



## STATIC

A Monthly Publication of the Starved Rock Radio Club Vol. 75 Iss. 09

September 2007

### **Meeting Notes...**

The September meeting started at 7:00pm with thirteen members present. Minutes and Treasurer's report were passed to the members for their perusal. Frank, KF9NZ asked if there were any questions about the Treasurer's Report. Tom, K9ML asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the group. Rich, N9OUW motioned to accept the minutes and report. Eldon, KB9PZA seconded the motion and the members voted Aye.

**Equipment:** Kurt, KB9RKU was not present. Cecil, KB9LNK mentioned work on club computers going OK and the take down of the HF tower.

**Buildings and Grounds:** Cecil asks members who stop by to trim Nature's Carpet at the clubhouse if it needs it.

**Repeater:** Frank says its working good. Cecil mentions Sunday and Wednesday Nets.

**Repeater Monitor:** Rich has no complaints.

**Hamfest:** Frank sent out flyers and tickets to three hamfests. There is a Hamfest Committee meeting on Sept. 29 at 10am.

**Training:** Joe, KB9EZZ mentions JOTA on Oct. 20. JOTA will have VE/CE session and practice NARS message forms with voice and packet. NARS training will continue through March. There is a VE session on Sept. 29 at clubhouse.

**Old Business:** Cecil thanks Pat, KC6VVT for helping with Paul, AA9VR's antenna and tower work. Paul rented 60-foot derrick to erect tower. Continue the take down of the club's HF tower on Sept. 22 if people are available.

**New Business:** Pat has two presentations of ARES certificates. Frank, KF9NZ gets commendation award for fifteen years of service for LaSalle County ARES work. Frank recently retired as RACES/ARES coordinator. Joe, KB9EZZ gets ARES EC certificate as he takes over Frank's duties with LaSalle County EMA. Joe says he will try to get people to step forward with both groups. Joe brings collection of electronic goodies from Mike Mcnatt, WB5RRP. Tom will send letter to Mike thanking him for his donation. The announcement was made of Jack Eilts, W9LQ SK  
Tom reads correspondence from WE7GV with QSL request, IVARC donation request and AES Yaesu Open House on Sept. 22.  
Pat mentions Lincoln NWS Open House on Sept. 29. Romeoville will have an open house in October. Frank mentions Skywarn Appreciation Day is coming in December.

Dennis, KC9EXG received \$12 for 50/50 drawing. Eldon, KB9PZA wins drawing and donates his winnings to club treasury. Eldon mentions effort to improve lightning protection.

Frank mentions that he is now an ARRL Technical Specialist. Pat mentions club now has two TS as club members. Tom is TS, too.

Frank motions to adjourn and Rich seconds.

Meeting ends at 7:37pm.

**~Recorded by Tom Chromzack, K9ML~**

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## **Frank Garraro, KF9NZ earns Awards**

*Frank Carraro KF9NZ received this new ARRL Emergency Communications Commendation in recognition of his meritorious service in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) in Illinois, and has clearly earned this commendation for his many contributions to emergency communications and preparedness. This new ECC award from the ARRL is not for only his own jurisdiction as a local Emergency Coordinator (EC), but for the influence and example he set in Emergency Communications via amateur radio (EmComm) for all in North Central Illinois, and the Illinois ARES.*

*Frank rightfully claims to have started ARES® in this area of Illinois long ago. As a local ARRL EC, Frank has always been a fine mentor and a stalwart proponent of EmComm - not only the LaSalle County jurisdiction, but throughout the North Central region of Illinois. Frank's unceasing support for EmComm resulted in the appointment of many new Emergency Coordinators in adjacent counties of Illinois from the wide membership area served by the Starved Rock Radio Club. Some of these new EC have worked with Frank KF9NZ in many club activities and later in ARES® after appointments were made. Many programs in the Illinois ARES® has been adopted and modeled on the successful local ARES support begun by Frank and his team, and supported by the fine resources of the SRRC.*

*Amateur radio emergency communications support to LaSalle County could have waned when the former long time Emergency Services and Disaster Agency retired from LaSalle County service. Soon after the new Emergency Manager for LaSalle County was named, the killer tornado of 2004 followed, and struck many communities, including Utica and other LaSalle County areas. Frank's diligence ensured that the SRRC and ARES® were ready, and all responded well to the local disaster. Not only to the disaster, but in the long recovery period that followed. Support via the local repeaters and simplex nets to the Red Cross and the Salvation Army was there, again as a result of mentoring and leadership to the strong team organized by KF9NZ and club leadership.*

*Frank and his team later ensured that the new LaSalle County EMA, along with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Regional Coordinator. Were introduced to the SRRC, and helped forge a strong club relationship with the new EMA. A MOU and the establishment of RACES followed, and Frank was appointed as the county RACES lead, another first in LaSalle County.*

The many successful LaSalle Station NG exercises are only part of the local record of long time accomplishment, - these supported nuclear power plant evaluations help keep the power on the grid not only for here, but across the country. These test exercises are where I first personally saw Frank in action, and his volunteers serve in EmComm activities in this biannual exercise, and many other areas.

KF9NZ was also presented the Certificate of Merit for his nearly 15 years of service to the ARRL as a local Emergency Coordinator, an ARRL leadership appointment in the ARRL Field Service in and for LaSalle County, IL jurisdiction. Frank's long service is recognized as both a current and past officer of the SRRC, an ARRL Affiliated Club and Special Service Club. His support for the ARRL and active efforts to encourage high standards have been second to none. Thanks to that growth and preparation, and his considerable influence, knowledgeable and able leadership will follow his example and course.

~Pat Ryan, KC6VVT, ARRL Illinois Section Emergency Coordinator

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### **In the News...**

On September 15<sup>th</sup> there was an article published in The Times, a daily newspaper based out of Ottawa, Illinois, highlighting Joe Tokarz, KB9EZZ and his recent appointment as EC for LaSalle County. Numerous attempts were made to contact the Managing Editor of The Times, Lonnie Cain, for permission to reprint the article for STATIC. Mr. Cain for unknown reasons failed to reply to any email or phone messages left. Any member who wishes to view the article online may do so by going to the following web link:

<http://mywebtimes.com/ottnews/archives/ottawa/display.php?id=341071>

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### **Tal Ruckman, W9DKF, SK**

Talbert Ruckman, W9DKF of Streator passed away on Tuesday, Sept 18<sup>th</sup>. Funeral Services for Mr. Ruckman were held on at Solon, Baker and Telford Funeral Home with burial in Hillcrest Memorial Park. Mr. Ruckman was the father-in-law to Paul Roberts, KA9VAU.

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### **Jamboree on the Air**

***Starved Rock Radio Club Hams work with scouts to make World-Wide radio contacts***

Starved Rock Radio Club (SRRC) Amateur Radio operators will assist scouts in making World-Wide radio contacts during the Jamboree-On-The-Air on Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup> at Chief Shabbona County Park.

According to Joe Tokarz of the SRRC, "We hope to make this the fifth year we contact former scouts on the International Space Station!"

When Scouts want to meet young people from another country, they usually think of attending a World Jamboree. But few people realize that each year

more than 400,000 Scouts and Guides "get together" over the airwaves for the annual Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA).

Modern technology offers Scouts the exciting opportunity to make friends in other countries without leaving home. JOTA is an annual event in which Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other by means of Amateur (ham)Radio. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared via radio waves. Since 1958 when the first Jamboree-on-the-Air was held, millions of Scouts have met each other through this event.

Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in pen pals and links between Scout troops that have lasted many years. With no restrictions on age or on the number of participants, JOTA allows Scouts to contact each other by ham radio. The radio stations are operated by licensed ham radio operators.

JOTA operations will be at Chief Shabbona County Park just North of Ottawa at 1550 N 42nd Road. Set up begins Saturday at 8am. Examinations for the Federal Amateur Radio license will be from 10am to Noon.

For more information, contact Joe Tokarz [kb9ezz@arrl.net](mailto:kb9ezz@arrl.net)

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## **Upcoming Events**

Every Saturday  
LaSalle Co ARES Breakfast  
Ottawa Burger King  
8am

Every Wednesday Night  
SRRRC Weekly Net  
147.120 (+) 103.5

Every Sunday Night  
LaSalle Co ARES Net  
147.120 (+) 103.5

September 29<sup>th</sup>  
VE Session  
SRRRC Clubhouse

October 1<sup>st</sup>  
SRRRC Meeting  
SRRRC Clubhouse  
7pm

October 20<sup>th</sup>  
JOTA  
Shabbona County Park  
Contact: [kb9ezz@arrl.net](mailto:kb9ezz@arrl.net) for more info

October 6th  
NWS Open Houses  
Chicago and Lincoln WFO

**PLEASE SEE THE SPECIAL NOTICE ATTACHED BELOW  
COCERNING NOMINATIONS FOR 2008 OFFICERS**

## **SPECIAL NOTICE**

**Editor's Note:** *The following special notice is to serve as nomination of club officers for the 2008 year. The nominations were held at the November 5, 2007 meeting of the SRRC. It was asked by club president, Cecil, KB9LNK that this notice be put in with the next distributed issue of STATIC. The editor will also enclose with the Oct / Nov issues of Static.*

### **NOMINATIONS FOR CLUB OFFICERS (2008)**

**President:** Cecil, KB9LNK & Kurt, KB9RKU

**Vice President:** Eldon, KB9PZA & Rich, N9OUW

**Secretary:** Tom, K9ML

**Treasurer:** Frank, KF9NZ

**Editor of STATIC:** Keith, KB9VFX

**Directors:** Gene, N9MRG  
Jim, KC9FGU  
Dennis, KC9EXG  
Rick, K05HKO  
Kim, KC9EMO

