



SVARA Harmonic

A monthly publication of the
Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association

December 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 at Harry Brown Airport. 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	MARC (Midland) 147.000 Thursday 9:00 PM
D3 Digital Training Net <i>(Olivia 8/500) Seasonal</i> 3.586 MHz USB Sunday 8:00 PM	BAARC (Bay City) 145.310 Tuesday 9:00 PM	MI Digital Traffic Net <i>(Olivia 8/500)</i> 3.583 MHz USB Tues, Thurs, Sat 8:00 PM

Saginaw Valley ARA meeting minutes for November 6, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Mike KD8MMH, who lead the pledge of allegiance with 6 members present.

Gordy KC8YVD, made a motion to accept last month's meeting minutes as published in the harmonic news and was seconded by Ron KC8YVF. The motion passed.

The Treasurer was not present. There was no treasurer's report.

Mike KD8MMH, began the meeting by announcing that as we suspected, the portions of Holiday in the Heart of the City that we were a part of had been officially canceled.

Next a discussion was had on all of the radio equipment that has been donated to the club. Currently we are making a list of the equipment with the plan to offer it for sale to SVARA club members first followed by the Midland and Bay City clubs. Anything left will be listed on QRZ.com for a competitive price.

Locations for a club station were again discussed. The ideal of using the club trailer as the club station was suggested. Needed work to repair the power supply was discussed as well as alternate storage locations.

The replacement 2m antenna for Gara was discussed. The estimated cost of the replacement antenna is \$280 plus shipping. Changes to the repeater cabinet at Rosien, antennas for the 6m repeater system and a new router for the microwave system were also discussed.

The next item discussed was this year's elections. After some discussion Randy KE8AHW, made a motion to reappoint all officers to their current positions. This was seconded by Ron KC8YVF. Should any members choose not to continue their positions this will be discussed along with any objections at the December meeting. The vote was passed by those present.

The need for changes to the contact us page of the club website were discussed. This has become a large source of spam for some club officers.

The motion to adjourn was made by Gordy KC8YVD, and seconded by Randy KE8AHW.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Elias K8AVJ
Secretary

ARRL News

ARRL Petitions FCC for Reconsideration of Order Removing 3.4 GHz Amateur Allocation

ARRL has petitioned the FCC to reconsider its order removing the secondary amateur allocation at 3.3 - 3.5 GHz and requiring that amateur operations in the 3.450 - 3.500 GHz band cease "on a date consistent with the first possible grant of flexible use authorizations to new users."

"The amateur services in this band long have been operated on a secondary allocation status, functionally similar to the de facto secondary status of Part 5 experimental licenses, whose continued operation was (correctly) approved in the same proceeding," ARRL told the FCC. "Continued operation of amateur stations similarly should be permitted in the vacant portions of this spectrum that otherwise will go unused."

ARRL said the public interest is in using the spectrum, not in leaving it vacant waiting for some future application. "The Commission's decision in this proceeding undermines its long-standing policy objective to provide for and encourage more intensive use of spectrum," ARRL said.



ARRL
the national association for
amateur radio®

"The Commission's decision to remove the amateur secondary allocation throughout the 3300 - 3500 MHz band," ARRL said, "appears to be based upon a

mistaken conclusion that amateur secondary 'sharing' of this spectrum is equivalent to the type of 'sharing' that occurs with primary government and other primary commercial users, when in fact amateur secondary operations are quite different in usage, scope, and signal range."

ARRL outlined a number of ways radio amateurs use the band.

ARRL said that weak-signal point-to-point amateur communication often applies new technologies, methodologies, and coding to improve the communications capability of equipment. "Since the purpose of this type of activity is to hear or decode weak signals, operators use every possible means to avoid frequencies with other signals."

Amateurs also operate radio beacons to study propagation, contributing to a better understanding of propagation in the 3.4 GHz range, ARRL said. "Amateur beacons are fixed and low power, and therefore relatively easy to engineer into the environment if other users initiate operations, or to relocate or shut down if they cannot be 'engineered in.'"

ARRL's petition also cited moonbounce as another aspect of amateur operation. "This field of activity has led to a chain of improvements in antennas and equipment design in the 3.4 GHz spectrum," ARRL asserted, and is extremely unlikely to interfere with terrestrial services.

Amateur satellites could also use the 3.4 - 3.41 GHz band with minimal likelihood to present interference concerns due to the signals' low power and narrow antenna beamwidths. Additionally, uplinks employ antennas that point skyward, further minimizing any possible area of concern. "Other frequencies will not necessarily be available when needed, and this limitation threatens to constrain future experiments with space communications technologies as the number of amateur satellite experiments increase in number and purpose," ARRL said.

The 3.3 - 3.5 GHz band also is used for digital high-speed data mesh networks and for amateur TV repeaters. "Design of and work with mesh networks has attracted an ongoing stream of computer-literate youth to the amateur ranks," ARRL contended. "The networks themselves are commonly employed for digital experimentation with a wide range of technologies and services, with a bedrock purpose of emergency readiness and availability during actual emergencies. ARRL noted that the greater the number of available band choices, the more likely that a suitable link could be engineered for a specific path.

ARRL said that these and other amateur experimental activities make good use of the spectrum, "and should be permitted to continue on a secondary basis unless and until a new primary licensee is ready to operate in a geographic area where interference would result."

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

Vice-President Brian Kleinfeld K8HY

Secretary Mike Elias K8AVJ

Treasurer Mike Linton N8XPS

Board Member
Term expires 2020

Tom Schmidt N8EUI

Board Member
Term expires 2021

Mary Paquette WB8LZA

Board Member
Term expires 2022

Renee' Paquette KE8MYJ

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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