

Libertyville MARC Station is Operational!

After much anticipation, the Ham Radio Station at Libertyville Motorola PCS is now on the air. The first contact made was by Fred Sanborn (KG9X) on 20M SSB with Igor (OZ/RZ9OU), an operator in Denmark. Following some further testing, a special event was held Saturday, Oct. 2, 2004 to inaugurate the station, commemorating the 76th anniversary of Motorola (more details in station report section following this article).



Superior in his motor coach, talked to us about the Motorola products he sells. Philip (K0WHI) from Missouri told us he was listening to us thru a black 4x4 Motorola speaker. What a great way to connect with the Ham community! Many Hams wished us well with our station including several local Motorola MARC Schaumburg Hams informing us that our system was performing as well as their set-up at home."

The station is a result of several months of planning by a station committee of the PCS Motorola Amateur Radio Club, which met for the first time in December, 2003. By November a room was obtained for the station, and outfitted with computer and benches. It is located on the basement level of the building. The Facilities Group worked with the Club to ascertain the station requirements, and installed 650 feet of our coaxial cable in four separate runs to mounting brackets on the roof.

A group of Club Members had earlier completed a rooftop safety training course. On a crisp October afternoon Jerry, Wayne, Fred and Ken trekked across the vast gravel expanse that is the Facility roof, carrying a shiny MFJ-14AVQ Multiband Vertical antenna. The breeze was almost cool enough to chill Fred's 200 watt iron, but with some care the connector was put on, sealed, and the antenna mounted. The sun was setting, so no attempt was made to outfit the other three cables. Later the area was tested for RF Safety by Luis Santini from Motorola EHS, and John (K0HVS). (continued next page)



Jerry commented, "We contacted over 100 Hams during our event Saturday from all around the USA. Several contacts were with Motorolans or those familiar with our products. Lee (WD0BYM) a 25 year Salesman for Motorola equipment who was vacationing near Lake



KM0TO Newsletter – November 2004

The station will soon be available to club members, and relies on donations for equipment. Currently, the radio equipment consists of a borrowed Kenwood TS-440 and a Motorola CDM1500 UHF mobile. A Comet GP-9 VHF/UHF vertical was recently installed and plans call for a tuned wire antenna for 80/160M

and a 6M dipole. In addition to regular member usage of the station, volunteer activities are foreseen that will contribute to the community. The club holds monthly meetings, and all interested parties are welcome.

73, Ken / KW9U



KM0TO Charter, Constitution, and Up-n-Coming Elections

The Libertyville KM0TO club continues to grow! During the October meeting, we reported on the installation of antennas on the roof. This month, our focus is on the club's operation, special events, and contests. We encourage you to stop by the radio room, make some contacts and new friends on the air!

Based on feedback from the October meeting, an updated version of the Constitution has been posted in compass at:

<http://compass.mot.com/go/151986162>. We will review and request approval for this final version at the November 10th meeting. Please contact Jerry Breuss prior to the meeting if you have any additional updates.

We invite you to become a club charter member and fulfill the vision in establishing a club in Libertyville, be sure to attend the November meeting. We will put in place interim officers

until the January 2005 meeting, where the officers elected at the December meeting will take their positions. Below is a list of positions of those who have volunteered with others seeking a position to be nominated at the November meeting.

President: Jerry Breuss N9GGO
Vice President: Open
Secretary: Ken Willmott KW9U
Treasurer: Wayne Wagner AA9DY
Trustee 3yr: Howie Huntington K9KM
Trustee 2yr: John Boos N0BMP
Trustee 1yr: Fred Sanborn KG9X

If anybody else is interested in running for any of the above positions, please let us know so your name will go on the ballot. Open nomination period is from the start of the November meeting (11/10/2004) through the closing of nominations at the December meeting on 12/08/2004. KM0TO officer elections will be held at the December meeting, with installation of officers at the January meeting. -73, Jerry / N9GGO

KM0TO Operating Activity Report

Special Event Station – October 2nd, 2004.

The Motorola Amateur Radio Club (KM0TO) celebrated the birth of the station in Libertyville.

Ken (KW9U) and Jerry (N9GGO), worked 20M and 40M SSB in the morning, and Wayne (AA9DY) and Howard (K9KM) rounded out the day with 52 phone contacts and 12 CW contacts, mostly on 20M. They worked the California QSO party, W1AW (Hiram Percy Memorial Station), and a Nova Scotia Island (IOTA NA-081). See the article "Libertyville MARC Station is Operational!" for more info.

Recent Contests Operated:

California QSO Party – October 2-3, 2004

- Worked by Wayne (AA9DY) and Howie (K9KM);
- 52 phone contacts; 12 CW contacts; 37 counties worked (out of 58 possible); contacts made on 10m, 15m, 20m bands; Score = 5,180 points

Illinois QSO Party – October 17, 2004

- Worked by Jerry (N9GGO) and his wife (Kathy);
- 34 phone contacts; 24 counties worked (out of 102 possible); contacts made on 40m; Score = 986 points

Other State QSO Parties that happened around Sept/Oct time from included Texas, and Pennsylvania. These were

not worked by KM0TO this year. Maybe next time we can spur interest in participating. For those who participated in the CA and IL QSOP's, all had a great time!

Future events:

November Sweeps (see [QST](#) or [arrl.org](#) for details)

- CW Nov 6-8
Coordinator: ?
- SSB Nov 20-22
Coordinator: Wayne Wagner / AA9DY

QSL Cards:

I quickly whipped together a QSL card for our special event contacts, using a photo ink-jet printer and photo paper. A copy for club viewing will be placed in the shack. I would like to keep this particular card for just the contacts from the October 2nd event. An order for QSL cards for general contacts still needs to be placed.

We have exchanged QSL cards for 15 QSO's to date. Since this is the first QSL report I will list all these callsigns. They include: KF9II, WN4DW, WB0RUT, WB8CTC, W8WG, N9EP, N2JTX, N9BT, N3NH, KM4FO, KB3DAI, WO0DS, KD4SVN, W4CGK, KD4GBA.

In subsequent reports, only new QSL exchanges will be reported.

Worked All States (WAS) Status:

We have worked 8 states to date. They include: Indiana, Tennessee, Missouri, Ohio, Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania, and Kentucky

73, Wayne / AA9DY

Notes from the QSL Manager

I am still learning what to do as a QSL Manager, and I am setting myself up to QSL via all common modes possible. These modes include paper and a new method--electronic (eQSL and Logbook of the World). For those of you not familiar to the new paperless way of QSL'ing, please see the snippet on "Paperless QSL'ing".

I am forming my operating policies on QSL'ing and logbook management. Here is what I plan on doing so far:

- 1) Upload logs to both eQSL and LoTW on a monthly basis, sooner if there is enough activity, such as special events or contests.
- 2) Given that we are surviving on

donations for now... I will QSL only if we receive a QSL, or on a quarterly basis an award and log review will be done to see which QSO's we would like to QSL for award credit or based on a unique QTH.

- 3) Review logs on for proper logging content. Especially prior to submitting for contests and uploading files to eQSL and LoTW
- 4) Keep a backup master log file in my possession. This is a softcopy of the logs from the shack computer.

I am open to discussion or tips from anyone to make QSL'ing as smooth as it can be.

73, Wayne / AA9DY
KM0TO QSL Manager

Paperless QSL'ing

There is a new mode of QSL's that has been around for a couple of years now. These modes include paper and a new method--electronic (eQSL and Logbook of the World).

From ARRL's website (<http://www.arrl.org/lotw>), "ARRL's Logbook of the World (LoTW) system is a repository of log records submitted by users from around the world. When both participants in a QSO submit matching QSO records to LoTW, the result is a QSL that can be used for ARRL award credit.

To minimize the chance of fraudulent submissions to LoTW, all QSO records must be digitally signed using a digital certificate obtained from ARRL. Obtaining such a certificate requires verification of the licensee's identity either through mail verification (US) or inspection by ARRL of required documentation (non-US).


Software developed by ARRL can be used to convert a log file (in ADIF or Cabrillo file format)

into a file of digitally signed QSO data, ready for submission to LoTW."

Currently LoTW only has DXCC tracking available. I recently emailed ARRL about the future of more awards, and I was told that Worked All States (WAS) is in the pipeline for the next award to accept credit from LoTW.

eQSL (<http://www.eQSL.cc>) is another forum by which QSL's are confirmed via the internet. They are independent of ARRL's Logbook of the World (LoTW), where they offer their own version of the Worked All States and DX Century Club awards, for example. eQSL's mission is to provide basic electronic QSL card exchange services to all amateurs and SWLs around the world. Beyond the basic service, there are higher levels based on amount of donations given by an individual. Logs are not digitally signed secure like LoTW. Awards offered by eQSL include: eDXtm, eDX100tm, eWAStm, eWAZtm, eGrid HFtm, eGrid VHFtm, and eGrid UHFtm.

73, Wayne / AA9DY

For Sale, Wanted, or Trade**For Sale: Yaesu FT-920 HF/6M (FT920) **

Yaesu FT-920 HF through 6M all-mode radio for sale (see super-size picture at http://www.we9v.com/920_1.jpg). See Yaesu specifications for this radio [here](#). Includes INRAD 400 Hz CW filter, stock 2.4kHz SSB Yaesu filter, hand mic, FM board installed, manual, DC power cord, original Yaesu double box, plus third box for shipping. Radio is in perfect electrically, cosmetically is almost perfect but has three small (1 inch) scratches on top case due to equipment placed on top of it (see actual picture at [here](#)). \$795, you ship/insure from 53104 (or if you are looking to sell your FT-1000MP or Mark V and get onto 6M, I will add cash for trade.)

KM0TO Motorola Amateur Radio Club (MARC) meeting-- Wednesday November 10th at Noon in the Holodeck Conference Room near Door A elevator on the second floor across from MW205. The club meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Where to obtain information:

See the KM0TO club station and activities:
<http://marc.comm.mot.com/marc/stations/km0to/>
See Compass Link:
<http://compass.mot.com/go/km0to>

A mailing list for correspondence between Motorolan Hams in the Libertyville area has been created. You are free to subscribe and unsubscribe as you wish. Subscription approval should be immediate. To subscribe go to: <http://maillist.mot.com/default.asp> List name to sign up for is: "KM0TO1" without quotes - I SPELL "kilo mike zee-ro tango oscar wun"

We intend to publish this newsletter monthly during the week prior to the monthly meeting. If you have a short article or a Sale/Trade/Wanted listing that you would like to submit for newsletter publishing, please forward it to Ken Willmott (KW9U). Thank you.

73, KM0TO Newsletter Staff
