



SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

February 2026

- **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 at K8DAC-R. All are welcome and encouraged to join in.

Club Meeting Time and Place:

SVARA club meetings will be held at Harry Brown Airport or on FreeConferenceCall.com. The club will meet at 7 PM. Changes are posted to the club website.

Club Meeting Dates: 2026

All dates are Fridays: January 2, February 6, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, August 7, September 4, October 2, November 6, December 4, 2026.

Club Breakfast Dates (Check club website for updates): 2026

The club breakfast will be held at Levi's Food & Spirits restaurant, 5800 Brockway Rd at 9:00 am. All dates are Saturdays. January 3, February 7, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, August 8, September 5, October 3, November 7, December 5, 2026.

Board Meeting Dates (at Bigby Coffee, 3085 Bay Rd.): 2026

Board meetings will be held at Bigby Coffee on Bay Rd. Changes are posted on the club website. All dates are Wednesdays. January 14, February 18, March 18, April 15, May 13, June 17, July N/A, August 12, September 16, October 14, November 18, December 16, 2026.

ARES Members:

ARES members please visit the ARES website http://ares.saginawradio.com/scares_training.htm for training schedule information. ARES training are held the fourth Thursday of the month.

Weekly Nets, please join us. All licensed operators are welcome.

Mid-Michigan Net
147.240
Sunday 7:00 PM

SVARA (Saginaw)
147.240
Monday 9:00 PM

MARC (Midland)
147.000
Thursday 7:30 PM

TCARA (Tuscola)
146.66 MHz
Monday 7:30 PM

BAARC (Bay City)
145.360 MHz
Tuesday 8:00 PM

MI Digital Traffic Net
3.583 MHz USB (Olivia 8/500)
Tues, Thurs, Sat 8:00 PM

SVARA Meeting 2/6/2026

The meeting was called to order by Mike KD8MMH at 7:05 pm who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

Mike Dougherty KD8MMH
Ron Huss KC8YVF
Tom Schmidt N8EUI
Doc O'Connor K8DO
Charlotte O'Connor WD8RIM
Mike Linton N8XPS
Fred Bolger KE8QCO – online
Mike Bright KF8EDQ – online
Jeff Fulton K8KCI – online
Clayton Badgero KB8CB – online
Rick Schattilly KC8VOA
Gordy Schram, KC8YVD

Introductions

Mike KD8MMH asked for a motion to accept the Secretary report for January, Gordy KC8YVD, motion to accept, seconded by Doc K8DO. Motion carried by all.

Treasury report for January – Tom N8EUI reported on financial state of the club, motion to accept by Rick KC8VOA, seconded by Doc K8DO. Motion carried by all.

Swap Meet Report

Minnie KD8PAZ was not present. Mike KD8MMH reported on current swaps, Cherryland ARC in Traverse City 2/7, Livonia Amateur Radio Club 2/21, Lowell Amateur Radio Club 3/21

Contest Report

Up-coming contests – State QSO parties, School Club Roundup February 9-13, International DX-CW February 21-22

Announcements

Club breakfast Saturday 2/7 at **8:30** am at Levi's Food and Spirits Restaurant on Brockway in Saginaw. There will be a board meeting on Wednesday February 18, at Bigby Coffee on Bay Rd in Saginaw at 7 pm.

Old business:

The membership discussed the dues for 2026. One idea was to keep the dues at \$12 where they have been for the last couple of years. Another idea was to raise the dues to \$20 to be in line with other clubs and to help support current club expenses. Gordy KC8YVD suggested sending an email to club members that were not at the general meeting to gauge overall support. A vote will be taken at the February meeting.

Tom N8EUI reported that the club PO box will cost about \$200 and club insurance will probably go up too.

Ron KC8YVF talked about the club T-shirt and sweatshirt order. We need a total of 12 items to put in an order. We currently have 9 items requested.

Ron KC8YVF reported on Winter Field Day what will take place on January 24 and 25 at Harry Browne

Airport.

Tom N8EUI will do a presentation at the February meeting on generator and power line filters.

Fred KE8QCO reported on the current status of the club starting to do VE testing again. Fred has been researching what needs to be done after the ARRL changed the testing requirements.

Jeff KB8SWR gave an update on CMEN projects.

New business:

Mike KD8MMH talked to Fred KE8QCO about running the VE session at the Midland Swap in June. Fred will continue to learn more about the new testing procedure.

Mike KD8MMH made a motion for \$300 to pay for the new club T-shirts and sweatshirts. The motion was seconded by Mike N8XPS. Cost for members will be \$16 for T-shirts and \$30+tax for Sweatshirts. These will be silkscreen shirts.

Discussion on new Dues for 2026

Char WD8RIM suggested \$10 for new members.

After discussion the club decided to raise the dues for 2026 to \$20 for full membership. Associate, spouse, student and disabled will be half of the full membership at \$10. The motion was made by Gordy KC8YVD and seconded by Rick KC8VOA. The motion was carried by all. The new dues will need to be paid by the April 3 club meeting, giving club members an extra month to pay.

Mike KD8MMH talked about the Midland Club Meeting. They had a presentation on digital modes and had a discussion on the current state of their repeater and offers by the Central Michigan Emergency Network.

Tom N8EUI reported on a request from the Mad River Radio Club for a \$70 donation to support the Michigan QSO Party for awards. Gordy KC8YVD made a motion to donate \$70 for the award. There was discussion by Doc K8DO on how the donation would benefit the club. The club donated \$70 last year but did not receive any acknowledgment of the donation or any recognition on the Michigan QSO Party website. The club decided to have further discussion at the February board meeting. Gordy KC8YVD withdrew his motion.

Tom N8EUI checked into getting a Certificate of Deposit (CD) from PNC bank. The CD's were from 4 to 13 months and would not gain the club much additional income for the investment. No actions were taken at this time.

Rick KC8VOA suggested that the club open a savings account so that club funds were better protected from fraud. Currently the club has all its funds in a checking account that is used about 6 times a year to pay club expenses. Tom N8EUI will investigate opening a savings account and transferring the majority of the club funds into the new account.

The topic of the next board meeting will be the 70th anniversary of the club and setting up a committee to oversee the event. Anyone that wishes to participate in the committee is asked to attend the meeting.

ARES Report

Ron KC8YVF reported on ARES events

- Next ARES meeting will be February 26, 2026. We will meet at 911 and update the station.

- Skywarn Severe Weather Training Thursday April 2 at 7 pm at the Thomas Township Fire Station on Miller Rd in Shields.

Mike KD8MMH asked for motion to adjourn at 8:41 pm, motion by Gordy KC8YVD, seconded by Rick KC8VOA. Motion carried by all.

SVARA Board Meeting February 18, 2026

Called to order at 7:05 pm by board chairman Mike KD8MMH

Attendance:

Mike KD8MMH (president)
 Brian K8HY (vice president)
 Tom N8EUI (treasurer)
 Ron KC8YVF (secretary)
 Fred KE8QCO (board)
 N8XPS (board)
 Rick KC8VOA (board)
 Doc K8DO (trustee)
 Clayton KE8CB (guest)

Topic of Discussion:

- 70th Club Anniversary Party
- Donation to the Mad River Radio Club for the Michigan QSO Party awards plaques

The board decided not to donate to the Mad River Radio Club this year. Tom N8EUI will send an email to explain our reason for not donating - no acknowledgment for our past donation either by email or on their website. We will consider donating next year if things change.

Ron KC8YVF presented information on two different venues for the anniversary party. The board tentatively selected one of the venues and menu choices and a date for the event in August.

The board also discussed what awards would be given and to whom? Board members will research different awards and contact past award winners from the 50th anniversary party for more information.

The board also discussed what individuals from outside the club should be invited, including past award winners, ARRL section staff and past club members that have had in influence in the Saginaw club.

The board discussed who would be good candidates as speakers for the event. Several names were submitted and individuals will be contacted to see if they are interested in giving a short speech.

The board also discussed what, if any items would be given out to club members to commemorate the anniversary. Ron KC8YVF has submitted for quote one item type while the remaining board members will research other items and cost.

All of these points will be discussed in further detail at additional board meetings.

Tom N8EUI had Mike KD8MMH sign the necessary documents to allow the club to open a savings account at PNC bank. Tom will also look into the Certificate of Deposit (CD) for amount of deposit and terms. Will report back at the March club meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Huss, KC8YVF
Secretary

2026 SVARA Officers

President – Mike Dougherty KD8MMH
Vice-President – Brian Kleinfeld K8HY
Secretary – Ron Huss, KC8YVF
Treasurer – Tom Schmidt N8EUI

Board Member – Mike Linton N8XPS (26-28)
Board Member – Fred Bolger KE8QCO (25-27)
Board Member – Rick Schattilly KC8VOA (24-26)

2026 SVARA Appointments

Newsletter Editor
Ron Huss, KC8YVF

Emergency Coordinator
Ron Huss, KC8YVF 989-799-2679
kc8yvf@hussfamily.com

Public Info Officer
Tom Schmidt N8EUI 989-270-8974 |
tschmidt6060@gmail.com

Repeater Committee
Dennis O'Connor, K8DO(Trustee)
Mike Dougherty, KD8MMH (President)
Ron Huss, KC8YVF
Brian Kleinfeld, K8HY
Rick Schattilly, KC8VOA
Jeff Metiva, KB8SWR
Tom Schmidt, N8EUI
Dave Paquette, W8DW

To subscribe or submit articles, please send requests to Mike Dougherty KD8MMH
midoug@ameritech.net

SVARA Elmers

CW (Morse Code)
Contesting
Digital Modes
Winlink
APRS/WX

Dave Paquette, W8DW
Dave Paquette, W8DW
Rick Schattally, KC8VOA
Rick Schattally, KC8VOA
Ron Huss, KC8YVF

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