



FEEDBACK

October 2019

Do you have a story, humorous or otherwise, about amateur radio? If so, please contact the newsletter editor (w8kdb@arrl.net) and get it published in **FEEDBACK!**

If you would like to place a classified ad to sell, purchase or swap amateur radio related items, please contact the editor.

Board of Directors:

President

Kyle Brown, W8KDB
w8kdb@arrl.net

Vice President

Thomas Goodson, WR8G
thomas.goodson@omega-link.com

Secretary

John Davidson, W8JRD
w8jrd@arrl.net

Treasurer

Jan Goodson, W8JKG
janice.goodson@omega-link.com

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Glenn "Smokey" McCray, N5MKY
n5mky@arrl.net

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Club News

SMARS Officers Nominations for 2019-2020

Elections for club officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) will be held at the October 17th membership meeting. The requirements for holding office are few: any current SMARS club member may run for office, and no prior experience is necessary! We do need to fill the positions to be a club.

If you are interested in running for one of the club officer positions, please email Kyle at w8kdb@arrl.net with your name and the office for which you would like to run so that you may be added to the ballot.

62nd ARRL JOTA

The club will be pulling VHF 3 out to the Wilder Creek Conservation Club in Marshal, MI. We will be pulling the trailer out to the location Friday around 4 PM and start setting up. Scout Troops will be setting up starting around noon and the Scouts will be showing up around 5 PM. The location was determined to be up on the High Ground where the Scouts will be camping. It was decided to be on the High Ground as the lower area will be for the Scouts to put on activities for Club Scouts (who will only be there for a couple hours on Saturday).

Ham Radio Operates are asked to park down by the main building where you enter instead of near the trailer. There is one road up to the High Ground where the scouts will be camping. If there is a problem with the walk to the trailer, transportation between the parking area and the High Ground can be arranged.

If there are any questions, please feel free to email Kyle W8KDB at w8kdb@arrl.net or stop by the club meeting on October 17th at 7 PM.

Other News

California CAL FIRE Removing Ham Radio Repeaters

Normally I would post the article, but I do not have a site I would say is 100% reliable about the whole issue. There is a thread on eham.net

Upcoming Radio Contests

Looking for a little action on the airwaves? You might want to check out these upcoming contests!

EME - 50 to 1296 MHz

Bands: All Above 6 Meters
Mode: CW, Phone, Digital
Date: 10/19 - 10/20/2019
URL: www.arrl.org/eme-contest

School Club Roundup

Bands: All Except 60, 30, 17, and 12 Meters
Mode: CW, Phone, Digital
Date: 10/21 - 10/25/2019
URL: www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup

Nov. Sweepstakes - CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters
Mode: CW
Date: 11/2 - 11/4/2019
URL: www.arrl.org/sweepstakes

Nov. Sweepstakes - Phone

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters
Mode: Phone
Date: 11/16 - 11/18/2019
URL: www.arrl.org/sweepstakes

EME - 50 to 1296 MHz

Bands: Above 50 MHz (6 Meters)
Mode: CW, Phone, Digital
Date: 11/16 - 11/17/2019
URL: www.arrl.org/eme-contest

160 Meters

Bands: 160 Meters
Mode: CW
Date: 12/6 - 12/8/2019
URL: www.arrl.org/160-meter

10 Meter

Bands: 10 Meters
Mode: SSB, CW
Date: 12/14 - 12/15/2019
URL: www.arrl.org/10-meter

Rookie Roundup - CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters
Mode: CW
Date: 12/22/2019
URL: www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup

**A more thorough listing of upcoming Contests can be found on the ARRL's web page [ContestCalendar](http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar), <http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>*

and forums.radioreference.com about this (linked below). I first noticed this from a site called offgridsurvival.com, but haven't noticed it in other locations just yet (aside from the above mentioned). Basically, the way it reads is that California sent out a letter to to Ham Radio Repeater Owners who were on CAL FIRE towers telling them they need to remove their equipment or pay a rental fee.

It seems CAL FIRE believes that Ham Radio is no longer provides the same benefits it did in the past due to "constantly changing technological advances". If they wish to have the repeater stay, CAL FIRE says they would need to have an agreement in place, which requires as technical analysis fee (\$2500/application) and pay DGS Lease admin cost associated with preparation of the lease (typically between \$3000-\$5000). Then there is the annual rent charge based on equipment type/space.

Again, information is mainly opinionated as I can't find a trusted source that has any information about this. However, I thought it was important to share. Please take this information with a grain of salt and remember that it is possible there is more to this than what I can find.

(Courtesy of <https://www.eham.net/ehamforum/smf/index.php/topic,126987.0.html>, <https://forums.radioreference.com/threads/california-declares-ham-radio-no-longer-a-benefit.395288/>, <https://offgridsurvival.com/california-officials-declare-ham-radio-no-longer-a-benefit/>, <http://www.shastadefense.com/FAX-CalFireHamRadio20190923.pdf>

NIST radio station WWV celebrates a century of service



What technological application has had musical, timekeeping, navigational, scientific, traffic-control, emergency-response, and telephone applications?

Answer: WWV, one of the world's oldest continuously operating radio stations.

NIST received the call letters WWV a century ago, in 1919. Since then, it has operated the station from several different locations — originally

Upcoming Hamfests & Conventions

10/19/2019

Muskegon Color Tour Hamfest

Location: Muskegon, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Muskegon County

Emergency Communication
Services, Inc.

[mcecs.net/Download/
HamfestFlyer2019a.pdf](https://mcecs.net/Download/HamfestFlyer2019a.pdf)

10/20/2019

Hamfest & Amateur Radio Swap and
Shop

Location: Kalamazoo, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Kalamazoo Amateur Radio
Club & Southwest MI Amateur Radio

KalamazooHamFest.com

11/16/2019

Fort Wayne Hamfest and Computer
Expo

Location: Fort Wayne, IN

Sponsor: Allen County Amateur
Radio Technical Society

www.fortwaynehamfest.com

12/07/2019

Fulton County ARC Winterfest

Location: Delta, OH

Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur
Radio Club

<http://k8bxq.org/hamfest>

Washington, D.C., then a succession of locales in Maryland, and now Fort Collins, Colorado.

The programming is rather dry but very, very useful. WWV broadcasts time and frequency information 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to millions of listeners worldwide.

Article courtesy of <https://www.kb6nu.com/nist-radio-station-wwv-celebrates-a-century-of-service/>

Meeting Minutes 09/19/2019

Called to Order: Little after 7 PM (Actual time not recorded)

Officers Present: Kyle W8KDB Tom WR8G Jan W8JKG

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions

Greetings to new members: Kelly KE8MWQ

Secretary's Report as published in Feedback:
Motion Rick N8RCF Second Tom WR8G Approved

Treasurer's Report as distributed at the meeting:
Motion Arnold WA8VRA Second Carl KE8LSC Approved

Committee Reports:

- Hamfest: Nothing new to report. At this point we are not planning to have a Hamfest for 2020.
- ARES/RACES: Talked about the SET for Skywarn. Also discussed plans for things to do. Weather has been calm. Interest in setting the link repeater back. Location has been determined, just need a climber. Date is to be determined.
- Field Day: Trails need some work done before the next Field Day. Skywarn (WX8BTL) is planning to partake in Winter Field Day.
- VE Testing: All who took the test passed. We had 4 for Tech and 1 for General Upgrade, 5 in total. Next session is October 24th.
- Technical Engineer: Don reported interference between the 220 & 440. Issue seems to be related to 440, it is putting out 40 watts when configured for 20 watts. Troubleshooting was done and Don managed to get it down to 26 watts. 440 is also having sensitivity issues, Don is troubleshooting the issue.

Old Business:

- Bob (AC8QM) talked a little about the Jamboree that is going on at Wilder Creek. Location of the trails at the Jamboree needs to be determined. Scouts camp on the high ground and activities for the Club Scouts will be at the gate. Scouts arriving around 5 PM Friday and can operate until Sunday. Kyle will get with Bob and work out location.

New Business:

- Voting for club board is next month. Tom asked if anyone is familiar with Marine Radio. No one spoke up. An interest in Satellite Radio communication was brought up, but they need some help in learning how to do this.

Adjourned: around 8 PM (Actual time not recorded)

Respectfully Submitted,

Kyle Brown W8KDB
SMARS President

Board Meeting Minutes 10/01/2019

Called to Order: 5:35 PM

Officers Present: Kyle W8KDB John W8JRD
Smokey N5MKY Jan W8JKG

Topics:

- Tom KE8GDN emailed about the Scout Jamboree on the Air. He is willing to haul the trailer(s) and wished to know about what is needed from the trailers. It has been decided to take the VHF trailer, plus the Butternut antenna. The thought is to set up on Friday about 4pm, operate on Saturday, and teardown on Sunday. Kyle and Tom are to select equipment and examine the site. Exact details will be at the October meeting.
- Elections will be at the October meeting. Tom WR8G and Jan W8JKG are not running. Volunteers?
- The next VE session is October 24, plus the HIAD on October 26.
- Hamfest still hasn't found a location, so no further details.
- Don W8RVT has been working on the repeaters. More details at the October meeting.
- Bret KD8RHB has asked about using the SMARS repeater once a month for the Skywarn net. No one saw a problem with that.

Adjourned: 6:01 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

John Davidson W8JRD
SMARS Secretary

SOUTHERN MICHIGAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY FEEDBACK

S.M.A.R.S. W8DF Club Repeaters

2m Repeater 146.66MHz, -600KHz offset, CTCSS 94.8Hz

2m DStar 146.79 MHz, -600 KHz offset

*1.25m Repeater 224.240 MHz, -1.6 MHz offset

APRS Digipeater/igate, 144.39 MHz

*70cm Repeater 443.950 MHz, +5 MHz offset, CTCSS 94.8 Hz

70cm DStar Repeater 442.7625 MHz, +5 MHz offset

***Note:** 70cm & 1.25 meter repeaters are linked, and also available via Echolink.

Other Repeaters

2m Repeater 147.120 MHz, +600 KHz offset, CTCSS 186.2 Hz

70cm Repeater 442.350 MHz, +5 MHz offset, CTCSS 94.8 Hz

<p>Club Meeting 3rd Thursday of every month Maple United Methodist Church 342 Capital Avenue NE Battle Creek, MI 49017</p>	<p>SKYWARN Coffee 1st Saturday of every month Immediately after Siren Test Coney Island, N.E. Capital Battle Creek, MI</p>	<p>BLB Luncheon 1st Thursday of every month Coney Island, 962 Capital Ave NE, Battle Creek, MI</p>	<p>SMARS Breakfast 2nd Saturday of every month Coney Island, 962 Capital Ave NE, Battle Creek, MI</p>
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<p>SMARS Nets: Monday—Friday 11:30 AM, 146.66 MHz Sunday Evening 8:00 PM, 146.66 MHz Monday 8:00 PM, 224.24 / 443.95 MHz Wednesday 7:00 PM, 224.24 /443.95 MHz Wednesday 8:00 PM, 28.365 MHz Saturday 8:00 PM, 224.24 / 443.95 MHz</p> <p>Other Nets: Skywarn Net: Tuesday 7:00 PM, 147.12 MHz</p> <p><i>Please see previous page for offsets and CTCSS tones</i></p>	<p>Upcoming Events:</p> <p>Club Meeting: Oct 17th @ 7:00pm BLB Luncheon: Nov 7th @ 11:30am Board Meeting: Nov 5th @ 5:30pm Club Breakfast: Nov 9th @ 8:30am VE Session: Oct 24th @ 7:00pm JOTA Setup: Oct 18th @ 4:00 pm JOTA: Oct 18th - 20th HAID: Oct 26th @ 3:00pm</p>
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