

Six Meter Club of Chicago

HALO

www.k9ona.com

January 2016

COMING EVENTS

January	8	Six Meter Club Meeting, 7:30 p.m., St. John's Lutheran Church, SW corner of 47th and Brainard, LaGrange
	17	WCRA Hamfest, Kane Cty Fairgrounds, Route 38 & Randall Road, St. Charles
	30-31	ARRL VHF Contest, Club Participation – see article

AWARDS PRESENTED AT HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Our annual holiday luncheon meeting, which was held Saturday, December 19, was well attended with close to fifty members and guests present.

The Club's Founders Award was presented to Ryan Schultz, W9UEY for his outstanding technical work on our K9ONA repeater system and overall level of involvement in Club activities.

An Honorary Life Membership was bestowed on Lee Kudia, KB9OYP for his continuing efforts on behalf of the Club which have resulted in, among other things, a home for our repeater system as well as Field Day. He always finds time in his busy schedule to work at our Hamfest and many of our public service activities too.

DUES PAYABLE FOR 2016 NOW

Third and final dues notice – dues are payable for 2016, \$20 for regular members, \$12 for Seniors or second family members. Please see our Treasurer, Bob, AK9Y at the meeting or remit by check to Robert Sebonia, 5118 South Meade Avenue, Chicago IL 60638. Thanks for your continued support!

ARRL JANUARY VHF CONTEST SET FOR JANUARY 30-31

Please plan on participating to help the Club score in the ARRL January VHF Contest, beginning 1900 UTC Saturday Jan. 30 (1 p.m. Saturday CST) and ending 0359 UTC Monday Feb. 1 (10 p.m. Sunday).

There are various entry categories – full information is available on the ARRL web site. Logging can be done via computer using any of the popular contesting software such as N3FJP, CT, etc. Paper logs may also be submitted – we will have forms available at the January Club meeting.

Even if you can only operate for a short time, with a modest station, every little bit helps the Club aggregate score – please participate as much as you can!

Due to a rules change effective January 1, 146.52 simplex will now be available for contesting, and can also be used during Field Day! Other simplex frequencies such as 146.55 can still be used – suggestion – look for members on 146.55 at the hour and half hour.

HR 1301, S. 1685 STILL NEED OUR SUPPORT!

The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015, H.R. 1301, which would direct the FCC to extend its rules requiring reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land use restrictions, is still in the House Energy and Commerce Committee, chaired by Rep. Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR). In order to get this measure onto the floor of the House, it needs a lot of supporters, including YOU!

An identical bill, S. 1685, has been introduced in the Senate by U.S. Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS), with co-sponsorship by Senator Al Franken (D-MN). Check the ARRL web site for details on how you can contact your Representative and Senator to express support for these important bills.

ARRL FILES COMPLAINT REGARDING NOISY BALLASTS

The ARRL has again complained to the FCC to allege illegal marketing of electronic RF lighting ballasts, operating under Part 18 of the Commission's rules, on the part of two major retailers, Lowe's and Walmart.

At issue is the sale of non-consumer RF lighting ballasts to consumers who, in several instances, were told by store personnel that it was alright to install these in a residential setting. In addition, non-consumer and residential-class ballasts are intermixed in store displays with inadequate signage to direct customers to the correct choice. Part 18 emissions limits for consumer devices are far lower than those allowed for non-consumer devices.

ARRL Chief Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, stated that ARRL has received numerous complaints from Amateur Radio operators of significant noise in the medium and high frequency bands between 1-8 and 30 MHz from "grow lights" and other Part 15 and Part 18 lighting devices, which are easily capable of emitting RF noise sufficient to preclude Amateur Radio MF and HF communications as well as AM broadcast station reception throughout entire communities.

Mike Gruber, W1MG, ARRL Laboratory EMC Specialist, filed extensive detailed reports recounting incidents of actual purchases of Part 18 RF lighting devices intended for commercial use to consumers who made clear to store personnel that they intended to use the devices at home. His report includes multiple photographs that depict in-store displays of the products in question and showing signage that does not adequately explain which devices may be sold to whom.

ARRL has asked that all non-consumer devices be removed from retail sale and marketing at the stores, and to track and recall non-consumer devices already sold to consumers. In his report, Gruber concluded that retailers should require purchasers of non-consumer Part 18 RF lighting devices to provide a valid contractor's number, and also advised that the stores should improve display signage to make it clear that the non-consumer Part 18 devices may not be used in residential settings.

Earlier this year (2015), ARRL sent similar complaint letters to the FCC regarding the marketing of Part 18 RF lighting devices by Home Depot.

(tnx ARRL)

NEXT SMCC BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 22

Our next Board of Directors meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, January 22 at the LaGrange Park Village Hall Community Room, 447 N. Catherine.

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, this is not limited to Club members, everyone is welcome!

DIGITAL SLOW SCAN TV NET THURSDAY EVENINGS

The Club's Digital Slow Scan TV Net meets every Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. on our two meter repeater, using EasyPal software which can be downloaded free from the Internet.

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 2015-2016
HAMFEST SCHEDULE**

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

January	9	WARAC, Waukesha WI
	17	WCRA, St. Charles
February	7	ARCI, Carol Stream
	13	MRAC, Brookfield WI
	27	La Porte ARC, La Porte IN
March	6	Sterling-Rock Falls ARC
	20	Tri-County ARC, Jefferson WI
April	27	ARCI, Carol Stream
May	1	Kishwaukee ARC, Sandwich
June	19	Six Meter Club, Wheaton
July	17	KARSfest, Peotone
	30-31	ARCI Radiofest
September	17	Peoria Area ARC Superfest
October	2	ARCI, Carol Stream
	9	SEWFARS, Hubertus WI
November	12	ACARTS, Fort Wayne IN
December	11	ARCI, Carol Stream

**NOMINATIONS SOUGHT
FOR 2016 OFFICERS**

We're seeking nominations for our Club officers for 2016. Nominations were accepted at the November meeting, and will be again in January prior to elections. Please be sure that your nominee meets basic eligibility requirements and is willing to serve.

**SWAP AND SHOP AT SMCC
MEETING MARCH 13**

We're giving readers an advanced notice that the Club will have our annual Spring Swap and Shop at this month's meeting, March 13, with several tables available to display your ham-related goodies. Bring along Amateur Radio equipment – transceivers, accessories, parts, antennas, test equipment, but only ham related computer items please. And if it doesn't sell, you MUST take it back, unsold items may NOT be left behind! Selling is free to all; your non-member friends are of course welcome to bring things too.

**SUBMIT YOUR LOG FOR
ARRL TEN METER CONTEST**

Don't forget to submit your log and summary sheet to ARRL if you participated in the League's Ten Meter Contest December 12-13. Even if you were only able to make a few contacts, your effort will help the Club's aggregate score. Submission can be electronic via the Internet if you used computer logging, or via mail with paper forms (Mike, WD9GJK provided printed copies of rules and forms which were distributed at our December meeting). Deadline for submission is January 12. Thanks to all who were able to participate!

HALOADS...

For Sale:

Heathkit IM-28 VTVM, very good condition, copy of schematic, no probe\$40 or best offer

1000 Ft. spool of CAT 5 Yellow Jacket
Computer cable.....\$75 or best offer

Yaesu FT-101B 10-160 Meter (no WARC bands) transceiver, SN 200580, with original operator's manual and copy of service manual, matching Yaesu Landliner external speaker and phone patch, Shure 444T desk mic, and Dentron AT1-K antenna tuner. \$350 or best offer

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

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:

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

Hallicrafters SX-117 Ham Band HF Receiver
Excellent condition, few paint chips on top of
cabinet, front panel is perfect. With original
manual. Will transceive with a Hallicrafters
HT-44 transmitter (which is not included).....\$250

Hallicrafters HA-10 Low Frequency Converter
Accessory for SX-117 listed above. Excellent
Condition, w/manual. An uncommon item.....\$150

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:

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:

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, unified chassis with rcvr, transmitter, card cage,
and power amplifier. No 13.6 VDC power supply,
cabinet, or ID/controller. Working when removed from
service. Club property surplus to our needs.....\$90

National Coil Drawers for an HRO Jr. receiver,
Ranges JA, JC, and JD, all three for.....\$120

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@aol.com

*DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SELL, OR ARE
YOU LOOKING FOR SOMETHING? SEND YOUR
AD TO WA9FIH@AOL.COM FOR THE NEXT HALO!*

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, K9WSS

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

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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, recently moved to Hinsdale, 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 19, 2016) at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton IL. All Club members are expected to work to insure its success