

# THE BLACK HOLE



ARRL SS Unlimited Team Champs 2000, 2001, 2002

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## Guest op For SS 2004

By George Zurbuchen, K9CC

*Ed. George took the initiative to organize guest operations to maximize SMC activity, and put us on track to retake the gavel this year. If you're looking for a station, have an open station, or open seats at a multi-op, contact George now! K9CC@comcast.net*

OK less than a month to go to SS!! Here is what I currently have;

NO9Z in Urbana IL area looking for operator(s) both week ends. His plans not final until late October.

KO1H may operate there.

K9SD looking for operator(s) on CW weekend.

W9TMU looking for operator(s) both week ends.



(Continued on page 3)



Low-band legends, ON4UN, WB9Z, and K9DX

SMC at W9DXCC 2004



SMCers, WB9Z, K9PG, and N9KO

# The Black Hole



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Pat Barkey, N9RV

Material for **The Black Hole** should be forwarded to:

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Membership in **The Society of Midwest Contesters** is open to all persons with a bona-fied interest in amateur radio contesting. The club doesn't collect annual dues, but instead funds everything through member donations. For more information contact one of the following officers:

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## SMC Needs Your Financial Support

As one of the top contest clubs in the nation, we continue to sponsor plaques for a number of major contests including Sweepstakes, ARRL DX, CQWW, and CQWPX, as well as make monetary donations in the interest of promoting radio sporting.

A few years ago, we decided to eliminate formal dues of \$10 per year, and instead, maintain funds through member donations. We encourage all members to consider making an annual donation to the club. Your generous donations allow us to continue to expand our support of radio sporting.

You can make your donation two ways:

1. Send a check, money order, or cash to:

JON OGDEN, NA9D  
905 SURREY LN  
ALGONQUIN IL 60102-2058

2. Use Paypal at [www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com) and email your donation to [dues@w9smc.com](mailto:dues@w9smc.com).

# W9SMC

Official Callsign  
of  
The Society of Midwest Contesters

SMC Web Page: [www.w9smc.com](http://www.w9smc.com)

## SMC Stuff

To get your SMC stuff, see the last page of the newsletter or visit the SMC website, <http://www.w9smc.com/merchandise.htm>



**Badges**

**Order Today!**



**Shirts**

WA9IRV looking for place to operate on CW week end preferably north. If he doesn't find anything else he will operate at K9CC.

K9CC operating multiop with N9UM on phone, and with WA9IRV on cw if he doesn't find something closer to home. If I don't do multi with WA9IRV, I could use second operator at K9CC on cw. If I operate with WA9IRV it will be multi op, since he lives outside the circle. Otherwise we could both use our own calls.

Note that if you operate with separate operators using their own calls they must use separate radios including amps.



## FCC Acts on BPL

by ARRL Headquarters

Meeting October 14 in open session, the FCC adopted revised Part 15 (unlicensed services) rules to specifically regulate broadband overpower line (BPL) systems. Specifics of the new rules in a Report and Order in ET Docket 04-37 won't be known for a few weeks. In comments before voting, three members of the Commission, including Chairman Michael K. Powell, specifically mentioned the concerns of Amateur Radio operators and expressed either assurances or hope that the new BPL rules will adequately address interference to licensed services.

Republican FCC Commissioner Kevin Martin addressed Amateur Radio's and broadcasters' interference concerns in his written statement. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, said he was encouraged to see the Commission acknowledge interference to Amateur Radio as a genuine issue in the BPL proceeding. "What the League has done in the last year and a half on this issue showed in the Commission's public meeting today," Haynie said. He cited the FCC's approval of three major points that the League had been pushing for: Certification of BPL equipment instead of verification, a requirement for a public BPL database--something the BPL industry did not want--and mechanisms to deal swiftly with interference complaints.

Anh Wride of the FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET), outlined the draft R&O and acknowledged that Access BPL devices "pose a somewhat higher potential for interference to licensed radio services than typical Part 15 devices." But, Wride went on to say, "we believe the specific benefits of BPL warrant acceptance of a small degree of additional risk, and that this interference potential can be satisfactorily managed."

Commissioner Michael Copps, a Democrat, said he remains concerned about interference to Amateur Radio

users. "I take the concerns of this community very seriously and believe that the FCC has an obligation to work hard to monitor, investigate and take quick action, where appropriate, to resolve harmful interference." Copps said if interference occurs, "we must have a system in place to resolve it immediately," and he expressed the hope that the new rules would include such "rapid turnaround" provisions. Copps, who dissented in part with the R&O, raised the question of whether utility ratepayers should have to "subsidize an electric power company's foray into broadband."

The Commission's other Democrat, Jonathan S. Adelstein, said the interference question made the proceeding a challenging one because it had to accommodate concerns raised by Public Safety licensees, federal government users and Amateur Radio operators. "These are important services that we need to protect from harmful interference," Adelstein said.

Adelstein also said that while it's clear that some BPL systems can co-exist with existing licensees, others "haven't fared so well." He said those systems shouldn't be deployed commercially until it's assured that they won't cause harmful interference.

Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy, a Republican, said the FCC had to "make some hard compromises" to deal with questions about interference. But she expressed confidence in "technical solutions."

Chairman Powell called it "a banner day" for communications in the US because, he said, BPL promises "ubiquitous service to all Americans at affordable rates." The chairman, a Republican, conceded that BPL will affect some spectrum users--including "all those wonderful Amateur Radio operators out there." Powell said the FCC has taken Amateur Radio interference concerns seriously from the start and has taken care to ensure that protections are in place "to allow that service to continue." At the same time, Powell implied that the FCC must balance the benefits of BPL against the relative value of other licensed services.

"But let me underscore the potential for the American economy is too great, too enormous, too potentially groundbreaking to sit idly by and allow any claim or any possible speculative fear keep us from driving this technology and drive America into the broadband future."

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, suggested that Powell was overstating the necessity of yet another broadband pipeline. "It's astonishing to me that the chairman of the FCC can talk about needing a 'third way' to provide broadband to consumers when multiple technologies already are available, including wireless broadband," he said.

# Hooters Hungry 100 Club

by Mike Kasrich, AJ9C



Ok ok....I missed last year and the truth be known, We lost cuz there were no incentives. Well this year folks no excuses.....IT"S BACK! The Hooter's Hungry Hundred Club. For your eating and operating pleasure, each mode in SS.

For the highest 100w tri-bander, simple wire antenna score for each mode a gift certificate for Hooter's Hot wings. Operator must be in the circle and submit the score for the SMC. Simply send me your claimed score after the end of the contest. As an added incentive, even if you are not the high score you won't go hungry. One additional gift certificate per mode will be awarded at random among the remaining entries for each mode without regard to score!

Come one come all and get your appetites and rate working.

P.S. If hooter's is not your bag then you can always "donate" your certificate to the club to help defray the costs of the next gathering at the Dayton Hooter's during the Hamvention.





## WRTC 2006

### Florianopolis Brazil

### 15-16 July 2006

## SMC Stuff



# KC9FD

### SOCIETY OF MIDWEST

Club badges can be obtained by sending a check for \$5.50 to:

**Midwest Engraving**  
6920 W. North Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53213

**Phone (414) 258-8655**  
**FAX (414) 258-8656**

Be sure to note that it is for a "Black Hole" badge and please allow a couple weeks for delivery.

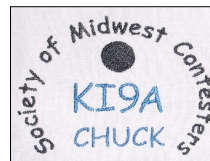
### SMC Clip-on Badge

by NV5A

The SMC logo appears at the top-center of the badge in black and white. Your call sign, first name and city & state appear in dark blue. The SMC name badge as shown with the slot & strap with swivel alligator clip, but there are other choices.

Price: \$14.50 (includes s&h).

Order now from **The SignMan**



### SMC Shirts

SMC short-sleeve Polo shirts are available in two styles: white shirt with "SMC" in black and "name and call" in blue lettering as shown below, or red shirt with black lettering. The cost is \$20, including shipping. You can email your orders to AD9P@swbell.net (Al) or NOUXQ@swbell.net (Sandy)



## Member/New Member Information/ Update Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send updates to:

**JON OGDEN, NA9D**  
**905 SURREY LN**  
**ALGONQUIN IL 60102-2058**

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together today!**



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## The Society of Midwest Contesters

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