



FEEDBACK

February 2019

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.

Board of Directors:

President

Kyle Brown, W8KDB
w8kdb@arrl.net

Vice President

Thomas Goodson, WR8G
thomas.goodson@omega-link.com

Secretary

John Davidson, W8JRD
w8jrd@arrl.net

Treasurer

Jan Goodson, W8JKG
janice.goodson@omega-link.com

Member At Large

Glenn "Smokey" McCray, N5MKY
n5mky@arrl.net

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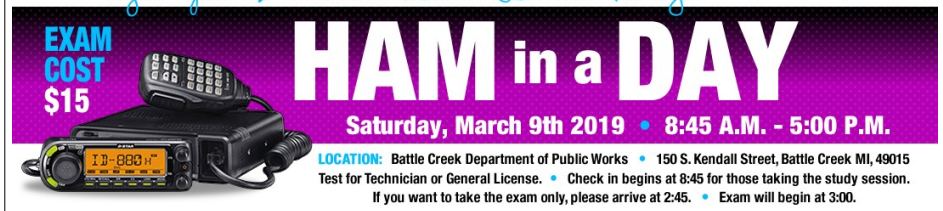
Club News

Crossroads Hamfest

As a reminder to everyone, the Crossroads Hamfest & Radio Swap is March 16th (third Saturday in March). Table reservations are slow at this time and without enough vendors, we will be forced to cancel the Hamfest. If you know some of the vendors who have been at the Crossroads Hamfest or know someone looking to offload some extra equipment they have laying around, please direct them to the website or pass the form to them.

Also, if the Hamfest is not canceled, we will need volunteers to help run it as well as VE's for the Testing Session. Please let us know if you are available to help out.

Get Your Amateur Radio License Today!

EXAM COST \$15

HAM in a DAY

Saturday, March 9th 2019 • 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 2:45. • Exam will begin at 3:00.

Image provided by BCESMI.org

Skywarn HIAD

The Skywarn group (WX8BTL) is planning another HIAD on March 9th starting at 9 AM. If you know someone who is interested, please have them go to the Battle Creek Emergency Services website (www.bcesmi.org) to sign up for the class. If someone is just looking to take the exam, they can show up at 3 PM to take the test. The exam fee is \$15 and will be held at Public Works Building here in Battle Creek (150 S Kendall St, Battle Creek, MI 49037). This is also the same location as the HIAD. Any VE who wishes to help out for the testing, please arrive around 2:30 – 2:45 PM.

Storm Spotter Training

A date has finally been determined for people looking to take the Storm Spotter Training. This is Free to the public and will have door prizes after the presentation. The training will be at Lakeview Middle School (300 S 28th St, Battle Creek, MI 49015) from 10 AM to Noon on March

Upcoming Radio Contests

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

International DX

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters
Mode: Phone
Dates: 3/2 - 3/3/2019
URL: www.arrl.org/arrl-dx

Future Rookie Roundups!

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters
Mode: SSB
Dates: 4/14/2019
URL: www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup

June VHF

Bands: All authorized freq. above 50 MHz (6 Meters)
Mode: CW, Phone, Digital
Dates: 6/8 - 6/10/2019
URL: www.arrl.org/june-vhf

Kids Day

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 17, 15, 12, and 10 Meters
Mode: Phone
Dates: 6/15
URL: www.arrl.org/kids-day

Field Day

Bands: Any Band Except 60, 30, 17, or 12 Meters
Mode: CW, Phone, Digital
Dates: 6/22 - 6/23/2019
URL: www.arrl.org/field-day

**A more thorough listing of upcoming Contests can be found on the ARRL's web page [ContestCalendar](http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar), <http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>*

Upcoming Hamfests & Conventions

02/23/20019

La Porte County Amateur Radio Hamfest
Location: La Porte, IN
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: La Porte County Amateur Radio Club

2nd. You can register for the training at the Battle Creek Emergency Services web page (www.bcesmi.org).

Other News

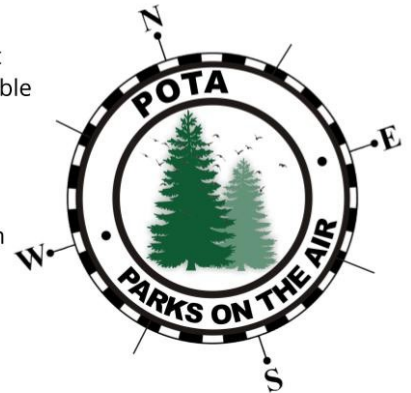
Presentation promotes POTA potentials

My friends, Tom, W8TAM, and Julie, K8VOX, have become Parks on the Air (POTA) masters (monsters?). Last year, they gave a standing-room-only presentation at Dayton, and recently presented at the Orlando Hamcation. You can find the entire presentation in [this Google doc](#), but here are a few highlights:

Parks On The Air - POTA

POTA is a 501(c)3 radiosport program that encourages communications to and portable operations from state, provincial and nationally managed public lands.

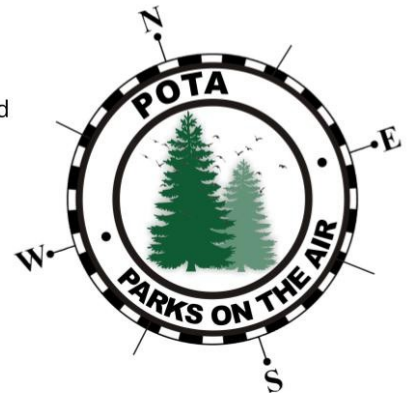
POTA has a large set of references and a short set of rules. We welcome you to join us as an activator, chaser or both!



Who is POTA?

POTA started as a small group of USA based dedicated volunteers who created the rules, infrastructure and database. POTA then acquired volunteers to coordinate the call areas and social media.

And now POTA is all of us, over 1500 registered users from all over the world and growing every day.



lpcarc.org

03/16/2019

2019 Michigan Crossroads Hamfest & Radio Swap

Location: Kalamazoo, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Southern Michigan

Amateur Radio Society

[www.w8df.com/index.php?](http://www.w8df.com/index.php?content=hamfest)

[content=hamfest](http://www.w8df.com/index.php?content=hamfest)

03/17/2019

Hamfest and Computer Fair

Location: Perrysburg, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio

Association

www.tmrahamradio.org

06/01/2019

FCARC Summer Swap

Location: Wauseon, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur

Radio Club

k8bxq.org/hamfest

06/16/2019

Monroe Hamfest

Location: Monroe, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Monroe County radio

Comm Assoc

mcrca.org

09/15/2019

Adrian Hamfest

Location: Adrian, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Adrian Amateur Radio Club

w8tqe.com

10/19/2019

Muskegon Color Tour Hamfest

Location: Muskegon, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Muskegon County

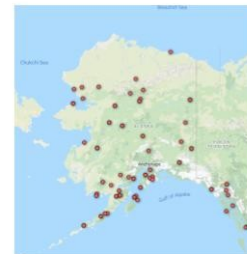
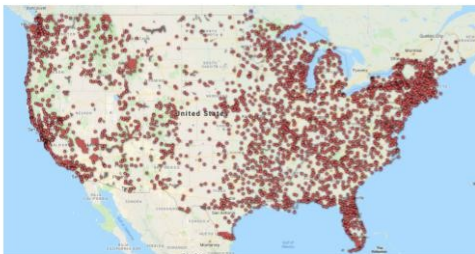
Emergency Communication

Services, Inc.

[mcecs.net/Download/](http://mcecs.net/Download/HamfestFlyer2019a.pdf)

[HamfestFlyer2019a.pdf](http://mcecs.net/Download/HamfestFlyer2019a.pdf)

Find these reference maps and more at parksontheair.com



Why would you enjoy portable activation?

- Typically a lower noise floor and very often beautiful views and opportunities for wildlife watching.
- Every activation has different challenges: terrain, space constraints, weather, accessibility.
- It's an opportunity to perfect your portable radio kit, always evolving it to suit your operating style.
- It makes you a better operator and keeps your skills sharp.
- You will make friends all over the world



And Hearing

"Thanks for the new one!"

"Thanks for activating!"

"Thanks for the park to park!"

"Have fun out there!"

You become the DX!

Activate from a picnic table



Thom W8TAM
K-3314
Ionia Rec Area
Michigan

There's a heck of a lot more in this presentation, including how and where to activate, how to chase activators, and the awards for both activators and chasers. Having accompanied Thom on a couple of activations, I can attest to the fun you'll have by getting involved in POTA. Check it out.

Article courtesy of www.kb6nu.com/presentation-promotes-pota-potentials

Meeting Minutes 02/05/2019

Called to Order: 5:36 PM

Officers Present: Kyle W8KBD Tom WR8G Jan W8JKG John W8JRD Smokey N5MKY

Others Present: Jay N8ARR

Topics:

- Smokey N5MKY will submit forms to Fort Custer for MSPOTA and Field Day
- Club insurance has been renewed
- New ham Mark Lyons said the VE session went very smoothly
- Club received a FYI about a possible scammer in the Jackson area.
- Jay N8ARR suggested a good will donation to Fort Custer.
- Tom WR8G will discuss with Wings about a change in the electric supply, going light duty instead of heavy duty.
- Steve W8AAK's equipment to be listed on the club sale page or sold at the Hamfest

Adjourned: 6:06 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

John Davidson W8JRD
SMARS Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes 01/17/2019

Called to Order: 7:10 PM

Officers Present: Kyle W8KDB Tom WR8G Jan W8JKG John W8JRD Smokey N5MKY

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions

Greetings to new members

Secretary's Report as published in Feedback:

Motion Jay N8ARR Second Rick W8RCF Approved

Treasurer's Report as distributed at the meeting:

Motion Jay N8ARR Second Tom WR8G Approved

Committee Reports:

- Hamfest: Now listed in QST and CQ. A press release has been sent to local media. Smokey continues on the social media barrage.
- ARES/RACES: Winter Field Day is January 26-27, 2019 at Uncle Larry's. RACES cards are due in 1 to 2 months. RACES connect is now functional. An ARES/RACES event will be held in April at the Kalamazoo Fairgrounds. Oaklawn now has a radio, but no antenna. 5th District is looking for a site to install (didn't catch).
- Field Day: Next year to be high power. Food again from OT's.
- MSPOTA: We will attempt another session, maybe on April 20 with the Michigan QSO party
- VE Testing: December session had 10 candidates, all successful.
- Technical Engineer: Repeater had low output, power amplifiers replaced.
- DStar: Gateway successfully reset.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

- W8AAK Steve Bellson's gear up for sale. Terry N8LN has pictures.
- Smokey N5MKY has a program lined up for April. More programs needed.

Adjourned: 8:02 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

John Davidson W8JRD
SMARS 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/Igate, 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: Feb 21st @ 7:00pm BLB Luncheon: Mar 7th @ 11:30am Board Meeting: Mar 5th @ 5:30pm Club Breakfast: Mar 9th @ 8:30am VE Session: Feb 28th @ 7:00pm Hamfest: Mar 16th @ 6:00am</p> <p>HIAD: Mar 9th @ 9:00am Spotter Training: Mar 2nd @ 10:00am</p>
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