

The Radio Hill Gazette

March 2016

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From the Editor

Welcome to another edition of the Radio Hill Gazette.

Are you tired of winter yet? Hang in there, only a few more weeks and we can contemplate outdoor projects and activities. What plans do you have in the works for when the weather moves into spring? How did your outdoor antennas hold up through the winter?

Discussions surrounding Field Day 2016 are underway and the plans are taking shape. There are still plenty of decisions to make and tasks to be assigned. Please join in the effort.

There are still a few major DX contests remaining in the contest season, mainly the ARRL DX and the CQ WPX, both SSB events. Want to get some DX in the logs? This is certainly a way to do it. Both events offer opportunities to work Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas.

The best one for a less experienced operator will be the ARRL DX since this event awards points for working us – DX doesn't get points for working each other! This means they are looking for *YOU*. Pick a spot on the band and call CQ. Even a humble station should pull in plenty of activity. Want practice for operating at Field Day? This is a great chance to try running, or tuning around while getting accustomed to your rig, setup and band conditions. What DX can you hear? What DX hears you?

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

Anthony
Editor, RHG

Notice: I will step away as editor of the RHG following the December 2016 issue. Someone needs to step up and assume the responsibility for the newsletter so it can continue as a valuable part of SARC's communication structure. If you are reading this, then *you are someone!*



Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club Field Day in the Winter

Cliff Sowka K9QD

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club (SARC) participated in the American Radio Relay League's (ARRL) Winter Field Day on Saturday Jan. 30. The event was held with 29 club members in attendance and even welcomed a visiting ham from Germany.

In the United States, Field Day has been traditionally conducted during the last week of June each year as a way to demonstrate Ham Radio's emergency radio communication capability. The Field Day event is organized by local radio hams to remotely install radio equipment running on battery or portable power generation, stretch wire antennas between adjacent trees, or otherwise erect transmitting/receiving apparatus with associated radios to demonstrate emergency preparedness. During times of natural disaster, communications outages, or power interruption, the Ham Radio hobbyists are able to 'get through' when other forms of communication are down.

SARC participates in the annual Field Day event sponsored by the ARRL during June of each year and has historically assembled club members' equipment on village property in Schaumburg for the annual exercise. This year, the club decided to participate in the more difficult Winter Field Day. Activity during Field Day is comprised of transmitting and receiving wireless radio contact with other Ham Radio operators across the nation, logging the contact records, and submitting results to the ARRL for nationwide summary.

Hobbyists interested in electronics, radio, and the art of communications have been trained in Federal Communications Commission (FCC) radio rules and regulations, have been examined by volunteer Ham Radio Examiners (VE) and subsequently licensed to operate radio transmission equipment.

Many electronics enthusiasts enjoy listening to Short Wave Radio, experimenting with microprocessors, personal computers, semiconductors and associated test equipment and have taken their interest levels higher by becoming licensed Ham Radio Operators so they're now able to legally transmit their own radio signals around the world.



Illustration 1: Rob Glowacki N9MVO, seated, is at the control operator position. The club had 72 radio contacts during the Winter Field Day event. Also pictured are Russ Schmidt KC9NUV and Dave Sims K9KBM

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club (SARC) is actively supporting our local government in providing optional emergency radio communication backup and conducts routine exercises with the village that assist with membership skill and organizational training.

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club welcomes all radio enthusiasts who wish to become licensed Ham Radio operators as well as those who already have FCC transmit authority on the Amateur Radio Service frequency spectrum.

SARC has twice-monthly Construction Project meetings where we assemble myriad electronics projects, repair and test radio equipment, and have a generally good time building circuit boards, soldering wires and assembling electronics projects related to Ham Radio.

For information, contact www.n9rjv.org

Winter Field Day 2016

On Jan 30, 2016 Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club held their first Winter Field Day. WFD was held at the Schaumburg Recreation Center, with Set up time beginning around 9 AM. The WFD contest kicked off at 11AM and ran through 11 AM on Sunday Jan 31, 2016. We had two stations in operation, both were running vertical antenna's. For a January Day the weather was perfect, sunny with the temperature in the low 40's. Twenty nine hams Showed up. One of the guest's was from Germany. He is moving to the Schaumburg Area and has been invited to join our club. The club made 72 contacts. We operated until approximately 2:30 PM and then dismantled.

"Hi everybody, I hope you all had a good time at the winter field day. I know I had! Thank you all for the warm welcome! It was really nice meeting all of you! I hope to see you again soon at the regular meeting or at the project meetings. vy 73 de Hermann AJ4ZS / DL8MCP"

Here are the hams who attended the WFD.

N9NBH	Leo Ribordy	KB9IIZ	Jarek Stopczyk
W9KAO	Kent Ochs	KB9RGU	Jim Campbell
W9DXR	Bob McIntyre	KC9ZZZ	DanVanDerWoude
K9DFS	Dirk Smith	K9QD	Cliff Sowka
KB9WCA	Carl Peterson	AB9YC	Anthony Willard
KA9THK	Rick Grinker	KC9NUV	Russ Schmidt
AC9IG	Matt Walsh	AC9JS	John Schofield
N9RDR	Roger Ryan	K9UD	Don Smith
W9JFB	Jim Brink	WB9PTA	Ron Remus
KO9H	Ken Field	KA9QGH	Geoff Stevens
AC9EM	Steve Karson	N9VU	Gary Bernstein
AC9CG	Mike Clodfelter	N9LQ	Joel Gray
N9MVO	Rob Glowacki	WG9I	Bob Schwerdin
KB9QVX	Kevin Willard	K9WIC	John Zietlow

Guest: AJ4ZS Herman Wagner



What's in a number?

Anthony AB9YC

Take, for instance, the number 200, what does it represent?

Simply, it comes after 199 and before 201 on the number line.

It's the amount of money awarded to a player in Monopoly for passing Go.

Two hundred miles a day was the average daily distance covered by the Pony Express, the United States' first east-west mail service.

Two hundred MeV is the temperature of quark-gluon plasma phase transition.

It's also the smallest base 10 unprimeable number - it can not be turned into a prime number by changing just one of its digits to any other digit.

The number 200 appears in the Padovan sequence, preceded by 86, 114, 151 (it is the sum of the first two of these).

What does it mean to you?



SARC Board of Director's Meeting at Schaumburg Airport on Feb 3, 2016

Anthony Willard AB9YC SARC Director, acting as Chairman.

Attendees

Gary Bernstein	N9VU
Rob Glowacki	N9MVO
Kevin Willard	KB9QVX
Jim Brink	W9JFB
Steve Karson	AC9EM
Anthony Willard	AB9YC
Roger Ryan	W9RDR
Ted Lester	AB9SZ
Chris Brewer	AC9GN
Cliff Sowka	K9QD

Treasurer's report: Chris Brewer AC9GN: Beginning balance for the month of January was \$3,564.82 with income of \$411.00 and expense of \$520.15 (Monthly Data Line, Engraving for Christmas Party awards, and Duplexer obtained at Waukesha Hamfest for \$300.00). Currently have 76 paid members.

Secretary's Report: Cliff Sowka K9QD Approval of January minutes; Motion made, seconded and Report approved by SARC members. Public Service, Steve Karson (AC9EM):

President's Report: No Report

Construction Project: Ted Lester (AB9SZ): Is going well. Many projects. Next construction project is on Sat, Dec 26, 2015.

VE Testing: Steve Karson AC9EM assisted with Volunteer Examiner test for Crystal Lake/McHenry RACES Ham Radio applicants. 18 tested with 16 passing. Youngest applicant was 10-years of age with passing grade on second pass.

Social: Roger Ryan (W9RDR) : No report. Winter Field Day was enjoyed by more than 40 attendees. Impromptu pizza expense of \$52 was reimbursed to Cliff even though there was no prior approval and no prior budget. Shame.

Nets: Jim Brink (W9JFB): Cancelled for Dec 24, 2015. Otherwise, held every 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Thursday of month (Matt does 4th Thurs.)

The Radio Hill Gazette: RHG is the newsletter of the Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club. Anthony Willard (AB9YC): Nothing new, but monthly RHG items submission deadline is 20th. Need articles and expressed thanx for January submissions.

Education: No report.

Programs: Cliff Sowka (K9QD): Club member recently offered to present Decibel training but can't remember who (early onset?) so Cliff will send SARC-ALL broadcast to query/confirm that particular presentation is still in the plan.

Ebay sales: Gary N9VU sold the Drake Twins for \$350 and the Heath linear \$500. The Drake sale is complete but the linear remains unpaid beyond 10 days. Discussion ensued to determine the club's policy for delinquent payment and equipment pick-up, future eligibility to participate in club sales events, and next steps needed achieve closure on the Heath sale. Have SK equipment Kenwood TS 830 worth estimated value of \$500 if properly working. Will have to bench during future Construction Project to ascertain performance before placing into inventory.

Recurring Calendar:

Calendar prompting us to submit taxation status for the club. Chris AC9GN will complete the federal 501C3 paperwork

Old business: None

New business: Steve Karson AC9EM proposes limiting access to SARC-ALL so that only active, paid members, and those duly voted into the club are allowed to participate. Group agreed and reminded the previous General Business Meeting had taken similar action to condense the reflector addresses to only those members who are in good standing. Therefore webmaster will be instructed (Chris will handle) to close the current Google broadcast list and clear those unauthorized. Chris will send updated paid member list to Bruce Warrington.

Rob Glowacki N9MVO motioned to remove Pro-Rating dues amount as pertains to delinquent membership payments. Pro-Rating on website will remain intact for new applicants coming in during the annual cycle. Kevin Willard seconded. Anthony called for the Question. So moved.

Rob received a SK donation from an Arlington Heights widow. Kenwood TS 570D Hardware should be kept as a club resource and available for impromptu Field Day, SARC in the Park. Rob motioned the club keep this equipment as a club resource, purchase the needed MC 60 microphone or equivalent <Gary will shop> with expense budget of up to \$100. Seconded by Steve. So Moved. Will be stored in Ted's cabinets.

Rob Glowacki requested to know the Construction Project Budget. There is a desire to have a respectable soldering station. The club is willing to allocate upward to \$100 for a decent soldering tool with various sized tips.

Kevin Willard KB9QVX Chairman, proposed Fund Raising Ideas: \$10 raffle ticket for chance to win \$500 TV or \$20 for chance to win \$800 Ham Radio. Keep chance to win opportunity to only those who are paid club members. No action taken at the moment.

Gary Bernstein N9VU has nine Yaesu Fusion promotional sport shirts for raffle. The BOD decided that we'll offer one shirt as the 50/50 event payoff with the church keeping the total cash pot. Winner of the next upcoming (nine draws) 50/50 events will receive a shirt instead of 50% of the pot.

Gary published flyer announcing Antique Radio Club flea market scheduled for Sunday Feb 7th. Arrive by 6:50 AM to secure table.

Submitted: Feb 3, 2016 Cliff Sowka secretary

SARC General Business Meeting Feb 18, 2016

Steve Karson, President, called meeting to order at 7PM

Treasurer's report: Chris Brewer AC9GN: Beginning balance for the month \$3,564.82 with income of \$411 from Dues and Sniffer Board prepayments. Expense was \$520.15 for Data Line, engraving, and Duplexer.

Currently have 77 paid members. Directory updating underway with master copy circulated during Business meeting to allow members opportunity to make corrections.

Public Service Rob Glowacki N9MVO Currently set for May 1st. Described basic duties, equipment needed such as 5W HT sufficient. SARC typically has about 12 people arrive to help the effort. July 4th parade for Hoffman Estates.

Secretary's Report: Cliff Sowka K9QD Meeting Minutes approved as published in RHG

President's Report: First summer FD planning meeting held in January with next meeting in a few weeks. Winter FD Jan 30th enjoyed high participation. Leo submitted 260 points to ARRL; we should know results before June FD. Elmer program now has Rob, Ted, Joel, Russ, others willing to assist with mentoring new Hams.

RHG Anthony drew from 24-ticket lot to determine winner of free dues. Rob N9MVO won the draw.

Construction Project: Ted Lester (AB9SZ): Rolling along well. Routine attendance of approximately 22 or more people; enthusiasm increasing. Review of venue given for some new members in the group tonight. Kent W9KAO has several kits still in inventory. Dave Sims, Matt Walsh, Frank Giampa, Dennis White and others pls contact Kent to claim your kits.

VE Testing: Steve Karson AC9EM Two sessions 10 Tech with 9 pass. Three took General with 2 pass. 13 in Crystal Lake with 12 pass for General Class.

Social: Roger Ryan (W9RDR) : Buena Beef tonight.

Nets: Jim Brink (KC9UPA): No Report. Still holding Tech Net 7:30 Tuesdays (currently doing antenna modeling. Regular Thursday net at 8PM.

Ham Radio Class: Jarek is hosting Technician Level Ham License Class starting in April. Seven sessions. Looking for teachers and would like more than the two people who have already come forward. Bob Langsfeld will host EMCOMM this Saturday morning at the Hoffman Estates

Police Department facility and then Jarek will hold room awhile longer for Tech class organizational meeting.

April Field Day Mini on the 16th would be a good hands-on demo for students to observe actual operations.

EMCOMM: Bob mentioned April 16 conflict with Mini FD but since his meeting is finished by 11AM to allow the Ham Class students option to visit. Schaumburg Marathon is a precursor to the Chicago Marathon. Schaumburg has asked for May 15th SARC help to host the event with communication capability.

Schaumburg EOC antenna installation is now recirculation back to finance because the chosen vendor became ill and then the Village determined he didn't meet minimum wage compliance. Now the bids have to be resubmitted. Budget still in-force, and maybe antenna will install during March.

Fusion system running flawlessly at the HE police station and completely portable. Set on 444.250 and set to operate dual-mode (FM or digital C4FM Yaesu) and detect mode and continue as incoming setup. Site is only temporary and does have emergency power. Permanent site has been promised and only need good weather for roof installation. St. Alexis hospital on Barrington Road.

The Radio Hill Gazette: RHG is the newsletter of the Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club. Anthony Willard (AB9YC): Cliff will send copy of the Daily Herald article to Anthony.

Education: No report.

Programs: Cliff Sowka (K9QD):

Ebay sales: Gary N9VU SB220 sold for \$500 and TR7 may be worth \$800 once we fix the AM mixer section.

Publicity Dirk Smith How many Hams in the USA. Answer 747K. Frank said 3.2M Worldwide. Trick question: Country with most license is Japan. Anthony won the \$1 reward for knowing most answers.

Image is important in recruiting new members. Leo ordered ARRL literature for the recent Schaumburg Family Day. Dirk proposes Trifold-like display card with activity pictures. Place this publicity at VE Testing sessions, Library or Harper college lobby. Dirk is also going to send example card to media to see if we can obtain some publicity. Google Search yields SARC but website is dated.

Recurring Calendar: Chris is checking PO Box weekly. Insurance premium will be coming due soon.

Old business: None

New business: Chris Brewer announced that Dave Hug has received out of date 12V batteries from work. Offers to sell \$5 each for club members as way to boost revenue.

Kent has basic 12V battery charger proposed for Dave's donations and is assessing club interest to see if Construction Project should be organized. Proposed schematic was passed-around to attendees for review.

Submitted: Feb 19, 2016 Cliff Sowka 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 got absolutely nothing!”

Calendar and things to do

March

Board of directors meeting	2
Breakfast at Maxfields	5
ARRL DX SSB	5-6
Club Meeting	17
EmComm Roundtable	19
CQ WW WPX SSB	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 February 6, 2016
 Next Test March 5, 2016
 Park District CRC; Sr. Center;
 Sunshine Room.

CLASS	NUMBER TESTED	NEW LICENSE or UPGRADE
Technician	10	9
General	3	1
Extra	0	0
Total	13	10



New/Upgraded Licenses:

****Technician****

Tomasz Dudek KD9FME
 David J Den Ouden KD9FMF
 Philip M Racina KD9FMG
 Roguen T Keller KD9FMH
 Robert F Saiz KD9FMI
 Jennifer L Van Zielegem KD9FMJ
 Mitchell D Bramlett KD9FMK
 Gary R Dembski KD9FML
 Kevin T Shin KD9FMM

Paul R Burkett KD9FMN

****General****

Charles H Elms KD9FFW

****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

The Radio Hill Gazette

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 - 2016

President:	Steve Karson	AC9EM	Director:	Anthony Willard	AB9YC	(2016)
Vice Pres.	Russ Shmidt	KC9NUV	Director:	Rob Glowacki	N9MVO	(2016)
Secretary:	Cliff Sowka	K9QD	Director:	Kevin Willard	KB9QVX	(2017)
Treasurer:	Chris Brewer	AC9GN	Director:	Ted Lester	AB9SZ	(2017)
			Director:	Gary Bernstein	N9VU	(2018)

Club Committees

Programs	Cliff Sowka, K9QD	RHG	Anthony Willard, AB9YC
Social Activities	Roger Ryan, W9RDR	Publicity	Dirk Smith K9DFS
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.

SARC is a recognized ARRL Special Services Organization.

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

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