

St Clair Amateur Newsletter

August 2021

PO Box 94, Belleville, IL 62222

www.scarc.net

Club Repeaters: 147.120+ / 224.120- / 444.625+(pl 127.3) / 442.275+ (pl 127.3)

Club Officers

President – Randy Bastian
KC9MZ (618) 235-1444
kc9mz@arrl.net

Vice Pres – Michael Petz
KA9HNT (618) 688-2050
ka9hnt@gmail.com

Secretary – Steve Westlund,
W9ZS
w9zs@arrl.net

Treasurer - Bob Thurgood
WA9TUG (618) 239-9847
wa9tug@arrl.net

Sgt at Arms - Dan Campos
KD9ADB
daniel.campos@charter.net

Activity Mgr- Jim Morgan
KD9BLA
highonharmony@gmail.com

Publicity Activist – Dean, K9JDW
Jameswrght362@gmail.com

VE Test Coordinator

Randy Bastian, KC9MZ

Repeater Committee

Randy Bastian, KC9MZ
Michael Petz, KA9HNT
Gary Valentine, N8GIL - emeritus,
John Sundstrom, WA0LIS - emeritus

Emergency Comm Committee

Gene Kramer, WA9TZL

ARES/RACES Directed Net is normally conducted by Gene Kramer, WA9TZL (Tuesdays following the Club “on-the-air” meeting.)

Jim “Jimmy” Stoeber WI9X, SK



Jim passed away on August 5th. He was active on CW and liked working the Illinois QSO Party.

Club Picnic Rescheduled!

The club picnic will be **Sunday, September 26th**. We will meet at 11:00am and eat at noon. The club will provide hamburgers and hot dogs and the rest will be potluck. A signup sheet was passed around at the meeting. If you would like to signup, send Jim, KD9BLA, or Larry, K9LWW a note and they'll put you down for whatever you would like to bring.

Rich, K7DZE, Shows Us His GO Box He Built Up



Rich describing the status indicators on his GO Box

KC9MZ Photo



Steven, K9SHY, Tip, N9MVX, and Juilo, AA2KF, admiring Rich's GO Box
KC9MZ Photo



The computer is an Odroid N2 from Hardkernel running a full distribution of Ubuntu LINUX
KC9MZ Photo

Parts list / what's in the box

Gator 6u Rack case

3u shelf (bottom shelf)

Yaesu FT-991A

Yaesu SP-200 speaker with aftermarket driver

2u shelf (top shelf)

LDG AT-100ProII tuner

Keyboard for the Odroid N2 is stored on top (velcro)

MFJ 4416c Battery booster

Odroid N2 running

Ubuntu 20.04 arm64 and WSJT-X

Fused Anderson PowerPole Distribution block inline after the Battery Booster

Top Display (Left to right)

Voltage meter connected to the source (Input Voltage) –

Monitor your battery voltage right the operator's seat

Voltage meter USB combo to charge phones and

monitor the boosted voltage out of the Battery Booster

Power button for the Odroid N2 computer

Led Gooseneck desk light

Back panel has

HF & VHF (2m) SO239 bulkhead passthrough connectors

Single Power input via Anderson PowerPole

2 Auxiliary Boosted DC power output connectors

(Anderson Power Poles)

HDMI connector for the Odroid N2 computer

Pelican Case 1450 case

Specter E165W-1600HC 12v 16" monitor inside the lid

Odroid wireless mouse travel storage

various power wires & connections including solar hookup

Solar charge controller

Antenna analyzer

Draws <0.3 amps with everything on at idle this allows me to run digital mode on Field day and get the bonus points for being battery operated because the control computer runs off the native 12v and is very low power consumption. I can remote into the Odroid with my laptop or use the monitor in the lid of the pelican case. The reason for using an Odroid N2 vs a raspberry pi is processing power. With a Raspberry pi WSJT-X will not finish the decode before the next cycle starts, unless you run in "Fast decode" mode.

With the Odroid N2 I can run "Normal decode" with AP enabled. Deep decode will almost finish in time. The Odroid N2+ may have enough power to run WSJT-X in Deep decode mode with AP enabled, and is the replacement for the Odroid N2.

Operating Events and HAMFESTS:

Peoria Superfest September 18th -19th , Avanti's Dome, Pekin, IL see: [American Radio Relay League | Ham Radio Association and Resources \(arrl.org\)](#)

St. Louis ARC is planning on having the "Halloween Hamfest" on October 30th at the Kirkwood Community Center see: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/halloween-hamfest-6>

The St. Louis and Suburban Radio Club will sponsor the Winterfest and ARRL Midwest Division Convention January 22, 2022 see: [Winterfest 2022 \(slsrc.org\)](#)

ARES HF Net The Illinois Section ARES HF Net meets on the first and third Sunday each month. The frequency is 3905 KHz +/- LSB.

K1USN Radio Club Slow Speed CW contest (20 WPM max) Mondays 1800-1900 CST

<http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html>

CWops Test (CWT) Every Wednesday at 1300-1400Z, 1900-2000Z, and Thursday 0300-0400Z 28 to 45 kHz from the band edges [CWops Tests \(CWT\) – CWops](#)

RRI Training Broadcast Schedule Wednesday 2000 CST (0200Z Thursday) 7060 kHz, and 2130 CST (0330Z Thursday) 3563 KHz, Thursday 1900 CST (0001Z Friday) 14060 KHz

Meeting Date, Time and Location: Next month's meeting will be on September 30th. It will be at the Swansea Moose Lodge with an "On the Air" meeting component. Check-in starts at 8 pm. Steve, W9ZA, will have the 224.12MHz Net at 7 pm.

New Members: New applications should be submitted to the Sgt. at Arms. Applications will be vetted by the Sgt. at Arms and will be brought forward for a vote at the next monthly meeting after being submitted. We look forward to meeting/greeting any new member because to grow our club, we must find people that love to talk (should not be too hard) and that would love to be on the radio. So putting the two together can make a dedicated enthusiast for HAM Radio. We welcome all new members and prospective members and thank them for their interest in Ham Radio.

SCAN Needs Your Input, Articles

It would be great to hear from others amongst us about what operating activities you've involved with or what projects you've been working on!

Thank you Rich! Great job on the GO Box!

FCC Proposes new fees for Amateur Radio!

New information!!!! On August 16th an ARRL bulletin stated that the new fees will not go into effect before 2022! See: [FCC Application Fees Unlikely to Go into Effect Until 2022 \(arrl.org\)](https://www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fees-unlikely-to-go-into-effect-until-2022)

The FCC had proposed a \$50 fee for new or modified Amateur Radio licenses, license renewals and vanity call signs. With input from over 3,000 Hams, the ARRL, and other organizations, the FCC has decided a \$35 fee would be more reasonable.

The ARRL VE letter stated there are some FCC procedures that have to take place before the new \$35 fee will be in effect. The best guess is that it will be this summer.

If you or someone you know would like to upgrade or take their first test, do it sooner rather than later. Save the \$35.

FCC will not accept SSN in lieu of FRN

ARLB014 FCC Auto-Registration Feature for Exam Applicants to be discontinued

Auto-registration in the FCC Commission Registration System (CORES) amateur radio exam for candidates using a Social Security number will be discontinued on May 20, 2021. Applicants must use an FCC Registration Number (FRN) for all license transactions with the FCC.

Examinees must register in CORES and receive an FRN before exam day.

Starting on May 20, electronic batch filed applications that do not include a candidate's FRN will be rejected. The Social Security/Licensee ID Field will be disabled.

The CORES website can be accessed at:

<https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do> .

An instructional video provides step-by-step instructions on how to establish a CORES account, which is necessary for licensees to make administrative updates and download electronic license authorizations.

The instructional video can be found at, <https://www.fcc.gov/rofrn> .

FCC will require all applications to have an email address

After June 29, all filers must provide an email address on all applications. When an email is provided, applicants will receive an official electronic copy of their licenses once granted (allow incoming email from authorizations@fcc.gov). If no email is provided when filing on or after June 29, applications will be rejected. ARRL VEC suggests that those without access to email to use the email address of a family member or friend.

Further information about providing an email address can be found at:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-to-require-email-address-on-applications-starting-on-june-29-2021>

Licensees need to log in to the Universal Licensing System (ULS) to download their authorizations. The FCC no longer issues paper copies.

From ARRL ARLB014 April 27, 2021

Thanks to Sean KK9U and Gary N8GIL, for bringing this ARRL Bulletin to our attention!

On the Air Meeting For August

We had 4 members check in on the air! (22 attended the meeting). We will continue to use this setup for our future meetings. Our next meeting is September 30th.

Belleville West Alumni Have Formed a New Group

Some past Belleville West ARC members have setup a Facebook page for all West alumni who are amateurs or might be interested in becoming amateurs. You don't have to be a past member of the ARC – WA9TZW, just a West alumnus.

The full Facebook name is: BTHSW Alumni ARC. If you have trouble with Facebook you can contact Carl, K9ZA, or Randy, KC9MZ.

The group would like to activate the WA9TZW call on some of the ARRL School Club Roundup events.

Thank you to our mentors and faculty advisors: Mr. Dave Bobzin, K9ZHN, and Mr. Dennis Mueller. You made a difference!

Here are some shorts

Thanks Rich for giving us the impromptu presentation on your GO Box! Great job!

Please note the picnic date has changed due to a conflict at the Moose. The new date is **Sunday, September 26th**.

Don't forget the "Good Morning Net" M-F, 7-8am by Larry, K9LWW and the 224.12 MHz Net on Thursdays, 7 pm by Steve, W9ZS. Thank you guys for running these nets!

Please send anything you might have for SCAN to kc9mz@arrl.net.

I hope you can attend or check in to the next meeting on September 30th at 2000 CDT.

73 es gud dx,

Randy, KC9MZ

Please patronize our supporters!

