



FEEDBACK

October 2021

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 Worthington, KE8GDN
tomcworth@aol.com

Secretary
Stephanie Halbert, W8AEZ
w8aez@arrl.net

Treasurer
Ivan Rhodes, W8IDR
idrhodes@aol.com

Member At Large
Glenn "Smokey" McCray, N5MKY
n5mky@arrl.net

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Club News

Membership Renewals

Membership fees can be sent to the club's PO Box (check preferred and made out to Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society), or you can reach out to Ivan W8IDR to arrange paying the membership fee. With in person meetings coming back this month (and continuing until the end of the year), memberships renewals (which should already be taken care of) can be done at a club meeting. Below is the Clubs PO Box if you wish to mail it in:

SMARS
P.O. Box 934
Battle Creek, MI 49016

The membership fee is still \$15.00 and cards will be mailed out after fee has been received. Donations to the club can also be sent to the same address.

Small Hamfest

Many people have suggested having a small Hamfest in a parking lot or something like that. The board is behind this idea, but we need someone to step forward to plan the event, present it to the board, and run the event. Some of the requirements of the board are that where ever it is planned to have the event, we need permission to be there. The event also needs to follow CDC and State guide lines for gatherings outside.

If you are interested in setting up the small Hamfest for W8DF, please contact a member of the board. We are planning to resume our normal Hamfest in 2022 and will need someone to be the chair person for that.

Future Club Meeting/Board Voting

We are doing in person meetings until the end of the year (assuming no other restrictions happen). Please keep in mind that in October (this month) we will be voting for the board members. At this point, all positions are open and will need to be filled for us to continue existing as a club. I will keep posting this reminder (as well as the Membership Renewals) each month until the October Club Meeting.

Membership Changes Purposed

It was brought up during the board meeting about adding in a multi year membership and even a life membership. Given that this will be a change to membership cost, it is being posted in the Feedback and will be discussed at the General meeting to be voted on. What we are

Upcoming Radio Contests

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

School Club Roundup

Bands: Authorized Bands except 60, 30, 17, and 12 Meters
Mode: Phone, CW
Date: 10/18 – 10/22
URL: www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup

10 GHz and Up

Bands: Authorized Frequencies 2.3 GHz and Up
Mode: Phone, Digital, CW
Date: 10/23 – 10/24
URL: www.arrl.org/eme-contest

ARRL November Sweepstakes – CW

Bands: 16, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters
Mode: CW
Date: 11/6 – 11/8
URL: www.arrl.org/sweepstakes

ARRL November Sweepstakes – Phone

Bands: 16, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters
Mode: Phone
Date: 11/20 – 11/22
URL: www.arrl.org/sweepstakes

EME Contest

Bands: All Authorized Bands Above 6 Meters
Mode: CW, Phone, Digital
Date: 11/20 – 11/21
URL: www.arrl.org/sweepstakes

**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>*

looking at is \$125 for 10-year membership, \$250 for a 20-year membership, or \$300 for a life membership. Once again, these will be voted on (at an in person meeting) and take effect at the start of the new year (when it is time for membership renewal).

Other News

Author, QRP Enthusiast Rich Arland, K7SZ, SK

Richard H. "Rich" Arland, K7SZ, of Dacula, Georgia, died on October 7. An ARRL member, he was 75. In addition to other books, Arland was the author of Low-Power Communication and other ARRL publications, and he was an avid QRP enthusiast and experimenter. Arland had been a radio amateur since 1963. He volunteered in the ARRL Field Organization as a Technical Advisor and as an Official Emergency Station since 1990.

From 2000 until 2003, Arland contributed the "QRP Power" column for QST. He has written for several other radio publications, including CQ, Popular Communications, Worldradio, and Monitoring Times.

He entered amateur radio as a broadcast band and short-wave listener. A US Air Force veteran, Arland worked for 20 years in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. He and his wife Patricia, KB3MCT, relocated to Georgia in 2008.

In addition to QRP, Arland had an abiding interest in vintage "boat anchor" gear and had been restoring a Drake 2B and a Heathkit HR-10 receiver. He had planned to install a Hallicrafters SR-160 transceiver and matching power supply/speaker as his primary HF SSB radio.

Arland also was a collector and restorer of military communications radio equipment. His collection included a TRC-77A special ops HF radio and four ARC-5 "Command Set" receivers, complete with dynamotors. He procured an AN/GRC-109 CIA/Special Forces portable HF "spy radio" used extensively in Vietnam for back-up for communication. He held an FCC General Radiotelephone Operator's License (GROL).

Arland also enjoyed experimenting with antennas, building and using QRP gear, SWLing, and CW operating.

Article courtesy of <http://www.arrl.org/news/author-qrp-enthusiast-rich-arland-k7sz-sk>

The Premiere of NIGHT, the Movie

During the Edmond (Oklahoma) Amateur Radio Society's ARRL Field Day 2021, Marcus Sutliff, N5ZY, spoke with visitors from John D'Aquino's Young Actors Workshop ([YAW](#)) and learned of their plans to make a short film in which amateur radio plays a role, and they needed some help. The filming was to take place in Stillwater, Oklahoma, and they needed someone with film or video experience and someone who could serve as a technical advisor. Kevin O'Dell, N0IRW — a member of the ARRL Public Relations Committee — became involved in the project, and in short order, he was able to assemble radios and props, consult on the script, and get ready for a

Upcoming Hamfests & Conventions

11/13/2021 - 11/14/2021

Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo, ARRL Central Division Convention

Location: Fort Wayne, IN

Type: Hamfest

Sponsor: Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

URL:

<http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>

12/04/2021

FCARC WinterFest

Location: Delta, OH

Type: Hamfest

Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club

URL: <http://k8bxq.org/hamfest>

long day of filming.

The film's purpose is to give aspiring young actors a chance to hone their craft in a real movie environment. Thanks to the [Oklahoma Film and Music Office](#), they were able to shoot three movie shorts in Oklahoma. In the Camp Hollywood 2021 film NIGHT, the young actors mature as the movie progresses.

The story begins on a day when the sun mysteriously has failed to rise. One character mentions firing up grandpa's ham radio. His younger brother reminds him that he once called ham radio "the dinosaur's internet," but now it could be one source of help or information. The actual internet is down, along with power, telephones, and apparently satellites. All the adults are conveniently absent. The ending will leave you hoping for NIGHT 2. The movie premiered recently and is [now available](#) on YouTube as a 34-minute short.

O'Dell stars as the ham radio voice of Colonel. He and Sutliff appear in the credits, so stay through the end.

O'Dell got a shout-out from ARRL Oklahoma Section Manager Mark Kleine, N5HZR. "Thanks, Kevin, for putting a great light on amateur radio," he said.

Article courtesy of <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-premiere-of-night-the-movie>

Meeting Minutes 09/16/2021

Meeting was held in the Fellowship Hall of Maple United Methodist Church and was called to order at 7:02 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance
Introductions

Officers present: President Kyle W8KDB, W8IDR Ivan, Member-at-Large Smokey N5MKY, Vice President Tom KE8GDN, Secretary Stephanie W8AEZ

Others in attendance: WA8VRA Arnie, N8ARR Jay, John W8JRD, W8RVT Don, W8RDX Dave, N8RCF Rick, KE8JZU Harold.

Secretary's Report: Motion was made to accept the Secretary's Report as published in the Feedback. Motion was seconded by Arnie. The motion was accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Per Treasurer Ivan the month's starting balance was \$1290.11. Bills paid include: Maple United Methodist Church (use of the Fellowship Hall for club meetings in Sept., Nov., Dec) and AT&T. A motion was made by Jay to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented by Ivan and seconded by John. Motion was accepted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Hamfest – Several clubs are holding Hamfests this fall, including Okemos, Cadillac, Muskegon, and Kalamazoo. A Hamfest Chairperson for our Crossroads Hamfest in March 2022 is still needed. Interested persons are asked to email Kyle at w8kdb@arrl.net.
- SKYWARN – Per Smokey, there were no regular nets the last two weeks due to storm nets. Topics of discussion for next Tuesday's meeting include the October 8th Simulated Emergency Test (SET) and continuing issues with the Pennfield Repeater. Like for the previous SET, VHF frequencies will be used for the October 8th SET.
- A Ham-in-a-Day (HIAD) session is scheduled for September 25, 2021. The cost to attend the session is \$15.00. Details including the location of the exam can be found at the WX8BTL Skywarn Facebook page or Eventbrite.com.
- Field Day – Field Day 2021 results will be posted in the December issue of QST magazine.
- VE session – There were a total of five examinees at the August 26th VE session, two of which earned their Technician license and the remaining three earned their General license.
- Repeaters – Don W8RVT had nothing to report at this time. He requested that the Feedback newsletter add a notice that the 2m repeater is linked to Echolink. The club and Don are still seeking someone to assist with the maintenance of the club repeaters. If you are interested and able to help, please contact Kyle at w8kdb@arrl.net or Don at w8rvt@arrl.net.

Kyle was contacted by Glenn Gould KA8DUX, a HAM in the Grand Rapids area, wanting information about adding an antenna to the tower currently home to SMARS's 220/440 MHz antennas. Glenn inquired as to whether SMARS might be interested in linking our 220 MHz repeater to their AllStar Link system.

OLD BUSINESS

- This year's SMARS Club Membership Christmas Party will be held at Gregg's Coney Island Cafe & Grill on Saturday, December 11th from 5:30-7:30 PM. Attendees can order off the restaurant's regular menu and they will also be responsible for settling their own bills.
- Board Elections will be held at the October 21st club membership meeting in the fellowship hall of Maple United Methodist Church. Nominations are needed for the positions of President, Vice President and Treasurer as the current officers in those positions are not running for re-election. Smokey N5MKY requested descriptions of the Club Officers' duties be posted in the next edition of the Feedback.
- The proposed change to the membership dues will be presented to the club membership at the October meeting for discussion prior to a vote. Per the proposal, a 10-year membership would be available for \$125, a 20-year membership for \$250, and a lifetime membership for \$300.

NEW BUSINESS

- Tom KE8GDN asked if there was any interest for a fox hunt on October 16th. Possible locations: Ft. Custer Recreation Area, Bailey Park, Leila Arboretum, Bridge Park, City Park (off Riverside Drive). He also spoke to Terry N8LN about doing a presentation on DStar at a future club meeting.
- Jay N8ARR has donated LCD monitors for use in the radio trailers. Pickup of the items will be coordinated with him. A suggestion was made to check with Rich's Trailer Repair in Kalamazoo on the price for rubber roofing membrane for the trailers.
- John W8JRD received a message from a person in the Harper Creek area. She is looking for a HAM to assist with examining some estate equipment to determine its worth so it can be priced for sale.

A motion to adjourn was made by W8JRD, seconded by N8ARR Jay. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Halbert W8AEZ
SMARS Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes 10/05/2021

The meeting was called to order at 5:42 PM.

Officers present: Kyle W8KDB, Tom W. KE8GDN, Smokey N5MKY, Stephanie W8AEZ

Topics of Discussion

- Club Officer Elections – will be held at the October 21st meeting. Responding to a request from a club member, a description of the duties performed in the following roles will be published in the October edition of the Feedback:
 - President – leads club meetings, holds one key to the club’s PO Box, collects the mail and forwards it to the intended recipient. The President is also listed on the club’s bank account
 - Vice-President – lead club meetings in the absence of the club President.
 - Treasurer – holds the second key to the club’s PO Box, is listed on the club’s bank account, maintains the club’s financial records, creates monthly reports of club income and expenses, collects dues payments from and issues membership cards to club members, maintains the database of the club’s list of current members and their contact information.
 - Secretary – records and reports the minutes of the Board and Membership meetings, records the roll call of club members and non-member attendees of these meetings.
 - Feedback Editor – collects news items, upcoming events, and minutes of club meetings for inclusion in the monthly club newsletter, distributes the newsletter to members via email and the w8df.com web page.

Note: Detailed descriptions for each Club officer can be found on page 2 of the [Club Constitution](#) under “Article III-Duties of Officers and Club Appointed Board Members.”

- Club Repeaters – Don W8RVT, Tom KE8GDN, and Dan WB8KC went to the repeater site on 10/05/21 to perform maintenance on the 2m receiver. Dan has climbing gear and is willing to climb the tower to straighten one of the antennas. Tom said there appeared to be a fire suppression system and HVAC/cooling system installed in the shack housing the repeater.
- Club Trailers – Tom KE8GDN has moved all three trailers to allow easy access. He will do the spray cleaning of the roofs and apply sealant to stop the leaks in all three. He also reported that Terry N8LN will give a presentation on DStar at the November 18th club meeting.
- Hamfest – Kyle has received the contract from Wings Stadium.
- Club Membership Dues – The proposal of adding multiple-year memberships (i.e. 10-year, 20-year, and lifetime) that was presented at the September 16th meeting of club members will be put to a vote at the October 21st meeting at Maple United Methodist Church.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:23 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Halbert W8AEZ
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 186.2 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: October 21st @ 7:00pm BLB Luncheon: November 4th @ 11:30am Board Meeting: November 2nd @ 5:30pm Club Breakfast: November 13th @ 8:30am VE Session: October 28th @ 7:00pm</p> <p>We will be resuming in person meetings this month at the Church. If you do not feel well, we ask that you stay option. Masks are optional.</p>
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