

# SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the Saginaw Valley  
Amateur Radio Association

April, 2007

## QRM from Dave, N8ERL

Well, nice weather is upon us or at least a few of the past few days have been pretty spring-like. I have a couple of antenna projects that I expect to get going in the next few days as well as some minor radio shack repairs. What have you been up to with ham radio? If you have something neat, cool, or interesting to share, send me an email and I will write about it. Don't be shy...heck, we all would be interested in hearing about that new project, antenna, rig, or addition to the shack. Several of the club members have upgraded. Have you started making some HF contacts, checked into any interesting nets, started working on DXCC, WAS etc.?

Some of the things I hear over the grapevine are that Ron, KC8YVF, is doing some PSK31 stuff; Roger, KB8QO is still working DX almost everyday. Our EC, along with KC8VYF, KB8SWR and the assistant EC's are working on getting the fast scan TV system up and running. Keith, N8XD, is working on neat projects for the club in the next few months. So, again, let me know what's new.

The Cadillac Swap is coming up on May 5. This is always a good swap and a nice drive. It's a good way to burn up some of that 2.75 gas. Also Dayton will be May 18 through 20. If you have never been there, try and make this your year to get there.

In my last column I talked about the Michigan QSO party. This is just a reminder that it's coming up on Saturday April 21. It starts at 1200 local time and runs 12 hours ending at 2400 local time. Even if you only get on to make a few contacts it would be good experience. Look for a lot of activity on 40 and 80 meters both CW and SSB. The website is [www.miqp.org](http://www.miqp.org) for the details.

On June 9 the Harry Browne Airport is holding its annual Copter and Wings Fest ([www.khyx.org](http://www.khyx.org)) and SVARA has been invited to participate. The Fest got its start last year and runs all day on Saturday. There is a Dawn patrol breakfast and a lot of pretty neat things to see and do. If the membership would like to participate, I think there is a pretty good chance we could set up the club trailer and do an impromptu special event station.

Field day is coming up the last weekend in June. If you would like to set up a station or just hang out and enjoy the fun, make sure that you put it on your calendar. There will be more info at the club meeting, I'm sure.

General Membership Meeting  
March 2, 2007  
Red Cross

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM. There were 22 members and guests present. The Secretary's report was accepted as presented with a correction by WA8GRI on a motion by WA8GRI and seconded by N8YXR with all in favor. The treasurer's report was accepted on a motion by KC8YVI seconded by KC8WZM.

Announcements:

19 new hams were the result of VE testing consisting of 14 Generals, 2 Technicians and 3 Extras.

The Red Cross will be open tomorrow, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 10:00 am for the ARRL DX Competition.

WD8OQH reported he was now receiving QST.

WA8GRI noted there were 540 new technicians since February 23, 2007.

Emmett Bengry, KD8FLK was voted in as a new member on a motion by N8YXR and seconded by KB8QO. All were in favor.

Old Business:

W8LPV made a motion to accept the scholarship in its current form. KC8BDQ seconded with much discussion following.

K8CQF made a motion, seconded by N8REB, to table the matter until the April meeting. The motion was defeated by a vote of 10 ayes to 12 nays.

W8LPV amended his motion to remove #7 from the list of requirements. KC0RBV seconded with all in favor.

W8LPV then made a motion to accept the amended proposal and was seconded by N8YXR. All were in favor.

New Business:

KC8YVI noted ARES now has 14 members and needs more. It is also time for renewals. The Simulated Emergency Test will be held at MBS Airport May 23, 2007 at 9:00 AM.

KD8AUY gave an interesting and informative presentation on old time radio and television.

The 50/50 drawing was held, with KC0RBV winning \$19.00.

The meeting closed on a motion by N8YXR and seconded by W8HZF with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeff Weirauch, KC8BDQ  
Secretary

**Board of Directors**  
**SVARA**  
March 14, 2007  
Texan on State Street

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 pm. Present were: KC8YVF, W8LPV, KC8BYI, KC8BDQ, N8XD, KD8AVA and WA8GRI.

Announcements:

N8XD reported that 8-9 hours was spent at the Red Cross for the DX Competition. He also noted that 12 of 15 people became new hams at the March 9, 2007 Midland VE exam.

KC8BDQ suggested having the trailer awning repaired or replaced by the date of the MS Walk. The matter will be brought to the general membership at the April meeting.

N8XD also passed along a message from N8ERL that there would be an air show at Harry Browne Airport on June 9, 2007. He suggested the club have a special event station at this event. It was decided to ask the membership at the April meeting.

KC8BDQ made a motion to accept the minutes of the February Board meeting as printed in the March Harmonic. KD8AVA seconded this motion and all were in favor.

KC8BYI announced that she would have sign-up sheets for all three Care Breaks at the April general meeting. This year we have Memorial Day from Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup> to Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>; Fourth of July from Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup> (5 days); And Labor Day from Friday, August 31<sup>st</sup> to Monday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Further discussion revealed the board members would like to have a picnic on Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> featuring hot dogs and hamburgers. Also, there we will continue the new tradition of barbeque ribs and chicken on Friday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, immediately preceding the meeting.

Continuing, the board agreed to have Field Day at Richland Township Park again this year. This reminded them that yearly rent of \$1.00 was due to James Township for the tower space. It was agreed to send a check.

Old Business:

KC8BYI suggested the board appoint a committee to disburse any funds to be awarded as the SVARA Scholarship. A 5 member panel will consist of K8CQF, KC0RBV, W8LPV, W8CWD and N8XD.

New Business:

W8LPV would like to see the club put together a committee dedicated to fund raising and procuring grants, etc.

N8XD stated he would like to organize a program at Freeland Elementary School to expose the kids to amateur radio. He will be seeking volunteers to assist him.

On a motion from KC8BYI seconded by KD8AVA the meeting closed at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeff Weirauch, KC8BDQ  
Secretary



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 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 - monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday, 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,  
 9:00 a.m. at the Texan Restaurant, 5656 State St.

**2007 SVARA Officers**

|                   |                       |              |                            |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| President         | Keith DeLong, N8XD    | 989-695-5131 | n8xd@arrl.net              |
| Vice-President    | Jim Stutesman, WA8GRI | 989-791-2156 | wa8gri@arrl.net            |
| Secretary         | Jeff Weirauch, KC8BDQ | 989-797-0692 | weirauch@chartermi.net     |
| Treasurer         | Judy Weirauch, KC8BYI | 989-797-0692 | weirauch@northwood.edu     |
| Board Member 2007 | Ron Huss, KC8YVF      | 989-799-2679 | kc8yvf@rhuss.cncfamily.com |
| Board Member 2008 | Lou Vescio, W8LPV     | 989-799-1467 | lvescio@midmich.net        |
| Board Member 2009 | Aaron Stella, KD8AVA  | 989-497-0463 | astella@bcdglobal.com      |

**2007 SVARA Appointments**

|                       |                       |              |                        |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Newsletter Editor     | Jeff Weirauch, KC8BDQ | 989-797-0692 | weirauch@chartermi.net |
| Emergency Coordinator | Carl DeMeritt, KC8YVI | 989-792-2151 | cdemeritt@chs-mi.com   |
| Public Info Officer   | Aaron Stella, KD8AVA  | 989-497-0463 | astella@bcdglobal.com  |
| 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](mailto:weirauch@chartermi.net)

**SVARA Elmers**

|                   |                          |              |                              |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Antennas          | Tracy Albert, KC8YVE     | 989-714-2367 | thealbert@earthlink.com      |
| Antennas          | Verne Williams, KC8FUV   | 213-689-5258 | vw54@ncats.net               |
| APRS + WX         | Brian Buckstiegel, N8AVR | 989-781-6875 | brian@n8avr.us               |
| CPR-AED Training  | Roger Steffes, K8DVX     | 989-752-9891 | RogerSteffes@speednetllc.com |
| Feed Lines        | Tracy Albert, KC8YVE     | 989-714-2367 | thealbert@earthlink.com      |
| General Questions | Joe Turner, K8CQF        | 989-793-7373 | k8cqf@arrl.net               |
| MARS              | Verne Williams, KC8FUV   | 213-689-5258 | vw54@ncats.net               |
| Morse Code        | Larry Davison, WD8RIK    | 989-781-0370 | wd8rik@diamondcs.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                |
| Towers            | Verne Williams, KC8FUV   | 213-689-5258 | vw54@ncats.net               |