



FEEDBACK

August 2018

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Great Lakes HamCon 2.0 Cancelled

We have received word that the Great Lakes HamCon 2.0 scheduled to occur on October 6th at Michigan International Speedway has been cancelled.

Additional information and status updates may be found on the official event website <https://glhamcon.org>.

Seeking SMARS Officers Nominations for 2018-2019



WE WANT YOU!

Elections for club officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) will be held at the October 18th membership meeting. The requirements for holding office are few: any current SMARS club member may run for office, and no prior experience is necessary!

If you are interested in running for one of the club officer positions, please email Jay at n8arr@arrl.net with your name and the office for which you would like to run so that you may be added to the ballot.

Upcoming Radio Contests

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

ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest -

CW, Ph, Dig
8/18 – 8/19/2018
www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up

Feld Hell Sprint - Dig

8/18/2018
sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub

North American QSO Party, SSB -

Ph
8/18 – 8/19/2018
www.ncjweb.com

Hawaii QSO Party – CW, Ph, Dig

8/25 – 8/26/2018
www.hawaiiqsoparty.org

W/VE Islands QSO Party – CW,

Ph, Dig
8/25 – 8/26/2018
usislands.org

Kansas QSO Party – CW, Ph, Dig

8/25 – 8/26/2018
ksqsoparty.org

Ohio QSO Party – CW, Ph, Dig

8/25 – 8/26/2018
www.ohqp.org

CVA DX Contest, SSB – Ph

8/25 – 8/26/2018
www.cvadx.org

Colorado QSO Party – CW, Ph, Dig

9/01 – 9/02/2018
<http://ppraa.org/coqp>

Collegiate QSO Party to Debut in September

08/09/2018



ARRL's Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative (CARI) will sponsor the first [Collegiate QSO Party](#) in mid-September, just as the fall semester gets under way. The new operating event is part of the larger effort to promote a renaissance of Amateur Radio clubs on college and university campuses.

"Discussion of this sort of event has come up in multiple forums at hamfests," the Milluzzi brothers — Andy, KK4LWR, and Tony, KD8RTT, told ARRL. "It gained more interest in the last couple of years and was a hot topic of debate at the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative Forum at Hamvention® this past May. The rules were formulated by current students, faculty, and alumni of collegiate clubs. We are excited to see things materialize and are happy to help organize the event."

The inaugural Collegiate QSO Party will get under way on Saturday, September 15, at 0000 UTC and continue until Sunday, September 16, at 2359 UTC. Using phone, CW, or digital modes, participants will exchange call sign, college or university name, or abbreviation and mascot, and operating class.

"Existing contests are great for club activity, but there is a critical need to get collegiate stations on the air early in the semester and drum up attention," Andy Milluzzi said. He said the ARRL School Club Roundup (SCR) has been popular with college students, but it's later in the semester, when college students are more deeply involved with their studies. The Society of Midwest Contesters also created the North American Collegiate Championship in conjunction with the North American QSO Party (NAQP) SSB event. Andy Milluzzi said the Collegiate QSO Party hopes to capitalize on the success of both events.

In a nutshell, the concept is an Amateur Radio operating event that focuses on collegiate Amateur Radio, with the goal of promoting student activity, alumni engagement, and community awareness. The contest is open to all radio amateurs, including school clubs from around the world, the Milluzzis said. There is no explicit bonus for DX and no US-specific awards. Points may be earned by individuals, clubs, and collegiate stations. New hams are welcome and collegiate clubs are encouraged to accommodate newcomers.

Full details on the Collegiate QSO Party will appear in the September 2018 issue of *QST*.

Article courtesy of <http://www.arrl.org/news>

Upcoming Radio Contests (Continued)

Alabama QSO Party – CW, Ph
9/01 – 9/02/2018
www.alabamagsoparty.org

Tennessee QSO Party – CW, Ph, Dig
9/02 – 9/03/2018
tnqp.org/rules

MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint – CW
9/03 – 9/04/2018
www.miqrp.net/contest

NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest – CW, Ph, Dig
9/06/2018
www.nrau.net

WAE DX Contest, SSB – Ph
9/06/2018
www.darc.de

Ohio State Parks on the Air – Ph
9/08/2018
www.ospota.org

ARRL September VHF Contest – CW, Ph, Dig
9/08 – 9/10/2018
www.arrl.org/september-vhf

**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>*

Ham Humor



Swap-Meet Tips

(Adapted from the modelcarsmag.com forum on model swap meets, but the basics apply everywhere – John W8JRD)

If you wish to return home with less than you started with:

1. Go to Staples or Wal-Mart and get some small white price stickers. Especially when the show first opens, your table will be very busy and mobbed. You don't want to be trying to quote prices to 5 people at once who are yelling "How much?" This will also force you to think about how much you want to sell the items for. I always priced them a little high, to leave room for negotiation. But still, my Number One rule was: "I'd rather sell cheaper than take them back home with me." As the show gets closer to closing time, you'll notice other sellers marking stuff down.
2. Before the show opens, other sellers will be walking around looking for deals, probably including some dealers. If you're lucky, you may be able to unload quite a few items before the show even starts.
3. If possible, take a wife, kid, friend or other victim with you to help. You'll be on your feet for several hours and will need bathroom breaks etc. And you'll probably want to walk around and find some deals for yourself. If you have to work alone, be very nice to the sellers on either side of you. They'll watch your table while you're gone.
4. Got lots of plastic bags hanging around the house? Take a bunch with you and hand them out when somebody buys items. A lot of people forget to bring bags, and they'll be grateful. So grateful they might even buy more.

Also:

1. Take a comfortable folding chair! You do NOT want to be at the mercy of the chairs the show, may (or may not) provide. Also, take a small Cash box. Have some change with you. Having to break a large bill on the first deal of the day is hard.
2. Take a cooler/ice chest with at least a 12 pack of whatever you chose to drink. The stuff there (if you can get it, will be overpriced or hard to get when you are thirsty).
3. Likewise, take snacks. I prefer Jerky, Chips, Granola Bars, (and Twinkies!)



Silent Key Notice

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of [Ervin "Erv" Green, N8YEA](#), passed away July 27, 2018. A longtime SMARS member, Erv was a frequent attendee (along with his close friends Russ N8UU and Walt K8AEM) at local hamfests and an active ARRL Volunteer Examiner, assisting at 46 sessions. He will be greatly missed.



4. Consider how much you want to drag home with you, and price accordingly. Prices are higher in the morning and will taper off in the afternoon.
5. People LOVE Junk Boxes! I had a huge box of old parts and a stack of little brown paper lunch bags. \$1.00 a bag, for all you can fit. I made \$40.00 or \$50.00 doing this. Just let'em dig around. Lots of stuff I would have thrown away found homes, and I made money.
6. Don't be afraid to make deals. Many people will just pay the sticker price. Others do not consider a day complete unless they have haggled for everything they buy at a swap-meet. Work with them.
7. Ripoffs! It will happen. Some guy haggles you out of a kit, and 30 minutes later, you see it for sale at his booth for twice what he paid for it. Nothing to be done, except live and learn. Don't let it stop you from dealing, but know it will happen.
8. Rare items (or at least rare to you). Look on eBay or online for any items you even suspect might be worth more. See what they are priced at and what they sold for. Forewarned is forearmed. This helps to prevent #7.
9. Lookout/Companion. Take somebody with you. This is not optional. As others have said you need time to shop yourself, Take restroom breaks, and step away for a few minutes. The day will be much longer than you thought, and paradoxically, over before you know it.
10. Lastly, have fun! This is not a chore! Plan to have a good time. Roll with the punches. You are guaranteed to forget something you wanted or needed. Be cheerful anyways. After all, you are an enthusiast and this is what we do together. You are almost guaranteed to go home with something you did not expect, and something that you have wanted for a long time. It happened to me at every show I went to.

If you don't want to sell anything, do these:

1. Don't price anything, let people have to search for you to ask for prices. Never be at your own table and leave an uninformed friend or spouse there to have to keep saying "I don't know" to everyone - they'll love it and be sooo glad they came.
2. When someone asks you "how much?" Be sure to open the box and look through it as if you've never seen it before and are just now trying to think up a price. A real booster is to go on eBay at that time and try to find another one for sale, that way you can put an accurate price on it. If one sells at that price, they must all be worth that much, right?
3. Spend all your time being on your phone or too busy talking with your buddy to talk to potential buyers. Works best with rule #1.
4. Put everything behind locked cases as if it was a museum.

Light Up 2 Meters Night, an FM simplex event

august 5, 2018
by [dan kb6nu](#)

August 26, 2018 7-9pm Local Time

Most Amateur Radio Operators today start out with a radio capable of operating FM on the 2 meter band, so, you probably already have the minimum equipment necessary to participate. The objective is simple – make 2 meter FM simplex contacts, challenge your operating limits, and just get on the air and have some fun.

The suggested frequency for this event is 146.55 MHz, if calling on 146.52 MHz, please be considerate of other operators. Your local band plan may differ, so feel free to share with suggested frequencies that would be best in your local area.

Now all you have to do is get on the air! Of course, you don't have to stop there, maybe your station needs an upgrade, whether it's a handheld needing a better antenna, to the 100' of 30 year old RG8X to your 2 meter vertical on the tower needing replaced, or maybe, a new mobile rig has been on your shopping list.

For more information, [see the Facebook page](#) or [reddit post](#).

Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides, and blogs about amateur radio at [KB6NU.Com](#), and you can contact him by e-mailing cwgeek@kb6nu.com.



5. Don't let anyone touch your stuff, after all it's too valuable.

6. Be indifferent and snobby to answer questions, if they want it they'll pay whatever your price is. (Refer back to rule #1).

7. Be sure to RAISE your price if someone dares to make an offer on something.

8. Always put your most interesting stuff in plain view with a sign that says "Not For Sale." Even better, get really irritated that people keep asking you "How much for it?"

9. Tell everybody that you don't really need to sell this and say - "If I don't get what I'm asking I'll just put it up on eBay." With an attitude like that, buyers will absolutely be dying to pay whatever your price is.

And finally...

10. Overprice everything to be sure you don't get ripped off! Even glue bombs and broken parts must be worth a lot...somewhere.

Honorable Mention - Pack up your table and leave early. After all, if they haven't bought anything by now, they must not be looking to buy anything at all!



Editor's Note:

Do you have a story, humorous or otherwise about amateur radio? If so, please contact the newsletter editor and get it published in **FEEDBACK!**

Do You Have Equipment to Sell or Swap?

If you would like to place a classified as to sell or purchase amateur radio related items, please contact the FEEDBACK editor.

Meeting Minutes 07/19/2018

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM
Pledge of Allegiance
Introductions

Officers Present - Kyle W8KDB, Stephanie W8AEZ, Jan W8JKG

23 members in attendance total.

Motion was made to accept Secretary's Report as published in Feedback. First: Rick N8RCF, Second: Bev KA8CXS Approved.

Motion was made to accept June & July combined Treasurer's Report as distributed at the meeting. Correction of the payment to Wings. First: Done KB9IAR, Second: Rick N8RCF. Approved.

Committee Reports

Hamfest – Chairman Tom WR8G is producing a new flyer with changes to ticket prices.

Field Day - Electronic filing done before deadline of 7/24. Mail-in report to be sent in shortly.

SKYWARN - Last meeting 7/17 had 15 attendees. Fort Custer link repair will happen shortly. 3 sirens failed to work correctly on 7/7. Next HIAD scheduled for 10/13 at the Public Works building on Kendall.

VE Report - Session on 6/28 had 10 candidates with several new Techs and a couple of upgrades to General.

Old Business

Minor correction on the generator Diane KD8WXA was going to loan for Field Day.

Tom WR8G has replacement computers for the repeater site. He and Don W8RVT are configuring these computers.

New Business

Ken KC8QNN reported new check-in procedure for volunteers at the County Fair. They are to go to the MoCom booth.

Stephanie W8AEZ conducted an informal survey for the Christmas Party venue. It looks like the majority favor Coney Island over Clara's.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
John Davidson W8JRD, Acting Secretary

Board Meeting 08/07/2018

Officers present - Kyle W8KDB, Steph W8AEZ, Jan W8JKG, Jay, N8ARR.

Others present - Smokey N5MKY, John W8JRD.

Called to order at 1730.

HamCon number 2 scheduled for October has been cancelled due to inability to come to an agreement with Michigan International Speedway.

Jay has the TenTec radio for use as the grand prize for hamfest 2019. This stuff needs a new home.

Trailer storage is still an ongoing project. Kyle is looking at storage on Beadle Lake Road. We may also try other club members who might have storage space.

Meeting adjourned at 1818.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Jarrett, N8ARR, Secretary

Upcoming Hamfests & Conventions

09/08/2018

GRAHamfest

Location: Wyoming, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association

Website:

<http://w8dc.org/file/club/2018GRAHamFestFlyer.pdf>

09/09/2018

Findlay Hamfest

Location: Findlay, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club

Website: <http://www.findlayradioclub.org>

09/16/2018

Adrian Hamfest

Location: Adrian, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Adrian Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w8tqe.com>

10/06 -10/07/2018

Michigan State Convention (Great Lakes HamCon) -
CANCELLED

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 94.8 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:</p> <p>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: August 16th @ 7:00pm VE Session: August 23rd @ 7:00pm Board Meeting: September 4th @ 5:30pm BLB Luncheon: September 6th @ 11:30am SMARS Breakfast: September 8th @ 8:30am Club Meeting: September 20th @ 7:00pm</p>
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