

Six Meter Club of Chicago

HALO

www.k9ona.com

October 2020

COMING EVENTS

October 9 Six Meter Club Meeting at Saint John's has been **CANCELLED!** (*SEE BELOW*)

NOTE: Many upcoming hamfests and other public events have been cancelled or rescheduled. Check the ARRL website, www.ARRL.org, for the latest updates on ham related gatherings.

SMCC HOLDING VIRTUAL MEETINGS

We have been notified by Saint John's Lutheran Church, where we normally meet, that since they are effectively closed down, we will not be able to hold in-person meetings until the virus situation has been resolved.

Meanwhile, **we have been holding on-the-air meetings via our K9ONA repeater system for about half an hour. Our next meeting is Friday, October 9 at 7:30 p.m.**, which is our regular meeting date and time. This provides us with an opportunity to still have an informal gathering as well as conducting necessary Club business, so we hope that our membership will be able to participate.

Members who are not able to access the repeater can still participate using the Echolink system. Please forward your suggestions to Jim, WA9FIH at WA9FIH@aol.com. Thanks!

SCOUTING JAMBOREE ON THE AIR OCTOBER 17

For the past several years, SMCC members have done a fine job of demonstrating amateur radio to the Scouting community during their annual JOTA – Jamobree On The Air. This year, the major JOTA activity will take place on Saturday, October 17. Joe, KC9TQF is working hard to organize a modified safe way to participate in the event. Please watch your email for further news.

ROUTE 66 ON THE AIR ANOTHER SUCCESS!

Once again this year, we were invited to participate in the Historic Route 66 On The Air event, which is coordinated by the Citrus Belt Amateur Radio Club, W6JBT, with stations along the route beginning with W6A in California. For nineteen years, we have represented Chicago, the eastern end of the highway, using the special event call W6Q.

This year, propagation was rather poor on the HF bands, with little or no activity above 20 Meters! Nevertheless, our members rose to the occasion and did a fantastic job of recording a total of 1,527 contacts, far surpassing the last several years.

Using the FT8 digital mode, Jim, W9JGH punched away at his keyboard, and was able to complete 461 QSOs on 40, 30 and 10 Meters! Bill, KC9KLA also did a great job of putting W6Q on HF Sideband, making more than 900 contacts!

Thanks go out also to the Grumpy Net Control stations who put W6Q on our repeater weekday mornings, and to all of our other members who were able to participate.

This is was another fun event, very popular with the amateur community. The Citrus Belt ARC has a nice certificate available – check their web site, www.w6jbt.org, for details.

Special QSL cards are also issued by participating stations, and our W6Q card will be printed and ready for distribution soon – self addressed, stamped envelope with your card to Mike, WD9GJK please.

GET WELL WISHES . . .

We have learned that Tom, K9BVQ and Rich, W9NHX have been under the weather recently, and hope that they will both be feeling much better soon!

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!

DIGITAL SLOW SCAN TV NET THURSDAY EVENINGS

Our Digital Slow Scan TV Net meets 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 interface connects your PC and transceiver.

K9LH SEEKS SUPPORT FOR SEVERE WEATHER NET

Paul Mielnicki, K9LH is a trained severe weather spotter, and has expressed an interest in establishing a weekly weather net on the K9ONA repeater system.

Storm and severe weather monitoring and reporting has long been part of Amateur Radio's public service activities, and the most recent example of this was the Hurricane Watch Net which operated for more than 29 hours during Hurricane Laura's track through Louisiana. The HWN collected and forwarded many reports to the National Hurricane Center, using both 7.268 and 14.325 MHz.

Anyone interested in working with Paul regarding his proposal for a weather net, please contact him at pmielnicki@comcast.net.

CHECK IN WITH THE GRUMPIES MORNINGS ON THE SMCC REPEATER

If you are at home during the morning weekdays, don't forget to check in with the Grumpy Net which meets on our repeater system between 8:45 – 9:45 a.m. Monday through Friday. It is a good old fashioned rag chew net with some great trivia questions, too! Jim, N9TUQ is the coordinator.

ILLINOIS YOUNG HAM CLUB ESTABLISHED

We have received a message from Elizabeth Ziemer, Vice President and founding member of the Illinois Young Hams (ILYH). They are a state-centered, youth-led amateur radio club that seeks to act as a resource for youth, university aged students, teachers, and parents who are interested in amateur radio, electronics, science, and technology.

The ILYH was founded earlier this year when Graham Brody, KN1V noted that Illinois had few youth offerings for amateur radio. Graham is also the ARRL Illinois Section Youth Coordinator.

ILYH has noted that one of the largest issues facing the Amateur Radio service today is the lack of young and new operators, and hopes to help keep the hobby alive and modernize Amateur Radio by getting more young people involved. For further information, please contact Ms. Ziemer at elizabeth@ziemer.net.

ARRL FOUNDATION ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIP

Applications for the 2021 ARRL Foundation Scholarship Program will be accepted until December 31, 2020, and applicable transcripts must be emailed to the League by January 11, 2021.

Our Six Meter Club of Chicago Scholarship is awarded through the League's program, and provides a \$500 grant for a ham residing in Illinois or the Central Division. For full details, please check the ARRL web site, www.arrl.org.

(tnx ARRL)

FCC PROPOSES TO REINSTATE AMATEUR RADIO LICENSING FEES

The FCC has proposed \$50 fees for Amateur Radio applications – new licenses, renewal and upgrades, and vanity call sign requests. Change of address would not be charged, but a printed copy of one's license would also cost \$50!

For further information, check the ARRL web site, www.arrl.org.

HALOADS...

For Sale:

Hustler 4BTV 10-40 Meter 4 Band Trap Vertical antenna, Brand New! Never in the wind or weather, lists for \$160 plus shipping, asking \$90 or best offer

Tom Kraus, N9HWV
847-839-7343

For Sale:

Heathkit IM-25 VTVM, very good condition, Just finished complete recalibration Full copy of Manual, with original probe\$80 or best offer

Heathkit IM-2024 Frequency Counter, covers 5 Hz to 512 MHz.....\$125 or best offer

Simpson 303 VTVM w/test leads.....\$75 or best offer

Tektronix Type 200-1B Model A Rolling Oscilloscope Mobile Test Cart With Heath IO-4105 Scope.....150 or best offer

Mike Huedepohl, WD9GJK
3532 Raymond Avenue
Brookfield IL 60513
708-485-5481
WD9GJK@arrl.net

For Sale:

ICOM IC-7100 HF/VHF/UHF All Mode Transceiver two years old, like new.....\$750/offer

CDE Ham II Rotor & Control Box, refurbished.....\$275

TE Systems 6 Meter 0510G Amplifier, 2-10 W in, 170 Watts out.....\$225

RF Concepts 2 Meter Amplifier, 2-117, 10 W in, 170 Watts out\$250

Finco 2 Meter 5 el twist beam A 2+2 H & V new... ..\$50

Larsen NMO Mount 10 Meter Verticals, New....\$15 each

Rohn 25G 10' Tower Section, Very Good Cond.....\$75

Ham Radio Callbooks, 1977, 1984, 1989 & 1993 editions..... \$5 each

Peter WB9W
773-425-6155 or
WB9W1949@yahoo.com

For Sale:

Extech 480400 Phase Sequence Tester\$80/Offer

Fluke 33 True RMS Clamp-on Meter.....\$100/Offer

Fluke 13000S Flex 24 AC Current Probe...\$100/Offer

Fluke 87V True RMS Multimeter\$225/Offer

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

National HRO-60 Receiver, recapped, excellent condition with original manual, matching speaker, nine coil sets for shortwave bands including bandspread on ham bands, cabinet to hold unused coil drawers. Also includes a plug-in SSB product detector from a QST article which fits in space intended for a NBFM adapter (no mods to the radio). \$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:

ICOM IC-746 PRO HF/VHF All Mode Transceiver with handheld mic and power supply from W9CEJ's estate.....\$600/Offer

Kate Stair, KB9KDC
708-478-7782

Wanted:

“Junker” chassis – blown up mobile solid state amp, just need for the case and heat sink – at least 4 inches wide by 5-6 inches or more long.

Paul Mielnicki, K9LH
9116 Mobile Avenue
Oak Lawn IL 60453
708-870-4887
pmielnicki@comcast.net

For Sale:

ICOM ID-880H Dual Band 2m/440 conventional + Digital transceiver, 50 Watts, D-Star. OPC-478U USB Cable, CD, DC power cable, separation cable, [mobile mounting kit](#), [manual](#), [original box](#).....\$400

Complete Kenwood TS-50S portable package in a fitted carrying case, including AT-50 automatic antenna tuner, mic, 110 VAC power supply. Covers 10-160 Meters, 100 W out. Nice and clean.....\$800

Bob Weiss, W9AVB
6339 South Kostner Avenue
Chicago IL 60629
773-571-2213

For Sale:

Huge collection of LP records in original sleeves, very reasonable offer accepted, don't want to go to dumpster

Guy – (708)212-4442
Berwyn

For Sale:

Downsizing collection of vintage hi-fi equipment, all in good working order, clean, mint with no scratches, etc.

Speakers – Altec Lansing, Bozak, Bose, Hartley, some with cabinets. Sony Crossover.

Preamps – Hadley 621E

Amplifiers – Crown, Hadley, McIntosh

Tuners – Marantz, one w/walnut case, one rack mount

Turntables – Fairchild, Panasonic

Disc Player – Panasonic

Tape Recorder – Ampex

Paul Chase
(708)366-7864
paulchasesr@gmail.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 72nd Court
Summit IL 60501
708-496-8982

SOMETHING TO SELL? LIST IT HERE! EMAIL YOUR AD TO WA9FIH@AOL.COM

GET WELL WISHES . . .

We were sorry to learn that Tom, K9BVQ and Rich, W9NHX have been under the weather recently. Our best wishes to them both!

ILLINOIS ARES MEMBERS WORKING WITH IEMA

Illinois ARES members are supporting the Illinois Emergency Management Agency's (IEMA) COVID-10 response activities as AuxComm Radio Operator volunteers.

Illinois ARES will coordinate the number and location of volunteer amateur communicators with IEMA on an ongoing basis for the foreseeable future.

In a separate activity, the daily ARES Wellness Net has been established to allow Illinois Amateurs to stay connected and comment on their status. The net is informal and uses HF, EchoLink, digital nodes, and linked VHF and UHF nets.

The Wellness Net has seen check-ins from more than 40 Illinois counties. Other local and regional VHF/UHF nets have been activated throughout Illinois as well.

The Wellness Net meets daily at Noon Central Time on 3905 kHz, and also uses ECHOLINK conference node WB0VTM-L NODE 824404.

(tnx ARRL)

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
 - WD9GJK
 - VICE PRESIDENT.....Joe, KC9TQF
 - WA9FIH
 - SECRETARY.....Mike, WD9GJK
 - TREASURER.....Kris, KC9TJL
 - SGT-AT-ARMS.....Gary, KC9IDS
 - MEMBERS AT LARGE..... Will, W9WSS
- CUSTODIAN OF K9ONA.....Mike,
 - NET MANAGER.....Jim,
 - HISTORIAN.....
 - ARRL VE TEST CAPTAIN.....Paul, K9LH
 - PROGRAM CHAIR.....Joe, KC9TQF
 - DIRECTORS.....Ryan, W9UEY, Rich, W9NHX
-
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 - North Riverside IL 60546-1308
 - WA9FIH@arrl.net
- CLUB WEB SITE: www.k9ona.com
 - WEBMASTER.....Jim, W9JGH
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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 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, 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 Association.

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 Foundation's web site, www.arrlf.org, or available from the foundation. Applications are due by December 31 of each calendar year.

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 20, 2021) at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton , Illinois. *All Club members are expected to work to insure its success.*