

St Clair Amateur Newsletter

April 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.)

224.120- Repeater Off The Air, Under Repair

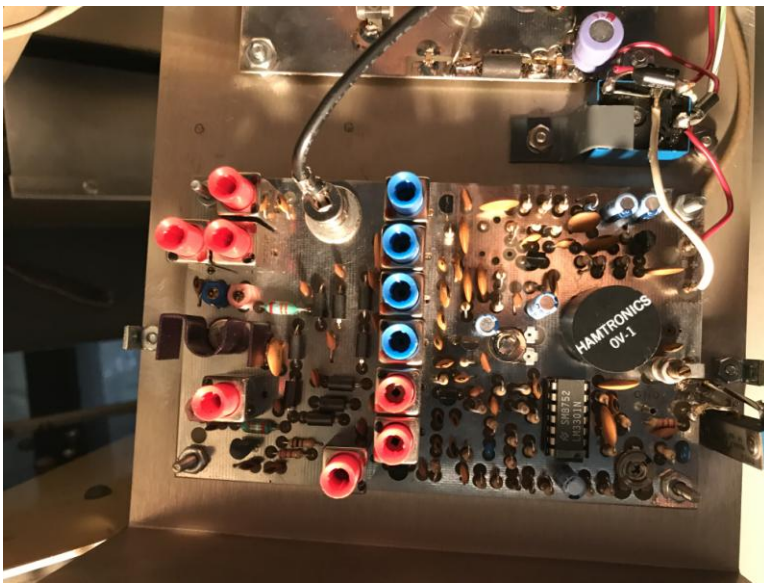


Dale, KB9JJA, showing his Vector Network Analyzer to Steve, W9ZS
KC9MZ photo

On the Air Meeting For Our April 29th Meeting

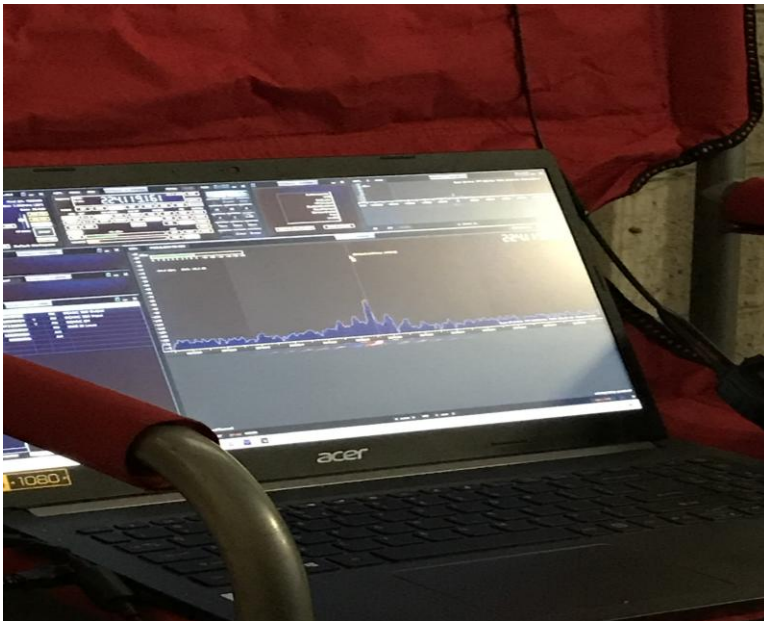
We tried to have an on the air meeting in an effort to support those who couldn't come to the in person meeting for one reason or another. However, at the last minute, we had to move from our February location to make room for the square dancers. The new location was not radio friendly!

The membership agreed to meet at the Moose Lodge for the coming year. I have an idea for antenna placement that *may* give us the opportunity to have the on the air component again. I'll give it a try.



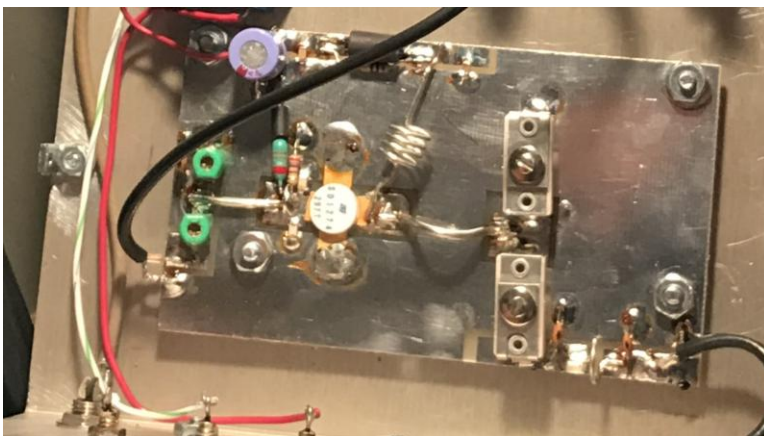
Hamtronics 220 MHz Exciter

KC9MZ photo



Using a SDRPlay receiver to put the 222.520 exciter on frequency

KC9MZ photo



10 Watt PA probably built by Tom, W9TJ

KC9MZ photo

Update on 220 repeater diagnostics and status

I have been playing with the receiver and have discovered two things. The receiver was out of alignment, the squelch circuit is flaky, and there is excessive distortion in the audio chain.

After an alignment, things improved on the bench as far as sensitivity, but the squelch and audio are most likely due to aging components (Capacitors).

Due to its age, I am planning on replacing all the electrolytic and tantalum capacitors, not only in the receiver, but also in the exciter and on the control board.

I continue to see our pesky noise signal on the input of the 220 machine. I still need to track this down, which is going to be tough due to it being intermittent.

This could be masked by turning on a PL tone on the 220 machine; however there is no PL decoder on the 220 machine.

The controller is capable of controlling a PL decoder, and we could turn this on and off via DTMF codes. My concern is that some of the club members might not have PL enabled radios.

I have ordered a PL Decoder (CT-30) and Filter kits where ordered from Kevin at Masters Communications <http://www.masterscommunications.com/>

High grade capacitors have been ordered from DigiKey; they should be here mid week.

Cost is going to be around \$100.00

Parts should be here mid week. I probably will not have time to rebuild everything until next weekend.

I have also gathered all the manuals and parts for the 220 machine, and will be documenting everything so we have it all in one place in the future.

73 de KB9JJA/dale

Operating Events and HAMFESTS:

Annual Armed Forces Day Cross Band Test Set for May 7-8 see: <http://www.arrl.org/news/annual-armed-forces-day-cross-band-test-set-for-may-7-8>

ARRL June VHF Party June 12th -14th see <http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf>

ARRL Field Day June 26th – 27th see <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

West Central Illinois Hamfest, sometimes known as the “Carlinville” Hamfest, is to be August 7th at the Macoupin County Fairgrounds see: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-illinois-hamfest-6>

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>

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 May 27th. 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.

Heil Sound provided the attendance prizes for the March Meeting

Steve, K9SHY, was the winner of the BM-10 headset! Congratulations Steve!

Thanks to Bob, K9EID, for the donation of the prize!

FCC Proposes new fees for Amateur Radio!

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/core/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!

SCARC License Testing in April



Our VE team for April 24th: Steve KA0WBM, Sean KK9U, Gary N8GIL and Randy KC9MZ, taking the picture! KC9MZ photo

The test session was successful, there's a new Technician in town! Say "Hi" to **Patrick Fulton** when you hear him on the Air!

We will be offering a test session mid May at the Swansea Illinois Moose Lodge. If you or someone you know would like to test, please have them email me at kc9mz@arrl.net.

FCC RF Safety Rules to Affect the Amateur Radio Service Effective May 3rd

Amateur Radio stations haven't been required to perform RF exposure evaluations. The Amateur Radio Service had been excluded from performing those evaluations but now will have to.

Starting May 3rd, new standards will go into effect that will require stations in all services to evaluate their installations. If you don't make any changes to your station or antennas, you will have until May 3rd, 2023 to make that evaluation.

Any station or antenna that is modified or new construction will have to complete the RF evaluation.

I'm going to list a number of resources that will help explain what is required or how to perform the RF profile.

ARRL news article Updated Radio Frequency Exposure Rules Become Effective on May 3 04/12/21:
<http://www.arrl.org/news/updated-radio-frequency-exposure-rules-become-effective-on-may-3>

(Next column)

ARRL RF Exposure and You by Ed Hare, W1RFI (free download, it's a large PDF – 316 pages!):

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Technology/RFsafetyCommittee/RF+Exposure+and+You.pdf>

There a lot of resources available on the ARRL RF Exposure web site: <http://www.arrl.org/rf-exposure>

Paul Evans VP9KF RF Exposure Calculator:

http://hintlink.com/power_density.htm

Paul has other calculators available too: <http://hintlink.com/>

K1USN Radio Club had a Zoom meeting on April 28th with ARRL New England Director Fred Hopengarten, K1VR. They will be posting on YouTube. (It was live 4/28 not yet on YouTube.)

A video from Rita's Shack (QRZ):

<https://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/new-fcc-rf-safety-rules-come-into-effect-on-may-3-what-you-need-to-know.761848/>

If anyone has question about completing the evaluations, please let me know and I'll try to get you pointed to someone who can help.

More Silent Keys from our area

Clem Mudd, W9JMY, SK

Karl K9BGL, shared this information about Clem Mudd, W9JMY: "I see in today's News Democrat that Clem Mudd, W9JMY died. He was a little older than all of us. By the time I got started, he had a firm grip on the hobby. He grew up on East Main Street across from the old Douglas School at the top of the hill. He had a Johnson Viking Ranger, a 75A3, and a four element 10 Meter beam, as I remember. He was a very bright, very pleasant fellow. He held several offices in SCARC over the years. I haven't seen him or heard about him in a long time, but I'm sorry to have to realize that he is a SK. KARL- "

Thanks, Karl, I meet Clem at one of my first FDs. He was a nice guy!

Gordon Anson, WB9TGB, SK

Some of us may remember Gordon from his work at Kappels' Computer in downtown Belleville. Gordon was also on 2 meter FM ASFK RTTY and I believe the St. Louis RTTY Repeater. Another nice guy!

Here are some shorts

I've included Clem's and Gordon's obituaries at the end of SCAN. Our sympathy goes out to the families.

Thank you to the Moose for allowing us to meet in their ballroom. There were about 20 in attendance (March 25) on a very cool and rainy night! Thanks Bob, WA9TUG, for making this happen.

We have pavilion #2 at Pleasant Ridge Park reserved for Field Day, June 26th – 27th. Thanks, Michael, KA9HNT!

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 April 29th at 2000 CDT.

73 es gud dx,

Randy, KC9MZ



Clem Mudd, W9JMY

Clemence Mudd, Jr.

December 17, 1937 - March 26, 2021

Belleville, Illinois - Clemence P. Mudd, Jr., 83, of Belleville, IL, born December 17, 1937, in Belleville, IL, died Friday, March 26, 2021, at Evelyn's House, Creve Coeur, MO.

Mr. Mudd was an electronic engineer for the US Army Aviation Systems Command, St. Louis, MO, before retirement. He was a former Special Education Board Member and past President of Belleville School District #118, and former member and past President of the Belleville Philharmonic Society. Mr. Mudd was a life-long member of Amateur Radio Operators, member of the St. Louis Auto Racing Club, and longtime member of the Missouri Botanical Garden.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, Audrey M., nee Davis, Mudd, whom he married on September 3, 1960, and who died on June 4, 2017; his parents, Clemence P. Sr., and Estella K., nee Miller, Mudd; a sister-in-law, Bonnie Fay Sigman; and three brothers-in-law, Donald Davis, Eugene Athmer and Bob Sigman.

Surviving are a son, Clemence III (Tammy) Mudd of New Athens, IL; two daughters, Suzanne (David) Yarber of Belleville, IL, and Sarah (Jeff) Young of Swansea, IL; four grandchildren, Jessica Yarber, Emily Yarber, Clemence Mudd IV, and Katie Young; one step-grandchild, Dusty Pannier; a sister-in-law, Joyce Davis of Belleville, IL; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to Belleville Area Humane Society, or the Missouri Botanical Garden, or to the [charity of the donor's choice](#). Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.rennerfh.com.

Visitation: Friends may visit from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 30, 2021, at George Renner & Sons Funeral Home, Belleville, IL. Standard CDC guidelines, including masks and social distancing will be observed.

Funeral: Private funeral services will be held Wednesday, March 31, 2021.

Burial will be at Green Mount Protestant Cemetery, Belleville, IL.



Gordon Anson

WB9TGB

DECEMBER 19, 1943 – JANUARY 8, 2021

Obituary of Gordon Anson

Gordon Anson, 77, of Fairview Heights, IL, born December 19, 1943, in Poplar Bluff, MO, died on Friday, January 8, 2021 at Big Bend Woods Healthcare Center in Valley Park, MO.

Mr. Anson retired as a Master Sergeant from the United States Air Force on March 1, 1984, with 22 years of service. He was employed by Kappels' Connecting Point in Belleville, IL, as the Service Department Manager until February 1998, and he was then employed at the Marissa Community Unit School District 40 as a Computer Technologist until January 2002. Mr. Anson was a member of the First Baptist Church of Poplar Bluff, MO. He was preceded in death by his parents, Malcolm L. and Anna Jewell, nee Wallis, Anson, and his brother, Gary G. Anson, all of Poplar Bluff, MO; a daughter, Katherine J., nee Anson, Allen, of St. Louis, MO; his father-in-law, Ray A. Beard, of Blytheville, AR; and his aunt Elizabeth Z. Lovelace of St. Louis, MO.

Surviving are his wife, Kathy N., nee Beard, Anson, whom he married September 16, 1966; two daughters, Susan A. (David) Mulcahy, and Melissa K. (Danny) Walker, both of St. Louis, MO; his mother-in-law, Nell D. Beard of Blytheville, AR; three brothers-in-law, Gary F. Beard of Lakeland, TN, Dennis R. and Randy A. Beard, Sr., of Houston, TX; his aunt, Juanita Wallis of Valley Park, MO; four grandchildren, Jilina, Aiden, Samantha, and Megan; and three great-grandchildren, twins Violet and Henry, and Rose. Private family services will be held at Lake View Funeral Home, Fairview Heights, IL.

Memorial donations may be sent to the Parkinson's Foundation. Additional condolences may be sent to the family at www.lakeviewfuneralhm.com.

Please patronize our supporters!

