



SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

February 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 1ST 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 2nd 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.

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

Saginaw Valley ARA meeting minutes for January 4, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Mike N8XPS, who lead the pledge of allegiance with a total of 13 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 Doris KD8MMG. The motion passed.

Mike KD8MMH, made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and was seconded by Gordy KC8YVD. The motion passed.

Mike N8XPS, reported on plans to switch the club's bank account from Chemical Bank to PNC. He discussed ideas for the February meeting location for the club auction. Possibilities included using the other room at the hospital or meeting at the airport. The decision was made to meet in the other room at the hospital.

Ron KC8YVF, reminded everyone that ARES Connect is in place, and hours will no longer be reported to Mike KD8MMH via the club web page.

Dave W8DW, mentioned that the monthly board meetings will be moved to Monday nights starting in January.

Rick KC8VOA, mentioned that the Township Times information needs to be updated to reflect our current meeting location. Also, he mentioned Udemy was offering Electronics classes online for \$9.99. He also made a suggestion for local guest speakers for future meetings.

Mike K8AVJ, discussed the possibility of the club getting laptops for Field Day use. Brian K8HY has some that could be donated that just need batteries to be purchased for them.

Ron KC8YVF discussed Winter Field Day coming up on January 26th and 27th at the Airport. There will be 3-4 stations set up. A Planning session will be held. Set up will start at 10 am on Saturday and the contest starts at 2 pm with dinner around 6 pm.

The motion to adjourn was made by Dave N8ERL, and seconded by Gordy KC8YVD.

Saginaw Valley ARA board meeting minutes for January 14, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Mike KD8MMH, with Mike N8XPS, Dave W8DW, Doris KD8MMG, Tom N8EUI, Mary WB8LZA, Anne KB8AWE, and Mike K8AVJ, present.

Tom N8EUI, 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 brought the IRS letter for the bank switch to PNC bank.

Vice President's Report

No report.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary discussed having the "Show us your Shack" drawing at the February meeting. Also, he researched the cost of the batteries for the laptops that could be donated for Field Day: \$26.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported the new letter from the IRS has been received.

Chair's Report

The Chair Mike KD8MMH, discussed that membership dues would be due in March. Dave W8DW, sent reminder postcards last year and we will do this again. He also discussed advertising the auction to the Bay City and Midland Clubs.

The repeater committee will stay the same unless current members are unwilling to serve.

Mike discussed making use of the presentation set up available at the Covenant meeting location.

Repeater Report

Remote power switch older model found for less money than originally projected. Dave W8DW, will install it soon. He also was able to fix an Echolink issue remotely.

The motion to adjourn was made by Mike KD8MMH, and seconded by Mike N8XPS.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Elias K8AVJ
Secretary

ARRL News

New ARRL CEO Wants to "Start a Conversation"

In his first appearance at a ham radio event, ARRL CEO Howard Michel, WB2ITX, told Ham Radio University 2019 attendees on January 5 that he was there to initiate a dialogue on what will make ARRL more successful in its missions amid a changing Amateur Radio environment. Michel became ARRL CEO about 3 months ago.

"What I'm here for is to start a conversation," Michel [told his audience](#) at New York's Long Island University. "I'm starting conversations everywhere I go to find out, by talking to people, what's really important."



In his view, Michel said, ARRL is a membership organization, a business, and a 501(c)(3) public charity that exists for the public good. "All three of those must exist in balance," he said, adding that the balance has been lost. He said changes need to be made in how ARRL is organized and how it operates, and he made clear during the post-presentation Q&A that he sees himself as an agent of change.

In terms of a membership organization, Michel said ARRL's some 157,000 members, local clubs, and Headquarters staffers should form a three-way partnership, but, he conceded, that the links among those components "are shaky at times," due to a lack of understanding and differing expectations.

Citing ARRL publications as an example, Michel pointed out that the way people get information today is far different than what it was 50 years ago. ARRL's business of the future will be based upon the creation of value. "If we don't create the value and deliver the value, then we're not really an advocate," he said. "ARRL is uniquely positioned to create, curate, and deliver information about Amateur Radio. The way that information is created and delivered is changing, and if we don't change with that, we're not going to be the dominant provider."

ARRL membership is falling behind in terms of a percentage of licensees. "We need to turn that around," Michel said.

In terms of numbers, out of some 30,000 new licensees each year, some 17 - 18% join ARRL, and after 1 year, 61% remain. "Why are we not getting 100% of those new hams?" Michel said. Because 80% of the new licensees took their exams through ARRL VEC, Michel said their lack of interest in joining ARRL suggests "something is wrong in the value proposition." More telling, he continued, is the fact that ARRL membership is

falling behind in terms of a percentage of licensees. "We need to turn that around," he said, if ARRL is to continue representing itself as speaking on behalf of Amateur Radio.

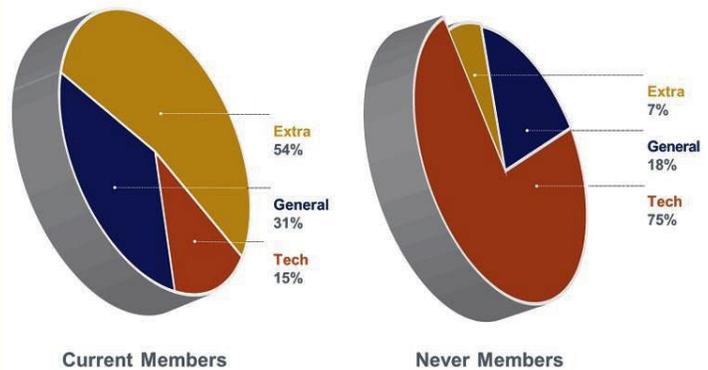
Part of the problem lies in current demographic trends in membership. Most ARRL members are Amateur Extra-class licensees, while a larger majority of those who have never been members are Technician licensees. Active radio amateurs are

33% more likely to join ARRL, Michel pointed out. He said a significant majority of non-member Technician licensees have indicated they would like training and support for newcomers, courses for licensing and practical radio operating, training for public service and disaster communication volunteers, and continuing education on technical topics and "online live help" to learn more about ARRL and ham radio.

"We've got them through the test to get their license, and then we've dropped them," Michel said. "We've got to fix that."

The planned approach is recognizing that ARRL members do not represent a monolith, but that each has their own Amateur Radio persona. The spectrum of hams, Michel said, spans communications, service, technology, and hobby.

"Let's think about an average person with some kinds of traits and how you market material to them," Michel proposed. "I'm trying to start a conversation with everybody about how to start something new."



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

President	Mike Linton N8XPS	Board Member	
Vice-President	Brian Kleinfeld K8HY	Term expires 2019	Doris Miles KD8MMG
Secretary	Mike Elias K8AVJ	Board Member	Tom Schmidt N8EUI
Treasurer	Anne Elias KB8AWE	Term expires 2020	
		Board Member	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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