

THE RADIO HILL GAZETTE

A publication of the Schaumburg Ham Radio Club (SARC)

Sept. 2016

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From the Editor

In a message dated 8/1/2016 5:28:29 P.M. Central Daylight Time, k9vmy@earthlink.net writes:

Dayton Hamvention Moving in 2017

The Dayton Hamvention is moving to the **Greene county fairgrounds** in 2017 as announced on the local news channels.

Hara Arena is closing its doors.

Will be the same weekend.

The DARA has been aware for many years that it may become necessary to move the annual hamvention from Hara to another venue, more so in the last few years as Hara deteriorated and its financial status became less certain. Therefore, it's not surprising that DARA shortly will be ready to announce an alternative venue for 2017's hamvention. This is what's called good planning ;-).

As for SARC either organizing a comparable hamvention or participating in a consortium of Chicago area radio clubs, such an undertaking is not trivial. A \$1M budget is something many professional project managers seldom see, let alone a group of volunteers. Not saying it can't be done, but it would require lots of coordination to do once, and even more to repeat year on year. Better to crawl before walking and running--organize a more manageable event and see what that takes, then decide if you want to take the next steps to grow it to the size of the hamvention, with 20,000--30,000 attendees, many forums, vendor spaces, contracts to sign and associated logistics. It's being closed because of a family dispute. So where are they going to hold the Hamvention next year?

Please send all submissions for the Radio Hill Gazette to me at my email address of hopken@mindspring.com. 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. The Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club publishes the Radio Hill Gazette monthly.

Ken Hopkins, WA9WCP
Editor, RHG

From the President

SARC Members - We will hold our monthly club business meeting this Thursday. Of course your spouses and friends are also welcome. Let them learn something about your Club... See details below.

Club meeting

When: Thursday, August 18, 7pm – 9pm

Where: Community Recreation Center, Schaumburg, IL 60194, United States ([map](#))

In preparation for the Club Meeting:

1. Committee heads have your reports ready for presentation. Send them to me if you can NOT attend, and I will read the report in your absence.
2. Consider becoming a SARC officer or director in 2017 and let me know. As stated many times, I believe in SARC Officer Term Limits so the coveted President's position will be open. Who would like to take the reins?
3. Submit articles/images to Ken Hopkins, WA9WCP, our new RHG Director. Again, thanks for taking on this project Ken and submitting the August 2016 Edition.
4. Discuss the Mini Fall Field Day planned for Saturday, September 10th. Unfortunately we have lost the Medinah Park location and the event will now be held at the Schaumburg Community Recreation Center. ([map](#)) More details to be announced. Shouldn't be too hot, and will be a lot of fun...

5. Kevin Willard, KB9QVX, SARC Board Chairman, may or may NOT want to update the membership on the progress regarding the Code of Conduct Committee. Any progress?
6. Notify Bruce Warrington, N9EHA, to update the SARC Calendar with Service Social, or other pertinent events ASAP. Thanks Bruce...
7. Finally if you haven't done so, pay your dues!!! Bring your payment Cash or Check for our treasurer Chris, AC9GN. Don't risk losing your SARC Club privileges, including use of the reflector...

Hope that you can attend...

Steve, AC9EM

President

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club

P.S.

SARC Members - Please read Chris's, AC9GN's note sent back on June 21, 2016. Dues can be sent via mail, Pay Pal, or even at this week's upcoming Club Meeting. Remember you must be a paid member to: Vote, take advantage of SARC Club special product sales, and remain active on this very reflector.

If there are extenuating circumstances where payment can't be made, send me a separate email, so arrangements can be made... "ac9em1@gmail.com"

Thank you...

Steve, AC9EM

Mini Fall Field Day

SARC Members - We are planning a **Mini Fall Field Day 10:00 am until 2:00 pm on Saturday, September 10, 2016** at the CRC. Event will be held at Schaumburg CRC. Unfortunately the previous planned site has been lost. Set-up will begin an hour earlier at 9:00 am. Your help will be greatly appreciated. (Thanks for helping with the venue Dirk, K9DFS.) We realize that this is a busy time so stop by whenever you can fit it in...

The mission is to:

1. *Have a practice exercise (for those interested in operating during the 2017 FD)*
 - A. *Operate somewhere outside the "Water Tower"*
 - b. *Make a few contacts*
 - c. *Learn to operate pile ups*
 - d. *Log calls*
2. *Test different Antennas normally not used at the Summer FD.*
3. *HAVE some FUN!!!*

Be sure to mark the event on your calendar!!! More details to be announced.

Steve Karson, AC9EM
President
Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club

A couple of our officers and members have had in depth conversations about improving the format for this end of season event.

Date - Saturday, September 10, 2016.

Starting time - 9:00 am

Location - CRC Schaumburg Park District.

We are including the apple pie contest and expect to have 8+ pies. The winner of the contest will receive a book on baking.

Praveen is in charge of the AC power distribution.

Cliff is in charge of antennas.

Leo is in charge of coffee.

Deborah Ryan will run the pie judging.

Mel is in charge of women.

Call to action

We need more apple pies for the contest. We know that Chris Karson is among the participants. Who else will step up?

This is an opportunity to pull your family into our Club activities.

Roger

W9RDR

CW and Rtty News

While many of you may not have an interest in digital modes or even CW, I urge you to read the following discussion.

I hope you will submit an opposition to the proposal in support of those Amateurs who do enjoy CW and narrow band digital modes.

Anthony

AB9YC

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Ted Rappaport N9NB <tsrwvcomm@aol.com>

To: Jim McDonald <jim@n7us.net>

Cc: Anthony Willard <awillard69@yahoo.com>; Ted <tsrwvcomm@aol.com>

Sent: Sunday, August 14, 2016 8:31 AM

Subject: Re: [SMC] FW: If you care about CW and RTTY - time is of the essence

Happy to reply, and hope you all will read carefully the NPRM issued by the FCC this July 28, 2016. And please spread the word. This is not fear mongering, as I have too many things to do in my day job to spend time on anything that is not real. I am trying to get people to read the NPRM and realize what is happening – and its sad for me to see how hard it is to get CW/RTTY enthusiasts to realize that they are false to assume the ARRL and FCC would preserve CW or RTTY. They now have to take serious action if they care about preserving their operating bands.

Understanding this and the history of the digital aggression goals of ARRL, WINLINK, and the boating community is vital to realize the ramifications of the July 28 2016 NPRM by the FCC. The NPRM 11708 of July 28 2016 is about to become law and is what the FCC intends to do if there is not a vocal outcry.

In particular, read Paragraphs 9 through 12 super carefully! That's where it is clear that the DATA/RTTY HF subbands, which include ALL CW and RTTY frequencies, from the lowest edge of the HF band up until the Voice/Image subbands, will be subjected to unlimited bandwidth new data signals. That is, the FCC is proposing to authorize UNLIMITED BANDWIDTH, and UNLIMITED DATA RATE signals in the ENTIRE Data/RTTY HF subbands from the lowest edge up to the SSB/Voice/IMAGE subbands. All of the CW and RTTY frequencies are impacted in that sub band – that's where CW and RTTY operate – that should be clear to anyone reading the NPRM.

This NPRM is a law about to be passed by the FCC. Its already gone much farther than RM 11306 did when the ARRL tried this same proposal at the FCC in 2005 to put this wideband data in the SSB/Phone/Image band – the ARRL pulled it because the SSB operators were well organized and vocal. But now they have gotten it through the FCC in the CW/RTTY subbands --- it never went that far before, because SSB hams shouted it down at the ARRL.....sadly CW/RTTY operators have not been successful and have had huge apathy and skepticism about the threat, and now this is about to become

law unless there is a MAJOR outcry and comments at both the FCC and ARRL to stop the interference in the lowest 100 kHz.).

Please, please educate yourself by reading about RM 11306 on the web. It was a ferocious battle in 2005-2007 . The ARRL withdrew it in 2007, finally. They then retooled it in 2013 as RM 11708, and have it about ready to get into law – UNLESS people respond mightily to ARRL officials and the FCC during this 2 month comment period. this is not fear mongering, I assure you. Its trying to get people awake and aware of the pending law in the FCC publication. Without strong consideration and response, ham radio in the US will be subject to this rule making, and its going to be very bad for CW/RTTY, just like the SSB ops saw and successfully fought off in RM 11306.

For history, see RM 11306 on the web. So many thousands of posts rejected RM 11306, an arrl board member resigned in disgust, here is just one simple sample assessment, when the ARRL proposed this identical proposal 10 years ago, except in the phone sub bands, (Now they are getting it into the Data/RTTY subbands, which by definition are where CW and narrowband modes operate):

<http://www.eham.net/articles/13018>

Here are specific answers to your questions:

Yes, this impacts all CW and RTTY on HF, because the NPRM specifies all HF "Data/RTTY" subbands. That is the subband where CW and RTTY and narrowband JT65 and PSK 31 operate.

Yes, the FCC is proposing UNLIMITED bandwidth. Even if the FCC accepted ARRL's 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit, the problem STILL negatively impacts CW and RTTY signals, since Pactor 4 and other HF modems will be allowed in ANY CW/RTTY frequency, and digitized voice of up to 2.8 kHz bandwidth will also be allowed on ANY CW /RTTY frequency. This would cause widerband SSB-like bandwidth signals to mix and overtake CW/RTTY narrowband signals. Note that CW has only 200 Hz max bandwidth, RTTY has 500 Hz max bandwidth. These narrowband signals cannot be used when they are clobbered by 2.8 kHz wide band signals. That is why the FCC never allowed SSB to operate on top of the CW/RTTY signals. We must keep this segregation by bandwidth to assure CW and RTTY can operate without wideband interference. That is why I and others are advocating that the NPRM be MODIFIED to limit the emission bandwidth to 200 Hz in the lowest 50 kHz of each HF subband, and why a limit of 500 Hz should be enforced for the lowest 100 kHz of each subband. That would assure that CW and RTTY would not be subjected to wider band interference, while still allowing wider band data to exist above 100 kHz above the lowest HF edges.

Regarding Pactor and its problems, that is, what we will be subjected to if the ARRL's 2.8 kHz bandwidth is eventually accepted at the FCC (right now, that does not look likely – the FCC wants to open the bandwidth to be much greater – unlimited)

PACTOR in general (I do not know the specifics of PACTOR 4) uses run length encoding and decoding a technique in which common words and strings of two or more letters (e.g., sh, ing, in, on, the, etc.) are replaced with a "token." In addition, the resulting message is then compressed (apparently PACTOR 4 adds the ability to use an encrypted "key" for the commercial version).

However, the developers of PACTOR do not release details of either the compression algorithm or the substitution table for PACTOR 2 - 4.

so its not really public, and its unintelligible unless you buy the \$1500 modem. and there is no cw ID. Yet its being used today in ham radio under the guise of being published. It's a grey issue.

When you read the FCC NPRM Paragraph 10, they mention 97.309(a) as being the only codes allowable on HF/MF

, but the problem is §97.309 (a) contains several parts - it specifies ITA 2, AMTOR (SITOR) and ASCII data formats ("Codes") but also - in §97.309 (a)(4) - lists several permitted *transmission methods* (or "encoding methods") "whose technical characteristics have been documented publicly" including PACTOR. But that's not really whats happening today.

The issue is that the only the original ACTOR was *publicly documented*

- the PACTOR 2 - 4 encoding systems are ****NOT**** publicly documented! Yet Pactor 3 is operating today. People cannot stop or identify offending transmissions that QRM them with Pactor 3. Will be so much worse with Pactor 4 and future data signals!

Another major real problem is in §97.309 (b) which permits "undocumented codes" under certain circumstances. The loopholes in §97.309 (b) are big enough to drive a bus through. Has been the cause of QRM already for years with automated data.

All of this will become so much worse if NPRM is legalized, and the FCC is not dealing with these issues and are ignoring it, as you can see in NPRM paragraph 10, where it simply assumes all hams will use only enough bandwidth as they need .Yet the FCC contradicts itself and says that wideband experimentatoin should be supported, of arbitrary large bandwidth, so there is a huge disaster waiting to happen if the NPRM is passed as is ---- the existing problems with Pactor will immediately errupt into a huge mess and no regulation on the TTY subbands! right now, the FCC is leaning towards no bandwidth protection and no bandwidth limit for the lowest 100 kHz of each HF band for CW/RTTY to keep all emissions below 200 or 500 Hz. You allow wider transmissions than this, e.g. unlimited bandwidths as proposed by the FCC, or 2.8 kHz bandwidths as originally proposed by the ARRL, and the entire CW/RTTY lower portion of HF becomes swallowed up in wider bandwidth data signals, either PACTOR or wider with digitized voice, etc. over time. that is what is at stake. I hope this makes sense! {Please, please get active and spread the word, if you care about CW or RTTY.

A Call for Programs

Some 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

Club Officers2016

President:	Steve Karson AC9EM
Vice Pres.	Russ Schmidt KC9NUV
Secretary:	Cliff Sowka K9QD
Treasurer:	Chris Brewer AC9GN
Director:	Frank Giampa N9QPD
Director:	Rob Glowacki N9MVO (2016)
Director:	Kevin Willard KB9QVX (2017)
Director:	Ted Lester AB9SZ (2017)
Director:	Gary Bernstein N9VU (2018)

Club Committees

Programs	Cliff Sowka, K9QD
Social Activities	Roger Ryan, W9RDR
Membership	Leo Ribordy, N9NBH
Education	Bruce Warrington, N9EHA
Public Service	Rob Glowacki, N9MVO
Emergency Comm	Bob Langsfeld, WB9TZC
Special Events/Field Day	Leo N9NBH, Matt AC9IG
Ebay Sales	Gary, N9VU
Publicity	Dirk Smith K9DFS
RHG	Ken Hopkins WA9WCP
Net	Jim Brink, W9JFB
Technical Assistance	Ted Lester, AB9SZ
Fund Raising	Open
Fox Hunt Coordinator	Steve Karson,
Repeater	Rob Glowacki, N9MVO

SARC-All 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>, The Radio Hill Gazette, newsletter of the Schaumburg Amateur Radio club

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. Meetings are held at 7:00 P.M. Come in the Bode Road entrance and take the elevator to the 2nd floor.

SARC General Business Meeting 8/18 2016

SARC General Business Meeting Aug 18, 2016

Steve Karson AC9EM President called the meeting to order at 7:10PM.

Attendees

Mike Clodfelter	AC9CG
Charles Fregeau	N5HSR
Jim Campbell	KB9RGU
Frank Giampa	N9QPD
Ken Piletic	W9ZMR
Don Smith	K9UD
Bernie Barr	K9JAT
Roger Ryan	W9RDR
Leo Ribordy	N9NBH
Vic Canter	K9WXV
John Zietlow	K9WIC
Matt Walsh	AC9IG
Joel Gray	N9LO
Bob McIntrey	W9DXR
Gary Bernstein	N9VU
Hermann Wagner	AJ4ZS / DL8MCP
Cliff Sowka	K9QD
Steve Karson	AC9EM
Russ Schmidt	KC9NUV
Rick Cook	KC9PLO
Robert Langsfeld	WB9TZC

Treasurer's report: Chris Brewer AC9GN not present but provided status for Steve to report: Beginning balance for the month was \$4,366.79 with income of \$559.00 from Dues. Expense was \$330.82 with data-line and PO Box annual expense. Ending Balance of \$4,594.97. Current PAID Membership is currently 58. Frank N9QPD moved the Treasurer's report be accepted as published; Rob N9MVO seconded. So moved.

SARC Repeater: Rob N9MVO reports the club's repeater is working. The Fusion machine is still in the Hoffman Estates facility. The SARC machine is receiving malicious commands of random numbers that are causing system fault. Random numbers are invoking several modes and disturbing Ecolink as well. 10:45AM today was another event of locally-originating trouble. There may be some software patches to shield random insults and help to prevent automatic acceptance and subsequent fault loops.

Water Tank Painting at the Transmit Site: September 10th is set for transmit site dismantle. Village officials notified us the work is scheduled for March~June of 2017. Certified Climber Ryan Ochs will be available and equipped to help us pull the antennas and coax.

Code of Conduct: Since Frank N9QPD found our original Constitution and surmised that since the club complies with Robert's Rules of Order being used for business meetings, a Code of Conduct change to our organization are simplified. Therefore if the club wishes to institute a Code of Conduct, a simple majority of voting members can be called to amend the club's rules. Such a meeting is to be conducted as a special meeting so a regular meeting can be adjourned, a special meeting immediately called to order, and vote taken.

Fusion Repeater: Rob Glowacki N9MVO setup his spectrum analyzer last month to survey the RF at the Hospital site to find an interferer right on the frequency we're using. New Duplexer is likely the first step in trying to filter the heavy RF interference so the club has authorized \$200 for a possible Hamfest acquisition.

Public Service Rob Glowacki N9MVO Our events for 2016 are completed. Looking forward to MS Walk, Schaumburg Triathlon, Chicagoland Marathon in Busse Woods, and the AT&T Fitness are expected to be on our future schedule in 2017.

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

President's Report: Steve related Survey Monkey results reveal the membership rejects the need for the club to purchase food for social events. There are some indicating their willingness to provide small amounts, but as a rule, the club's attitude is for protecting treasury monies from frivolous attack for food budgets.

RHG: Ken Hopkins WA9WCP is our new editor and the August edition has been received. Minutes taken for SARC Board of Directors and SARC Regular Business Meeting minutes will be once again published in Ken's monthly RHG as a return to normalcy now that we have an editor.

Construction Project: Ted Lester AB9SZ: Check for furniture status revealed major changes at the facility are underway...furniture notwithstanding. It's clear a September resumption of Construction Project should not be anticipated at the normal site. A visit reveals the main stairwell and reception

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desk are gone, the bar area is cleared-out, and the only path to the basement is the elevator until such time as the southwest staircase to the basement is finished.

Our equipment cabinets are moved 20-feet to the south. The raised floor that previously remained along the south wall has been leveled to allow a stairwell to come down into the basement at the corner of the basement. Removal of the original staircase that was at one time immediately at the lobby required new steel beams be placed in the basement to support the floor that will fill-in the previous staircase opening. That required the contractor to move all of our equipment out of the way to provide ceiling access for the newly installed steel beam supporting the floor above.

Next Step: Russ Schmidt KC9NUV will contact the Park District to update us on their plans, and determine if the facility will continue to be available for us in the future. Workers on site this week estimated their construction process may allow us to possibly return by early November. Russ' checking with Park District officials in the coming weeks will provide us a better estimate of what the future holds.

VE Testing: John Shofield AC9JS not present but provided results for Steve to report Aug 6th session. 5 tested: 2 Gen, 2 Techs, and 1 Extra.

SARC in the Park Rob Glowacki N9MVO

Social: Roger Ryan W9RDR Fall Mini Field Day Captain and Food Fest is September 10th. During an informal survey tonight, only 6 people indicated interest so there was a question of whether to push the event to another time. Food will be paid for by individual contributions, such as Apple Pies. Winner of the contest will receive a cook book. Roger will arrange for AC power, and he also has a 12V Marine Battery for radio operators who need power.

Nets: Rob N9MVO reports attendance of 9~10 and would like to see more participation.

Education: Ham Radio Class: Leo N9NBH reports Jarek (not present tonight) is hosting Technician Level Ham License Class starting in September and already listed in Schaumburg directory. August 27th will be orientation invitation for the prospective students to observe actual Ham Radio operations that will be underway during our SARC-in-the-Park.

Likely to continue with previous plan of Seven sessions. Looking for teachers and would like more than the two people who have already come forward.

EMCOMM: Bob Langsfeld WB9TZC. Saturday set for EMCOMM meeting. SET: October will be the Simulated Emergency Test similar to the Great Shakeout we conducted with the village last year.

The Radio Hill Gazette: No Report.

Programs: Cliff Sowka K9QD: Tonight Hermann Wagner presents antenna technology, some clever assemblies, and a complete Go-Kit. September program will be a WWII B-17 veteran who served as a Navigator. Duane Wacaser will facilitate his friend's presentation for that evening.

Ebay sales: Gary N9VU no sales currently listed.

Publicity No Report.

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Recurring Calendar: Chris is checking PO Box weekly.

Old business: None.

New business: As previously reported, Frank N9QPD received an original copy of the SARC Constitution. He explained our current desire to add a formal Code of Conduct to the club's documents can be easily implemented. Because Robert's Rules of Order was instituted as the official vehicle for meetings, it becomes an effortless task to allow a simple addendum.

Plan is to have a new code proposal ready for November elections. This will allow us to vote the amendment instead of having to change the Bylaws.

Move to adjourn 8:36PM. So moved.

Submitted: August 19, 2016 Cliff Sowka secretary

Cliff Sowka

Cell 847 721 3638



Schaumburg Radio Club Nets

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club Thursday Night 8:00 Net except for the third Thursday of the month when club meetings are held.

S.A.R.C. K9IHK Repeater 145.230 MHz- 600 kHz PL=107.2 , 442.275 +5 MHz PL =114.8 The 70cm repeater is cross linked to the 2 meter repeater. The N9RJV Yaesu Fusion repeater at 444.250 + 5 MHz PL=114.8 is NOT linked to any other repeater.

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. Opinions expressed herein are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club. All contents of the Radio Hill Gazette, except where noted, are ©2015 of the Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club Inc. Articles and other material may only be copied when proper credit is given to both the author and to SARC. Visit the SARC Home Page at <http://n9rjv.org>



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