



SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

September 2020

- **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:

Due to current circumstances club meetings will be held Elmer Lange Park also known as Kochville Township Park. The club will meet at the Pavilion at 7 PM. Changes are posted to the club website.

Club Meeting Dates:

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

Club Breakfast Dates (Check club website for location):

The club breakfast is on hold until further notice.

All dates are Saturdays. January 2, February 8, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, August 8, September 5, October 3, November 7, December 5

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

Board meetings are on hold until further notice. Changes are posted on the club website. All dates are Wednesdays. January 15, February 19, March 18, April 15, May 13, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16, October 14, November 18, December 16

ARES Members:

Ares members please visit the Ares website http://ares.saginawradio.com/scares_training.htm for training schedule information. Ares training are held the last Thursday of the month.

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

District 3 Net 145.310 Sunday 6:30 PM	SVARA (Saginaw) 147.240 Monday 9:00 PM	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
	MARC (Midland)	

Saginaw Valley ARA meeting minutes for March 6, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Mike KD8MMH, who lead the pledge of allegiance with 13 members and 2 guests present including the District EC.

Gordy KC8YVD, made a motion to accept last month's meeting minutes as published in the harmonic news and was seconded by Rick KC8VOA. The motion passed.

Ron KC8YVF, made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and was seconded by Rick KC8VOA. The motion passed.

The club auction has resulted in a gain of \$488 to the club coffers.

Club shirts have arrived. They were handed out and shown off by members.

Ron KC8VYF, gave a recap on Ares training, training went well and there are plans for an upcoming Tri-County exercise.

As always, we welcome any presentations you may have. We are also on the lookout for an additional net control ops. If interested, please contact Ron KC8YVF.

Jeff KB8SWR, reported that a 220 repeater was donated and he was working to get it on the air. It will need a better 6 m antenna. He also reported that we need a replacement to meter antennas for Gera. Jeff also mentioned changes to the P25 system.

Rick KC8VOA, suggested that the club look for new activities to engage in such as SSTV Net and STEM projects that focus on aspects of radio. He also suggested we try to do some activities with local youth groups such as the Boy Scouts.

The winner of the 50-50 drawing with Lucky number 898850 was Max KE8DON. Congratulations Max .

The motion to adjourn was made by Ron KC8YVF, and seconded by Dave N8ERL.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Elias K8AVJ
Secretary

Saginaw Valley ARA meeting minutes for August 7, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Mike KD8MMH, who lead the pledge of allegiance with 12 members present.

Mike K8AVJ, was not present. Gordy KC8YVD, was asked to fill in as secretary and agreed.

March meeting minutes were not available.

Gordy KC8YVD, made a motion to accept the treasurer's report for February and was seconded by Ron KC8YVF. The motion passed.

The club has received official paperwork to continue to use the Kochville Pavilion for club meetings.

The club has received a legal letter from the estate of Keith Delong N8XD. Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association has been listed in his will. The club has offered whatever help can be given in handling Keith's collection of ham radio equipment.

Club shirts are available for payment and pickup. We also have some extras available. Contact Mike KD8MMH, for more information.

There are no upcoming swaps due to current circumstances but QSO today reorders are available.

There are some upcoming contests and QSO parties. Check the a RRL website and links on the club website for more information on scheduled contests and QSO parties.

Dave W8DW, reported on the Dstar repeater project. A router and duplexer are needed. Dave is checking on cost. A computer is also needed to complete the set up. The repeater committee held a meeting and they are working on several projects including 440 and 6M as well as the Gera antenna.

Jim would like to donate a station and equipment to the club. Mike KD8MMH is coordinating the pickup. Saginaw County has given equipment from the airport, to Ron KC8YVF for disposal.

Jack from the Midland club shared about the aftermath of the dam failures.

Rick KC8VOA, discussed a double mega giveaway. Emergency notifications percent last Wednesday.

The club breakfast and board meeting will be on hold.

Ron KC8YVF, reported the K8DAC and Saginaw radio websites are up and running.

The motion to adjourn was made by Gordy KC8YVD, and seconded by Mike N8XPS.

Meeting minutes submitted by Gordy KC8YVD, on behalf of Mike K8AVJ.

ARRL News

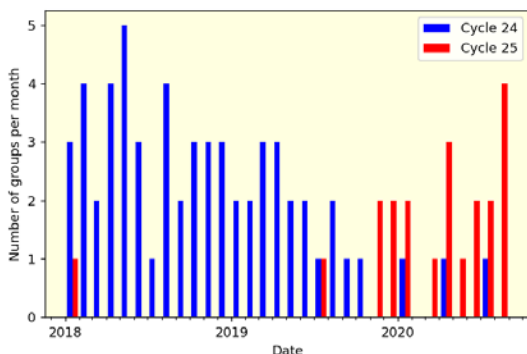
Solar Minimum Most Likely Occurred in December 2019

Sunspot Index and Long-Term Solar Observations ([SILSO](#)) in Belgium said this month that the minimum between Solar Cycles 24 and 25 "most probably" took place last December. SILSO, a part of the Royal Observatory of Belgium and formerly known as SIDC, cited as evidence the January 2020 increase in the [13-month smoothed sunspot number](#) -- the first upswing since the Cycle 24 maximum in April 2014.

"[F]or now, this latest smoothed value in January 2020 is the very first point indicating a rise of the activity. So, the date of the minimum still needs a full confirmation over the

coming months," SILSO [said](#) on its website.

"For now, preliminary smoothed values, limited to less than 13 months, hint at increasing values over coming months. If the rising trend indeed continues, this [December 2019] date will become fully definitive."



SILSO said another indication of the transition between the two solar cycles can be drawn from counting individual sunspot groups that belong to either the old or new solar cycle.

"While most sunspot groups belonged to the last solar cycle [Cycle 24] until September

2019, the dominance switched to groups of the new cycle in November 2019," SILSO said.

SILSO said that in terms of the number of active regions, the minimum between Cycle 24 and Cycle 25 falls in October 2019. "This is close to December 2019," SILSO said. It attributes the difference to three factors:

The sunspot number also takes into account the total number of spots, and the size of the emerging active regions.

The time of the minimum depends on the respective trends of the declining phase of the past cycle, and of the rising phase of the new cycle, over the 12 months surrounding the minimum.

The date of the minimum has a significant uncertainty range. Near minimum, activity hardly varies and is close to minimum for a few months.

"The date of the minimum is thus always less sharply defined than the date of the maximum of the cycles, which are more sharply peaked," SILSO explained.

SILSO noted "a steady stream" of small, active regions since last December, but that activity stagnated at a constant low level. "However, since July -- and even more in the course of August 2020 -- the activity seems



to truly take off, with at least one sunspot group visible on almost all days. Such a level of activity had not been reached since early 2019."

"This late-breaking upward trend is now expected to accelerate over the coming months," SILSO predicted. "So be prepared for a more eruptive and interesting sun!"

ARRL Podcasts Schedule



The latest episode of the *On the Air* podcast (Episode 8) features an interview with brothers Andy, KK4LWR, and Tony, KD8RTT, Milluzzi about the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative. The *On the Air* podcast is a monthly companion to *On the Air* magazine, ARRL's magazine for beginner-to-intermediate ham radio operators.

The latest episode of the *Eclectic Tech* podcast (Episode 15) features a chat with Bob Allison, WB1GCM, about HF transceiver shopping -- getting the best performance for the money.

The *On the Air* and *Eclectic Tech* podcasts are sponsored by Icom. Both podcasts are available on iTunes (iOS) and Stitcher (Android), as well as on Blubrry -- [On the Air](#) | [Eclectic Tech](#).



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.

2020 SVARA Officers

President	Mike Doherty KD8MMH	Board Member	Tom Schmidt N8EUI
		Term expires	2020
Vice-President	Brian Kleinfeld K8HY	Board Member	Mary Paquette WB8LZA
		Term expires	2021
Secretary	Mike Elias K8AVJ	Board Member	Renee Paquette WB8LZA
		Term expires	2022
Treasurer	Mike Linton N8XPS		

2020 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
 Rick Schattilly, KC8VOA
 Jeff Metiva, KB8SWR

SVARA Elmers

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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