck if you can support it reasonably high, preferably 35 feet or more for 40 meters. Other options include an end fed half-wave dipole, a random wire with a tuner, or a vertical with a good set of radials, to mention a few. Some options may cost a bit more but offer multi-band capability.

If you can't put up a decent antenna at home, try operating portable. Ideally, select a nice electrically quiet location like a beach, park or mountain top (see: Summits on the Air program – <http://www.sota.org.uk/>). At these locations, QRPers have good success using a shortened vertical with a counterpoise, or a random wire or other end fed antenna thrown up in a tree or supported with a collapsible fishing pole.

Use Search and Pounce or Call CQ

The quickest way to make a contact is to search for stations calling CQ or that are just ending a QSO. As you tune, listen for stations with loud signals and minimal fading as they will likely hear you best. Also, be aware of weaker, low power stations near the QRP frequencies (e.g., 7.030 MHz, 7.040 MHz, 14.060 MHz) that are likely to hear you too.

Search and pounce will work best if you can copy stations at their speed – typically, 15 – 20 WPM. If you can't, when you respond to a CQ ask the station to please slow down (PSE QRS) as follows using your call sign (e.g., W3XYZ): PSE QRS DE W3XYZ W3XYZ K. You'll recognize that a QSO is ending if you can copy a common ending phrase like 73, cuagn (see you again), or cul (see you later). Then try to copy at least the station's prefix (e.g., W5, KA3, etc.) and call as follows: KA3? KA3? DE W3XYZ W3XYZ PSE QRS K.

If your speed is initially much slower than most stations, or if you're using a crystal controlled radio, you'll need to rely more heavily on calling CQ. This works fine but it may sometimes take twice as long, perhaps 30 minutes or more, to make a contact. Using a keyer that can send CQ automatically can reduce the effort. Try operating on or near the QRP frequencies, listen for activity first and then send QRL to make sure the frequency isn't in use before calling CQ.

Ask for Help When Needed

You can receive helpful guidance and encouragement and get questions answered on various QRP-related forums located on eHam, Yahoo Groups, and on QRP-L (<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/qrp-l>) as well as from QRP organizations such as QRP ARCI, Four State QRP Group, NorCal QRP Club, and others. There are also a variety of helpful CW-oriented clubs including the Straight Key Century Club, Fists CW Club, CW Operators Club, and others. Local ham club members and the hams you contact on the air can also provide assistance. Ideally, try to find a mentor in your area who can show you that operating QRP isn't difficult and can help you get your station on the air.

Conclusion

If you can be patient while developing your operating skills, low power HF CW can provide a very rewarding experience. You may be amazed to discover what can be accomplished with very simple gear. Low power CW can provide a low-cost entry into HF for Technician licensees and can be enjoyed by others as well.

So are you ready to begin your low power HF CW adventure?

A page from the contest diary

Anthony AB9YC



This time around it's the CQ WW RTTY DX contest. Contacts are worth points where foreign contacts are worth more than domestic contacts. There are multipliers for each country and CQ zone, and additional multipliers for US states and Canadian provinces.

I did this event last year and had a blast, and even set a class record. I set out this year to improve on that effort, and maybe pick up a few new countries along the way. Once again I concentrated on 40M since that's where my station can do the best, even if the band itself is not open full time.

From the start, the conditions were tough. It seemed that I had trouble with normally workable stations, domestic and DX. I still experienced problems where operators were not very good at syncing with my transmit frequency. Unlike other modes, where a human is decoding the transmission, RTTY uses a computer (or similar device) to decode, and if anything is different, it has to adjust. Not being on the precise (within a few Hz) frequency means the decode doesn't commence right away while the AFC tracks. This can lead to repeats. I am always amazed how many stations cannot zero in a digital signal, they must be just clicking a display and aren't very good with their mouse.

A few hours into the event I noticed my quantity of contacts was decidedly skewed to domestics and not much DX. Trying to get a more streamlined operation led me to tweak my setup just a bit. I use N1MM as my contest logger, and for RTTY I use MMTTY and 2Tone as decoders. Normally, 2Tone is the superior decoder, but watery conditions made both of them struggle. One setting on MMTTY seemed to give it the edge, and that is the notch filter. Basically, it keeps the peaks of the RTTY and specifically notches the valley portion of the signal. With this engaged MMTTY was a better decoder at the moment. I had periodic issues with 2Tone freezing. Simply restarting it's process seemed to fix the problem, but it never went away.

As with most contests you are only allowed a single contact on a band with other stations. But, I'm always amazed at how many stations call me again. Some are hours later, but it's still a dupe in my log. I don't complain, I just log them all. I don't get points for a dupe but it's easier than fighting with them. I even had one late in the contest who realized he was a dupe and sent SRI SRI 73. No problem.

With international contests it's always challenging to find a clear frequency. What may be clear on your side may be busy somewhere else. In one case I was running (calling CQ) when some DL's (German) were calling. Since they were on my frequency and zero beat, I presumed they were calling me. It turns out that an RA (Russian) was working that precise frequency on the other side of the world. I never heard him. Well, after a few of those aborted contacts, I rolled away. Time to search the band for anything new.

I ran across Ascencion Island calling CQ, and there was a pile waiting to get his multiplier (and me a new DX!). Up pops an EA (Spain) who starts calling CQ. Everyone in the pile is clamoring for him

to QSY but he just keeps calling CQ. Then, get this, he tries to work the Ascencion Island as if he was responding to his CQ! Ug! Frustration. I moved on.

Still more dupes calling in, amazing. Most are domestics.

At the end of my first stint, I had 136 contacts in the log. A poor showing in my mind. But, it was midnight. I would come back tomorrow morning.

Sunrise was disappointing and I didn't score anything really new, just some more domestics. But, I had a meeting to attend. 40M was dead by now anyway.

Returning around midday, I decided to hunt the other bands looking for some new countries. I found ZA/Z35T (Macedonia) spotted on 15M so I decided to move there. I heard them, but never made contact. I scored a few new band stations, handed out some points to others on the band, and kept hunting. I scored C37NL (Andorra), a new one for me.

A check of the spots now had ZA/Z35T on 10M, so I moved there hoping for a contact. Again, he couldn't hear me. I scored C37NL again, on another band, so it wasn't a total bust on that band.

I move to 20M, looking for anything I can use. I hand out a few points to some acquaintances, but not much exciting. Again I see the ZA spotted, here on 20M, so, I roll the dial there. Man, he's working a pileup. I try to get through, but it's clear I'm just not strong enough considering who he's answering.

The daylight brings a few new countries and some new band contacts for countries I already had.

After dinner, I sit back down ready to run as long as I could. It was still early, about an hour before sunset local time. This is the time to be on, to stake out a place on the bands as it opened up. And that's what I did. I began calling CQ, mostly into the dead band. Slowly, I began to log some local stations. Then a DX or two. It seemed that all at once, everyone realized that 40M was the place to be because it got crowded in a hurry. I ended up moving several times as I got pushed off my frequency by stronger stations who wouldn't work me, and couldn't hear me either.

After not a few "run and move" episodes I finally staked out a solid spot that I was able to maintain. I would take a break from running every now and then to scan the band. Looking for any station I hadn't already worked, and making sure I wasn't missing any much-needed multipliers, then back to running on my staked out location.

I'm running assisted, which means I'm logged into a DX cluster and getting notifications on my band map as stations are spotted, most of which I can't hear. And right there, less than 1kHz away, I see the ZA spotted. I quickly abandon my run, roll the dial a bit and work him! Boom! In the log! Awesome! A new multiplier, and a new country for my DX count. I bounce to my browser and look up the station on QRZ.com to find out if he uses LOTW. Darn, he doesn't. But, he does use ClubLog! So I jump over there and request an OQSL. I prefer an electronic QSL, but I'll take paper.

Back to my running frequency and more contacts. I'm beginning to notice that I'm getting multipliers (stations I need for mults) calling me, responding to my CQ! Excellent. Now, my score is starting to

build. And the ever-present dupes. I get one now and again, usually for a station I worked 20 hours ago. But here is a G (England) who calls, we QSL, then I send QRZ and the same station responds! Man, dupes hours apart are one thing, anyone can get bleary-eyed, but this guy is a dupe in consecutive entries! If this was a serial number exchange, he would have two numbers, back-to-back!

I make it as long as I could, and the band wasn't producing any more replies, and a scan showed nothing I hadn't already worked. It was 1am, so I went to bed.

When I awoke, it was already daylight. I hopped in the chair and checked the band map. It was teaming with JA's (Japan)! Wow! I rolled up on the first one, he's loud and clear. It send my call. Nothing. I try again. More nothing. I try again. Futility. Ok, maybe this guy isn't able to hear me, there are plenty more multipliers out there. I roll the dial to the next JA. Unfortunately, it's the same thing. I can hear him strong, but he just continues to call CQ. Disappointing. No problem, they are still strong. I work Guam and Australia, both first call, but the JA's just don't hear me.

I move off, scanning the band, looking for what else is new. I manage a few new stations, but no new multipliers. I run for a short stint. I return to hunting for JA's. Once again, while they are strong, they can't hear me. This goes on. It seems I'm losing the band and missed my chance for that part of the world. Perhaps I should have gotten up earlier.

Daylight was the same as yesterday, scan the higher bands looking for some new countries. Just for grins, I pull up my multiplier status. I've worked all but 3 states! Wow, that's a first. Even in domestic contests I never work that many states. I only need LA, RI and NE. Nice to know, but 40M is pretty dead. I'll keep an eye out for these holes in my multipliers.

I return, like yesterday, just ahead of sundown, monotonously calling CQ. It's still a bit early, so I start cleaning up around my station, always within reach of the keyboard should a reply show.

Done cleaning, I sit down and watch the display, the software mechanically calling CQ. A reply. Most convenient, it's from LA. And another, also from LA. The band must be opening. And there, within the span of a dozen or so QSO's I manage several RI. I might make a Worked All States – in a DX contest! Ok, I really want NE now, where are they? That's W0 country, so any 0 calls are my targets. I scan the band map but don't see any spotted. *[Not all active stations are spotted so the bandmap will be incomplete.*

Ed.] A 0 calls me, could this be my needed NE? Nope, MN. Check the cluster for any NE station, even on another band, maybe I can contact them and ask for a temporary hop to 40M. But there aren't any shown. Another 0, it's MO. Another, but CO this time. Talk about missing the mark.

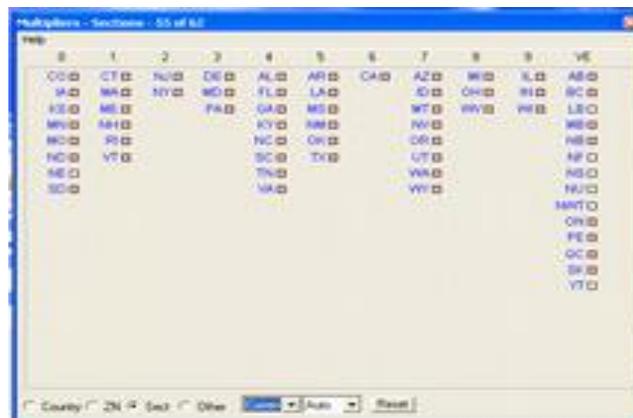


Illustration 1: Multipliers window

I'm scanning the band map for any signs of a 0 station, but they are scarce, and the ones present are definitely NOT from NE!

My multiplier count seems to have topped out, and the QSO's dwindle. The final minutes of the event tick away. No NE. No WAS for this event. A scan of my WAS history shows absolutely no NE on 40M digital, RTTY or otherwise. Nothing changes this time either.

In the end, I managed 421 in-band QSO's for 612 points, 18 CQ zones, 52 countries and 55 states/RAC sections. I tallied 76,500 total points for my 19.6 hours of effort. I post my log to the contest address knowing I did what I did. Maybe not my best, but there is next year, and I'll do better.

Until then, 73. AB9YC.

Update: The raw scores, that is scores before any checking and penalties, are posted, and my score is currently in position number 4 in the world in class. It's not likely I will move up following scoring adjustments (short of a DQ maybe) and I can see the gaps in my operating time put my score where it is. More reason to extend my operating time for this band if I want to place higher. Like a true Cubs fan, there's always next year.

Assisted Low 40 Meters

SP2QOT.....	148,463
OJ2RG.....	141,363
IT9RZU.....	104,328
AB9YC.....	76,136
W49/RV1DH.....	69,275

Illustration 2: Raw scores

AB9YC

Club roster information request

Ladies and gentlemen,

We are still trying to get information for the club roster. The information will be published only in paper form to prevent creation of spam emails etc, but will be useful to you and other members of the club, when you and they could use help in learning something. The spreadsheet requests the following information. If you don't want to provide all, you don't have to. (Actually, I was just looking at the list below, and I see it does not include offspring. It is possible that they could also benefit from knowing others from within SARC, as well.)

The info you send will not be on Google groups if you send it only to him, and thus it won't be available to anyone else (except the NSA, and they already know all about you.)

Name, Call Sign, License Class, First year licensed, SARC Committee Positions (current), SARC Committee Positions (former), Ham Radio Interests, Spouse Name, Home Address: City, State, Zip Code, Email Address, Home Phone, Cell Phone, Work Phone, Employer, Occupation, Former occupation, Other Interests or Hobbies, Special Abilities

Please send your information to Jim at mccannj706@gmail.com. Let's make a Roster that can be really helpful.

73 de N9MVO,

Rob

Trading post, items for sale or trade

For sale to SARC members. A genuine Radio Shack 3 1/2 digit autoranging Digital Multimeter. Autoranging means you don't have to worry about changing the scale. Just touch the test point and the meter will show you how much is there. Minimum bid \$5.00 on this item.



Second is a power supply, Thornton Associates variable 0-6 V at 5 A. Nicely enclosed, good heat sinking fins outside. Minimum bid \$5.00 on this item.



About the time of RHG publication, this email info plus the attached pictures can be sent to SARC all. EMail replies with bids for them to sarc-all to allow all to see your bid. Bidding closes at 6:00 PM on Thursday, December 18. At the December meeting, we will examine the bids (if any) and the highest bid above the minimum gets each one. If no bids are placed, the items will go on eBay.

Our club has for sale this 2 meter 15 element beam made by Telrex Labs. The beam measures 25 FEET plus in length, has a Beamwidth of 28 degrees, and a Front/Back ration of 30 DB. Bids can be submitted to SARC all. Picture of the two meter beam is attached.



There is a 20-15-10 meter beam antenna. The manufacture is Telrex. Send bid statements to Sarc-all. NO picture is available.

Construction Project

Saturday, September 27, 2014, SARC held the first Construction Project of the season. Although there was some tinkering with electronic gadgets, our primary activity was learning about Smith



Charts. Mel did his best to impart some knowledge about this subject to us. The Smith Chart is a very useful tool for anyone who deals with antennas. It allows you to visualize the impedance of an antenna line and antenna system as a function of frequency. They are very useful for impedance matching. It is basically a polar plot of the reflection coefficient.



The center of the chart represents a perfect match, with no reflected power. The outer ring of the chart represents all power being reflected. The farther a plot moves away from the center of the chart, the greater the reflected power.



At the end of this informative presentation, Rob presented the **Voltage Balun Award** to Mel. His reaction was somewhat expected. He was underwhelmed!



However, shortly after a good laugh, Mel was presented with the real award. The Club recognized him for his achievements and knowledge of antennas and related radio science, as well as, his selfless educational support to the Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club. Mel has lived a life of supporting others, from his service to his country during WWII in the U.S. Navy to insuring our safety by overseeing radio communications equipment for the FAA.



The gathering concluded with a celebration of Mel's award and a cake.



Calendar and things to do

November

ARRL Centennial QSO Party	1/1 – 365 days, all 50 states, all bands, many modes
Breakfast at Maxfields	1
Board of directors meeting	5
EmComm Roundtable	15
Club meeting	20

There are plenty of contests this month operating in many modes on various bands, so find one and listen in. Check out <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/weeklycont.php> to see what's coming up.

Looking ahead

Christmas Party	January 15, 2015
Cruise	2016

VE Testing Results

Results for October 4, 2014
 Next Test November 1, 2014
 Park District CRC; Sr. Center;
 Sunshine Room.



CLASS	NUMBER TESTED	NEW LICENSE or UPGRADE
Technician	3	3
General	3	3
Extra	2	2
Total	8	8

New/Upgraded Licenses:

****Technician****

Keith Sakal KD9CFK
 Dionisio Reyes KD9CFT
 Jason Berg KD9CFM

****General****

William Hamrick KD9CFL

David Hanson KD9CFN
 Keith Sakal KD9CFK

****Amateur Extra****

Richard Kazmura KD9BTR
 Mark Jessing N4OJE

The SARC-sponsored VE exam sessions are held at 9:00 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month (unless it is a holiday or advised to the contrary by Schaumburg Park District) at

Schaumburg Community Rec Center (CRC)
505 N. Springinsguth Road
Schaumburg, IL 60168-0251

The CRC is located at the S.E. corner of Springinsguth and Bode Road, park in the North lot and enter through the North doors. Testing will be in the Sr. Sunshine Room, signs will be posted to guide the way to the room.

The fee for taking a VE exam is \$14.00.

According to the FCC, the test fee allows an examinee one attempt to pass or fail each of the three examination elements. In addition, the order in which the examination elements are taken is not restricted; they may be taken out of sequence.

As in the past, an identical fee will be assessed to any applicant who fails an exam and wants to retest at the same session. The only condition is that the same exam (identical set of questions) cannot be given to the Applicant, since all our exams are unique, this is not a problem at our sessions.

Tom Doyle K9MF
 W5YI-VEC CVE & Test Session Manager
 847-895-0174
 Email: K9MF@ARRL.NET

SARC Email Reflector

Want to know what's happening in the club? Join the club's email reflector on Google groups.

Point your web browser to: <http://groups.google.com/group/sarc-all>

Click on the Join this group link. You can use your current email account to sign up or create a free Gmail account.

You can elect to receive individual messages, a daily digest, or just read the messages on the Google Groups webpage.

Club Nets

Technical information net - Every Tuesday night at 7:30 pm. on the SARC Repeater 145.23 MHz.-600 kHz WITH 107.2 Hz PL. Bring your Q&A's

Thursday nights are the 2 meter general information net on the SARC Repeater 145.23 MHz.-600 kHz with 107.2 Hz PL. at 8:00 PM (except meeting nights.)

Club Meetings

Club meetings are held at the Schaumburg Recreation Center (CRC) on the southeast corner of Springinsguth and Bode roads. Our nets are held every Thursday (except Meeting nights) at 8pm on the K9IIK repeater; 145.23 MHz -600 kHz with 107.2 Hz PL.

Club Officers – 2014

President: Rob Glowacki N9MVO
[n9mvo <at> sbcglobal.net](mailto:n9mvo@sbglobal.net)
 847-981-1481

Vice Pres. Leo Ribordy N9NBH
[leoribordy <at> sbcglobal.net](mailto:leoribordy@sbglobal.net)
 847-697-7616

Secretary: Ray Parsons W9RAP

Treasurer: Albert Valdes K6K0K

Director: Steve Karson AC9EM (2016)

Director: Anthony Willard AB9YC (2016)

Director: Cliff Sowka K9QD (2014)

Director: Ray Parsons W9RAP (2014)

Director: Gary Bernstein N9VU (2015)

Club Committees

Programs	Open	RHG	Anthony Willard, AB9YC
Social Activities	Roger Ryan, W9RDR	Publicity	Open
Membership	Leo Ribordy, N9NBH	Net	Jim Brink, W9JFB
Education	Open	Technical Assistance	Ted Lester AB9SZ
Public Service	Rob Glowacki, N9MVO	Fund Raising	- Open -
Emergency Communications	Bob	Fox Hunt Coordinator	Steve Karson,
Langsfeld, WB9TZC			AC9EM
Special Events / Field Day	Dennis White,	Repeater	Rob Glowacki, N9MVO
KC9NZP			



Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club

Thursday Night 8:00 Net
S.A.R.C. Repeater
145.230 MHz- 600 kHz PL=107.2
442.275 MHz +5 MHz PL=114.8
Hz

Don't forget to check into the net! It will only take a minute and will let other club members know how you sound on the club repeater. The net features current club news, weekly NEWSLINE, news from other clubs and (of course) the swap-and-shop. Encourage your friends who are not yet members to check in with as well. Keep in mind that this is an open net and we encourage everyone to check in. See you Thursday at 8p.m.

The Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club, Inc. is organized as a general not-for-profit corporation in the State of Illinois to render public service whenever applicable to the needs of the

community and further various pursuits of amateur radio as a hobby. Meetings are generally held on the third Thursday of each month. Visitors are always welcome.

Please send all submissions for the Radio Hill Gazette to the following address:

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club,
Inc.
790 Washington Blvd.
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169-3077

Or you can send by email to rhg@n9rjv.org.

We solicit letters, articles, news items, quizzes, advertisements, suggestions, and criticism – plus anything else you can think of, including ideas to improve the RHG! Please make submissions by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the next issue.

The editor reserves the right to edit submissions due to size or formatting limitations. S.A.R.C. shares newsletters with a number of other clubs. We scrutinize their publications very closely to make

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Visit the SARC Home Page at <http://n9rjv.org>

