



FEEDBACK

September 2020

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:

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w8kdb@arrl.net

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Club News

SMARS Officers Nominations for 2020-2021

Elections for club officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) will be held at the October 15th 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.

Cornoavirus (COVID-19) Update

We are still on schedule for our normal meeting this month. The church is still open and no new restrictions have been put in place to prevent us from meeting. As always, please remember to wear a face mask (church rules) and tables need to be wiped down after the meeting. BLB Luncheon, SMARS Breakfast, and Board Meetings are still going on at Coney Island (as far as I am aware), but may be limited based on the number of people in the restaurant or at the table. Please keep this in mind when planning to attend these events. Face mask is also required to enter, but can be removed for eating and drinking.

Thank you to all of the VE's who showed up for the test session last month, we had a big turn out of people wanting to take the test that we moved to the downstairs room to allow social distancing. Kalamazoo is planning to have their test this month as they have had eight people inquire about taking the test this month. John Tucker (WB8ZVV) is working on a location for the September 19th test session in Kalamazoo. He might need help from VE, so if you are interested in helping you can reach out to John for more information (email: wb8zvv@gmail.com; phone: (269) 324-9085).

Upcoming Radio Contests

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

10 GHz & Up

Bands: All Authorized Microwave Bands above 10 Ghz

Mode: Phone, CW

Date: 9/19 – 9/20

URL: <http://www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up>

EME Contest

Bands: All Authorized Bands above 6 Meters

Mode: Phone, Digital, CW

Date: 9/21 – 9/22

URL: <http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest>

School Club Roundup

Bands: All Authorized Bands, excluding 60, 30, 17, and 12 Meters

Mode: Phone, CW

Date: 10/19 – 10/23

URL: <http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>

EME Contest

Bands: All Authorized Bands above 6 Meters

Mode: Phone, Digital, CW

Date: 10/10 – 10/11

URL: <http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest>

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

Other News

Ham Radio Wireless Network Camera Detects Washington Wildfire

Nigel Vander Houwen, K7NVH, reported on September 8 that some [HamWAN](#) users in the Puget Sound region of Washington who were viewing the network's camera feeds, spotted a large brush fire.

"They reported it to the DNR [Department of Natural Resources], which thanked them for the first report they'd gotten on the fire, and they've sent a team to try and keep it small and under control," Vander Houwen said. "It's estimated currently at around 50 acres, southeast of Enumclaw along Highway 410." The fire was not said to be threatening any homes. State Route 410 was reported closed between Enumclaw and Greenwater, and drivers heading to Mount Rainier National Park were advised to take another route.

HamWAN is a nonprofit organization developing best practices for high speed amateur radio data networks. It runs the Puget Sound Data Ring. So far, HamWAN networks have been used for such applications as low-latency repeater linking (including DMR), real-time video feeds, APRS I-gates, providing redundant internet access to emergency operations centers, and more.

Amateur radio licensees in the HamWAN service area can connect directly to the network with a modest investment in equipment and no recurring costs. The HamWAN Puget Sound Data Ring has cells deployed at numerous wide-coverage sites, interconnected with 5 GHz radios. The HamWAN technical team has been installing remotely controllable cameras at HamWAN link sites, and one of these was used for the wildfire report.

Article courtesy of <http://www.arrl.org/news/ham-radio-wireless-network-camera-detects-washington-wildfire>

FCC Application Fee Proposal Proceeding is Open for Comments

Comments are being accepted on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in MD Docket 20-270, which proposes application fees for radio amateurs. Formal deadlines for comments and reply comments will be determined once the NPRM appears in the Federal Register. Comments may be filed now, however, by using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), posting to MD Docket No. 20-270. The docket is already open for accepting comments, even though deadlines have not yet been set.

Article courtesy of <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-application-fee-proposal-proceeding-is-open-for-comments>

Upcoming Hamfests & Conventions

NOTE - All ARRL Hamfest in September, October, and November near our location have been Cancelled. There is a possibility that future Hamfest listed here might also be cancelled. Please remember to make sure to verify that the Hamfest hasn't been cancelled before traveling to a Hamfest.

12/05/2020

Winterfest 2020

Location: Delta, OH

Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club

<http://k8bxq.org/hamfest>

Classified Ads

Antennas for Sale (George Taft W8UVZ):

- Hy-Gain 402BA 2 Element 40-meter beam - \$225.00
- Cushcraft 2-meter 10 element long boom - \$40.00
- Cushcraft 10-meter Ringo, \$20.00
- Cushcraft 6-meter Ringo, \$20.00

All of the antennas are in Battle Creek, MI. If anyone is interested, please contact George Taft (W8UVZ) by Phone (269-209-6607) or by Email (W8UVZ@yahoo.com).

Meeting Minutes 08/20/2020

Called to Order: 7:17 PM

Officers Present: Kyle W8KDB John W8JRD
Smokey N5MKY Ivan W8IDR Tom W. KE8GDN

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions

Greetings to new members: none this month

Secretary's Report as published in Feedback:
Motion Don W8RVT Second Rick W8RCF Approved

Treasurer's Report as distributed at the meeting:
Motion Tom W. KE8GDN Second Bev KA8CXS
Approved

Presentation: Dr Ed Fong via Zoom talking his antenna and antenna theory.

Committee Reports:

- Hamfest: Not sure about the date for 2021. All depends on that's going on with COVID. Need to have something though, club funds are running low.
- Skywarn: Jim W8JMZ reported that the storms of August 10 are considered to be about significant weather event. Dave W8RDX gave a talk on foxhunting. There will be a SET in October.
- FieldDay: The points have been submitted with additional points from members coming in.
- VE: Next session is August 27 with 3 expressing interest so far.
- Repeaters: No problems to report.

Old Business:

- Tom W. is planning a fox hunt for August 29 at Bailey Park. Smokey is planning an email blast for publicity.

New Business:

- Nothing this month.

Adjourned: 8:44 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

John Davidson W8JRD
SMARS Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes 09/01/2020

Called to Order: 5:34 PM

Officers Present: Kyle W8KDB John W8JRD Ivan W8IDR

Topics:

- Hamfest: The Club needs a hamfest next year, as this is the major source of income for the club. All depends on the status of the Covid-19 virus and the restrictions still in place. There will also have to be a decision on whether to have one in March or perhaps later. Everything is up in the air.

Adjourned: 6:00 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 186.2 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: September 17th @ 7:00pm BLB Luncheon: October 1st @ 11:30am Board Meeting: October 6th @ 5:30pm Club Breakfast: October 10th @ 8:30am VE Session: October 22nd @ 7:00pm</p>
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