

# The Radio Hill Gazette

### A publication of the Schaumburg Ham Radio Club (SARC) April 2017

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### From the Editor

Happy April, spring is in the air, and the joys of ham radio are everywhere. I'm sure many of you have projects planned for the spring and summer from building antennas, to working field days, and community events. There's lots to do and your only limited to your imagination,,,, and the rules and regulation of FCC title 47 part 90 © So get involved, get on the air, and make your voice heard

Earlier this Month, the board elected Matt Walsh AC9IG as the SARC President. Congratulation to Matt, you'll have a busy year.

In this month's RHG I've put together a little article about an HF Vertical I recently built. This is one of my first attempts at a vertical, and I'm no expert.

By the way, I'm looking for article submissions. So if you have something you'd like to talk about chime in, and send me a word document, or equivalent Open Office, Libre Office document and I'll include it. It could be anything related to Ham radio, electronics, kits, modes of operations, ham radio/electronics software apps, test equipment, equipment reviews, restoration projects, antique radio, etc. Just send an email to k9kqx@arrl.net

Mike K9KQX

### From the President

#### Matt Walsh - AC9IG

I am excited to be serving as the President of the Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club for the remainder of the 2017 year. As vice president for the first few months of this year I was able to learn more about how the club operates and what members expect from the club. I was also able to bring a few new ideas to the table and help push along others that have been in the works.

First, I would like to thank Dirk K9DFS for working out all of the details and calming many fears that club members have regarding publishing a club roster. You should see the results of his work shortly. I feel this is a great move for the club as a core part of being an amateur radio operator is communication. This will certainly help more club members communicate when we are away from our radios and help our collective comrade grow. Also, as a hobby that stresses preparedness (thanks to Bob WB9TZC for a presentation on this) having this list readily available at club events will be very beneficial in case of any emergencies.

Earlier this year the board discussed the fairly low attendance during our Thursday night nets. I took about a month to listen to nets from other clubs in the area and produced an updated net script as a result. If you haven't joined us in the last two months, please do. The net is now slightly more streamlined and designed to have more engaging question and answer sessions. By far the most popular addition has been the "reviews" section where club members offer their thoughts on recent movies, books, new restaurants or other non-radio related



topics. But wait, there's more! We're tallying up all the check ins and for every Thursday net that you check in to you will get a raffle ticket for an amateur radio-related prize. The first drawing will be at field day at the end of June.

Speaking of Field Day, it's just two months from now. The painting of the water tower has forced us to a new site for this year. I'm asking all club members to embrace the change for this year and understand that it is not necessarily a permanent change. We can review how we like the new location once we complete the exercise. That being said, we really need some help this year with a few new roles that became necessary because of the change in facilities. First we need someone as a truck driver to rent a small U-Haul truck (the club will reimburse you for this expense) and drive it to the old site to pick up equipment and to the new site to drop off equipment, reversing the process at the end of the event. The truck will also serve as a shelter for our extra gear during the event (unused coax, boxes, etc) as well as somewhere to put radios and other sensitive gear if the weather gets bad. The role only requires a few hours commitment over the course of the entire weekend. Second, we need a food captain who's responsibility it will be to coordinate bringing in food that is prepared by club members outside the site. Please contact me immediately if you can help with these roles. They are both vital to a successful event.

The days are starting to get warmer so you can get outside and do some maintenance on those antennas. The warmer weather also means the start of the public service season. The MS Walk, Chicagoland Marathon and other events are a great way to be involved in the hobby and help your local community. They're also a lot of fun. Please make sure to join us for them!

Matt AC9IG



### Construction Project

Gary N9VU: The Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club will hold our last Construction Project meeting for this season this Saturday, April 22 from 8am until around 12 noon at The Schaumburg Tennis Plus, 1416 Payne Road, Schaumburg.

This is an open event for all club members and non members alike, so bring a friend who is new to Ham Radio or new to our club and the Construction Project meetings. Bring your Ham Radio related projects or just come to show off your latest gear. Again this will be the last CP for the season. With the weather as nice as it is there most likely will not be another until this fall unless the weather takes an ugly turn. Stay tuned here to find out. In the meantime you're invited to SARC In The Park coming up next month.

### Miscellaneous activities / updates

HF Net - Dirk, K9DFS, has been running an impromptu 10M net at 8pm on Wednesday nights the past couple of months. Unfortunately, summer plans are kicking in, and he won't be able to facilitate this net for the foreseeable future. I think it'd be great to continue to try keeping this net going, especially during the summer months, but we need someone who might have the free time and desire to run it. This net is more of a casual rag chew, and propagation test type of net. So there's no formal script, just log the contacts. Would anyone like to step in for 30 minutes of time on Wednesdays at 8pm

### 440 Repeater updates - No new updates

Field Day Activites for 2017 - Matt AC9IG held a 2nd Field Day meeting in early April. A review of station setups, tent locations, and antenna locations was worked on during the meeting. This years Field day will be held on June 24<sup>th</sup> at the Medinah park district west of Meachum Rd on Thorndale(just north ¼ mile from Irving Park road and the railroad tracks in Medinah. Plans are to test all radios at a construction meeting on June 10<sup>th</sup> to confirm all equipment is working and that the operators know how to use the equipment.

Public Service - Rob N9MVO 2017 MS Walk Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> Boomer Baseball Field We have been asked to join again in support of the MS Walk, this year at the Schaumburg Baseball stadium on Sunday May 7th. Our setup will begin at 7:30 AM. The participants start walking at 9:00 AM. In previous years, the event was completed before 11:00 AM. The new route, around the west parking lot of the baseball stadium will need a few people for communicating need of assistance for participants who have trouble making the whole route. There will be several others needed in the south parking lot to assist participants getting to the start.



### Net Check-ins\_- Leo Ribordy N9NBH

I wish to thank the following hams for checking in to the net. The question for the evening was do you have 6 meter capability and have you made any 6 meter contacts this year?

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.	N9VU N9NBH K9KDX KB9RGU AB9CV KB9QVX W9FRT W9KAO WQ9M KB9TAP	Gary Leo Mike Jim Burt Kevin Mel Kent Mark Chuck	
9. 10.	KB9TAP	Chuck	
11.	KC9SAD	Mike	
12.	N5HSR	Charles	
13.	W9EKG	Brandon	
14. PM.	K9EYE	Pierre	( Pierre hosts a 6 meter net on Wednesday evening, 7 to 8
			Fraguerovia 50 120 MUZ \

Frequency is 50.130 MHZ.)

73 N9NBH Leo Ribordy



### **VE Testing Results**

NEXT EXAM: Mar 4th at Schaumburg Park District CRC;

Results for March 4th. 2017, test session:

CLASS	NUMBER TESTED	NEW LICENSE or UPGRADE
Technician General Extra	3 4 1	1 4 1
Total:	 8	6

NEW LICENSES:
\*\*\*\*TECHNICIAN\*\*\*\*

Marty W Heffron KD9IJG

\*\*\*\*GENERAL\*\*\*\*

Robert J Young KD9lKl
Brent J Weibel KD9KMA
Joseph A Pawlak WB9QGB
Christian De Kok KD9lCR

\*\*\*\*FXTRA\*\*\*\*

Howard A Underwood AC9QC

All of us at SARC would like to congratulate all those that received or upgraded their license this month, and we welcome you to the amateur radio community. Hope to hear you on the air. Should you have any questions, come join SARC at our regular monthly meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month or stop in at one of the Construction Meetings. Check the <u>SARC website</u> for times and locations.



# Homebrew 40m - 10m vertical

#### By Mike Sorensen K9KQX

Over the winter months, I was looking for ways to improve my DX performance on 40m. For the past year, I've used a fan dipole, that has for the most part worked very well, but at 25 foot elevation, 40m was limited to mostly North America contacts, with an occasional European contact.

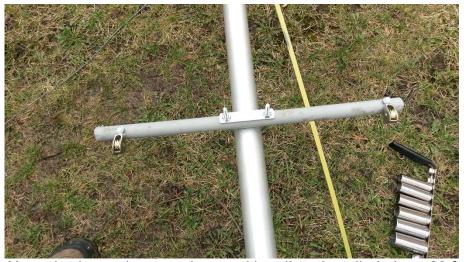
So for quite some time I've researched many designs and one that kept coming back up that I felt I could build myself was a multi element vertical. This is similar to a fan dipole, but basically on the one half up in the air, the rest would just be a good ground rod and as many random length radials I could put in my small back yard.

Much of my inspiration for this is was based on the design of the Hygain Hy-TowerJr (AV-18HTjr) just without the 80M section on top.

#### Materials:

- Aluminum tubing sections from DX Engineering, 2 inch base, tapers off to about 1.375"Part DXE-AT1217 thru DXE AT1212 so 1217, 1216, 1215, 1214, 1213, and 1212 all 6 foot sections
- Various stainless steel hose clamps
- Pentetrox DXE-P8A
- Home brew Choke Balun
- 1/2" PVC conduit for lower and upper standoffs about 18" long each
- U clamps to mount the stand offs
- Two 1" pulleys to pull wire elements ups
- 8 foot Ground rod, and 4+ 25 foot or longer radials. More radials to be installed, but I'll probably stop at 8 radials
- 100 feet of Nylon rope
- 2 wire isolators, the kind used at the end of a dipole wire antenna
- 500 foot spool of 14 awg stranded wire for radials





Above is shown the cross brace with pulleys installed about 23 feet up from the base, exact location not critical





Above are pictures of the lower cross brace and overall antenna. The base is comprised of a 5 foot galvanized plumbing pipe in a foot cement base. Attached to the support base, is the tube that holds the antenna and isolates it from ground. It's a 2 inch PVC Schedule 40 pipe with an end cap to prevent it from slipping through and hitting the ground. A drain hole was drilled into the end cap to allow water to drain out. Also a large side hole was drilled into the



PVC tube to allow a screw to be installed at the base of the aluminum tubing with which to attached the feed line and wire elements at one central location.

Since these pictures were installed, I've cleaned up the rope, and installed the isolators on the end of the wire elements, and painted it in camouflage paint to blend in with the trees

The main aluminum mast is used for 40m and 15m, so tune that up first for a low SWR on 40, and an acceptable SWR on 15m. Depending on location is will be around 33 feet, give or take some. Mine so happens to be around 32 feet long.

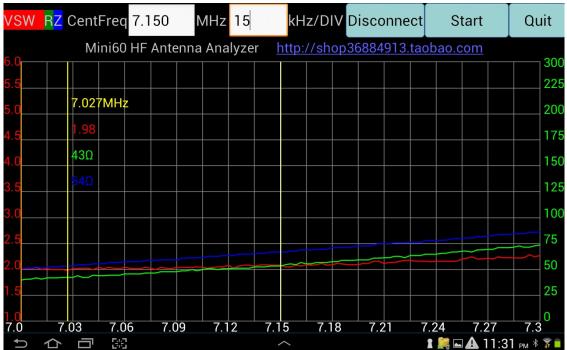
For 20m cut the wire a little longer 16.5 feet so you can account for the isolator and trimming it to tune up. Repeat the for 10m but its about 8.2 feet long, so make long and trim as well to tune up.

Final results, I've finally had good success in making DX contacts into Europe that were typically very challenging on 40m with the dipole. I've also made repeated contacts in to South Africa and Central America, all of these in the evening hours when I'm typically active on the radio.

Surprisingly I found that the antenna tunes up quite well on 17m and 12m as well. I'm not sure why, unfortunately I've not been able to confirm how well it works for DX since I'm not on the air during the day.

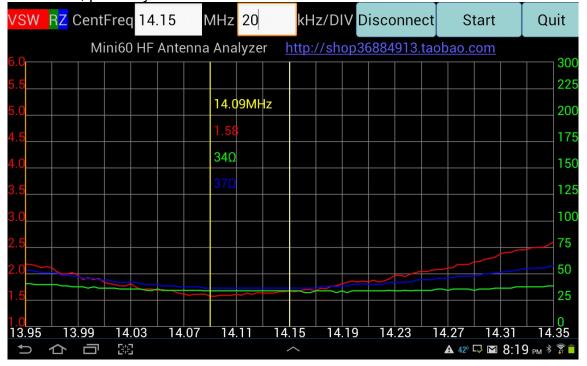
Below are some SWR readings from my antenna analyzer.

40M band Impedance is a little high, SWR is very broad band, and the lowest I can get it too is about 2

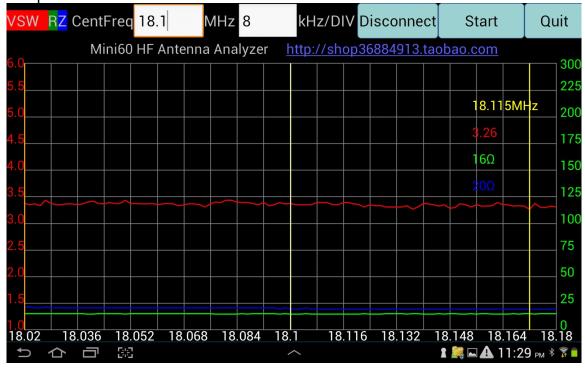




20M Band, probably could trim this in a little better

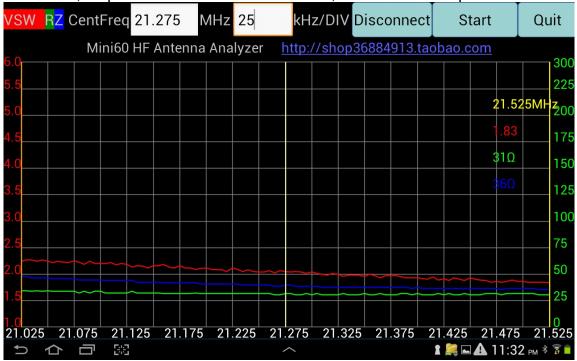


17M Band a little high on SWR and Impedance is low, but internal Antenna tuner compensates ok

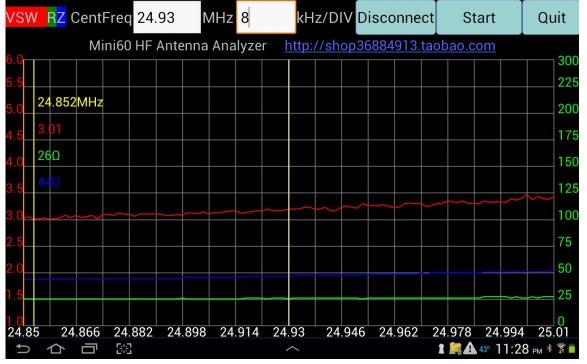




15M Band, Impedance is a little lower then 50, but SWR is acceptable

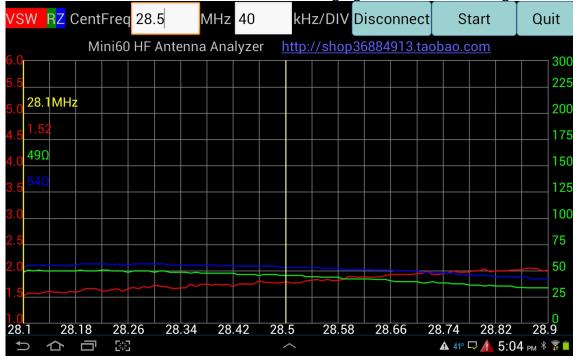


12M Band SWR is a bit high, but antenna Tuner compensates and it seems to work ok

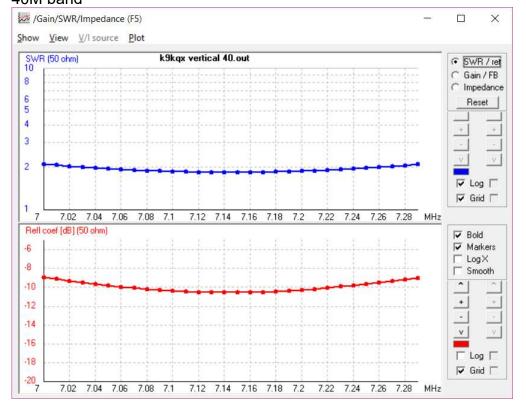




10M band, SWR could be better, but was dodging the rain when tuning this one up.

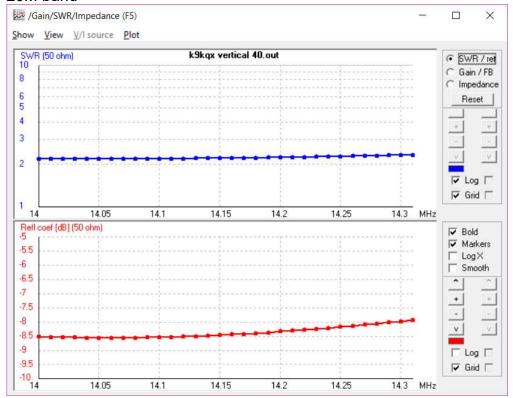


Also I tried to model this in 4nec2 to confirm the readings I was seeing. Below are screen shots of the SWR as calculated from the program 40M band

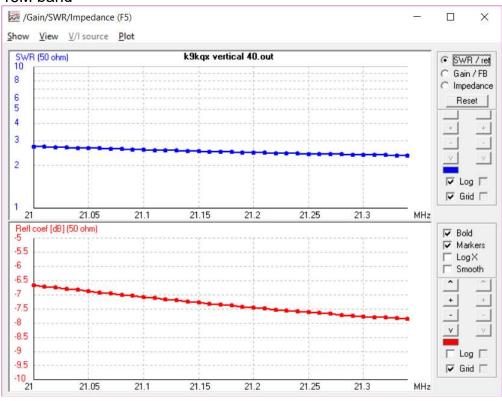




#### 20M band

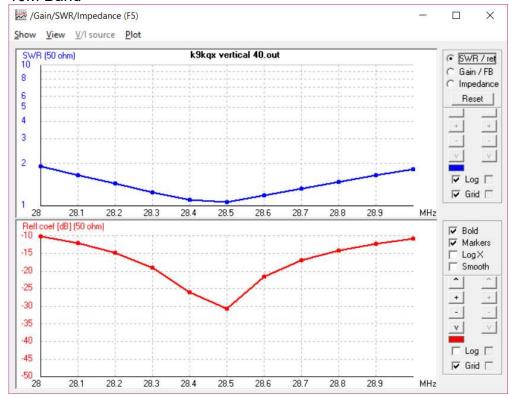


#### 15M band





#### 10M Band



#### Conclusion,

I think this vertical was a good learning experience, I suspect the impedance could be improved on the different bands, but at this point I'm enjoying making some DX contacts and having the flexibility to work quite a few different bands with little effort in changing bands. I'm sure the suggestions will roll in. By the way at one point I had installed a 1:1 current balun and the antenna tuned up quite easily on 60m band, but I felt the reception became considerably noisier so I took it out. I may experiment some more with that at some point.



# SARC April Club Notes

#### Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club Business Meeting April 20, 2017

Matt Walsh, President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

#### Attendees:

Dirk Smith	K9DFS	Matt Walsh	AC9IG	Cliff Sowka	K9QD
Gary Bernstein	N9VU	Chris Brewer	AC9GN	Roger Ryan	W9RDR
Frank Giampa	N9QPD	Kent Ochs	W9KAO	Steve Karson	AC9EM
Robert Kocourek	W9RKK	Jim Scott	W9KV	Mike Sorensen	K9KQX
Priscilla Miller	KD9ICS	John Moller	W9JDM	Burt Shultz	AB9CV
Bob McIntyre	W9DXR	Leo Ribordy	N9NBH	Dave Sims	K9KDM
Ken Field	KO9H	Dan VanDerlonde	HC9ZCC	Larry Burke	K9ELT
Bob Langsfeld	WB9TZC	Rick Cook	KC9PLO	Jim Campbell	KB9RGU
Bob Benwitz	N9JAX	Peter Maziuk	N9POL	Rob Glowacki	N9MVO
Kevin Willard	KB9QVX	David Hug	KD9CVI		

**Treasurer's report:** Chris Brewer AC9GN reports: Beginning balance for the month was \$4,926.16. Income was \$.00. Expense was \$60 of which \$50 was for our data-line and \$10 for Illinois Corporate Annual Report. Ending balance is \$4,866.16. Paid membership is currently 83.

**President's Report:** Matt AC9IG We are in need of people to fill two positions for field day:

- 1. Food captain
- 2. Truck driver

Responsibilities include: arranging rental, driving truck to pump house Friday, securing it overnight, driving to Medinah site on Saturday, driving to pump house Sunday, returning truck Sunday. Reimbursed by club.

Other field day notes: Had a good meeting two weeks ago to work out many details. The tent captains are working to assemble their station equipment ahead of field day. This is for a bonus construction project on June 10 at the usual time.

All field day equipment excluding antennas will be tested into dummy loads. Please join us to help resolve any problems that may arise or to familiarize yourself with the equipment at the station that you will be operating.



Look for a sign up to be posted to SARC-All in the near future for volunteers to help with odds-and-ends such as coolers, test equipment, garbage bags and the like.

**SARC Repeaters:** Kent W9KAO Machine is working, new software installed to kill the mocking audio feedback. We have a more stable software release now. For the Fusion @ Hospital site: Hardline replacement for the surprisingly lossy Andrew coax planned as soon a good weather becomes available. Kent has new connectors ready for replacing the faulty coax currently in service. Installation is the next step.

**Public Service**: Rob N9MVO reports we need to be ready by 7:30AM on May 7<sup>th</sup> for the MS Walk. After we receive correct instruction for parking site, we will assemble on the north side of the stadium May 7<sup>th</sup> at the Schaumburg Baseball stadium. We are usually finished by 11:30PM. Expecting as many as one thousand participants if the weather is good.

May 21st is the Chicagoland Marathon Practice Run. Bob WB9TZC has planning underway.

July 4<sup>th</sup> parade will be originating on Hassle Road. Barrington Square Apartments area was suffering traffic blockade in past years so the plan this year will be changed to avoid the problem.

**Most Important Club Service Event**: Schaumburg Triathlon will require our support and usually occurs a few weeks after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. This is the most important event for our club to support because the Park District provides so much for us in facility/rent-free spaces (meeting rooms, basement of Tennis Club for Construction Project) for our activities. It is important that we reciprocate with supporting their events.

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

**RHG:** With great sadness we have lost Ken Hopkins WA9WCP <SK> in the past month. Ken did a wonderful job in keeping the RHG publication on schedule. He will be sorely missed and we will always remember his contributions to Ham Radio. Rebecca brought fabulous cake for the club's meeting tonight.

Mike Sorensen K9KQX has taken the lead on fulfilling the Radio Hill Gazette (RHG) publication schedule. Needs articles. Traditional deadline for article submission is the evening of the third Thursday of the month (tonight) in order to allow enough time to prepare the final issue.

**Construction Project:** Gary N9VU: Potential for extending the season beyond our normal April closure for the season. Will communicate through SARC-ALL if there is enough interest as the season changes to summer. June 10<sup>th</sup> will be a special meeting to prepare Field Day as mentioned in Matt's AC9IG report.

Social: Roger Ryan W9RDR No events planned for the immediate future.



**Education:** Leo N9NBH reports plans for a fall TECHNICIAN Class. He will begin soliciting volunteer instructors and believes about 5 will suffice.

**VE Testing:** Dirk Smith K9DFS and Steve Karson AC9EM reported 8 students with 6 passing. All students were informed of SARC and our activities. Steve informed one of the applicants that legacy license is capable to be re-instated.

**Social:** Roger Ryan W9RDR reports there are no events planned for the immediate future. Took informal survey of those interested in a Sushi Restaurant venue to replace the traditional Pilot Pete's spouse dinner usually held in late September. There were a few indications that raw fish was a preferred choice.

**Nets:** Matt AC9IG has recently taken charge of the Nets and Gary Bernstein N9VU will now become the Control Operator. Recent attendance history has been 15, 12, 14 participants for Thursday events. Matt is keeping a list of attendees to award \$25 ARRL participation gift certificates during Field Day.

**EMCOMM:** Bob Langsfeld WB9TZC. ARES at the state level has some changes. We're once again providing monthly reports to the management. Renewed interest in completing the ARES forms for Bob's report. Bob will be submitting a monthly report to the district manager.

Training availability: ICS 300 and ICS 400 are higher level offerings in July and August with no charge (normally \$300-\$400). Illinois Fire Science will have the sign-up process ready soon.

**Programs:** Cliff Sowka K9QD: Bob Langsfeld N9TZC presented EMCOMM preparedness guidance and some common-sense equipment suggestions tonight.

Month of May Presentation(s): Mel Luxenberg W9FRT has prepared Radio Propagation materials for the May meeting and Mike Sorensen K9KQX has an Oscilloscope presentation ready as well. Depending upon duration, we could possibly support both presentations for the May meeting.

June's program will be Field Day planning and I am in need for a July program.

**Ebay Sales:** Gary N9VU reports there are no items currently planned for sale.

**Recurring Calendar:** Chris AC9GN is checking PO Box weekly.

Old business: None.

**New business:** New Membership Dues procedure is now implemented:

Annual DUES

Board moved to make immediate changes to our Membership Dues Schedule. Chris AC9GN will now manage our new dues policy according to the new guidelines:



- Membership dues are to be paid by Jun 30.
- Dues paid in Apr Dec will cover the member through Jun 30 of the following year.
- Dues paid Jan Mar will only cover the member through Jun 30 of the same year.

SARC Roster: Dirk K9DFS will update Club Member Roster distribution status soon.

Nominations for Vice President. Matt nominated Russ Schmidt KC9NUV.

There were no other nominations from the floor. The Board of Directors will decide our Vice President role during the May meeting.

Need Net Control Operator: Gary N9VU will take the task.

Move to adjourn 7:43PM. So moved.

Submitted: April 21, 2017 Cliff Sowka K9QD Secretary

## 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



### SARC Board of Directors Meeting April 5<sup>th</sup>

#### Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club Business Meeting April 5, 2017

Kent Ochs W9KAO Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

#### Attendees:

Dirk Smith	K9DFS	Matt Walsh	AC9IG Cliff Sowka	K9QD
Gary Bernstein	N9VU	Chris Brewer	AC9GN Roger Ryan	W9RDR
Frank Giampa	N9QPD	Ted Lester	AB9SZ Kent Ochs	W9KAO

**Treasurer's report:** Chris Brewer AC9GN reports: Beginning balance for the month was \$4,926.16. Income was \$.00. Expense was \$60 of which \$50 was for our data-line and \$10 for Illinois Corporate Annual Report. Ending balance is \$4,866.16. Paid membership is currently 83.

President's Report: No report.

**SARC Repeater:** Kent W9KAO Machine is working, new firewall implementation to permanently ban miscreants, controller updates installed.

**Fusion @ Hospital site:** Hardline replacement for the surprisingly lossy Andrew coax planned as soon a good weather and new connectors are purchased. We already have a previously-used lightning suppresser equipped with N-connectors.

**Public Service** Rob N9MVO not present but provided the following update:

Our first Public Service Event this year is scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup> supporting the MS Walk at the Schaumburg Baseball stadium.

Following people signed up at the moment:

Bill Davies	K9WKD	Matt Walsh	AC9IG	Rob Glowacki	N9MVO
Cliff Sowka	K9QD	Jim Campbell	KB9RGU	Leo Ribordy	N9NBH
Phil McBride	WB9C	Matt Walsh	AC9IG	Robert Benwitz	N9JAX
Gary Bernstein	N9VU	Dennis C. Calvey	KD9HIK	Robert Kocourel	k W9RKK
James Richardson	AC9PH	Gloria Antonelli	N0CALL	Kent Ochs	W9KAO
Bob Langsfeld	WB9TZC	Frank Giampa	N9QPD		

You may have noticed emails from MS walk on how to raise contributions for the walk.

Rob Glowacki Public Service Chair Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club



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

**RHG:** With great sadness we have lost Ken Hopkins WA9WCP <SK> in the past month. Ken did a wonderful job in keeping the RHG publication on schedule. He will be sorely missed and we will always remember his contributions to Ham Radio.

Mike Sorensen K9KQX has taken the lead on fulfilling the publication schedule. Needs articles for the RHG.

**Construction Project:** Gary N9VU: Potential for extending the season beyond our normal April closure for the season. Will communicate through SARC-ALL if there is enough interest as the season changes to summer.

**VE Testing:** Dirk Smith K9DFS reports testing 9 students with 8 passing. All students were informed of SARC and the activities in which we partake.

**Social:** Roger Ryan W9RDR No events planned for the immediate future.

**Education:** Leo N9NBH reports plans for a fall TECHNICIAN Class. He will begin soliciting volunteer instructors and believes about 5 will suffice.

**Construction Project:** Gary N9VU: Traditionally ends in April but will survey membership to determine if extended meetings would be desirable. Potential for extending the season. Will communicate through SARC-ALL if there is enough interest for additional meetings.

**VE Testing:** Dirk Smith K9DFS reports 10 students with 9 passing. All students were informed of SARC and our activities.

**Social:** Roger Ryan W9RDR repots there are no events planned for the immediate future.

**Nets:** Matt AC9IG has taken charge of the Nets. Will talk to Bob Langsfeld WB9TZC about Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). Matt is also keeping a list of attendees to award \$25 ARRL participation gift certificates during Field Day.

**Education:** Ham Radio Class: Leo N9NBH previously reported plans for a fall TECHNICIAN Class. He will begin soliciting volunteer instructors and believes about 5 will suffice.

**EMCOMM:** Bob Langsfeld WB9TZC. Not Present. Bob will be hosting an EMCOMM presentation during the April Business Meeting.

**Programs:** Cliff Sowka K9QD: Bob Langsfeld N9TZC will present EMCOMM activities during our April business meeting. I've heard from a potential presenter for the May meeting but plans haven't solidified at the moment.

Ebay Sales: Gary N9VU reports there are no items currently planned for sale.



**Website:** Dirk K9DFS and Kent Ochs W9KAO report James Richardson AC9PH will be connecting with Bruce Widenhoefer KB9JEJ for proper access to our current provider; ascertain features to eliminate, features add. Our web hosting expenses may increase but there will be no development expense in creating this website for the club.

**Recurring Calendar:** Chris AC9GN is checking PO Box weekly.

Old business: None.

**New business:** The Board has appointed Matt Walsh AC9IG as President to fulfill Mel Luxenberg's W9FRT departure. Congratulations Matt.

We are now in need of a Vice President and the issue will be taken as new business during the May Board meeting.

Proposal to reformulate our Annual Dues Schedule to simplify Treasury's management of renewal fees.

Board moved to make immediate changes to our Membership Dues Schedule. Chris AC9GN will now manage our new dues policy according to the new guidelines:

- Membership dues are to be paid by Jun 30.
- Dues paid in Apr Dec will cover the member through Jun 30 of the following year.
- Dues paid Jan Mar will only cover the member through Jun 30 of the same year.

Matt Walsh AC9IG moved and Gary Bernstein N9VU seconded. So moved.

**Field Day:** Matt AC9IG has been hosting organizational meetings with most roles defined but still lacking a Food Captain. Food preparation will be different from past events so ideas are needed for alternatives. Dirk K9DFS and Matt AC9IG will also arrange publicity for local news outlets.

Move to adjourn 8:20PM. So moved.

Submitted: April 6, 2017 Cliff Sowka Secretary