

SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

March, 2009

SKYWARN:

Skywarn/Net Control Station training will be held Thursday March 26 from 7 - 9 PM at the Red Cross building in Saginaw. This training will cover the basics of a Net Control Station, Skywarn Net and table top exercise. Any ARES member who has not had this training or wished to review this information should plan to attend this meeting. To sign up, please contact Ron at kc8yvf@arrl.net.

Reminder: the National Weather Service spring severe weather training (Skywarn) will be held on Thursday April 9 from 7-9 pm in the Lecture Theater at Covenant Cooper Hospital.

More information can be obtained on the ARES web site at <http://ares.saginawradio.com/>

Ron Huss, KC8YVF

EC

Hello Fellow Hams!

We will be opening up the Red Cross this Saturday for the ARRL DX Phone competition. This is our fourth year in a row we have done this and it's always a lot of fun. We use our own call signs, and when we find a good station we pass around the microphone so everybody gets a chance to make the contact. For those technicians

that want to give it a try, you can use the club call sign K8DAC with a control operator right there with you. Here is the schedule:

Friday March 6, 2009 -

....8 pm Club Meeting, we can open the club station before and after the meeting if conditions are favorable.

Saturday March 7, 2009 -

....10 am Red Cross opens

....3 pm Red Cross closes (approximate)

WORDS FROM THE OLD MAN

WA8GRI

Over the last couple of months a questionnaire was sent to each member of SVARA. The response was very disappointing but I did manage to get about 20% of the members to respond, and after all that's a quorum. The results were as follows:

70% would like to have the Harmonic delivered via the internet.

The following would be willing to participate in:

Field Day	90%
Youth day	40%
Care Break	80%
ARES	60%
Sky warn	80%

100% want to continue Field day, Youth Day, Club Breakfasts, Club Picnics, and 100% want more presentations and/or training sessions at the club meetings. The most popular activity in ham radio was contesting followed by public service. 50% of respondents were willing to hold a Club office but only 40% were willing to teach or present a program.

SVARA Board of Directors Meeting
February 18, 2009
Texan Restaurant on State Street

Meeting called to order at 7:58 pm. Present were KC8BDQ, W8EAB, KC8BYI, W8LPV, N8XPS, KC8YVF, and KD8IOK

Secretary's report: Motion made to accept minutes as presented in the Harmonic with two corrections was made by KC8BDQ and seconded by W8LPV.

Treasures Report was presented at General Membership Meeting.

KC8BDQ to make contact with Mark Torregrossa the Chief Meteorologist with WEYI about coming making a presentation at a General Membership Meeting.

W8LPV presented to the board a letter and policy statement from the ARRL on "Mobile Amateur Radio Operation" prepared for the City Council of Saginaw.

KC8BYI reported on the investigation of changing to higher rate accounts. Chemical Bank considers SVARA as a business. Bank policy would require a balance of \$15,000. Paperwork to transfer signatory from KC8BDQ to W8LPV processed after meeting.

The dead line for applications to host Care Breaks set back 2 weeks.

KC8YVF updated on the process of coordinating the link frequency for the repeater. Efforts by N8XD have determined the frequency is claimed by the Livingston County repeater. With the SVARA repeater being crystal controlled, it makes it difficult to change the frequency. We are possibly interfering with the Fenton area repeater. They will listen on frequency for the next year. We may have to alter power or antenna at Davenport site.

We were also updated on Emergency Coordinators meetings. The local meeting will have further discussion of the replacement of antennas to Rosien Towers. Tim Genovese is on board and offered assurances that the antennas will be returned. Planned configuration will have two 30ft towers attached to the north and west side of the buildings with ARPS and 440 on one and ATV on other. N8ERL offered two 10ft tower sections; we will begin looking for further donations to save on needed purchases. Scheduled training for the club in March will be for Net Control Station. Ideas for project nights are Packet Kits and HT programming bring your manual. The condition of the Saginaw County trailer was checked on by KC8YVF. Related equipment is to be moved from the court house to the hanger of N8ERL.

The results of the District EC meeting will provide SVARA with 2 FM Transceivers 1 to be used for packet in 911. The packet station will require a separate club call sign K8DAC has the maximum allowable operations attached to it, and will not be effected.

March 7th and 8th from 0000-2400 UTC will be the ARRL International DX Contest. A mass e-mail will be sent to inquire who would be interested in operating from the club station.

NOAA Skywarn Training will take place at the Covenant Cooper Theater on April 9th.

ARES public service hours form changed to include mileage. Technician License class planned for an undetermined date in May. MS Walk has been added to ARES calendar on the 2nd of May.

Old Business

An update of 501 c 3 status was given. KC8BYI announced a change to the charter that will be discussed with our lawyer.

Motion to adjourn made by KD8IOK seconded by W8EAB the meeting came to a close at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael K. Linton N8XPS
Secretary

General Membership Meeting
Red Cross Building
February 6, 2009

Meeting called to order at 8:01pm with thirty members and guests present.

WA8GRI was recognized and for service as vice-president. N8XD was unable to attend the meeting and Gavel Award will be presented to him at the earliest convenience.

W8LPV presented article about SVARA elections in the Township Times

KD8FQL announced Antarctica on the Air at Ross Island starting after 2/18/09 on Sundays at 7:00 pm local time. Check arrl.org for further information.

It was reported that Midway Atoll is now open for Amateur Operation.

Two applications were submitted and new membership was approved for the following hams:

Motion made by KB8QO seconded by N8YXR for N8TKQ Walt A. Russ. Motion made by N8ERL seconded by KC8WZM for KD8JJK Ken Kruska.

Secretary's report as presented in the Harmonic accepted with two corrections motion made by N8YXR seconded by W8EAB.

Treasures report as presented by KC8BYI motion to accept made by N8YXR seconded by KC8WZM.

Old Business

KC8BDQ asked W8LPV to replace him as cosigner with KC8BYI. Lou accepted.

List of Volunteer Examiners for Saginaw County presented to KC8BDQ.

KC8YVF brought in club shirts, some were distributed; others were kept for later. Jackets can still be ordered. See KC8YVF.

New Business

MS Walk date set for 2nd of May.

Applications all three Holiday Care Breaks were sent to state police. Memorial Weekend sign-up sheet will be available at the March general membership meeting. KC8BYI looking for help.

N8XPS drafted letter to be sent to Saginaw River Marine Historical Society asking to use River Rear Range Light.

KC8YVF reported seven to work Hemmeter Hobby Fair Saturday 2-7-09, 10-2.

EC meeting of 2-1-09 needs to report to housing commission about the mandatory return of repeater antennas. Separate towers being considered. Bracketed configurations are needed because of new roofing material.

Skywarn training from NOAA set for April 9th at Covenant Hospital.

Openings are available for operators with ideas for meetings and project nights.

W8LPV gave an update on 501 c 3 non-profit status after inquiry.

KD8JJK expressed concerns of how changes in cell phone laws may affect amateur radio operators. W8LPV will research and contact city council.

Club breakfast moved to 8:30 am at Texan Restaurant State Street.

50/50 drawing jackpot of \$24.50 was won by KD8FQL on ticket 451619.

Motion to adjourn was made by N8YXR, seconded by KC8WZM, with the meeting coming to a close at 8:51 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael K. Linton N8XPS

Secretary



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 - monthly on the 1st Friday, 8:00 p.m.
at the American Red Cross, 1232 N. Michigan.

Board of Directors meeting - monthly on the 2nd Wednesday
following the general membership meeting,
8:00 p.m. at the Texan Restaurant, 5656 State St.

Club Breakfast – monthly on Saturday morning after the meeting,
9:00 a.m. at the Texan Restaurant, 5656 State St.

2008 SVARA Officers

President	Jeff Weirauch, KC8BDQ	989-797-0692	weirauch@chartermi.net
Vice-President	Lou Vescio, W8LPV	989-799-1467	lvescio@midmich.net
Secretary	Mike Linton, N8XPS	989-598-5335	gabbyguard729@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Judy Weirauch, KC8BYI	989-797-0692	weirauch@northwood.edu
Board Member 2010	Ron Huss, KC8YVF	989-799-2679	kc8yvf@rhuss.cncfamily.com
Board Member 2009	Jeff Stange, KD8IOK	989-624-9461	kd8iok@arrl.net
Board Member 2011	Emmett Bengry, W8EAB		w8eab@arrl.net

2008 SVARA Appointments

Newsletter Editor	Jeff Weirauch, KC8BDQ	989-797-0692	weirauch@chartermi.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		
	Brad Mellberg, W8QPO		
	Jeff Metiva, KB8SWR		

To subscribe or submit articles, please send requests to Jeff Weirauch, KC8BDQ -- weirauch@chartermi.net

SVARA Elmers

CPR-AED Training	Roger Steffes, K8DVX	989-752-9891	RogerSteffes@speednetllc.com
General Questions	Joe Turner, K8CQF	989-793-7373	k8cqf@arrl.net
Morse Code	Larry Davison, WD8RIK	989-781-0370	wd8rik@provide.net
RFI	Jim Stutesman, WA8GRI	989-791-2156	wa8gri@arrl.net
Satellites	Keith DeLong, N8XD	989-695-5131	n8xd@arrl.net
Slow Scan TV	Keith DeLong, N8XD	989-695-5131	n8xd@arrl.net