

# St Clair Amateur Newsletter

August 2023

PO Box 94, Belleville, IL 62222

[www.scarc.net](http://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](mailto:kc9mz@arrl.net)

Vice Pres – Michael Petz  
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Secretary – Kris Crockett  
KD9VRT  
[Kris@collinsintegrated.com](mailto:Kris@collinsintegrated.com)

Treasurer - Bob Thurgood  
WA9TUG (618) 239-9847  
[wa9tug@arrl.net](mailto:wa9tug@arrl.net)

Sgt at Arms - Dan Campos  
KD9ADB  
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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  
Dale Wentz, KB9JJA, Project Manager  
Garry 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.)

## Successful Test Session!

### Two New Technicians!



Larry K9LWW, Douglas Rader, and Garry N8GIL

KC9MZ photo



Larry K9LWW, Patrick Jessee, and Garry N8GIL

KC9MZ photo

# Operating Events and HAMFESTS:

September 9<sup>th</sup> Club Breakfast

September 9<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> Bike MS Contact Lewis and Clark ARC if you can help

September 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> ARRL VHF Party see: [September VHF \(arrl.org\)](http://September VHF (arrl.org))

September 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Midwest Superfest (Peoria Hamfest)

see: [Midwest Superfest | W9UVI: Peoria-Area Amateur Radio Club](http://Midwest Superfest | W9UVI: Peoria-Area Amateur Radio Club)

October 28<sup>th</sup> Halloween Hamfest Kirkwood, MO community Center

see: [Welcome to the Halloween Hamfest Home Page](http://Welcome to the Halloween Hamfest Home Page)

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](http://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

## 20 Meter DX Openings

The 20-meter band has had great propagation lately as I worked the following stations Sunday evening:

| Station | frequency    | signal level | on receive                   |
|---------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| S573DX  | 14.274.9 MHz | 5/s9         | special event station        |
| MI0DBN  | 14.315 MHz   | 5/S9         | Leiam(op) in Belfast Ireland |
| UY2VM   | 14.247 MHz   | 5/S9         | Victor(op) in Ukraine        |
| MW0YVK  | 14.258 MHz   | 5/S9         | Eddy(OP) in Wales            |

I use a Kenwood TS590S at 100 watts with a homemade dipole antenna up 45 feet.

Gene WA9TZL

## VE Testing August 26<sup>th</sup> at the Moose Lodge

We had a very successful test session last Saturday. Douglas Rader and Patrick Jessee both passed their Technician License. Congratulations guys!

Thank you to our VEs, Larry K9LWW, Garry N8GIL, and Randy KC9MZ!

If you would like to upgrade, or, if you know of someone who would like to test for their license, please have them email me, Randy, KC9MZ at [kc9mz@arrl.net](mailto:kc9mz@arrl.net).

The next test session is September 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Moose Lodge.

**Meeting Date, Time and Location:** Next month's meeting will be on September 28<sup>th</sup>. It will be at the Swansea Moose Lodge. The meeting will be in the Game Room, the last door past the dining room.

**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 and prospective members and thank them for their interest in Ham Radio.

## Bike MS

Lewis and Clark Radio Club (LCRC) has volunteered to assist with communications for the Bike MS event in September, 2023

Bike MS is the Muscular Sclerosis 150 mile bike event occurring on September 9-10, 2023

As in the past, the event will be centered around Lewis and Clark community College in Godfrey, IL. LCRC will be using our 145.230 repeater and simplex for the event. We will need 24-36 volunteers for the event.

Radio volunteers for net control and rest stops, communicators to accompany the sag and break down vans, as well as medical and support teams.

More details are pending a meeting with The Bike MS organizers later this month. Volunteers from any club are welcome to come out and participate.

There is an official sign up process being developed as well as a schedule and position roster.

Anyone interested in participating can contact me at the following emails, and we will add you to the email list for updates.

Jim Pearson

[pearson1313@yahoo.com](mailto:pearson1313@yahoo.com)

or

[vp@k9ham.org](mailto:vp@k9ham.org)

618-407-9533

## One way to label cables



KC9MZ photo

Charlie N9PBK showed me this idea a few years ago. It works well and it's free!

## MFJ Offers Tuner Kit



I saw this on one of the many Ham Radio web sites. There are a lot of kits out there but this one might be the best one for the beginning kit builder because of the size of the parts. Cost around \$200.00. – KC9MZ

Picture from Gigaparts.com

## Here are some shorts

Our next test session will be September 23<sup>rd</sup> 9:30 AM, Swansea Moose Lodge. Thank you to our VEs Larry K9LWW, Gary N8GIL, Julio AA2KF, Steve K9SHY, Jim KD9BLA and Randy KC9MZ.

Don't forget the "Good Morning Net" M-F, 7-8 am by Larry, K9LWW, and Julio, AA2KF. Also the 224.12 MHz Net is on Thursdays, 7 pm by Steve, W9ZS and Tim KD9TRP has a 444.625 MHz at 7 pm on Wednesdays. Thank you guys for running these fine nets!

Please send anything you might have for SCAN to [kc9mz@arrl.net](mailto:kc9mz@arrl.net).

Thank you to Gene WA9TZL for your input to SCAN.

I hope you can attend our August meeting on August 31<sup>st</sup> at 8pm CDT.

Please pray for peace in Ukraine!

73 es gud DX,

Randy, KC9MZ

Please patronize our supporters!



Bike MS is the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's biggest fund raising event. The 2023 event will be the Gateway Chapter's 39<sup>th</sup> year, and it has grown to raise over \$1,000,000 annually to fund research that will hopefully lead to a cure for this devastating disease.

This year's ride will be held on Saturday and Sunday September 9-10 and is based at Lewis and Clark Community College in Godfrey. Routes in Madison, Jersey and Macoupin Counties range from 25 to 100 miles each day and are shown on the attached map. Over 1,000 cyclists are expected to participate.

For many years, amateur radio provided communications support for the ride. The event was cancelled in 2020 when COVID hit and key local staff members were laid off. The final decision to hold an event in 2021 was not made until late spring and instead of having a local logistics manager the staff person in Chicago was tasked to coordinate logistics for the event. She had used a communications system based on cellular technology for her events and decided to use it here also. In 2022 there were several staff changes and the decision was made to use that system again. It worked well but was very expensive and staff would like to return to using amateur radio for communications.

What we would like from the club is two coordinators, one for volunteer matters and another to handle the technical aspects. The volunteer coordinator would recruit the volunteers and work with the MS Staff Volunteer Manager to make sure all documentation was completed. The technical coordinator would make sure all needed equipment was set up, tested and ready for the event. Both coordinators would work together to review and update instructions and provide training if needed before the event.

This year, we anticipate twelve mobile communicators will be needed:

- eight SAG vehicles (crew cab pickup trucks)
- one shuttle team (15 passenger and cargo vans running together)
- one supply teams
- two shadow communicators

Vehicles and drivers will be provided.

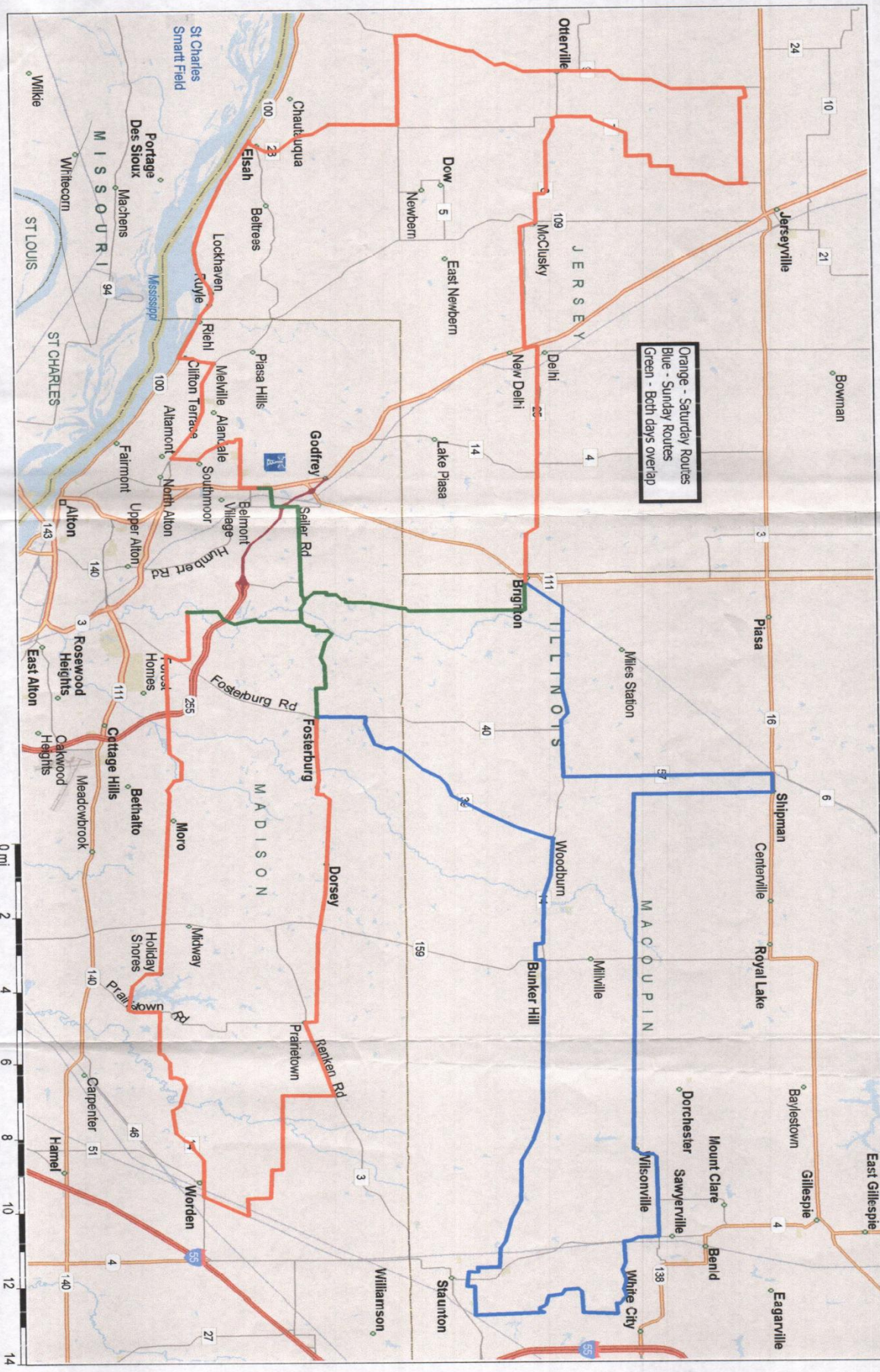
There will be eight rest stops on Saturday and six on Sunday. One communicator would be stationed at the medical tent on the campus and three experienced net control operators would be needed. I would be in net control, along with staff and the SAG coordinator.

Net Control will be located in the Ringhausen Music Building on campus and will be in operation from 5:30 am to approximately 6:00 pm each day.

The primary contact and liaison with MS staff would be the volunteer Route Support Team Coordinator:

Al Guise  
KD0BFG  
314-496-7601  
alguise01@yahoo.com

MS23 both days for comm



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