



FEEDBACK

October 2018

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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Get Your Amateur Radio License Today!




EXAM COST \$15

HAM in a DAY

Saturday, October 13, 2018 • 8:45 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

LOCATION: Battle Creek Department of Public Works • 150 S. Kendall Street, Battle Creek MI, 49015
 Test for Technician or General License. • Check in begins at 8:45 for those taking the study session.
 If you want to take the exam only, please arrive at 2:30. • Exam will begin at 3:00.

This Saturday, October 13th, is the Ham in a Day (HIAD) at the Public Works Building here in Battle Creek. If you know someone who is interesting in getting their Ham license or looking to upgrade to a General or Extra, this is the opportunity to do that. Check in starts at 8:45 AM and the VE Session will start at 3 PM (please arrive at 2:30 PM). For more information, please visit the Battle Creek Emergency Services Website (www.bcesmi.org).

SMARS Office Nominations



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. A reminder that we need a President, Vice President, and Treasurer at a

Upcoming Radio Contests

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

School Club Roundup - CW, Ph, Dig
10/15 – 10/19/2018

www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup

EME – 50 to 1296 MHz - CW, Ph, Dig
10/27 – 10/28/2018

www.arrl.org/eme-contest

ARRL November Sweepstakes - CW
11/03 – 11/05/2018

www.arrl.org/sweepstakes

ARRL November Sweepstakes - Ph
11/17 – 11/19/2018

www.arrl.org/sweepstakes

EME – 50 to 1296 MHz - CW, Ph, Dig
11/24 – 11/25/2018

www.arrl.org/eme-contest

160 Meters - CW
11/30 – 12/02/2018

www.arrl.org/160-meter

**A more thorough listing of upcoming Contests can be found on the ARRL's web page [ContestCalendar](#).*

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

minimal to be a club.

Feedback Layout Changes

As the title suggest, the layout to the feedback will be changed around a little. The generally look should remain the same, but it will be organized differently to hopefully make it easier to read and find information. These changes will be starting in the next month's Feedback and going forward.

FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 Overhauls Marking Requirements for Short Rural Towers

Thanks to ARRL efforts on Capitol Hill, language in the 2018 Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Act, just signed by President Donald Trump, resolves the issue of problematic or preclusive rules affecting some rural Amateur Radio towers. The previous FAA Reauthorization Act of 2016 had instructed the FAA to enact tower-marking requirements, similar to those in some state statutes, aimed at improving aircraft safety in the vicinity of meteorological evaluation towers (METs). These towers are typically between 50 and 200 feet and set up in rural areas, often on short notice.

In the wake of fatal crop-dusting aircraft collisions with METs, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) had recommended that states institute laws, sometimes called "crop duster" statutes, requiring marking and registration of METs. While some state crop-duster laws exempted ham radio towers, federal regulations dating to the 1996 FAA Reauthorization Act did not, and ARRL had expressed its concerns since.

"There is no evidence whatsoever that even one Amateur Radio antenna below 200 feet has ever been involved in an aviation accident," ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, said. "To impose painting and lighting requirements on Amateur Radio antennas between 50 and 200 feet tall would preclude many, if not most, of the exurban, rural, and, in some cases, suburban Amateur Radio antennas that are and will be sited outside incorporated towns and cities. This would ironically defeat the entire reason such antenna facilities are sited in those environments: because rural and exurban areas are where such antennas are permitted and the few areas where antennas are not precluded entirely by private land use regulations."

Prior to 2017, per long-established FAA regulations, unless such short radio towers were located within the glide slope of airports or heliports, they were not required to be painted or lighted.

After attempting to address the issue through the FAA, ARRL's legislative team met with staff members of Senator Jim Inhofe (R-OK) and other lawmakers and their staffs associated with the congressional committees of jurisdiction. Senator Inhofe — himself a pilot — was of

Upcoming Hamfests & Conventions

10/20/2018

Muskegon Color Tour Hamfest

Location: Muskegon, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Muskegon County

Emergency Communication Services

Website:

mcecs.net/Download/HamfestFlyer2018.pdf

10/21/2018

36th Annual Kalamazoo Hamfest &

Amateur Radio Show

Location: Kalamazoo, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Kalamazoo Amateur Radio

Club & Southwest Michigan Amateur Radio Team

Website: kalamazoohamfest.org

11/17/2018

Central Division Convention (Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo)

Location: Fort Wayne, IN

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Allen County Amateur

Radio Technical Society

Website:

www.fortwaynehamfest.com

12/01/2018

FCARC WinterFest

Location: Delta, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur

Radio Club

Website: k8bxq.org/hamfest

02/17/2019

Livonia ARC's 49th Annual Swap & Shop

Location: Livonia, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Livonia Amateur Radio Club

Website:

www.livoniaarc.com/index.php?page=swapshop

the view that the 2016 legislation was excessive and that exemptions should exist for both broadcast and Amateur Radio antennas and support structures. "We worked with our close allies at the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), [who were] afraid that this legislation would have a large adverse effect on short broadcast towers," Imlay recounted. "We also worked with the Association of American Railroads, which has hundreds of short towers along rail lines in rural areas that would have been affected."

Imlay said Section 576 of the large 2018 FAA reauthorization now requires that the only towers less than 200 feet tall that have to be painted and lighted are meteorological aids and those within the glide slope of an airport or heliport. The remainder of such towers in rural or agricultural areas lower than 200 feet need to only be included in an FAA-maintained database, which will be updated by the owners of such towers.

Imlay credited members of the ARRL Legislative Advocacy team, as well as Senator Inhofe and ARRL's broadcast and land mobile association partners for getting the language revised in the new, 5-year Reauthorization Act. "We consider this a big success for Amateur Radio," Imlay said, "and it would not have been possible but for the visibility that has been achieved for ARRL through our active Capitol Hill advocacy for the Amateur Radio Parity Act."

Article courtesy of <http://www.arrl.org/news/faa-reauthorization-act-of-2018-overhauls-marking-requirements-for-short-rural-towers>

Investigation into International Space Station Leak Continues

NASA has issued a statement regarding a leak affecting the International Space Station ([ISS](http://www.nasa.gov/ISS)). On August 29, a mysterious 2-millimeter hole was discovered on a Soyuz capsule docked to the ISS, resulting in a pressure leak.

The Soyuz capsule last carried to the ISS cosmonaut Sergey Prokopyev, and astronauts Serena Auñón-Chancellor, KG5TMT, and Alexander Gerst, KF5ONO. It is scheduled to return them to Earth in December.

The hole, which appeared to have been drilled, was repaired by the crew. Roscosmos said this week that the hole was not drilled by accident, opening the possibility of sabotage. Roscosmos Director General Dmitry Rogozin earlier ruled out a manufacturing defect.

"[This] indicates that this is an isolated issue which does not categorically affect future production," the NASA statement said. "This conclusion does not necessarily mean the hole was created intentionally or with mal-intent."

Roscosmos has claimed the hole may have been drilled by a technician on the ground.

NASA and Roscosmos continue to investigate the incident to determine the cause, and a November spacewalk is planned in order to gather more information.

On October 11, US Astronaut Nick Hague, KG5TMV, and Russian Cosmonaut Aleksey Ovchinin will head to the ISS aboard a Russian Soyuz MS-10 spacecraft. NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine is scheduled to attend the launch and plans to meet with Rogozin at that time.

Article courtesy of <http://www.arri.org/news/investigation-into-international-space-station-leak-continues>

Ham Humor



**"Hey, fellows, I just got my
ham license!"**

Image from the vintage Radio & Television News magazines

<http://www.rfcafe.com/references/radio-news/electronics-comics-radio-television-news-april-1951.htm>

Meeting Minutes 09/20/2018

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions

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

23 members in attendance total.

Secretary's report was accepted.

Treasurer's report handed out and accepted.

Committee reports:

HAMFEST 2019 – Tickets and flyers are done and awaiting pickup at the printers. Tom will get a check from Jan and get them collected. The contract from Wings is the next project. Since we have secured the date, there shouldn't be any trouble getting that sent to us. Announcements will be sent to ARRL and CQ magazine. Tom has already received a request for a table! Let's hope that this will be a very successful Hamfest!

SKYWARN – Meeting held on the 18th. See minutes posted in this newsletter.

VE Session – Our next will be on 9/27 in the Babcock Room at the church. Kalamazoo will hold a VE session during their Hamfest on October 21st.

HIAD – Next will be 10/13/18 at DPW on Kendall. Lots of VEs will be helpful.

Repeaters – Still looking for volunteers to help Don with maintenance of the repeater site. One new computer is up and running with the exception of the RS-232 port which doesn't work as Don expected it to. There are options to overcome the problem.

Old Business

Nominations for officers are due in October for November elections. Kyle and Jan will accept running again but Steph and Jay are not going to serve another year so we must have VP and Secretary candidates. If you are interested in running, please submit your name to Jay at N8ARR@ARRL.net to be included on the ballot.

New Business

Tom KE8GDN has offered to store the club trailers at his farm. Coordination with Jay and Kyle is forthcoming at the end of September.

Christmas Party – Coney Island banquet room has been reserved by check. We will be meeting December 15th from 6:00-8:30pm.

Meeting adjourned at 1935.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Jarrett N8ARR, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes 10/02/2018

Called to order at 1750.

Officers present: Kyle W8KDB, Steph W8AEZ, Jay, N8ARR.

Others present: Smokey N5MKY, John W8JRD.

Tom G. is going to look into insurance for the trailers as well as for the items within. John offered that ARRL has insurance plans for affiliated clubs that run \$1.50/\$100.00 of value.

Trailer storage is still pending. Tom W. has offered to store but is currently having troubles with his heavy duty towing vehicle. No great pressure to move them right now but want them stored before the snow falls. Also Kyle is looking into the idea of identification plates that can be affixed to the trailers that denote that they are the property of the club. The thought is to have proof that they are ours should they be stolen and the decals are scrubbed off.

Christmas party will be at Coney Island on December 15th from 6:00-8:30. We will order whatever we want from the menu and will be responsible for our own tabs. A \$20 limit is suggested for gift exchange. The \$100 reservation fee will be returned (\$50) as long as we show up and it was suggested that the money be used to buy gift certificates or chits that will defray dinner costs for lucky winners. The board agreed to use the refund this way, TBD later the denominations of the gifts.

Meeting adjourned at 1820

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Jarrett, N8ARR, 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

APRS Digipeater/lgate, 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: 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: Oct. 18th @ 7:00pm BLB Luncheon: Nov. 1st @ 11:30am Board Meeting: Nov. 6th @ 5:30pm Club Breakfast: Oct. 13th @ 8:30am Club Breakfast: Nov. 10th @ 8:30am HIAD VE Session: Oct. 13th @ 3:00 pm VE Session: Oct. 25th @ 7:00pm</p>
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