



FEEDBACK

March 2022

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.

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Club News

Membership Renewals

Membership fees can be sent to the club's PO Box (check preferred and made out to Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society), or you can reach out to Diane KD8WXA to arrange paying the membership fee. With in person meetings coming back this month (and continuing until the end of the year), memberships renewals (which should already be taken care of) can be done at a club meeting. Below is the Clubs PO Box if you wish to mail it in:

SMARS
P.O. Box 934
Battle Creek, MI 49016

The membership fee is still \$15.00 for one year. We have added additional memberships (10 years for \$125, 20 years for \$250, and lifetime \$300). Family members will add \$10, \$20, and \$30 respectively, depending on which membership you go with. A color Star will indicated if you have a 10 year, 20 year, or lifetime membership (Blue, Silver, and Gold). Cards will be mailed out after fee has been received or can be picked up at any club meeting. Donations to the club can also be sent to the same address.

Crossroads Hamfest

As a reminder to everyone, the Crossroads Hamfest & Radio Swap is March 19th (third Saturday in March). Things are looking good for the Hamfest and there are no restrictions at this time. If you know some of the vendors who have been at the Crossroads Hamfest or know someone looking to offload some extra equipment they have laying around, please direct them to the website or pass the form to them.

We will need volunteers to help run it as well as VE's for the Testing Session. Please let us know if you are available to help out.

Classifieds

George (W8UVZ) has the following available. If interested, please reach out to him at w8uvz@yahoo.com:

- 5 element 6 meter beam by MSquared Inc. \$100-- This is a very high quality antenna with balun and mast to boom mount.
- 2 meter Ringo Ranger, 6 meter Ringo, 10 meter Ringo, all Cushcraft.
- 2 each 2 meter 3 element beams, with mast or tower mount at back of boom.
- 6 sections Rohn 25G tower with a rotator plate, guy wire with turn buckles, etc. Some surface rust. \$200 for all.

Upcoming Radio Contests

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

Michigan QSO Party

Bands: 80 thru 10 Meters

Mode: SSB, CW

Date: 04/16

URL: miqp.org

Rookie Roundups

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters

Mode: SSB

Date: 04/18

URL: www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup

International Digital Contest

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, and 6 Meters

Mode: Digital (excluding RTTY)

Date: 06/4 – 06/5

URL: www.arrl.org/arrl-digital-contest

June VHF

Bands: Above 50 MHz

Mode: Phone/SSB, Digital, CW

Date: 06/11 – 06/13

URL: www.arrl.org/june-vhf

Kids Day

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 17, 15, 12, and 10 Meters

Mode: Phone/SSB, Digital, CW

Date: 06/18

URL: www.arrl.org/kids-day

Field Day

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters, 50 MHz and above

Mode: Phone/SSB, Digital, CW

Date: 06/25 – 06/26

URL: www.arrl.org/field-day

**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>

Other News

Ukraine Maintains Ham Radio Silence in State of Emergency

Radio amateurs in Ukraine appear to be diligently maintaining radio silence as the state of emergency declared there just prior to the Russian military invasion remains in effect. A February 24 decree from President Volodymyr Zelensky included “a ban on the operation of amateur radio transmitters for personal and collective use.” The Ukraine Amateur Radio League (UARL/LRU) reported this past week that it has received many messages of encouragement from the worldwide amateur radio community.

“The LRU informed international amateur radio organizations about Russia’s military invasion of Ukraine,” said the message from UARL Vice President Anatoly Kirilenko, UT3UY. “To date, there have been many reports from radio amateurs around the world in support of Ukraine.”

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has adopted a neutral stance. “IARU is an apolitical organization focused on promoting and defending amateur radio and the amateur radio services,” the IARU said. “The amateur radio service is about self-instruction in communications and friendship between people.” IARU Region 1 has said it continues to monitor the development and expects all radio amateurs “to follow their national laws and regulations.”

IARU Region 1 also re-posted part of an [advisory](#) from the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club (DARC) HF Committee on February 27. “Any radio amateur currently transmitting from Ukraine is risking his or her life. If you hear a Ukrainian station, do not broadcast its call sign, location, or frequency — whether on the band, in a cluster, or on social media. You may be putting lives at risk.” The DARC’s overarching advice: “In the current situation, the best we can do is listen.”

Ukraine’s assigned amateur radio call sign prefixes include EMA – EOZ and the more commonplace URA – UZZ. Some stations with Ukrainian call signs may still be active, because an exception to the amateur radio ban was made for stations in the Donbas region of eastern Ukraine (eastern Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts), which have special legal status owing to Russia’s occupation since 2014.

In a Facebook [post](#), Poland’s IARU member-society PZK has offered available Winlink nodes in Poland for any licensed refugees. If you are a licensed amateur radio operator, you can send information by email to your relatives in Poland or Emergency Services via the [Winlink](#) system. Polish Winlink nodes are active on 160, 80, and 20 meters: SR5WLK, 3.5955 MHz USB; SR3WLK, 14.111 MHz USB, and SP3IEW, 1.865 MHz USB.

W9IMS, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club — known for its special events commemorating major races at the Speedway — has posted a statement on its [QRZ.com profile](#)

Upcoming Hamfests & Conventions

03/19/2022

Michigan Crossroads Hamfest & Radio Swap

Location: Kalamazoo, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society

URL: <https://w8df.com/>

03/20/2022

CANCELED – Toledo Mobile Radio Association Hamfest and Computer Fair

URL: <http://tmrahamradio.org>

05/01/2022

Lucas County Amateur Radio Emergency Service Trunk Sale and Swap Meet

Location: Toledo, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Lucas County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

URL: <http://tinyurl.com/lcaresswap>

06/04/2022

FCARC Summer Hamfest

Location: Wauseon, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club

URL: <https://k8bxq.org/hamfest>

06/04/2022

IRA Hudsonville Hamfest

Location: Hudsonville, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Independent Repeater Association

URL: <http://www.w8ira.org>

expressing its concern for well-known QSL maker Gennady V. Treus, UX5UO. The statement reads in part, "His last email to us said: 'This moment we are safe, but we hear strong explosions near Kyiv. Do not know what will happen in nearest hours/days.' We have not heard from him for days now. We are greatly concerned for Gennady and his family along with all the other citizens of Ukraine." — Thanks to The [Daily DX](#), PZK, and to Brian D. Smith, W9IND, for some information

Article courtesy of <http://www.arrl.org/news/ukraine-maintains-ham-radio-silence-in-state-of-emergency>

Province supports the New Westminster Amateur Radio Club

The New Westminster Amateur Radio Club is among the 250-plus not-for-profit organizations across B.C. that are receiving community gaming grants to support environmental conservation and public safety programs.

According to the [New Westminster Amateur Radio Club](#) website, the group was created to promote the hobby of amateur/ham radio and emergency communications. It has received an \$8,000 community gaming grant for emergency radio communications.

"The pandemic has reminded us how important it is to stay connected to our loved ones and communities," New Westminster MLA Jennifer Whiteside said in a news release. "In an emergency, the New Westminster Amateur Radio Club provides additional communications support, and I'm pleased that we are able to aid them their work."

The province is providing grants for public safety work, such as volunteer firefighting, marine and land search and rescue operations, crime reduction and restorative justice, and emergency response and communications.

Local organizations enrich our communities," said Richmond-Queensborough MLA Aman Singh. "From providing emergency services to teaching us about the environment, our government will be there to support these groups as we build a stronger B.C. for everyone."

According to the province, Community Gaming Grants provide \$140 million from gaming revenues annually to support nearly 5,000 not-for-profit organizations delivering services to people in B.C. communities. Organizations providing emergency and safety services are receiving approximately \$5.5 million to deliver their community-led programs.

Article courtesy of

<https://www.newwestrecord.ca/in-the-community/province-supports-the-new-westminster-amateur-radio-club-5005618>

Meeting Minutes 02/17/2022

Meeting called to order @ 7:01 PM

Pledge of Allegiance
Introductions

Board members in attendance: Paul KE8MOI, Diane KD8WXA, Tom W. KE8GDN, Stephanie W8AEZ.

Others in attendance: Dan N8EC, Smokey N5MKY, John W8JRD, Ivan W8IDR, Larry KE8TBO, Don W8RVVT, Mel KE8TPQ, Ron K1RKD, Kyle W8KDB.

Secretary's report: A motion was made and seconded to accept the report as printed in the Feedback. The motion was passed.

Treasurer's report: Tom KE8GDN made a motion to accept the report as circulated at the meeting and 2nded by N5MKY. The motion was passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Hamfest - Per Paul KE8MOI, we are all set for power. Set up will be for 156 tables and the setup is ADA compliant. One change from the 2019 Hamfest - the "nest" above the valley, previously used for the VE session, is no longer available. A different room with up to 20 seats has been set aside for the VE session. The lift will be available Friday, March 18th, to put the antenna on the roof for the talk-in. Cheryl at Wings said they'll put an ad for our Hamfest on their sign by I-94 in a couple of days. On Friday, March 18th, Door # 17 will be used for vendor access. Paul will need to get ahold of Cheryl to have doors ready for the vendors on Saturday at 6 am. Door #17 will be open also on Saturday morning. We are allowed to leave 40 tables set up at the end of our Hamfest for the motorcycle group coming in next. At this time, CDC guidelines will need to be followed - masks recommended, but not required. Paul spoke with Terry N8LN about the grand prize for the raffle. Terry suggested an Icom ID-52. Smokey has been spreading the word about our Hamfest on the various nets.
- Skywarn - Per Smokey N5MKY, the Calhoun County Emergency Manager and 911 dispatch director presented at this past Tuesday's meeting. This weekend they have a MARS exercise. There will be a Webinar this evening at 8 pm. There was a discussion about discontinuing the use of warning sirens and using push alerts to cell phones and the media instead for emergency notifications. Indiana has already sent notifications for signing up for online Skywarn training. The Grand Rapids weather radar station is down for two weeks for maintenance.
- VE Session - The next session will be Thursday, February 24. Kyle has heard from one person who

may test at that time. Terry N8LN mentioned he and Mike KQ8N are talking about doing another HAM class.

- Repeaters - Don W8RVVT reported he hasn't been up there recently. He paid for the Magic Jack for this year (a donation from him to the club).
- Melanie asked about the charge for using repeaters on Federal Land. Per Smokey N5MKY, this will not pose a problem for Calhoun County as there are no repeaters on federal land. However, it will be an issue for the states out west.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Tom KE8GDN is trying to line up orientation/training sessions to have after our regular monthly club meetings. He will post information on our SMARS Facebook page. He is also looking for volunteers to lead training/orientation sessions or suggestions about future presentations. The goal is to make our meetings more interactive for attendees. John W8JRD mentioned the ARRL has representatives willing to come to club meetings to present about the ARRL. Per Paul, Don W8RVVT has experience with satellite tracking, which would make for an interesting presentation/demonstration. Other ideas include a QSL card or contesting awards "show and tell" by members.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Paul KE8MOI would like to have our club operate a special event station. He asked for members' suggestions of any special event(s) at which we can set up a station and run a radio. One suggestion was to have a station at the Marshall fly-in at Brooks Field during the weekend of the Marshall Historic Home Tour. Ron K1RKD mentioned that HAMS can set up an antenna and radio at lighthouses to make contacts during the Lighthouses On The Air event. Paul would also like for our club to participate again with the local Boy Scout for the annual Jamboree (JOTA). Let's put our skills and equipment to use!

Motion to adjourn: Motion was made by John W8JRD, 2nd by Smokey N5MKY.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:54 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Halbert W8AEZ
SMARS Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes 03/04/2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM

Officers present: Paul KE8MOI, Kyle W8KDB, Stephanie W8AEZ. Diane KD8WXA joined later.

Topics of Discussion:

- Hamfest - Paul received seven more table reservations in the club PO Box. At present, there are 25 vendors attending and 54 tables reserved. Some vendors have asked if their checks had been received as they hadn't appeared to have been cashed.
- ARRL Field Day 2022 - Smokey N5MKY has asked if our club would like to hold Field Day at Fort Custer Recreation Center this year.
- VE Sessions - Kyle W8KDB reported that there were four candidates and ten VEs at the February 24th session. All of the examinees earned their first license or an upgrade at the end of the session: 1 Technician, 2 General, and 1 Extra.
- Public Information Officer - A question arose recently about a PIO and whether our club has one.

Meeting closed @ 7:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Halbert W8AEZ
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, CTCSS 94.8 Hz

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.

All repeaters are available via EchoLink (70cm and 1.25m are W8DF-R; 2m is W8DF-L)

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

Club Meeting 3rd Thursday of every month Maple United Methodist Church 342 Capital Avenue NE Battle Creek, MI 49017	SKYWARN Coffee 1st Saturday of every month Immediately after Siren Test Coney Island, N.E. Capital Battle Creek, MI	BLB Luncheon 1st Thursday of every month Coney Island, 962 Capital Ave NE, Battle Creek, MI	SMARS Breakfast 2nd Saturday of every month Coney Island, 962 Capital Ave NE, Battle Creek, MI
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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 Other Nets: Skywarn Net: Tuesday 7:00 PM, 147.12 MHz <i>Please see previous page for offsets and CTCSS tones</i>	Upcoming Events: Club Meeting: March 17th @ 7:00pm BLB Luncheon: April 7th @ 11:30am Board Meeting: April 1st @ 6:30pm Club Breakfast: April 9th @ 8:30am VE Session: April 28th @ 7:00pm Hamfest Setup: March 18th @ 6:00pm Hamfest: March 19th @ 8:00am
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