

Six Meter Club of Chicago

HALO

www.k9ona.com

November 2016

COMING EVENTS

- November
- 11 Six Meter Club Meeting, 7:30 p.m. St. John's Lutheran Church, SW Corner 47th & Brainard. La Grange.
 - 12 ACARTS Hamfest & ARRL Indiana State Convention Fort Wayne IN
 - 19-21 ARRL Phone Sweepstakes
2100 UTC Saturday – 0259 UTC Monday (3 p.m. Sat. - 9 p.m. Sunday CST)
 - 25 SMCC ARRL VE Exams
La Grange Park, 7 p.m.
see article

SMCC SHOWS OFF HAM RADIO AT SCOUTING JAMBOREE

Our effort to introduce Scouts to Amateur Radio via their worldwide event, Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) over the October 15-16 weekend, was very successful, with about three dozen Scouts plus many parents in attendance at the Scout Council facility in LaGrange.

Joe, KC9TQF coordinated the effort, which involved setting up HF and VHF stations. He also obtained the use of the distinctive Special Event call N9C again.

Since our antennas had to be set up in a paved parking lot this year, Joe fabricated an ingenious plywood mounting pad that fit on the roof of his Chevy Suburban, supporting a rotator to turn a 10-40 Meter rotatable "V" shaped dipole. For two meter FM, we used a clever tiltover support weighted down with a 5 gallon pail full of concrete.

Mike, WD9GJK was the main operator of the HF SSB station, and managed to make some great contacts around the U.S., primarily on 20 Meters, allowing our visitors to speak with other Scout groups including the K1BSA Scout station in Maine.

Thanks to Bob, W9AVB and Bob, AK9Y, for their great demonstration of SSTV with QSOs made via the K9ONA repeater with the help of Jim, WA9FIH. Jim also set up an interactive Morse code demonstration and distributed informational handouts.

Gary, KC9IDS made sure that we were well fed and served as our official photographer. Many thanks to all who were able to participate in this popular event again this year!

NEXT VE TESTING NOV. 25 IN LAGRANGE PARK

Our next ARRL VE exams for all license elements will be Friday, November 25 from 7 to 9 p.m. At the LaGrange Park Village Hall Community Room (lower level), 447 North Catherine Avenue (West of LaGrange Road, North of Ogden Avenue).

The exam fee is \$15.00, exact cash or check payable to "Six Meter Club of Chicago." Preregistration is encouraged; please contact our VE Captain Bob, AK9Y at AK9Y@arrl.net. Positive photo ID such as a driver's license is required. Walkins who did not preregister will be handled as time and space allow.

DECEMBER SMCC CLUB MEETING ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER DEC. 17

Our annual Club Holiday Dinner will be held Saturday, December 17 at the Bohemian Crystal Restaurant, 639 Blackhawk Drive, Westmont – same location as last year, east of Cass Avenue and north of Ogden Avenue at the stop light. Members are eligible to bring one guest at no charge; additional guests \$15 each.

Note that this is a *dinner* not *luncheon* this year – open at 4:30, serving at 5 p.m. We will decide upon menu choices at our November 11 meeting. Anyone with special dietary requirements *must* notify us in advance of the dinner.

**Minutes of the October 14, 2016
Six Meter Club of Chicago Meeting**

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

Jim, WA9FIH called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. It was moved, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes of the September meeting as published in the *HALO*. Jim welcomed our guest presenter, Kermit Carlson, W9XA, ARRL Central Division Director.

Our Treasurer, Bob, AK9Y presented the financial report, and reminded everyone that our next VE test session will be Friday, November 25 at the municipal building in La Grange Park.

Mike, WD9GJK is handling the QSL cards for our Route 66 on The Air station, W6Q, again this year. Members present at the meeting received their cards, others need to submit their card with SASE.

WA9FIH displayed this year's W6Q QSL card, and summarized the Route 66 operation – a big thanks to Bill, KC9KLA who made the most contacts, almost twice as many as last year.

Joe, KC9TQF explained that this year's Scouting Jamboree On The Air will be held at the Scouting Council building at 811 W. Hillgrove in LaGrange. This is an excellent opportunity to introduce Amateur Radio to the Scouts.

Gary, KC9IDS reported 21 members, and our guest, Kermit, W9XA, present.

WA9FIH reported that the Club's next Board meeting will be the annual dinner meeting as provided in the by-laws since we forego refreshments at all the other board meetings during the year. Jim also announced that any licensed amateur pursuing a college degree in the coming year should file an application before January 31st with the ARRL Foundation for our SMCC Scholarship.

Our November program will be presented by Mike, N9GFY, Assistant Director for Hillside Emergency Management Agency.

WA9FIH held the attendance drawing:

1 st	Glenn, KC9ALX	Present
2 nd	Virginia Fitzgerald	Present
3 rd	Jim, N9TUQ	Present

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

Following coffee break, ARRL Central Division Director Kermit, W9XA presented news about ARRL and Amateur Radio.

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

**NEXT SMCC BOARD MEETING
SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 24**

Our next Board of Directors meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, February 24 in the Community Room, lower level of the La Grange Park Municipal Building, 447 North Catherine Avenue. We will not have a Board meeting in December or January.

**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.

GET WELL WISHES . . .

to Jerry Johnson, W9AAO, who as this was written, was receiving rehabilitation therapy at Marianjoy in Wheaton following surgery. Best wishes for a speedy recovery, Jerry!

UPCOMING 2016 HAMFEST SCHEDULE

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

November	5	Milwaukee Repeater Club
	12	ACARTS, Fort Wayne IN
December	11	ARCI, Carol Stream

NOMINATION OF CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2017 AT NOVEMBER MEETING

Nominations will be accepted at our meeting this month for positions of President, V.P./Recording Secretary, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, and one Member at Large, to provide leadership for the Club during 2017. Additional nominations may be made prior to elections, which will be held at our January meeting. Please make certain that the prospective nominee regularly attends meetings and is willing to accept the nomination.

ARRL FOUNDATION ACCEPTING 2017 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The ARRL Foundation, which administers our Six Meter Club of Chicago Scholarship as well as a number of other awards, is currently accepting applications for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Our Club scholarship, a \$500 grant funded by proceeds from our Hamfest, is available to any licensed Illinois amateur who is pursuing or will be pursuing an undergraduate two or four year degree at an accredited university, college, community college or technical school.

Full details and a downloadable application form, which must be submitted to the Foundation no later than January 31, 2017, are available on the ARRL Foundation's web site, www.arrlf.org.

DUES ARE PAYABLE FOR 2017 MEMBERSHIP

This is your first notice that Club dues for the 2017 membership term are now payable, and will be accepted by our Treasurer, Bob, AK9Y at the November meeting.

Dues are \$20, except for second family members, students under the age of 18 or seniors 65 and older up to the age of 90, for which the fee is \$12. Members age 90 and above who have been Club members for five years or more are exempt from paying dues.

USNA STUDENTS PLANNING CUBESAT WITH HF UPLINK

Students at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis MD are planning an Amateur Radio CubeSat – HFSAT that would carry an HF transponder as primary payload and a two meter APRS as secondary. The CubeSat will have a linear uplink at 21.4 MHz and downlink at 29.42 MHz.

Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, developer of the APRS system and instructor at USNA, explained that the HFSAT will demonstrate the viability of HF satellite communications as a backup communication means using HF Amateur Radio gear. The satellite will have APRS telemetry command and control capability, and will be gravity-gradient stabilized by its full size ten meter thin wire half wave dipole antenna.

No launch date has yet been set, but once it is in orbit, Bruninga recommends using a vertical HF antenna because it would be a good match for the antenna patterns and geometry of LEO (Low Earth Orbit) satellites. When it is low on the horizon, both the satellite and user antennas are in their main lobes, providing maximum gain at the distant horizons, according to WB4APR. At higher elevations, the satellite is 6 to 10 dB closer, significantly making up for the reduced antenna pattern geometry.

(tnx ARRL)

N9GFY TO PRESENT PROGRAM ON EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Mike Strompolis, N9GFY, Assistant Director of Hillside Emergency Management Agency, will present an interesting program on the history of emergency communications including the CONELRAD system at our November 11 meeting.

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

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/ofr
Yaesu matching antenna tuner.....\$100 firm

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

Tom Dombrowski, K9BVQ
5426 South 72nd 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

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

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 2nd Avenue
North Riverside IL 60546-1308
708-442-4961
WA9FIH@arrl.net

SOMETHING TO SELL? LIST IT HERE!

EMAIL YOUR AD TO 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
VICE PRESIDENT.....Joe, KC9TQF
SECRETARY.....Mike, WD9GJK
TREASURER.....Bob, AK9Y
SGT-AT-ARMS.....Gary, KC9IDS
MEMBERS AT LARGE..... Will, K9WSS
Ryan, W9UEY

CUSTODIAN OF K9ONA.....Mike, WD9GJK
NET MANAGER.....Jim, WA9FIH
HISTORIAN.....
ARRL VE TEST CAPTAIN.....Bob, AK9Y
PROGRAM CHAIR.....Joe, KC9TQF
DIRECTORS.....
Rich, W9NHX

HALO EDITOR.....Jim Novak, WA9FIH
2335 South 2nd Avenue

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WEBMASTER.....Bob, AK9Y:

ak9y@arrl.net

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24-HOUR InfoLine: 708-442-4961

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 47th 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, 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/.
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.