



FEEDBACK

FEBRUARY 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.

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Comments from the VEEP

Greetings,

My how time seems to fly! It's just a few weeks away from Crossroads Hamfest time and we need your help. Without the help of our members, Hamfest will simply not happen, and like so much in the Amateur Radio world, it will just vanish without a trace in just a memory.

I realize that we are all busy with our everyday occurrences, but this once a year event provides the SMARS Club with operating capital for the year.

A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the next 2 club meetings. Please be as generous with your time as you can. We need help

with setup and tear down and for ticket sellers as well. We also need Snack Bar help, so no one has to be in there all day. There is a space on the sign-up sheet for the job you can assist with as well as the time you are available.

Again, the Hamfest Committee cannot pull this off without your help! It's your club, please help support it.

Thanks, 73
Doc

In the News

The FCC has announced the effective date for new rules for medical devices that function in the 70cm band. That date is February 27. This embedded devices will operate in the frequency ranges of 413-419, 426-432, 438-444 and 451-457 MHz and will use this space on a secondary basis.

The club elections were held on December 15, 2011. Returning to serve another year are N8QC Gary Williams as President, K8OLY Dave "Doc" Ashbolt as Vice-President, W8RVT Don Larkin as Treasurer, and W8JRD John Davidson as Secretary.

Tickets for the 2012 Hamfest on March 17th in Marshall are now available. The link to follow is: <http://www.w8df.com/hamfest.html>. As always, there will be refreshments and free parking. There will be a VE testing session for those in getting or upgrading

their license. The test session will begin at 10am.

New Newsletter Editor

You may well have noticed that it has been a while since the last newsletter. I will be serving as interim newsletter editor and hope to be able to bring you a monthly newsletter that will inform and entertain you. Weather or not I become the permanent editor will depend on the feedback and support that I receive over the next several months.

A little bit about myself: First my name is Thomas Goodson and my call is WR8G. When time permits, I am a hobby wood-worker and enjoy tinkering with almost any thing electronic, especially computers. My first exposure to Amateur Radio was in 1976 when a friend (now AI5G) in school suggested that I tag along to the local hamfest. Everything else followed from there. 73's DE WR8G



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

Meeting Location

Maple United Methodist Church
342 Capital Avenue NE
Battle Creek, MI 49017

Next Meeting

February 16, 2012 @ 7 pm.

SMARS Club Meeting January 19, 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.

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

Committee Reports:

- Hamfest: Table sales are starting. Tickets are ready to sell.
- Field Day: No report.
- ARES/RACES: February 25(edit) is a "Ham in a Day" class, location TBA. There will be a VE session at 4 pm (open to all) at the end of that class.
- Link on w8df.com website to Calhoun County RACES is currently broken.
- VE Testing: February 23 is the next SMARS exam session. There will be a session at the Marshall hamfest at 10 am also.

Old Business:

Tom WR8G has worked on club logos and a new club website layout. Samples were passed around and opinions sought.

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:

None at this time.

Program: Arnie, WA8VRA, brought samples of his wood carving and his wife brought some examples of wood burning.

Adjourned: 8:32 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

John Davidson W8JRD

SMARS Secretary

Other Meetings

The Before Lunch Bunch monthly luncheon is held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Mancino's Pizza & Grinders located at 28th street and Columbia avenue.

The next scheduled meeting is March 8th at 11:30 AM

The monthly SMARS breakfast is held on the 1st Saturday of the month at the Homespun restaurant at 8:30 AM.

Both meetings are open to all licensed amateurs and their families.

Income and Expense Statement

1/1/12 Through 1/31/12

Category Description	1/1/12 - 1/31/12
Income	
50 50	16.50
Dues:	
2012	<u>50.00</u>
Total Dues	50.00
Hamest Inc:	
Tables	360.00
Tickets	<u>75.00</u>
Total Hamfest Inc.	435.00
Interest Inc:	
Checking	<u>0.45</u>
Total Interest Inc	0.45
Total Income	<u>501.95</u>
Expenses	
Administration:	
Corp File	<u>20.00</u>
Total Administration	20.00
Hamfest 2012:	
Facility	803.50
Tickets	<u>94.68</u>
Total Hamfest2012	898.18
Meetings:	
Refreshments	<u>29.17</u>
Total Meetings	29.17
Utilities:	
Telephone	<u>64.29</u>
Total Utilities	64.29
Total Expenses	<u>1,011.64</u>
Total Income - Expenses	-509.69

SMARS Board Meeting, January 9, 2012

Called to Order: 5:08 PM

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

Topics:

- ◆ SMARS corporation papers refiled.
- ◆ Need rental agreement from the MAC.
- ◆ Kelly is interested in a SSTV class. Not much interest other than him.
- ◆ SMARS really needs a Feedback Editor. Current membership is about 25, due to lack of publicity.
- ◆ Next board meeting February 6.
- ◆ No further word on the STEM school.

Adjourned: 6:09 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
John Davidson W8JRD
SMARS Secretary

SMARS Board Meeting February 6, 2012

Called to Order: 5:02 PM

Officers Present: Gary N8QC Doc K8OLY John W8JRD
Don W8RVT

Topics:

- ◆ SMARS corporation papers on file with the state.
- ◆ A new issue of Feedback is ready to mail. The board also approved a petty cash fund for mailing, printing, etc. for Feedback.
- ◆ VE paperwork was filed for the "Ham in a Day" class on February 25. Extra test paperwork was requested from ARRL. Extra VE's are being recruited for that day.
- ◆ Skywarn training is March 3 at the Lakeview Middle School from 10am until noon and an afternoon session for more advanced topics.
- ◆ Hamfest table sales are continuing. Planning meetings are scheduled each Saturday evening at 7 at Doc's. Door prizes are being purchased.
- ◆ Possible future activities were discussed and will be presented at the next regular club meeting.

Adjourned: 5:50 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
John Davidson W8JRD
SMARS Secretary

Hamfests

All events are ARRL hamfests unless otherwise noted. Information here is subject to change, please contact the hamfest coordinator for the latest information.

02/11/2012 | Cherryland ARC Swap-N-Shop
Traverse City, MI
Cherryland Amateur Radio Club
<http://cherrylandarc.com>

02/11/2012 | The Capital City Hamfest - Madison, Wisconsin
Fitchburg, WI
New Era Repeater Technocrats
<http://www.wd8das.net/hamfest.html>

02/12/2012 | Mansfield Mid-Winter Hamfest
Mansfield, OH
Intercity Amateur Radio Club
<http://hamfest.w8we.org>

02/18/2012: MRAC/MAARS Midwinter Interclub Swapfest
Brookfield , WI
Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club & Milwaukee Area Amateur
Radio Society
<http://w9rh.org/>

02/19/2012: Livonia ARC's 41st Annual Swap & Shop
Livonia, MI
Livonia Amateur Radio Club
<http://www.livoniaarc.com/Swap.htm>

02/25/2012: American Legion Post 331 Ham Radio, Computer, &
Electronics Flea Market
Brownsburg, IN
non-ARRL Hamfest
Needy Veterans and their Families

02/25/2012: Cabin Fever Hamfest
LaPorte, IN
LaPorte Amateur Radio Club
<http://k9jsi.org>

03/03/2012: Dugger ARC Hamfest
Dugger, IN
Dugger Amateur Radio Club (DARC)
<http://www.kc9ak.org>

03/04/2012: Sterling-Rock Falls ARS Hamfest
Sterling, IL

Sterling-Rock Falls Amateur Radio Society
<http://www.w9mep.org>

03/10/2012: MOVARC Hamfest
Gallipolis, OH
Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club
<https://sites.google.com/site/midohiovalleyarc/>

03/10/2012: Terre Haute Hamfest and Computer Expo
Terre Haute, IN
Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association
<http://w9uuu.org>

03/17/2012: Crossroads Hamfest 2012

Marshall, MI
Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society
<http://www.w8df.com/hamfest.html>

03/18/2012: Hamfest 2012

Jenerson, WI
Tri-County Amateur Radio Club -- W9MQB
<http://w9mqb.org/>

Hamfest/Convention

03/18/2012: TMRA Hamfest/Computer Fair
Perrysburg, OH
Toledo Mobile Radio Association
<http://www.tmrahamradio.org>

03/30/2012: AES SUPERFEST 2012
Milwaukee, WI
Amateur Electronic Supply
<http://www.aesham.com>

03/31/2012: Columbus Hamfest
Columbus , IN
Columbus Amateur Radio Club
<http://carcnet.org>

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, 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



Dues are due

2012 Cub Dues are now due. Dues are \$10.00 and \$1.00 for each additional family members. Dues may be paid in person at the monthly meeting (preferred) or by mail. If mailing, please be sure to include your call sign on your payment along with your current contact information and mail to: **SMARS, P.O. Box 934, Battle Creek, MI 49015**. If you would like your newsletter emailed, please be sure to provide your email address.

Tech class to be offered

There will be a Tech-in-a-day class offered on February 25, 2012. The class will run from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The scheduled location is at Lakewiew High School. A VE testing session is scheduled for immediately after the class. The cost for the class is \$35. The price includes lunch and the VE exam fee. The VE session is open to all interested parties, but if you aren't taking the class the usual fee of \$15 applies. If you are interested in either the class or VE testing, please visit <http://bit.ly/xdFYGr>. Walk-ins are permitted for the VE testing.

(Found on www.ac6v.com/humor.htm)

A ham operator is operating Field Day alone at a deserted beach. He is taking a little break from the action, walking around on the beach and notices an antique brass bottle mostly buried in the sand. He digs it out and discovers it's a genie bottle! He manages to get it open and a genie appears. "Thank you for freeing me, O Master!" said the grateful genie. "I will grant you any one wish you want." The ham thinks about it and says, "OK, I got it. I live right now in a restrictive neighborhood. I would like to have a 500 foot tower with all sorts of antennas, despite the homeowners association." The genie looks worried. "O Master! That's a big order. The power of these HOAs and their CC&Rs is most powerful! In fact, they are more powerful than even I, O Master! I would beg you to please choose something else for your wish." The ham says, "OK, let's do this." He goes over to his ham station and pulls out his log books. "See this entry? This is a contact I once made with AC6V. I would sure like to get his QSL card after all this time." The genie looks at the logbook. Then he says, "Now regarding that 500 foot antenna tower, do you want it galvanized or stainless steel?"

(Author unknown, adapted)

An elderly ham driver was going down the interstate when suddenly his 2 meter rig crackled his call. Answering he heard a fellow ham's urgent warning "Hey Fred, just heard on the news that there's a car going down I-69 the wrong way, please be careful"!! Fred replied "Well I'll be, it's not just one, there's hundreds of them!"

Humor

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:

Club meeting: Feb 17 @ 7:00 PM
VE Testing: Feb 23 @ 7:00 PM
Tech-In-a-day: Feb 25 8:00—16:00 (Study)
16:00-18:00 (VE Testing)
SMARS Breakfast: Mar 3 @ 8:30 AM
BLB Luncheon: Mar 8 @ 11:30 AM
Club meeting: Mar 15 @ 7:00 PM
Marshall Hamfest: Mar 17, 8:00 AM—12:00PM
(VE Testing at 10:00 AM)