



FEEDBACK

January 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.

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Inside this issue:

Lead article.....	1
Supplemental article.....	1
Upcoming Radio Contests.....	2
Upcoming Hamfests & Conventions.....	3
Meeting Minutes.....	4
Board Meeting Minutes.....	5
Club Repeaters.....	6
Nets & Upcoming Events.....	6

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 11th (second Saturday in March). There was incorrect information about tables in last Month's Feedback (Board Meeting Minutes) in that it said that table rentals were \$100. Table rentals are \$10.00 (without power, power is an additional \$10.00; admission ticket is \$7.00). 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.

Other News

HAARP Thanks Amateur Radio Operators for Help with Latest Experiment

On Tuesday, December 27, 2022, the High-frequency Active Auroral

Upcoming Radio Contests

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

January VHF

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters
Mode: CW, Phone, FM, Digital
Date: 01/21 – 01/23
URL: www.arrl.org/january-vhf

School Club Roundup

Bands: All Bands, except 60, 30, 17, and 12 Meters
Mode: Phone, CW
Date: 02/13 – 02/17
URL: www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup

International DX - CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters
Mode: CW
Date: 02/18 – 02/19
URL: www.arrl.org/arrl-dx

**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>*

Research Program (HAARP) conducted its latest ionospheric experiment of bouncing radio signals off an asteroid passing near Earth's orbit (see the [ARRL News story](#) from December 23, 2022).

A frosty landscape surrounds antennas at the High-frequency Active Auroral Research Program site in Gakona, Alaska, on December 20, 2022. [JR Ancheta, UAF/GI, photo]

Amateur radio operators and radio astronomy enthusiasts were invited to monitor the test and send their results to HAARP for analysis. While the results of the experiment will take several weeks, Jessica Matthews, HAARP Program Manager, said the help was greatly appreciated. "So far we have received over 300 reception reports from the amateur radio and radio astronomy communities from six continents who confirmed the HAARP transmission."

HAARP officials say the results of the experiment could aid efforts to defend Earth from larger asteroids that could cause significant damage.

"We will be analyzing the data over the next few weeks and hope to publish the results in the coming months," said Mark Haynes, lead investigator on the project and a radar systems engineer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California. "This experiment was the first time an asteroid observation was attempted at such low frequencies," he said. "This shows the value of HAARP as a potential future research tool for the study of near-Earth objects."

The University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) operates [HAARP](#) under an agreement with the Air Force, which developed and owned HAARP but transferred the research instruments to UAF in August 2015.

Article courtesy of <http://www.arrl.org/news/haarp-thanks-amateur-radio-operators-for-help-with-latest-experiment>

More Amateur Radio Astronauts Head for the International Space Station

Three of the four new astronauts on February's planned launch of the SpaceX Crew-6 mission to the International Space Station (ISS) are amateur radio operators.

The four crew members that comprise the SpaceX Crew-6 mission pose for a photo during a training session on the crew access arm at the Kennedy Space Center's Launch Pad 39A in Florida. From left are, Mission Specialist Andrey Fedyaev, Pilot Warren "Woody" Hoburg, Mission Specialist Sultan Al Nedayi, and Commander Stephen Bowen. Photo Courtesy of SpaceX.

Pilot Warren "Woody" Hoburg, KB3HTZ; Commander Stephen Bowen, K15BKB, and Mission Specialist Sultan Al Nedayi, K15VTV, will join Mission Specialist Andrey Fedyaev on board the SpaceX Dragon spacecraft, Endeavour.

The spacecraft will be atop a Falcon 9 rocket and, while a launch date has not been selected, the earliest date would be mid-February 2023.

All crew members have learned about Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS), received guidance on studying and testing, and learned how to operate the ARISS radios and the basics of on-the-air protocol from ARISS team members at NASA's

Upcoming Hamfests & Conventions

02/18/2023

Livonia Amateur Radio Club 52nd Annual Swap & Shop
Location: Livonia, MI
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Livonia Amateur Radio Club
URL: <https://livoniaarc.com/larc-annual-swap-and-shop/>

02/25/2023

La Porte County Amateur Radio Club Hamfest
Location: La Porte, IN
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: La Porte County Amateur Radio Club
URL: <http://lpcarc.org>

03/11/2023

Michigan Crossroads Hamfest & Radio Swap
Location: Kalamazoo, MI
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: SMARS – Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society
URL: <http://w8df.com/index.php?content=hamfest>

03/19/2023

Toledo Mobile Radio Association Hamfest and Computer Fair
Location: Perrysburg, OH
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Association
URL: <http://www.tmrahamradio.org>

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>

Johnson Space Center.

The crew will be able to participate in ARISS, using the ham radio station on the ISS to contact schools and other educational institutions.

ARISS is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the ISS. In the US, participating organizations include NASA, the ISS National Lab, ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®, and AMSAT.

Article courtesy of <http://www.arrl.org/news/more-amateur-radio-astronauts-head-for-the-international-space-station>

Ham radio operators get their message out

Skywarn Recognition Day was observed Dec. 3 at National Weather Service locations across the United States.

Amateur radio volunteers set up temporary operations from forecasting headquarters and made contacts with other stations to demonstrate their readiness to operate in emergency conditions and act as observers for the weather service.

Locally, operations were conducted at the NWS office in Oxnard. Volunteers set up six stations on different radio frequencies and operated through the day under simulated emergency conditions.

“The exercise with the National Weather Service is another way ham radio operators provide support for agencies that serve the public in times of need,” said ham operator Jeff Reinhardt of Agoura Hills. “Events like this sharpen the operators’ skills and strengthen the bonds with supported agencies.”

Volunteers from across Ventura County participated in the exercise, Reinhardt said.

The Skywarn function of ham radio uses the resources of volunteer operators to assist the NWS with real-time observations of adverse weather conditions that pose a threat to life and property.

NWS personnel can use information from the radio operators to issue alerts or assess threat levels in areas that may be affected by the conditions.

Article courtesy of <https://www.toacorn.com/articles/ham-radio-operators-get-their-message-out/>

Meeting Minutes 12/15/2022

Called to order @ 7:12 PM

Officers in attendance: Paul KE8MOI, Zach W8MAN (formerly KN6PIK), Diane KD8WXA, Stephanie W8AEZ, and Melanie KE8TPQ

Others in attendance: Don W8RVT, Don KB9IAR, Melanie KE8TPQ, John W8JRD, Dan N8EC, Jack N8LS, Larry KE8TVO, Kelly KE8MWQ

Secretary's report – Motion was made by Zach W8MAN, 2nd by Melanie. Motion was accepted.

Treasurer's report – Motion was made by Zach W8MAN, 2nd by John. Motion was accepted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Hamfest – Paul reported that Hamfest will be at Wings Stadium on March 11th. He sent info into the ARRL which approved it on Tuesday. Tom WR8G finished the fliers. Mike KQ8N notified Paul of a dead link on the W8DF website. Tom has corrected the issue.
- Skywarn – Nothing to report
- Field Day – No word yet on whether SKYWARN will be holding a winter field day at Uncle Larry's.
- VE Session – Next VE Session will be held on December 22nd at 7:00 PM.
- Repeaters – Don W8RVT was up at the repeater site last week to fix an audio problem.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Christmas Party – Zach thanked Melanie for all her hard work. The Christmas Party was phenomenal and there was a great turnout. The club paid the church \$100 for use of the room. Melanie suggested the club hold a picnic during the summer. Paul suggested Melanie could also cater for Field Day.
- BC Holiday Parade – Tom KE8GDN, Kelly KE8MWQ, Kyle W8KDB, Stephanie W8AEZ participated in the parade.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Jack N8LS gave Paul KE8MOI a tower this past summer. Paul has a spot already picked out where the tower will go. Jack also gave Paul a list of items he has for sale. The items will be posted on the SMARS website.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Halbert W8AEZ
SMARS Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes 01/06/2023

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM

Attendees: KE8MOI Paul, Diane KD8WXA, Zach W8MAN, Stephanie W8AEZ, Melanie KE8TPQ

Others: John W8JRD

Topics of Discussion:

- 2023 Crossroads Hamfest: Paul received a copy of the contract from Wings Event Center for the 2023 Hamfest in March. He will forward a copy to the other SMARS Board members for their review/input. He has already been contacted by one vendor. A suggestion was made to offer presentations (e.g. D-STAR, FT-8) at the hamfest. Help will be needed for setup and tear-down. Zach asked if we might be able to run an HF special event station at Hamfest. Tom WR8G has created and sent electronic copies of our Hamfest fliers to potential vendors. ARRL's "Dale's Tales" had published the wrong date for the SMARS Hamfest. They followed up with a correction.

***NOTE: It was brought to Paul's attention that the December 2022 Feedback listed the Vendor Table fee as \$100 per table rather than \$10 per table.**

- Club Internet bill: Diane asked who might have the 4-digit code for the club's account with AT&T. She needs to contact AT&T to discuss the bill, however she needs to provide a 4-digit code to the customer service representative in order for them to pull up the club's account information. W8AEZ suggested that Don W8RVT might have the code as he'd previously contacted AT&T to discuss billing or service issues.
- Winter Field Day 2023: No word from Skywarn as to whether or not they will hold a Winter Field Day this year.
- JOTA/BSA: Zach would like to get the club involved with our local Boy Scout troops for the Jamboree On The Air and help with those who'd like to earn their Radio Merit Badge.

- Diane mentioned that receipts for all club expenses, including donated items, need to be presented to her for accurate accounting of club expenses.
- It was noted that contact information for the 2023 SMARS club officers needs to be updated on the w8df.com website. The new officers' information has been updated in the Feedback newsletter.

Meeting ended at 7:10 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: January 19th @ 7:00pm BLB Luncheon: February 2nd @ 11:30am Board Meeting: February 3rd @ 6:30pm Club Breakfast: February 11th @ 8:30am VE Session: February 23rd @ 7:00pm
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