



Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club

Board Meeting

May 6, 2026

Board Chairman Bill McGovern W9WEM, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Attendees

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Don Dewar KD9NJR | Bill McGovern W9WEM | Paul Burkett, KD9FMN |
| Cliff Sowka K9QD | Dennis Calvey KD9HIK | Danny Kafka KD9HIL |
| Bob Benwitz N9JAX | Paul Meyers KE9EJX | Bob McIntyre, W9DXR |
| Chris Brewer AC9GN | John Douglas KD9KSH | Robert Kocourek, W9RKK |
| Kent Ochs, W9KAO | Howard Mitchell KD9WSV | |

Secretary Report - Howard Mitchell KD9WSV

April 1, 2026 BOD Meeting Minutes were published by Howard Mitchell, KD9WSV on April,5. Paul Burkett KD9FMN moved to approve the minutes. Paul Meyers KE9EJXM seconded. Members asked for any comments or questions: none heard. Motion Adopted.

Treasurer's Report - Chris Brewer AC9GN

Monthly report as printed below. John Douglas KD9KSH moved to approve the report. Paul Burkett KD9FMN seconded . Members asked for any comments or questions: none heard. Motion Adopted.

Field Day Committee, Danny Kafka KD9HIL

Insurance coverage will be worked by Chris Brewer. Danny Kafka is composing an email documenting the plan for the removal of SARC items at the Plum Grove repeater site and transport to the 2026 field day site. Paul Burkett will explore trailer rentals for the move.

Construction Project, Cliff Sowka K9QD

Last scheduled event capped off a very successful year. We will be looking for recommendations for projects when fall 2026 sessions resume. The construction project area got a “spring cleaning” to make way for the field day items now stored at the Plum Grove repeater site and to be relocated to the Tennis Plus basement

EmComm, Howard Mitchell KD9WSV, Chairman

Howard and Dennis Calvey visited the Schaumburg EOC a few days ago to test out the ham radio and antenna. The test was successful and the next steps will be to have members of the EmComm group assist in a test to determine the coverage of that radio across the Village of Schaumburg.

Publicity - Dennis Calvey KD9HIK, Chairman

229 Facebook followers.

- Roger Young (WB9NBA) has been "shadowing" Net Logging for SARC and SATERN. He has taken over when I have been unable to participate. Suggest that the SARC Board consider formalizing the function of Net Logger as part of the Repeater Committee and list Roger, myself and any other interested parties.

- Wednesday April 15th, several SARC members attended the Village of Schaumburg Emergency Preparedness presentation by Tracy Raimondo (Emergency Management and Accreditation Manager) at the Prairie Arts Center. During the presentation Tracy explained that in some emergencies Ham Radio is the only thing that works and gave a big plug for SARC.

- Thursday April 16th, Howard Mitchell (KD9WSV), Rob Benwitz (N9JAX), Kirk Musselman (K9MSG) and I conducted an Introduction to Amateur Radio presentation for a Girl Scout Troop at Elmer Franzen Elementary School. Demonstrations included sending and copying

simulated emergency traffic and the now famous Rob Benwitz (N9JAX) Morse Code demonstration, with printed Certificates of Achievement.

- Thursday April 30th, Tom O'Boyle (N9GUN), Rob Benwitz (N9JAX) and myself participated in the Anne Fox Discovery (STEM) night. Rob, "Morse Code Magician", and Tom introduced over 30 students to Morse Code while I printed Certificates for those that successfully learned how to send their name via Morse Code. While the students were learning about Morse Code, we took the opportunity to talk to the parents about Ham Radio. Visitors included the Mayor of Hanover Park . Posted to Facebook page

- Alex Shin (KB9ALX) wrote an introduction piece for the upcoming "Advanced" class at the Schaumburg Township District Library, which I have forwarded to Leo (N9NBH) for his submission to the library.

- Currently only John Scrip (N9IJS) and myself are authorized by the Board to edit the Facebook page. I'd like to add Paul Meyer (KE9EJX) as an authorized editor but need Board approval. (Note: Board did approve this recommendation)

- Paul Meyer (KE9EJX) and Brenda Fruhauf have submitted write ups and graphics to publicize Field Day. This will be posted to the Facebook page and submitted to the Daily Herald next week.

Repeaters

Howard Mitchell led a discussion in regards to the continuing difficulties with Echolink occasionally being off line. Kent Ochs, W9KAO has procured a replacement router and has asked for engagement with one or more members of the repeater team so they are prepared to take over long term support. Howard took the action item to contact the team members and to have them begin work with Kent so the replacement on site can be scheduled.

Nets- Don Dewar, KD9NJR

Numbers are on the rise for all nets. The new login procedure will continue with emphasis on have all check ins follow that procedure.

Programs- Don Dewar, KD9NJR

The next few months are likely to focus on preparation for Field Day.

Social Program - Paul Meyers KE9EJX Chairman

John Douglas, KD9KSH continues to support Paul as the social program fully transitions to Paul. Paul earlier distributed a proposed policy to cover how social events such as the holiday party will be handled going forward. The policy was approved by the board and will be distributed to the membership.

The log cabin in Bartlett, which has been the site of previous year summer picnics, has been reserved for August the 3rd. Details on the picnic be communicated at a later date.

Old Business

An amateur extra class will be offered beginning in September and held weekly at the Hanover Park Public Library. Details on the class will be posted.

Paul Burkett reported a number of items not sold at the recent SARC auction, were taken to a local ham fest and raised additional funds.

New Business

It is likely that one or more officer positions will need to be filled at the end of year elections.

Soon we will need to remind membership of the annual dues schedule.

2027 budget planning will need to be started as well.

We may need to consider if a financial audit will be required.

Meeting Adjourned 8:40 PM
Submitted May 10, 2026,
Howard Mitchell KD9WSV, Secretary