

# **Six Meter Club of Chicago**

# **HALO**

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

**May 2017**

## **COMING EVENTS**

- |      |    |  |
|------|----|--|
| May  | 12 | Six Meter Club Meeting, 7:30 p.m., St. John's Lutheran Church, SW corner of 47th and Brainard, LaGrange  |
|      | 13 | 50 MHz Spring Sprint, 2300 Z Saturday to 0300 Z Sunday (6-10 PM CDT Saturday)  |
|      | 20 | La Grange Park Run For The Roses – help needed!  |
| June | 4  | Starved Rock Radio Club Ham Radio, Computer and Hobby Show, Bureau County Fairgrounds, Princeton IL  |
|      | 18 | Six Meter Club Hamfest, with Antique Radio Club of Illinois and MCRN meets, DuPage Fairgrounds, Manchester Road east of County Farm Road, Wheaton. |

## **HELP NEEDED AT RUN FOR THE ROSES SATURDAY MAY 20**

Although the Park District of La Grange Park had decided not to hold the Run For The Roses this year, it has been picked up by a local group of runners who have formed a non-profit organization and are sponsoring the event with a slightly different race course than was used previously. The race and walk will be held Saturday morning, May 20 and the organizers would very much appreciate our help.

We will have a sign up sheet at our May 12 meeting. All operations will be on 145.580 simplex communications. We will gather in the parking lot just east of the bank and north of the Jewel store at 7-7:15 a.m. for assignments. . If you can help but won't be able to attend our SMCC meeting, please e-mail Jim, [WA9FIH@aol.com](mailto:WA9FIH@aol.com). Thanks!

## **HAMFEST FLYERS, TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS**

Tickets for our Hamfest, which will be held Sunday, June 18 at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton, have been printed and are ready for distribution at our meeting, along with flyers detailing the event. If you have not already received your tickets, please be sure to pick them up at the meeting.

We can be proud of how our fest, which also features the Antique Radio Club of Illinois' Spring swap meet and the Midwest Classic Radio Net Hamboree, has grown over the years to become a premiere event of its kind in the midwest.

Please pass the word along about the Hamfest to your friends, and post flyers on bulletin boards where you work and at public places.

## **ST. JOHN'S PLANT SALE SET FOR FRIDAY, MAY 12**

The annual Spring Plant Sale at St. John's Lutheran School in LaGrange will take place this year on Friday, May 12 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The deadline for placing advance orders has passed, but flats and potted plants may be purchased on a first-come, first served basis on May 12 at the school's parking lot, 47th and Brainard Avenue in LaGrange.

A wide selection of blooming annuals, including petunias, marigolds., begonias, impatiens, geraniums, etc., will be available, along with some herbs, tomato and green pepper plants. Proceeds benefit the school.

## **NEXT SMCC BOARD MEETING FRIDAY MAY 12 AT ST. JOHN'S**

Our next Board of Directors meeting will be at 7 p.m. Friday, May 12 at our regular Club meeting location, St. John's Lutheran Church – a half hour before our regular membership meeting.

**Minutes of the April 14, 2017  
Six Meter Club of Chicago Meeting**

Officers present: WA9FIH, AK9Y, KC9TQF, KC9IDS, W9WSS, W9UEY.

Jim, WA9FIH called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. It was moved, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes of the March meeting as published in the *HALO*. Since we have a special program, Jim asked that we keep the business meeting short.

Everyone who signed up to provide communications at the Walk For Autism needs to provide their shirt size. We will meet for assignments around 7:30 a.m. at the usual location. Jim stated that we will also have several volunteers from the BARS, DARC, STARS and WCRA clubs helping out, and thanked everyone for their support of the event.

Gary, KC9IDS reported 22 members and 3 guests present.

Will, W9WSS will be attending the Illinois Repeater Association annual meeting in Champaign, serving as our representative.

WA9FIH announced that he has Hamfest flyers ready for distribution, please post flyers on bulletin boards in public places. Jim has advance tickets that members can begin selling. He stated that we have received authorization to use the commemorative call sign K6O June 10 through June 18 in honor of the Club's 60th anniversary.

Ryan, W9UEY reported on the status of our 222 MHz and UHF repeaters. He and Vern, K9LAE will be checking the UHF system due to reports of possible low power from the transmitter.

John, K9JK reported on the upcoming VHF and UHF Sprint contests and other operating activities.

WA9FIH held the attendance drawing:

First:	Bob, W9AVB
Second:	Frank, W9EHC
Third:	Jim, W9JGH

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

Following coffee break, Joe, KC9TQF introduced our guest speaker, Gregg Sperling, KB9E, who has

prepared a program about digital mode communications and the MotoTurbo radio.

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

**DIGITAL SLOW SCAN TV  
NET THURSDAY EVENINGS**

Don't forget that we have a Digital Slow Scan TV Net every Thursday evening for about an hour, beginning at 7:00 p.m., on our two meter repeater. We use EasyPal software which can be downloaded free from the Internet. A Tigertronics Signal Link USB or similar device is typically used to interface your PC and transceiver.

**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 – everyone is welcome!

**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.

**ARRL FIELD DAY  
COMING JUNE 24-25**

Please mark the weekend of June 24 and 25 on your calendar and plan to participate in ARRL Field Day, our annual emergency preparedness exercise. As usual, we will be putting K9ONA on the air for 24 hours with emergency power at our Hinsdale Central athletic field site.

## UPCOMING 2016-2017 HAMFEST SCHEDULE

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

June	4	Starved Rock RC, Princeton IL Fairgrounds
	18	<b>Six Meter Club + ARCI DuPage Fairgrounds, Wheaton</b>
July	8	South Milwaukee ARC Oak Creek WI
	9	Fox River Radio League Aurora IL
	16	KARSfest, Peotone
August	4-6	ARCI Radiofest, Addison
	6	Hamfesters, Peotone
September	16	Peoria Superfest
	23	CFMC Radio Expo Belvidere IL
October	8	ARCI, Carol Stream
November	18	ACARTS, Fort Wayne IN
December	8	ARCI, Carol Stream

## SMCC SEARCHING FOR VE TEST AND BOARD MEETING SITE

Due to consolidation of dispatching for the LaGrange Park Police at a new site, their Village Hall is no longer open in the evening, resulting in a loss of the Community Room which we have used for ARRL VE Amateur Radio License Testing and SMCC Board of Directors meetings for many years.

We will temporarily hold our Board meetings at Saint John's a half hour before our regular meetings. Our next VE testing will take place at our Hamfest June 18, but we also traditionally hold exams in April and November. Anyone knowing of a suitable site in the general vicinity of LaGrange Park that would be available either Wednesday or (preferably) Friday evenings on a no charge basis – please let us know – email Jim, WA9FIH at [WA9FIH@aol.com](mailto:WA9FIH@aol.com).

## SMCC CELEBRATES 60 YEARS WITH SPECIAL K6O HAM CALL

We are celebrating the Club's 60th anniversary this year, and have been granted the use of Special Event call sign K6O from June 10 through June 18 – the week prior to and including the date of our Hamfest.

Club members will be able to use this special call from their home stations just as we did ten years ago for the Club's fiftieth anniversary when we used the special call W5O, in place of our usual K9ONA call letters.

Operation will begin at 0000 UTC June 10 (7 p.m. CDT Thursday evening June 9) and continue until 2359 UTC June 18 (7 p.m. Sunday evening), which provides for the use of K6O during our Hamfest for the talk-in station as well.

We welcome suggestions (and art work) from our members for a specially designed K6O QSL card.

Later, from September 9 through 17, we will again be participating in the very popular multi-station *Route 66 On The Air* event using the call letters W6Q.

## FCC ANNOUNCES RULES CHANGES FOR FRS, GMRS, CB

The Federal Communications Commission has announced rule changes affecting the Citizens Band (CB), FRS (Family Radio Service) and GMRS (General Mobile Radio Service) – NOT Amateur Radio – but noted here for general interest. Concerning proposals in WT Docket 10-119, dating back seven years, for CBers, DXing will become legal (!), eliminating the current 155.3 mile distance limit allowed for CB communications.

More channels will be allocated for both FRS and GMRS, and some FRS channels will be designated for radios with power output greater than the current two watt limit. The amended rules will eventually eliminate the sale of handheld devices that can be used for both FRS and GMRS.

The changes will also affect certain radio control toy boats, cars, and planes. Full details are available on the ARRL web site, [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org).

(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:

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 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)

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

### For Sale:

Hallicrafters HA-10 Low Freq Receiving Tuner/  
Converter, 85-3000 kHz for SX-117.....\$250

Heathkit HO-13 Panadaptor.....\$100

Knight Kit Star Roamer General Coverage AM  
BC Band + Short Wave SWL Receiver.....\$35

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.

Heathkit HG-10B VFO, 80-2 Mtrs, very clean  
and with documentation. Matches DX-60B.....\$60

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)

**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. . .”

PRESIDENT.....Jim, WA9FIH  
 VICE PRESIDENT.....Joe, KC9TQF  
 SECRETARY.....Mike, WD9GJK  
 TREASURER.....Bob, AK9Y  
 SGT-AT-ARMS.....Gary, KC9IDS  
 MEMBERS AT LARGE..... Will, W9WSS  
                                 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

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CLUB WEB SITE: [www.k9ona.com](http://www.k9ona.com)  
 WEBMASTER.....Bob, AK9Y:  
 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 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, using EasyPal software.

**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 Hinsdale as well, 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 January 31 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.