

# SVARA Harmonic

a monthly publication of the  
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

April, 2010

## **Important Upcoming Club News: Field Day and MI QSO Party Time**

Contest time is upon us. In April we have the Michigan QSO Party, this happens on the weekend of April 17 starting at (1600Z) on the 17 and ending on the 18 at (0400Z). The start time gives you time do your honey-dews in the AM with the contest starting at noon local and ending at midnight Saturday local. Put Saginaw County in the mix and SVARA. There were only 2 stations in Saginaw County that sent logs in last year. Work as many contacts as you can and submit your logs even if you work 10 or 15 contacts make sure you submit your logs. Rules for this contest can be found at [www.miqp.org](http://www.miqp.org) . Were asked your club affiliation use Saginaw Valley ARC. This is a fun contest and a warm up for Field Day.

In June on the weekend of the 26-27 the club will again participate in the ARRL Field Day. The Field Day will again be at the Richland Township Park in Hemlock. I will be chairing the event this year and would like anyone interested in setting up a station to contact me. Dave Schneider N8ERL has volunteered to take care of the 40 Meter station and Lou Vescio W8LPV his "Cadillac" 15 Meter station. I will be setting up a "CW" station and attempt a limited Satellite setup for the extra points. The club will also have a GOTA station. Ron KC8YVF has mentioned a packet station. I still need people to take charge of 20, 15, 10, 6 meters and VHF/UHF. If you are interested in any of these or have any other suggestions please contact me [w8dw@qsl.net](mailto:w8dw@qsl.net) . More details will follow next month with discussion at the April and May meetings.

Thanks and 73's

Dave W8DW

**For ARES Members:** The next monthly training session is April 22. These sessions will be covering many different topics and give you an opportunity to get involved in what goes on in the ARES group. The training will also be a bit of a social time and will include a drawing at each meeting. If you have an idea for training, or would like to present a topic, please contact Dave (N8ERL) at [wz8ds@yahoo.com](mailto:wz8ds@yahoo.com). Also, we will be beginning monthly Practice Net to let different individuals practice their Net Control skills in a informal setting.

## **Club Meeting Dates** (at Red Cross):

All dates are Fridays: May 7<sup>th</sup>, June 4<sup>th</sup>, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, August 6<sup>th</sup>, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, October 1<sup>st</sup>, November 5<sup>th</sup>, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

## **Club Breakfast Dates** (at State Street Texan):

All dates are Saturdays: May 8<sup>th</sup>, June 5<sup>th</sup>, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, August 7<sup>th</sup>, September 4<sup>th</sup>, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, November 6<sup>th</sup>, December 4<sup>th</sup>

## **Board Meeting Dates** (at State Street Texan):

All dates are Wednesdays: May 19<sup>th</sup>, June 16<sup>th</sup>, July 14<sup>th</sup>, August 18<sup>th</sup>, September 15<sup>th</sup>, October 13<sup>th</sup>, November 17<sup>th</sup>, December 15<sup>th</sup>

**General Meeting Minutes**  
American Red Cross Building  
March 5, 2010

The March meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance immediately following. 23 in attendance.

**Presentations:**

Ron (KC8YVF) will present at the April meeting.

Joe (K8CQF) will present at the May meeting.

**Secretary's Report:**

Motion by Mike (N8XPS) to accept the meeting minutes as published in the Harmonic; second by Jeff (KC8BDQ) and passed.

**Treasurer's Report:**

After the treasurer's report was read, a motion to accept by Gordy (KC8YVD) was seconded by Emmett (W8EAB) and passed.

**Old Business:**

International DX contest: Station will be open tomorrow 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**New Business:**

6 meter radios in Jeff's (KB8SWR) possession: Has anyone found the controller?

Suggestion by Joe (K8CQF) to repair or replace the antenna rotor controller box on the Red Cross building. Ron (KC8YVF) suggested that we send it in to be fixed.

Judy (KC8BYI) is taking dues; everyone is to fill out the new membership form. She also has prepared a new membership packet, which contains the club constitution, "How We Got Here" by Joe Turner (K8CQF), SVARA awards, Repeater information and commands, auto-patch instructions, the website front page and login information, and some old club T-shirts.

Dave (W8DW) is this year's Field Day chair. He plans to attempt to network all of the computers together. Looking for information on stations.

QSO party in May; specific dates TBD. Dave (W8DW) is the defending Saginaw winner.

Ron (KC8YVF), Emmett (W8EAB), and Dave (N8ERL) attended the District EC meeting.

State-wide SET will be on April 10; using HF to VHF traffic nets to Simplex. Need a high-capacity VHF station.

SkyWarn training is April 8 at the Covenant Cooper Lecture Theatre.

The County-wide SET is on May 13 (Thursday) all day 8 a.m. – 4 or 5 p.m. They expect to need 20-30 HAM Operators. Genesee county's SET is on that same day.

Dayton weekend, is on May 15; which is the same weekend as the MS Walk in Frankenmuth.

May 16 is the Run for Windy in Shields.

Club Breakfast is tomorrow 8:30 a.m. as always.

**Presentation:**

Audio "Recording" Evolution by Duane (KD8AUY).

**New Business:**

New Member: Doris Miles (KD8MMG); motion to accept by Joe (K8CQF), and seconded by Lou (W8LPV) and accepted.

50/50 won by Mike (KD8MMH); \$18

ARES group monthly training at Harry Brown Airport 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday. First session is March 25: "Traffic Handling"

Will also be having monthly net training.

Traffic nets out of Mt. Pleasant District 3 net 145.31 Sundays at 6 p.m. If you get traffic, bring it to the Monday nets or meetings.

Judy (KC8BYI) has not received a packet for Care Break yet, but she contacted the Michigan State Police and they emailed her a form, which she has submitted via fax.

Memorial Day: Gordy (KC8YVD)

July 4: Mike (N8XPS) – Possibly closing Sunday evening; TBD

Labor Day: TBD (please volunteer)

Judy will only be back-up and info person.

Joe (K8CQF) suggested a trip to Green Bank, West Virginia this year. It is a quiet zone, with radio telescopes where visitors have the opportunity to use hand-built equipment.

Motion to adjourn made by Lou (W8LPV), with a second by Mike (N8XPS) accepted at 9:20 p.m.

**SVARA Board Meeting**

Texan Restaurant, State St.

Meeting called to order at 7:52 p.m. with Duane (KD8AUY), Mike (N8XPS), Judy (KC8BYI), Rachelle (KD8UOK), Jeff (KD8IOK), Emmett (W8EAB), Jeff (KC8BDQ), and Amanda (KD8JAZ) in attendance.

Motion to approve February 17 meeting minutes by Jeff (KD8IOK); second by Jeff (KC8BDQ); passed.

**President's Report:**

Nothing to report.

**Vice President's Report:**

Nothing to report.

**Secretary's Report:**

Nothing to report.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Copies of March 5<sup>th</sup> approved report distributed.

Received an invoice (dated 2008) for repeater equipment; and a request to submit as partial dues payment for Jeff (KB8SWR). *Table discussion until next meeting; more information needed.*

Received letter and money order for partial dues. Will return payment and letter; including membership form and request for payment in full.

**Care Break**

Have heard nothing yet from MSP.

Gordy (KC8YVD) and Mike (N8XPS) will be given the sign-up sheets this week.

Discussion about where to meet before the Care Breaks, and when to begin set up.

M-84 Bridge over I-75 will be closed for Care Breaks.

Per Lou (W8LPV); 501c3 paperwork will be submitted to the federal government sometime this month.

**Chariman's Report:**

Chairman absent; see following notes from Emmett (W8EAB).

ARES training at Harry Brown Airport; Thursday March 25 at 7:00 p.m. Jim (NX8A) will be there to assist. First training will be "Traffic Handling." This training is open to all interested members. Training will be the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month.

SkyWarn training will be on April 8.

Section Drill for SET will be on April 10; 9:00 a.m. until around Noon.

All day SET will be on May 13.

**Old Business:**

Trailer is parked at Jeff's (KD8IOK) house.

County trailer has been cleaned and at the airport. File cabinets and counter tops are finished. Almost ready for electrical and radios.

**New Business:**

Presentations for general meetings:

Ron (KC8YVF) – April meeting (note: Good Friday; Spring Break)

Joe (K8CQF) – May meeting

Secretary will not be at the next meeting; Mike (N8XPS) will take notes.

Dave (W8DW) is chair for Field Day.

Jeff (KC8BDQ) sending letter to secure Richland Township Park.

Jeff (KC8BDQ) will be out of state, so will not be cooking breakfast.

Working on an equipment issue for Monday Nets.

Net training is coming up. Possibly schedule alternating people for Net Control for practice?

May need to make arrangements to haul trailer for July 4<sup>th</sup> Care Break if setting up on Saturday.

Discussion regarding club awards. Specific awards are outlined in the club constitution; however, the President may issue awards at his discretion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. with a motion from Emmett (W8EAB), and second from 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](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> Friday, at 8:00 p.m.  
at the American Red Cross, 1232 N. Michigan.

Board of Directors meeting - monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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,  
8:30 a.m. at the Texan Restaurant, 5656 State St.

### 2010 SVARA Officers

President	Duane Morris, KD8AUY	989-	Dewey_66@yahoo.com
Vice-President	Mike Linton, N8XPS	989-799-1467	lvescio@midmich.net
Secretary	Rachelle Stange, KD8UOK	989-624-9461	Kd8uok@jacsinc.net
Treasurer	Judy Weirauch, KC8BYI	989-797-0692	weirauch@northwood.edu
Board Member 2011	Ron Huss, KC8YVF	989-799-2679	kc8yvf@rhuss.cncfamily.com
Board Member 2010	Jeff Stange, KD8IOK	989-624-9461	kd8iok@jacsinc.net
Board Member 2012	Emmett Bengry, W8EAB	989-755-5112	w8eab@arrl.net

### 2010 SVARA Appointments

Newsletter Editor	Rob Wright KC8IJN	989-293-2224	<a href="mailto:ffrwright@sbcglobal.net">ffrwright@sbcglobal.net</a>
Emergency Coordinator	Ron Huss, KC8YVF	989-799-2679	kc8yvf@rhuss.cncfamily.com
Public Info Officer	Lou Vescio, W8LPV	989-799-1467	<a href="mailto:lvescio@midmich.net">lvescio@midmich.net</a>
Repeater Committee	Ron Huss, KC8YVF Brad Mellberg, W8QPO Jeff Metiva, KB8SWR		

To subscribe or submit articles, please send requests to Rob Wright, KC8IJN -- [ffrwright@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ffrwright@sbcglobal.net)

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