



FEEDBACK

June 2015

Your Story:

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

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

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Dayton was a Blast this Year

A couple of weeks ago, I made my annual pilgrimage to Dayton for the 2015 Hamvention. This year, I had even more fun than in the past, and that's saying a lot.

I started Dayton 2015 on Thursday by attending the QRP-ARCI's Four Days in May (<http://www.grparci.org/fdim/>) seminar. George Dobbs, G3RJV, gave a very nice talk that not only talked about circuits, but also the people he's met over the years and the places he's been. Paul, MOXPD, gave an interesting talk on crystal filters and using an Arduino to control a QRP rig. The final talk, by Glen, KW5GP, was also about using an Arduino to control a QRP rig. Other talks covered transmission lines and SWR and adventures in PCB making. I learned something in every single one.

That evening, I participated in Vendor's Night. I sold quite a few copies of my CW Geek's Guide to Having Fun with Morse Code and gave out quite a few "I'm a CW Geek" buttons and "Hams Obey Ohm's Law" stickers.

Friday and Saturday were all about the Hamvention. As far as new products go, there were a couple of interesting announcements. Elecraft introduced the K3S, an updated and upgraded K3 HF Transceiver, and FlexRadio introduced the Maestro, a "front end" with knobs, dials, and LCD screen for their software-driven radios. Apparently, hams like knobs and dials after all.

It seemed to me that there were more people at this year's Hamvention. There were certainly more sellers out in the flea market. And deals were to be had. I picked up a Bencher BY-1 for only \$50. I also found a Hallicrafters HA-1 T.O. Keyer (http://www.ai4fr.com/main/page_ham_radio_hallicrafters_ha1.html), which I believe to be the first commercially-available electronic keyer. Produced in the 1960s, it uses tubes to generate dots and dashes.

Dayton usually has a great lineup of forums, but aside from perhaps the TAPR forum, the Antennas forum, and maybe the ATV forum, none of them really called to me. Also, I was really busy talking to people I know, meeting readers, and trying to get the dealers to carry my books, so I didn't get to a single one.

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Being the CW geek that I am, I'm hoping to hold a CW forum at next year's Hamvention. I've already contacted the forum people, and while they haven't committed to giving me time, I did get a very positive response. C U THR?

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When he's not attending the Dayton Hamvention, Dan, KB6NU enjoys working CW on the HF bands and teaching ham radio classes. For more information about his operating activities and his "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides, go to KB6NU.Com or e-mail cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

Meeting Minutes 05/21/15

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions

Officers present – Gary N8QC, Stephanie W8AEZ, Brian W8BDM, Diane KD8WXA

20 members in attendance total.

Secretary's report was accepted, as published in Feedback

Treasurer's report was not available.

Committee reports:

- Hamfest 2015 – We were told Tom (WR8G) was willing to Chair next year's Hamfest. Brian (W8BDM) volunteered to help with Computer work.
- SKYWARN – Team reviewed Skywarn procedures. No news on next Ham-n-Day.
- Field Day 2015 – Jay (N8ARR) reported City has okay'd airport as location for Field Day and Port-a-Potty on order. Brian (W8BDM) volunteered to pull trailers. Several individuals volunteered to help with food.
- VE session – This month's testing session will be on Thursday June 25th at 7pm.

Old Business:

- New Repeater Equipment – Don (W8RVT) reported that the 2m Fusion unit has been running for a couple of days. TSQL doesn't work with CAT300 Controller but Don is working to correct, along with some other compatibility issues. Gary (N8QC) suggested we form a committee to work on issues and/or long-term plan for new repeater equipment, after we get through field day.

New Business:

- Discussion on moving "Before Lunch Breakfast" (BLB) from Coney Island to new location. After some discussion, club felt that this wasn't something that the club should vote on and left it to the individuals attending the BLB to decide where they want to meet.
- Doc (K8OLY) is in B.C. Bronson Hospital; stop by and see him, if you can. Also looking for Skyward Net Volunteers until he can recover.

Presentation: None

Quote of the Meeting: "That's Oklahoma ... not our problem!" and "Don't want to toot my horn but I won a radio at Dayton".

Meeting adjourned at 8:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Marsh W8BDM, secretary

Board Meeting 06/02/2015

Attendees: Steph W8AEZ, Jay N8ARR, Gary N8QC, Brian W8BDM, Tom WR8G, Diane KD8WXA, John W8JRD
Officers absent: Don W8RVT

Called to order at 1705.

Treasurer's report was submitted and reviewed by board.

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Hamfest – We made \$2,330 on this year’s event. Tom (WR8G) and Doc (K8OLY), pending his recovery, have agreed to chair event for next year. Brian (W8BDM) volunteered to help with some of the computer work.

There will NOT be a Ham-n-Day training in July ... may in Fall.

BLB – No decision has been made by BLB on proposal to relocate location. They might try it one time and see how it goes.

Field Day (June 27th and 28th) – Application for Field Day has been submitted and Port-a-Potty has ordered. Still need to contact Hog-Zilla. Plan is to setup on Friday afternoon (3pm-ish) with Hot Dogs in the evening. Saturday the plan is for Cold-Cuts for Lunch and Pork for Dinner. Sunday we are on our own for meals.

VE session – Next session (June 25th) is going to be right before Field Day. Reminder that General Class Question Pool expires this month.

Doc (K8OLY) is still recovering in Battle Creek Bronson Hospital. Stop by and say “Hi”, if you get a chance.

Quote of the meeting: “Money”

Meeting adjourned at 1735.

Respectfully submit

Brian Marsh
W8BDM

Note from the editor:

Due to repeated scheduling conflicts this will be my last issue of Feedback as editor. If there is somebody that is willing to take over as editor, I can provide them with the templates and software to prepare the newsletter. I have been preparing the newsletter as editor and publisher since February 2012, so it is time to pass the torch (or the antenna).

73,
WR8G, Tom

Income and Expense Statement
5/1/2015 Through 5/31/2015 (Accrual Basis)

Category Description	5/1/2015-5/31/2015
INCOME	
Donations	670.00
Dues	
2015	20.00
TOTAL Dues	20.00
TOTAL INCOME	690.00
EXPENSES	
Utilities	
Internet	39.00
Telephone	36.46
TOTAL Utilities	75.46
TOTAL EXPENSES	75.46
OVERALL TOTAL	614.54

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

Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society
2 Meter Repeater 146.660 MHz -600KHz offset, PL 94.8
2 Meter Digital/DStar 146.79/19 (-600KHz Offset)

70cm Repeater 443.950 MHz
+5MHz offset, PL 94.8
1.25 Meter Repeater 224.240 MHz
-1.6MHz offset
70cm and 1.25 meter repeaters are linked.
Also available via echolink.

W8DF-5 144.39Mhz Digipeater/Igate
Find it on www.aprs.fi

Other Area Repeaters:
Skywarn/ARES/RACES (WX8BTL)

2 Meter: 147.12, +600KHz offset, PL 186.2
70cm: 442.350, +5MHz offset, PL 94.8



SOUTHERN MICHIGAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY FEEDBACK

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

2nd Thursday of every
month
Coney Island, N.E. Capital
Battle Creek, MI

SMARS Breakfast

2nd Saturday of every month
Coney Island, N.E. Capital
Battle Creek, MI

SMARS NETS

Before Lunch Bunch

Monday—Friday 11:30 AM, 146.66

Sunday Evening 8:00 PM, 146.66

Monday 7:00 PM, 147.12 (Skywarn)

Monday 8:00 PM, 224.24 / 443.95

Wednesday 7:00 PM, 224.24 / 443.95

Wednesday 8:00 PM, 28.365

Saturday 8:00 PM, 224.24 / 443.95

Upcoming events:

Club meeting: June 18th @ 7:00 PM

Field Day: June 26 (setup), 27, 28

BLB Lunch: July 2nd @ 11:30 AM

Siren test: July 4th @ 1:00 PM

SKYWARN Coffee: after siren test

SMARS Breakfast: July 11th @ 8:30 AM