

SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

March, 2016

For ARES Members: Next meeting is the 25th of February at 7:00 pm.

(Please refer to the ARES website for contact and more information)

- **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 (at Red Cross): 7:00 pm

Club Meeting Dates (at Red Cross):

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

Club Breakfast Dates (at Levi's on State St.):

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

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

All dates are Thursday: March 17 at 7:15pm, April 14 at 7pm, May 19 at 7pm, June 15, July 13, August 17, September 14, October 12, November 16, and December 14

General Meeting Minutes American Red Cross Building February 5, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 by Mike KD8MMH with 18 members and 9 guests present. The president then led the pledge of allegiance.

Janet KD8MMJ, made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as published in the Harmonic News and was seconded by Dave W8DW. The motion passed with one nay.

In order to allow more time for the auction the president, vice-president and secretary did not present reports.

Duane KD8AUY, presented the treasurer's report showing deposits from membership dues and 50/50 proceeds.

A motion to accept the report was made by Doris KD8MMG, and seconded by Tom N8EUI. The motion passed.

Ron KC8YVF, discussed the results of Winter Field Day. Official scores to be available soon. The repeater grant for upgrades to the 147.24 repeater was approved. However, there is a catch, the equipment must be purchased and installed on a very short timeline. The repeater committee has begun this process.

Participation in the upcoming preparedness expo was put to a vote and passed.

Ares training for February was cancelled due to inclement weather.

The Midland DOW Run will be held in May. If you would like to participate please contact John Wolters W8QN of the Midland Amateur Radio Club. The Midland MS walk will be held on April. Contact Chris Rose KB8UIH, also of the Midland club, to participate.

The Red Cross is proceeding in their efforts to finish the basement and radio room.

Lou N8LOU, spoke about the U.S.S. Edson Amateur Radio Club. The new call-sign is W8EDS. All licensed radio operators and their guests are welcome. Lou is currently looking for operators to work the radios in upcoming events such as the Tall Ships weekend in July. Please visit the U.S.S. Edson QRZ page by visiting QRZ.com and entering W8EDS in the call-sign lookup. Send email to N8LOU@arrl.net for more information.

Pat and Lee of the Midland club have invited SVARA to participate in the Midland ham swap this summer.

They also mentioned the Midland High School radio club will be doing another balloon launch this year and asked for volunteers to help track it, in case the balloon travels faster than expected, as it did last year. Last year's balloon traveled beyond the established detection range and unfortunately was not recovered. The high school students are asking anyone with an interest in radio direction finding, if they will help track this balloon. An exact launch date has not been chosen but is expected in late May or early June. More information to follow. A special thank you to Lou W8LOU of the Edson group, as well as, Pat W8PMR, Wendy KD8IWB, Linda KC8MUD, and Lee KC8ITI, of the M.A.R.C. for sharing these opportunities with our club and participating in the auction.

The club auction had many bidders, several small bidding wars and one bid-a-holic. A lot of money was raised for the club and many high-bidders left with smiles on their face. There are some tower sections still available if you are interested.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dave W8DW, and seconded by Mary WB8LZA. The motion passed with one nay.

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

District 3	145.310	Sunday 6:00 PM
D3 Digital Net (Olivia 8/500 USB)	3.586	Sunday 8:00 PM
SVARA (Saginaw)	147.240	Monday 9:00 PM
BAARC (Bay City)	145.310	Tuesday 9:00 PM
MARC (Midland)	147.000	Thursday 9:00 PM

Board Meeting Minutes
State Street Texan Restaurant
February 18, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Duane KD8AUY at 7:18 with Mike N8XPS, Mike KE8AVJ, Mike KD8MMH, Dave W8DW and Anne KB8AWE present.

Dave W8DW made a motion to accept February's meeting minutes as published in the Harmonic News. The motion passed.

The President's report

Raffle prize for the upcoming expo was discussed and approved. This prize will be an emergency weather radio similar to prizes in the past. The estimated cost is \$50.

Vice-president had nothing noteworthy to report.

Secretary's report

Mike KE8AVJ updated the board on the progress of a member's certificate and donation thank you letter.

Treasurer's report

The club had no expenses for the month of January. After looking into other insurance providers, the current insurance provides good coverage for ham related activities at a reasonable rate, which includes club equipment and liability. February's expenses-to-date were discussed.

The club auction was a hit this year raising more money than expected. Further details will be available in the treasurer's report at the general meeting.

General discussion

Possible repeater committee plans were discussed. This included the possible use of Raspberry Pi micro computing devices as controllers.

Plans and progress for the Fusion repeater were again discussed.

The club is looking for a new Public Information Officer. This is an easy position with a little paperwork. If you have been looking for ways to be more involved with the club this is a good position to start with, and LOU W8LPV will be available to get you started and assist with any help you may need. This is a very important position and we really need someone to step-up and fill it.

The Ann Arbor Radio Club will be having a chartered bus to this year's Hamvention in Dayton. Seats are open to everyone on a first-come first-served basis. The price is \$65 plus cost of admission. For more information please visit the Arrow Communication Association website at <http://www.w8pgw.org/>.

Field Day planning has begun. More information will be available at the March meeting.

Motion to adjourn was made by Duane KD8AUY and seconded by Mike N8XPS.



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



Visit our web site at: www.k8dac.com

SVARA Members sponsor the 147.240+ PL 103.5 & 224.28 Open Repeaters K8DAC/R and Emergency HF stations at the American Red Cross and auxiliary field operations.

General Membership meeting is held monthly on the 1st Friday, at 7:00 p.m. at the American Red Cross, 1232 N. Michigan.

Board of Directors meeting - monthly on the 2nd Wednesday following the general membership meeting, 7:00 p.m. at TBD.

Club Breakfast – monthly on Saturday morning after the meeting, 8:30 a.m. at Levi's

2016 SVARA Officers

President	Mike Dougherty	KD8MMH
Vice-President	Mike Linton	N8XPS
Secretary	Michael Elias	KE8AVJ
Treasurer	Duane Morris	KD8AUJ
Board Member 2016	Dave Paquette	W8DW
Board Member 2017	Tom Schmidt	N8EUI
Board Member 2018	Ann Elias	KB8AWE

2016 SVARA Appointments

Newsletter Editor	Rob Wright KC8IJN	989-293-2224	ffwright@sbcglobal.net
Emergency Coordinator	Ron Huss, KC8YVF	989-799-2679	kc8yvf@rhuss.cncfamily.com
Public Info Officer	Lou Vescio, W8LPV	989-799-1467	lvescio@midmich.net
Repeater Committee	Ron Huss, KC8YVF Dave Schneider, N8ERL (Trustee) Brian Kleinfeld. K8HY Jeff Metiva, KB8SWR		

To subscribe or submit articles, please send requests to Rob Wright, KC8IJN -- ffwright@sbcglobal.net

SVARA Elmers

General Questions	Joe Turner, K8CQF	k8cqf@arrl.net
Morse Code	Dave Paquette, W8DW	w8dw@qsl.net
Contesting	Dave Paquette, W8DW	w8dw@qsl.net