

# THE RADIO HILL GAZETTE

Volume XXXII Issue V

May 2007

*Celebrating Our 32nd Year in Publication*

## Club Calendar of Events

# Dayton Hamvention®

Sponsored by Dayton Amateur Radio Association  
Since 1952

CLUB MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE SCHAUMBURG RECREATION CENTER ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SPRINGINSGUTH AND BODE ROADS. OUR NETS ARE HELD EVERY THURSDAY (except Meeting nights) AT 9PM ON THE K9IHK REPEATER; 145.23 MHz.-600 kHz WITH 107.2 Hz PL

## May 2007

Wed	2	7:00 PM	Board of Directors meeting – Schaumburg Airport
Thu	3	9:00 PM	SARC Net 145.230 kHz
Sat	5	8:00 AM	Official Saturday Morning Breakfast – Maxfields
Sat	5	9:00 AM	VE Testing Session - <b>CRC</b>
Sun	6	7:30 AM	Public Service Event – MS Walkathon – Harper CC.
Thu	10	9:00 PM	SARC Net 145.230 kHz
Thu	17	7:00 PM	<b>Monthly Club Meeting - CRC</b>
Sat	18	6:30 PM	Fox Hunt - CRC
Fri	18		Dayton Hamvention – Hara
Sat	19		Arena, Trotwood Ohio
Sun	20		
Thu	24	9:00 PM	SARC Net 145.230 kHz
Thu	31	9:00 PM	SARC Net 145.230 kHz



## June 2007

Sat	2	8:00 AM	Official Saturday Morning Breakfast – Maxfields
Sat	2	9:00 AM	VE Testing Session - <b>CRC</b>
Wed	6	7:00 PM	Board of Directors meeting – Schaumburg Airport
Thu	7	9:00 PM	SARC Net 145.230 kHz
Thu	14	9:00 PM	SARC Net 145.230 kHz
Thu	21	7:00 PM	<b>Monthly Club Meeting - CRC</b>
Sat	23	9:00 AM-	ARRL Field Day
Sun	24	???	
Thu	28	9:00 PM	SARC Net 145.230 kHz

## Fox hunting game is a fun time for all.

Fox hunting is use to build our skills with the uses of your equipment. We all have to get to know better. With minimum equipment is needed. First is a hand held radio (with charged battery), a directional antenna, and an attenuator.

Your radio needs to have a RF scale display, to measure signal strength. The next is an attenuator to cut the signal down. There are two types first is a passive attenuator it uses mostly switches and resisters to reduce the RF signal strength into the radio. This type is not as easy as it looks when you are getting close really to the transmitter. It might get into the front end of the radio, if the signal is to strong. The second is an active attenuator; this device takes the input frequency, and mixes with another to get a third frequency. It is this frequency you set your radio on for the hunt. You adjust the mixing frequency's amplitude to change the signal strength.

The last thing you need is a directional antenna. This antenna is moved around to detect the direction of the transmitter. This is were it get harder the choices are so many types and shapes. The most common is a Yogi antenna, this has choices too! Do you want two, three, four or more elements? The more elements the antenna has the more sensitive it is to the direction. There is one were the elements are bent in a box shape, this to you

have two, three, four elements. An old antenna was made round called a loop antenna. But its type was harder to use. This is what a person needs to get started to go on a fox hunt.

The SARC fox hunts are on the Saturday after the clubs meeting on the third Thursday of the month, weather permitting. We start at the Schaumburg Park District "Community Recreation Center (CRC)" at Bode and Springinguth Roads, 6:30 pm set up time with 7 pm start. With a time limit of two hours, and afterwards we go for pizza.

We have boundaries limits to make it easier, all area shown on the Schaumburg Township Map (I-90, 53, Barrington, and Irving Park roads are the rough limits).

The "Fox" has many limits first is transmitting on the repeater input (144.630 Meg. Hertz, with a CTCSS (pl) of 107.2 Hertz.) The Fox transmitting must be able to be heard by at least ½ of hunters at the starting point. The transition must be 30 seconds long with a 5 minutes interval max. The fox can not change the power, antenna, and its place once the game is started. The location must be no more than 1000 feet of a roadway that is a public accessible, or a place with an admission is charge.

Let the GAMES begin!!!

Bruce Widenhoefer  
Fox Hunt Chairperson for the SARC



## Swap Meet Fun!

It's just about time for the spring swap meet time to begin, and that brings back memories of the best friend that I ever had, Jim Cates. Jim was famous for being a co-founder of NorCal, but I knew him before and he didn't let fame bother him at all, except that he was bothered by people thinking he was famous, which he was. Anyway, back to the point of my message.

I had known Jim about 3 or 4 months when he invited me to come to Sacramento and go to a swap meet with him. Not only would we go, but we would have a table together. Sounded like fun to me, so I agreed. I went to Sacramento on a Friday evening, and Jim and his lovely wife Electra invited me to spend the night so we could get up early for the swap.

The day of the swap was a beautiful spring day, plenty of sunshine, and warm temperatures. Jim was delighted. We loaded our treasures in the back of my Toyota pickup and drove a couple of miles to the swap. We set up our table, and that was when the fun began. Jim explained to me that he expected to sell every single item, and that the only thing that he was going to take home was anything that he bought. Jim then busied himself putting prices on everything there, and I could see why he expected to sell all of his stuff, the prices were cheap!! Jim wanted to get rid of the stuff, and he only brought things that he considered to be junk!! The valuable gear he sold via the swap net, or on packet. (This was before the days of the internet being commonly available to hams.)

The first guy walks up, and picks up a speaker. He asks Jim, "Will you take \$3.50 for it?" It was marked \$5. Jim said, with a straight face, "No but I'll take \$3." The guy looked at Jim in shock, and finally realized that he was serious. He couldn't get the money out of his pocket fast enough. As he paid, Jim told him that he hated

a lot of change in his pocket. The guy walked away carrying the nice speaker in the cabinet. Jim turned to me and smiled, "Paid a quarter for that last week in a garage sale."

I had a CB SWR meter on my part of the table priced at \$20. I told Jim to take any offer for it, as I wanted to walk around the swap. Jim agreed. I left, and came back 20 minutes later. Jim handed me about \$50 for things he had sold. Among them was the meter. He chuckled and told me about the meter sale. A guy had walked up and asked what he wanted for the meter. Jim said that it was marked \$20, but that was too much, and since it belonged to me and I was gone, he would sell it for \$10. The guy said deal, handed Jim \$10 and the meter was sold. I was thrilled. Jim loved doing that, have a guy walk up when I was gone, and he would sell my stuff at a "bargain".

He also was true to his word. The swap was winding down, and Jim boxed up 4 or 5 items that were left. He then put the box under his arm and started walking. I followed, curious to see what he would do. He walked up to a big array of junk. You know the type, two tables filled with crap, junk spread all over the place, and a guy who hasn't shaved in a week standing there holding a wad of bills. Jim set his box down, pretended to look at something, and as soon as the guy got busy selling something, Jim carefully set whatever he was looking at down, and walked away, chuckling all the way. I almost ruined it when I said, "Wait Jim, you forgot your box of stuff." Jim laughed and said, "I intended to." That way, he didn't have to haul it home.

One of the things that local NorCal members soon found out was that Jim could identify almost any radio or piece of radio gear that had been built since 1940. He was amazing. We would walk together down an aisle, and I would spot an old radio. I'd ask Jim what it was, and he would tell me, many times saying that he had owned one of those once but

traded it off for such and such. Jim had one of the largest qrp collections that I know of, and yet he was also an expert on QRO gear.

There is one event that happened at the Monterrey swap that I will never forget. Jim had a whole reel of Twin Ax Cable. Must have been 1000 feet of the stuff. It was heavy, took 3 of us to load and unload. We put it on a cart, and Jim said that he was going to give it away, but he wasn't going to haul it home. He put a "Free" sign on it and waited. No one even looked at it. Finally, with about 30 minutes left before the end of the swap, Jim decided to take a walk around to see what he could find. I started to clean up, and get things ready to go. I had just thrown away the "Free" sign on the cable. This guy walks up and goes right to the reel. He turns and says, "What do you want for the whole reel" I said, "Well my partner wants \$100 but he is gone and I don't want to load it. Give me \$50 and its yours." The guy said, "Deal" and reached for his wallet. You could have knocked me over with a feather. The guy gets a hand cart and off he goes with his purchase. Jim walks up right after. I hand Jim the \$50 and grinned. Jim said what did you do? I told him and he laughed. Said he saw me dealing with the guy but had no idea that I was getting \$50, he was hoping for \$5. Note that this was a reel that he wanted to give away, but couldn't. Jim bought dinner for both of us that night. He was a neat guy, and I miss him a lot, but I smile every time I think of him, especially at the swap meets having fun.

72, Doug, KI6DS

**Minutes of the Board of Directors  
Meeting  
Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
Wednesday, April 4, 2007**

Board members:  
Bill Smead, K9IIM

Barb Schuyler, N9NM  
 Pete Schuyler, N9OF  
 Mark Deelsnyder, KB9VHA  
 Bruce Widenhoefer, KB9JEJ  
 Kent Ochs, W9KAO  
 John Bettasso, AJ9ON

Pete called the meeting to order at 8:00PM

**OLD BUSINESS**

President’s report – Five members went up to AES Superfest. Kent got a W5YI Technician Instructor’s Guide. Kent will be out of town next regular meeting. Phil S will chair the next regular meeting.

Secretary’s Report – Knock knock?

RHG – Mark reported the new print shop is printing the RHG now. Kent will talk to the Laura at the Park District to use their photocopier if we supplied the paper. Who’s there?

Construction Project – Bill Smead reported that construction project season has ended. Radio! Fox Hunts - Bruce reported hunts will start sometime in April. Radio Who?

Social Activities – John Bettasso reported that Kim received 10 surveys back and 16 were handed out at regular meeting. This month’s RHG also has the survey and she hopes to see a few more come in before she tallies the results. Radio not, here I come!

**NEW BUSINESS**

Dues Transition Plan – Full membership renewal will be \$25 and reduced membership renewal will be \$20. All memberships will be due by July 1 each year, therefore will expire on June 30 of each year. The transitional schedule below is designed to make every member compliant to the new dues schedule for the 2007 membership year.

In the following renewal schedules, membership will expire on June 30, 2008. If your membership expired in January, February, March, or April 2007, or will expire in May or June 2007, you will be required to pay the full membership renewal amount of

\$25 or the reduced membership renewal amount of \$20 by July 1, 2007.

If your current membership will expire in July, August, or September 2007, you will be required to pay \$18.75 for a full membership renewal or \$15 for the reduced membership renewal by July 1, 2007.

If your current membership will expire in October, November, or December 2007, you will be required to pay \$12.50 for a full membership renewal or \$10 for the reduced membership renewal by July 1, 2007.

If your current membership will expire in January, February, or March 2008, you will be required to pay \$6.25 for a full membership renewal or \$5 for the reduced membership renewal by July 1, 2007.

New memberships will be prorated throughout each year based on the schedule below. All dues include the \$5 joining fee.

Joining Month:	Full Membership Joining Fee	Reduced Membership Joining Fee	Membership will expire on:
April, May or June of the current year	\$30.00	\$25.00	June 30 of the following year
July, August, or September of the current year	\$23.75	\$20	June 30 of the following year
October, November, or December of the current year	\$17.50	\$15.00	June 30 of the following year
January, February, or March of the following year	\$11.25	\$10.00	June 30 of the current year

In an effort to keep the membership roster current, any membership renewals that are not received by September 1 following the July 1 yearly renewal date will be removed from the club roster. Any member that renews after September 1 will be required to pay the Full or Reduced Membership Joining Fee as appropriate.

Secretary will send snail mail to George Greene.

Secretary will also update the club roster for next regular meeting.

Insurance has been paid by Andy Sharkey and he is waiting for reimbursement from the Treasurer.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Meeting closed at 9:15PM.

Respectfully submitted by John Bettasso,  
AJ9ON Secretary

### **Minutes of the Regular Meeting Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club, Inc Thursday April 19, 2007**

VP Phil Sawicki, N9IQ, called the meeting to order at 7:07PM.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND TREASURER'S REPORT

Phil made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as they appear in the April RHG and to accept the March bank statement balance of \$1782.73 as read by Phil seconded by Bill Smead K9IIM and Bill Smead Jr N9TOI. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

##### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Net Control - Rob Glowacki, N9MVO.  
Someday he will published a NCO list.

Membership – David Deitrich KC9EHQ informed members of new email address. Jim Campbell handed over the membership bag.

Repeater – Bill Zapel, N9QPD programmers are still working on the software. Bill is looking for someone to assist on technical issues on the Motorola repeater.

Public Service - Dave Downing N9DAV looking for volunteers for MSWalk, Sunday May 6 at Harper College. All you need is an HT and some warm clothes.

Education Chair – The club is still looking for a chairperson.

Em-Comm – Where's Bill.

Program chair – Where's Adrian.

Fund Raising- Roy Merkley, KC9BPI

VE Testing – Larry Carr, NO9A

Website – Bruce Warrington, N9EHA

Construction project – Bill Smead reported that in September they will start again.

RHG – Mark Deelsnyder KB9VHA reported RHG has been printed with new printer.

Social Activities – Kim Bettasso

Fox Hunting – Bruce Widenhoefer, KB9JEJ reported that FH will be this Saturday.

Field Day 07 – We need a FD chair.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- ATM Card renewed, a new pin will be mailed out to corp mail box.
- Dues Transition – Pete Schuyler presented how to transition your current anniversary date due date to new fiscal year schedule of July 1. See the secretary to find out when you paid last and what your catch up amount will be.
- FD is June 23

Motion to adjourn by Pete and seconded by Rob G. 8:00PM

Respectfully submitted by John Bettasso,  
AJ9ON, Club secretary.



## **VE TESTING RESULTS**

NEXT EXAMS:  
**May 5, 2007,**  
**June 2, 2007**

Park District CRC ; Sr. Lounge.

RESULTS FOR April 7, 2007, TEST SESSION:

CLASS	NUMBER TESTED	NEW LICENSE or UPGRADE
Technician	4	2
General	5	5
Extra	4	4
Total	13	11

### **NEW LICENSES**

#### **\*\*\*\*Technician\*\*\*\***

Jeffrey Petrik KC9LHX  
 Geza Gyuk KC9LHW

#### **\*\*\*\*GENERAL\*\*\*\***

Steve Rupp KC9LHY  
 Mark Hammergren KC9LIG

### **UPGRADES:**

#### **\*\*\*\*GENERAL\*\*\*\***

Robert Sepot KC9JBA  
 Kevin Willard KB9QVX  
 Melissa Meneely K9MLM

#### **\*\*\*\*EXTRA\*\*\*\***

Dean Meneely K9QLC  
 Robert Felix KF9TB  
 Bradford Folkens KC9EIJ  
 Richard Bauer N9DKO

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

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. 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 Senior Lounge just inside the doors. Signs will be posted to guide the way to the room.

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.

Larry Carr NO9A  
 W5YI-VEC CVE & Test Session Manager  
 847-593-8658  
 E mail: [N09A@ARRL.NET](mailto:N09A@ARRL.NET)

The fee for taking a VE exam increased from \$12.00 to \$14.00 on January 1, 2005. This increase applies to all W5YI and ARRL VEC test sites nationwide. The increase was attributed to the diminishing number of examinees and rising costs.



## FOR SALE:

### HY-GAIN 4 BAND VERTICAL ANTENNA

A used Hy-Gain 4 band (10, 15, 20, & 40 meters) trapped vertical antenna (14AVG/WB) was recently donated to SARC. The height is about 18 ft. The bottom section was exposed to outdoor conditions for about 25 years, but the remaining sections were kept indoors and seldom used. The instruction manual is included. \$50. Contact Larry at 847-593-8658 or [NO9A@ARRL.NET](mailto:NO9A@ARRL.NET)

Read the RHG Online

Save Paper & Postage

Now available as an Adobe Acrobat file:

<http://www.n9rjv.org>

Email: [sarc-rhg@comcast.net](mailto:sarc-rhg@comcast.net) and we will set you up.

HEY, WHAT'S YOUR  
CELL NUMBER?

(VIOLET BROWN GRAY) —  
UH, I MEAN, (718)-387-6962.

OKAY, YOU ARE PUTTING  
DOWN THOSE RESISTORS  
AND GOING OUTSIDE  
FOR A WHILE.

THAT'S PROBABLY  
A GOOD IDEA.



xkcd.com

## 2007 SARC OFFICERS

President: Kent Ochs	W9KAO 847-891-6025
Vice Pres.: Phil Sawicki	N9IQ
Secretary: John Bettasso	AJ9ON SkypeME
Treasurer: George Greene	NE9ET
Director: Bill Smead	K9IIM 847 934-1817
Director: Barb Schuyler	N9NM
Director: Pete Schuyler	N9OF
Director: Bruce Widenhoefer	KB9JEJ
Director: Mark Deelsnyder	KB9VHA

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 68251  
Schaumburg, IL. 60168-0251



Deliver To:



**Thursday Night 9:00 Net**  
**S.A.R.C. Repeater**

**145.23 MHz - 600 kHz**

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 9p.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 E-mail to: [sarc-rhg@comcast.net](mailto:sarc-rhg@comcast.net)

We solicit letters, articles, news items, quizzes, advertisements, suggestions, and criticism -- plus anything else you can think of, including ideas to improve the RHG!

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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<http://n9rjv.org>

