

SVARA Harmonic

a monthly publication of the
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

December, 2010

Important Club News: VE Testing Session

A VE testing session will be held on December 4, 2010 at the Red Cross in Saginaw. The session will be for all elements (2, 3 and 4) with registration starting at 9:00 am and testing at 9:45 am. Openings may be limited so be sure to arrive early. If you plan to upgrade be sure to bring a copy of your license and 2 forms of ID, one has to have a picture. The testing fee is \$15.00 and exact change would be helpful. Bring 2 pencils and a pen. Calculators can be used but not the cell phone type. Cell phones and pagers must be turned off before entering the building.

Also board and officer nominations will take place at the November meeting.

A Few Notes from a fellow members: HF Activity Is Back

Activity on the HF bands seems to be back and improving monthly. Sunspot activity is still low, with SFI of around 76 this last weekend but bands were exceptionally good. I was able to hear China, Indonesia, Japan, The Philippines, Australia and many more Asian countries on 15, 20, 40 and 80 meters.

During the CQ-WW-DX contest on CW I worked Japan on 80 meters with 100 watts and a vertical, a first for me in my 47 years of ham radio. 160 meters was also long with contacts into Mexico and the Bahamas on that band with a slope wire antenna and heard South America and Europe also on that band.

For those of you who can work HF its time to dust those rigs off and put the on the air. For those of you who can't work the HF bands its time to upgrade and join the fun working the world on HF. It's a great way to spend a cold winter weekend working DX.

Dave
W8DW

To All Hams:

Don't forget the Christmas Party at the Red Cross Bld. on December 3rd at 7:30 pm. Bring a dish to pass! Keep it simple!

Electing your new officers for 2011. You can have a say so, its important for you to be there. Some videos will be shown about "Field Day" 2010 at Hemlock. (For those who never saw the guys in action.) Also some humorous videos to keep the evening fun. Looking forward to it – hope you are also!

Duane
KD8AUY

For Your Information:

From ARRL Headquarters

W1AW 2010/2011 Winter Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
-----	-----	-----
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)
1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)

(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100	UTC	(4 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2100	"	"	CWs	Tue, Thu
2200	"	(5 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
2300	"	(6 PM EST)	DIGITAL	Daily
0000	"	(7 PM EST)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
0000	"	"	CWf	Tue, Thu
0100	"	(8 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
0200	"	(9 PM EST)	DIGITAL	Daily
0245	"	(9:45 PM EST)	VOICE	Daily
0300	"	(10 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0300	"	"	CWs	Tue, Thu
0400	"	(11 PM EST)	CWb	Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

 CW: 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675 28.0675 147.555
 DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 147.555
 VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM
 CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM
 CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

DIGITAL = BAUDOT (45.45 baud), BPSK31 and MFSK16 in a revolving schedule.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2330 UTC (6:30 PM EST), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular digital frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Thursdays and 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Fridays.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Digital at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

All licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1500 UTC to 1700 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM EST), and then from 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur radio license or a photocopy.

The W1AW Operating Schedule may also be found on page 102 in the October 2010 issue of QST or on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule> .

For ARES Members: There is a group breakfast for ARES members on December 11, 2010 starting at 9-11 am. Training will resume in January. Have a happy and safe holiday season.

Club Meeting Dates (at Red Cross):

All dates are Fridays: December 3rd

Club Breakfast Dates (at State Street Texan):

All dates are Saturdays: December 4th

Board Meeting Dates (at State Street Texan):

All dates are Wednesdays: December 15th

General Meeting Minutes

American Red Cross Building

November 5, 2010

Called to order at 8:00 pm with 31 in attendance, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and the usual introductions.

President's Report:

Nominations for club officers will be tonight, immediately after the regular meeting.

Joe (K8CQF) will be in charge of running the nominations.

Dave (W8DW) will give a presentation after nominations.

Christmas goodies and elections will be part of the December meeting; and Duane (KD8AUY) will present.

Secretary's Report:

Motion by Gordy (KC8YVD) to accept the August meeting minutes as published in the Harmonic; second by Jeff (KC8BDQ) and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

October report was read and presented by Judy (KC8BYI).

Motion to accept October report by Emmett (W8EAB); second by Gordy (KC8YVD) and passed.

Old Business:

Joe (K8CQF) has been asked to write some chapters for the State Assessor's manual.

Ed Ireland was recently in the paper regarding a cruiser on display.

Fred (K8EMQ) inspected the rotor at Red Cross. It had a broken wire; is now fixed. The guy wires are in good shape. The tower is rusty, but ok. Bolts are a bit rusty.

Discussed Rosein Tower at the board meeting. Too late in the year now; will pursue next spring. New tower committee head is Mike (N8XPS).

Ron (KC8YVF) made contact with a company that does tower work. Will give generous discounts to 501(c)3 organizations, and they have a crane. Recommendation is to use the Rohn55 tower.

History behind Jim Waites and the Santa messages: The club has done Santa messages for years, and the National Traffic System handles the traffic. But it has become so congested, and too much to handle via traffic nets. Jim sends them via telegraph. He also does a demonstration at the Historical Museum on the Saturday after the Pride Parade.

Dave (W8DW) announced that VE testing will be on December 4 at 9:00 am at the Red Cross building. For clarification: Advanced licensees still need to test for Extra.

New Business:

Ron (KC8YVF) attended a National Weather Service winter emergency course. Winter SkyWarn training was last night. NWS SkyWarn appreciation contest will be December 4, 7pm until December 5, 7pm.

ARES training is November 18 (a week earlier, due to Thanksgiving). Topic TBD.

Aaron (KD8AVA) resigned as assistant EC. Looking for a new one.

County/Regional grants have been approved for almost \$8000.

County emergency drill in May. State drill will be the same week.

501(c)3 paperwork has been sent, received, and the check cashed.

Judy (KC8BYI) announced that the Ft. Wayne Ham Fest is November 13th & 14th. They hold exams on Saturday.

Nominations:

President: Duane (KD8AUY)

Vice President: Mike (N8XPS)

Secretary: Rob (KC8IJN)

Treasurer: Judy (KC8BYI)

3 Year Board: Mike (KD8MMH)

2 Year Board: Doris (KD8MMG)

Club breakfast tomorrow at 8:30 – Texan.

Auction in January – please bring serviceable items to auction. Proceeds go to the general fund. Food (i.e. pie) could even be an auction item.

Dave (W8DW) presented on contesting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Emmett (W8EAB); second by Duane (KD8MRB). Meeting adjourned.

S.V.A.R.A

Board of Directors Meeting

November 17, 2010

Texan Restaurant on State Street

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 pm. Present was: Jeff, KC8BDQ, Judy, KC8BYI, Emmett, W8EAB, Ron, KC8YVF, Duane, KD8AUY and Mike, N8XPS.

Secretary's report was accepted on a motion by Emmett, W8EAB and was seconded by Jeff, KC8BDQ.

President led a discussion regarding the upcoming nominations and elections.

Vice-President mentioned that the 100 cup coffee pot is not staying warm. Mike, N8XPS, is willing to take a look at it to see if it can be fixed.

Treasurer –presented copies of monthly printouts accepted at the general meeting. Judy, KC8BYI, mentioned that the Club needs to establish donation guidelines. Board will discuss further after some research on material gifts.

Discussion was held regarding Pride Christmas events in November. Mike, N8XPS will contact Rob, KC8IJN on the set up time for the trailer.

Duane, KD8AUY, will have a short video/program for the Christmas meeting. The meeting will start at 7:30 pm and family members and friends are strongly encouraged to attend. Club will provide meatballs and beverages.

Emmett, W8EAB, mentioned hearing IC8DAR on echo link. This is a Boys & Girls Club out of Menominee.

Jeff, KC8BDQ moved to adjourn seconded by Emmett, W8EAB. The meeting closed at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Weirauch, KC8BYI



SVARA HARMONIC

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 is held monthly on the 1st Friday, at 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,
8:30 a.m. at the Texan Restaurant, 5656 State St.

2010 SVARA Officers

President	Duane Morris, KD8AUY	989-	Dewey_66@yahoo.com
Vice-President	Mike Linton, N8XPS	989-799-1467	gabbyguard729@yahoo.com
Secretary	Rachelle Stange, KD8UOK	989-624-9461	Kd8uok@jacsinc.net
Treasurer	Judy Weirauch, KC8BYI	989-797-0692	weirauch@northwood.edu
Board Member 2011	Ron Huss, KC8YVF	989-799-2679	kc8yvf@rhuss.cncfamily.com
Board Member 2010	Jeff Stange, KD8IOK	989-624-9461	kd8iok@jacsinc.net
Board Member 2012	Emmett Bengry, W8EAB	989-755-5112	w8eab@arrl.net

2010 SVARA Appointments

Newsletter Editor	Rob Wright KC8IJN	989-293-2224	ffrwright@sbcglobal.net
Emergency Coordinator	Ron Huss, KC8YVF	989-799-2679	kc8yvf@rhuss.cncfamily.com
Public Info Officer	Lou Vescio, W8LPV	989-799-1467	lvescio@midmich.net
Repeater Committee	Ron Huss, KC8YVF		
	Brad Mellberg, W8QPO		
	Jeff Metiva, KB8SWR		

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

SVARA Elmers

CPR-AED Training	Roger Steffes, K8DVX	989-752-9891	RogerSteffes@speednetllc.com
General Questions	Joe Turner, K8CQF	989-793-7373	k8cqf@arrl.net
Morse Code	Larry Davison, WD8RIK	989-781-0370	wd8rik@provide.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