



SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

May 2018

- **SVARA Meeting Presentations**

We are still 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:

American Red Cross 1232 N. Michigan Ave. Saginaw

1ST Friday of the month at 7:00PM unless otherwise noted. Changes are posted to the club website.

Club Meeting Dates:

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

Club Breakfast Dates (Savoy bar and Grill on Franklin St.):

A club breakfast is held monthly on Saturday morning after the meeting, 8:30 a.m.

All dates are Saturdays January 6, February 3, March 3, April 7, May 5, June 2, July 7, August 4, September 8, October 6, November 3, December 8

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

The Board of Directors meets monthly on the 2nd Thursday following the general membership meeting, 7:00 p.m. at Biggby Coffee on Bay Rd. Meeting date may change based on room availability. Changes in meeting dates are posted on the club website.

All dates are Thursday: January 18, February 15, March 15, April 19, May 17, June 14, July 19, August 16, September 20, October 18, November 15, December 20

ARES Members:

Ares training for May is Simply Simplex. Visit the Ares website for more information. Ares training for June will be a fox hunt.

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

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

Saginaw Valley ARA meeting minutes for April 6, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Mike N8XPS, who lead the pledge of allegiance with 11 members and 3 guests present.

Gordy KC8YVD, made a motion to accept last month's meeting minutes as published in the harmonic news and was seconded by Mary WB8LZA. The motion passed.

Treasurer's reports for the previous three months were presented. Mary WB8LZA, made a motion to accept all three treasurer's reports and was seconded by Ron KC8YVF. The motion passed.

Minnie KD8PAZ, reported on upcoming ham swaps. Dave W8DW, reported on upcoming contests including the Michigan QSO party.

Mike N8XPS, discussed Care Break. Due to a lack of available volunteers, the board has recommended against doing Care Break this year. After some discussion Ron KC8YVF, made a motion to not apply for a Care Break spot this year. The motion was seconded by Dave W8DW. The motion passed.

Dave N8ERL, suggested the board look into additional fundraisers to supplement the loss of donations from Care Break.

Dave W8DW, reported on repeater committee activities and to the grant project. Over the last month additional equipment was installed at the Covenant North location. The fusion was also moved to Covenant North. Dave would like to add a better control board or interface to the fusion repeater. The current control system has some limitations that require on-site reset on occasion. A new control system will eliminate this requirement. The need to convene the repeater committee to discuss the 220 repeater was also mentioned.

Mike KD8MMH, discussed the Midland swap. The swap has returned to its usual date of the weekend before Field Day. Mike suggested that we take the tower sections the club has to the swap. It was agreed that the tower sections should be placed for open auction during the swap and sold to the highest bid at the end of the swap.

The pending sale of the Red Cross building was discussed. Jeff KB8SWR, has said he will help take down the equipment from the roof.

The Midland club discussed Field Day at their meeting and would like to join us again this year. We do not yet have a chair for this year's field day event. In the meantime if you would like to help with field day please contact Mike N8XPS. Mike KD8MMH, also mentioned Midland will be holding tech classes soon and will have a VE testing session during the Midland swap.

Ron KC8YVF, thanked everyone who participated in the Skywarn training.

Repair of the club trailer's electrical system was discussed. Repairs are intended to be complete by the time of the Frankenmuth MS walk.

Tom N8EUI, gave a "Show Me Your Shack" presentation. Tom has a very clean, professional looking station. Tom showed a very good installation of proper grounding. It was a very good presentation, thank you Tom.

The motion to adjourn was made by Ron KC8YVF, and seconded by Mike KD8MMH.

Saginaw Valley ARA board meeting minutes for April 19, 2018

The meeting was called to order at pm by Mike KD8MMH, with Mike N8XPS, Dave W8DW, Tom N8EUI, Horst KD8ZXR, Mary WB8LZA, and Mike K8AVJ, present.

Mike N8XPS, made a motion to accept last month's board meeting minutes as published in the harmonic news and was seconded by Dave W8DW. The motion passed.

President's Report

The president discussed removing and relocating equipment from the Red Cross. He also discussed transporting the tower sections to the Midland swap.

Vice President's Report

The Vice President was not present.

Secretary's Report

The secretary had nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer was not present. Mike K8AVJ, gave a report in lieu of the treasurer, on the current member list. We currently have 23 active members listed on the roster. However, we are still receiving dues in the mail so this number will increase.

Chair's report

The chair discussed the Red Cross building being for sale. The Red Cross director has stated she would like to have us in the new location and would like to have a radio room at the new location if there is space available. However, this will all depend on the location that is chosen, and that decision is being made at a higher level. The chair believes we should continue to investigate possible alternatives.

General Discussion

Dave W8DW, discussed some issues with the .24 repeater that occurred during the recent ice storm. These issues were related to a momentary power loss that was experienced during the storm. It was decided that a battery backup meant to keep the system online during momentary power losses would be an improvement to the system. Mike KD8MMH, made a motion to authorize \$100 for the purchase of two replacement batteries. The motion was seconded by Dave W8DW. The motion passed.

Field Day was discussed. Dave W8DW, volunteer to be the Field Day chair this year. Mary WB8LZA, has volunteered to head the meal committee. Mike K8AVJ, has volunteered to run the mesh net again this year. Thank you Dave, Mary and Mike. It may seem like Field Day is still some ways off, but it will be here before you know it. If you would like more information on Field Day please contact Dave W8DW, or Mike K8AVJ.

The motion to adjourn was made by Mike KD8MMH, and seconded by Mike K8AVJ.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Elias K8AVJ
Secretary

ARRL News

Annual Armed Forces Day Crossband Communication Test Set for Saturday, May 12

The Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) will sponsor the traditional military/Amateur Radio communication tests to mark the 67th annual Armed Forces Day (AFD) on Saturday, May 12. Armed Forces Day is May 19, but the AFD Crossband Military-Amateur Radio event traditionally takes place 1 week earlier in order to avoid conflicting with Hamvention. Complete information, including military stations, modes, and frequencies, is [available](#) on the US Army MARS website.

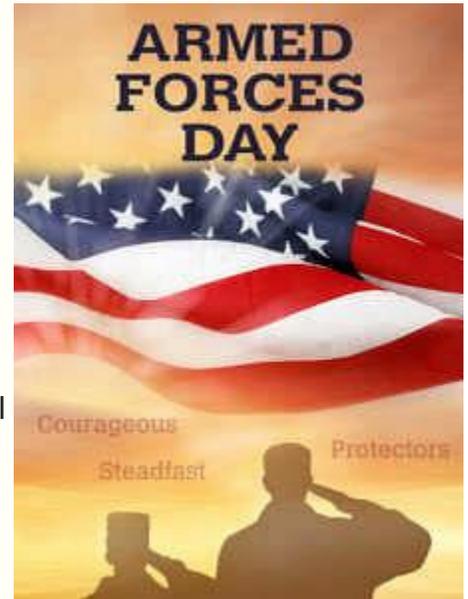
The annual celebration is a unique opportunity to test two-way communication between radio amateurs and military stations (authorized under §97.111 of the Amateur Service rules). It features traditional military-to-amateur crossband SSB voice, CW, practice using legacy interoperability waveforms, and the opportunity for participating hams to utilize more modern military modes, such as MIL-STD Serial PSK and Automatic Link Establishment (ALE). Military stations and Amateur Radio stations are authorized to communicate directly on certain 60-meter interoperability channels.

These tests give Amateur Radio operators and shortwave listeners (SWLs) a chance and a challenge to demonstrate individual technical skills in a tightly controlled exercise scenario and to receive recognition from the appropriate military radio station. QSL cards will be available for stations successfully contacting participating military stations.

Military stations will transmit (USB, unless otherwise noted on the schedule) on selected military frequencies and will announce the specific amateur frequencies they are monitoring. MARS stressed that frequencies used for the test will not impact any public or private communications and will not stray outside the confines of the exercise.

An Armed Forces Day test message will be transmitted utilizing the Military Standard (MIL-STD) Serial PSK waveform (M110) followed by MIL-STD Wide Shift FSK (850 Hz RTTY), as described in MIL-STD 188-110A/B. [Technical information](#) regarding these waveforms is available. The AFD test message will also be sent at 0300 UTC in CW.

Those who want a QSL should complete the [request form](#) on the MARS website.



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.

2018 SVARA Officers

President	Mike Linton N8XPS	Board Member	Mary Paquette WB8LZA
		Term expires 2018	
Vice-President	Brian Kleinfeld K8HY		
Secretary	Mike Elias K8AVJ	Board Member	Doris Miles KD8MMG
		Term expires 2019	
Treasurer	Anne Elias KB8AWE	Board Member	Tom Schmidt N8EUI
		Term expires 2020	

2018 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 989 245-7429 tschmidt50@charter.net

Repeater Committee

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

SVARA Elmers

General Questions	Joe Turner, K8CQF	k8cqf@arrl.net
CW (Morse Code)	Dave Paquette, W8DW	w8dw@qsl.net
Contesting	Dave Paquette, W8DW	w8dw@qsl.net
Hamnet/Meshnet	Mike Elias, K8AVJ	ke8avj@gmail.com



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