

The Radio Hill Gazette

August 2015

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From the Editor

Welcome to another edition of the Radio Hill Gazette.

Field Day 2015 is now history. Even with the seemingly poor band conditions we still had a great time. The weather was very nice, the food was great, the socializing was outstanding and all in all it was a wonderful time. Check out the Field Day summary in this issue.

The North American QSO Party starts back up in late July with RTTY mode, but CW and SSB are in August. These are fun events and you have an opportunity to test out your station as you work as many domestic stations as you can, maybe even get a Worked All States! I will be out of town for the CW weekend, but I'm taking along some QRP gear and intend to get into the contest operating portable. I've operated portable before, from my back yard, from a park or two, but this will be my first traveling operation – and in a contest to boot! I'll let you know how that goes.

I'm always looking for stuff that might be of interest and I ran across a new “movement” known as “100 watts and a wire”. This is a newly licensed HAM (Christian K0STH) who's chronicling his experience through a series of pod casts, Facebook interactions and impromptu gatherings on the bands. He's joined on the podcasts by Katie (WY7YL). They are apparently developing quite a following. The first podcast takes place just after Field Day 2015, check it out, <http://100wattsandawire.com/>.

I managed another Clean Sweep (13 colony stations plus 2 bonus stations) in the recent 13 Colonies event, what a fun time that was. I never heard from anyone else, so I presume I was the only one who participated in this event.

Just one more thing, are you an Amateur Radio Operator or merely an Amateur Radio Licensee?

Anthony
Editor, RHG



Public service events in July

Thanks to all who came out for our July Public Service events:

Alan ND9D, Anthony AB9YC, Bruce N9EHA, Bruce KB9JEJ, Charles KM9N, Daryl KB9RHR, DJ WA9UBR, Frank N9QPD, Jim KB9RGU, John AC9JS, Matt KD9EBV, Mike AC9CG, Neil N9NL and myself, N9MVO helped out with the Village of Hoffman Estates Independence Day Parade.

Over 60 units were involved in the parade, and everything went smoothly. Each and every parade unit was right where it belonged, except for those that did not arrive when they were supposed to. The reviewing stand was notified of the changes required, and village officials thanked us for helping to make their parade a success this year.

We also supported the Schaumburg Triathlon/Duathlon on Sunday, July 19.

Thanks to those who came out to support our most important Public Service Event:

Bill KD9WKD, Bruce N9EHA, Bruce KB9JEJ, Charles KM9N, Don KA9RXK, Frank N9QPD, Jim KB9RGU, John AC9JS, Kent W9KAO, Leo N9NBH, Matt AC9IG, Matt KD9EBV, Mike AC9CG, Neil N9NL, Ray W9RAP and myself, N9MVO.

The Triathlon is most important to the club, as it supports the Schaumburg Park District, which provides us with our meeting rooms for general club meetings and VE testing, as well as the Tennis Club facility for our Construction Project meetings.

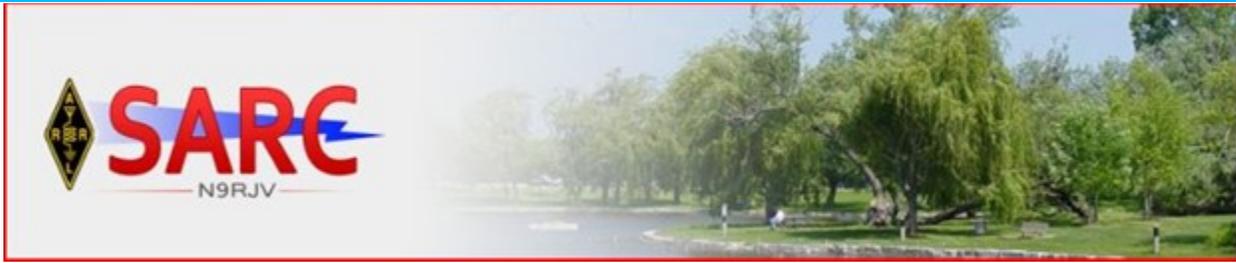
The Triathlon went smoothly, with no reported injuries or mechanical failures for participants, and we had finished before 10:30 AM. Thanks again to all who participated in our Public Service Events this year, including these and the MS walk in May. We hope to see you again next year in support of our club's Public Service Events, and perhaps even later this year, if we receive any further requests to assist the public.

73 de N9MVO,

Rob

Public Service Chair

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club

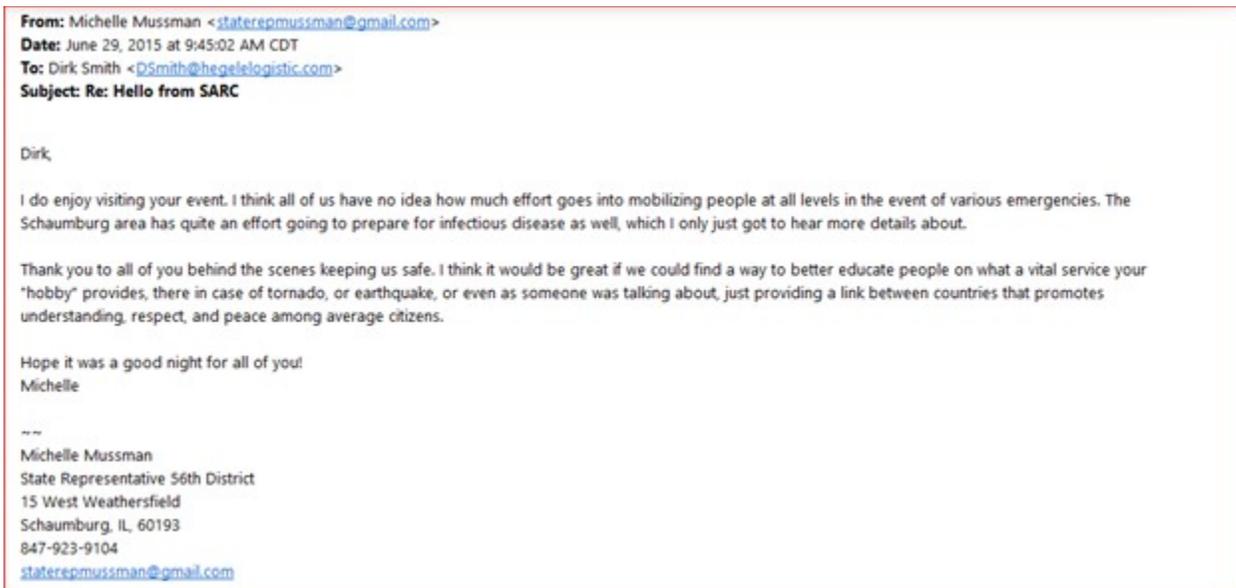


Field Day 2015

The 2015 ARRL field day completed Sunday June 28 at 2100 UTC. First of all Jim, W9JFB and myself Leo, N9NBH would like to thank everyone who participated in this year Field Day. We had 30 SARC members come to Field Day. We had 38 visitors sign in to our log sheet. The mayor of the Village of Schaumburg along with 2 village trustee's, the Public Works Commissioner, and State Representative Michele Mussman.

Michele brought with her her two boys who were shown the GOTA tent and they were able to get on the air and make a contact.

Here is a copy of an email Dirk Smith, K9DFS, received from Michele Mussman.



Of the other visitors to Field Day was a retired Air Force General. He seemed to enjoy what we were doing, it must of have reminded him of his days in the service.

One of the things we tried and it did not work out was contact our sister city in Schaumburg Germany. We were not able to find the correct hams who would be available. We did find out

that the village of Schaumburg Illinois has a group that works with Schaumburg Germany. Next year maybe we can schedule a time during field day to contact Germany.

The unofficial data for Field Day is CW contacts 1174, Digital 66, Phone 1272, with bonus points and multiplier's we ended up with 8834 points. We qualified for every bonus block except the satellite QSO and the formal messages.

SARC Field Day Summary 2002 - 2014											QSOs by Station				Field Day Chair
Field Day Year	Class	QSO	Score	Overall National Position	Total National Entries	Illinois Position	Total Illinois Entries	National 2A Position	Total National 2A Entries	Notes	CW	SSB	VHF	GOTA	
2015	2A	2512	8934								1174			96	JB/LR
2014	2A	2333	8330	77	2686	3	78	15	392	#1 - 2A in IL	1182	1017	55	79	DW
2013	2A	2123	7530	102	2548	3	82	21	398	#1 - 2A in IL	1164	849	21	119	DW
2012	2A	2036	7458	122	2617	4	82	26	408	#1 - 2A in IL	962	695	84	295	DW
2011	2A	2254	7890	116	2632	5	79	29	387	#1 - 2A in IL	879	648	227	500	DW
2010	2A	1378	6080	169	2617	8	89	37	424	#1 - 2A in IL					GS
2009	2A	1890	7216	123	2612	6	90	32	437	#1 - 2A in IL					GS
2008	2A	1214	5160	215	2410	14	80	61	442	#1 - 2A in IL					
2007	2A	2109	8166	71	2333	3	80	14	478	#1 - 2A in IL					
2006	2A	2571	9206	55	2183	3	69	14	455	#1 - 2A in IL					
2005	2A	2333	9040	50	2202	3	89	11	451						
2004	4A	2003	6614	144	2251	6	91	11*	129*	*4A Entry					
2003	2A	1508	5672	160	2085	9	86	49	429						
2002	2A	2604	9948	48	2100	2	83	7	468						

Again, a thank you to all the club members who help 2015 Field Day be a success.

Jim Brink W9JFB co-chair

Leo Ribordy N9NBH co-chair

Reflections: Pale Blue Dot

Carl Sagan titled his 1994 book *Pale Blue Dot: A Vision of the Human Future in Space* after the photograph. In it, he expresses his thoughts on a deeper meaning of the image. *{An image of Earth taken from the Voyager 1 spacecraft at a distance of ~3,762,146,000 miles away, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pale_Blue_Dot.}*

From this distant vantage point, the Earth might not seem of any particular interest. But for us, it's different. Consider again that dot. That's here. That's home. That's us. On it everyone you love, everyone you know, everyone you ever heard of, every human being who ever was, lived out their lives. The aggregate of our joy and suffering, thousands of confident religions, ideologies, and economic doctrines, every hunter and forager, every hero and coward, every creator and destroyer of civilization, every king and peasant, every young couple in love, every mother and father, hopeful child, inventor and explorer, every teacher of morals, every corrupt politician, every "superstar," every "supreme leader," every saint and sinner in the history of our species lived there – on a mote of dust suspended in a sunbeam.



Illustration 1: Pale Blue Dot

The Earth is a very small stage in a vast cosmic arena. Think of the rivers of blood spilled by all those generals and emperors so that in glory and triumph they could become the momentary masters of a fraction of a dot. Think of the endless cruelties visited by the inhabitants of one corner of this pixel on the scarcely distinguishable inhabitants of some other corner. How frequent their misunderstandings, how eager they are to kill one another, how fervent their hatreds. Our posturings, our imagined self-importance, the delusion that we have some privileged position in the universe, are challenged by this point of pale light. Our planet is a lonely speck in the great enveloping cosmic dark. In our obscurity – in all this vastness – there is no hint that help will come from elsewhere to save us from ourselves.

The Earth is the only world known, so far, to harbor life. There is nowhere else, at least in the near future, to which our species could migrate. Visit, yes. Settle, not yet. Like it or not, for the moment, the Earth is where we make our stand. It has been said that astronomy is a humbling and character-building experience. There is perhaps no better demonstration of the folly of human conceits than this distant image of our tiny world. To me, it underscores our responsibility to deal more kindly with one another and to preserve and cherish the pale blue dot, the only home we've ever known.

1July2015 SARC board Meeting, Schaumburg Municipal Airport, Pilot Pete's

Attendees: Kevin Willard (KB9QVX), Anthony Willard (AB9YL), Gary Bernstein (N9VU), Leo Ribordy (N9NBH), Rob Glowacki (N9MVO), Steve Karson (AC9EM, Mike Clodfelter (AC9CG), Jim Brink (W9JFB)

Treasurer's report, Chris B.: gave report and approved

Beginning balance for June 2015: \$3437.04

Income (dues and Power supply sale): \$81.65

Expenses (data line): \$35.00

Balance: \$3493.69

Secretary's report, Mike C. reporting: gave June 2015 board report, and approved

Membership report, Leo R.: 65-70 hams

Public service, Rob G.; July 4 Hoffman Estates Parade, July 19 Schaumburg triathlon. Maxfield breakfast re-scheduled to Sunday July 5th, AM.

President's report, Leo R.;

RHG, Anthony W.; nothing to report, need FD write-up from Leo, team. (as little or as much). Any good, relevant pictures needed. What bonus points tried and achieved. No satellite contact. With all the activity, we must have good items to report. Joy Walsh made 4 contacts

Repeater, Steve K.; sounds good. Can pick up in Lake Zurich.

Construction project, Ted L.: on hold until Sept 2015

VE testing, Steve K.; none for July

Social activities, Roger R.; (not present)

Net control, Jim; Matt Walsh did good job last time

Foxhunt, Steve K.; time for another foxhunt in next 2 weeks (1st half July)

Ideas for FD 2016, and re-cap 2015 Jim B.: Anthony (need to plan better. No documents in place. Somebody picks up checklist and runs with it, but not well documented) Jim (add another station? Have run 3A before, different classification. Need more participation.). Anthony (need a lot more folks to run more stations. Too difficult on a 3rd station.) Jim (don't need to operate all 24hrs per station. GOTA tent worked well. Many non-members/visitors. 3 local politicians. A general. Need to be more careful on use of bands to avoid interference.) Jim (another antenna might be too crowded at Water tank site). Leo (Water tank will definitely need painting next summer.) Steve (need exploratory committee, next FD chair for 2016). Jim (do we need to generate so much garbage? Don't want to wait until 6 weeks before next FD and have complaints. Scores: final tally = 1137 cw contact (2338) + qualified for every bonus but Satellite) Rob G. (Radiogram sent?) Jim (1350 bonus points, GOTA = 97 contacts. 8330 point in 2014, 8600 in 2015. REP Michelle Mussman showed up, Schaumburg mayor and 2 village trustees. Dennis W still working on.) Had an over-supply of some drinks and chips. Too much wind at SSB and GOTA tents due to proximity to Water tank. CW Tent wasn't so windy

Publicity, Leo. R: none

SARC July 2015 meeting presentation, ; 2016 Alaska Cruise representatives for next SARC meeting, 16July2015. Kevin: Video on duplexer tuning. (backup?)

Emcomm, Bob.L; not present

EBAY/Club sales of donated equipment, Gary; Drake T4XB sold for \$400, buyer unhappy – may want to sell back to SARC for \$300. Not sure if working correctly. This tube rig requires many tuning adjustments when changing bands and/or frequency. We'll work with members to make it right. Get the rig back, check out, fix if necessary and re-sell to Club or on Ebay.

Old business, Leo R./others; Dirk received email from Michelle Mussman (state rep), thanking SARC for help in emergencies. (to be published in RHG with FD summary). Never got response from Schaumburg Germany. Schaumburg IL works with sister city, exchange student. Schaumburg rep came to FD briefly.

New business, Rob G.; SARC board email list, Leo R.; Solicit email about FD 2015 from all SARC. (SARC all: suggestions to improve FD) Ken Field did excellent job on food. Hats were given to captains. Check generators for noise. Anthony: possibly too much electrical noise at CW tent, APC UPS wouldn't power up – maybe input voltage too low. Need shorter extension

cord runs. Had 100' 100' + 25' plus Teed from GOTA. Ron had AC filter box – ad hoc. Need better filtering.

Recurring calendar: Pizza at SARC-in-Park in August? Date not set yet. FD issues review.

SARC Website, Leo R.:

Program chair, Leo/Rob; 2016 Alaska Cruise representatives for next SARC meeting, 16July2015.

Submitted: 21July2015

Mike Clodfelter, SARC Secretary

The Radio Hill Gazette

SARC club meeting at SRC (Schaumburg Recreational Center) on 16July, 2015

Leo Ribordy (N9NBH), SARC President presided.

HAMs signed attendance sheet. About 35-40 in attendance. Visitors: 3 or 4

Question of the Evening: Are you an up-to-date, paid member for this year?

Treasurer's Report, Chris Brewer (AC9GN): (for June 1, 2015 thru June 30, 2015)

Beginning balance for June 2015:	\$3437.04
Income (dues and Power supply sale):	\$81.65
Expenses (data line):	\$35.00
Balance on June 30:	\$3493.69

Secretary's Report, Mike Clodfelter (AC9CG): for 16June2015 SARC meeting. Motion made and Report approved by SARC members.

Membership: 19 paid members as of report tonight (will probably catch up on dues by Aug 2015 club meeting)

Public Service, Rob Glowacki (N9MVO): July 19, Sunday, Triathlon for SCH park district. (effort to impress, repay Schaumburg park district. VE testing room, Water tank, Tennis court.) 5AM start at Weathersfield Way and Roselle Rd. Continues to 11AM-12noon or so. Pool at Meinecke. Use 5w HT, and repeater when west of Roselle Rd. Running part of course - east of Roselle, simplex to bank – Weathersfield and Roselle. Bring chair, beverages, sunscreen, vest, 2M HT, etc.

Next Maxfield's breakfast on Aug 1.

RHG newsletter: Anthony Willard (AB9YC): Monthly RHG items submission deadline is 20th. Tempus fugit.

Repeater, Kent Ochs (W9KAO): Copper J-pole went up, works well, resident machinist Bob to work on folded dipole antenna to replace J-pole. Audio problems recently – bad audio level. USB Isolator installed RX side. Noise from HD computer. Still a little noise. RX OK so focus

on TX side now. Raspberry Pi II on repeater soon. (4 USB, HDMI port). Runs off SD flash card. 1AMP @5Volt. 16GB on this one. OS is 4GB. Cost is \$46 with case. Ken owns 2. We link UHF node to VHF node. Previous antenna was probably near lightning strike which produced high temp and blew off antenna cap. Place coax inside Antenna structure to protect coax.

Construction, Ted Lester (AB9SZ): In hiatus. Start back in Sept with Crystal set clinic possibly. Product of people who attend.

VE Testing, Steve Karson (AC9EM): Tom Doyle: people tested/ passed in June. No test in July.

Social, Roger Ryan (W9RDR) : (?): cruise ship presentation with video. (5 couples is threshold for keeping cruise event.) New Restaurant (across from Buona Beef on Higgins Rd) being considered for next part event (Jan 2016). Roger will distribute menu at next SARC club meeting. Downside is they want (1) a deposit. (2) buffet or 1-2 menu items (pre-planned) only. Three members are going to DX convention (Paula Uscian and others) so need to re-schedule. Possible dates: adequate daylight, away from college start dates. Propose September 19, 2015, and 5PM start. Any objections: none from SARC club.

Nets, Jim Brink (W9JFB): Matt Walsh - new operator, 4th Thursday, 8PM,

Education, (Leo and Rob) : not here (Bruce Warrington). Look to see if can get Tech class going this fall.

Foxhunt: Steve (AC9EM): none last month due to FD. Start again soon. Probably after Aug 1st Maxfield breakfast

Publicity: (Leo): none to report

Programs, Cliff Sowka (K9QD): tonight -Sales pitch from cruise rep. Ted to talk on Sunspot cycle 24 if have time in August. (get NASA data)

Emcom, Bob Langsfeld (WB9TZC): not present. Appointment set with Bill Clark at village about Antenna. Waiting for install. Need duplexer for Fusion analog/digital repeater. Emergency operation center in Schaumburg (ICS700 course, FBI background check 9-10 registered). In fire station, next to emergency center, where potential crisis is managed. Gary B. has repeater. Duplexer has slots tuned to max. NW central dispatch is connected by internet. Worst case scenario when internet is down: SARC used as backup.

Ebay sales, Gary Berstein (N9VU): nothing new

Recurring calendar, Leo R.: old/new business? August: by-law changes (none listed on SARC web). Published in October 2015. Submit ARRL annual report. Anybody know? (Rob: how many members, how many public service events, VE testing,) Majority of SARC are ARRL members. SSC (special service club) renewed every 2 years.

Old business: FD planning for next year. FD published in next RHG. (8834 points turned in). Previous 2014: FD 8330. No Satellite bonus points. No xxx bonus points. Found contact at Sch IL for Sch Germany. (Kent: use Echolink is sure thing). Roger had General, Village Mayor, State rep Sch district (Michelle). If anyone has additional input, please submit. Ken did good job on food. Frank good job on pancakes.

New business: (Burt, need contact for TV publicity, robotics group coming in from out of town). 2016 FD – water tank painted next year (probably late in summer), but need alternate site. No Cook County forest preserves since they don't allow overnight stays. Need potty facilities. Schaumburg High school. Kent: Village Green at Hoffman Estates (west of Sears Centre). Prairie Center event was nice (recent boy scouts), Downside: way back in off road. Covered staging area is nice for sitting, operating. Higgins near Beverly. Scout camp on north side of Higgins Rd. Rob: we have in with Hoffman Estates due to helping at July4 parade. Cliff: industrial trailer he can borrow from friend. Frank: Need 3-4 sites proposed, then look at permits

Program (2nd hour): Cruise rep presented cruise detail and Travel agent (Barrington Travel) handed out bags and brochures

Submitted: July 21, 2015

Mike Clodfelter, SARC secretary

A Call for Programs

Potential Topics

RF Transmission Fundamentals	ARRL Awards	ARRL Contests
Semiconductor Developments	Operating Tips	QSL Card Process
Managing Pileups	Public Service	Emergency Communications
Village of Schaumburg Volunteers	Field Day Planning	Basic Electronics
Inductive / Capacitive Reactance	Biasing Transistors	uController Projects
SDR / Dongle Radio Tricks	Grid Locators	Frequency Charts
Antenna Basics / Installation	Advanced Antenna Tricks	Measuring Antenna Impedance
Lightning Protection	Shack Electrical Facilities	Solar Cycle Considerations

Ideas for presentations are endless. Our membership has talented and experienced people who are asked to contribute to interesting business meetings by bringing some of their knowledge forward for all to benefit.

Please let me know if you wish to present a topic and I will include your ideas into the schedule. Then our diverse membership will provide enthusiastic participation for a rewarding outcome.

Cliff Sowka K9QD
Program Chair

Trading post, things for sale or trade

“Nothing! I have absolutely nothing!”

Calendar and things to do

August

Breakfast at Maxfields	1
NAQP – CW	1
Board of directors meeting	5
NAQP – SSB	15
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

Cruise 2016

VE Testing Results

Results for June 6, 2015
 Next Test August 1, 2015
 Park District CRC; Sr. Center;
 Sunshine Room.

CLASS	NUMBER TESTED	NEW LICENSE or UPGRADE
Technician	4	4
General	3	2
Extra	0	0
Total	7	6



New/Upgraded Licenses:

****Technician****

Sergey Kravchenko KD0EBS
 William Riess KD9EBT
 Alexander Nightingale KD9EBU
 Matthew Warington KD9EBV

****General****

William Davies K9WKD
 Christopher Westphal KD9BMX

****Amateur Extra****

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

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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 - 2015

President:	Leo Ribordy	N9NBH	Director:	Rob Glowacki	N9MVO	(2016)
Vice Pres.	Steve Karson	AC9EM	Director:	Anthony Willard	AB9YC	(2016)
Secretary:	Mike Clodfelter	AC9CG	Director:	Kevin Willard	KB9QVX	(2017)
Treasurer:	Chris Brewer	AC9GN	Director:	Ted Lester	AB9SZ	(2017)
			Director:	Gary Bernstein	N9VU	(2015)

Club Committees

Programs	Cliff Sowka, K9QD	RHG	Anthony Willard, AB9YC
Social Activities	Roger Ryan, W9RDR	Publicity	Open
Membership	Leo Ribordy, N9NBH	Net	Jim Brink, W9JFB
Education	Bruce Warrington, N9EHA	Technical Assistance	Ted Lester, AB9SZ
Public Service	Rob Glowacki, N9MVO	Fund Raising	Open
Emergency Communications	Bob Langsfeld, WB9TZC	Fox Hunt Coordinator	Steve Karson, AC9EM
Special Events/Field Day	Leo/N9NBH, Jim/W9JFB	Repeater	Rob Glowacki, N9MVO



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 sure that we do not infringe on any copyrights. As a matter of form, we try to acknowledge all prior sources.

Unless otherwise clearly identified as copyright protected, all material in the RHG may be used when due credit is given to the author and to SARC.

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

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