

St Clair Amateur Newsletter

May 2020

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
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Vice Pres – Michael Petz
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Secretary –Tip Klamberg
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Treasurer - Bob Thurgood
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Sgt at Arms - Dan Campos
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Activity Mgr- Jim Morgan
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VE Test Coordinator

Randy Bastian, KC9MZ

Repeater Committee

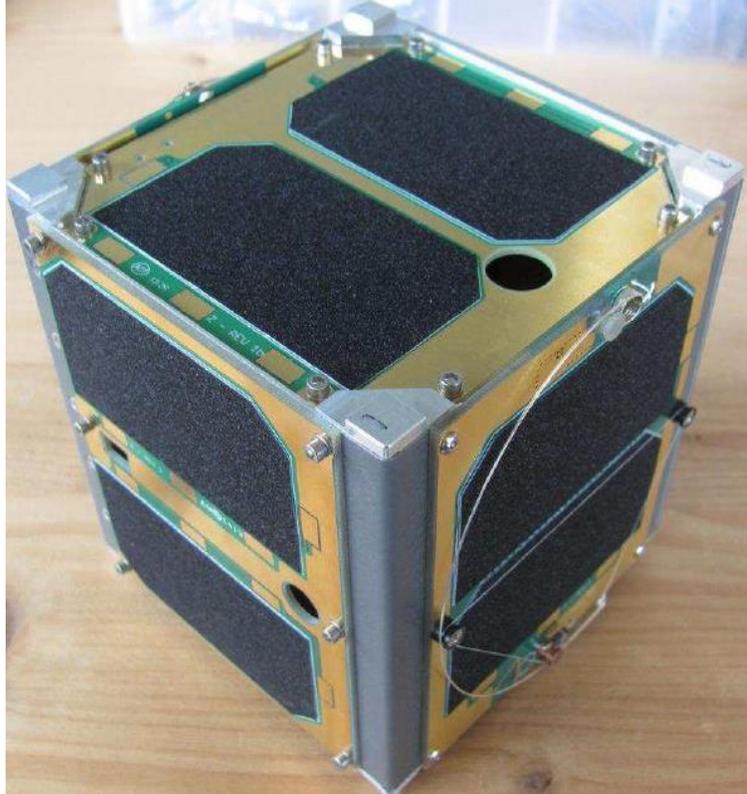
Randy Bastian, KC9MZ
Michael Petz, KA9HNT
Gary Valentine, N8GIL - emeritus,
John Sundstrom, WAOLIS -
emeritus

Emergency Comm Committee

Curtis Williams, W5DTR

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

CubeSat



AMSAT's Fox-1 Engineering Prototype a 1U CubeSat image from amsat.org

Another high-tech company opens in the Metro East

NanoAvionics has opened its second US office in Columbia, Illinois. The company has won several contracts for the production of multiple unit CubeSats that they call nanosatellites. A CubeSat is a standard built on a 10 cm cube. See: <https://www.satellitetoday.com/innovation/2020/04/29/nanoavionics-to-build-satellite-bus-for-nasas-solar-sail-mission/> and <https://nanoavionics.com/news/new-satellite-mission-contract-and-second-us-office-for-nanoavionics/>

As far as I know, NanoAvionics will be the first company in the area building space vehicles since McDonnell Douglas built the Mercury and Gemini spacecraft in the 1960's. St. Louis University did build a CubeSat a few years ago.

For Sale

Kenwood TS-450 and Astron RS-30 power supply.

This transceiver is very clean, original box, manuals. I've tested the output on each band and its 100 watts or so. Audio sounds good on station receiver. This rig does not have the auto tune unit.

The Astron power supply has a broken rocker switch which selects volts or amps on the built in meter.

It looks like the Kenwood was bought to replace a malfunctioning Ten-Tec and never used. The owner went into a Home, both \$450.

Astatic D-104 amplified microphone black head and chrome neck (\$55, some paint chips on the base).

These are all estate sale items.

The chrome mike and SWR meter have been sold.

Call Randy, KC9MZ, 618-235-1444, or email jlr.bastian@norcom2000.com if interested.

Operating Events and HAMFESTS:

Egyptian Radio Club EgyptianFest 2020, June 14th has been canceled. (Their web site stills says it's on.)

ARRL VHF Contest, June 13th – 15th, 1800Z Saturday through 0259Z Monday, see www.arrl.org

ARRL FD, June 27th - 28th

West Central Illinois Fest Carlinville, Il August 1st www.k9mce.com

St. Charles Amateur Radio Club Hamfest August 9th, O'Fallon, MO www.wb0hsi.org/hamfest

CWops Test (CWT) Every Wednesday at 1300-1400Z, 1900-2000Z, and 0300-0400Z 28 to 45 kHz from the band edges

Meeting Date, Time and Location: Next month's meeting will be on May 28th and it will be an "On the Air" meeting. Check-ins start at 8 pm CDT.

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.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Karl, K9BGL, on his Central Division win in the ARRL Phone Sweepstakes last November. Along with his division win, he was listed in the Top Ten, Single Operator, High Power class. Karl also obtained the coveted Clean Sweep for working all 83 ARRL and RAC sections! His score was 202,354 points.

Also of note, a club that some local guys and gals work with, the Society of Midwest Contesters took 3rd overall in the Affiliated Club Competition with a score of 4,643,038 points and 107 members participating.

Great job Karl and SMCers!

From June 2020 QST, page 70

Dean, K9JDW, has some FD ideas:

In keeping with the latest from the ARRL, I was thinking if members are interested that we could do one of the following:

1. Move to an alternate non-public location (like Richs place maybe), and employ social distancing through the use of RVs, trailers, tents, etc. If we go this route we need to start thinking about the logistics. (For instance I would plan to bring my A-Frame trailer, and stay through the entire period.)
2. We could operate from separate remote locations, coordinating operation via the repeater or text messages through a "SCARC FD Net Controller". I'm not sure how ARRL will view it though as it does not adhere to the 1000' rule. We could pose the question to them if we are interested in doing it that way.
3. We could do a combination of both.

These options would allow us to observe the spirit of FD, overcoming obstacles and communicating during contingencies. If we decide to proceed with FD as a club by any approach, I will prepare the log program and instructions to allow everyone to log separately in a consistent format so that I can merge the results for submission.

Thoughts?

Dean
K9JDW

Election of Officers

January started the process for election of club offices. If you would like to nominate someone or run for offices yourself, please let the Sergeant at Arms, Dan, KD9ADB know. The current slate of nominees is:

President:	Randy, KC9MZ
Vice President:	Michael, KA9HNT and Jim KD9BLA
Secretary:	Steve, W9ZS
Treasurer:	Bob, WA9TUG
Publicity Activist:	Dan, K9JDW
Sgt at Arms:	Dan, KD9ADB
Activity Manager:	Jim, KD9BLA

Still postponed due to CV-19.

Here are some shorts:

Our "On the Air Meeting" held on April 30th had approximately 25 check-ins. One of the discussion topics was FD. If you want to participate, please let me know.

Dues became due January 1st, please see Bob, WA9TUG. Bob has said there are quite a few members who haven't paid their 2020 club dues. Please help support your club and pay your dues! Bob said you can mail them to our PO Box 94 or to his home address: 5 Seven Iron Court, Belleville, Illinois, 62220. Thank you.

In case you missed Bob Heil's Heil Ham Radio Day 2020 here's the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVZjL9iq12s>

I'm attaching some information from the ARRL about canceled events and upcoming FD.

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.

Hope to hear you on the air.

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

73 es gud dx,

Randy, KC9MZ

Stay Safe and Stay On the Air

March 2020

With 2020 [ARRL Field Day](#) – one of the biggest events on the Amateur Radio calendar – just about 12 weeks away, ARRL officials are monitoring this situation with the corona virus very closely and paying close attention to all of the information and guidance being offered by the CDC's Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>).

At its core, Field Day is a local event and an opportunity for local amateur radio clubs to showcase the skills, science and technologies that make radio communication such a wonderful hobby and a valuable public service. Since the impact of the corona virus outbreak has been very different in different parts of the country, we recommend that all amateur radio clubs participating in Field Day be in regular contact with their local or state public health officials for their advice and guidance on hosting Field Day activities. This also offers an opportunity for amateur radio clubs to bolster or re-establish their relationships with local and state public health and emergency management officials.

Because of the unique circumstances presented this year, this can be an opportunity for you, your club and/or group to try something new. Field Day isn't about doing things the same way year after year - use this year to develop and employ a new approach that is in line with our current circumstances.

Local club officials are the most appropriate people to be making decisions about their specific Field Day programs. We are all concerned about protecting the health and safety of those participating in or attending Field Day activities, and so we trust local club officials to take the appropriate steps to monitor local conditions and make decisions in the best interest of their communities.

ARRL officials strongly believe that following the guidelines of local, state and national health care professionals will help ensure everyone's safety in the coming weeks and months.

Field Day email from Kermit Carlson, W9XA, Central Division Director, via Curtis, W5DTR:

Dear Central Division Member -

There have been many suggestions for changes to the rules for Field Day-2020 on account of the present social distancing requirements. Below is today's message from the ARRL HQ's Contest Manager, Paul Bourque, N1SFE that explains a change to the listing of club names for Field Day participants. ALL participants will have that participant's club name associated with their listing.

73, Kermit Carlson W9XA
From the ARRL NEWS;

04/22/2020

This year, ARRL Field Day promises to be a unique iteration of this annual event, with many individuals and groups coming up with new and interesting ways to adjust their approach. As an event, Field Day is structured to be versatile and can be adapted for any situation.

Many groups have asked how they can adjust their Field Day planning to address social-distancing guidelines that may be in effect in many areas of the country, as gathering at their traditional Field Day site may not be feasible or safe. Instead of participating in a group event this year, consider operating as a Class B, C, D, or E station, utilizing your own call sign.

ARRL will include club names for all participating stations in the published results, so the efforts of your club's members can be acknowledged. While we will not publish an aggregate club score, seeing the name of your club associated with various individual member's results is certainly a way to highlight your club's activity.

Myriad opportunities are possible in this year's Field Day setting. These are just a couple.

Consider having an intra-club competition among members, seeing who can make the most contacts during the event. You can award prizes or distribute certificates at a club meeting. This can be a fun way to bolster the activities of individual club members, even though they cannot all gather together at the same location this year.

Set up a Field Day Challenge with rival clubs in neighboring communities. See how many members of each club get on the air from their own stations and participate in the event. In addition to "bragging rights," perhaps certificates to the top-scoring individual entries in each category can be presented as part of this inter-club camaraderie.

One club is planning to conduct its Field Day as a 4A club group, with participants spaced to comply with social distancing guidelines within the required 1,000-foot diameter circle and operating individual stations. This club also plans to set up a "Get on the Air" (GOTA) station. The club's plan is to have the GOTA coach at the Field Day site, while GOTA operators participate via remote link.

Another club is planning to set up a remote-controlled station at its usual Field Day site, with club members taking turns controlling the station from their homes. The club is developing a schedule that outlines when each member of the club will be at the helm via the remote link.

Whatever approach you take to this year's Field Day, keep up to date with the current guidelines issued by local and state health agencies that may impact your proposed operation.

ARRL invites your stories about the interesting and creative ways you're planning to use to adapt your Field Day operation. Share these on the ARRL Field Day Facebook page.

For the latest news and updates, visit the Field Day webpage. —

Thanks to ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE

Field Day 2020 — A Time to Adapt

<http://www.arrl.org/news/field-day-2020-a-time-to-adapt>

03/27/2020

Many individuals and groups organizing events for **Field Day** 2020 have been contacting ARRL for guidance on how to adapt their planned activities in this unprecedented time of social distancing and uncertainty.

“Due to the unique situation presented this year, this can be an opportunity for you, your club, and/or group to try something new,” ARRL Contest Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE, said. “Field Day isn’t about doing things the same way year after year. Use this year to develop and employ a new approach that is in line with the current circumstances.”

Social distancing and state and local requirements very likely will impact just how — and even whether — you are able to participate in Field Day this year. ARRL continues monitoring the coronavirus situation, paying close attention to information and guidance offered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)). If social distancing means that Class A with a 30-member team set up in a city park won’t work this year, then it’s time for a Plan B. Part of the Field Day concept has always been adapting your operation to the situation at hand. At its heart, Field Day is an emergency communication demonstration. Field Day rules are flexible enough to allow individuals and groups to adjust their participation and strategies in a way that still addresses their needs while being fun. Some possibilities:

- Encourage club members to operate from their home stations on emergency power (Class E).
- Use the club’s repeater as a means for individual participants to keep in touch during the event.
- Family members interested in operating Field Day and unable to participate as part of a larger group may want to consider setting up a portable station in the backyard with a temporary antenna.

One big impact this year will be a decline in public visibility and any interaction with the visitors. Prudence may dictate dispensing with the ham radio PR table to attract passersby, should you set up in a more public location. It’s okay not to score all the bonus points you may have attempted in the past. Local and served agency officials may be unwilling to visit, which is understandable under the circumstances. Do be sure to reach out to them as part of your preparations and remind them that you look forward to continuing your working relationship with them in the future.

The impact will differ from place to place, so ARRL recommends that all amateur radio clubs participating in Field Day stay in regular contact with local or state public health officials for their advice and guidance on hosting Field Day activities.

Demonstrating an understanding of the health crisis we all face and your willingness to adapt will show that you and your club or group are good working partners with local or served agencies.

“With any emergency preparedness exercise, it’s not about adapting the situation to your operation, it’s about adapting your operation to the situation that presents itself,” Bourque said. “Try something different. Learn something new about how you prepare. It may be a challenge, and you may have to ask yourself if you’re up to the challenge. We hope to hear you on the air over the June 27 – 28 weekend.” — *Thanks to Paul Bourque, N1SFE, and Dan Henderson, N1ND*

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