



Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club

Board Meeting

August 5, 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	Howard Mitchell KD9WSV	Danny Kafka KD9HIL
Paul Meyers KE9EJX	Bob McIntyre W9DXR	Dennis Calvey KD9HIK
Eliot Libner, N9EPA	John Douglas KD9KSH	Glenn Lubin, KE9EJV
Robert Benwitz N9JAX	Kirk Musselman K9MSG	Chris Brewer, AC9GN

Secretary Report - Howard Mitchell KD9WSV

July BOD Minutes as published by Howard Mitchell KD9WSV.

Motion proposed:

Paul Burkett KD9FMN moved to approve the minutes and Robert Benwitz N9JAX seconded. Motion adopted after unanimous approval by the board.

Howard was asked the current status of planning for the upcoming election. He presented a brief summary with specific emphasis on an upcoming meeting of the nomination committee.

Treasurer's Report - Chris Brewer AC9GN

Chris Brewer, AC9GN presented the July results as presented on the next page.

Motion proposed:

Paul Burkett KD9FMN moved to approve and Danny Kafka KD9HIL, seconded. Motion adopted after unanimous approval by the board.

SCHAUMBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MONTHLY REPORT

Month: July 2026

Checkbook Balance 06/30/26 **\$17,007.05**

INCOME

Zelle deposits
Zelle deposits

07/xx/26
07/15/26

MEMO
\$230.00 Dues (8, summarized)
\$18.60 Auction

\$248.60

DISBURSEMENTS

ACH
Check #1409
Check #1413
Check #1411

07/09/26
07/16/26
07/24/26
07/29/16

MEMO
\$88.99 ATT
\$147.81 Field Day food
\$222.00 SARC PO Box (yearly)
\$83.00 AWS (Amazon Web Services)

\$541.80

07/31/26
07/31/26

Account Balance
Bank Statement

\$16,713.85
\$16,713.85

Pending Payments

Check #1410

07/16/26

MEMO
-\$15.00 (3) BB \$5 overcharges
-\$432.76 Field Day trailer/food

-\$447.76

06/30/26

Adjusted balance

\$16,266.09

Petty Cash

Original balance
New Balance

06/30/26
07/31/26

\$100.00

MEMO

\$100.00

07/31/26

Funds Available

\$16,366.09

106 members on roster

Field Day Committee, Danny Kafka KD9HIL

Danny confirmed that all the points have been properly registered. This will be the last discussion of Field Day until planning starts for next year.

Construction Project, Cliff Sowka K9QD

All of the parts for the recommended project, specifically a lightning detector kit were received and a special construction project session was held for assembly. Due to high tariffs on some components, the total price for all materials is \$1,457.31. A discussion followed regarding the excess per unit and whether that would be additional cost to those that participated (initial cost of \$55 per unit) or will be covered by the club. Surplus materials, which had to be purchased to cover minimum volume requirements, will be inventoried as part of construction project materials

Motion proposed:

Howard, KD9WSV moved that Cliff be given a check for \$1,457.31 and the excess cost of approximately \$8 per unit be paid by the club. The motion was seconded by Paul Burkett, KD9FMN. Motion adopted after unanimous approval by the board.

Each person who signed up for the Lightning Detector project will be expected to reimburse the club by paying the originally agreed upon estimate of \$55 per unit

EmComm/ Public Service- Howard Mitchell KD9WSV, Chairman

Howard gave an update on planning for Septemberfest. As previously documented, the Village of Schaumburg has once again requested our support for all three days of the event . Our thanks to those who have already volunteered but Howard pointed out that there are a number of vacancies that

must be filled in order to meet the same level of service as we provided in 2025.

Dennis Calvey KD9HIK said that he has gotten a request by the Schaumburg Park District for a discussion about additional services we might provide in the future. He will keep us informed on those discussions .

Publicity- Dennis Calvey KD9HIK, Chairman

"The Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club (SARC) is celebrating its 50th Anniversary.

It was founded by enthusiasts on January 1, 1976, to promote the art, science and community service aspects of the Amateur Radio Service. Its current membership exceeds 130 licensed operators and is growing.

Amateur Radio, commonly known as "Ham Radio" is an activity licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) under 47 C.F.R, Part 97:

"§ 97.1 Basis and purpose.

The rules and regulations in this part are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles:

(a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications."

From its beginnings SARC has supported its community by providing trained licensed volunteer operators for the Schaumburg Septemberfest, not-for-profit events, marches, parades and more. These operators act as additional eyes and ears for event organizers and Public Safety units.

The Emergency Communications (EmComm) group conducts regular training using the Incident Command System (ICS) structure outlined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Additionally, SARC EmComm has entered into a cooperative agreement with the DuPage County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio

Network (SATERN) to use the SARC Amateur Radio Repeaters for communication during severe weather events or other declared emergencies.

SARC also conducts free classes to help people obtain their license, and Volunteer Examiners to administer FCC Amateur Radio License Tests.

The Outreach group conducts demonstrations for Scouts on the Air, and Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) events.

Once a year SARC participates in the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Field Day Event where along with over 35,000 stations across North America temporary station are set up to simulate operations under adverse conditions using a variety of communication modes including Single Side Band (SSB) voice, Continuous Wave (CW) Morse Code, satellite and computer based digital modes.

During warm weather months operators set up temporary outdoor stations locally to test operating skills and equipment, including homemade systems and antennas.

During Cold weather months SARC meets indoors to build, repair, and test equipment as well as conduct training. Recent "Construction Projects" include a lightning detector, specialized antennas and power supplies to recharge portable battery systems.

Other activities include a Radio Direction Finding exercise called "Fox Hunting" where portable radios and directional antennas are used to find very low power hidden transmitters. This activity helps sharpen skills used for locating lost people or finding sources of interference with critical radio communication.

The Board of Directors asks that the Village of Schaumburg consider recognizing our history and commitment to community service with a proclamation acknowledging its 50th Anniversary"

Dennis and Eliot Libner, N9EPA requested authorization to spend an amount not to exceed \$400 to purchase promotional items to be handed out at events like Septemberfest. Examples: Amateur Radio / SARC "Baseball Cards", notepads with SARC logo & QR code etc.

Motion proposed: Danny Kafka KD9HIL moved that an amount not to exceed \$400 be approved for promotional items. The motion was seconded by Robert Benwitz N9JAX. Motion adopted after unanimous approval by the board.

National Night Out participation included a contingency from Satarn at the Hoffman Estates event and SARC members at the Village of Schaumburg event.

A banner that celebrates our 50th anniversary was presented and will be available for all appropriate events, see below



SARC Website - Paul Meyers KE9EJX Chairman

Our website continues to improve in terms of appearance and ease of use. Please let Paul know of any additional changes recommended.

Social Events - Paul Meyers KE9EJX Chairman

Planning for the picnic is finished and members are asked to sign up so the proper amount of food can be ordered.

As previously documented the site for the club holiday party has been changed to Jo Jo's restaurant, 1935 W Golf Rd, Schaumburg. This site will offer additional parking, an enhanced menu, and essentially we will have the restaurant dedicated to our club. Club members will be asked to pay \$10 per person to cover just a small portion portion of the expenses. Each club member may invite **one** guest and pay an additional \$10. Anyone wishing to bring more than one guest will be charged \$25 per extra person.

Motion proposed:

After a reminder by Paul that a down payment had to be made to Jojo's, Howard, KD9WSV moved that a check in the amount of \$750 be written to Jojo's as a down payment for the event. 100 percent of this amount will be applied to the final costs depending on the number of members attending. The motion was seconded by Bill McGovern, W9WEM. Motion adopted after unanimous approval by the board.

Repeaters - Rob Glowacki, N9MVO Chairman

Rob not present.

Howard Mitchell KD9WSV Addressed a recent outage of the 2 meter repeater. A site visit was required at which Rob Glowacki analyzed the problem and determined that the exciter needed to be replaced. Fortunately another exciter was on site and once installed the repeater was again functional . However the amplifier had an LED lit indicating low power . It is believed the power supply for the exciter and amplifier is not delivering the appropriate voltage . It is proposed order a replacement power supply.

Motion proposed:

Howard KD9WSV moved that the Board approve \$173 for a replacement power supply. The motion was seconded by Danny Kafka, KD9HIL. Motion adopted after unanimous approval by the board. Howard will order the new power supply and organize another site visit to install in place of the current unit.

VE Testing- William Davies, K9WKD Chair

Bill not present.

Youth Engagement, Kirk Musselman, K9MSG Chair

Kirk reported status at the meeting and provided the following for attachment.

RECENT ACTIVITY:

Very successful SARC Scouts on the Air events with the help of several club volunteers and radio operators nation-wide. Each event introduced 5 radio activities.

●7/7/26 - Troop 297 (Hoffman Estates)

●8/3/26 - Troop 401 (Glendale Heights)

Also...

●8/4/26 - Offered beacon hunting to dozens of parents and kids at National Night Out (Meineke Rec Center in Schaumburg) - distributed club cards and invited them to join the hobby... lots of interest in the homemade beacon and yagi.

UPCOMING:

●9/1/26 - Troop 392 (Schaumburg) - expecting 40 guests... our biggest event ever which will offer 8 radio activities with the help of 15 radio volunteers. Club members are encouraged to offer QSOs on VHF, HF SSB, and HF FT8 between 7:20 and 8:20pm. Frequencies posted soon. I'm hosting a Scouts on the Air table at the Scouting America Pathways to Adventure Trailblazer's District August Roundtable Kickoff on Aug 12 at 7:30pm in Palatine.

I am in conversation with instructors at Harper College and College of DuPage to look at ways to include Amateur Radio in their communications curriculum. The Harper College contact proposed including amateur radio in the teachings and suggested "that if the students passed the radio test and got a license they could avoid taking the final test in his class."

I'm hosting a Scouts on the Air table at the Scouting America Pathways to Adventure Trailblazer's District August Roundtable Kickoff on Aug 12 at 7:30pm in Palatine.

Nets- Don Dewar, KD9NJR

Attendance at all of our Nets continues to be very good. As always we are in need of additional net control operators to volunteer.

Education - Leo Ribordy, N9NBH

Not present. Training for the Extra Class license is still planned to begin in September and Leo continues to need trainers to volunteer.

Programs- Don Dewar, KD9NJR

Programs will likely focus on the upcoming elections and vacant positions that will need to be filled. (note that at the coming elections, ALL officer positions and two Board positions will be on the ballot.) Don will again release descriptions of the positions and responsibilities. We welcome all members, who qualify, to submit their name to be on the ballot for these positions

Old Business

- There was discussion about the status to have hats, shirts or safety vests with the SARC emblem made available for purchase by members. Eliot had a sample made up of the preferred logo and content under consideration. A web site will be set up by the chosen vendor giving individual members the opportunity to choose what they desire and pay directly so the club is not involved with the financial transaction. Delivery would likely be within a week or two once that transaction is completed.
- A member continues to question why why Dupage County ARES does not have to make some kind of donation for the use of the 2M repeater on Thursdays at 7:00 PM . The membership is reminded that the net involved is called the Northern Illinois Emergency Communication Net and, while hosted by Dupage County ARES , all organizations involved in any facet of emergency communications are invited to participate. Further discussion involved the fact that ARES is a function of ARRL and that this net is totally consistent with FCC documentation

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*(a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, **particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.**”*

It was further pointed out that Dupage County ARES provides a service as net controller and coordinator when tornado warnings or severe thunderstorm warnings prompt a Skywarn activation which includes storm spotters from SARC , ARES and SATERN.

The Board of Directors again indicated its full support for the use of the repeater for the above activities as well as for the SATERN net on Monday at 7pm.

New Business

- None reported

Meeting Adjourned 8:16 PM

**Submitted July 8, 2026,
Howard Mitchell KD9WSV, Secretary**