



FEEDBACK

April 2023

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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Club News

Thank you for your support of the SMARS Club!

Thank you to all that have updated your membership for 2023 and thanks to those who have been able to provide additional donations. Your support is greatly appreciated. Our membership now numbers 45! An FCC search shows over 6 times that many active licenses in Battle Creek alone! So if you know someone who needs to be pulled into the mix and support the club, give them a nudge! Every membership helps!

At the March meeting, we welcomed and added new members: Andrew KE8UTE, and Tyler KE8UTG

If you have not yet renewed for 2023, please mail your membership dues of \$15.00 as soon as possible to: SMARS, PO Box 934, Battle Creek MI 49016. For those that wish to become new members, or if you have info you'd like to update on your membership, please print and complete the Membership Form you can print from the W8DF.COM website and submit it, along with your dues. Extended memberships of 10 and 20 years are still available at a reduced rate (125.00 and 250.00 respectively), as well as a Lifetime membership for \$300.00. Of course, you can renew at club meetings as well...

As mentioned last month, I have mailed or hand delivered all 2023 Membership cards out to members that I have received dues from. If you believe you have paid and have not received your card, please see me at the next Club meeting, or send me an email and I'll do my best to rectify any previous oversight.

Mike Russell, Treasurer. My email: KQ8N@ARRL.NET

Parks on the Air (POTA)

Zach is interested in doing more Parks on the Air (POTA) and would like to have the club participate. Any park (listed on the POTA site) can be activated by an individual, but 3 club members are needed to do POTA as W8DF and make a minimal number of contacts. He is looking for others who would like to join him at a Park to activate it. If you are interested in getting out and doing some POTA, please contact Zach Mann at zmann648@gmail.com to make arrangements on where to meet and what equipment may be needed. Only one radio and antenna is needed for activation, but it might be a good chance to get some experience with that new radio you are getting or got with your Tax Refund, or one you might already have.

Upcoming Radio Contests

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

ARRL Digital Contest

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

Mode: Digital (excluding RTTY)

Date: 06/03 – 06/04

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

June VHF

Bands: Authorized Frequencies above 50 Mhz

Mode: Phone, SSB, CW, Digital

Date: 06/10 – 06/12

URL: www.arrl.org/june-vhf

Kids Day

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

Mode: Phone

Date: 06/17

URL: www.arrl.org/kids-day

Field Day

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

Mode: Phone, CW, Digital, SSB

Date: 06/24 – 06/25

URL: www.arrl.org/field-day

IARU HF World Championship

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

Mode: Phone, CW, Digital, SSB

Date: 07/08 – 07/09

URL: www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-world-championship

**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

NASA Names Three Hams for Artemis II Moon Mission Crew



The crew of NASA's Artemis II mission (left to right): NASA astronauts Christina Hammock Koch, Reid Wiseman KF5LKT, (seated), Victor Glover, KI5BKC, and CSA astronaut Jeremy Hansen, KF5LKU.

Credits: NASA.

NASA and the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) announced the four astronauts who will venture around the moon on Artemis II. This will be the first crewed mission on NASA's path to establishing long-term moon science and exploration development. The agencies revealed the crew members on Monday, April 3, 2023, during an event at Ellington Field near NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. Three of the four crew members are amateur radio operators.

"The Artemis II crew represents thousands of people working tirelessly to bring us to the stars. This is their crew, this is our crew, this is humanity's crew," said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson. "NASA astronauts Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover, and Christina Hammock Koch, and CSA astronaut Jeremy Hansen, each has their own story, but together, they represent our creed: E pluribus unum - out of many, one. Together, we are ushering in a new era of exploration for a new generation of star sailors and dreamers - the Artemis Generation."

The crew will work as a team to execute an ambitious set of demonstrations during the flight test.

Their assignments are as follows: Commander Reid Wiseman, KF5LKT, Pilot Victor Glover, KI5BKC, Mission Specialist 1 Christina Hammock Koch, and Mission Specialist 2 Jeremy Hansen, KF5LKU. Koch had planned to study and take her amateur license exam in 2019, but her flight was suddenly rescheduled 6 months earlier than originally planned. She had to immediately begin preparing for her flight instead of studying.

The Artemis II mission is scheduled to launch in November 2024. The approximately 10-day flight test will launch on the agency's powerful Space Launch System rocket, prove the Orion spacecraft's life-support systems, and validate the capabilities and techniques needed for humans to live and work in deep space.

Upcoming Hamfests & Conventions

04/22/2023

St. Joseph County Michigan
Amateur Radio Club Ham Fest
Location: Centreville, MI
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: St Joseph County
Michigan Amateur Radio Club
URL: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/st-joseph-county-michigan-amateur-radio-club-ham-fest-1>

05/07/2023

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://swap.lucasares.org>

06/03/2023

FCARC Summer Hamfest
Location: Wauseon, OH
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur
Radio Club
URL: <https://k8bxq.org/hamfest>

06/03/2023

IRA Hudsonville Hamfest
Location: Hudsonville, MI
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Independent Repeater
Association
URL: <http://www.w8ira.org>

06/04/2023

Annual Chelsea Amateur Radio Club
Swap Meet Partnering w/Michigan
Electronics Expo
Location: Chelsea, MI
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Chelsea Amateur Radio
Club
URL: <http://wd8iel.com>

For more information, visit the [NASA](#) website.

Article courtesy of <http://www.arrl.org/news/nasa-names-three-hams-for-artemis-ii-moon-mission-crew>

National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting Open during 2023 Dayton Hamvention®



The National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting, in conjunction with the West Chester Amateur Radio Association, announced their expanded hours during the 2023 Dayton Hamvention®.

The museum will be open Thursday, May 18, from 1:00 PM to 9:00 PM; Friday, May 19, from 1:00 PM to 9:00 PM; Saturday, May 20, from 12:00 PM to 9:00 PM, and Sunday, May 21, from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

Admission is \$10.00 at the door. The West Chester Amateur Radio Association, WC8VOA, will be on the air. The museum is a short drive from Hamvention, down Interstate 75 or Route 42 from Xenia. Use the Crosley Blvd address on your GPS.

New exhibits include a dedicated room for amateur radio and shortwave equipment and a newly renovated ham shack with state-of-the-art equipment from Yaesu, Icom, and Elecraft. Docents and operators will be available to enhance visits to the museum.

For further information, visit voamuseum.org or wc8voa.org. You can also find the museum on Facebook or call 513-777-0027. The museum's regular hours are Saturdays and Sundays from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, and it is located at 8070 Tylersville Road, West Chester, Ohio.

Article courtesy of <http://www.arrl.org/news/national-voice-of-america-museum-of-broadcasting-open-during-2023-dayton-hamvention>

Meeting Minutes 03/16/2023

Meeting called to order @ 7:00 PM

Officers Present: Paul KE8MOI, Zack W8MAN, Mike KQ8N, Stephanie W8AEZ, Melanie KE8TPQ

Members Present: Kelly , John W8JRD, Larry KE8TOV, Bob KC8QM Don W8RVT, Jim KC2JJQ, Jay N8ARR, Dan N8EC, Dan WB9KC, Kyle W8KDB, Terry N8LN, Ivan W8IDR, Tyler KE8UTG, Kevin KE8UUJ, Tom WR8G, Jan W8JKG

Secretary's report: Motion was made to accept the report as printed in the Feedback. Motion was passed.

Treasurer's report: Mike KQ8N reported we have a touch over \$4,000 currently in the club account. It appeared we cleared just over \$1,800 at the Hamfest. Current members list is now at 44. We got a discount for the venue (\$2,400) this year due to selling out all 100 tables and not running power down the middle (cost around \$385.00). Motion was made to accept the report. The motion was passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Hamfest – Estimated attendance of 400-450 people, a little lower than last year, likely due to us having to host it a week earlier. One vendor made a suggestion to sell space versus tables. There were a couple of vendors who brought in their own tables as there were none left to sell. A lot of positive feedback from the vendors. Kyle suggested towing one of our trailers to the Hamfest next year and using our tables for the club and ARRL. Zack said one couple bought wrestling tickets by accident due to confusing signage. He thought Wings could have done better with signage so attendees know where to enter and purchase tickets for our event. Jay mentioned putting another sign near door 7 to help direct people. Mike suggested maybe parking one of the SMARS trailers near the door 7 entrance. Paul thanked everyone who helped with setup, teardown, and working the event. There was an issue with one or more vendors from the motorcycle club rushing to get our vendors out of the venue so they could set up for their event. Don mentioned that some people wanted an area to sit and visit. Wings had pulled out the first row of the bleachers to allow a sitting area. Zack mentioned maybe giving N8VOX a free ticket for PR as he did video of the event and posted it on YouTube. Kyle did a time-lapse video and posted it on YouTube with a tribute to Les (HAM & Dx checker who passed away right before our event). Dan N8EC suggested raising our table fee slightly as other area hamfests are charging \$12-\$15 per table. Comment was made that we definitely need to advertise earlier.
- Skywarn – Meeting next Tuesday (3rd Tuesday

meeting) 6:30PM at American Legion. WinLink demonstration, maybe talk about last night's CERT program (US National Grid). Smokey reported that volunteers are needed to assist with the warning siren test.

- Field Day – Zach thanked Smokey for his assistance with the forms for Field Day. He needs to give Ft. Custer a copy of our club's insurance and a donation check for \$150. Zach W8MAN asked that HAMS who have non-work band pass filters bring them to Field Day. Don asked about the closure of the campground and what impact, if any, it might have. Per Smokey, the work won't close off portions of the campground until later this fall.
- VE Session – Paul received his VE Badge in the mail. There were 5 candidates: Techs, one General to Extra upgrade, one who attempted the Extra class exam and did not pass. Our next VE session is in April. Mike asked if we would like to pursue collecting the \$7 per test to help with covering the cost of renting the room for the VE session.

OLD BUSINESS:

- No old business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Poker run – Slated for Sat. June 3rd. Bret White and Jim W8JMZ couldn't attend tonight. More information will be provided later.
- POTA – Zach W8MAN would like to do a test-run in April to activate our club's call for a POTA. It must be activated in a State Park or higher in order to qualify for POTA. He'd like to activate the club call in the park every other Saturday and have to have 3 club members on site during the course of the event (within a UTC day). We would have to do 10 QSO's in order to activate a park .At the end of 2023, the goal would be to achieve 1000 QSO's from the park. Operators can bring their own equipment. Zach has a nickel phosphorous battery for power and a 7200. We could also use a generator also for power. Those who want to do CW can bring their own keys. This would be a great opportunity for tech licensees to get on the air and use the extra-class privileges of the extras on site. Smokey recommended using the Outlook in Ft. Custer, near Eagle Lake Pavillion, as a good area for making contacts due to high ground. Zach said anyone who operates for POTA in the park can send their logs to him.
- John W8JRD: Mentioned he received a note from John Tucker (Kalamazoo VE) with estate equipment left over from the Hamfest. Anyone interested in the equipment can contact him (W8JRD) and he'll pass on Tucker's contact info.

(Meeting Continue)

John also brought up the possibility of the club maybe attending the American Legion's breakfast for a change of venue. They host a fundraiser breakfast the second Saturday of the month.

Motion was made to adjourn and the motion was accepted.
Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Halbert W8AEZ
SMARS Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes 04/07/2023

Meeting called to order at 6:40PM

Attendees: Paul KE8MOI, Mike KQ8N, Melanie KE8TPQ, Zach W8MAN (& son), Stephanie W8AEZ

Others: Terry N8LN, John W8JRD

Topics of Discussion:

- HAM Polker Run – Paul KE8MOI reported that the event will take place on April 29th. There will be five simplex stations somewhere in Calhoun County. Participants will receive a sealed envelope with a card. Participants will meet at the American Legion afterwards. More will be presented at the next Skywarn meeting.
- Field Day – Zach W8MAN received a copy of the club's insurance endorsement. He will deliver it to Ft. Custer. He will present more detailed information.
- Parks On The Air – Zach shared plans regarding the POTA event. He plans to do the first activation April 22nd. He has four operators ready to go. It will be open to all operator classes. He has set up a club callsign email address potaw8df@gmail.com. A Google calendar will be used to help coordinate participating operators. Zach will manage the log submissions. He currently owns the club's callsign at POTA and will work with Paul KE8MOI if any problems arise.
- Proposed Club Dx Competition – Zach proposed creating a Dx competition to provide opportunities for club members to use their skills and learn new skills. The board asked if he could write up the details of the competition for presentation at the next meeting.
- Programs for Club Meetings – Various ideas were discussed about providing programs at the monthly club meetings. John W8JRD

mentioned prior presentations by club members included outside hobbies.

- Repeater use – A number of non-club members frequently use the club repeaters. Ideas were discussed on financing the upkeep of the repeaters. A suggestion was made that all regular users of the club repeaters, including those who are not club members, participate in the financial upkeep of club equipment.

Meeting ended 7:25PM

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: April 20th @ 7:00pm BLB Luncheon: May 4th @ 11:30am Board Meeting: May 5th @ 6:30pm Club Breakfast: May 13th @ 8:30am VE Session: April 27th @ 7:00pm
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