



# SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the  
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

September 2019

- **SVARA Meeting Presentations**

We are always 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:**

Covenant Hospital Anderson building, first floor lecture room on the corner of N. Bond St. and Almira St. on the 1<sup>ST</sup> Friday at 7:00PM unless otherwise noted. Changes are posted to the club website.

**Club Meeting Dates:**

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

**Club Breakfast Dates (Savoy bar and Grill on Franklin St.):**

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

**Board Meeting Dates (at Biggby Coffee, 3085 Bay Rd.):**

The Board of Directors meets monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Week following the general membership meeting, 7:00 p.m. at Biggby Coffee on Bay Rd. Dates for the new year are being decided. Changes in meeting dates are posted on the club website.

All dates for 2019 are to be announced at this time.

**ARES Members:**

Ares training for January is Preparing for Deployment. Winter Field Day planning will also be discussed. Visit the Ares website for more information. Ares training for February is Operational Stress.

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

<b>District 3 Net</b> 145.310 Sunday 6:30 PM	<b>SVARA (Saginaw)</b> 147.240 Monday 9:00 PM	<b>MARC (Midland)</b> 147.000 Thursday 9:00 PM
<b>D3 Digital Training Net (Olivia 8/500) Seasonal</b> 3.586 MHz USB Sunday 8:00 PM	<b>BAARC (Bay City)</b> 145.310 Tuesday 9:00 PM	<b>MI Digital Traffic Net (Olivia 8/500)</b> 3.583 MHz USB Tues, Thurs, Sat 8:00 PM

## **Saginaw Valley ARA meeting minutes for September 6, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Mike N8XPS, who lead the pledge of allegiance with 11 members and 1 guest present.

Dave W8DW, made a motion to accept both June and August meeting minutes as published in the harmonic news and was seconded by Horst KD8ZXR. The motion passed.

Mike KD8MMH, made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and was seconded by Tom N8EUI. The motion passed.

Minnie KD8PAZ, reported on upcoming ham swaps. Dave W8DW, reported on upcoming contests.

Ron KC8YVF, discussed the upcoming SET, the theme of which is alien invasion. Ron also discussed the upcoming Ares training as well as the recent annual Ares picnic which was enjoyed by all.

Mike KD8MMH, discussed the upcoming Emergency Preparedness Expo and the new additions to the booth this year. These include a scrolling LED sign, new pamphlets and a new stand for the club banner.

The "P25 donation radio" raffle was held however, the secretary's notes do not have the name of the winner. The Secretary apologizes for this.

The motion to adjourn was made by Dave W8D8 and seconded by Minnie KD8PAZ.

## **Saginaw Valley ARA board meeting minutes for September 18, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at pm by Mike KD8MMH, with Mike N8XPS, Doris KD8MMG, Tom N8EUI, Horst KD8ZXR, and Mike K8AVJ, present.

Tom N8EUI, made a motion to accept June, July and August board meeting minutes as published in the harmonic news and was seconded by Doris KD8MMG. The motion passed.

### **President's Report**

Mike N8XPS, reported he had paid the PO Box renewal for the next six months.

### **Vice President's Report**

The Vice President was not present.

### **Secretary's Report**

The secretary had nothing new to report.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer was not present.

### **Chair's Report**

Mike KD8MMH, reported on changes to the upcoming Emergency Preparedness Expo. Our booth is being moved to a corner location. This move gives us a little bit more room and places us in a higher traffic higher visibility area. However, it also moves us closer to the stage. Mike also discussed club T-shirts and whether or not we need to order more.

### **General Discussion**

the annual holiday in the heart of the city event was discussed. We will attempt to contact Jim Wade's to participate with us again this year.

The club website and hosting situation was discussed. It was decided that we should make a committee to address the website administration and hosting. Mike N8XPS, made the motion and was seconded by Mike KD8MMH. The motion passed. In accordance with club bylaws Mike N8XPS will be the interim chair of the committee until a permanent chair is chosen by the board.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Elias K8AVJ  
Secretary

## ARRL News

### FCC Dismisses Three Petitions for Rule Making Filed by Radio Amateurs

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10/03/2019

The FCC has dismissed petitions for rule making filed in 2018 by three radio amateurs. All of the petitions were put on public notice earlier this year and comments invited.

Edward C. Borghi, KB2E, of Farmington, New York, and Jeffrey Bail, NT1K, of West Springfield, Massachusetts, submitted very similar petitions seeking changes in how the FCC grants Amateur Radio vanity call sign applications. Borghi's *Petition (RM-11834)*, would have prohibited vanity applicants from requesting call signs not designated for the applicant's geographical region, with exceptions under the rules governing call signs previously held by family members. Borghi complained that applicants had to compete with "out-of-area people for the few 1 x 2 or 2 x 1 or catchy 2 x 3 call signs available in their area of residence."

Bail's *Petition (RM-11835)* asked that the FCC give residential preference in competing applications to applicants whose listed FCC address is within the same district/region as the applied call sign. He cited limited availability and increased demand for 1 x 2 and 2 x 1 call signs. The FCC dismissed both petitions in a **single letter**.

"The Commission does not limit applicants for vanity call signs to requesting call signs assigned to the region of the applicant's mailing address, except for call signs designated under the sequential call sign system for Alaska, Hawaii, Caribbean Insular Areas, and Pacific Insular Areas," the FCC pointed out. "When the Commission established the vanity call sign system in 1995, it rejected a proposal to restrict vanity call sign applicants to call signs designated for the region in which the applicant resides," because it would restrict a given applicant's choice of vanity call signs to 10% or less of those otherwise assignable.

The FCC also noted that a limitation based on an applicant's place of residence "could easily be circumvented by using a mailing address in another call sign region."

In denying the petitions, the FCC concluded that no need exists to require vanity call signs to correspond to a licensee's mailing address, "given that call signs do not automatically change when a licensee moves, and a licensee's mailing address is not necessarily the location from which he or she is transmitting."

"The Commission rejected this proposal again in 2010 for the same reasons," the FCC said. "The records before us do not demonstrate any changed circumstances or other reason that would warrant revisiting this decision." The FCC further pointed out that vanity applications received on the same day are handled by a random selection batch process, making it impossible to identify in-region vanity call sign applications and process them ahead of other applications for the same call sign."

The FCC also **turned away** a *Petition (RM-11833)* from Jerry Oxendine, K4KWH, of Gastonia, North Carolina, who asked the FCC to clarify that states and localities should have no authority to regulate Amateur Radio with respect to enacting "distracted driving" statutes. Oxendine argued that such statutes violate FCC rules on scope and operation of equipment by licensees; violate the intent of the FCC and Congress with respect to Amateur Radio's role in disasters, and hinder emergency operations using mobile equipment.

In denying the request, the FCC took issue with Oxendine's assertion that the strong federal interest in promoting Amateur Radio communication should preempt distracted driving laws. The FCC said it received about 20 comments supporting Oxendine's petition.

"Laws that prohibit talking on handheld communications devices while driving do not preclude or unreasonably obstruct mobile use of handheld two-way radios," the FCC said in denying Oxendine's

petition. “These laws apply to the use of handheld devices while driving. A driver can comply with these laws by using a hands-free attachment or by parking the vehicle prior to using a handheld device, both of which are contemplated by our rules regarding two-way radios.”

The FCC said, “The record before us does not demonstrate that state and local laws that prohibit talking on handheld devices while driving stand as an obstacle to amateur communications or actually conflict with federal law in any way.” The FCC further noted the lack of any express preemption or argument that Congress has “occupied the field” of regulation with respect to distracted driving statutes.

## **ARISS Invites Proposals to Host Ham Radio Contacts with Space Station Crew**

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*10/03/2019*

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (**ARISS**) Program is seeking formal and informal education institutions and organizations — individually or working together — to host an Amateur Radio contact with a member of the International Space Station crew. The deadline to submit a proposal is November 30. Proposal information and documents are on the **ARISS website**. ARISS anticipates that contacts would take place between July 1 and December 31, 2020. Crew scheduling and ISS orbits will determine specific contact dates. To make the most of these radio contact opportunities, ARISS is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan.

Crew members aboard the International Space Station routinely conduct scheduled Amateur Radio contacts throughout the year. These contacts are approximately 10 minutes long and allow students to interact with the astronauts through a question-and-answer session.

Amateur Radio organizations around the world — with the support of NASA and space agencies in Russia, Canada, Japan, and Europe — make these contact opportunities available to educational organizations. An ARISS contact is a voice-only communication opportunity via Amateur Radio between astronauts and cosmonauts aboard the space station and classrooms to educate students about what it is like to live and work in space and to learn about space research conducted on the ISS. Students will also have an opportunity to learn about satellite communication, wireless technology, and radio science.

Amateur Radio organization volunteers provide the equipment and operational support to enable communication between crew on the ISS and students around the world using Amateur Radio. Because of the nature of human spaceflight and the complexity of scheduling activities aboard the ISS, organizations must demonstrate flexibility to accommodate changes in contact dates and times.

**Proposal information and more details**, including expectations, proposal guidelines, and proposal form, and dates and times of informational webinars, are on the ARISS website.

Send questions to [ariss.us.education@gmail.com](mailto:ariss.us.education@gmail.com).

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.

### 2019 SVARA Officers

<b>President</b>	Mike Linton N8XPS	<b>Board Member</b>	
<b>Vice-President</b>	Brian Kleinfeld K8HY	Term expires 2019	Doris Miles KD8MMG
<b>Secretary</b>	Mike Elias K8AVJ	<b>Board Member</b>	Tom Schmidt N8EUI
<b>Treasurer</b>	Anne Elias KB8AWE	Term expires 2020	
		<b>Board Member</b>	Mary Paquette WB8LZA
		Term expires 2021	

### 2019 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      989-270-8974 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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