



# SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the  
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

January 2019

- **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 1<sup>ST</sup> Friday at 7:00PM unless otherwise noted. Changes are posted to the club website.

**Club Meeting Dates:**

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

**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 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4, June 8, August 3, September 7, October 5, November 2, December 7

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

The Board of Directors meets monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Week following the general membership meeting, 7:00 p.m. at Biggby Coffee on Bay Rd. Dates for the new year are being decided. Changes in meeting dates are posted on the club website.

All dates for 2019 are to be announced at this time.

**ARES Members:**

Ares training for January is Preparing for Deployment. Winter Field Day planning will also be discussed. Visit the Ares website for more information. Ares training for February is Operational Stress.

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

<b>District 3 Net</b> 145.310 Sunday 6:30 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 (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 (Olivia 8/500)</b> 3.583 MHz USB Tues, Thurs, Sat 8:00 PM

## **Saginaw Valley ARA meeting minutes for December 7, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Mike N8XPS, who lead the pledge of allegiance with a total of 21 members and 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.

Tom N8EUI, made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and was seconded by Doris KD8MMG. The motion passed.

Mike N8XPS, reported on the Holiday in the Heart of the City event. Friday went well with many visitors and the weather was cooperative. Saturday also went well although, as in years past there were fewer visitors.

Ron KC8YVF, reminded everyone that there would be no Ares training and encouraged everyone to come to the combined SVARA and Ares annual breakfast at IHOP.

Dave W8DW, mentioned that although December is a quiet month there were still a few contests happening for those who were interested.

Mike N8XPS, discussed several more items beginning with stuff that was at the Red Cross that is now residing in the club trailer. He suggested that we sell things we will not be using at the club auction or somewhere else if needed. Mike will also speak to her covenant contact about holding the February meeting in the larger room. Mike also discussed selecting a new bank for the club based on the difficulties we have had with Chemical Bank. Fifth Third Bank and PNC Bank were the top choices based on research. After some discussion was had Gordy KC8YVD, made a motion to leave the decision to the Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Randy KE8AHW.

We then began the elections.

For the position of President Michael Linton N8XPS was elected unanimously.

For the position of Vice President Brian Kleinfeld K8HY was elected unanimously.

For the position of Secretary Michael Elias K8AVJ was elected unanimously.

For the position of Treasurer Anne Elias KB8AWE was elected unanimously

for the three-year Board Member term Mary Paquette WB8LZA was elected unanimously.

The winner of the 50-50 drawing with the lucky number of 214870 was Mike KD8MMH.

The motion to adjourn was made by Dave N8ERL, and seconded by Ron KC8YVF.

## **Saginaw Valley ARA board meeting minutes for December 20, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm by Mike KD8MMH, with Mike N8XPS, Dave W8DW, Doris KD8MMG, Tom N8EUI, Horst KD8ZXR, Brian K8HY, Mary WB8LZA, 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 Mike N8XPS. The motion passed.

### **President's Report**

The President reported that he thanked the church for the use of their facilities. He mentioned that we cleaned up after ourselves so well, other church members who held activities that weekend had no ideal we had been there. Mike also reported we have decided to switch to PNC Bank.

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

The Vice President reported he had brought the old EchoLink equipment that was previously set up at his house. EchoLink has been integrated directly into the microwave system and no longer needs a remote radio to connect. The equipment was given to Dave W8DW.

### **Secretary's Report**

The Secretary discussed the "Show Us Your Shack" presentation contest. With the recent determination by the FCC regarding Boafang radios he was not sure if this should still be the prize for the contest. After some discussion the board felt there would be no issue with awarding this radio as the prize. The current drawing for the radio will consist of the following individuals. Tom N8EUI, Brian K8HY, Dave W8DW, and Ron KC8YVF. If you believe your name should also be in the drawing please contact Mike K8AVJ.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer reported on the progress of the switch to PNC Bank. PNC has requested a copy of our original determination letter from the IRS stating that we are a nonprofit organization. Although this information is easily available online the bank is still requesting a printed copy of the original letter. A request for a new letter has been made with the IRS.

### **Chair's Report**

The Chair congratulated everyone on their elections. He also discussed the upcoming Winter Field Day.

### **General Discussion**

Tom N8EUI, announced now that he was retired, he had a new phone number. This information has been updated in the Harmonic News.

Dave W8DW, gave a report on behalf of the repeater committee. The Signalink equipment from Rosien Tower has been moved to the 911 building. All of the old repeater here is still located at Rosien. Dave suggested that because this equipment is so hard to come by and so expensive to replace, there may be other clubs in a similar position looking for replacement parts. He recommended that we sell what we can on QRZ. Dave also mentioned a previously approved purchase for a remote-controlled power switch

at Covenant North. The previously chosen device is no longer available, and the replacement is more expensive. The new cost not including shipping is \$169.99. Mike N8XPS, made a motion to amend the previous amount allotted for this purchase. The motion was seconded by Mike KD8MMH. A discussion on connections to the new microwave system was also had. Currently the only individual with the equipment to connect to the microwave system is Mike K8AVJ.

The motion to adjourn was made by Mike N8XPS, and seconded by Tom N8EUI.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Elias K8AVJ  
Secretary

## ARRL News

# *N1MM Logger+* Update Better Supports RTTY Roundup Participants Using FT8

An *N1MM Logger+* software update provides some good news for those who are planning to use both RTTY and FT8 in the [ARRL RTTY Roundup](#) on January 5 - 6. *N1MM Logger+* version 1.0.7422, released on January 1, [includes changes](#) to better support working in conjunction with *WSJT-X* in contests, including color coding of multipliers and duplicate call signs.



The *N1MM Logger+WSJT-X* interface. Participants in the ARRL RTTY Roundup should be using *WSJT-X* version 2.0 or higher. [Image courtesy of Larry Gauthier, K8UT]

When configured correctly, *WSJT-X* decodes a general call and shows it in the program's left-hand band activity window. It will also be sent to *N1MM Logger+*, which will display that call sign in a new *WSJT-X*-specific window -- new in the January 1 release. The call sign color will be set to red if it's an unworked multiplier, blue if the call sign is a new station but not a new multi, or gray if the call sign is already in the log. Clicking on that call sign in the *N1MM Logger+* window will enter it in *WSJT-X*, poised to be worked using *WSJT-X*.

For stations using RTTY and FT8 in the ARRL RTTY Roundup, the status of any particular call sign or multiplier now will show in either program. Previously, it was not possible to initiate a contact in *WSJT-X* from *N1MM Logger+*.

Switching between RTTY and FT8 (from the *WSJT-X* suite) will require different configurations for *N1MM Logger+* for each mode. Either *N1MM Logger+* or *WSJT-X* can directly control a transceiver at any time, but not both. Using separate .ini (configuration) files for *N1MM Logger+* could ease the process. One configuration would be the "normal" RTTY configuration for *N1MM Logger+*, and the other would be a configuration that doesn't control the rig but does allow contacts to be logged from *WSJT-X*. [See](#) the *N1MM Logger+* help file for more information. --Thanks to Larry Gauthier, K8UT, and Brian Moran, N9ADG

**FEMA Region 10 will conduct monthly communications exercises (COMMEX) on the third Wednesday of each month, starting on January 16, 1730 - 1900 UTC.** Amateur Radio operators are invited to take part. The intent of these exercises is to test and exercise interoperable communication (federal/state/local/tribal/Amateur Radio) during a major disaster in which the communication infrastructure is significantly damaged or destroyed. FEMA Region 10 will use the call sign WGY910. Other stations associated with agencies and organizations that provide response support in accordance with the National Response Framework are encouraged to participate. The COMMEX will use these "dial" or "window" frequencies on 60 meters -- including 5,330.5 kHz, 5,346.5 kHz, 5,357.0 kHz, 5,371.5 kHz, and 5,403.5 kHz -- as part of the exercise. The area of operation is the continental US.



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.

### 2019 SVARA Officers

<b>President</b>	Mike Linton N8XPS	<b>Board Member</b>	
<b>Vice-President</b>	Brian Kleinfeld K8HY	Term expires 2019	Doris Miles KD8MMG
<b>Secretary</b>	Mike Elias K8AVJ	<b>Board Member</b>	Tom Schmidt N8EUI
<b>Treasurer</b>	Anne Elias KB8AWE	Term expires 2020	
		<b>Board Member</b>	Mary Paquette WB8LZA
		Term expires 2021	

### 2019 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  
 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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