

SARC

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club

RHG June 2018 New Member Q&A: KD9LCB

Jack, KD9LCB recently joined the club. I've been working with him to get a VHF/UHF station up and running. After he made a few on-air contacts I asked him for some thoughts his experience so far with ham radio

What got you interested in ham radio?

I got interested in ham radio by watching my son operate his radio and seeing all the new people that he made contact with and all the different areas of the United States and the world that he connected with. I realize that with some nice equipment and the knowledge and skill for operating it the opportunities seemed boundless to make connections with people all over the world.

What did you use to study for the exam?

I used the book I called Now You're Talking [from the ARRL]. I read the book cover to cover and then I started to use the practice exams online I studied for about 6 weeks, an hour or two hours a day and took practice exams and when I got to the point where I was getting 30 or more correct on a regular basis I took the test. This was somewhat difficult for me because I have no electronics background, being in corporate media sales for 25 years, but it was fun. I'm retired now and I had the time to do it.

What did you find interesting at the first meeting you attended?

I was very impressed by my first meeting at the Schaumburg radio club. It was very well organized and everyone seemed to contribute something in a positive manner.

The members I chatted with were extremely nice. I found the presentation about the emergency Weather Service [Skywarn] very interesting. And the upcoming events showed that this is a club that not only talks but takes action by being involved in community service and other activities.

From the meeting, or from contacts you've had on air: Is there anything that you heard about that you'd like to learn more about in the hobby?

I have tons of stuff to learn. I want to make contacts in every state of the union and one day go international if the sunspots and the ionosphere cooperate.

Tell us about your first contact. What repeater did you use? Was the ham you contacted helpful, welcoming, etc? What radio did you use and how did it work?

My first contact was through the Bolingbrook repeater [K9BAR]. I talked to a ham in Naperville. This was right after I set up my station in a spare bedroom. I tried not to embarrass myself as I told him I was new and he was kind enough to provide a signal check. I was hooked 10 minutes after my son set up my equipment I was on the air with a halfway decent connection!

I was using a 50 watt power source with a mobile Icom 207 transceiver and a mobile antenna located on the top shelf of my desk.

Do you think the material you covered for the exam helped you make your first contacts?

I think that the material covered in the exam did help me establish some first connections but some of the material was redundant. I don't think I'll ever use it but who knows. Knowledge is power regardless of what you're doing.

What parts of the hobby do you plan to continue exploring?

As mentioned before I plan on broadening my horizons with long-distance communications and community service.

New Member Q&A: KD9LAI

Tim, KD9LAI attended his first SARC meeting in May and received a Baofeng UV-82X handheld donated to the club by Jim, KB9RGU. I asked him a few questions about ham radio now that he's had some on-air time.

What got you interested in ham radio?

In the early 90's I developed an interest in "world band" just in time for the first Gulf War. This was entirely on the "receiver" end of things, but even then I toyed with the idea of getting my "ticket." Life intervened, however. Fast forward to 2013, at which point I began volunteering with the Civil Air Patrol. This, as well as other experiences, has impressed upon me the need for emergency communication skills during times of crisis.

What did you use to study for the exam?

I primarily used 3 completely free resources: (a) A set of power-point videos by [Ham Whisperer](#) in conjunction with notes from (b) [FCC Technician Class Exam Study Guide - 2014-2018](#) ... and (c) the Roy Watson Ham Radio Exam practice tests—available as both android and iOS apps. I found straight/rote memorization of answers to be insufficient to my needs. The Ham Whisperer videos along with the wikibooks pages provided just enough explanation to get me through.

What did you find interesting at the first meeting you attended?

The amount of knowledge and expertise exhibited by current club members.

From the meeting, or from contacts you've had on air: Is there anything that you heard about that you'd like to learn more about in the hobby?

Yes, I am very interested in pursuing my general [class license]. My primary interests from here are in the realm of learning enough about antennas for portable/stealth operation; I'm also interested in QRP, digital modes, and how to do more with less.

Tell us about your first contact. What repeater did you use? Was the ham you contacted helpful, welcoming, etc? What radio did you use and how did it work?

My first contact was while I was in a McDonalds parking lot on Ogden, during a lunch break. I got on the DARC repeater, 145.430. It was a 'lunch-time' gathering in which Net Control called for any sign-ins. The radio I was using was the Baofeng UV-82X given to me by the club. Without thinking about the fact that I was still in my car on just a rubber duck antenna, I keyed up and gave my call sign. I was immediately acknowledged and welcomed into the Net. Net Control located me in the QRZ or other database, and I confirmed my identification. Question of the day was if we had sustained any damage from storms the previous night. Net Control said I could be heard, though it sounded like I was on the 'edge' of the repeater. In reality I was only about 2 miles from it, but sitting inside my car on just a HT with rubber duck.... yeah, I get it. So, in reality, I think it worked GREAT, given those conditions; and I was very much welcomed by the other ham.

Do you think the material you covered for the exam helped you make your first contacts?

Difficult to say. Preparation has been cumulative. I think what helped the most for making my contacts has been dialog (verbal and email) with other hams, and watching YouTube videos on selected topics.

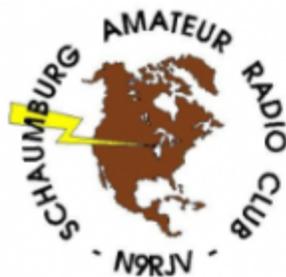
What parts of the hobby do you plan to continue exploring?

As mentioned, I want to get my General so as to have HF privileges open to me. I'm then interested in slowly exploring and learning about various modes of communication under less than ideal conditions.

Field Day Dedicated in Memory of W9RDR, SK

The club will conduct it's Field Day exercises this year in memory of Roger Ryan, W9RDR, SK. The club president provided the proclamation below to Roger's family. Our SSB stations will

also make occasional announcements stating that we are operating in Roger's memory.



Proclamation

Presented this 23rd day of June 2018

Whereas Roger Ryan W9RDR has been an important part of the Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club for many years; and,

Whereas Roger has participated in amateur radio Field Day exercises on a regular basis; and,

Whereas Roger has promoted amateur radio through club involvement and on-air activities; and,

Whereas Roger has served the club in many capacities;

Therefore, I, Matt Walsh, President of the Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club, declare that the club will operate Field Day 2018 in honor of the late Roger Ryan W9RDR.

Matt Walsh AC9IG

President, Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club Business Meeting June 21, 2018

Matt Walsh AC9IG President opened the meeting at 7:11 PM.

Attendees

Leo Ribordy	N9NBH	Danny Kafka	KD9HIL	Cliff Sowka	K9QD
Matt Walsh	AC9IG	Bob Z.	W9GEW	Frank Giampa	N9QPD
D J Traxler	WA9UBR	Chris Brewer	AC9GN	Bob Kocourek	W9RKK
Russ Schmidt	KC9JUV	Rob Glowacki	N9MVO	Terry Jarholm	KD9LEU
Rick Cook	KC9PLO	Mike Clodfelter	AC9CG	Burt Schultz	AB9CV
Bob McIntyre	W9DXR	Don Smith	K9UD	Wake Wacaser	AF9I
John Douglas	KD9KSH	Edward Lishka	AC9SD	Doug May	KD9CER
Alan Lee	ND9D	Bob Benwitz	N9JAX	Jim Campbell	KB9RGU
Ken Krzywicki	KD9HIJ	Kevin Shin	K9AAB		

Treasurer's Report

Chris Brewer AC9GN reports: beginning balance \$4, 542.22. Income was \$95.53. Expense was \$187.95. Ending balance \$4,449.80. Paid membership is currently 82.

President's Report

Matt AC9IG regretfully reports the passing of Roger Ryan W9RDR. SARC is conducting our 2018 Field Day (FD) in Roger's memory and Matt has communicated our plan to his widow Deborah Ryan. We thank Roger for his many contributions throughout the years.

For this year's FD event, we anticipate being visited by ARRL W9XA around dinnertime on Saturday. He plans to make the rounds to several clubs so the specific time of his presence for our event is undetermined.

Dues for 2018 are to be renewed by June 30th.

Membership Chair

Bob Benwitz N9JAX no report.

SARC Repeaters

Kent W9KAO not present. Kent has expressed his desire to transition his Chief Engineering duty to other club members and will assist in familiarization and training of our many machines' installation details and technical system aspects to allow an orderly appointment of new Engineering talent for the repeaters.

We thank Kent for his many years' contribution of electronics/software support that has resulted in very favorable VHF/UHF performance and ongoing timely maintenance of the club's main radio assets.

Secretary's Report

Cliff Sowka K9QD: Approval of Meeting Minutes as published in the RHG.

EMCOMM

Bob Langsfeld WB9TZC not present. Bob informs that Bill Clark Schaumburg EMCOMM Coordinator requests SARC's staffing:

*On July 17, 0830-1200 HRS, an EOC Functional Exercise will be held at the Schaumburg EOC. I request that 3-4 members of the **Certified SARC EMCOMM Team** participate in the exercise as Operational Communications is one of the core capabilities being evaluated.*

I appreciate any assistance that the team can provide.

Thank you, Bill Clark

Publicity

Dennis Calvey KD9HIK not present.

Construction Project (CP)

There are currently five members [Rob N9MVO, Russ KC9NUV, Leo N9NBH, Bill KD9JQM, Dave KD9JKG] already on the short list of potential supporters. Matt AC9IG will confirm a staffing plan before September CP resumption.

Social

Robert Kocourek W9RKK organized this year's 'Pilot Pete's' institutionalized club social event at Lou Malnati's for September 8th. We haven't held this event at Pilot Pete's for several years due to their current insistence on guaranteed attendance numbers. It's been difficult for the restaurant to plan their facility's seating/capacity so they've tightened their requirements. That loss of flexibility has precluded our desire to continue with them for the club's social event. Robert will be communicating specific details as we get closer to event.

Education

Leo N9NBH reported plans for a winter General Class with the Library District are in place. September 8th through the end of October at the Hoffman Estates Hassle Road facility, same as last fall's Technician class. SARC's Class should appear in village schedule by July.

VE Testing

Dirk W9RI not present.

RHG

Mike K9KQX not present. Matt added the feature-set to our new website that allows extemporaneous article submissions with reasonable editing capability.

Public Service

Rob N9MVO reports the 4th of July for Hoffman Estates will be 9AM on Illinois Blvd.

Expectation of headcount required about 12 people to help guide parade participants to allow the event to begin on time. SARC will provide Communication with the Reviewing Stand.

29th of Jul Schaumburg Tri-Athlon: Held at Mineke Park as in the past. Rob will set up his base station equipment at the intersection of Wethersfield and Roselle in the bank's parking lot.

We expect about 15 members will be needed for the event. A fully-charged HT has proven sufficient for prior events. The SARC website has the frequency listing for our EMCOMM events. We plan to use our 2-Meter machine for the morning's course management.

This is probably our club's most important EMCOMM activity as it demonstrates our group's commitment to the Schaumburg Park District's annual event.

Programs

Cliff Sowka K9QD: Our July presentation needs a host. There are many talents within our club's membership and we're anticipating someone will come forward with a subject for our meeting; else I plan to download a YouTube video from Twilight Zone (suggested we view the classic "It's a Cook Book") as filler if invitation for presenter fails.

Nets

Steve AC9EM is hosting the Thursday Night Nets. Matt AC9IG reports log-ins of 251 and 167 were SARC members. Participation Lottery Awards of a \$25 ARRL Gift Certificate and one T-shirt will be announced during dinner on FD Saturday.

Ebay Sales

None.

Old Business

None

New Business

Matt reviewed Field Day plans by station. Antenna install begins 7AM Saturday Morning. Final assignments for emergency power, chairs, tables, and food plans were finished.

Adjourn

8:41PM

Submitted: June 22, 2018 Cliff Sowka K9QD Secretary.

President's Report June 2018

Field day came together very well with our station captains and food captains bearing a good portion of the up-front work getting equipment and supplies together. We were able to return to our usual location at the water tank on Plum Grove road, but we implemented a shorter setup time. I'm glad to say that we had plenty of members on hand to get three stations on the air and hoist three antennas up to the tank to support our operations. All of our stations were on the air at the start of field day at 1pm which was some excellent work by everyone involved.

I was able help three different people make their first HF contacts. It was a lot of fun to be able to coach them through the process, and then explain that we're using about as much power as the laptop sitting on the table next to the radio consumes.

A complete report on field day with pictures will be posted in the July RHG including our score total. If you have any pictures that you'd like included please post them to SARC-all or use the

form at the bottom of the web site to submit them.

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors Meeting June 6, 2018

Frank Giampa N9QPD Chairman opened the meeting at 7:02 PM.

Attendees

Leo Ribordy	N9NBH	Cliff Sowka	K9QD	Peter Maziuk	N9POL
Matt Walsh	AC9IG	Kent Ochs	W9KAO	Frank Giampa	N9QPD
Dirk Smith	W0RI	Chris Brewer	AC9GN	Danny Kafka	KB9HIL
Ken Kryzywicki	KD9HIJ				

Treasurer's report

Chris Brewer AC9GN reports: beginning balance \$4,542.24. Income was \$95.51. Expense was \$187.95 for Data Line, Annual Social Party \$50 deposit, Yearly website hosting for an Ending balance \$4,449.80. Paid membership is currently 82.

President's Report

Matt AC9IG reports he will present his agenda at end of regular committee reports. Happy to see excellent Public Service support. Bob Langsfeld has resigned his EMCOMM role.

Membership Chair

Bob Benwitz N9JAX not present but provided the following report.

The following prospective members were contacted by phone/email for the month of May 2018:

5/11 “Tim” in Elk Grove (no last name or call sign given)

5/11 Mike Griffiths KD9KMV

5/17 Doug May (at May club meeting plans on joining)

5/30 William Morton W9LJW

Bob Benwitz

N9JAX

SARC Repeaters

Kent W9KAO reports we do have a new input attenuator to correct the failure of the tank-mounted UHF amplifier. Purchased a 50W attenuator for \$160 (has headroom of double the power-handling needed).

Secretary’s Report

Cliff Sowka K9QD: Approval of Meeting Minutes as published in the RHG.

EMCOMM

Bob Langsfeld WB9TZC has vacated his role and the club will begin the search for replacement.

Publicity

Dennis Calvey KD9HIK not present.

Construction Project (CP)

No Activity scheduled until fall. Currently five members [Rob N9MVO, Russ KC9NUV, Leo N9NBH, Bill KD9JQM, Dave KD9JKG] already on the short list of potential supporters. Matt AC9IG will confirm a staffing plan before September CP resumption.

Social

Robert Kocourek W9RKK not present but provided following update: “I’ve secured a reservation for the SARC dinner at Lou Malnati’s. It will be Saturday September 8th at 5pm. We have a two hour time block from 5-7pm. [\$50 reservation deposit submitted].

Because of our requirement to have separate checks, Lou Malnati’s wants to have our orders a week in advance. This is to keep us in that 2 hour time block in case of late arrivals. Normally for a large group such as ours (approx 25 people) they prefer we take a group package with a limited menu (pizza and soft drinks).

September is a long way off so I’ll remind you in August and take your orders then”.

Lou Malnati’s Schaumburg
1 South Roselle Road (Roselle Rd & Schaumburg Rd)
Schaumburg, IL 60193

Education

Leo N9NBH reported plans for a winter General Class with the Library District are in place. September 8th through the end of October at the Hoffman Estates facility, same as last fall’s Technician class. Leo will ask members to volunteer as instructors for one or two modules of the class materials.

VE Testing

Dirk W9RI reports 7 total with 6 students passing: 4 Technician and 2 Extra.

RHG

Mike K9KQX not present.

Public Service

Rob N9MVO not present.

Programs

Cliff Sowka K9QD: The May presentation will be Field Day preparations. I will be out of town that evening.

Nets

Cliff Sowka K9QD: The June presentation will be preparation for Field Day. No program is scheduled for July's meeting but Fox Hunt demonstration is a suggested topic. Need member familiar with Fox Hunting to prepare simple demonstration for the group.

Ebay Sales

Gary N9VU has resigned his role; new leadership will be sought. Russ KC9NUV and Cliff K9QD have received SK donations with Ron Remus WB9PTA assisting in sorting through some inventory to determine useful items for placement into the Construction Project cabinets.

New SK donations: iCOM 720A Station, SB500, Heath SB101 Xcv'r, and various test equipment received. Condition not evaluated yet but placed into the storage cabinets already.

Field day

Site Permit application with the Village is undetermined at the moment. Rob N9MVO hasn't updated process yet. Chris obtained Insurance Rider paperwork required by the Village.

Old Business

Old, dormant Facebook site has been taken down.

New Business

Board Vacancy: Leo N9NBH moved Dirk W0RI seconded the nomination of Peter Maziuk N9POL to fill the Board's open Director Role; So moved. Peter Maziuk N9POL elected Director through December 2018.

Due to July 4th being the first Monday of the month, our next Board meeting will be July 11th.

Dirk W0RI suggested the club consider adding censure/dismissal procedures to the By-Laws in time for the November election cycle or even for a nearer-term Special Meeting be called after adjournment of a regular business meeting. Since our current By-Law review procedures require a 30-day notice to membership before any move can be taken, Leo N9NBH, Peter N9POL, and Dirk W0RI formed a committee tonight to craft Membership censure/dismissal verbiage that will authorize SARC Membership authority to dismiss members deemed behaving inappropriately. This new committee plans to have their recommendation ready for the Board by August. This will allow September publication and presentation to SARC Membership by October.

Adjourn

8:51 PM

Submitted: Jun 7th 2018. Cliff Sowka K9QD Secretary.