

SARC

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club

RHG February 2021 Winter Field Day 2021: K9KMV



Winter Field Day 2021 – K9KMV

There was no doubt that this year's [Winter Field Day](#) would have a winter feel to it. Winter Field Day occurs on the last full weekend of January each year, starting at 1900 UTC and finishing 24 hours later at 1900 UTC on Sunday.

My plan was to operate in one location on Saturday afternoon, and then at a different location on Sunday morning. I would be operating as 1 Oscar (1-O), which references 1 Operator, Outdoors. I also wanted to activate a [POTA \(Parks on the Air\)](#) park on one of the days.

Day 1 – Moraine Hills State Park, IL (POTA K-1012)

I set off with some light snow and temps hovering around 30 degrees. The drive is a little under an hour, and I arrived on time for a 2pm CT start. Due to the recent snowfall, some of the parking areas were closed, and so the ones that remained open were busier than on my previous visits to the park. I found a spot that, although not ideal, allowed me to setup my radio gear from the car. No sitting on a picnic table this time.

I erected my 31 foot telescopic mast on the hitch mount of my vehicle, ran a 20m EFHW in a steep sloper configuration, and set the Yaesu FT-891 radio in the car. The band was very busy, and I struggled to find an open frequency where I could call CQ from. I eventually was able to do so and made a little over 30 contacts, before packing up and heading home.

By the way, I forgot my gloves which made the process of packing up harder than I'd have liked.

With 30+ contacts, I also successfully activated the park for Parks On The Air (10 contacts are required).

Day 2 – Beck Lake Park FPDCC, Des Plaines

Staying much closer to home, but with a heavy snowfall overnight, I headed out with the same equipment. Similar to Day 1, because of the heavy snowfall, several of my local Forest Preserve locations were closed. The snow plows hadn't got to them yet.

I eventually found a suitable location at Beck Lake, which also happens to be where I take our 2 dogs most weekends. (Those who monitor the SARC 145.230 repeater will know I go there a lot!).

By now, with snow still falling and my time running out, I setup again with almost the same configuration as Day 1. I had an issue with the telescopic mast, the top 2 sections had got stuck and now I was having problems getting it to the full height.

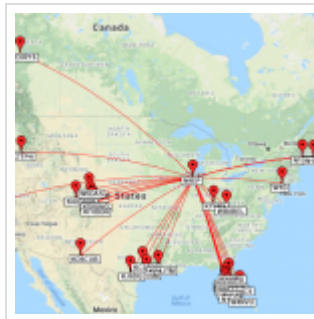
My goal for the morning was to make just a few more contacts and then head home. No need for 10 contacts this time (not a POTA activation), so I decided just to tune through the band and reply to whoever was calling CQ.

I made 5 more contacts and decided to call it a day. I used this as an exercise to practice setting up in less than ideal weather conditions.

Summary

I admit that I found the weekend quite challenging. I have done a lot of portable deployments before, and learnt many lessons, but somehow with the weather as it was, and a low-level equipment failure to boot, things could have gone better. I'll certainly keep a spare pair of gloves in my pack from now on!

Here is a YouTube video that shows how things went in far more detail, and a couple of images of the weekend.



73, Mike K9KMV

QST: New Club Treasurer and Membership Chair

The following changes have been reported:

- **John Zietlow K9WIC** has kindly accepted the role of **Club Treasurer**
- **Daryl KB9RHR** has now taken on the responsibility of **Membership Chair duty**

We congratulate and thank them both for taking on these important roles for the club.

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club Business Meeting February 18th, 2021

Schaumburg Business Meeting February 18, 2021

Virtual Meeting *Community Recreation Center Remains Closed*

February 18, 2021

Geoff Stevens KA9QGH President called the virtual meeting to order at 7:01PM

Attendees:

Danny Kafka
KD9HIL

Rob Glowacki
N9MVO

Charlene K9CMZ

Terry AE9TJ

Geoff Stevens
KA9QGH

Leo Ribordy N9MBH

Ed Liska AC9SD

R. Kocourek
W9RKK

Pierre Berube K9EYE

John Zietlow
K9WIC

Garrett K9GBN

Burt Schultz AB9CV

Jack McClurkin
W9YY

Russ Schmidt
KC9NUV

Bob McIntire W9DXR

Jim WE9PP

Jim Campbell
KB9RGU

Steve Karson AC9EM

Roberto WA9E

Joseph KB9RCR

Don Dewar KD9NJR

Cliff Sowka
K9QD

Kevin KB9QVX

Bruce Warrington
N9EHA

Daryl KB9RHR

Lou N9LTW

Secretary's Report:

Cliff Sowka K9QD informed January's Minutes were successfully published in the Radio Hill Gazette (RHG). Burt AB9CV moved to approve, Danny KD9HIL seconded. So moved. K9QD's personal expense in submitting state annual report has been reimbursed.

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Treasurer's Report:

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John Zietlow K9WIC reports current
finances:

Bank Balance 1-Jan \$6,591.57

INCOME \$115.00

11-Jan \$20.00 unknown

29-Jan \$20.00 dues

29-Jan \$75.00 donation for FD Hold for
2021

DISBURSEMENTS \$467.82

19-Jan \$62.82 data line

29-Jan \$395.00 FD 2020 prizes

29-Jan \$10.00 annual report

Petty Cash \$144.20

FD Donations \$75.00 included in balance

Funds Available \$6,382.95

As of February 18th, 103 paid members.

Public Service:

Rob Glowacki N9MVO informed there is nothing to report at the moment.

EMCOMM:

John Zietlow K9WIC:

Tracy Raimondo, Schaumburg EC and Accreditation Manager, reached out to see if the Club would be willing to support the Village for the Chicagoland Marathon this year.

- May 23, 2021
- Starts 0700; we're in place by 0630
- Ends around 1330
- How many would like to help?

2. Simulated Emergency Test on May 1st.

- Dooms Day scenario from 1000 to 1300
- Emphasize KISS principle
- Remote command post at a not-so-classified location in central Wisconsin
- Establish procedures for local participation.

3. Develop and practice new response procedures.

- No self-deployment!
- Self-actuating resource net

1. Resource availability and capability

2. Initial size-up of local conditions

- Contact local EOCs to establish Auxcom requirements

Repeaters:

Terry AE9TJ and Rob N9MVO discussed several technical challenges as reported by Pierre K9EYE regarding EchoLink operations in new business (below). Terry has received several repeater spares he ordered and has been reimbursed for expenses. Refreshing of the memory cards can be accomplished with the new spares and the machine's recording ability should be renewed to avoid catastrophic wear (tunneling) that NAND FLASH suffers.

Construction Project:

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Periodic Saturday morning meetings have resumed. The Park District has allowed a maximum gathering of 10 people and Don Dewar KD9RHR has been managing an internal SARC-ALL reservation system where members can request a position and know their confirmation by the Friday morning before the next scheduled meeting.

VE Exams

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Ed Liska AC9SD reported the Volunteer Exam team has successfully utilized the Tennis Club basement to conduct test sessions. The VE Team submits testing candidate's names beforehand to the front desk so they may confirm attendance upon entry to the facility.

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Radio Hill Gazette RHG

Mike Griffiths K9KMV no report.

Membership:

Burt Schultz AB9C Chairman of the Board announced Daryl KB9RHR is now the Membership Chair and we appreciate his willingness to take charge of this important role. Our website link will require updating so that new members will be able to invoke the inquiry link.

Social:

No current plans.

Education:

Leo N9NBH previously reported our training schedule will be on hiatus for the duration.

NETS:

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Steve Karson AC9EM submitted the following report for February 4th:

Thanks everyone, for checking into our Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club NET. 28 Hams checked in!!! Question of the night: Describe the current weather conditions of your QTH, and has the weather impacted your operating station, antenna, coax, etc. In addition, Cliff K9QD provided a quick summary of the previous night's SARC Board Meeting, Ed, AC9SD reported that VE Testing sessions will recommence this Saturday at the Tennis Club. Roberto, WA9E reported that the Dekalb Hamfest is still expected to happen on May 2. Farther details were then provided on the Reflector. Several others also contributed to help make it an interesting Net.

Check-ins included:

N9IJS	John
W9RKK	Robert
K9CMZ	Charlene
N9MVO	Rob
N9LTW	Lou
K9EYE	Pierre
WB9VWM	Hugh
KB9RGU	Jim
WA9VYT	Scott
K9QD	Cliff
WB9UXN	Brent

AC9SD	Ed
KD9PWI	Pat
KD9KSH	John
K9WIC	John
N9NBH	Leo
KD9POE	Mike
K9KMV	Mike
KB9RHR	Daryl
KD9NJR	Don
WA9E	Roberto
KC9NMW	Tim
K9MKD	Kevin
K9KQX	Mike
N9JAX	Bob
KC9NUV	Russ
KD9QQZ	George
AC9EM	Steve Net Controller

Be Safe and Happy!!!

73

Steve Karson, AC9EM

Mike Griffiths filed the following TechNet report for February 9th.

Thanks to the following hams that checked in to the Tuesday Tech net.

Call Sign	Name
N9IJS	John
K9CMZ	Charlene
N9LTW	Lou
KD9KSH	John
W9RKK	Robert
KD9PWI	Pat
W9YY	Jack

WA9E

Roberto

KY0Q

Rick

KC9NMW

Tim

KB9RHR

Daryl

KB9RGU

Jim

K9MKD

Kevin

K9KMV Mike – net control

Topics discussed:

RFI from a plasma TV.

10 meter band conditions and best time of day to operate

Regards,

Mike K9KMV

Leo N9NBH submitted the February 11th report:

Thank you to all the hams that checked into the net. The question of the evening was: How is your ham radio grounded? The National Electrical Code does cover grounding, could not find info on the internet to attach to this email. Attached are two military documents, from Department of Defense, on what is required to ground devices and meet military standard.

1. N9NBH Leo net control
2. N9IJS John
3. N9MVO Rob

- 4 K9KQX Mike

5. K9EYE Pierre
6. K9WIC John
7. KD9KSH John
8. K9CMZ Charlene
9. WB9UXN Brent
10. N9LTW Lou
11. WB9VWM Hugh
12. KD9POE Mike
13. K9QD Cliff
14. KB9RGU Jim
15. W9YY Jack
16. KD9NJR Don
17. AC9SD Ed
18. K9KMV Mike
19. KD9RGS Tim

20. K9KBM Dave
21. WA9E Roberto
22. KD9PWI Pat
23. WE9PP Jim
24. K9GBN Garrett
25. AC9VW David
26. W9WEM Bill
27. KD9RGX Bill
28. KC9NMW Tim
29. KF5IV Owen
30. KD9FIA Al
31. KD9QAI Jody
32. W9RKK Robert

On Thursday, February 18, 2021, 07:01:52 PM CST, Leo Ribordy wrote:

Thank you to all the hams that checked into the net Tuesday evening. The question of the evening was Have you ever built a Moxon Antenna? What type of antenna's have you built? I am attaching two different types of Moxon antennas. A 6 meter and a HAARP 2 meter Moxon. If you google

[AC6LA.com/moxgen1](https://www.n9rjv.org/tag/rhg-february-2021/) you can download the calculator to design a Moxon antenna.

1. W9RKK Robert

2. N9IJS John
3. K9QD Cliff
4. KY0Q Rick
5. W9YY Jack
6. K9CMZ Charlene
7. WB9UXN Brent
8. AC9SD Ed
9. K9KBM Dave
10. W9WEM Bill
11. KD9NJR Don
12. WB9VWM Hugh
13. WE9PP Jim
14. K9MKD Kevin
15. K9WIC John
16. KD9POE Mike
17. KD9FMN Paul
18. KD9KSH John
19. K9KMV Mike
20. KB9RHR Daryl
21. KD9QAI Jody
22. KC9NMW Tim
23. N9NBH Leo net control

Publicity:

Dennis K9HIK No report.

Programs:

No report. Need Chairperson.

-

Old Business:

None.

-

New Business:

Pierre K9EYE proposed the repeater's EchoLink initial feature set-up can be edited to remove unnecessary verbal station ID. Morning Drive-Time traffic is hindered by verbal ID's being repeatedly transmitted once the initial wake-up response is heard. There is likely a set-up edit in EchoLink to replace the verbal ID with CW instead. Additionally, international stations should be encouraged to avoid QSOs on the machine during morning Drive-Time because local mobile stations may have limited travel time for conversations while the machine delay to handle those outside calls preempt easy hand-over.

Ask an Elmer

None.

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Repeater Ker chunk to ascertain a station's ability to solidly hit the machine was discussed. Such a test transmission is only legal when the testing station IDs properly.

Motion to Adjourn:

8:10 PM

Submitted Friday February 19, 2021

Cliff Sowka K9QD Secretary

Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors Meeting February 3rd, 2021

Board of Directors Meeting, 3 February, 2021

With the help of Geoff KA9QGH's ZOOM-enabled call, Burt Schultz AB9CV called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

First item on Agenda: Burt Schultz AB9CV is elected to serve as Chairman of the Board for 2021.

Attendees:

Russ Schmidt KC9NUV Cliff Sowka K9QD John Douglas KD9KSH
Geoff Stevens KA9QGH Danny Kafka KD9HIL John Zietlow K9WIC
Ed Liska AC9SD Mike Sorensen K9KQX Dennis C. Calvey KD9HIK
Charlene K9CMZ Jim Campbell KB9RGU Jim Campbell KB9RGU
Burt Schultz AB9CV

Secretary's Report:

Cliff Sowka K9QD: January 2021 BOD Minutes approved as published in the RHG.

Treasurer's Report:

John Zietlow K9WIC reports 103 Active Members. Danny KD9HIL moved, Jim KB9RGU seconded, so moved.

SARC Board affirmed John's Treasurer Role is constitutional and in accordance with the club's Bylaws.

Bank Balance 31-Dec \$6,591.57

INCOME \$115.00

11-Jan \$20.00 unknown

29-Jan \$20.00 dues

29-Jan \$75.00 donation for FD

DISBURSEMENTS \$467.82

19-Jan \$62.82 data line

29-Jan \$395.00 FD 2020 prizes

29-Jan \$10.00 annual report

Petty Cash \$144.20

FD Donations \$75.00 included in balance

Funds Available \$6,382.95

Proposed CY2021 Budget

INCOME \$3,105.00
DUES \$2,250.00
EQUIPMENT SALES \$750.00
XFR FROM RESERVE \$105.00

RESERVE \$6,135.00

EXPENSES \$3,105.00

ADMIN \$835.00
ZOOM FEES \$180.00
MISC EXPENSES \$75.00
STATE OF IL REPORT \$10.00
WEB SITE \$90.00
PO BOX \$65.00
INSURANCE \$300.00
SUPPLIES \$100.00
REPEATER ASSOC \$15.00

REPEATER \$1,280.00
MAINTENANCE \$500.00
DATA LINE \$780.00

FIELD DAY \$540.00
WINTER \$0.00
SUMMER \$540.00
MEETINGS \$100.00
REFRESHMENTS \$0.00
SUMMER PICNIC \$100.00
HOLIDAY PARTY \$0.00
ANNUAL PRIZES \$50.00

CONSTRUCTION \$300.00
TOOL REPLACEMENT \$200.00

CONSUMABLES \$100.00

Public Service:

Rob Glowacki N9MVO. Not present.

EMCOMM:

John Zietlow K9WIC informed there is a planned EMMCOMM statewide exercise similar to previous 'Shaker' scenario for April 30th and May 1st.

Repeaters:

No Report.

Construction Project: Limited meetings of 10 SARC Members Only have opened again.

VE Testing:

Ed Lishka AC9SD informed the VE Team will be utilizing the Construction Project basement venue this coming Saturday. Additionally, the Tri-Fold Welcoming document crafted by Dirk W0RI has been provided to testing candidates. Ed will be sending an electric copy to John K9WIC.

Nets:

Leo Ribordy N9NBH provided the following report for TechNet January 26th:

The question for the evening was: This weekend is winter field. Are you going to operate? Also talking a little more on magnetic loops. Another youtube site to get more/different info on building magnetic loops is RSGB. Radio society of Great Britain.

1. W9RKK Robert
2. K9CMZ Charlene
3. KY0Q Rick
4. K9KBM Dave
5. N9LTW Lou
6. K9KQX Mike
7. KB9RHR Daryl
8. WE9PP Jim
9. AC9SD Ed
10. W9WEM Bill
11. KD9KSH John
12. K9KMV Mike
13. K9EYE Pierre
14. KD9HIK Dennis
15. KB9QQL Adrian
16. WB9UXN Brent
17. KB9RGU Jim
18. K9GBN Garrett
19. KD9NJR Don
20. W9YFC Doug
21. N9NBH Leo Net Control
22. N9IJS John
23. KD9PWI Pat
24. KD9QAI Jody
25. KD9POE Mike

Daryl Jenks KB9RHR hosted the February 2nd TechNet and submitted the following report:

Thanks to everyone that logged into the net.

Net started at 19:05 and closed at 20:02 EST.

The question for the night was how many worked the Winter Filed Day this past weekend and how did you do.

1. N9IJS John
2. K9KBM Dave
3. W9RKK Robert
4. K9CMZ Charlene
5. WE9PP Jim
6. K9KQX Mike
7. KF5IV Owen
8. WB9UXN Brent
9. KD9POE Mike
10. KB9RGU Jim
11. N9LTW Lou
12. KD9FIA Al
13. KC9NMW Tim
14. K9WIC John
15. K9GBN Garret
16. KD9NJR Don
17. K9KMV Mike
18. W9YFC Doug
19. KD9RGS Tim
20. KD9QVE Rick Beloit, WI
21. K9EDV Ed
22. KB9RHR Daryl (Net Control)

Winter Field Day:

K9KMV Mike worked both 1O (outdoors) Sat and Sun at different locations each day and made 30 contacts on Sat and a handful on Sunday.

KD9POE Mike worked from 1H (home) and made 32 contacts.

KB9RHR Daryl worked 1O (outdoors) on Sat and made 27 contacts.

Labels: K9KQX Mike, ask if anyone had how-2 ideas or source for Front Panel Decals needed when restoring equipment. Several suggestions were brought up from looking on ETSY.com to printing on “Clear Label” sheets purchased from office supply stores.

73s

Daryl KB9RHR

Radio Hill Gazette RHG:

Mike K9KMV No Report.

Recurring Calendar:

Insurance has been renewed for 2021 and John K9WIC's \$300 premium payment is authorized for reimbursement from the Treasury. Danny KD9HIL moved, Ed AC9SD seconded, so moved and John will reimburse his personal outlay to reinstate our Liability Insurance in time for the Construction Project meetings. Status of 2021 room reservations at the CRC and Airport unknown at the moment.

Membership:

Geoff KA9QGH. No report.

Publicity:

Dennis C. Calvey KD9HIK Publicity Chair; no report.

Social:

John KD9KSH; no report.

Education:

Leo N9NBH. No Report.

Programs:

No Report.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Burt Schultz AB9CV informed SARC has been recognized by the Salvation Army for granting them access to our Repeater.

Motion to Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned 8:25PM. Submitted February 4, 2021. Cliff Sowka Secretary