

SCARC January - 2017

Newsletter of the St. Clair Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 94, Belleville, IL 62222

www.scarc.net

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

Happy New Year to all the members of **SCARC**, this is the first edition of the SCARC newsletter for 2017. 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 January 26th at the Belleville Fire House #4. The meeting starts at 8:00PM. Hope to see you there....

News and Upcoming events for 2017: At the January meeting, the nomination process for all club officers will be opened, with the election at the March meeting. If you would like to serve as a club officer, you can nominate yourself or get your buddy to nominate you. To give everyone a chance to think about it, the process will continue in February with the voting in March. New officers, which will constitute the executive board, will take over immediately after the election in March.

At the meeting in November there was some discussion concerning the possibility of our club maintaining a 2-meter repeater at the new Memorial-East hospital. Since then there has been some discussion between key individuals on email. Since Michael Petz (KA9HNT) knows the individual at the hospital that has discussed this, I asked Michael to invite him to our January meeting to present to the club what their proposal is and what both sides can expect to get out of having another (alternate) repeater for the club. To me, it sounds like a really good deal for the club, but almost anything sounds good to me, so that is why I think it will be great for the club to hear from the hospital representative himself.

Next HAMFEST will be the Winterfest at the Gateway Convention Center in Collinsville, Jan 28th 2017. The Antenna Builders will meet in Granite City at the Egyptian RC club house to work on antennas and other activities. That meeting will be on January 14th. A big reminder for those that haven't yet paid your 2017 club dues, bring your money to the meeting as it will be collected there.

I am holding an application made by Mr. Robert Hayes for membership. He currently does not hold an amateur license and is asking for associate membership. So the growth potential for the club is there. I hope we can recruit many more members in this new year, to share the excitement of HAM Radio with many other people in the area. 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.

New Members: We have one new membership application for the club for the Jan 2017 meeting. 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 that can help.

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; Ph: 314-496-7271 or **Go to** <http://www.slsrc.com/> **for tickets: \$8.00 if purchased in advance - \$10.00 if purchased at the door.**

I have had several good ideas presented to me for the conduct of our meetings, to include having guest speakers and SMEs (Subject Matter Experts) present talks on topics of interest to the club and HAMS in general. With that in mind, at the January meeting we will have the hospital communications rep from Memorial Hospital East provide us information on what they (the hospital) would like to see in terms of the emergency communication provided by amateur radio volunteers. ~ I will develop a "straw-man" plan to present at the Jan meeting for the rest of the year so everyone can see what the initial topics would be and to suggest different ones if there is more interest in a specific area. For example, a talk on the rules and regulations for the General and Extra Class License exams, Common courtesy when on the air, maybe even an introduction to Morse Code (review for the old hams)... give me your ideas I will see about working them in. ~ I will also develop the schedule for the year's activity, which will include the usual July visit to the repeater site, and a family fun pic nick in Sept (probably), and of course the Christmas Dinner in December.

Reminding everyone, we are now a 501C(3) non-profit organization as far as the IRS is concerned. There are a number of companies and foundations that provide financial help to worthy organizations that are recognized non-profits. I recently sent a letter to Emerson Electric to get SCARC on their list, and plan to do more as this year progresses. I appreciate any help or suggestions in this area from any member.

Any member that would like to contact me by email before a meeting to suggest a topic or to provide information for the meeting, you can reach me at: lwessteach@msn.com

Club Officer Elections. (See Article III of the club constitution, and Section 2 of the Bylaws), nominations will be opened in January for all elected officer positions. The election will take place at the March meeting.

Antenna Builders: Mr. Dennis Miller, KM9O is the sponsor/coordinator for all the Antenna Builder's meetings, usually at Pleasant Ridge Park, FVH. They are usually on the second Saturday of the month 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 or Field Day or just having fun DX-ing... For more information, go to our web site: <http://www.scarc.net>

New Members: One new application should be submitted for club membership at each 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.