



SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

May 2017

- **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

Club Meeting Dates:

All dates are Fridays: April 7, May 5, June 2, July 7, August 4, September 1, October 6, November 3, December 1

Club Breakfast Dates (at Levi’s on State St.):

A club breakfast is held monthly on Saturday morning after the meeting, 8:30 a.m. at Levi’s
All dates are Saturdays: April 8, May 6, June 3, July 8, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 2

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. Changes in meeting dates are post on the club website.
All dates are Thursday: April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 14, October 19, November 16, December 14

ARES Members:

Ares training for June will be a “Fox Hunt”. Visit the Ares website for more information. No Ares training for July.

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 Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8:00 PM

Saginaw Valley ARA meeting minutes for August 4,2017

The meeting was called to order by Mike KD8MMH, who lead the pledge of allegiance with members 11 present.

The minutes of the last meeting and the treasurers report were tabled because there was not a quarm present. Mike N8XPS the treasurer did comment on lights he purchased for use at the Care Breaks to better light the area in front of the trailer

Mike KD8MMH mentioned that he was again taking request for name badges that could be purchase on an upcoming trip north.

Upcoming events were talked about, Great Lakes Emergency Preparedness Expo and the upcoming ARRL/State SET, information will be on the club website.

Ron KC8YVF reported on the National Night Out event.

The new cell phone law was talked about and what it means to ham radio mobile operations.

Minnie KD8PAZ gave a swap update and it was reported that at the Midland swap Aug 12 the \$5.00 admission also included a table if you want to sell your items.

Gorgy KC8YVD commented on the lack of wired mice for the county comm trailer and asked that the club apropeate \$50.00 for the purchase of said mice. Without a quarm present a motion could not be brought up to the membership but Dave W8DW said that there were enough board members present and made a motion to the board to alot \$50.00 for that purchase. The motion was seconded by Mike KD8MMH and the motion was voted on and passed.

Dave W8DW gave a Contest report and updated the club on the repeater project progress.

The motion to adjourn was made by Emmet NE8B and seconded by Dave W8DW.

Ice Cream social followed the meeting and a presentation on Ron's KC8YVF ham radio station.

Meeting minutes courtesy of Dave W8DW. Thanks for filling in Dave.

Saginaw Valley ARA board meeting minutes for August 16, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Duane KD8AUY, with Dave W8DW, Horst KD8ZXR, Doris KD8MMG, Mike N8XPS, Tom N8EUI, Mike K8AVJ and Brian K8HY 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

The President was not present.

Vice President's Report

The Vice President had nothing to report.

Secretary's Report

The secretary reported on the welcome pack and a discussion was had about using a printing service to create the welcome packs. The secretary is going to check on pricing.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer discussed the golf outing that was to be held the following day.

General Discussion

Duane KD8AUY, discussed outdated information he found on a public information website. Mike N8XPS, and Dave W8DW, discussed grant project work they participated in. Nine dishes and some additional equipment related to the project were installed at Rosie. To make room in the cabinet for the additional equipment the ATV equipment was disconnected and removed from the cabinet. The board is expecting a more detailed report from the grant project group.

The motion to adjourn was made by Duane KD8AUY, and seconded by Mike N8XPS.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Elias K8AVJ
Secretary

ARRL News

Amateur Radio Volunteers Assisting Where Needed in Harvey Response

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) volunteers have been pitching in to support communication at some Red Cross shelters in south Texas in the ongoing aftermath of catastrophic and unprecedented flooding resulting from Hurricane Harvey, now a Tropical Depression. ARES members also have been serving as net control liaisons to the Harris County Office of Emergency Management (OEM). At mid-week, some 3 dozen volunteers were assisting at shelters. Another dozen were on tap to serve as OEM liaisons. ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, KI1U, said the Red Cross is in need of Red Cross-trained shelter managers and volunteer management specialists. Anyone interested should [contact](#) him.



Harvey from the vantage point of the International Space Station (ISS). NASA's Johnson Space Center (JSC) in Houston has closed to all but mission-essential personnel through Labor Day, due to the effects of Harvey. Most US astronauts live in the Houston area. JSC said closing would allow the center to focus on its priorities, including the return to Earth this weekend of ISS crew members Peggy Whitson, ex-KC5ZTD; Jack Fischer, K2FSH, and Fyodor Yurchikin, RN3FI. [Jack Fischer, N2FSH, photo]

A variety of emergency, health-and-welfare, traffic, and tactical nets in south Texas have been active on HF at various times of the day as well as on a wide array of VHF and UHF repeaters, which remain available as needed. The Salvation Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) has been convening on 14.265 MHz, while the Military Auxiliary Radio Service (MARS) has been using the 5.330.5 (USB) MHz interoperability channel on 60 meters.

On August 31, the National Hurricane Center reported that flooding rains were continuing across far eastern Texas and western Louisiana, with heavy rainfall expected to spread northeastward through the lower Mississippi Valley and into the Tennessee Valley over the next day or two. ARES volunteers are on standby in Louisiana.

"During the storm response, all Amateur Radio operators -- and perhaps especially those involved in contest activity -- are advised *tolisten first* and respect any frequencies in use for emergency response communication," Corey said. He cited the SATERN Net on 14.265 MHz and the South Texas Traffic Emergency and Health and Welfare nets on 7.285, 7.290, 3.873, and 3.935 MHz. Digital emergency and health and welfare frequencies are 3.5925 and 7.095 MHz.

Earlier this week, ARES team members were advised that

the impact to the region's communications infrastructure had been relatively minimal, considering the strength of the storm and the magnitude of the flooding. The storm did ravage cellular service in some Texas counties, however, especially Aransas (84%) and Refugio (73%) counties, the FCC reported. Overall, however, the FCC deemed the cellular system 95% functional.

ARRL South Texas Public Information Officer Mike Ulrich, KA5CVH, [told ARRL](#) on August 30 that "hardening" of the telecommunications infrastructure to make it more immune to storm damage has diminished the need for Amateur Radio communication support and altered hams' traditional role there. Ulrich pointed out, however, that the Amateur Radio telecommunications infrastructure in South Texas has remained analog, as "the lowest common denominator" of technology -- VHF/UHF FM, and HF -- and has the highest degree of interoperability. "That's what we train to, that's what we teach, that's what we practice," he said.

Ulrich spent more than 40 hours alternating shifts at the Harris County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Ulrich said the area's extensive system of repeaters makes it possible for local radio amateurs to serve as "another set of eyes and ears" in spotting and reporting problems that may require official attention.

The Hurricane Watch Net ([HWN](#)) suspended operations for Hurricane Harvey on August 26 after 51.5 continuous hours of activation. The [VoIP Hurricane Net](#), and [WX4NHC](#), the Amateur Radio station at the NHC in Miami, also activated as Harvey approached landfall in Texas as a Category 4 hurricane. The VoIP Hurricane Net has been informally monitoring [EchoLink](#) 7203, [IRLP](#) 9219, and [AllStar](#) *33007203 for



The Houston Police Lake Patrol has been among those rescuing stranded residents of the flood zone.

requests from the affected area at the request of [Humanity Road](#), said Lloyd Colston, KC5FM. He said a station checked in via EchoLink to request the rescue of a grandmother and children. "That request was relayed to the United States Coast Guard Houston," Colston told ARRL. He said hams in the affected region needing to relay rescue needs should first call 911, then their local emergency operations center, and, if those aren't available, then the US Coast Guard -- in that order. He also said individuals in the flood zone are reporting cellular telephone degradation.

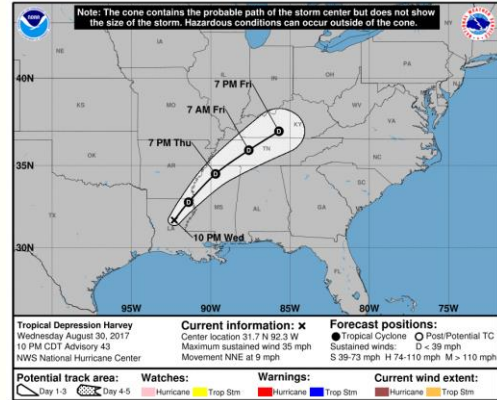
ARRL [South Texas Section](#) Manager Lee Cooper, W5LHC, told ARRL on Monday that the disaster would remain in the response phase for several days, although needs may change later in the response phase or when it transitions to

the recovery phase. ARRL South Texas SEC Jeff Walter, KE5FGA, said ARES members could participate in any nets related to the storm response from home.



"Harris County and the City of Houston have issued a shelter-in-place order," Walter pointed out over the past weekend. "The local region is paralyzed. Resources are stretched to accommodate all calls for assistance. Take care of your family first, then if you are able to help in the recovery phase, contact your local Emergency Coordinator or District Emergency Coordinator for instruction on what to do. Do not show up without approval from your local EC."

As of August 31, some 195,000 customers were without power in Texas. American Red Cross shelters were reporting more than 34,000 occupants in Texas; more than 980,000 people have been ordered to evacuate. The Texas Emergency Operations Center is at full activation, and Governor Greg Abbott has declared a state of disaster for 50 Texas counties, while evacuation orders and advisories are in effect for eight counties and several independent communities in Louisiana, where the state EOC is fully activated. A state of emergency also exists for all Louisiana parishes in preparation for widespread flooding. Read [more](#).



The projected track of Tropical Storm Harvey as of August 31 at 0300 UTC. [Graphic courtesy of NOAA]

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.

2016 SVARA Officers

President Mike Dougherty KD8MMH

Vice-President Brian Kleinfeld K8HY

Secretary Mike Elias K8AVJ

Treasurer Mike Linton N8XPS

Board Member Tom Schmidt N8EUI
Term expires 2017

Board Member Anne Elias KB8AWE
Term expires 2018

Board Member Doris Miles KD8MMG
Term expires 2019

2016 SVARA Appointments

Newsletter Editor

To subscribe or submit articles, please send requests to
Rob Wright KC8IJN 989-293-2224 ffrwright@sbcglobal.net

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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