

Six Meter Club of Chicago

HALO

www.k9ona.com

April 2020

COMING EVENTS

April 17 Six Meter Club Meeting has been **CANCELLED!**

NOTE: Many upcoming hamfests and other public events have been cancelled or rescheduled. At the time of publication of this edition of the *HALO*, the following events had been listed as **CANCELLED:**

April 19 – Knox County Hamfest, Galesburg IL

25 – Peru Indiana Hamfesters

May 2 – Ozaukee RC, Cedarburg WI still pending – check their web site

3 – Sandwich IL Hamfest

17-19 Dayton Ohio Hamvention

23 – Boone IA Hamboree

SMCC LOOKING FOR NEW MEETING SITE

We have been notified by Saint John's Lutheran Church that they will no longer host non-church related events – including our meetings – until further notice. Therefore, when the ban on gatherings of ten or more persons is cancelled, we will need a new place to hold our meetings.

Your suggestions for a new meeting location will be appreciated. We need a room similar to the one that St. John's had provided us, preferably in the same general area (Brookfield, La Grange, La Grange Park) and on the second Friday of the month, accessible at 7 p.m. We have been paying a nominal fee for usage of the facilities, which should include convenient parking and use of washrooms.

Please forward your suggestions to Jim, WA9FIH at WA9FIH@aol.com. Thanks!

SMCC RECEIVES REQUEST FOR HELP AT CHARITY EVENT

Our Club has received a request again this year for assistance with Hinsdale's *Walk The Walk*, which is sponsored by the Hinsdale Community House. It had been scheduled to take place on Sunday, May 3, but we are awaiting word on the event's rescheduling for a later date or possible cancellation – we will email members and post on our web site when more information is available.

The Walk is scheduled to follow the same route through side streets as it has in the past, and we will need communicators at various intersections where the walk “turns corners” to keep an eye on the participants and report its progress (NOTE: this is not a run, so reporting first, second, third, etc. is not necessary)

Since we will be just several blocks from our repeater site, all communications can be easily handled via our two meter (146.37/97) system. Thanks to Will, W9WSS and Brandon, N9LMZ who will be acting as coordinators for this event. We'll have sign up sheets at the next several meetings. The event organizers provide special T-shirts commemorating the event, so we will need your size also.

SMCC JUNE 21 HAMFEST CANCELLATION PENDING

Due to the uncertainties of the travel and events ban this year, we are formulating plans that will likely result in cancellation of our annual Hamfest held at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton, which also features the Antique Radio Club of Illinois' June swap meet as well as the Mdiwest Classic Radio Net Hamboree.

Rescheduling the event for later in the year does not appear feasible, but anyone who already purchased tickets may return them for a refund or hold onto them for 2021 as they will be honored at that time.

CENTRAL STATES VHF SOCIETY SPONSORS SPRING SPRINTS

The Central States VHF Society is once again sponsoring a series of short contests – “Sprints” – to encourage VHF/UHF operation, primarily using weak signal modes (SSB, CW, etc.) but contacts may also be made on traditional FM simplex frequencies (no repeaters).

The first Sprint this year was on 144 MHz, Monday, April 6 from 7 to 11 p.m. Local time. The remainder of these events will be: 222 MHz, Tuesday April 14, 7–11 p.m. Local time; 432 MHz, Wednesday, April 22, 7-11 p.m. Local time, Microwave frequencies (902, 1296 and above) Saturday, May 2, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Local time; and 50 MHz, from 2300 UTC Saturday May 9 until 0300 UTC Sunday May 10 (6-10 p.m. Saturday CDT). There are various categories, power levels, etc. Exchange is basically your call sign and Grid Square. For full details, including scoring, how to submit entries, etc. please check the CSVHFS web site.

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.

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.

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.

SPAIN GRANTS TEMPORARY UNLICENSED HAM OPERATION

Spain's International Amateur Radio Union member society, URE, has obtained temporary permission from the country's telecommunications regulator for unlicensed people to use amateur radio stations during the coronavirus lockdown.

“The main purpose of the request is to promote amateur radio among school children who must be confined at home,” the announcement from the Ministry of Economic Affairs said. “This activity offers young people the opportunity to gain practical experience in telecommunications technology, promotes education in technological subjects, and is a socially enriching family activity.”

The temporary authorization would be in place while to state of alert and mandatory confinement measures are in effect in Spain. Non-licensed individuals could operate an amateur radio station only under the direct supervision of the licensee, under current amateur radio rules and regulations.

(tnx ARRL)

ANTIQUÉ RADIO CLUB'S APRIL MEET CANCELLED

We have just received information that the Antique Radio Club of Illinois' Spring Swap Meet, which had been scheduled for Sunday morning, April 26 at the American Legion Hall in Carol Stream, has been cancelled.

Check the ARCI web site, www.antiq-radio.org for further details .

HALOADS...

For Sale:

Heathkit IM-25 VTVM, very good condition, copy of schematic, with probe\$50 or best offer

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

Tektronix Oscilloscope Cart.....\$50

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

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

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, used at our 2018 Field Day for HF SSB.....\$800

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

For Sale:

CDE Ham II Rotor & Control Box, refurbished.....\$225

TE Systems 6 Meter 0510G Amplifier, 2-10 W in, 170 Watts out.....\$200

Motorola 2 Meter Amplifier, N1274A, 1-10 W in, 40 Watts out\$50

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

Finco 6 Meter 3 el Beam A6-3 used.....\$30

Rohn 25G 10' Tower Section, Very Good Cond.....\$60

Ham Radio Callbooks, 1983 & 1993 editions.... \$5 each

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

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:

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:

ICOM IC-746 PRO HF/VHF All Mode Transceiver with handheld mic and power supply from W9CEJ's estate.....\$700/Offer

Kate Stair, KB9KDC
708-478-7782

**DAN BUSTA, W9GOB
SILENT KEY MARCH 12**

We are very sorry to report the passing of a long time member, Dan Busta, W9GOB on March 12. Dan earned his first license, WA9GOB, in 1962. He was a very accomplished French horn player, an aviation mechanic and pilot certified to fly passenger jets as well as helicopters. He also had a commercial FCC license and was certified to repair two way radio equipment. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family. A memorial service will be held at a later date. A contribution in Dan's memory will be made to our ARRL Foundation Scholarship Fund.

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

**2020 SMCC HAMFEST
SET FOR JUNE 21**

NOTE: CANCELLATION PENDING

Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 21 – Fathers' Day – for our annual Six Meter Club Hamfest, which will again be combined with the Antique Radio Club of Illinois' Swap Meet and the Midwest Classic Radio Net Hamboree.

This popular ARRL Hamfest will again take place at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton and will feature both indoor and outdoor selling with ARRL and various dealer displays.

Our 2019 Hamfest was attended by participants from at least eight states and Ontario, Canada!

**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 dailw 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 WBOVTM-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. . .”

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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CLUB WEB SITE:

www.k9ona.com

WEBMASTER.....Jim, W9JGH

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.arrl.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 21, 2020) at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton, Illinois. *All Club members are expected to work to insure its success.*