



# SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the  
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

February 2020

- **SVARA Meeting Presentations**

We are always looking for ideas for meeting presentations. If you have an idea for a presentation or would like to do a presentation after one of our meetings, please contact Mike KD8MMH or any of the board members with your idea.

- **SVARA MONDAY NIGHT 2 METER NET**

Every Monday at 9:00 PM local time, on the Saginaw repeater – K8DAC 147.24, with a 103.5 PL tone or via EchoLink. All are welcome and encouraged to join in.

**Club Meeting Time and Place:**

Covenant Hospital Anderson building, first floor lecture room on the corner of N. Bond St. and Almira St. on the 1<sup>ST</sup> Friday at 7:00PM unless otherwise noted. Changes are posted to the club website.

**Club Meeting Dates:**

All dates are Fridays: January 1, February 7, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, August 7, September 4, October 2, November 6, December 4

**Club Breakfast Dates (Check the club website for current location):**

A club breakfast is held monthly on the Saturday morning after the meeting, 8:30 a.m. All dates are Saturdays. January 2, February 8, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, August 8, September 5, October 3, November 7, December 5

**Board Meeting Dates (at Biggby Coffee, 3085 Bay Rd.):**

The Board of Directors meets monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday following the general membership meeting, 7:00 p.m. at Biggby Coffee on Bay Rd. unless otherwise noted. Changes are posted on the club website. All dates are Wednesdays. January 15, February 19, March 18, April 15, May 13, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16, October 14, November 18, December 16

**ARES Members:**

Ares members please visit the Ares website [http://ares.saginawradio.com/scares\\_training.htm](http://ares.saginawradio.com/scares_training.htm) for training schedule information. Ares training are held the last Thursday of the month.

**Weekly Nets      Please join us. All licensed operators are welcome.**

<b>District 3 Net</b> 145.310 Sunday 6:30 PM	<b>SVARA (Saginaw)</b> 147.240 Monday 9:00 PM	<b>MARC (Midland)</b> 147.000 Thursday 9:00 PM
<b>D3 Digital Training Net (Olivia 8/500) Seasonal</b> 3.586 MHz USB Sunday 8:00 PM	<b>BAARC (Bay City)</b> 145.310 Tuesday 9:00 PM	<b>MI Digital Traffic Net (Olivia 8/500)</b> 3.583 MHz USB Tues, Thurs, Sat 8:00 PM

## **Saginaw Valley ARA meeting minutes for February 7, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Mike KD8MMH, who lead the pledge of allegiance with 13 members and 3 guests present.

Gordy KD8YVD, made a motion to accept last month's meeting minutes as published in the harmonic news and was seconded by Ron KD8YVF. The motion passed.

Ron KD8YVF, made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and was seconded by Tom N8EUI. The motion passed.

Mike KD8MMH, reported that we received a thank you from the Field of Neuroscience Institute, for the donation made in Dr. Allport's name.

The results of Winter Field Day were discussed. Rick KC8VOA's "window thing" worked great and did a great job of blocking the airflow. Making it much easier to maintain the temperature in the conference room, with the windows open, in January. Thanks Rick. Dinner this year was Taco Bell and was a welcome change from the usual pizza. Logging worked well and because each station was on a different band or mode, they did not need to be networked to prevent dupes. Completely eliminating the possibility of any problems there.

Dave W8DW, discussed upcoming contests. It's that time of year so there are a lot of them. Check the club webpage for links to a complete list.

Jeff KB8SWR, reported that the new transmitter for Rosien has been installed in the site now has received capability. The cans for the antenna are on the way.

Ron KC8YVF, reported on this year's theme for Ares training. This year training will be focused on the skills needed for the September S.E.T. Ron also reported that the Skywarn training will be held March 9 at the CMU health building on the Covenant Hospital campus. Please contact Ron for more information.

Mike KD8MMH, gave a last call for shirt orders. If you would still like to purchase club apparel, contact Mike for options on single item purchases.

The club auction was held and ended with initial estimates of well over \$300 with several big items being sold.

The motion to adjourn was made by Gordy KC8YVD, and seconded by Mike N8XPS.

## **Saginaw Valley ARA board meeting minutes for February 19, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Mike KD8MMH, with Mike N8XPS, Dave W8DW, Renee KE8MYJ, Tom N8EUI, Rick KC8VOA, and Mike K8AVJ, present.

Dave W8DW, made a motion to accept last month's board meeting minutes as published in the Harmonic News and was seconded by Mike KD8MMH. The motion passed.

### **President's Report**

Mike KD8MMH, reported on condolences for silent key Doris KD8MMG, and Claudette Wojtowicz, the wife of Horst KD8ZXR. Both will be missed deeply.

### **Vice President's Report**

The Vice President was not present.

### **Secretary's Report**

The secretary had nothing new to report.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Mike N8XPS, reported the club auction brought in over \$400. He also reported he has started receiving membership dues. Mike also noted the annual insurance bill would be arriving soon.

### **Chair's Report**

Mike KD8MMH, reported he had a new member lead from the Michigan ham radio group Facebook page.

### **General Discussion**

General discussion began with a discussion of mission statements. After some discussion Rick KC8VOA, was appointed to chair a mission statement committee. Rick's first act was to ask Dave W8DW, to join the committee. Dave accepted. The discussion then moved toward membership dues reminder postcards. It was decided this year we will only send postcards to members with outstanding dues. The last topic was the repeater committee. It has been quite sometime since the repeater committee has held a full meeting and given a report. Dave W8DW, will discuss the repeater committee with Ron KC8YVF, the committee chair.

The motion to adjourn was made by Mike N8XPS, and seconded by Renee KE8MYJ.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Elias K8AVJ  
Secretary

## ARRL News

# NEW HF OPERATORS -- THINGS TO DO

To get better at CW Contesting, there's no substitute for participating in real contests -- but the next best thing is a simulation of real contests. [Morse Runner](#) by Alex, VE3NEA, is a CW Contest simulator that provides a realistic contesting experience, including "lid" (poorly behaved) operators, varying band conditions, robot operators that make sending mistakes - everything you might find in a real contest. It's available any time on your Windows computer. It has an integration with *N1MM Logger+* that has been steadily improved by *the N1MM Logger+* development team. With the latest improvements, you can practice for the [CQ WPX CW](#) contests using *N1MM Logger+* -- just in time to get in a lot of practice before the next one May 30-31, 2020.

The Phone "leg" of the [ARRL International DX Contest](#) is the upcoming weekend. The exchange for DX is signal report and power. On phone, you'll probably hear "five nine 'kay" an aural (oral?) cut number equivalent of "59 1000."

You may hear a lot of CW contest activity the weekend of March 14, but US operators should sit this one out - it's the RSGB Commonwealth Contest (also known as BERU), only open to the UK and Crown Dependencies ([UK&CD](#)), and [Commonwealth and Mandated Territories](#). Contacts with US amateurs don't count.

Also on the weekend of March 14 are the [Oklahoma](#), [Idaho](#), [Wisconsin](#), and [QCWA](#) QSO parties, and the 4-hour long [North American RTTY Sprint contest](#).

## OPERATING TIP

### Get to Know Multiplier Band Plans

It pays to be familiar with the frequency allocations of some of the multipliers you might need in a particular contest. If you're looking for the Japan multiplier on 160 meters in a CW contest, you'll have to look or CQ between 1.810 and 1.825 MHz, or between 1907.5 and 1912.5 MHz. Those are the only places that JA hams are allowed to operate on 160 meters. In a DX phone contest, you'll hear stations outside the USA operating on 40 meters starting at 7.050 MHz. US frequency allocations for phone operation on 40 meters start at 7.125 MHz, depending on license class.

Do you need help programming your HT? Come to the next meeting, bring your HT, any manuals you have, and we will do our best to help. Don't have a manual? We'll still give it a try.

## 2020 SVARA Officers

**President** Mike Doherty KD8MMH

**Vice-President** Brian Kleinfeld K8HY

**Secretary** Mike Elias K8AVJ

**Treasurer** Mike Linton N8XPS

**Board Member**  
Term expires 2020

Tom Schmidt N8EUI

**Board Member**  
Term expires 2021

Mary Paquette WB8LZA

**Board Member**  
Term expires 2022

Renee Paquette WB8LZA

## 2020 SVARA Appointments

### Newsletter Editor

To subscribe or submit articles, please send requests to  
Mike Elias K8AVJ ke8avj@gmail.com

### Emergency Coordinator

Ron Huss, KC8YVF 989-799-2679 kc8yvf@rhuss.cncfamily.com

### Public Info Officer

Tom Schmidt N8EUI 989-270-8974 tschmidt50@charter.net

### Repeater Committee

Ron Huss, KC8YVF  
Dave Paquette, W8DW (Trustee)  
Brian Kleinfeld, K8HY  
Rick Schattilly, KC8VOA  
Jeff Metiva, KB8SWR

### SVARA Elmers

CW (Morse Code) Dave Paquette, W8DW w8dw@qsl.net

Contesting Dave Paquette, W8DW w8dw@qsl.net

Hamnet/Meshnet Mike Elias, K8AVJ ke8avj@gmail.com



### SVARA HARMONIC

The monthly newsletter of  
The Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association  
PO Box 1783 Saginaw, MI 48605-1783

