

SCARC October - 2016

Newsletter of the St. Clair Amateur Radio Club

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 - Larry Wessels
KB4FIO (618) 235-6282
Cell (618) 541-8937
lwessteach@msn.com

Vice Pres - Randy Bastian
KC9MZ 618-235-1444
kc9mz@arrl.net

Secretary -Garry Valentine
N8GIL 618-257-2276
gvalentine@charter.net

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

Sgt at Arms - Dan Campos
KD9ADB 618-236-1509
daniel.campos@charter.net

Activity Mgr- Jim Morgan
KD9BLA
highonharmony@gmail.com

VE Test Coordinator

Randy Bastian, KC9MZ

Repeater Committee

John Sundstrom, WA0LIS

Emergency Comm Committee

Curtis Williams, W5DTR

ARES/RACES net is a Directed Net and is normally conducted by Gene Kraemer, WA9TZL (Tuesdays following the Club "on-the-air" meeting.

Greetings to all the members of **SCARC**, this is the October edition of the SCARC newsletter. You may catch up on earlier newsletters by visiting our website at <http://www.scarc.net>. There is additional information about the club as well as history, special events, club officer information, etc... check it out.

Meeting Date, Time and location: This month's meeting will be on October 27th at the Belleville Fire House #4, with gavel sounding at 8:00PM.

Special Guest: I have invited **Mr. Jim Snipper** of the SAVE (St Clair Associated Vocational Enterprises), to join us and provide information about the SAVE organization. The club voted to donate \$100 to SAVE, and the check will be presented at that time.

News and Special events: The Club continues to make progress as we round out 2016. There are several activities and opportunities for you to get involved and help the club prosper and grow. We voted in our newest member at the September meeting, Kevin Culp, KZ3L (welcome Kevin), and I hope we can recruit many more members. Our meetings are "Open" meetings, meaning you can invite a guest and prospective new member any time, give them a chance to see what we are all about before they would join. October is an active time for Hams, as we have the Illinois QSO party on the 16th and the Halloween Hamfest on the 29th (see article on page 2), and don't forget the Winterfest at the Gateway Convention Center in Collinsville, Jan 28, 2017. On Oct 8th the Antenna Builders will meet in Pleasant Ridge Park to work on antennas for the QSO activities. Get there around 10 AM and plan to work till 2 pm or so... some lunch will be available, but bring a dish to share if you like... Still in October, and as a community service announcement, The Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Fairview heights, and the Knights of Columbus, are having a Craft Fair/ sales event on 15/16 Oct (basically all day)... come see all the things offered... not quite a Ham Fest... but certainly a "fest"... Looking at the November schedule, we see Thanksgiving is coming up fast, it will be on Thursday, Nov 24th causing us to move our club meeting to Thursday, 17th so mark your calendar. That also behooves us to look at December, and the meeting for Dec will be our annual Christmas Dinner and get-together, at Fischer's Restaurant meeting about 6:00PM on the 15th of December (3rd Thursday in Dec), so mark these dates and please plan to join us...

New Members: We did have one new member voted into the club at the Sept meeting, (see above), so please keep asking your friends and relatives if they would like to be Amateur Radio Operators (HAMS) and if so, we can help them get their license, then they can join the club... we all win... win-win is a good thing. We have several new VEs.

Halloween Hamfest:

**25th Annual
HALLOWEEN HAMFEST**

Saturday October 29, 2016

Kirkwood Community Center

111 S Geyer Road Kirkwood, Missouri

7:30 A.M. to Main prize

drawing at 12:00 P.M.

Talk in 147.75/147.15

Tickets in Advance \$3 each or 4 for \$10 Tickets at the Door 2 for \$10

Phone: Bob Sluder at 636-285-7605

Winterfest HAMFEST/CONVENTION

01/28/2017 Location: Gateway Center,

1 Gateway Drive, Collinsville, IL 62234. Sponsor: St. Louis and Suburban Radio Club, Contact:

Rebecca Carroll , KC9CIJ; Phone: 314-496-7271 Email: kc9cij@slsrc.org

No word on cost, but usually \$5.00 to \$7.00 at the door...

Repeater site follow-up: Previous discussion concerning the location facility for the repeater required a meeting of the executive committee, which took place before the August meeting. The results of discussion during the executive committee meeting was that further research into ways to strengthen and improve the K9GXU repeater will be required. The executive committee determined that the falling sand is not that much of a problem, and that to enclose the repeater cabinets in an inside enclosure/shelter, would be too restrictive to any technician that would have to perform maintenance on the repeater. The next item that was discussed was the situation with the tower and the antennas. All agreed the tower needs strengthening as it currently doesn't appear to be in a shape that would allow climbing and replacement of antennas. A manufacturer of that type of tower will be contacted as to additional supports and how much additional stability they add. Also the addition of guy-wires will be investigated. A search for "bucket trucks" will be conducted to see what it would take to remove the antenna currently on top of the tower and replace it with a new dual band antenna and new lead wiring. As this research is completed, a report to the general membership will be made and approval to make the changes will be sought.

Antenna Builders: Mr. Dennis Miller, KM9O is the sponsor, for the October meeting, at Pleasant Ridge Park, FVH. It will be on October 8th beginning at 10:00 AM and lasting till 2 PM (or so). Come on out and get your antennas made and ready for the Illinois QSO party coming on October 16th, For more information, go to <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/stateparties.html>

New Members: One new applications was submitted for club membership at the August meeting. 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.