

The Radio Hill Gazette

September 2015

Table of Contents

From the Editor.....	2
A Bonus SARC In The Park.....	3
A contest on the road.....	4
Being active, even without a radio.....	6
Boeshield T-9.....	7
Ten Steps to Mastering Morse Code.....	8
5Aug2015 SARC board Meeting, Schaumburg Municipal Airport, Pilot Pete's.....	11
SARC club meeting at SRC (Schaumburg Recreational Center) on 20Aug, 2015.....	13
A Call for Programs.....	16
Trading post, things for sale or trade.....	17
Calendar and things to do.....	17
August.....	17
September.....	17
Looking ahead.....	17
VE Testing Results.....	18
SARC Email Reflector.....	19
Club Nets.....	19
Club Meetings.....	19
Club Officers – 2015.....	19
Club Committees.....	19
Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club.....	20

From the Editor

Welcome to another edition of the Radio Hill Gazette.

Fall is fast approaching, even as we enjoy the nice weather, we must plan for the impending change in season. That means planning any remaining outdoor projects and repairs. So, be safe and be ready for the cold where you can sit inside your shack and be warm making RF!

I had to be out of town on family matters for the NAQP CW during the first weekend of August, but I took along some QRP gear and got into the contest from middle Tennessee. Check out the article in this issue.

For those of you who liked the 13 Colonies event, there is a Katrina 10th Anniversary Special Memorial Event at the end of August into September. Check out the event website at <http://www.katrina5h.com>.

I've included another article from the Solid Copy newsletter about learning Morse Code, CW. While the article was written by someone else, it mirrors what I've said about learning CW. Aside from any strategies for learning, the overriding concept is if you really want to do it, you will. If you internalize the desire to learn CW, make it part of what you want to be as an Amateur, you will stick to it through the highs and lows, and learn it. This is a very rewarding operating mode which puts you in a very prestigious group, not to mention it opens opportunities to many more contacts given the limited stations many of us use – the use of narrow filters can greatly reduce local QRM, the use of lower power can virtually eliminate any chance of RFI, not to mention the chance to homebrew various elements.

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

Anthony
Editor, RHG



A Bonus SARC In The Park

Well, the weather was delightful, and the location was different on July 25 for a special edition of SARC In The Park. We normally have SITP once a month, and that's all we have asked for at the CRC parking lot. So, to avoid the possibility of over-using our welcome at the CRC, we tried a different location for SITP on the 4th Saturday of July. Matt AC9IG had suggested the Gray Farm Park, not far from the CRC. They have a gazebo in the park, with some picnic tables there, and a lot of open lawn space occupied by Canada Geese when SARC is not operating. Matt rode in on his bicycle, and Ray W9RAP, Steve AC9EM, Leo N9NBH, Kevin KB9QVX, Peter N9POL and John AC9JS came out to join me for some radio activity, fox hunting practice and rag chewing.

I brought my KX3, and Outbacker vertical whip antenna, and we made some 20 M SSB contacts in the Islands On The Air contest that was running that day. Kevin brought his KX3 and horizontal Buddipole dipole antenna and we made some contacts on that as well. 10 Watts on SSB to a compact antenna is different than Field Day, running 10 dB more power to a full-size antenna, even though it's a G5RV. When the station calling CQ is getting answers from 100 Watt or more QRO stations, he is not going to reply to the QRP station. But when you are the only station that answers, yeah, he does hear you, and will reply.

Steve brought the SARC micro fox transmitters, and some fox hunting occurred. I saw several people heading off towards where Steve had hidden the foxes, but I was working islands and others, so I did not see who was out with DF'ing antennas.

I mentioned there is a lot of open space at Gray Farm Park, which could suggest it as an alternate Field Day site. We could certainly spread out our antennas over the 1000 foot radius FD allows, but, there is no washroom there, and no 120 foot water tower or perimeter fence, so it's not as good as some other FD location we have used before. Actually, the trees are not very tall, so stretching G5RV's might be difficult. There are houses surrounding the park, so generator noise could be another problem there. It is in the Schaumburg Park District, so getting an overnight permit and a generator permit might add more trouble. Maybe if one of the homeowners there was a SARC member . . .

73 de N9MVO,

Rob

A contest on the road

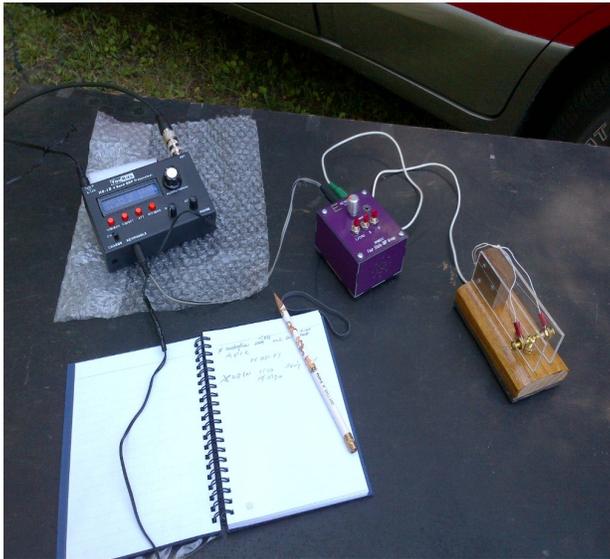
Anthony AB9YC

For the summer round of the North American QSO Party (NAQP) CW mode, I was out of town with a family commitment. I suspected early on that the timing of the commitment would coincide with either the CW or the SSB weekend. It turns out that the CW weekend was the target.

I knew enough in advance to make sure I was ready to operate, even for a short while and contribute to the event any way I could.

I already had a QRP transceiver, the YouKits HB-1B. I paired that with a 4 States QRP Group keyer, a home made paddle, and portable multiband dipole.

The multiband dipole was not actually my first choice. I had a center insulator that I wired up for a 20M dipole, and after several tuning sessions to get the length just right, I noticed a crack in the insulator itself – effort wasted. Instead of trying to start over, I just went with the 40-30-20 dipole I already had and would live with its limitations, mainly being its length.



My home made paddle performed well, given it was thrown together at one time.

The reason I opted for a home brew paddle was an attempt to have a lighter weight component for portable operations, as opposed to toting around a full-weight BY-1 or something similar.

The YouKits HB-1B has a built in keyer, but the ability to program the messages, adjust the speed and general use of the keyer itself was just a bit too cumbersome. After some checking around I ruled out a second WinKeyerUSB as too costly – not a bad unit, just more than I need; I went with the keyer kit from the 4 States QRP Group. It has internal batteries, key in, key out, a speed pot, and 3 memories – very capable, no frills. I programmed two of the memories with my call (AB9YC/4) and the appropriate contest exchange (no serial number, so this was easy.) As a kit, it went together surprisingly quickly and it looks great. For this operation, it was the item of choice. If you are interested in this little gem, check it out <http://www.4sqr.com/ek3.php>.

My expectation was to try and squeeze out some time to “fly a wire and make some Q's”, and I worked my commitments around the contest so as to be available during a peak time for my expected 20M QRP effort. I notified everyone of my intentions ahead of time, so when the time arrived, I grabbed my pack, and headed outside. Now, you might think that being in the woods on top of a mountain in Tennessee, options for stringing up an impromptu antenna would many.

It turns out that with all the good branches, the brambles and thorn bushes made them unusable – perhaps with a few days to prepare with a machete a better arrangement might be found. Alas, it wasn't to be. I settled for a “least effort, best choice” option. I threw my lines over a pair of limbs that would span my 40M dipole which got it up about 35 feet (higher than my QTH dipole!). From there, I borrowed a portable table, set it up next to an automobile, popped the hood and connected to the battery terminals – the joy of QRP is the low power requirements.

All ready to go, I wired up the HB-1B, keyer, key, headphones; I grabbed my log book and pencil and fired up. Wow, the read was exceptionally clean with signals everywhere. I rolled to the bottom of the band and began working my way up the band looking for friends, but finding none, I just tried to work whoever would hear me. This turned out to be the biggest challenge – typical QRP – and with my time crunch, I answered a few times then moved on when it was obvious I wasn't heard. Surprisingly enough, I managed two QSO's on the same freq, both stations calling CQ, and both answering my tiny signal – go figure! My time was rapidly slipping away, so I kept working the dial, wishing I had more time.

My time was exhausted, so I closed my log book, tore down the mini-station, dropped the antenna and packed it all back into my pack. I logged 5 QSO's in about 20 minutes – sure, not a great rate, but it was fun, very enjoyable.

Upon returning home, I manually entered my log data into the contest logging portal on the web, received confirmation of my 5 QSO's, and closed the book on that little operating adventure/contest.

I really enjoyed the planning I put into the effort, and it all paid off. I knew up front that operating time would be minimal, and I ended up with about half an hour to play with. More time would have been nice, but I enjoyed the time I had. Operating QRP portable can be a challenge trying to log contacts, but pick a contest like the NAQP, and you can make plenty of contacts – give it a try.

Until next time, 73.

Anthony
AB9YC/4

Being active, even without a radio

Anthony AB9YC

In what is basically a warm up to the annual W9DXCC convention in September, the Society of Midwest Contesters (SMC) held our annual gathering, this year in Normal IL the fourth weekend in August. Attendance was almost 100 members. It was nice to meet up with familiar people and catchup, as well as putting faces to various calls worked over the air or from the list reflector. Discussions always seemed to center around the horrid conditions encountered during the recently completed North American QSO Party (NAQP) SSB... ;-)

This year's programs included topics of station building, on air activities, the use of coax stubs as multiple station filters, SO2R (single operator two radio) basics, a presentation on the upcoming FlexRadio features and much more. Door prizes are always welcome, too.

But, more fun than the presentations was getting to talk directly to ARRL representatives in attendance. I got to share "it's a small world" stories with Dave Patton (NN1N, ARRL Field Services and Radiosport manager), discuss the current antenna restrictions bills with Kermit Carlson (W9XA, Central Division Vice Director), share operating stories and new ideas with Ward Silver (N0AX, QST author and more) – this is networking at its best. These people are passionate about amateur radio and are more than willing to share stories, offer experience to solving problems and meet you on the air – meeting them in person was a pleasure.

While getting active on the air is an important aspect of being a licensed amateur, it's the experiences we gain from on-air operations that draw us together, giving us reasons to smile, laugh, and sometimes cry; to establish relationships that go beyond our day to day interactions. Being active on the air opens up your world to a much wider community of like minded, friendly individuals you might never encounter otherwise. All this perhaps makes you a better operator, further expanding your community.

See you at the W9DXCC.

Anthony
AB9YC

Boeshield T-9

Jim W9JFB

Have you seen this product for cleaning metal? It was formulated by Boeing to clean aluminum and it works great on old chassis if you are restoring anything. It's available at Sears, but you can also pick it up at Amazon. As a disclaimer, I do not own Boeing Aircraft Corporation and I do not profit from the sale of this product but if I needed to clean my old 747 I would use this product. For that application you may need more than one can.

<http://www.sears.com/boeshield-t-9-rust-protection-cleaner/p-00928468000P>

73 Jim W9JFB



Ten Steps to Mastering Morse Code

by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

[From the August 2015 issue of Solid Copy, the newsletter for CW Ops]

BoingBoing, a blog about popular culture that I enjoy reading, recently published a post titled, "The only technique to learn something new" by James Altucher. Altucher is one of those guys who seems to be able to do just about anything. His Wikipedia page says that he is "an American hedge fund manager, entrepreneur, bestselling author, and podcaster." The blog post details his ten-step technique for learning - actually mastering - new things. Here's how I would apply his advice to mastering Morse Code:

1. LOVE IT.

If you don't love Morse Code, then don't try to learn it. It will only frustrate you and take you away from learning other things that will be more useful and fun for you.

2. READ IT.

You can read about the various methods to learn the code, but honestly, I think Morse Code is more of a "learn by doing" than a "learn by reading" kind of thing. You're better off just proceeding to #3.

3. TRY IT. BUT NOT TOO HARD.

Get hold of a couple of code courses - I normally recommend the G4FON CW Trainer or the K7QO Code Course. There are also many good smartphone apps. Try them all - but not too hard - and choose the one that you like using the best. If, after trying it, you don't love it, don't do it. (See #1.)

4. GET A TEACHER.

Find a code buddy, that is, someone to help you learn the code. Many clubs have started code classes, but if your club doesn't you can still find someone to help you. The CWops CW Academy is a great place to get the help you need to learn and master the code.

5. STUDY THE HISTORY. STUDY THE PRESENT.

Morse Code has a storied history. Studying the history will give you a perspective that will motivate you to learn it. If it does not motivate you, quit. (See #1.)

Studying the present will give you a perspective on how the art is practiced today. Rather than being stuck in the past, you'll be able to use Morse Code as it's being used today. That sounds kind of strange, but it's true. You'll have more fun if you use modern practices.

To reinforce what you learned, Altucher says, "Write down the things you learn from reading."

6. DO EASY PROJECTS FIRST.

I'm not sure that there are "easy" Morse Code projects, but let's look at this another way. Most people learn Morse Code to either participate in contests, work DX, or rag chew with other hams. If you're interested in contesting, you can participate in slow-speed contests. FISTS, for example, runs slow-speed sprint contests every quarter. Rag chewers can listen for the CWops

on-the-air advisors. These folks, yours truly included, hang out around 7035 kHz and some other frequencies and help newer operators gain experience. You can identify CWops on-the-air advisors by listening for the call "CQ CWA."

7. STUDY WHAT YOU DID.

Altucher says in his BoingBoing post, "Someone told me a story about Amy Schumer, one of my favorite comedians. She videotapes all her performances. Then she goes back to her room and studies the performance second by second - she wants to be the best at comedy. She studies her every performance."

Altucher goes on to say, "If you aren't obsessed with your mistakes then you don't love the field enough to get better. Don't ask lousy questions, such as, "Why am I no good?" Instead ask, "What did I do wrong and how can I improve?"

When you're starting out - or even if you're an old timer like me - it might be worthwhile to record your contacts and then play them back, listening critically to both sides of the contact. When the other station is sending, listen for what you might have missed the first time. When you're sending, listen critically to the code you send.

To be honest, I hadn't really thought about recording my contacts before reading this blog post. I figured that I am already pretty good, and if I just kept practicing - by making contacts or working contests - I'd get better. Maybe if I start recording my contacts, though, and critically appraising them, I'll get better faster.

The question is how obsessed should one be? This is just a hobby, after all. That's a personal decision that I'll leave up to you. I think I'm obsessed enough about this that it's something that I'm going to try.

8. YOU ARE THE AVERAGE OF THE FIVE PEOPLE AROUND YOU.

Altucher says, "Humans are tribal mammals. We need to work with groups to improve." At the most basic level, this means getting on the air. Code courses and code programs are all well and good, but the proof of the pudding is getting on the air and making contacts or working contests. Not only that, it matters who you hang out with once you do get on the air. If you aspire to operate at 30 words per minute, don't just search for slow-speed contacts. Listen for operators that are sending good code at speeds slightly faster than what you're comfortable at copying and make an effort to copy them and work them. Hanging out with good operators will help you get better. Hanging out with poor operators will not.

Altucher notes, "Find the best group, spend as much time with them, and as a "scene" you become THE scene. You each challenge each other, compete with each other, love each other's work, become envious of each other, and ultimately take turns surpassing each other."

9. DO IT A LOT.

Over the past twelve years, I have averaged more than three contacts per day, and it's gotten to the point where I feel bad if I don't get my three CW QSOs in every day. You don't have to be as obsessed about this as I am - it is a hobby, after all - but if you can spend more time at the key, you'll become a better CW operator. It's as simple as that.

10. FIND YOUR EVIL PLAN.

I'm not sure that I like the way Altucher titles this section, but his point is that, after all this study and practice and appraisal, you need to find your own path. By doing these things, you'll discover what works best for you, and in doing so, develop your own unique perspective on what it means to be a good CW operator.

Not only that, at that point, you'll be ready to pass this knowledge and experience on to others. Altucher says, "Now it's your turn to teach, to mentor, to create, to innovate, to change the world." I think this applies to just about any topic, even something that's been around as long as Morse Code.

When he's not operating CW, Dan KB6NU writes about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. He is the author of the "No-Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides and several other amateur radio books, including *The CW Geek's Guide to Having Fun with Morse Code*. Despite his call sign, he lives in Ann Arbor, MI.

5Aug2015 SARC board Meeting, Schaumburg Municipal Airport, Pilot Pete's

Attendees (13): Kevin Willard (KB9QVX), Anthony Willard (AB9YC), Gary Bernstein (N9VU), Leo Ribordy (N9NBH), Steve Karson (AC9EM), Mike Clodfelter (AC9CG), Jim Brink (W9JFB), Cliff Sowka (K9QD), Roger Ryan (W9RDR), Kent Ochs (K9KAO), Dave Sims (K9KBM), Chris Brewer (AC9GN), Russ Schmidt (KC9NUV), Bob Langsfeld (WB9TZC), John Zietlow (W9WIC)

Treasurer's report, Chris B.: gave report and approved (30June2015 thru 31July2015)

Beginning balance: \$3493.69

Income (dues): \$360.00

Expenses (includes \$45 for data line): \$143.25 (Data line, FD reimbursement, PO Box, ck1156,1158)

Balance: \$3710.44 (OK)

Bylaws (Anthony W.): Asked to put on table for discussion. Should we revise by-laws. Currently says that SARC members must be "active". Hold off by-laws until the fall. Officers are not very active. Jim B.: Construction project year-round? Roger R: Club has worked extremely smoothly without structure. Kent: if we need to adjust by-laws, we can propose and vote on them.

Secretary's report, Mike C. reporting: gave July 1, 2015 board report, referred to last RHG issue. Motion to approve passed.

Membership report, Leo R.: 34 paid hams. How do we incentivize? Pay-pal fee cost SARC almost \$2 per member paying.

Public service, Rob G.: not present

President's report, Leo R.:

RHG, Anthony W.: nothing to report, need more contribution pertaining to Radio

Repeater, Kent O.: Machinist and Kent working on antenna support. Need 1/4inch wall aluminum mast. Need 15ft @\$10/ft? 2 antennas: 100ohms at feedpoint. Proximity to mast affects impedance. Need to purchase 75ohm coax. Flooded coax – inserted gel inside. Pot the junction, but still subject to failure. Latter stages of Raspberry Pi project for repeater server. Working thru several issues. Unable to internally link a node (198) – doesn't work now. Maybe due to security reasons. Kent requested 2 new nodes. UHF node often goes away. Having 2 nodes on single computer may be the issue. May need one computer per node. \$45 for data line is too much. Need alternative for links.

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

VE testing, Steve K.: Daughter took test and passed. 7 people tested – need final count. Should be more connection between VE and SARC. Tom D. is not a SARC member, but Larry C. was. Info packet given to new hams

Social activities, Roger R.:

Net control, Jim: 13 new people logged in, Matt 3rd Thurs, Rob handled 5th Thurs in July. Rob G. suggested treasure hunt on the net. Only get a clue if on the net. 6 nets in a row. Some prize money - \$??. Rob published who was on the net.

Tech education (Kent O.): This fall? Need more advanced training.

Foxhunt, Steve K.: will publish attendees (only had 2 show up last time).

Ideas for FD 2016, Leo R and Jim B.: need contingency plan for next year. Jim B is OK being FD chair. Need alternative for Repeater site for 5-6 months.

Publicity, Leo. R: none

SARC July 2015 meeting presentation, : Kevin: Video on duplexer tuning. (backup?)

Emcomm, Bob.L; met with Sch contractor about putting up antenna. Within 30 days after PO. 2days actual work. Was bid out. Budgeted at \$5K, but was less. Rob G suggested moving equipment from Sch cop shop station to elsewhere. (need 24hour access, security, 8 have FBI checks and badges). But where would we put. Fire station in back is 24/7 open. Can't go in front door early AM. Use Sat AM SARC in Park to test Sch police equipment. Hoffman Estates EOC. 2nd Sat is Aug 8th.

Vests, go-kit, booklet (freq plans, 214,), along with radios need to have 24/7 access. Rig was sitting on floor – don't know why. Who makes decisions? – Kent. Public Information Officer - John Neville used to use the radio during severe weather, but has been gone to DuPage for several months.

Bob L can try Yaesu Fusion repeater at Hoffman Est EOC on empty UHF antenna. 444.025MHZ is programmed. Bob to pick up from Gary B this week. Leo R and Gary tested. Kent: we need to test how well it hears thru duplexer. 411 W. Higgins Rd location (2story). RR has 55ft tower, but horizontal. Motion made,

EBAY/Club sales of donated equipment, Gary; Ham donated 3 HF rigs. Yaesu 950 or 930. Heathkit linear amp.

Old business, Leo R./others;

New business, Leo R.; none

Recurring calendar: Pizza at SARC-in-Park in August? Notice about by-law changes. First election notice.

SARC Website, Leo R.:

Program chair, Rob; Have Aug topic, need Sept topic. Ted can cover Sunspot cycle. Anthony 60 contacts recently (14 in Australia, 6 in Japan, 15M) 14.183MHZ Anzet

Submitted: 21Aug2015

Mike Clodfelter, SARC Secretary

SARC club meeting at SRC (Schaumburg Recreational Center) on 20Aug, 2015

Leo Ribordy (N9NBH), SARC President presided.

HAMs signed attendance sheet. About 35-38 in attendance.

Question of the Evening: How many QSOs did you make for North American QSO party this past weekend? Anthony Willard had record with 460 by himself.

New Member, Mike (not licensed yet): working on Technician license and lives in Elk Grove

Treasurer's report, Chris B.: gave report and approved (30June2015 thru 31July2015)

Beginning balance: \$3493.69

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Expenses (includes \$45 for data line): \$143.25 (Data line, FD reimbursement, PO Box, ck1156,1158)

Balance: \$3710.44 (OK)

Secretary's Report, Mike Clodfelter (AC9CG): Cited report in RHG July 2015 edition. Motion made, seconded and Report approved by SARC members.

Membership, Chris Brewer (AC9GN): 36 paid members as of report tonight, 20Aug2015

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. 5w HT, and repeater. Running part east of Roselle, simplex to Net Control site – Weathersfield and Roselle. Thanks to all who participated and made event successful.

Maxfield's breakfast on Sept 5th.

RHG newsletter: Anthony Willard (AB9YC): Nothing, but monthly RHG items submission deadline is 20th. Need inputs.

Repeater, Kent Ochs (W9KAO): Kent and Rob not here. Works OK but slight problem. Working on 2M side, but after stop you hear a parrot mode. To put 2nd

Construction, Ted Lester (AB9SZ): In hiatus. Start back in Sept, on 4th Sat of month. Need to find American Beauty 250W Soldering iron. May be at Schaumburg Water Tank pump house. SARC in Park at SRC, 2nd weekend in Sept 2015 is probably last of the year.

VE Testing, Steve Karson (AC9EM): Tom Doyle: 6people tested/ passed in June. (5tech, 1general). One tech was Chelsea Karson (daughter of Steve Karson). Good job, Chelsea! Next test on Sept. 5th. AA9PW and QRZ test. Tech license test - need to get 27-28 correct questions out of 35.

Social, Roger Ryan (W9RDR) : (?): Alaska cruise is cancelled. SARC outing at Pilot Pete's is Sept 19. Roger need RSVP for Pilot Pete's restaurant event, ASAP.

Nets, Jim Brink (W9JFB): Net doing well. Every Thurs night at 8PM. Tuesday night is Tuesday night. John and Matt – currently modeling 160M dipole. Starting out slow and build up to more complex antenna modeling

Education, (Leo and Rob) : not present (Bruce Warrington) – nothing to report

Foxhunt: Steve (AC9EM): Start again soon. Probably after Sept 5th Maxfield breakfast. 10-20mW transmitters. Have been doing walking Fox hunts. May do mobile once again. Last mobile was attended by only 2 people (Steve K. and Bob Langsfeld). Can go out with other Chicago Foxhunt club who does ~50 foxhunts per year.

Publicity: (Leo): none to report

Programs, Cliff Sowka (K9QD): tonight - Ted to talk on Sunspot cycle 24. Predictions. (get NASA data) Sept2015: Mel to present Standing Wave Ratio (SWR) mathematics. (may be complicated!). Need driver to pick up Mel for Sept 2015 meeting. Need Oct and Dec presentation

Emcom, Bob Langsfeld (WB9TZC): Hoffman Est: fired up command trailer on Field Day (under 15min), made HF contacts, moved on daily basis, parking lot of PD on FD. Since then, installed radio rack in 28ft trailer, 2Air Cond units, side opens up. John is emcom coordinator. State surplused 800MHZ trunked radio, gave to SARC, 2M High power Icom - close to operational, need 2 holes punched in roof. Trailer outside Graphics need work.

NW Community Hospital will have Fusion repeater on top. EMR-4000 Yaesu radio. Some hospital folks are hams.

Big topic at Emcom: 2 big biking events; one west (CF, have enough hams) and one north (Century, need more volunteers). Chicago Marathon Oct 11, over 100 Hams to assist medical. Public service event: should cover weather plan at start in morning.

Schaumburg EOC: thought installation was done deal, but finance wants competitive quotes so installation is delayed. Project is too small for most comm companies to quote. May be delayed until next spring(?).

Oct 3: Schaumburg public safety day, demonstration next to Fire dept on Schaumburg Rd. SARC invited to participate and show examples of emergency communications. Need pre-arranged contacts. 2-3 people at home on radio. Fusion and D-star demos. Simulated emergency exhibition: simulated earthquake (Oct 15). Hope to have EOC running by then.

Equipment access: Leo R. and Cliff S. met with Helen Joyce at Schaumburg PD. During emergency, SARC Hams to ask for Watch commander. Non-emergencies, contact Helen and set up date/time. (have to go thru training room.)

SARC members have to be vetted. Equipment: VHF/UHF radio and PS, TS-140 plus PS, G5RV dipole, mast, tackle box has dual band radio. Moving deployment kit, safety vests, sign-out book, 214 significant event log book. Site is available 24/4, year round. Right next door to deployment location, near boat house. SARC will use that as staging location. Cliff S. did inventory 8 years ago, so needs updating. Need to check out and verify that emergency equipment is working.

Ebay sales, Gary Bernstein (N9VU): not present. HAM family donated TS-520, TS-830, National radio, Heathkit SB linear amp. Ham, 97 years old still living, but doesn't operate. Also have Drake T-4 and R-4. (separate Transmitter and receiver) to re-sell

Recurring calendar, Leo R.: Nomination committee. Election in November 2015. Candidates in RHG. Changes to by-laws by Sept 20 for Oct 2015 approval. Have to be active member. Need to approve calendar for next year. Submit reservation for this room, and VE testing room, and board meeting PP basement room, Schaumburg Municipal room.

One by-law says president can appoint members for tasks. Everyone should read by-laws. By-laws now published in RHG.

Old business: FD planning for next year. Potential to lose Sch water tank site next year so need contingency plan. If painting gets held off, then keep FD at water tank stie. Dirk S. , Rob B., Roger R., Steve K., Frank G., John(?), and Ken Field have volunteered for this committee. Possible FD site in DesPlaines.

New business: Chris Brewer has SARC 501C-3 number. Needed for donated equipment donor tax deduction. Status of temporary repeater: need cabinet to put Fusion repeater radio in. Bob Langsfeld: set to install Fusion at EOC site, but needed box. Also required to deploy, so must be portable in event of emergency. (8 or 10 unit "gator" box). Cliff: propose budget of \$500 (renew Emcom \$500/year budget?). Motion made and seconded. (put up for vote: majority of members

in favor, none opposed) Leo will find out if box available. Gator boxes are made differently. Some have snaps in front or back or none. Guitar Center or Sam Ash stores have them. SKV or Gator box. Can get up to 90lbs. Put casters on, so can roll. Repeater is 35lbs, maybe. Need portability, and compact size for car trunk transportation, if possible.

Program: Ted Lester Presented sunspot cycle #24 results and theory.

Submitted: Aug 21, 2015

Mike Clodfelter, SARC secretary

The Radio Hill Gazette

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

Katrina Memorial Event	8/26-9/2
SSB Sprint	8/29 (“The most fun you can have in 4 hours with your cloths on - N6TR”)

September

Board of directors meeting	2
Breakfast at Maxfields	5
W9DXCC	11-12
Club Meeting	17
EmComm Roundtable	19
CQ WW RTTY	26-27

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

VE Testing Results

Results for August 1, 2015
 Next Test September 5, 2015
 Park District CRC; Sr. Center;
 Sunshine Room.

CLASS	NUMBER TESTED	NEW LICENSE or UPGRADE
Technician	5	5
General	1	1
Extra	0	0
Total	6	6



New/Upgraded Licenses:

******Technician******

Dan Tierney KD9EJB
 Zachary Sheve KD9EJC
 Marty Schrader KD9EJD
 Chelsea Karson KD9EJE
 Steven Wehofer KE9EJF

******General******

Clarence LaBar N9HQC

******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

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

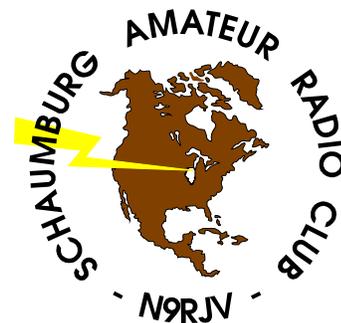
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Visit the SARC Home Page at <http://n9rjv.org>



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