



# FEEDBACK

MAY 2009



## HR 2160

One of the biggest challenges that amateurs face is antenna restrictions -- those implemented by local governments and those originating from deed restrictions and building development covenants. As many hams know, the FCC's PRB-1 limited preemption order <[http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/PRB-1\\_Pkg/prb-1.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/PRB-1_Pkg/prb-1.pdf)> offers amateurs some relief when facing zoning and building restrictions; however, PRB-1 does not extend to include covenants, conditions and restrictions (known as CC&Rs). These deed and property use restrictions strongly and negatively affect the ability of Amateur Radio Service licensees to perform valuable emergency and disaster communications. Finding a method to extend the PRB-1 protections is a key component of the ARRL Legislative Action Program <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/laprog-faq.html>>.

On April 29, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-TX) introduced House Bill HR 2160 -- the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009 <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/04/30/10792/?nc=1>>. If enacted into law, HR 2160 would instruct the Secretary of Homeland Security to undertake a study and report its findings to Congress within 180 days. The study would spell out uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio communications in emergencies and disaster relief. The study shall:

- \* Include recommendations for enhancements in the voluntary deployment of Amateur Radio licensees in disaster and emergency communications and disaster relief efforts.
- \* Include recommendations for improved integration of Amateur Radio operators in planning and in furtherance of the Department of Homeland Security initiatives.

\* Identify unreasonable or unnecessary impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio communications -- such as the effects of private land use regulations on residential antenna installations -- and make recommendations regarding such impediments.

\* Include an evaluation of Section 207 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-104, 110 Stat 56 [1996]).

\* Recommend whether Section 207 should be modified to prevent unreasonable private land use restrictions that impair the ability of amateurs to conduct, or prepare to conduct, emergency communications by means of effective outdoor antennas and support structures at reasonable heights and dimensions for the purpose in residential areas.

The bill does not automatically extend PRB-1 to include CC&Rs, but it takes a first big step in that direction by determining the extent that things such as CC&Rs impede the Amateur Service in performing public and emergency service communications.

HR 2160 has been assigned to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. Getting the bill out of committee is the first major hurdle to overcome -- and that is where ARRL members play an essential role. As part of a phased campaign, members of the ARRL's Legislative Action Committee and Division Directors sent letters to some ARRL members earlier this week; these members reside in a congressional district whose Member of Congress serves on that committee. The next phase will include all ARRL members.

This first set of members was encouraged to send letters expressing their support of HR 2160 to their congressional representative via Chwat & Company, the League's Washington legislative consultant. Due to security measures imposed on mail sent to congressional personnel, representatives from Chwat will hand deliver the letters to the respective Member of Congress.

## NEW FEMA COURSES

The EMI Independent Study Program is pleased to announce the launch of three new courses. These courses are:

- \* IS-197.EM: Special Needs Planning Considerations for Emergency Management
- \* IS-26: Guide to Points of Distribution
- \* IS-836: Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex

To complete these courses, go to <http://training.fema.gov/> and click on 'FEMA Independent Study' in the green bar. Scroll down to the bottom of the page to see all of the new courses or click on 'ISP Course List' in the red box to see all courses that are available.

If you have any questions, please contact the Independent Study Office via email at [http://us.mc831.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=Independent.Study@DHS.gov](mailto:us.mc831.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=Independent.Study@DHS.gov) or by phone at (301) 447-1200 during normal business hours of 7:30AM-7:30PM ET Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays. -- Dennis C. Dura, K2DCD, Manager, Emergency Preparedness and Response, ARRL



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wb4bko@arrl.net

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n8uu@mei.net

### Technical Engineer

David Gerber  
AB8HK  
David@mei.net

### Editor

Marion Davidson  
WA8MFL  
wa8mfl@arrl.net

**SMARS Web Site**  
[www.w8df.com](http://www.w8df.com)

**All correspondence should be addressed to**  
**SMARS**  
**P. O. box 934**  
**Battle Creek, MI. 49016**

## FLYING HIGH

Many local amateurs did some balloon chasing last month. Don Cathcart, K8ZRL used APRS to follow a small balloon to over 58000 feet vertically (and actually about the same distance horizontally). After launching the balloon locally it finally came down about 20 miles to the south-east of its original takeoff point.

Since the balloon was carrying APRS equipment it was easy to follow on the various home computers that people had. Very fortunately the winds aloft were not very strong otherwise the sphere would have traveled many miles further from the starting point.

Plans are rumored that this flight will be followed by another in the near future. Keep an ear open for developments!

## SERIOUS GOLF

**Six retired Floridian fellows were playing poker in the condo clubhouse when Smitty loses \$500 on a single hand, clutches his chest, and drops dead at the table.**

**Showing respect for their fallen comrade, the other five continue playing, but standing up.**

**At the end of the game, Jonesy looks around and asks, "So, who's gonna tell his wife?"**

**They cut the cards. Charley picks the low card and has to carry the news.**

**They tell him to be discreet, be gentle, don't make a bad situation any worse.**

**"Discreet? I'm the most discreet person you'll ever meet.. Discretion is my middle name. Leave it to me."**

**Charley goes over to the Smitty's condo and knocks on the door. The wife answers through the door and asks what he wants?**

**Charley declares: "Your husband just lost \$500 in a poker game and is afraid to come home."**

**"Tell him to drop dead!" yells the wife..**

**"I'll go tell him." says Charley.**

## MARCH OF DIMES

Again this year, as in many previous years, local amateurs took part in the March of Dimes. The amateurs were on the watch for problems for the walkers getting overly tired or stressed. Physical problems happen too often with no one near to get aid. Fulfilling that role is the part that hams worked on this year. The only problem seemed to be that the volunteers at one checkpoint were all dog owners and brought them along. The dogs are like us human folk—they don't like being bossed around by others and like us humans snapped and growled to prove which one was king of the castle.

## GERMAN AMSAT TEAM TRANSMITS, RECEIVES SIGNALS FROM VENUS

On March 25, a group from AMSAT-DL bounced radio signals off the surface of Venus, marking the first time Amateur Radio operators have bounced radio signals off another planet. According to AMSAT-DL President Peter Guelzow, DB2OS, the Earth-Venus-Earth (EVE) transmission is another step in preparing for a mission to Mars. According to an AMSAT-DL press release, the team's transmitter was generating about 6 kW CW on 2.4 GHz.

Guelzow said that signals were sent from a ground control station at the IUZ Sternwarte observatory in Bochum: "After traveling almost 100 million kilometers and a round trip delay of about 5 minutes, they were clearly received as echoes from the surface of Venus. This was the first German success to receive echoes of other planets. In addition, this is the farthest distance crossed by radio amateurs, over 100 times further than echoes from the moon (EME reflections)."

The EVE experiment was repeated on March 26 for several hours with "good echoes" from Venus, Guelzow said. "Morse code was used to transmit the well-known 'HI' signature known from the AMSAT OSCAR satellites."

Development, design and construction of this first German Mars mission have been achieved by AMSAT-DL and its partner organizations, Guelzow explained. "Already a third of the total project costs were performed. More work shall follow during the mission. AMSAT-DL would like to demonstrate that their approaches to low-cost space missions are feasible." --

Information provided by AMSAT-DL □

## THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY AND US

Every week at ARRL HQ, we answer questions on the role of amateur radio and the medical community. This is an ever expanding relationship in which we can play a significant role, within the framework of the regulations which provide us our operating privileges.

Medical facilities have a need to be able to communicate in disasters. This communications need is twofold; having the ability to pass information to and from the local governmental-public safety structure and maintaining a capability to talk to operations and facilities of the medical facility itself. The first example is one in which medical facilities play a critical role in the emergency management structure of the community. The capability to deal with the medical needs caused by a disaster is an integral part of the preparedness and response characteristics of the community. Amateur radio naturally falls within this scope of supporting emergency management operations.

The second example is one that becomes a business continuity issue. Maintaining communications that enable a medical facility to continue conducting their business is not one that amateur radio can support. This is outside our regulatory provisions as set forth in Part 97. While we may be the cost effective, and easy to access mode to furnish communications, we are not the solution in this example. Just because we have the technical capability to do a particular task, doesn't mean we have the legal ability to do it.

We are seeing the integration of amateur radio and the medical community more and more every day. Amateur radio operators are lending their communications expertise and developing extensive capabilities at hospitals and other medical facilities all across this country. This is a good use of the mission capable resources we as Hams bring to the larger emergency management community. We need to remain focused on the role we play in this situation. Our role is not to enable businesses to remain in operation. Our role is to serve the public during disasters...and by providing communications to meet the needs the emergency creates, we do our job, and do it well.

ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager  
Dennis Dura, K2DCD.

## THIS MIGHT HELP

(This was picked up on the net. Jim was helping "newbees" to understand how and why a dipole antenna.)

Hello,

If you look at the voltage and current distribution (cosine for voltage, sine for current) on a wire, you might get an idea as to what is happening.

Take a quarterwave whip. Obviously, the far end (not the feedpoint) cannot have current in it as it ends. The voltage, however, will be high at that end. At the feedpoint, the situation is reversed. The feed voltage will be low and the current will be high (relatively low resistance). A quarter wave fed over perfect ground will present about a 32 Ohm impedance. That quarter wave with perhaps 4 radials will be closer to 50 ohms and that is the impedance most transceivers are designed for.

Think of a dipole (half-wavelength) as two quarter wave whips fed in the middle. Ignoring ground effects, you have two 32 ohm feedpoints - relatively high current and low voltage - and you end up with 70 ohms or so.

If you try and use a half wavelength vertical (or a full wavelength dipole), the situation changes. Obviously, the far ends (away from the transceiver feedpoint) \*must\* be a high impedance as they are not connected to anything (in theory, infinite, but due to end effects will usually be on the order of 1 Kohms or a bit more). Now follow those waves (sine and cosine) back to the feedpoint. Oooops. It, too, will be high impedance and low current. Now you will \*have\* to have some sort of tuner to feed this (several hundred ohms).

If the whip or dipole is not any integral multiple of 1/4 wavelength, then the feed resistance will be somewhere in between high and low -and reactances, capacitive or inductive, will also appear.

This is why we use odd multiples of 1/4 wavelength on each side of a dipole if we are not using a tuner.

The high gain verticals on 2 meters and above are using some form of 1/4 wave sections in such a way as they don't radiate and the energy is fed back in-phase to the section below it. In this way, all radiating sections are in phase and it compresses the signal vertically.

On lower frequencies, one can use radiating out-of-phase sections, especially if there is a formed angle such as one might find in a V (with all portions at the same height). Then you can get directional effects (although you can't rotate it LOL).

73 from Rochester, NY  
Jim AA2QA

## FORUM SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED FOR 2009 DAYTON HAMVENTION

One of the many highlights at Dayton Hamvention is the myriad of educational and fun forums that take place the entire weekend at Hara Arena. The Dayton Amateur Radio Association has coordinated 45 unique programs that encompass nearly 80 hours of programs and activities for the thousands of people expected to attend these programs. Hamvention, the largest event of its kind, will be May 15-17 at Hara Arena in Dayton, Ohio. Please keep in mind that the schedule may change before Hamvention.

### Friday, May 15

9:15-11:15 -- TAPR Digital Forum (Room 1)  
9:15-10:15 -- Engineering Manuals (Room 2)  
9:15-10:15 -- Kit Building (Room 3)  
9:15-10:15 -- QRP (Room 5)  
10:30-12 -- Drake Forum (Room 2)  
10:30-12 - Teachers Workshop (Room 3)  
10:30-11:30 -- ARRL Field Day (Room 5)  
11:30-12:30 -- APRS Forum (Room 1)  
11:45-12:45 -- QSL Cards (Room 5)  
12:15-1:15 -- ARRL, The Doctor Is IN (Room 2)  
12:15-2 -- Ham Radio and the Law (Room 3)  
12:45-2:15 -- D-STAR Forum (Room 1)  
1-2:15 -- Alternative Energy Forum (Room 5)  
1:30-2:30 -- ARRL, Public Relations (Room 2)  
2:15-3:30 -- Gordon West (Room 3)  
2:30-5 -- Antenna Forum (Room 1)  
2:30-5 -- Software defined Radio (Room 5)  
2:45-3:45 -- Foxhunting Forum (Room 2)  
3:45-5 -- Techniques of the Best Operators (Room 3)  
4-5 -- County Hunting Forum (Room 2)

### Saturday, May 16

9:15-11:15 -- Contesting Forum (Room 1)  
9:15-10:15 -- SATERN Forum (Room 2)  
9:15-10:15 - Lightning Grounding Forum (Room 3)  
9:15-11:00 - VHF/UHF/Microwave Forum (Room 5)  
10:30-11:30 -- ARRL Members Forum (Room 2)  
10:30-11:45 -- Heil Sound (Room 3)  
11:15-1:30 -- AMSAT Forum (Room 5)  
11:30-1:15 -- Youth Forum (Room 1)  
11:45-2 -- Newline Town Meeting (Room 2)  
12-1 -- RTTY Forum (Room 3)  
1:15-2:15 -- ARRL, Digital Contesting (Room 3)  
1:30-2:30 - ARRL Presents Richard Garriott, W5KWQ (Room 1)  
1:45-3 -- SSTV Forum (Room 5)  
2:15-3:15 -- FCC Forum (Room 2)  
2:30-3:30 -- ARES Forum (Room 3)  
2:45-5 -- DX Forum (Room 1)  
3:15-5 -- MARS Forum (Room 5)  
3:30-5 -- ATV Forum (Room 2)  
3:45-5 -- Collins Forum (Room 3)

### Sunday, May 17

9:15-10:15 -- Red Cross Forum (Room 1)  
9:15-11 -- QCWA Forum (Room 2)  
9:15-10:15 -- Volunteers and EmComm Forum (Room 3)  
9:30-11:15 - Bicycle Mobile Forum (Room 5)  
10:30-11:30 - When All Else Fails, South Carolina Is Ready (Room 1)

## MY MOTHER'S TEACHINGS

1. My mother taught me **TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE** .  
'If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning.'
2. My mother taught me **RELIGION**.  
'You better pray that will come out of the carpet.'
3. My mother taught me about **TIME TRAVEL** .  
'If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!'
4. My mother taught me **LOGIC**.  
'Because I said so, that's why.'
5. My mother taught me **MORE LOGIC** .  
'If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the store with me.'
6. My mother taught me **FORESIGHT**.  
'Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident.'
7. My mother taught me **IRONY**  
'Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about.'
8. My mother taught me about the science of **OSMOSIS**.  
'Shut your mouth and eat your supper.'
9. My mother taught me about **CONTORTIONISM** .  
'Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!'
10. My mother taught me about **STAMINA**.  
'You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone.'
11. My mother taught me about **WEATHER**.  
'This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it.'
12. My mother taught me about **HYPOCRISY**.  
'If I told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!'

## WHOOOPS

It obviously will be news to some operators that transmitting USB signals with a carrier frequency higher than 14.347 MHz puts a significant portion of your signal out of the band! The radio's displayed frequency is the carrier frequency, so if you are transmitting a 3 kHz-wide signal, 14.347 is as high as you can comfortably tune. Many stations were observed making contacts in violation of the rules during ARRL DX Phone. No excuses, folks! Know the band limits and respect them!

Passed on from an observer.

## SEASONAL CHORES

Time for Antenna Work is nearly Over

It is my unfortunate duty to remind everyone the time to install and repair antennas has nearly passed for our part of the world. The next opportunity to ensure the value of this work will not come again until early winter.

The Law of Mass Inclemency clearly states that the worse the weather when antenna work is done, the better the antenna will perform. Conversely, the less uncomfortable the weather when this work is performed, the less well the antenna will perform.

Jim Weaver K8JE

## APRS and DIGIPEATERS and IGATES

Bob Bruninga, WB4APR trademarked "APRS" some 17 years ago and insists it means Automatic Packet Reporting System even though most know it as Automatic Position Reporting System. One of the most popular uses is the ability to report and track an amateur station. That station may be in a vehicle, boat, train, plane, walking, or in a weather balloon. The only equipment necessary is a "tracker" composed of a GPS receiver, a TNC and a two meter transmitter, all at a surprisingly low cost.

An important requirement to make this all work well is a digipeater and an igate. The igate is the guy that puts the packets passing between trackers and digipeaters onto the internet.

I started playing with this stuff several months ago. The local amateur community is fortunate to have a digipeater, N8TJG-10, located near Marshall. This digi has very good coverage, but lacks internet access. I have developed the opinion it would be beneficial to the amateur community to have a local igate. Our club has broadband internet at our repeater site that currently supports Echolink on our 224.64 repeater. The Echolink computer can easily support the added task of running a digi/igate.

Having gained the clubs board approval, a TNC has been ordered and the above system may well be in service before the end of the month.

One of the many neat things about APRS is how it can benefit emergency services. A net control can always know where his stations are. APRS has the ability to handle text messages which reduces errors common with voice transmission. There are many trackers in service as weather stations which, by the way, are used by the National Weather Service. The NWS passes weather bulletins via APRS

Don-W8RVT

## FIELD DAY

The annual Field Day exercise is approaching with the start of weather that encourages people to get outside. SMARS will again be operating from the familiar site at the Battle Creek airport.

Again there will be three trailers: a primarily CW operated by the Georges and Larry, a HF phone trailer and a VHF using 2 meter and 6 meter frequencies. As always, a maximum participation by SMARS members is expected.

Field Day Station Locator Service Returning for 2009: First introduced in 2008, the ARRL's Field Day Station Locator Service was a popular addition to the Field Day toolbox. This service -- an interactive map that helps amateurs or those interested in Amateur Radio find a Field Day <<http://www.arrl.org/fieldday>> site near them -- is free to clubs or individuals who will be operating public Field Day stations. Stations can also be listed by state or province. If your group would like to be a part of the Station Locator Service, it's easy to get started -- just go to the Field Day Station Locator Web site and follow the instructions <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/locator.php>>.

ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air operating event in Amateur Radio. On June 27-28, join tens of thousands of Amateur Radio operators as they gather for a public demonstration of our Service.

## TERRORISM OR VANDALISM?

Just after midnight on April 9, someone climbed down four manholes in the San Jose, California area and cut underground fiber optic cables. The sabotage led to widespread disruption of phone service -- including tens of thousands of land lines, an undetermined number of cell phones, Internet access and 911 emergency service -- in southern Santa Clara County, as well as in Santa Cruz and San Benito counties. San Jose is the county seat of Santa Clara County. With the infrastructure disabled, local Emergency Management officials called on ham radio operators in their communities to provide back-up communications. According to the "San Jose Mercury News," Santa Clara County called a local state of emergency, "but worst-case scenarios were successfully avoided through use of ham radios, door-to-door checks and extra-vigilant patrols"

How much were the amateurs needed? The EC was woken by two policemen knocking on his door in the wee hours. Must be scary to be wanted that badly!

## ARES / RACES Report for April 2009 in Calhoun County

### RACES / Skywarn Nets and Training

8 Skywarn Training Nets      1hr each @ 120 People = 120hrs  
**120hrs Total**

### Public Service Events

Siren Test                      12 People@ 2hrs each= 24 hrs  
March of Dimes                16 People@ 3hrs each= 48 hrs  
**72 hrs Total**

Administration Hours,                      **29hrs Total**

Emergency Operations                      18 People @ 3hrs Each=**54hrs Total**

Equipment Hours                              4 People @ 6 hrs Each=**24hrs Total**

Travel Hours                                      **4hrs Total**

Expenses- Out of Pocket                      **\$125.00 Total**

Travel Miles                                      **125 Miles Total**

Members    34

Dave Smith  
KC8COT  
E-12  
City of Battle Creek and Calhoun County  
RACES, Emergency Coordinator

## **OUR SECTION MANAGER AND ARES**

Michigan ARES/RACES programs reported 9318 operator-hours for March, an in-kind contribution of \$168,754 to the citizens of our state. The NTS team contributed 2306 Operator-hours for a \$41,762 in-kind contribution to our citizens. These numbers do have some importance as they allow us to keep our served agencies informed about how much we are involved on a regular basis.

In-kind volunteer hours can support grant programs in the local community. You will find the complete reports on the ARPSC at: <http://www.mi-arpdc.org/> and the NTS reports at: <http://www.mi-nts.org/>. March OES reports arrived from N8HA, KC8NTE, KC8ZCF and W8RIT.

OK, guys and gals, here is some of the reality. As Section Manager, I like to brag with my fellow SMs about what wonderful things you are doing here in the Great Lakes State, especially to Joe Phillips K8QOE, the SM in the land of the Buckeyes. MSU did very well this year, and to add to that I really need to tell him about the quality of our ham radio operations. E-mail an update on your net. Lets make all of our nets really visible and tell everyone how active we are.

To report your net's monthly activities, contact [wb8rcr@arrl.net](mailto:wb8rcr@arrl.net). Complete monthly net report details are at <http://www.mi-nts.org/netreport.php>. All nets are encouraged to report and this especially includes all local ARES and RACES nets.

Dale. WA8EFK

## **NWS CHANGES HAIL REPORTING CRITERIA**

The new Severe Thunderstorm Warning Criteria for weather reports from weather stations and Skywarn personnel is to report hail only if it is one inch or greater in size and if the wind speeds are 58 miles per hour or greater. At this speed tree branches break and trees begin to uproot.

Usually, damage begins at one and a quarter size hail rather than of hail that is penny size or smaller.

The whole idea is to provide a more precise service for the public. This change in criteria comes following a four year study of hail damage and the issuance of Severe Thunderstorm Warnings in Kansas and the central plains. The study found one inch hail rather than the historical three-quarter inch threshold as a better indicator for Thunderstorm Warnings.

NWS officials felt the public was becoming desensitized by numerous warnings being issued for marginal hail sizes. This new criteria should cut down on the number of warnings and cut down on the number of programming interruptions that local broadcast stations are forced to make for Severe Thunderstorm Warnings.

The bottom line is fewer Severe Thunderstorm Warnings. And when Severe Thunderstorm Warnings are issued, the storms will have the potential to cause damage.

(W8ISH, ARNewsline)

## **WEATHER SEASON**

Talking about the weather, check out the new eSpotter function from the National Weather Service, as well as the new interactive NWS iNWS. "eSpotter is a system to facilitate the submission of spotter reports online. The system is being developed to enhance and increase timely and accurate online spotter reporting and communications between spotters and the National Weather Service.

The use of the system is currently available for trained spotters and emergency managers." -- NWS The iNWS is the home of new mobile and desktop innovations of the National Weather Service. "iNWS strives to fulfill its mission of protecting life and property by using new technology to reach out to customers."

SMARS Club Meeting April 16, 2009

Called to Order: 7:03 PM

Officers Present: Jerry W8FOK Ned WB4BKO Don W8RVT John KC8WMM

Introductions

Secretary's Report: approved as published in Feedback

Treasurer's Report: no longer published in Feedback

Committee Reports:

Field Day: No changes since last report. SMARS equipment to be inventoried and checked out on a TBA date.

Michigan QSO Party is Saturday, April 18

ARES/RACES: March of Dimes walk meet at 8 AM.

There are still positions for a few more volunteers. Skywarn training last month well attended and a new presenter did a great job. First Saturday in May is the siren test.

Hamfest: Questions remain about Marshall High School. The board has decided to focus on the Marshall Activity Center next year. A chairperson is still needed. Nothing has changed concerning the claim for the fall in the gym.

Technical Engineer: Repeaters working fine.

VE Testing: Next session is April 23. The ARRL website has not been updated. New e-mail for contact information.

Old Business:

None this month.

New Business:

Club Wish List. Suggestions are being gathered for activities involving SMARS members. Possible activities include: trip to Spring Arbor, trip to Kalamazoo to antique radio museum. Other things include: moving the 440 repeater, installing a digipeater and/or I-Gate.

Field Day garb: Some members might wish to obtain hats or T-shirts or other commemorative tokens.

Gary KC8H has a generator that SMARS may use. Lou suggested trying the other generators.

Miscellaneous Thoughts: Support ARRL. Use Echolink. Respond to calls on the various repeaters. Think of projects for club members to work on between meetings.

Break

Drawing: won by Dave AB8HK

Adjourned: 8:26 PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
John Davidson KC8WMM  
SMARS Secretary

SMARS Board Meeting May 4, 2009

Called to Order: 6:04 PM

Officers Present: Ned WB4BKO Don W8RVT John KC8WMM Russ N8UU

Topics Covered:

Jerry did not attend, due to poor health. He will make an announcement at the May SMARS meeting. Louie is also not doing well.

Everyone was updated concerning the status of the fall in the gym at the Hamfest. Burt will need to be updated concerning this matter.

May 22 has been designated a work day to check out the SMARS trailers and make sure the equipment is in the right place for Field Day.

The financial report was approved by the Board. The draft rental agreement for the Marshall Activity Center was approved.

Russ has updated the information for the Repeater Council/

Don asked the board to approved the purchase of a TNC for a digipeater and/or I-Gate installation. This would serve the local Amateur community. The motion was approved.

Karl (via mail) suggested SMARS participates more in contesting.

Adjourned: 7:14 PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
John Davidson KC8WMM  
SMARS Secretary

## SWAP SHOPS

MAY 15 - 17

**DAYTON**

JUN 6, Hudsonville MI  
IRA "Good Old Days" Hamfest  
Independent Repeater Association  
Hudsonville Fairgrounds  
5235 Park Avenue  
Talk-In 147.160 (PL 94.8)  
[www.w8hvg.org](http://www.w8hvg.org)  
Contact: Don Andrews K8YES  
[andrews.doc@juno.com](mailto:andrews.doc@juno.com)

JUN 7, Chelsea MI  
Chelsea Radio Swap 'n Shop  
Chelsea Amateur Radio club  
Chelsea Fairgrounds  
20501 Old US Highway 12  
Talk-In 145.45 (PL 100)  
[www.wd8iel.net](http://www.wd8iel.net)  
Contact: Frank Pohs WD8ABW  
[frank.pohs@gmail.com](mailto:frank.pohs@gmail.com)

SOUTHERN MICHIGAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

# FEEDBACK



MAY 2009

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 7:30 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

B4LUNCH BUNCH LUNCH MAY 14  
HAMFEST DAYTON MAY 15-17  
THIS MONTH SMARS CLUB MEETING MAY 21  
SMARS BOARD JUN 2  
SMARS BREAKFAST JUN 6  
HAMFEST HUDSONVILLE JUNE 6  
HAMFEST CHELSEA JUNE 7  
NEXT MONTH SMARS CLUB MEETING JUN 18