



FEEDBACK

APRIL 2011



COMMENTS

The Crossroads Hamfest has finished and SMARS now will go forward for its next big event — Field Day! The Hamfest was a success due to the great participation by club members and the leadership of John W8JRD, and Doc K8OLY. The amount of effort by John and Doc in planning, mailing, accounting (with the help of Don W8RVT) and all the rest of necessities cannot be unrecognized. Thanks guys!

In Feedback this month, you will find several articles on threats to our frequencies. Please write to your legislative representatives expressing your concerns. Each of us MUST take action. Older hams often speak of the loss of 27MHz to CB. Their fault! Only three or four letters were ever written in opposition to that loss. Write!

SILENT KEYS

March was not a good month for SMARS members. We lost three hams that were members of our club.

The first to go was Dr. Leopold (Lee) Zawold, KB8KBT, who became a silent key on March 10 this year. Lee had become inactive during the last few years but always was happy to meet one of us.

Kermit Binkley, W8RYC, left us on March 24. Kermit operated both on the local VHF nets but also enjoyed meeting friends on various HF nets.

Ancel (Phil) Engle, KD8KZB, passed away on March 25 after a long fight with cancer. Phil had at one time been an extra class but was inactive and lost his original license and had worked his way back up to extra again. Recently Phil had been working very hard in reestablishing the club UHF nets.

MICHIGAN BIKE BS EVENTS

The dates for this years Michigan Bike MS events are as follows:

West Michigan Breakaway June 11-12, 2011

Mid Michigan Breakaway July 16-17, 2011

Bavarian Breakaway September 24-25, 2011

The Michigan Bike MS events are held to help the Michigan chapter of The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, raise funds and awareness for people living with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) in Michigan. As ham communicators our goals are to provide comprehensive, state-of-the-art amateur radio communications to support the MS Society, and at the same time to encourage as many amateurs as possible to participate in what has become the largest Public Service Events in Michigan. We need your continued support to expand and continue this role in communications.

Information for the different events and signup information are listed on the website <http://mibikemshams.org/>

I look forwarded to seeing all the old faces and new faces at the events this year.

Thanks 73, Fred - W8FSM, Michigan MS-150 Amateur Radio Communications Manager (ARCM)





IMPORTANT!!! A plea from Jim Weaver K8JE

To the many of you who have already written letters to your US Representative on HR 607, thank you. To you who have not gotten "a round tuit" and have not yet written, please do. The fate of the amateur secondary allocation 440 MHz band is at stake. This is a battle I truly believe we can win. We are not the only group that would suffer from having HR 607 pass in its present form. Combined with the other groups, I feel confident we can prevail in having the offending part of the Bill removed. For example, the National Public

Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) has stated its support of the ARRL position (<http://www.arrl.org/news/npstc-says-hr-607-needs-to-be-amended>).

If you wish additional information go to <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-members-respond-to-hr-607>.

To let your US Representative know you oppose the present bill, go to <http://www.kd4pyr.net/hamletter.htm> and follow the simple instructions.

All that is needed is to insert your call sign where indicated and to click twice more to generate a letter addressed to your US Representative. The letter will be ready to print and for you to sign.

- Be sure to sign your letter. Letters without a handwritten signature are not effective.

- Send signed letters to John Chwat our legislative spokesman in Washington. His addresses are:

US postal mail: John Chwat, Chwat & Co., Suite 103, 625 Slaters Lane, Alexandria, VA 22314

E-mail: john.chwat@chwatco.com.

Scan and send signed letter as an attachment.

Fax: Number (703) 684-7594.

Do not send this letter or any letter about HR 607 to your US Senators at this time. The bill is only in the US House of Representatives.

Why send your signed letter to John Chwat? First, all postal mail to members of the US House (and other government bodies) is delayed 6 to 8 weeks in being searched for hazardous materials. Second, Mr. Chwat will increase the value of your individual letter by combining it with others and delivering a stack of letters directly to your Representative's office. This manner of delivery makes a particular impact on Congressmen.

If you feel it necessary to mail your letter directly to your Representative, do it. However, please also send a signed copy of it to Mr. Chwat for the reasons outlined above.

Thanks for your help and support in this important effort. Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions.

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

Advisory Committee

Public Information Officer

Lewis (Lou) Ryason
WB8WXS
wb8wxs@mei.net

Trustee

Russ Beutler
N8UU
n8uu@mei.net

Technical Engineer

David Gerber
AB8HK
david@mei.net

Editor

Marion Davidson
WA8MFL
wa8mfl@arrl.net

SMARS Web Site
www.w8df.com

All correspondence should be addressed to

SMARS

P. O. box 934
Battle Creek, MI. 49016

ANOTHER PROBLEM

The ill-advised proposal to "re-purpose" some of the amateur 70 cm privileges is deflecting amateur attention from another possible use of spectrum for broadband networking. The LightSquared company is proposing to place high-power microwave transmitters adjacent to the GPS downlink frequencies, something that is very alarming to the GPS community. As hams know well, if strong enough even a perfectly clean signal will cause overload problems in an insufficiently selective receiver. With GPS being a key navigation technology this issue bears watching as it continues to evolve.



EVEN MORE

Hams should be sure to use their frequency allocations because the inquisitive souls at Microsoft have devised a system for measuring whether licensed radio frequencies are being used by those who own the rights to the spectrum. I wonder if this tool could be used to find a clear run frequency during major contests? (Thanks, Bill W7KXB)



MORSE ON MARS

New Mars Rover to Feature Morse Code

As the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) builds the next Mars rover -- this one is named Curiosity -- to deploy to the red planet in the fall of 2011, they're having a little fun with it. Back in 2007 when the Curiosity team was putting together the rover, its wheel cleats had a raised pattern with the letters "JPL," leaving a little stamp of the rover's birthplace everywhere it rolled. "At the time, I asked whether the real rover would have those wheels, and they said, no, they weren't going to get to advertise JPL with each turn of each of the rover's six wheels; the real rover would have some other pattern," said Emily Lakdawalla of The Planetary Society in her blog.

Lakdawalla is the organization's Science and Technology Coordinator. Lakdawalla said that there is nothing special about the shapes of the markers in Opportunity's wheels; they are just square holes through the wheels through which the wheels were bolted to the lander during cruise and landing. "Opportunity is the name of the rover that went to Mars back in 2003. "But Curiosity didn't need holes in its wheels for attaching to any lander -- there isn't one. So the engineers got to make the markers in any shape they wanted to."

But in March 2011, she saw a video of the rover as it is today: "I had to chuckle at those 'visual odometry markers' [on its tires]. Before I explain why, I'll point out that they really are useful things to have in rover wheels. The repeating pattern of the 'visual odometry markers'...makes it fairly easy for both the rover and human operators to determine visually how far the rover has roved using rear-view imagery."

The tires on the new Mars rover -- set to launch in November or December 2011 -- will display the letters JPL in Morse code. So what pattern did JPL choose to put on Curiosity's wheels? One that Lakdawalla called "very amusing. The holes are in a pattern of short squares and longer rectangles -- almost like dots and dashes. Morse code." And what does it spell out in Morse code? JPL.

According to JPL, Curiosity is about the size of a small SUV -- 10 feet long (not including the arm), 9 feet wide and 7 feet tall -- or about the height of a basketball player -- and weighs 2000 pounds. It features a geology lab, rocker-bogie suspension, a rock-vaporizing laser and lots of cameras. Curiosity will search areas of Mars for past or present conditions favorable for life and for conditions capable of preserving a record of life. It is set to launch between November 25-December 18, 2011 from Cape Canaveral, Florida and will arrive on Mars between August 6-20, 2012. The prime mission will last one Mars year, or about 23 Earth months

RADIATION AND RADIO

With so much concern over the damaged nuclear reactors in Japan, sensitivity to the word "radiation" is very much higher than usual. In general, the public is not aware of the many meanings of the word nor are they sensitive to the differences in types of radiation. Since hams use electromagnetic radiation to communicate, it behooves us to be able to coherently explain why "our" radiation is OK and not a threat to others.

Radio waves are non-ionizing radiation that does not contain sufficient energy to separate electrons from atoms and create ions. That effect only occurs at frequencies orders of magnitude higher than for radio signals. As you learned during your licensing studies, radio frequency energy only results in thermal (heating) effects to the body. The amount of heating depends on the frequency and power levels involved. Radio waves have not been shown to cause biological effects, such as genetic damage or cancer. Radiation from nuclear sources, such as radioactive substances, can cause biological effects because it is ionizing radiation.

Furthering the confusion, the word "hot" is used to refer to both thermally hot and radioactive materials. Radioactivity can heat up materials (the inside of the Earth is kept hot from radioactive decay) but not vice versa. Only ionizing radiation from radioactive materials has enough energy to cause significant health hazards.

Exposure to ionizing radiation is measured in sieverts - a term unfamiliar to most people. Because it is an unfamiliar measurement, we find it difficult to assess the importance of numeric values. Normal background levels of ionizing radiation are so low that even a small release of radioactivity can cause a change that sounds alarmingly high. Here is an excellent chart that gives some perspective to exposure. The current one-day dose of radiation near the plants (at the moment) is shown at the left of the green part of the chart. Additional discussion and references can be found here in this blog entry. For those of you living in the mountains or taking lots of airplane rides, this information may be a bit of a surprise!

An explanation of permitted versus recommended levels of ionizing radiation was also discussed in an NPR interview on Mar 21st with Dr. Harold Swartz, professor of radiology and medicine, Dartmouth College. A transcript of that interview is available online and may be of interest in explaining the relative numbers we are encountering.

Risk from exposure to radiation is not an easy thing to quantify in a single, brief statement. There are many factors involved and it is rare that we have all of the data or the expertise to evaluate that risk. Nevertheless, since we work with "radiation" every time we get on the air, it's important to be able to help our families and neighbors distinguish between what does and does not constitute a risk.

RESONANCE SCHMESONANCE

By Don Keith, N4KC
www.n4kc.com www.donkeith.com
(condensed)

1. It is very difficult to achieve perfect resonance in an antenna system, but it can be done.
2. But is it really worth it?
3. If you do devise a resonant antenna system, once you venture up or down the band a ways, or you jump to another band, you are moving farther and farther from Shangri La. Results may deteriorate rapidly.
4. An antenna matching device can allow you to use a very, very non-resonant antenna system, but the result may or may not be a good one.
5. With the proper circuitry (antenna matching components) and a feedline that is not a stickler for resonance, you can still use a very, very non-resonant antenna with very, very good results.
6. Learn more about SWR and resonance so you don't become a slave to them, but so you can manage them in such a way that you get the results you want.

Look, maybe you are one of those guys who camps on one frequency on one band all day every day. Fine. Get that dang antenna as close to resonance as you can. Do not invest in a matching device. Feed it with coax. And knock yourself out. Brag that you don't believe in "antenna tuners." "I only use resonant antennas!" you expound. Good for you, Chief. Enjoy that narrow little sliver of spectrum while the rest of us flit about across a broad swath of the shortwaves, chewing rags and nailing DX.

See, we want to get a taste of every cycle of spectrum we have available to us. Few of us are able to put up a couple of dozen "resonant" antennas to do so. (To be fair, with a decent multi-band antenna like a hexbeam or fan dipole and enough dipoles to cover 160 through 30, I figure you could get by with six or seven antennas without being too far off resonance. A trap vertical could probably cover 160 through 10, but it ain't gonna be resonant in many places on some of those longer wavelengths! Some guys even sell multi-band, no-radials-required verticals, but good luck filling your logbook using one of those.)

Fact is, many of us prefer not spending all our operating time worrying about "resonance." Or fidgeting about standing waves. Wringing our hands as we glare at the SWR meter.

We'd much rather learn how to manage these things, take advantage of the science, and apply it so we can have a perfectly wonderful experience every time we throw the "ON" switch.

Besides, learning and experimenting with this stuff is where a lot of the fun happens anyway.

HELICAL WOUND VERTICAL ENCAPSULATED ANTENNAE

(Known to the rest of us as rubber duckies!)

Jim Weir, of Kitplanes, recently reported on a field test of a rubber ducky's effectiveness. A test field was set up with hams with rubber duckies and a everyday quarter wave ground plane (one vertical and four horizontals.) Simply switching from the standard antenna to the rubber ducky cut the range of the radio by a factor of 10. Jim stated that this meant that if the radi 4444444444444ko was good for 50 miles with the ground plane, the rubber ducky would be good for only 5 miles. He also reported that by moving the radio with the ducky through various angles the signal could be zeroed out. There seems to be two messages here: first, get better antennas, and two, hold the handheld radio in the best position --- where it hears best is where it talks best!

SURFIN'

Got GPS? Maybe Not For Long!
By Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU
Contributing Editor

This week, your Surfin' conductor wears a worry-wart about losing a reliable friend.

GPS (Global Positioning System) has become an integral part of ham radio, as well as our culture. In the good old days, GPS was a stand-alone unit that we carried in our backpacks and purses, or mounted on our dashboards. My first GPS was a Garmin portable dash-mountable unit that I used for APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System) hiking and mobiling. Like me, lots of hams became acquainted with GPS via the APRS route.

Today, GPS is built right into our ham radios, as well as our portable phones, vehicles and just about everything else. GPS is no longer limited to use by techies; "everyone" is using GPS and everyone has a huge investment in the technology.

So along comes something that may wreck havoc on our trusty friend, the GPS. A new nationwide broadband wireless network has received the "okay" from the FCC to begin building a system that will use the airwaves next to those used for GPS.

GPS manufacturers believe that strong signals from this new system could jam GPS and make it next to useless for navigation. A fix could cost billions and no one has figured out who will be responsible for paying for that fix. Meanwhile, the FCC claims that it will block the implementation of the new network unless there are assurances that it will not interfere with GPS.

Since the FCC has already let the horse out of the barn, I am not getting warm fuzzies that all will end well. So stayed tuned!

UNKILLED HAMBURGER MEAT

Note To All Hunters:

This is from a San Francisco newspaper

Folks, just remember as you read this, this person probably drives & votes. AND, may have already reproduced. God help America .

" To all you hunters who kill animals for food, shame on you; you ought to go to the store and buy the meat that was made there, where no animals were harmed."

I've sure gotten old! I've had two bypass surgeries, a hip replacement, New knees, fought prostate cancer and diabetes I'm half blind, Can't hear anything quieter than a jet engine, Take 40 different medications that Make me dizzy, winded, and subject to black-outs. Have bouts with dementia .. Have poor circulation; Hardly feel my hands and feet anymore. Can't remember if I'm 89 or 98. Have lost all my friends. But, thank God, I still have my driver's license.



REAL BIG CURB

Orville Smith, a store manager for Best Buys in Augusta, Georgia, told police he observed a male customer, identified as Tyrone Jackson of Augusta, on surveillance cameras putting a laptop computer under his jacket. When confronted the man became irate, knocked down an employee, drew a knife and ran for the door.

Outside on the sidewalk were four Marines collecting toys for the Toys for Tots" program. Smith said the Marines stopped the man, but he stabbed one of the Marines, Cpl. Phillip Duggan, in the back, the injury did not appear to be severe.

After Police and an ambulance arrived at the scene Cpl. Duggan was transported for treatment. The subject was also transported to the local hospital with two broken arms, a broken ankle, a broken leg, several missing teeth, possible broken ribs, multiple contusions, assorted lacerations, a broken nose and a broken jaw...injuries he sustained when he slipped and fell off of the curb after stabbing the Marine.

ALUMINUM-EATING TERMITES

Recently-declassified government documents and photos reveal the rumors of aluminum eating termites (aka almites) are true. The aluminum termite is a mutation of a common termite seen all around the world. Bacteria in the digestive tract of the almite live off of aluminum oxides and secrete enzymes and nutrients essential to the almites survival.

Air Force Almite Experiment

Almites were first discovered in the 1920's as aircraft manufacturers were changing from the venerable 4130 chromoly tubing to the 20 series aluminum. Quick to discover the problem, scientists at the NACA and industry quickly developed coated aluminum (Alclad) that was resistant to almite attack. The development of alclad would prove essential to the Allied success in WWII.

During WW II, Germany was working on a Large Strategic Bomber (LSB) similar in size to the B-29. British commandos, working with the French Resistance, were able to place almites in the tails of the two LSB prototypes. The resulting unexplained crashes caused Hitler to kill the program (along with the company's chief engineer). Almites were also placed on several HE-111's, to devastatingly good effect.

In the US, fears that the almites would mutate further and attack alclad caused the military to consider the development of a large transport to be made completely out of wood. Contrary to popular belief, the Spruce Goose was not built because of a lack of aluminum, but because of the fear of contaminated aluminum. Only Howard Hughes and a small number of chief engineers were fully aware of the REAL reason behind the HK-1 project.

Almites appear to have a sinister side in industrial espionage. Some of the US servicemen that worked with the British were rumored to be working for Boeing at the time that the two early Comets crashed. Rather than admit to the existence of the almites, the British agreed to drop the issue in exchange for US propulsion technologies.

In practice almites are easily taken care of. The feared mutation of alclad-almites has never happened, and in fact, there is DNA evidence that it never will. While almites can provide a source of common corrosion, it is typically found during the required annual inspection. On the rare occasion that almites are discovered, they are dismissed as harmless bugs. The FAA is reportedly about to publish an INFo to address the issue.

FMI: www.dod.gov/

(permission given by Aero-News network —www.aero-news.net)

ARES/RACES Report for Calhoun County

March 2011

		Total
RACES/Skywarn Nets and Training		
2 MEETINGS	33 @ 1 hr	33
5th District meeting	2 people @ 2 hrs	4
4 NETS OF THREE FREQ.	77 checkins @ 1 hr	77
Public Service Events		
Monthly siren test	16 PEOPLE @ 1 HR	16
IMO Skywarn Goshen Indiana	4 people @ 14.5 hrs	58
Calhoun County Skywarn Training	91 people @ 5.5 hrs	500
Administration Hours		
REPORTS	1 PERSON @ 2 HRS	2
Emergency Operations		
none		
Equipment Hours		
trailer maintenance	2 people @ 2 hrs	4
Travel Hours		
5TH DIST. MEETING	2 PEOPLE @ 2 HRS	4
IMO Goshen Indiana	4 @ 1.5 hrs	6
Expenses- Out of Pocket		\$208.00
Travel Miles		226
Members (ARES/RACES)		35
Total Nets, Events, Sessions		5
Total Hours		698
Contributed Value		\$12,932.00

Kenneth Nierman
KC8QNQ E-46
City of Battle Creek and Calhoun County
ARES/RACES/SKYWARN
EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

HAMFESTS

04/16/2011 MILFORD, MI
Milford Swap and Shop
Milford Amateur Radio Club
Milford High School,
2380 Milford Road
Highland, MI 48356
<http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk>
Talk-In: 145.49 (PL 67); 146.52 (backup)
Rose Moore , KC8NQJ
1383 Sylvan Drive Hartland, MI 48353
Phone: 810-632-5174
Email: kc8ide@comcast.net

05/07/2011 CADILLAC, MI
Cadillac Hamfest
Wexaukee ARC
Location: Cadillac Junior High School
500 Chestnut Street
Cadillac, MI 49601
<http://www.wexaukeearc.org/index.html>
Talk-In: 146.980 (no tone)
Alton McConnell , NU8L
PO Box 163 Cadillac, MI 49601
Phone: 231-876-1485
Email: nu8l@yahoo.com

05/20/2011 - 05/22/2011 DAYTON, OH
Dayton Hamvention
Dayton Amateur Radio Association
Location: Hara Arena
1001 Shiloh Springs Road
Dayton, OH 45401
<http://www.hamvention.org/>
Talk-In: 146.94- or 146.64-
Phone: 937-276-6930
Email: info@hamvention.org

MICHIGAN QSO PARTY

The 2011 Michigan QSO Party will be April 16-17. Full information and rules are available at <http://www.miqp.org/> which also has information on previous Parties. Dave Pruett, K8CC is MiQP Chairman. Dave is also chairman of the ARRL VUCC Advisory Committee.

VE SESSION

Ready to get another license? On Thursday Apr 28, SMARS will conduct a license testing at the Masonic Hall in Downtown Battle Creek. It'll start at 7:00 P.M. and last till the last testee has finished. Take the test for \$15. If you pass, take the next test for free at that time. What a bargain!!

VANITY DON'TS

- apply for a vanity of a deceased relative that's not dead
- apply for a call that starts with anything other than a, k, n, or w
- apply for a license that you have insufficient class. tech and general take note: no 1x2 or 2x1, 2x2.
- apply for a license that someone else has.
- check your region. many calls are restricted to certain regions.
- calls starting with A are only available as a 2x2 callsign to extra class.
- calls starting with N are only available as a 2x2 callsign to advanced or extra class.
- calls starting with KA are only available as a 2x2 call-sign to advanced or extra class military serving in Japan.
- calls that are 2x2 are only available to advanced or extra class.
- please don't bother with 1x1 callsigns unless it's a special event and the callsign will only be temporary.

VANITY DO:

- apply online if at all possible. doing it through the mail is incredibly cumbersome. It took 2 tries and more than an hour total to do it by hand in one case. Makes the \$40 charge by w5yi.com seem reasonable. I did it online with a credit card and it took less than 15 minutes. Current cost for a vanity is \$13.30 from the FCC.



Income and Expense Statement
3/1/11 Through 3/31/11

Category Description	3/1/11- 3/31/11
INCOME	
50 50	10 00
Dues 2011	31 00
TOTAL Dues	31 00
Hamfest Inc	
Snacks	557 50
Tables	300 00
Tickets	3,830 00
TOTAL Hamfest Inc	4,687 50
Interest Inc:	
Checking	0 28
TOTAL Interest Inc	0 28
TOTAL INCOME	4,728 78
EXPENSES	
Administration	
DrawerChange	0 00
TOTAL Administration	0 00
Advertising	87 50
Feedback:	
Postage	8 80
Printing	80 95
TOTAL Feedback	89 75
Hamfest:	
Misc	6 35
TOTAL Hamfest	6 35
Hamfest2011:	
DoorPrize	250 82
Facility	657 00
Misc	54 00
Postage	0 00
Snacks	202 97
TOTAL Hamfest2011	1,164 79
Meetings:	
Refreshments	7 97
TOTAL Meetings	7 97
Utilities:	
Telephone	70 14
TOTAL Utilities	70 14
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,406 50
TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES	3,322 28

SMARS Club Meeting

March 17, 2011

Called To Order: 7:00 PM

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

Pledge of Allegiance
Introductions

Secretary's Report: approved as published in Feedback.

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

Committee Reports:

ARES/RACES: Ken KC8QNG explained the differences between ARES and RACES. Both groups overlap and cooperate except in times of war.

Field Day: No word yet from the airport. Gary @8USU volunteered his place if needed. Alternatives include Turkeyville, park off of Collins Rd, etc. Don W8RVT feels the airport will find a place.

VE Testing: Next session is at the hamfest at 10am. Next regular session is April 28 at 7pm

Technical Engineer: Everything is working fine.

Hamfest: Final details are being arranged for parking, concessions, and the talk-in station. Setup at 3pm on Friday, March 18.

Old Business:

Gary KD8JBT and his wife Lynn mailed postcards to local hams. At least 1 ham renewed his membership as a result.

New Business:

Gary W8USU proposed a donation to the Masonic Center to help defray heating costs. Walter K8AEM donated funds to cover this.

Entertainment:

No program as such, just further discussion on the Hamfest

Adjourned: 8:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
John Davidson W8JRD
SMARS Secretary

SMARS Board Meeting

April 4, 2011

Called to Order: 5:14 PM

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

Topics:

Hamfest was the main discussion. Some of the items were:

Don presented some preliminary figures for attendance and table sales. It appears both were down slightly this year, but there is some confusion over ticket sales that may not be resolved due to a printing error.

Typos on the flyer were discussed.

Decision to reserve the MAC for March 17, 2012 was made.

Room assignments were discussed.

VE testing went well, with 13 examinees with several upgrades and new hams.

More discussion of combining a Fox Hunt with a club picnic this summer. Have to check with other groups, but some time after May would be OK. We will have to look into reserving a location.

Discussion of Field Day site alternatives. Questions about FD included if Echo-link was OK and if the Georges were going to participate this year. Don is going to setup PSK31 at Field Day.

Doc is willing to host CW classes and will contact Larry W8VVG about times.

A selection of a new trustee needs to be made. Responsibilities of the station trustee need to be obtained from the FCC. Next board meeting will select a trustee and the next club meeting will approve the selection.

The ARRL letter to Congress concerning the possible reallocation of the 440 band was discussed.

Incentives for attendance at club meetings were discussed.

Obtaining General Class study manuals for new Technicians was discussed.

Adjourned: 6:33 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
John Davidson W8JRD
SMARS Secretary



SOUTHERN MICHIGAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

FEEDBACK



APRIL 2011



SMARS
P.O. BOX 934
BATTLE CREEK MI 49016

FIRST CLASS MAIL



SMARS NETS

Before Lunch Bunch
Monday-Friday 11:30 A.M.
146.66
Sunday Evening 8:00 P.M.
146.66
Monday 8:00 P.M.
224.24
Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
443.95
Wednesday 8:00 P.M.
28.365
Saturday 8:00 P.M.
443.95

ARES/RACES/SKYWARN.NET
Monday 7:00 P.M. 147.12

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

HAMFEST MILFORD APR 16
THIS MONTH SMARS CLUB MEETING APR 21
VE SESSION APR 28
HAMFEST CADILLAC MAY 7
HAMFEST DAYTON MAY 20-22
SMARS BOARD JUN 2
B4LUNCH BUNCH LUNCH JUN 5
SMARS BREAKFAST JUN 7
NEXT MONTH SMARS CLUB MEETING JUN 19