

# SARC

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club

## RHG December 2018 Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors Meeting December 5, 2018

Frank Giampa N9QPD Chairman opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Attendees

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Leo Ribordy	N9NBH	Ken Krzywicki	KD9HIJ	Cliff Sowka	K9QD
Robert Kocourek	W9RKK	Kent Ochs	W9KAO	Frank Giampa	N9QPD
John Douglas	KD9KSH	John Zietlow	K9WIC		

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### Treasurer's Report

Chris Brewer AC9GN not present.

### President's Report

Matt AC9IG not present.

### Publicity

Dennis Calvey KD9HIK not present.

## SARC Repeaters

Kent W9KAO reports our Machines are up and working properly.

## Membership

Bob Benwitz N9JAX provided previous report:

The following prospective club members were contacted via phone and/or email during the month of November:

11/9 “Wesley” (no call listed) an inquiry regarding CB radio repair, referred to club meetings, construction project, etc

Secretary’s Report

Cliff Sowka K9QD: Approval of Meeting Minutes as published on our website.

## EMCOMM

John Zietlow K9WIC EMCOMM Chairman reports not much happening at the moment.

Construction Project (CP)

Robert W9RKK reported good increase attendance with the next meeting set for this coming Saturday. Almost all Impromptu Auction Items which were stored in the northern-most cabinet have been picked-up but some payments have not yet been completed.

The current Park District free-rental agreement needs to be renewed. Vince Kennedy has retired and the ladies at the front desk of the Tennis Club told us Richard Ward was the new Superintendent. We will need to renew our insurance rider as well.

## Social

Robert Kocourek W9RKK met with Buona Beef to confirm January’s Holiday Party. SARC Holiday Party is set for the third week of January.

## Education

Leo N9NBH reported two of his students studying for General passed their recent exam with Ken KD9HIJ, attending tonight, being one of the upgrade winners. Good Job Ken! Leo is considering another Technician class this coming March/April. Leo will survey the membership to line-up instructors and determine if there is sufficient public interest.

## VE Testing

Dirk Smith W0RI not present but reported results for November 2018:

7 Students applied:

2 General

4 Technician

## RHG

Matt AC9IG no report.

## Public Service

Rob N9MVO not present but previously reported the MS Walk has changed the venue for the event in 2019. More details will become known as the spring approaches.

## Programs

Cliff Sowka K9QD reported Dirk Smith W0RI is planning a presentation for December on Digital Operations.

A new Program Chair will need to be selected for 2019 but the good news is nothing will be needed for January due to the Holiday Party preempting the need for a presentation that night.

Possible for February: Anthony Willard AB9YC was able to acquire speaker Valerie Hotzfeld to provide an overview of Ham Radio's role during the recent Puerto Rico disaster response but the Board had to postpone her visit due to the scheduled Election Night in November. This delayed presentation may be considered for the February meeting if Anthony's guest can still be available at that time.

## Nets

Informal TechNet was held last week as planned.

Lyn Norstad WØLEN of Chicago Metro SATERN is presently serving as NCO for the West Metro Net. They meet on Monday evenings at 1900 on the WCRA repeater. They also have an East Metro Net that meets on Tuesday evenings. Their goal is to combine both Nets and request use of our K9IIK machine, probably for Monday evenings. The Board determined the time-slot they're scheduling will not interfere with any SARC activities unless their choice for Tuesday Nets might collide with our TechNet; in such a case either of us could move our Tuesday activity up-or-back.

Frank N9QPD will inform the organization that our machine will be open for their use and our Calendar of Events will be updated on the website.

## Ebay Sales

No eBay sales to report. Impromptu Auction items have now been claimed and the storage cabinet cleared but some lingering payment obligations are still in process:

\$10 for Icom IC-27h N9EHA Sold & Paid

\$190 for SB-500, SB-101, SB-600 K9KQX Sold & Paid

\$1 on Motorola TEK7A meter AC9GN Sold & Paid

\$25 for the ARC 5 T-22 7MHz Xmitter AB9CV In Cabinet Open

\$22 for the Hallicrafters HT-18 VFO AB9CV In Cabinet Open

\$5 for the Motorola TEK 21 Pulse Generator AB9CV In Cabinet Open

\$5 for the Motorola TEK 31 Tone Generator AB9CV In Cabinet Open

\$15 for the Fluke 8000A DMM AB9CV In Cabinet Open

\$7 HP 1744 Scope AB9CV In Cabinet Open

\$30 for the HP 200AB Audio Generator Picked-up already Open

\$120 for the Philips PM6671 Frequency Counter AB9CV In Cabinet Open

\$12 for the Eico 377 sine/square generator AB9CV In Cabinet Open

\$241 Open w/ AB9CV; All items delivered including the (previously delivered) HP 200AB.

## Old Business

A new Committee has been formed to consider a Bylaw mechanism that allows the club to remove an undesirable member(s) will be planning to meet over the next few months.

Officers currently on Committee:

Dirk W0RI

Peter N9POL

Leo N9NBH

Club members on Committee:

John AC9JS

Ed AC9SD

John K9WIC

Kevin KB9QVX

## New Business

Salvation Army's SATERN organization requested use of our K9IHK machine for their Monday night West Metro Net. The Board of Directors approved access for their use of K9IHK machine on Monday nights and the N9RJV.ORG website calendar needs to be updated with that recurring schedule.

Submitted: December 6, 2018 Cliff Sowka K9QD Secretary.

## Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club Business Meeting December 20, 2018

Frank Giampa N9QPD called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Rebecca KA9EFE asked her friend to bring banana bread and brownies.

## Attendees

Leo Ribordy	N9NBH	Danny Kafka	KD9HIL	Geoff Stevens	KA9QGH
Ken Krzywicki	KD9HIJ	Rob Glowacki	N9MVO	Frank Giampa	N9QPD
Jim Campbell	KB9RGU	Geoff Stevens	KA9QGH	Doug May	W9YFC
Cliff Sowka	K9QD	John Douglas	KD9KSH	Robert Kocourek	W9RKK
John Zietlow	K9WIC	Ken Krzywicki	KD9HIJ	Terry Jarholm	AE9TJ
Edward Lishka	AC9SD	Dirk Smith	W0RI	Larry Oatman	KD9AFY

Chris Brewer

AC9GN

Bill Crockett

KD9AUP

Kevin Willard

KB9QVX

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## Treasurer's Report

Chris Brewer AC9GN reported: beginning balance \$5,169.92. Income was \$116.18. Expense was \$92.42 consisting of \$60.42 data line and a \$32 Harris Bank chargeback for a bounced membership submission. Ending balance \$5,193.68. Paid membership is currently 73.

### President's Report

Matt AC9IG not present but provided the following report: Don't forget next month's meeting is replaced with the holiday party. Same time but at Buona Beef in Hoffman Estates. Bring a ~\$10 gift for the grab bag. Prizes for checking in to the net will be raffled off!

## Nets

Thanks to Mike KD9KMV for filling in as net control at the last minute on Tuesday. Christmas day and New Year's Day tech nets will be cancelled. Your last few chances to get entered in the net check in raffle are coming up on Thursdays through 1/10. Get on the air!

## Education

Also mentioned by Leo: The DuPage club is running classes for all three license levels early next year. A link can be found on our website.

## Publicity

Dennis Calvey KD9HIK not present.

## SARC Repeaters

Terry reported the effort to secure spare parts for our three machines is underway with the Board already approving a \$400 budget. Current a new Link Controller is purchased but the Raspberry Pi should not be ordered until he can specifically identify the correct version.

## Membership Bob

Benwitz N9JAX

No report.

## Secretary's Report

Cliff Sowka K9QD: Approval of Meeting Minutes as published on our website. So moved.

## EMCOMM

John Zietlow K9WIC reports SARC EmComm Trusted Village Radio Volunteers were treated to an appreciation dinner this week. Upcoming on June 21st there will be a National organization hosting a Wide Area Unified Command exercise by Ham Radio Operators. At the meeting we were given a heads-up that there will be a joint exercise involving multiple communities and agencies during the week of June 17-21, 2019. This exercise will likely include amateur radio participation. It should be noted that this is the week leading up to Field Day.

On another note, I received an email from the Amateur Radio Safety Foundation, Inc. discussing the FCC NPRM Docket Number 16-239. This proposal would eliminate the 300 baud limit for digital communications and replace it with a 2.8 kHz limit instead. The focus is on allowing Pactor 4 communications in the US. This mode is already being used by MARS communications.

Apparently, a ham named Theodore Rappaport has been leading a campaign to have the FCC outlaw all digital communications requiring proprietary codec schemes. If he is successful, this would eliminate Winlink, D-STAR, DMR, Fusion, and all connected modes. This would have a major impact on emergency communications. For more information, visit [https://winlink.org/FCC\\_Action](https://winlink.org/FCC_Action)

## Construction Project (CP)

Meeting this coming Saturday is on schedule.

## Social

Robert Kocourek W9RKK did contact Buena Beef for the January meeting night. The January club party will include: Net Check-in Raffle, Special Acknowledgement Awards for Member of the Year as well as the Bill Smead K9IIM Memorial Construction Project contributor. These special acknowledgement awards were submitted on the Election Ballots this evening and will be ready for the January event.

## Education

Leo N9NBH reported winter General Class has concluded with two students already taking their exam. Potential for Tech Class in the spring but Leo has to notify and reserve the Library about 60 days in advance.

## VE Testing

John AC9JS reports VE Tests Results for December 1, 2018

Name

Call

Name	Call	Class
Bechtol, Keith	KC9MCJ	Technician
Puccia, Michael	KC9MCK	Technician
Korus, Philip	KC9MCL	Technician
Krzyicki, Kenneth	KD9HIJ	General
Radakovic, Dushan	KD9HVU	General
<b>Class</b>		
Technician		3
General		2
Extra		0
<b>Total</b>		<b>5</b>

Next examination date: January 5, 2018



## RHG

Matt AC9IG has been publishing club meeting minutes and activities on his newly-designed website.

## Public Service

Rob N9MVO reported MS Walk is moving all the way to Roselle this spring and set for the first weekend of May. July events HE Fourth and Schaumburg Triathlon Chicagoland Marathon will be handled by the EMCOMM team.

## Programs

Cliff Sowka K9QD reports no presentation is planned for January due to the Holiday Party. A new Program Chair will be needed for 2019. Dirk Smith W0RI presented digital modes tonight.

## Nets

2M Machine is working fine.

## Ebay Sales

No eBay sales to report

## Old Business

None

## New Business

Winter Field Day: There appears to be enough interest for the SARC in the Park setting set for Jan 26th.

Adjourn 7:42 PM

Submitted: December 21, 2018 Cliff Sowka K9QD Secretary.

## President's Report December 2018

It has been an amazing experience serving as president of this club for the past two years. The number of activities that we schedule is impressive and shows what a great group of ham radio operators that this club is made up of. I've been very happy to have the support of the board and membership when we upgraded, implemented changes or tried new things out within the club. Some of these items include:

- Updating the Thursday net script to promote more discussion.
- Adding a check-in raffle to the net to promote participation. ARRL gift certificates, SARC logo mugs, wire antennas and more have been won by members and we now average 12+ check ins per net.
- Operating field day from an alternate site
- Upgrading the web site
- Sending members to the W9DXCC DX convention on a club scholarship

The club's mainstay activities such as [construction project](#), [SARC in The Park](#) and [breakfast at Maxfields](#) continue to be well attended and I thank everyone for their participation and making them so successful.

We have some new leadership taking over which I'm very excited about. [Geoff Stevens KA9QGH](#) will take over as president. He is a long-time ham and avid contester. [Danny Kafka KB9HIL](#) will become vice president. Danny was a graduate of our ham radio class and has been active at many club activities. [Ken Krzywicki KD9HIJ](#) will take over as secretary. Ken is also a graduate of our ham radio class and has visited many board meetings and frequents our various Saturday activities. [Chris Brewer AC9GN](#) will continue as treasurer. He keeps the construction in our construction project with a lot of technical knowledge and project work.

I'd like to thank everyone who took on a role as an officer this year as well as our board members who are continuing their positions. This group of hams make sure we're able to run our events smoothly, keep on top of the behind-the-scenes scheduling and fees and keep the club moving in the right direction. We're all looking forward to a great 2019 under their direction.

# HF Digital Mode, December Meeting Presentation

Dirk W0RI presented an updated version of his digital mode discussion at December's meeting. The presentation focuses on [FLDIGI](#) with [Ham Radio Deluxe](#), but offers plenty of discussion about connecting your computer to your radio, and the general flow of digital QSO so it's a great read even if that's not the same setup you're using.

Download the complete presentation

Some selected slides appear below

[SARC DIGITAL Presentation](#)

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## The Basic's.....

- ▶ **Do not need a booming set up....**
- ▶ **PSK = Combination – Best of RTTY and CW, 60 hz signal**
- ▶ **Power 5–35 Watt, no more than 40 watts**
  
- ▶ **Low end of Bands, mostly just above CW area's**
- ▶ **Waterfall Display of activity (on Radio etc.)**
  - **SDR Display**
  
- ▶ **Laptop and/or Soundcard per Radio**
  - **Signal Link (per radio, programmed )**
  - **RigBlaster**
  - **Pi Set Up**
  - **Most new Transceivers do not need external soundcards....**
  
- ▶ **Numerous Types of Digital Modes**
- ▶ **FREE Software... "FLDIGI" from [Salesforge.com](#)**
  - **May need to download RADIO DRIVER...**

# Digital Mode.....Abbreviations

ABBREVIATION	MEANING
K	Invitation for the other station to transmit ( similar to "over" when using voice communications.
KN	Invitation for a particular station to transmit
VA	Used at the end of a contact. It means that you have finished transmitting to the other station
BTU	Back to you
TNX	Thanks
PSE	Please
OM	Used to refer to the other operator (when he is male). One tends to be a little more polite when talking to ladies. <sup>Ab</sup>
FB	Fine business - indicates that a transmission has been received well, etc.
GM	Good morning
GA	Good afternoon
GE	Good evening

# Digital is fun.....

## ▶ It's fun

- Great during bad band conditions
- All Bands, watch Band Plan....
- Many different Modes to try
- ISS – Does Digital mode on 2 M, BUT that takes some practice....to track station....HRD will help.
- Short or long QSO
  
- Digital Imaging Anyone!!!!