



SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

April 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

1ST 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 (Savoy bar and Grill on Franklin St.):

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

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 2nd 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 April is to be determined. Visit the Ares website for more information. Ares training for May is to be determined.

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

District 3 Net 145.310 Sunday 6:00 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 March 2,2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by Mike N8XPS, who lead the pledge of allegiance with 9 members and 1 guest present.

Due to lack of quorum votes for the Treasure's and Secretary's reports were held till next month.

Minnie KD8PAZ, reported on upcoming ham swaps.

Dave W8DW, reported on upcoming contests.

The upcoming Care Break was discussed. Lack of participation has become a concern.

Upon arriving to the meeting, it was noticed that a for sale sign has been placed in front of the Red Cross building. A quick Internet search by Mike KD8MMH, confirm that the building is indeed for sale. This led to a discussion of alternate meeting places. As well as, a discussion on the fate of the radio room.

The Midland club will be holding Technician study classes beginning April 26. For more information please visit the Midland club's webpage at <http://www.w8kea.org/>

The club breakfast has been moved to the Savoy bar and Grill located at 127 S Franklin St B, Saginaw, MI 48607. General consensus is that service at IHOP left something to be desired, so the suggestion to try the Savoy bar and grill was made and accepted.

The motion to adjourn was made by Gordy KC8YVD, and seconded by Mike KD8MMH.

Saginaw Valley ARA board meeting minutes for March 15, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:08pm by Mike KD8MMH, with Mike N8XPS, Dave W8DW, Doris KD8MMG, Tom N8EUI, Brian K8HY, Mary WB8LZA, 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 N8XPS, reported on the continuing issues with switching the treasurer's information at the bank. To that effect, Mike brought a statement of authorization for board members to sign that should alleviate these issues moving forward.

Vice President's Report

Brian K8HY, discussed the loss of the radio room and the likelihood of being able to find an alternative. Further discussion was had on what equipment would actually be used during an emergency and the necessity of maintaining club equipment for emergency purposes. Brian believes that considering the equipment available at the 911 EOC and in the county trailer, neither the radio room or club trailer would not be needed for an emergency.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary brought several certificates requiring the president's signature and discuss delivery.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer was not present.

Chair's Report

Mike KD8MMH, brought up for discussion the electrical malfunction that occurred during last year's holiday in the heart of the city event at the Saginaw's Children's Zoo. The DC power supply suffered a short causing it to overload. A discussion was had on whether it would need to be replaced before the Frankenmuth MS walk.

General Discussion

Dave W8DW, discussed the need to convene the repeater committee. Dave also discussed the 220 repeater which is currently down. The Covenant North receive site is up and running. Early reports seem to indicate it is not only functioning well but placed optimally. Minnie KD8PAZ, in Burt is presenting a stronger signal to the Covenant North receive site then to the closest receive site to her location. The 6-Meter controller was discussed. Mike N8XPS, made a motion to sell the controller on QRZ.com or other similar ham site. The motion was seconded by Mike KD8MMH. The motion passed. The tower sections still in the club's possession were also discussed.

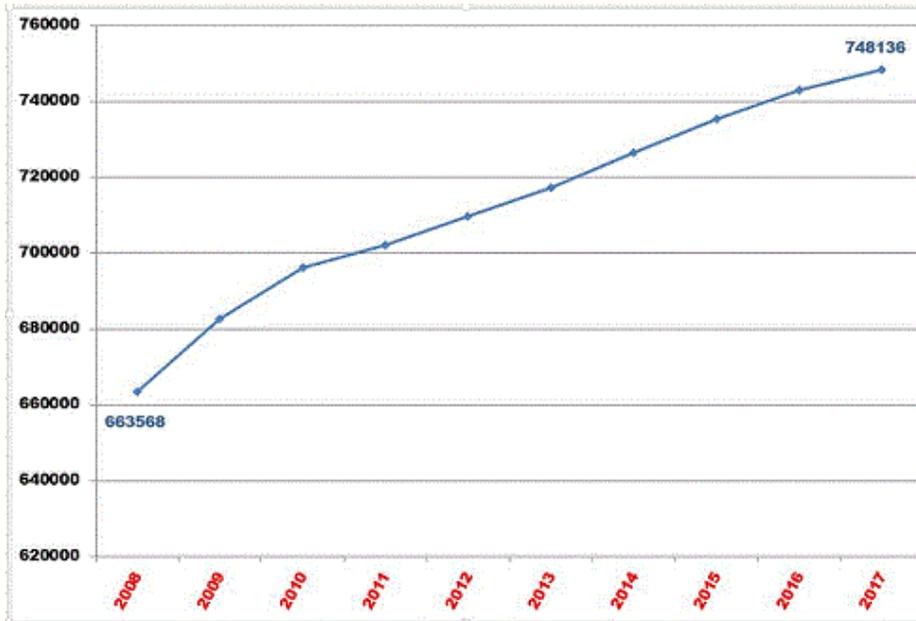
The motion to adjourn was made by Mike N8XPS, and seconded by Mike KD8MMH.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Elias K8AVJ
Secretary

ARRL News

More than 30,000 New Ham Licensees and 7,000 Amateur Radio Exam Sessions in 2017

For the fourth year in a row, more than 30,000 new licensees joined the Amateur Radio ranks, and ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VEC) conducted more than 7,000 Amateur Radio exam sessions, serving some 35,350 candidates for a new or upgraded license. At the end of December 2017, the US Amateur Radio population stood at 748,136.



The Amateur Radio population has grown steadily over the past decade.

At nearly 378,000, Technician licensees represented the largest segment, with General (174,206), Amateur Extra (145,034), Advanced (41,938), and Novice (9,056) trailing. Licensee numbers showed continued growth across all classes except Advanced and Novice, which the FCC no longer issues; those numbers continue to drop.

"I'm hopeful that the number of new licensees will be more than 30,000 at the end of this year," ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, said. "I would love to see this trend continue!"

New Licenses 2008 - 2017

2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
28,066	30,144	27,528	24,072	27,082	28,886	33,241	32,077	32,552	32,196

Despite the optimistic influx of 32,196 newcomers last year, the net growth of 5,349 -- about 0.72% over December 2016 -- reflects some 27,000 expired or cancelled licenses in the FCC database over the past year. In making the case for changes to the entry-level license, the ARRL Board's Entry-Level License Committee referred to "the large number of Baby Boomers (roughly born 1945 - 65) [who] will soon be aging off the licensee rolls." The committee predicted the likelihood of "a significant decline in the number of hams, unless we take steps to reverse it." Read more at <http://www.arrl.org/news/more-than-30-000-new-ham-licensees-and-7-000-amateur-radio-exam-sessions-in-2017>

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

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



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