



# SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the  
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

January 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

1<sup>ST</sup> 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 (Ihop on Tittabawasee Rd.):**

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

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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 January 26 will be ICS-214 Activity Log, and Winter Field Day. This is a Friday. Visit the Ares website for more information. Ares training for February is to be determined.

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

<b>District 3 Net</b> 145.310 Sunday 6:00 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</b> <b>(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</b> <b>(Olivia 8/500)</b> 3.583 MHz USB Tues, Thurs, Sat 8:00 PM

## **Saginaw Valley ARA meeting minutes for December 1, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:08pm by Mike KD8MMH, who lead the pledge of allegiance with 14 members and 6 guests present.

Gordy KC8YVD, made a motion to accept last month's meeting minutes as published in the harmonic news and was seconded by Horst KD8ZXR. The motion passed.

Mike K8AVJ, made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and was seconded by Ron KC8YVF. The motion passed.

At this point we paused so we could enjoy the food, refreshments and fellowship. When we resumed Mike KD8MMH, thanked everyone who had volunteered for past events and reported on the Holiday in the Heart of the City event at the Children's Zoo, which went very well, and the 'thank you' dinner with Mr. Boggs, ...I mean Mr. Wade, was also good. The total for the accommodations, food and gas was \$201.09. This was a perfect transition for Mike N8XPS who then gave the Treasurer's report.

The board received interim documentation from the grant project group so a discussion on the purchase of new antennas was had. Gordy KC8YVD, made a motion to approve up to \$1,000 of expenditures for the purchase of 3 new antennas and related accessories. The motion was seconded by Ron KC8YVF. The motion passed.

Jeff KB8SWR, reported on the grant project. The new equipment replacing the .24 repeater is online and sounds good. Links to the online voter (and signal meter) can be found on the club's "Repeaters and Nets" page. There are also lots of photos on the club site. Dave W8DW, reported on upcoming contests, including the Skywarn Recognition event.

Next, we moved to elections. The current nominees were reviewed, and the floor was opened to additional nominees. Mary WB8LZA, was nominated to serve the remainder of the board position vacated by Anne KB8AWE, who was nominated for treasurer and running unopposed.

### **Election results**

President

Michael Linton N8XPS

Vice President

Brian Kleinfeld K8HY

Secretary

Michael Elias K8AVJ

Treasurer

Anne Elias KB8AWE

Board Member (full-term)

Tom Schmidt N8EUI

Board Member (one year)

Mary Paquette WB8LZA

The motion to adjourn was made by Gordy KC8YFD, and seconded by Mike N8XPS.

## **Saginaw Valley ARA board meeting minutes for December 14, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by Mike KD8MMH, with Mike N8XPS, Dave W8DW, Doris KD8MMG, Horst KD8ZXR, Anne KB8AWE, 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 Doris KD8MMG. The motion passed.

### **President's Report**

Mike KD8MMH, thanked the board for all the time and effort they put into the club. It is very much appreciated. Mike also mentioned that the Midland club is already discussing Field Day and they are looking forward to operating with us again this year.

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

The Vice President was not present.

### **Secretary's Report**

Mike K8AVJ, reported that the "Show Us Your Shack" contest would continue until June. All you have to do for a chance to win a brand-new Boafang dual band HT, is show us your shack. That is, give a short (no longer than 10 minutes) presentation with pictures of your shack and equipment (or lack thereof). Don't have a shack? Just show us what you do have.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Mike N8XPS, reported he was working on the year-end tax paperwork.

### **General Discussion**

The search for replacement net controls was discussed. If you would like to be a net control operator for the Monday night net, please contact Ron KC8YVF. The purchase of the newer computers for the Red Cross was discussed. While the current computers are still functional, they are quite old and still running Windows XP. The expected cost of 2 thin client systems from eBay is \$101.60. It was decided to bring the matter up for a vote at the next general meeting. The new repeater system has integrated EchoLink and a conversation was had about the previous EchoLink equipment.

The motion to adjourn was made by Mike KD8MMH, and seconded by Doris KD8MMG.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Elias K8AVJ  
Secretary

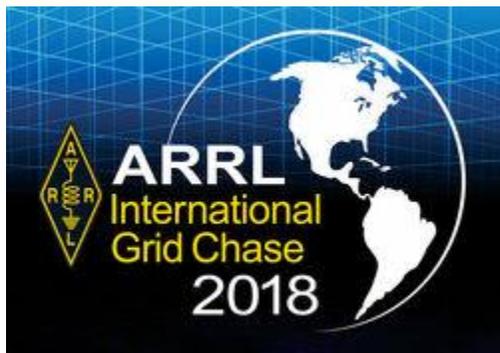
## ARRL News

*And they're off!* New Year's Day January 1 (UTC) marked the opening day for the ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 ([IGC](#)). Among those hitting their grids running was newly minted General-class operator Katie Thompsen, KI7HCX, of Mt. Vernon, Washington, who used the occasion to embark on the Chase *and* to get on HF for the first time using her own call sign. The 11-year-old comes from a ham radio family. Her dad, Todd, is W7TAO, while her older brothers are Mason, K7MWT, 15 -- who upgraded to Amateur Extra at the examination session where his sister upgraded to General -- and Tanner, K7TMT, 13.

"She called CQ Grid Square Chase on 20 meters and very quickly made 44 contacts," her dad told ARRL. "She was very excited to work her first pileup and even had two Japanese stations QSO with her. She's anxious to continue participating in the grid square chase." Todd Thompsen said all three young radio amateurs are looking forward to participating in [Rookie Roundup](#) in April.

The IGC is off to a rousing start, with some 6,400 participants from around the globe already showing up on the [Leader Board](#) as of the morning of January 4. Point totals for the International Grid Chase are shown for confirmed contacts only, and, while the leader boards are not based on real-time data, they are updated several times a day. All contacts on all bands except 60 meters are valid for Grid Chase credit, provided both stations upload their logs to Logbook of The World ([LoTW](#)) and get a match.

The objective of the year-long event is to work stations in as many different Maidenhead grid squares as possible, and then upload your logs to [LoTW](#).



Each new grid square contact confirmed through LoTW will count toward your [monthly total](#). Stations do *not* have to exchange grid squares for a valid contact, although it's anticipated that many operators will do so. Some rare grid squares will be in demand. How about yours? Get on the air, and get behind *your* grid! If you can, get out there, and activate the scarce ones.

Members of the Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club [KM1CC](#) at the Cape Cod National Seashore will activate rare grid square FN51 January 18-19 for the International Grid Chase.

Complete details of the ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 appeared in the December 2017 issue of QST. For more information, [contact](#) the ARRL Contest Branch.



Katie Thompsen, KI7HCX. [Todd Thompsen, W7TAO, photo]

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

<b>President</b>	Mike Linton N8XPS	<b>Board Member</b>	Mary Paquette WB8LZA
		Term expires 2018	
<b>Vice-President</b>	Brian Kleinfeld K8HY		
<b>Secretary</b>	Mike Elias K8AVJ	<b>Board Member</b>	Doris Miles KD8MMG
		Term expires 2019	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Anne Elias KB8AWE	<b>Board Member</b>	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



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

