

SVARA Harmonic

a monthly publication of the
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

July, 2009



DOLSON, William L. of Saginaw, Michigan. Beloved husband, father and grandfather passed away June 19, 2009, at Covenant-Harrison at the age of 77 years. Bill was born December 20, 1931, in Saginaw to the late Wellington and Florence (Hartman) Dolson. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. He married Mary Lou Evers December 11, 1953; she survives him. He worked for 20 years as an electrician for Delphi and was a member of Union Local #467. He was an amateur radio operator for over 50 years. He helped to found the Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association. He enjoyed hunting and fishing especially when his grandchildren went with him. He was a member of the Korean War Veterans Association, the NRA and the Bridgeport Gun Club. He was a regular at Fuzzy's for coffee. Bill talked to everyone. He often declared that he never had a bad day-some were just better than others. He had a wonderful sense of humor even right up to the end. Besides his wife he is survived by his children: Emilee Lake, John Dolson, James (Jan) Dolson; grandchildren: Kyle, Connor, Erin; sister, Dorothy Dolson; brother, Don (Ruth) Dolson; special nieces Rachael and Joanne Dolson; and many nieces, nephews and many extended family members. He was predeceased by his son, Dennis. Cremation has taken place. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Saginaw Rescue Mission.

Field Day Observations by K8CQF

Youngsters and young adults were in attendance at the 2009 Field Day exercise and actively participated in operating radios (besides actively playing in the playground and doing other things of interest to them. There were at least two other children who were there, but did not actively participate (Mia McBride (age 5) and Adrian McBride (age 6), The young adults were: Rick Shattilly's 13 year old son. Jeff Stange's daughter Amanda, 11 and her 12 year old friend, Katlyn and 15 year old Kionna. At 8 year's old, Drew McBride is believed to have set SVARA's world record as the youngest active operator in a Field Day exercise.

When asked to rank the Field Day on a scale of zero through 10 after all activities were completed, with 10 being "totally awesome," the average ranking was "8" ... as in really great, I'd come back again.

Three of the five children camped out overnight. All operated with the exception of Rick's son in the Gotta station. Rick's son may have operated, but not with me at the helm. Mike Linton, N8XPS did a great job of getting the station up and operational and of working with the children. There were very interesting observations to be made regarding the participation of young people. Some of them were invited by individual station operators to help out in a station other than the Gotta station. Steve did that with his 10 meter station and Drew McBride. Drew worked about a half dozen states. He was still talking about the experience in the tent at 2:30 in the morning. Kionna, worked Alaska and was pretty thrilled.

Amanda and her friend did a bang up job in the Gotta station and while I'm uncertain of the overall score; it appeared to me to be one of the highest I've seen recorded. The girls were terrific operators and really went after stations.

It was interesting to note the attitude of operators from around the country who were engaged in contacts by these young people. Many took time to assure the youngsters received the information to be exchanged in clear and slow speaking tones. Several took time to ask the age of the G.O.T.A. operators and more than one really praised them for their voices and operating abilities. My observation was that the youngsters were both surprised and delighted with the compliments. By the way, SVARA's station operators made similar comments of encouragement and those words were heard by the youngsters.

I also believe I saw a glint of competitiveness in the eyes of Amanda and other SVARA guests. My bet is they'll come back next year or for some other activity and become surpass an already laudatory performance. The youngsters also were able to observe social skills that were worth observing. They saw the gracious introductions by Dave Schneider of visitors to the exercise. They also were aware that some of these visitors hold important positions within the community. Learning how to socialize, proper conduct and manners is important to each of us. SVARA's representatives did a nice job of sharing their individual skills with the youngsters. There is no question my mind that the 2009 Field Day was a resounding success for the youth who participated. My hat is off to everyone who made it the success it was.

General Membership Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2009
American Red Cross Building

Meeting called to order at 8:05 p.m. with 23 members and guest present.

President's Report: KC8BDQ announced that W6RTO had passed away and asked for a few moments of silence. Tomorrow the Cadillac Swap will take place. May 9th will be the day for MS Walk in Frankenmuth. Make sure to get public service hours to W7KEH. Sign up sheet circulated for Free Fun Day at Bliss Park on July 25th. Asked if all would agree to add the Pledge of Allegiance be recited at the meetings motion made by N8ERL seconded by KC8WZM motion carried and recited.

N8ERL Report: The Run for Windy fundraiser will be on May 17th from 10a.m. to 2 p.m. at Swan Valley High School.

Handout was distributed for upcoming SVARA Field Day, scheduled from 10:00 a.m. Saturday to 2:00 p.m. Sunday. Please try to come and help with set-up and tear down enjoy Saturday pot luck and Sunday breakfast. Be friendly; don't wait to be asked to lend a hand.

Secretary's Report: Minutes accepted as submitted in the Harmonic made by KC8WZM and seconded by KA8PRX motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by KC8BYI motion to accept by KB8QO seconded by KC8YVD and carried. Thanks for signing up to participate in Memorial Weekend Care Break replacements needed for some drop outs. A large number of state maps received and ready for distribution. Query made to hold Friday evening pot luck; assembled and concurred.

Vice President's Report: 501(c) (3) application packet required vote to establish policy in case of dissolution of SVARA, assets must go to governmental, educational, or charitable organizations with proper 501c3 status. Motion made by W8EAB then seconded KC8BYI to adopt this policy.

Trailer Committee Report: KC8BYI reported interior work to be completed for MS Walk.

Old Business: MS Walk same place as last year - meet at Heritage park by 7:30 a.m.

New Business: Thank you to KB8YEB for the donation of Yeasu handheld. WA8GRI asked about updates to the web site KC8YVF will ask N8XD to make updates ASAP. In search for funds to replace equipment KC8YVF talked with K8CQF who applied for a grant of \$1550.00 from Saginaw Community Foundation in the name of Saginaw County and SVARA. Board chose to inform membership. Other sources of county funds have become available. Hoyt nursing home is working to be included emergency communications. No progress on Rosien Towers. Skywarn training DVD's are available. Genesee conducted S.E.T. Tuuri and Crim races planned this summer.

QSL card received and given to KB8QO, W8LPV received information request on scholarship

KA8PRX donated 440 MHz repeater to SVARA

KC8BYI won \$20.00 in 50/50 drawing.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m. by motion from N8ERL seconded by W8CWD

Respectfully Submitted
Michael K. Linton, N8XPS
Secretary

S.V.A.R.A. Board Meeting Minutes

State Street Road Texan Restaurant

June 17, 2009

Meeting called to order with KC8BDQ, KC8BYI, W8EAB, KD8IOK, W8LPV, KC8YVF, and N8XPS present.

Secretary's Report: Motion made to accept prepared minutes as presented in the Harmonic newsletter by W8LPV with a second by KC8BDQ.

Treasure's Report: Presented by KC8BYI current membership roster with indications of paid members presented for possible corrections. Reminders will be to those who have not yet paid their dues. Sign in sheets for July 4th Care Break was discussed. Gayle Wright will help KC8BYI with filling openings in sign in sheets. Processing renewal form for ARRL special services form. Club jacket bought for KC8WZM by KA8PRX with help of the club motion made by KC8BDQ to cover purchase with a seconded by KC8IOK motion carried.

Trailer Report: \$300 was approved prior to recent trailer improvements cost was exceeded by \$113.99. Motion made by W8EAB and seconded by W8LPV to reimburse the difference with \$34.19 for lug wrench and jack, motion carried. Care Break sponsor changed from State Farm to AAA. We now have new banners and 4 boxes cups.

KC8BDQ suggested that instead of fuel reimbursement for trailer towing a mileage based system should be adopted. KC8BYI motioned set rate at 52 cents per mile to be reviewed each year, W8LPV seconded the motion. After much discussion we chose use the same compensation for all towing. W8LPV motioned to combine motions W8EAB with the second.

Vise Presidents Report: W8CWD currently hospitalized at Covent Harrison intensive care. 501c3 returned for needed change resent Lansing. Invitations to officials for Field Day and several news paper announcements have been sent.

Chairman's Report: S.V.A.R.A. will not be helping with 'The race for the people' since no contact could be established. KA8PRX tried to get a hold of KC8YVF has tower to donate. It will not be suited for Rosien Tower. Prospective tower structure suggested N8YXR consulted on price. Assistance requested to coordinate project. Motion to nominate N8XPS for this position KD8IOK seconded and was passed. Citizen Corp will not join National Night Out "Family Preparative Day planned for September 27 with in St. Charles Park. First week of October will be ARRL SET.

Old Business: KC8BDQ expressed need to clean rooms at Red Cross looking for barn storage. Date set to clean on July 11th at 9:00 a.m. Pot Luck at Care Break July 3 at 6:00 p.m. help requested 3 to 6 p.m. W8LPV has Metro Youth Day parking passes. Sponsorship of Citizen Corp golf outing was disapproved.

Motion to adjourn by KC8BYI with second by KC8BDQ motion carried home at 9:05.

Respectfully Submitted, Michael Linton N8XPS, 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

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
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Board Member 2009	Jeff Stange, KD8IOK	989-624-9461	kd8iok@jacsinc.net
Board Member 2011	Emmett Bengry, W8EAB	989-755-5112	w8eab@arrl.net

2008 SVARA Appointments

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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

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