SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

January 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 1ST 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 (Savoy bar and Grill on Franklin St.):
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 2nd 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 for training schedule information. Ares training are held the last Thursday of the month.

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

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

Saginaw Valley ARA meeting minutes for January 3, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Mike KD8MMH, who lead the pledge of allegiance with 14 members and 1 guest present.

Doris KD8MMG, made a motion to accept last month's meeting minutes as published in the harmonic news and was seconded by Gordy KC8YVD. The motion passed.

Dave W8DW, made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and was seconded by Doris KD8MMG. The motion passed.

Mike KD8MMH, started the meeting by thanking our net operators. He also noted that we do need a few more. It is good radio experience and even if you mess up, don't worry, we will forgive you. Please contact Ron KC8YVF, if you would like to volunteer. Visit the club website for more information about net operations. Dave W8DW, discussed several upcoming contests including Winter Field Day.

Ideals for both presentations and potential project nights were discussed. Presentation ideals included, the new microwave system, DMR radio and DIY antennas. Project night ideals included collapsible J pole antennas, 2M "bazooka" and roll up 2M antennas.

The February auction was discussed.

Ron KC8VYF, gave the EC's report and discuss some changes to the Ares connect system. Please check the calendar for upcoming events that you may find interesting. Ron also discussed details of the upcoming Winter Field Day.

Mike KD8MMH, discussed ordering club shirts. Ordering is still open if you would like to order the club shirt or jacket please email Mike for details. Mike also discussed the upcoming club breakfast and updating the club roster.

Dave W8DW, mentioned the club needed more purpose and recommended that the board develop a mission statement for the club. This sentiment was seconded by Randy KE8AHW, who believes we also need to develop club goals.

Rick KC8VOA, mentioned that we may wish to do something different with the club's savings in order to protect it from inflation. Especially considering the lower level of donations that we have been receiving. Rick also mentioned the ideal of the club partnering with student or youth organizations to replicate what the Midland club has been able to do with schools in Midland.

Ron KC8YVF, discussed announcements from the FCC of about recent and proposed frequency changes to the 3.4 and 5.9 GHz bands. Please visit the ARRL website for more information. If changes to the microwave system frequencies are required, the cost to the club will be extensive and burdensome. Ron also discussed the 220 repeater replacement project, for which he lends his support. Ron also discussed the need for a club mission statement and made a motion to refer the matter to the board. This motion was seconded by Randy KE8AHW and passed.

The winner of the 50-50 drawing with Lucky number 898509 was Dave W8DW, who claimed the ticket belonged to Mary. Congratulation Mary.

The motion to adjourn was made by Gordy KC8VYD, and seconded by Mike N8XPS.

Saginaw Valley ARA board meeting minutes for January 15, 2020

The first order of business was nominating a chair. Renee KE8MYJ, nominated Mike KD8MMH, as chair and was seconded by Mike K8AVJ. The decision was unanimous. The was then meeting was called to order at 7:09pm by Mike KD8MMH, with Mike N8XPS, Dave W8DW, Tom N8EUI, Renee KE8MYJ, 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 Tom N8EUI. The motion passed.

General Discussion

Being the first board meeting of the new year and having a new board member we began with general discussion of ongoing topics. Dave W8DW, Jeff has a replacement transmitter he could sell us for Rosien at the cost of $300. As it turns out, the $26,000 repeater project did not include a new transmitter for Rosien. Dave W8DW, made a motion to purchase the replacement from Jeff pending approval of the repeater committee. The motion was seconded by Renee KE8MYJ. The motion passed.

Dave W8DW, nominated Rick KD8VOA to the repeater committee. He also mentioned a suggestion from Rick of cleaning up the club trailer and using it for youth events.

Mike N8XPS, discussed the club balance.

The club mission statement was discussed at length and board members are asked to each develop their own mission statement to present at the next board meeting.

Mike K8AVJ, discussed restarting Care Break or finding a replacement source of donations. The board believes we will still not have enough volunteers to be able to hold a Care Break. Renee KE8MYJ, suggested that we look at doing grants as a source of donations rather than activities like Care Break.

Dave W8DW, again discussed the possibility of a club station at the Health Source building on Hospital Road.

Possible club activities were discussed including a suction cup antenna project, Anderson power pole project and a HF dipole project.

The motion to adjourn was made by Tom N8EUI, and seconded by Mike KD8MMH.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Elias K8AVJ
Secretary

ARRL HF Band Planning Committee Seeks Comments on Recommendations

The ARRL HF Band Planning Committee is seeking comments and suggestions from the amateur radio community on its report to the ARRL Board of Directors. At the Board's January meeting, the committee presented its specific recommendations in graphical form for each HF band and each US license class, with the goal of increasing harmony on the HF bands, particularly between CW and digital users.

"In general, the committee is of the opinion that there is justification for additional space to become available for digital modes, as well as for the operation of digital stations under automatic control," the committee told the Board. "The very changes in spectrum usage that have required our committee's resurgence indicate that digital modes of communication are already increasing in popularity, and the trend is expected to continue or even accelerate. To this end, we have tried to ensure that digital allocations are sufficient for at least a modicum of growth."

The committee also anticipates an increase in automatically controlled digital stations (ACDS). The report further points to "significant use" of modern data modes in emergency communication and said its recommendations provide significant support for the evolution and continued relevance of amateur radio. "Our failure to adapt to these needs could consign amateur radio to the technological scrap heap," the report said.

The committee was revived last summer to consider conflicts between FT and JT modes and other modes. The panel's approach has been to designate distinct assignments for CW, narrowband (NB) data <500 Hz, wideband (WB) data <2800 Hz, and ACDS. For its work, the committee presumed approval of three ARRL petitions to the FCC: RM-11708 (WT Docket WT 16-239 -- "symbol rate" proceeding), RM-11759 (80/75 meter allocations), and RM-11828 (enhanced Technician privileges). The committee also assumed that users can agree to sharing arrangements within a given allocation -- narrowband versus wideband sharing within the ACDS allocation, for example. It also took into consideration how mode usage is regulated or planned elsewhere in the world.

In terms of mode classes, the committee agreed on CW, NB data, WB data, NB with ACDS, and WB with ACDS. The committee said it considered these mode classes incompatible and that they should not have overlapping allocations, with the exception of CW, which is authorized within any amateur radio allocation. The committee's approach would maintain the existing low-end 25 kHz CW-only sub-bands for exclusive use by Amateur Extra-class licensees.

The panel encouraged CW identification and a listen-before-transmitting protocol for ACDS, if feasible. It also decided that a single allocation for ACDS without regard to bandwidth would be the best approach. "We note that this will put responsibility on the digital community to hold an effective dialog on the issue and to then self-regulate the users of this segment to adhere to the eventual agreement." A need for flexibility in allocations is desirable, the committee said, and considered whether allocations might be time-of-day or time-of-week dependent, for example.

"Modern amateurs must expect to adapt to this kind of fluid assignment of spectrum to incompatible uses, using time-based sharing, rather than only a single assignment," the committee said, expressing the hope that as band plan/sharing agreements are reached that they consider the advantage of "non-simultaneous sharing possibilities."

Reiterating the position ARRL has taken in recent FCC filings, the committee said it sees encryption and open-source enforcement matters as being outside the scope of the Band Planning Committee.

The Committee would like comments by February 19.

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	**Board Member** Term expires 2020	Tom Schmidt N8EUI
Vice-President	Brian Kleinfeld K8HY		
Secretary	Mike Elias K8AVJ	**Board Member** Term expires 2021	Mary Paquette WB8LZA
Treasurer	Mike Linton N8XPS	**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@qls.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