

# Six Meter Club of Chicago

# HALO

[www.k9ona.com](http://www.k9ona.com)

August 2016

## COMING EVENTS

- August
- 12 Six Meter Club Meeting, 7:30 p.m. St. John's Lutheran Church, SW Corner 47<sup>th</sup> & Brainard. La Grange. Program on APRS – see below
  - 13 Angola IN Hamfest 255 N Gerald Lett Ave Talk in 147.18 rptr (131.8 Hz)
  - 13 WAE (Worked All Europe) CW DX Contest
  - 13 50 MHz Sprint 6-10 pm CDT
  - 13 Western IL ARC Hamfest Quincy IL Eagles Alps Grounds 3737 N 5<sup>th</sup> Street
  - 20 NA SSB QSO Party
  - 27 Circus City Swapfest Baraboo WI Badger Steam & Gas Grounds Sand Road

## GET WELL WISHES . . .

We extend our best wishes to Jim Conway, N9TUQ who recently underwent knee replacement surgery and is currently receiving rehabilitation therapy at Plymouth Place in La Grange Park.

## KC9TQF TO PRESENT PROGRAM ON APRS AT AUGUST 12 MEETING

Joe, KC9TQF will explain APRS – the Automatic Packet Reporting System – which provides digital communication information for Amateur Radio – at our next monthly meeting, Friday, August 12. Don't miss this presentation on a fascinating topic, and invite a friend to come, too!

## ROUTE 66 ON THE AIR COMING SEPT. 10-18

Once again this year we will participate in the Historic Route 66 On The Air event which is coordinated by the Citrus Belt ARC, W6JBT with stations along the route, beginning with W6A in California. For sixteen years, we have represented the eastern end of the highway, using the special event call W6Q.

For a number of years, the event coincided with the Berwyn Route 66 Car Show but unfortunately this is not the case in 2016; the car show is Saturday, August 27 and the special event is Sept. 10-18 so we will not be able to operate at the show; all W6Q operations will take place from the home stations of our members.

Operation begins at 0000 UTC Saturday September 10 (7 p.m. Friday CDT) and ends at 2359 UTC Sunday September 18 (7 PM CDT).

Frequencies used (plus or minus a few kHz) are as follows: CW – 3.533, 7.033, 10.110, 14.033, 18.080, 21.033, 24.900, and 28.033 MHz; SSB – 3.866, 7.266, 14.266, 18.164, 21.366, 24.966, 28.466, and 50.133 MHz. Operation will also take place via our K9ONA repeater system.

*Every SMCC member is eligible and encouraged to operate as W6Q during the event, even if you can only operate via our repeater system – just be sure to keep an accurate log of your contacts. Also, to avoid having more than one member on a particular mode/band at once, please monitor our repeater and be sure to call in on the repeater stating your intent to be on a particular band/mode, and also call in when you are finished operating on that frequency.*

This is a fun event which is very popular. The Citrus Belt ARC has a certificate available – all details are on their web site, [www.w6jbt.org](http://www.w6jbt.org). Special QSL cards are issued by the various stations operating along the route; our QSL manager is Mike, WD9GJK.

**Minutes of the July 8, 2016  
Six Meter Club of Chicago Meeting**

Officers present: WA9FIH, KC9TQF, AK9Y, WD9GJK, KC9IDS, K9WSS, W9UEY, W9NHX.

Jim, WA9FIH called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. It was moved, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes of the June meeting as published in the *HALO*.

Our Treasurer, Bob, AK9Y presented the Club's financial report, including a preliminary breakdown of Hamfest income and expenses. Bob also thanked the Volunteer Examiners who helped at the hamfest, where all four people who registered for exams either earned a license or upgraded. Our next VE test session will be Friday, November 25 in La Grange Park.

Joe, KC9TQF stated that he will present a program on APRS at our August meeting. Anyone with ideas for program topics or guest speakers please contact Joe.

Mike, WD9GJK reported that he had received the electric bill for the UHF repeater site.

Gary, KC9IDS reported 21 members and one guest present.

WA9FIH thanked everyone who was able to help at the Hamfest, which was very successful and well attended this year and has become one of the best in the Midwest. We received many positive comments about the fest. Next year setup will be easier as the fairgrounds personnel will handle placement of our tables. Jim also reported on Field Day, another successful operation despite poor conditions and no openings on the higher bands. Thanks to everyone involved for a great job again this year!

Vern, K9LAE and Will, K9WSS presented a report on the status of the 220 MHz repeater. Although Vern was able to repair the transmitter he did find a problem in the exciter board causing a spurious signal, and that is why it has not been returned to operation. The repeater committee is exploring the possibility of obtaining a donation of a new repeater to replace the present one.

John, K9JK announced information about upcoming VHF contests.

WA9FIH reported on the Antique Radio Club's Radiofest which is being held at a new location, Medinah Shriners in Addison on July 29-31.

WA9FIH held the attendance drawing:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Jim, W9JGH	Present
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bob, AK9Y	Present
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Frank, W9EHC	Present

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn at 8:01 p.m.

-- Joe Noga, KC9TQF  
Recording Secretary/V.P.

**NEXT SMCC BOARD MEETING  
SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 23**

Our next Board of Directors meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, September 23 at the LaGrange Park Village Hall, 447 North Catherine Ave. We will not have a Board meeting in August.

**DIGITAL SLOW SCAN TV  
NET THURSDAY EVENINGS**

Don't forget that we have a Digital Slow Scan TV Net every Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m., on our two meter repeater, using EasyPal software which can be downloaded free from the Internet.

**SIX METER ROUNDTABLE  
EACH TUESDAY AT 8 P.M.**

Our Six Meter Roundtable Activity Net meets on 50.130 MHz USB Tuesday evenings at 8 p.m., usually for about a half hour. Help keep the band active and join in the ragchew – tell your friends about it too!

**CLUB LOGO CAPS, PATCHES  
AVAILABLE AT MEETING**

A limited quantity of white baseball-style caps with the Six Meter Club logo patch affixed are available from Jim, WA9FIH for \$6.00 each. The caps, with adjustable headband, are available either in cotton corduroy for cool weather wear, or in the lighter half mesh polyester style.

Iron-on embroidered club patches for application to shirts or jackets, 2-3/8" x 3-1/2", are also available from the Club for \$1.75 each. American Flag patches in the same size are available for 75 cents each. See Jim at the next meeting.

## UPCOMING 2016 HAMFEST SCHEDULE

Listed below are all known hamfests and swap meets in the local area:

September	17	Peoria Area ARC Superfest
	24	Ozaukee RC, Cedarburg WI
	24	CFMC Radio EXPO, Belvidere IL
October	2	ARCI, Carol Stream
November	5	Milwaukee Repeater Club Hamfest
	12	ACARTS, Ft. Wayne IN
December	11	ARCI, Carol Stream

## LGP PARK DISTRICT INVITES VOLUNTEERS TO EVENT

The Park District of La Grange Park has sent an invitation to our members who participated in providing communications support at the Run For The Roses earlier this year, to attend their Island Night Concert and picnic dinner Wednesday evening, August 17.

Festivities will take place around the band shell at the south west corner of Memorial Park, on the east side of La Grange Road (Route 45) at Woodlawn Avenue. Dinner begins at 6 p.m.; parking may be a bit tight, suggest you arrive by 5:30 and check the lot at the north east area of the park by Oak and Sherwood (across from the lot where we always assemble for assignments for the run).

Operators who assisted at the run may bring another family member or guest but *WE MUST PROVIDE A HEAD COUNT TO THE PARK DISTRICT IN ADVANCE OF THE EVENT* so please place your name on the sign in sheet which will be circulated at our August 12 meeting, or notify Jim, WA9FIH, at [WA9FIH@aol.com](mailto:WA9FIH@aol.com) no later than Sunday, August 14 so that he can advise the Park District Monday morning.

## NPOTA EVENT CONTINUES THROUGH END OF 2016

Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service, various Amateur Radio operations have been taking place for short periods of time from National Parks throughout the United States. Full details on this interesting special event are available on the ARRL's web site, [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org).

## ARRL DIRECTOR W9XA LOCATES INTERFERENCE

We extend our congratulations to Kermit Carlson, W9XA, who was recently appointed ARRL Central Division Director, replacing Dick Isely, W9GIG who announced his retirement. Kermit was called upon to help resolve a serious problem with RF interference in Evanston!

Evanston Police contacted the ARRL lab after an apparent interference source began plaguing wireless vehicle key fobs, cell phones, and other wireless devices. Car owners had to have their vehicles towed at least a block away from the interference area before they would start, and could not use their cell phones to summon help in that vicinity either. The police turned to ARRL for help after the FCC turned down a request for assistance.

After meeting with Evanston Police, Kermit was able to survey the affected block with a portable UHF receiver and handheld Yagi antenna, checking frequencies around 315 and 433 MHz where key fobs typically operate. He was able to locate a particularly strong signal coming from a recently replaced switching mode neon sign power transformer which was generating QRM as far as 40 feet from the sign.

The interference also disrupted Kermit's own cell phone. The building owner where the sign was located agreed to turn off the offending supply.

Kermit called the Evanston case a "particularly alarming example of radio interference," especially since local authorities considered it a public safety matter, citing the inability to use their cell phones to call 911, for example, in case of an emergency. A return to the area to check it again is planned for later this year.

(tnx ARRL)

## HALOADS...

### For Sale:

Dentron Clipperton-L Amplifier, Excellent Cond.  
Local pick up only.....asking \$550

Dentron MT-3000A Antenna Tuner, good condition  
Local Pick up only.....asking \$250

Drake MS-4 Speaker, Very good condition.....\$75

Heathkit SB-610 Monitor Scope, great condition....\$70

Rich Breckinridge, WA9BXB  
3827 Kemman Avenue  
Brookfield IL 60513  
708-387-0245 days  
[Vincop@aol.com](mailto:Vincop@aol.com)

### For Sale:

ICOM 271A Multimode Two Meter 10 W  
with hand mic.....\$250

ICOM 471A Multimode UHF w/mic 10 W.....\$250

Yaesu FT-901DM w/AM filter + desk mic \$500/offer  
Yaesu matching antenna tuner.....\$100 firm

Yaesu FT-767 HF + 6, 2, 432 + hand mic...\$600/offer

Tom Dombrowski, K9BVQ  
5426 South 72<sup>nd</sup> Court  
Summit IL 60501  
708-496-8982

### For Sale:

Heathkit IM-28 VTVM, very good condition, copy  
of schematic, with probe .....\$40 or best offer

1000 ft spool of CAT 5 Yellow Jacket computer  
cable.....\$75 or best offer

Mike Huedepohl, WD9GJK  
3532 Raymond Avenue  
Brookfield IL 60513  
708-485-5481  
[WD9GJK@arrl.net](mailto:WD9GJK@arrl.net)

### For Sale:

Astatic 877HL Desk Microphone.....\$50

National HRO-60 Receiver with matching speaker,  
Nine coil sets for shortwave bands including band-  
spread on ham bands and cabinet to hold unused  
coil drawers. Radio has been recapped and is in  
excellent condition. Also includes a plug-in  
SSB product detector from a QST article which  
occupies space intended for a NBFM adapter (no  
mods to the radio). Original manual included...\$400

Shure 404B Hand Mic, new in the box.....\$30

Multi MPA-250 Biamp, 250 Watt Public Address  
Amp in rack cabinet, like new.....\$150

Ron Fitzgerald, K9ZWR  
5555 South Neva Avenue  
Chicago IL 60638  
773-586-3276  
[ronfitz5555@yahoo.com](mailto:ronfitz5555@yahoo.com)

### For Sale:

Crystals for 222 MHz Midland 13-509, Clegg FM-76  
And Cobra 200 radios. Many repeater pairs and  
simplex channels available. SASE or email for a list.  
\$5.00 each, \$9.00 pair plus postage.

CASIO CT-700 Tone Bank Electronic Keyboard,  
Excellent condition.....\$50

Motorola C54RCB MICOR UHF repeater on 440 ham  
band, including unified chassis with rcvr, transmitter,  
card cage, and power amplifier. Does not include 13.6  
VDC power supply, cabinet, or ID/controller. Very  
clean, excellent working condition when removed from  
service. Club property surplus to our needs.....\$90

Tektronix 535A Classic Oscilloscope with several  
plug-ins and matching cart, exc. cond.....\$100/offer

Jim Novak, WA9FIH  
2335 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
North Riverside IL 60546-1308  
708-442-4961  
[WA9FIH@arrl.net](mailto:WA9FIH@arrl.net)

***SOMETHING TO SELL? LIST IT HERE!  
EMAIL YOUR AD TO [WA9FIH@AOL.COM](mailto:WA9FIH@AOL.COM)***

**THE SIX METER CLUB OF CHICAGO, INC.**

“We desire to promote the Interest of Amateur Radio, foster activity in the HF, VHF, and UHF bands, acquire proficiency in CW operation, provide mutual aid in matters technical. . .”

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PRESIDENT.....	Jim, WA9FIH	CUSTODIAN OF K9ONA.....	Mike, WD9GJK
VICE PRESIDENT.....	Joe, KC9TQF	NET MANAGER.....	Jim, WA9FIH
SECRETARY.....	Mike, WD9GJK	HISTORIAN.....	
TREASURER.....	Bob, AK9Y	ARRL VE TEST CAPTAIN.....	Bob, AK9Y
SGT-AT-ARMS.....	Gary, KC9IDS	PROGRAM CHAIR.....	Joe, KC9TQF
MEMBERS AT LARGE.....	Will, K9WSS	DIRECTORS.....	
	Ryan, W9UEY		Rich, W9NHX

*HALO* EDITOR.....Jim Novak, WA9FIH  
2335 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
ak9y@arrl.net  
North Riverside IL 60546-1308  
[WA9FIH@arrl.net](mailto:WA9FIH@arrl.net)

CLUB WEB SITE: [www.k9ona.com](http://www.k9ona.com)  
WEBMASTER.....Bob, AK9Y:  
24-HOUR *InfoLine*: 708-442-4961

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The *HALO* is the official publication of the Six Meter Club of Chicago, a not-for-profit ARRL-affiliated Special Service Club incorporated in the State of Illinois and maintained by and for Radio Amateurs.

**MEETINGS:** Held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Friday of each month (except December) at St. John’s Lutheran Church, southwest corner of 47<sup>th</sup> Street and Brainard Avenue, La Grange IL; enter through south side door adjacent to parking lot.

**NETS:** Six Meter Activity and Ragchew Net, Tuesday evenings at 8 p.m. Central Time, 50.130 MHz USB  
Two Meter FM Information Net, Tuesday evenings at 9 p.m. Central time over our K9ONA repeater, 146.37/97  
ARRL Bulletins, Club news, swap shop, other items of interest to the Amateur Radio community.  
Digital SSTV (Slow Scan Amateur TV) Net, Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. on our two meter repeater.

**REPEATERS:** The Club operates three open repeaters under the call K9ONA/R. Our Two Meter repeater, located in Hinsdale, uses 146.370 MHz input, 146.970 MHz output, with a three minute timer that must be reset with a short pause after the courtesy tone between transmissions. A 107.2 Hz subaudible (PL) tone is usually required for access. Our 220 repeater, also located in Hinsdale, uses 223.22 MHz in, 224.82 MHz out and requires a CTCSS tone of 110.9 Hz. Our UHF repeater, located in La Grange Park, uses 448.300 MHz input, 443.300 MHz output, a four minute timer, and is also “PL” access, requiring a 114.8 Hz tone. The two meter and UHF repeaters also transmit the subaudible CTCSS tone. The repeaters are usually set in cross-link mode.

**AFFILIATIONS:** The Club is a Life Member Club supporting AMSAT, the non-profit Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation. We have been named an ARRL-affiliated Special Service Club, and belong to the Illinois Repeater Assn.

**CERTIFICATES:** Available for working ten Club members (five if applicant is more than 100 miles from Chicago) on either 50, 144, or 222 MHz. Stations worked must be valid Club members at time of your QSO; repeater contacts do not count. Send log data list with time, date, and band/mode to our Secretary. There is no charge for the award.

**SCHOLARSHIP:** The Club has endowed a perpetual scholarship administered by the ARRL Foundation. It is awarded annually subject to specific criteria listed on the ARRL web site, [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org), or available from the foundation. Applications are due by February 1 of each calendar year.

**INFOLINE:** Our Club’s InfoLine telephone service is available around the clock at 708-442-4961. A recorded message will brief you on Club news and coming events, and you may leave a message on our answering machine.

**FACEBOOK AND YAHOO GROUP:** The Club’s Facebook page is available at: [www.facebook.com/groups/287932964607477/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/287932964607477/).  
The Yahoo Group can be accessed at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/K9ONA>.

**HAMFEST:** Our Six Meter Club of Chicago HAMFEST is held annually on the third Sunday in June (June 18, 2017) at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton IL. All Club members are expected to work to insure its success.

