



# FEEDBACK

April 2012

### Your Story:

Do you have a story, humorous or otherwise about amateur radio? If so, please contact the newsletter editor (wr8g@omega-link.com) and get it published in FEEDBACK.

You don't have to be a professional writer, or even a writer at all. If you're comfortable with writing, great! If not, relate the story in the fashion that you are comfortable with and let the editor do the rest.

### Inside this issue:

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## NOTES FROM THE "VEEP"

Greetings,

Well, the Crossroads Hamfest 2012 is in the books. By all accounts it was a huge success! The vendors were happy and I personally heard no complaints about anything. Amazing!!

Along with our success are a great many "Thank You"s and I hope I get them all correct. First, to the members that helped with set-up and tear down. **Gary, N8QC; Jay, KD8OXR; Mike, KD8NJA; Dave K., KC8NZY; Arnie, WA8VRA; Don, W8RVT; Lou, WB8WXS; Marion, WA8MFL; John, W8JRD; Gary, KD8JBT; Walter, K8AEM; Tom, WR8G** and Janice; **George, K8GG; Ken, KC8QNQ; The Bush's AB8HK and KC8SLI; Bob,**

**AC8GL, Jim, N8MVV and Nancy, N8TIA;** and Braxton Burchard. If I have forgotten anyone that was there to help, I apologize. A HUGE thank you, for without your help and support this event would not be possible.

A special Thank You to **John, W8JRD; Russ, N8UU, Walter, K8AEM; Gary, N8QC; Stephanie, W8AEZ;** and the other visiting VE's for the great VE Session. Many new and upgraded ham's out there!

With a very few minor tweaks to the floor plan, I think we have a great space for the Hamfest. We are all looking forward to Crossroads Hamfest 2013, but not too soon! 73,

**Doc, K8OLY**

## In the News

The FCC has issued DA-523 soliciting comments from the public as a result of the study required in Public Law No. 112-96. The period for comments run until 5/17/2012 and focuses on the role that Amateur Radio plays in supporting emergency and disaster relief organizations; and impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio communications. There is

a rather lengthy article on the ARRL website that goes into greater detail.

ARRL is seeking comments on the proposed 33cm band plan. Comments can be emailed to [microwave-band-plan@arrl.org](mailto:microwave-band-plan@arrl.org) until May 7, 2012. The proposed plan can be viewed at [www.arrl.org/attachments/view/News/63949](http://www.arrl.org/attachments/view/News/63949).

*(Continued on page 3)*



### Board of Directors

#### President

Gary Williams, N8QC  
n8qc@arrl.net

#### Vice President

Dave Ashbolt, K8OLY  
k8oly@arrl.net

#### Secretary

John Davidson, W8JRD  
w8jrd@arrl.net

#### Treasurer

Don Larkin, W8RVT  
w8rvt@arrl.net

#### Past President

Bob Kingsbury, AC8GL  
kings-boo@yahoo.com

### Club Meeting

3rd Thursday of every month  
Maple United Methodist Church  
342 Capital Avenue NE  
Battle Creek, MI 49017

### Next Meeting

April 19, 2012 @ 7 pm.

### BLB Luncheon

2nd Thursday of every month  
Mancino's  
1791 W. Columbia Avenue  
Battle Creek, MI 49015

### Next meeting

April 12th @ 11:30 AM

### SMARS Breakfast

1st Saturday of every month

### Next Meeting

May 5th @ 8:30

## SMARS Club Meeting March 15, 2012

Called To Order: 7:00 PM

Officers Present: **Bob AC8GL Don W8RVT John W8JRD Gary N8QC Doc K8OLY**

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions

Secretary's Report: approved as reported at the Club Meeting (Minutes for February written by **Marion WA8MFL** and March board meeting from memory).

Treasurer's Report: approved as reported at the Club Meeting.

Committee Reports:

- ◆ Field Day: Coming up soon.
- ◆ VE Testing: There will be a session at the Hamfest on March 17 10am, regular session April 26 at 7pm, plus a "Ham in a Day" on April 28 at 2:30pm.
- ◆ Louie asked about study guides at the library and the donation procedure was discussed.

Old Business:

- ◆ The monthly SMARS breakfast on the first Saturday of each month is poorly attended. All are encouraged to attend at the Homespun restaurant at 8:30 am.

New Business:

- ◆ **Marion WA8MFL** has multi year collections of Ham Radio and CQ available for the asking.
- ◆ Louie had ~100 feet of RG8 coax and a Heathkit Trans-Oceanic radio donated. He will find a home or bring to Hamfest to sell.
- ◆ Hamfest: **Nancy N8TIA** jumped in at the last minute to handle the concessions. Volunteers needed for all the positions; nobody needs to be at one position all day. Jim N8MVV will take care of the parking. Setup is at 3pm on 3/16 as usual.

Adjourned: 7:56 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

**John Davidson W8JRD**

SMARS Secretary

# Income and Expense Statement

3/1/12 Through 3/31/12

Category Description	3/1/12 - 3/31/12
<b>INCOME</b>	
50 50	22.00
Dues	
2012	<u>73.00</u>
<b>TOTAL Dues</b>	73.00
Hamfest Inc:	
Snacks	449.00
Tables	330.00
Tickets	<u>3,931.00</u>
<b>TOTAL Hamfest Inc</b>	<u>4,710.00</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	4,805.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<b>Hamfest</b>	
Drawer Change	<u>0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL Hamfest</b>	0.00
Hamfest2012	
Admin	6.08
Facility	1,007.00
Snacks	<u>212.02</u>
<b>TOTAL Hamfest2012</b>	1,225.10
Maintenance	
Digigate	<u>47.95</u>
<b>TOTAL Meetings</b>	<u>47.95</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	1,273.05
<b>TOTAL INCOME - TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	3,531.95

## SMARS Board Meeting April 2, 2012

Called to Order: 5:03M

Officers Present: **Gary N8QC Doc K8OLY John W8JRD Don W8RVT**

Topics:

Next Hamfest is March 16. SMARS needs to reserve that date with the MAC.

The question was raised about vendors that push setup time and teardown times. One vendor didn't have their items packed until after 4pm.

Dave "Doc" volunteered to be next year's Hamfest Chairman with assistance from all.

Possibilities were raised about additional power drops and more wall space. The MAC has ample outlets on the roof, we need a lift to access.

Additional prizes will be given at the next 2 meetings. In April, 1 radio will be given to a hamfest volunteer who is a SMARS member and present at the monthly meeting. An additional radio will be given to a May meeting attendee.

The April presentation will be John W8JRD with travel photos.

The March 25 trailer cleanup disposed of the white plastic chairs that noone could use. Replacements will have to be found.

The 2012 Field Day Chairman will be **John W8JRD**. SMARS needs to act on a permit soon.

Incentives to attend Field Day were discussed.

Motion was made: Should VE Liaison reimburse SMARS for expenses in holding VE sessions?

Vote was 3 against and none for.

Question was raised about SMARS being a 501C non-profit. Answer is no, but should be investigated.

There will be Saturday operating sessions on TBA dates at locations around Battle Creek. We will have picnics at some of these and try to encourage members to come out and operate.

Adjourned: 6:12 PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
**John Davidson W8JRD**  
SMARS Secretary

*(In the news, continued from page 1)*

As of press time, I haven't received any article for inclusion in the newsletter. Articles on any subject that is of interest to the amateur radio world are wanted.

The Dayton hamfest is May 18-20 this year and there are still a few openings to get on one of the bus trips. Two of the trips are sponsored by ARROW ([www.w8pgw.org](http://www.w8pgw.org)) and SMART ([www.k8kzo.com](http://www.k8kzo.com)). If you're interested in one of these trips, I suggest that you act soon. -WR8G

## Hamfests

04/14/2012: Cuyahoga Falls ARC's 58th Annual Hamfest

Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest2012.html>

04/14/2012: Madison Hamfest

Stoughton, WI

Madison Area Repeater Association

<http://www.qsl.net/mara/swapfest.html>

04/14/2012: Milford Swap and Shop

Highland, MI

Milford Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk>

Hamfest/Convention

04/15/2012: AAROFest 2012

Galva, IL

Area Amateur Radio Operators (AARO)

<http://aa9ro.com>

04/21/2012: 2012 Jackson County ARC Hamfest

Jackson, OH

Jackson County Amateur Radio Club

<http://jacksoncountyarcs.org/index.html>

04/21/2012: North Central Indiana Hamfest

Mexico, IN

Grant County, Miami County, Cass County, & Kokomo ARCs

<http://nci-hamfest.net>

04/22/2012: Arthur Hamfest

Arthur, IL

Moultrie Amateur Radio Klub

<http://www.qsl.net/mark/>

04/29/2012: Athens Hamfest

Athens, OH

Athens County Amateur Radio Association

<http://ac-ara.org/>

05/05/2012: Cadillac Amateur Radio and Computer Swap

Cadillac, MI

Wexaukee Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.wexaukeearc.org/other-area-clubs.html>

05/05/2012: Ozaukee Radio Club's May Hamfest

Cedarburg, WI

Ozaukee Radio Club

<http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org>

05/06/2012: The Dekalb Hamfest

Sandwich, IL

Kishwaukee Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.kish-club.org>

**05/18/2012: Dayton Hamvention**

**Trotwood, OH**

**Dayton Amateur Radio Association**

**<http://www.hamvention.org>**

06/02/2012: 2012 Independent Repeater Association's Hamfest

Hudsonville, MI

Independent Repeater Association (W8IRA)

<http://www.w8ira.org>

06/02/2012: Fulton County ARC Hamfest

Tedrow, OH

Fulton County Amateur Radio Club

<http://k8bxq.org>

06/03/2012: Chelsea Radio Swap 'n Shop

Chelsea, MI

Chelsea Amateur Radio Club

<http://wd8iel.net>

06/03/2012: Starved Rock Radio Club's (W9MKS) 2012 Hamfest

Princeton, IL

Starved Rock Radio Club

<http://www.qsl.net/w9mks/hamfest.htm>

Do you know of a amateur radio related event that isn't listed in this news letter? If so, please contact the newsletter editor (WR8G, Thomas Goodson, [wr8g@omega-link.com](mailto:wr8g@omega-link.com), 269-962-8007) with details and I'll try to get it into the next edition of Feedback.

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

Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society

2 Meter Repeater 146.660 MHz  
-600KHz offset, CTCSS 94.8

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

1.25 Meter Repeater 224.240 MHz  
-1.6MHz offset

70cm and 1.25 meter repeaters are linked. Also available via echolink.



## Ham in a day class to be offered

There will be a ham in a day class offered on April 28th. Both tech and general training are scheduled. As always, the class sessions will be followed by a VE testing session. The fee for the class is \$35 which includes the VE testing fee. For persons that wish to test only, the standard VE testing fee of \$15 applies. Please check the April edition of Feedback for details on location, times and contact information.

## Humor

A Ham Radio Mystery

Has anyone run across this criminal in their travels?

A reward of 500 microfarads is offered for information leading to the arrest of the desperate criminal Hop-A-Long Capacity. This unrectified criminal escaped from a primary cell where he had been clamped in ions, awaiting the gauss chamber. He is charged with the induction of an 18 turn coil named Milli & Henry, who was found choked and robbed of their valuable joules. They were armed with a carbon rod and is a potential killers. Capacity was also charged with driving a dc motor over a Wheatstone bridge and refusing to let the band pass. If encountered, he may offer resistance. The electro- motive force spent the night searching for him in a magnetic field, where he went to ground. They had no success and believe he returned ohm via a short circuit. He was last seen riding a megacycle with his friend Eddy Current, who was playing a harmonic(a).

Forwarded to me by **Bob Walsh, WA8MOA**, original author unknown.

## Classified

Classified ads due by 1st Sunday of publication month.

### For Sale

All sorts of ham radio Equipment and antennas.  
Call **Bev Williams, KA8CXS 964-3197**

### FOR SALE From Estate of KG8GZ

Kenwood TM621 VHF/220-225Mhz Dual Band	\$200
Pyramid 20 Amp Power Supply	\$50
ICT 12012-20A Switching Power Supply	\$45
MFJ 422B-X Keyer	\$70

Contact **Don, W8RVT (269) 963-7797**

## VE Report

We had 2 very well attended VE session recently. The February 25 "Ham in a Day" session had 11 new techs and 2 new generals. Things went smoothly and some procedures were developed that came in handy for the next VE session at the Crossroads Hamfest in Marshall, MI on March 17. That session had 3 new techs and 4 upgrades to general and 5 upgrades to extra.

Thanks to all the VEs who participated including:

- ◆ **Gary N8QC**
- ◆ **Don W8RVT**
- ◆ **Walt K8AEM**
- ◆ **Russ N8UU**
- ◆ **John W8JRD**
- ◆ **Doc K8OLY**

and also **Stephanie W8AEZ**

**John W8JRD**  
ARRL VE Liaison

## Newsletter

This month's Feedback marks the return of electronic delivery. By my count, there are now 50 active members of SMARS. Of these, there are 41 unique addresses, 30 for which I had an email address. Out of the 30, 10 bounced and another 10 didn't respond to my test message. That leaves 10 that will be receiving this edition of Feedback via email. If you would like to be added to the email list, please email [wr8g@omega-link.com](mailto:wr8g@omega-link.com) with the email address to which you would like your copy of Feedback delivered.

# SOUTHERN MICHIGAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

## FEEDBACK



SMARS

P.O. Box 934

Battle Creek, MI 49016

## FIRST CLASS MAIL



### SMARS NETS

Before Lunch Bunch

Monday—Friday 11:30 AM, 146.66

Sunday Evening 8:00 PM, 146.66

Monday 8:00 PM, 224.24

Wednesday 7:00 PM, 443.95

Wednesday 8:00 PM, 28.365

Saturday 8:00 PM, 443.95

### Upcoming events:

**BLB Luncheon: Apr 12 @ 11:30 AM**

**Club meeting: Apr 19 @ 7:00 PM**

**VE Testing: Apr 26 @ 7:00 PM, walk-ins welcome**

**Ham in a day: Apr 28 @ 10:00 AM (Tech / General)  
(VE Testing 3:30 PM)**

**SMARS Breakfast: May 5 @ 8:30 AM**

**Club meeting: May 17 @ 7:00 PM**

**Daytona Hamfest: May 18-20, all day**