

THE RADIO HILL GAZETTE

Volume XXXIII Issue VI

June 2008

Celebrating Our 33rd Year in Publication

Club Calendar of Events

June 2008

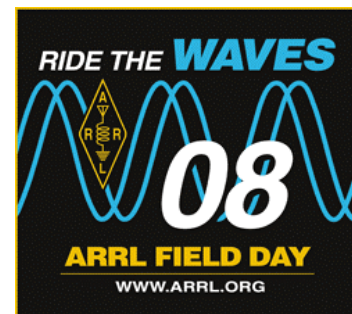
Wed	4	7:00 PM	Board of Directors meeting – Schaumburg Airport
Thu	5	9:00 PM	SARC Net 145.230 kHz NCS: Dave KC9EHQ
Sat	7	8:00 AM	Official Saturday Morning Breakfast – Maxfields
Sat	7	9:00 AM	VE Testing Session - CRC
Sat	7	7:00 AM	Tour De Cure - Geneva
Thu	12	9:00 PM	SARC Net 145.230 kHz NCS: Rob N9MVO
Thu	19	7:00 PM	Monthly Club Meeting – CRC & Business Meeting
Thu	22	9:00 PM	SARC Net 145.230 kHz NCS: John AJ9ON
Fri	27		Field Day - Plum Grove Road Water Tank
Sat	28		Field Day - Plum Grove Road Water Tank
Sun	29		Field Day - Plum Grove Road Water Tank

July 2008

Wed	2	7:00 PM	Board of Directors meeting – Schaumburg Airport
Thu	3	9:00 PM	SARC Net 145.230 kHz NCS: Dave KC9EHQ
Fri	4	7:30 AM	Public Service Event – Hoffman Estates Parade
Sat	5	8:00 AM	Official Saturday Morning Breakfast – Maxfields
Sat	5	9:00 AM	VE Testing Session - CRC
Thu	10	9:00 PM	SARC Net 145.230 kHz NCS: Rob N9MVO
Thu	17	7:00 PM	Monthly Club Meeting – CRC & Business Meeting
Thu	24	9:00 PM	SARC Net 145.230 kHz NCS: John AJ9ON
Thu	31	9:00 PM	SARC Net 145.230 kHz NCS: Bob AF9U

SSB Net Every Tuesday at 7:30 pm. 144.2095

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 K9IIK REPEATER; 145.23 MHz.-600 kHz WITH 107.2 Hz PL



DON'T FORGET.... FIELD DAY IS COMING SOON

Field Day 2008 will be here before you know it. Were you planning on helping with Field Day? Perhaps you're thinking of stopping by and trying your hand at some mode you've not worked before. Maybe you're just curious to know what all the fuss is about.

There's still plenty to do and volunteers are needed to help with Field Day. And you're certainly invited to "come on down" and participate in all the Field Day Activities. Field Day is that one-day of the year where hams all around practice their emergency operation skills. It's a chance to set up in field conditions, operate on portable, battery, bike, solar, or other nonstandard power, and make real contacts. It's a chance to try different rigs and different modes. It's a chance to mingle with old friends and meet some new ones. It's a full day to kick back enjoy the hobby.

If you didn't know, Field Day is the largest on-the-air operating event sponsored by the ARRL. If you've participated in Field Day in the past,

we hope that you'll be joining us again this year. If you've never participated in Field Day, come on out and see what it's all about. You won't regret it.

Most of the tent captains have been identified, but extra operators are always needed throughout this 24 hour event.

Set up begins around 1:00pm on Friday, June 27th. On Saturday, June 28th, we'll be putting the finishing touches on the site beginning about 9:00am so we can be ready for the official start at 1:00pm. If you're not up for participating this year, please stop by and visit the Field Day Site to see what's going on, and maybe you'll decide to be part of next year's event.



THANK YOU !

Thank you, guys and girl, for all the help on the Galvin program.

Jim Kempe jumped in at the last minute to move the cookies and tripod, Cliff checked the PA system, ran the call lists. Mark put the announcement in the RHG two days before I wrote it?? Annie did it all; set out food and coffee, ran the video, ran the audio, put up signs, checked on details and just looked damn good for when Bob arrived. My wife Deborah made the cookies (good huh?) I saw Bill Smead cleaning up the food area. Kempe made a loan to the Swiss banker, at Rosati's

I heard from one source that there were over 50 people. I saw 4 people, directly in front of me, who didn't sign in
Bob Galvin said the meeting was like being with a bunch of old friends. I think that, that

was the ambience we wanted to create. I will be extending an open invitation to him to come on any 3rd Thursday

Ya know; a meeting or event like this CAN be done by one person, but to get the group together, or part of the group together, pulls a club together. It creates "clubiness". Some of us were still talking about the meeting at brunch on Sunday.

Once again, thanks to all of you who put this together. I hope I didn't leave any one out.
Roger W9RDR

**Minutes of the Board of Directors
Meeting - May 2008
Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Wednesday, April 30, 2008**

Board members present:

Cliff Sowka, K9QD

Bill Smead, K9IIM

Mark Deelsnyder, KB9VHA

Jim Kempe, KC9LWO

Bruce Widenhoeffer, KB9JEJ

Club Officers & Committee Chairpersons present:

John Bettasso, AJ9ON

Annie Mitchell, KC9CUN

Phil Sawicki, N9IQ

Bob McIntyre, AF9U

Visitors

Kent Ochs, W9KAO

Roger Ryan, W9RDR

The meeting was called to order by Mark Deelsnyder at 7:05 pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Treasurer's Report –Cliff Sowka reported that we have \$1,339.32 in the club bank account.

Secretary's Report – An article on Field Day was submitted and published in the May RHG.

President's Report - John Bettasso reported name tags have been ordered for those who had previously requested them. John will be out of town at the next regular meeting. Phil will take over for the evening.

Membership Report – no report at this time.

Public Service - The MS Walk will be held on Sunday May 4th.

Upcoming public service events were listed in last month's regular meeting minutes.

RHG Newsletter/Publicity – Mark Deelsnyder reported that new articles have been included and the newsletter for May has been published.

Repeater System – the repeater is working. Bill Smead reported on repeater control and the need to review software for the repeater and technical support.

Construction Projects – Saturday construction meetings have ended. Attendance this year was good and eleven broken radios were fixed. A tentative project is on the table for next year which is a monitor for Lithium batteries.

VE Testing/eBay Sales - no report at this time.

Social Activities – No report this month.

Nets – No report.

Education – no report.

Fox Hunts – Bruce Widenhoeffler discussed the Club Fox hunt that took place in April.

Meeting Programs – Annie Mitchell reported that Robert Galvin is the scheduled speaker for the May club meeting. Roger Ryan presented a draft copy of an announcement for the upcoming meeting and shared suggestions for the meeting format.

Em-Comm – No report tonight.

OLD BUSINESS REVIEW OF RECURRING CLUB CALENDAR

Kent Ochs reported the insurance form for Field Day is complete and the permit has been acquired.

Picnic planning – the permit needs to be acquired. John will check with Jim Campbell.

Articles may now be submitted for the June RHG

IDOT Trip - John will follow up on details.

A definition for the Em-comm committee chair was discussed. A list of duties needs to be established for the committee chairman position.

NEW BUSINESS

Establishment of a budget for the next fiscal year was tabled until the next Board of Directors meeting.

Field Day – a brochure was prepared announcing the club field day. The ARRL has a special kit of material to hand out at field day.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting closed at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Bob McIntyre, AF9U
Secretary

Minutes of the Regular Meeting Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club, Inc Thursday, May 15, 2008

Vice President, Phil Sawicki called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Introductions were given by each member and the question for the evening was: "Why aren't you going to

Dayton?" Many creative answers were offered.

OLD BUSINESS

Treasurer's report – Cliff Sowka, K9QD reported that the club has a balance of \$1,297.72 as of the meeting and all bills are paid.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND TREASURER'S REPORT

Phil asked for a motion to accept Treasurer's and Secretary's report as printed in the May RHG . A motion was made by Bill Smead and seconded by DJ. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Net Control – Rob N9MVO reported about the two club nets, when they meet, and frequency of operation. There may be one or two openings for guest operators as net control.

Membership – no report this evening.

Repeater – Bill Smead reported that the repeater is operational.

Public Service Events – June 7th will be the Grand Geneva Tour-de-Cure. Hoffman Estates 4th of July Parade is coming up soon. The Schaumburg Triathlon will be on Sunday, July 13th and several volunteers will be needed.

RHG – Mark Deelsnyder reported the club newsletter is on line and available. Articles are welcome on amateur radio and items for sale.

Education Chair – Rob Glowacki gave a brief report for Harry and mentioned that a tech class is proposed to be started the weekend before Field Day

Em-Comm – No report.

Program Chair – Annie Mitchell gave a brief introduction about Bob Galvin our guest speaker this evening. Mel has been scheduled

to talk about antennas and transmission lines at an upcoming meeting.

Fund Raising - No report. The club is looking for someone to fulfill this role

VE Testing – Next exam is the 1st Saturday in June. There is a new set of questions for the Extra class.

Construction Project – Bill Smead reported the construction project is over for this season. For next year a battery protection circuit is under consideration.

Fox Hunting – Bruce Widenhoeffer reported that this next Saturday at 6:30pm will be our next fox hunt. It will start from the CRC parking lot.

Field Day – Chairman Geoff Stevens asked for volunteers to come see him at the break this evening. There are plenty of openings. Please volunteer for your choice of assignments.

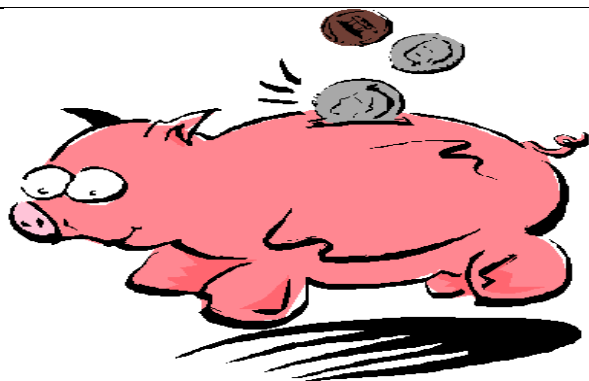
NEW BUSINESS

Cliff Sowka talked about club dues which are now synchronized to pay in July. Dues are being pro-rated.

For tonight's program , Bob Galvin, former CEO of Motorola for 30 years, is the guest speaker. His topic for the evening will be his own choice of subjects.

A motion to close the meeting was given and seconded. The motion carried by unanimous vote. The meeting was closed at 7:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Bob McIntyre, AF9U
Secretary



SARC 2008 – 2009 Membership Dues

The Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club yearly dues are now payable to the club Treasury.

Last year the club changed to a membership dues year which begins July 1 and ends June 30 of the next year.

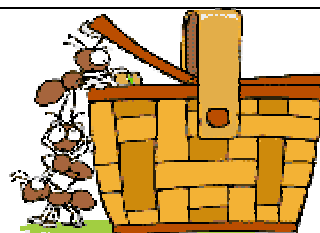
For regular members the amount due is \$25.00. Reduced rate annual renewals are \$20.00. Reduced fees apply only to full time students, active duty military, or over age 65.

Please help your club with your timely renewal.

Dues may be:

- submitted to our Cliff our treasurer
- Mailed to the club mailbox,
(P.O. Box 68251 Schaumburg, IL. 60168-0251) or
- Paid online thru paypal at www.n9rjv.org

SARC - New Membership - Dues Schedule		
	Full Rate	Reduced Rate
July	\$30.00	\$25.00
August	\$27.50	\$22.92
September	\$25.00	\$20.83
October	\$22.50	\$18.75
November	\$20.00	\$16.67
December	\$17.50	\$14.58
January	\$15.00	\$12.50
February	\$12.50	\$10.42
March	\$10.00	\$8.83
April	\$7.50	\$6.25
May	\$5.00	\$4.17
June	\$2.50	\$2.08



Save the Date – Annual SARC Picnic Coming Soon

Calling all SARC members and families. Mark your calendars now for the Annual SARC Picnic. We have the Volkening Lake shelter reserved for the picnic beginning at noon on Sunday, August 24, 2008. Volkening Lake is located next to the police station on Schaumburg Road west of Salem.

This year we will be having a couple “events” during the picnic. First and foremost will be the “On Foot Fox Hunt”, so make sure you have your gear for this exciting display of your skills. Extra points will be awarded to those who bring their 10mW transmitters. We will also be having a “Best Side Dish” and “Best Dessert” contest. Prizes will be awarded, so be sure to bring that tasty dish for all your fellow club members to try.

Bring your fox hunting gear. Bring your radio and your logbook. Bring a story and bring a smile ‘cause a good time will be had by all. The pavilion at this site is fairly close to the parking lot, and there is a large pond nearby as well. There are paddle boats for rent and other activities at the park. Bring your fishing gear if you’d like.

We will have a small grill to cook on, so feel free to bring your grilling meat of choice. Don’t forget to bring a dish to share with the other club members so you can be entered in the “Best...” contest. And remember, diversity is the key here (would you really want to try 27 different potato salads?). There will be a sign up sheet at the next couple club meetings so that we can get an idea of what we’ll have and who will be coming.

Above all, come on out and join in on the fun.

**VE TESTING RESULTS**

NEXT EXAM:

June 7, 2008

Park District CRC ; Sr. Lounge.

RESULTS FOR May 3, 2008, TEST SESSION:

CLASS	NUMBER TESTED	NEW LICENSE or UPGRADE
Technician	0	0
General	2	2
Extra	3	2
	5	4

NEW LICENSES:

(None)

UPGRADES:******GENERAL******

Andre Queen N9RWG
 Daniel Juffernbruch KC9LWN

******EXTRA******

Terrence Buhrke KB9SW
 David Traxler WA9UBR

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 Springsinsguth 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.

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 four 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.

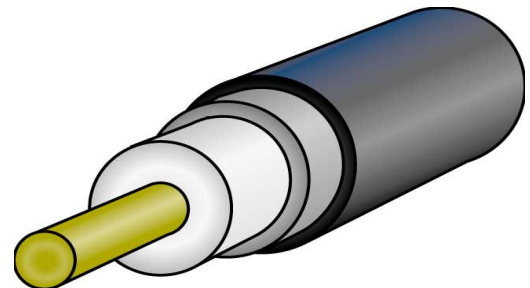
Larry Carr NO9A
 W5YI-VEC CVE & Test Session Manager
 847-593-8658
 E mail: NO9A@ARRL.NET


**Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club
 Monthly Treasurer's Report
 May 2008**

Beginning Balance	\$1,442.87
Expenses	
RHG Printing	\$41.60
March ebay adjust to dues	\$159.55
Total Expenses	\$201.15
Deposits	
Dues Receipts	\$25.00
Coffee Fund Transfer to General Account	\$19.00
50/50 Event	\$12.00
Total Receipts	\$56.00
Total Cash On Hand; All Bills Paid	\$1,297.72

2008 SARC OFFICERS

President: John Bettasso	AJ9ON	224 805-0342
Vice Pres.: Phil Sawicki	N9IQ	
Secretary: Bob McIntyre	AF9U	
Treasurer: Cliff Sowka	K9QD	
Director: Bill Smead	K9IIM	847 934-1817
Director: Cliff Sowka	K9QD	
Director: Jim Kempe	KC9LWO	
Director: Bruce Widenhoefer	KB9JEJ	
Director: Mark Deelsnyder	KB9VHA	847 885-3157

**June Meeting Program**

Final Field day preparations will be discussed. Following this, we have scheduled a presentation by Mel – W9FRT. Mel will talk about Antennas and Transmission lines.

It's Antenna Time

by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Here in Michigan, the daffodils are blooming and the birds are singing. That means only one thing--it's antenna time! Since my lot is a city lot and not really suited to towers, I mostly play around with wire antennas. Currently, I have a random wire for 80m, a wire ground plane for 20m, and a 40m/30m "fan dipole" that also loads up on 15m and 10m. This year, I want to experiment with two new wire antennas—a horizontal loop and Windom antenna.

The "Loop Skywire"

The concepts behind the full-wave loop antenna have been known for many years, but the antenna has become more popular after the publication of the article, "The Loop Skywire" in the November 1985 issue of QST. This article is available as a PDF from the ARRL website, if you are a member (<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/tis/info/pdf/8511020.pdf>). A lot more information is available on Internet. Just Google "loop skywire," and you'll find hundreds of references.

Basically, the antenna is a full-wave loop of wire for the lowest band that you wish to operate. For 80m, that would be about 272 feet. For 40m, the length will be 136 feet.

Ideally, you'd like to set up the loop so that the area inside the loop is at its maximum. This occurs when the loop is a circle. Unfortunately, that's usually impractical. From a practical point of view, most guys shoot for a square configuration using four supports.

Another consideration is how to feed the antenna. The Loop Skywire article calls for a coax feedline, but the practice these days seems to favor ladder line. The reason for this is that the SWR on bands higher in frequency than the band for which the antenna was cut can be quite high. Coax is quite lossy when the SWR is high, but that's not the case with ladder line.

How does it perform? Well, it's been my experience that guys with loop antennas often have the strongest signals here at KB6NU. And they seem to get through even when band conditions are poor. Guys who use them also report that they are great DX antennas as well. So, all things considered, it sounds like it's worth a shot.

The Windom Antenna

The Windom antenna is an antenna that I've just become familiar with. It's intriguing because, like the loop antenna, it is also a multi-band antenna.

The Windom is a half-wavelength antenna, but instead of feeding the antenna in the middle as you would a dipole antenna, you feed it about 1/3 of the way from one of the ends. At this point, the feedpoint impedance is about 200 ohms. With a 4:1 balun, you can feed it with 50-ohm coax.

The interesting thing about this antenna is that the feedpoint impedance is 200 ohms not only on the fundamental frequency, but it's close to 200 ohms on all harmonics of that frequency. So an antenna cut for 40m, will also have a feedpoint impedance close to 200 ohms on 20m, 15m, and 10m.

You do need a 4:1 balun for this antenna to operate properly. Fortunately, these are not difficult to make. I made one a couple of years ago, just for fun (<http://kb6nu.com/even-more-fun-with-baluns/>). Now, I have an application for it!

There's all kinds of information on the Net about the Windom antenna as well. One of the Web pages I found most useful was written by W8JI (http://www.w8ji.com/windom_off_center_fed.htm).

I certainly have my hands full this antenna season. Whatever you decide to put up, remember to be safe.

When Dan isn't thinking about antennas, he's operating CW on the HF bands or teaching ham radio classes. He's just published a printed version of his No-Nonsense Tech Class Study Guide. See his blog, www.kb6nu.com, for more details.

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



Deliver To:



Thursday Night 9:00 Net

S.A.R.C. Repeater

**145.230 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 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

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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SARC Home Page URL

<http://n9rjv.org>

