

SCARC August - 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)

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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.

Greetings to all the members of **SCARC**, this is the August 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 there as well as history, special events, club officer information, etc... check it out.

Meeting Date, Time and location: The August meeting will be on the 25th at the Belleville Fire House #4, with gavel sounding at 8:00PM.

News and Special events: The good news continues as I was informed before the last meeting that the IRS application for 501c(3) classification was essentially approved but we needed to add a couple of additional paragraphs from the IRS to the club Constitution. Through an executive meeting and vote by general membership the paragraphs were approved and have been added to the Constitution. We all must thank our long time and faithful member, Mr. Harry Church, W0KXP, for his help in making this happen. Harry stepped forward and sponsored our application for 501c(3) tax exempt status. Harry, can we ever thank you enough!!

Repeater Site: I will be having executive meetings and will organize a planning and growth committee to begin laying the groundwork for new things to happen. If you would like to serve on and be a part of this committee, let me know at the next meeting or give me a call (618-541-8937) and we will discuss it. It will take all of us working together with the same goal in mind to grow this club to its fullest potential. As a result of the tour to our repeater facilities several needed improvements were identified. The location of the repeater and the antenna tower were under discussion to be moved to another location at the SAVE site. Since I have met with both the Field Engineer for Ameren Illinois, Rick, and Mr. Jim Sniper of the SAVE site I do not think a move is needed at this time, but we do need to strengthen the current facility setup. See continuation on page 2 for the rest of the story on the **Repeater site**.

SCARC Family Picnic: The Club's Family Picnic which will be on August 13th, at Pleasant Ridge Park in Fairview Heights. Please come about 11:00 AM and plan to eat around 11:30 to 12:00. It is a "pot-luck" picnic so bring a side dish, chips or salad to share with all. The Club will provide Hamburgers, Hot dogs and Brats, and water and soda to drink. Please come share the good time. ***If it is Raining hard... we will postpone to a later weekend.***

New Members: We did not have any new members to introduce to the club at the July meeting, but 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 a new VE, me...

Want Ads Section: The following is brought to you by Rebecca Carroll (KC9CFJ): Contact Paul (636-253-6402); paulburkhardt53@gmail.com; -Ten Tech Omni-4 - Heathkit SB-1000 Linear amplifier - MJF turntable DSP filter - Johnson Viking Matchbox .. - plus numerous miscellaneous items.



2 radios, 4 rechargeable batteries, 3 external microphones, 1 dual battery charger and several single battery chargers. Contact Ed Palmer; 618-406-1162; eshopper1@sbcglobal.net
Original owner Charles (Chuck) Fischer, N9EKI

Anyone with items for sale – trade – or give away, that is what this space is to be used for or if you need something I can include that and perhaps whoever would have something you need could contact you and then you both would be happy. Remember; “One man’s trash is another man’s treasure...”

Continued: Repeater site: Previous discussion concerning the location of the tower at the SAVE site was focusing on some power lines that run past the antenna tower. I called Ameren and asked if there was any record of whether these lines were “hot” (powered) or not? I was told that a field engineer would have to get in touch with me to answer the question. Today (Monday, 8 Aug) Rick, a field engineer came to my house to check the lines. I explained the lines are at the SAVE site. He said it would be necessary for me to go with him so I could identify exactly which lines I was referring to. So I dropped everything and went right then... didn’t want to lose that opportunity. Rick tested the lines, and initially looked as though they were in fact dead (no power), but that didn’t make sense from the way things looked, so he checked the tester and found it wasn’t working correctly. After a quick field repair, he tested again and found they are powered. (I want a truck with all those tools and a bucket lift on the back, if anyone is looking for a unique gift for me for Christmas...). While at the SAVE site I went to Mr. Jim Sniper’s office and we discussed options I consider most relevant since the executive meeting in July. Generally, leaving both the repeater and the tower where they are, since that will not be a problem for SAVE. Installing an inside shelter for the equipment racks to protect the equipment from falling sand and to take them out of obvious view (added security). The tower will be strengthened by adding an extra support to the outside wall near the top of the wall. This should give additional stability to the tower. Next, add two guy wires to the tower and running along each side of the building. Thus, even in a heavy wind as the storm of July 13, the tower would be protected from coming down on the high power electric wires. Mr. sniper needs to get permission for us to drill into the walls for mounting the brackets. I need to have another executive meeting, to meet before the meeting on 25 August. I will send separate emails to officers. Larry, KB4FIO

Antenna Builders: Mr. Dennis Miller, KM9O is the sponsor, probably at Pleasant Ridge Park, FVH.

New Members: No new applications were submitted for club membership at the July 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.