



FEEDBACK

June 2023

Do you have a story, humorous or otherwise, about amateur radio? If so, please contact the newsletter editor (kbrown.w8kdb@gmail.com) 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

Paul Crisher, KE8MOI
paulcrisher@gmail.com

Vice President

Zach Mann, W8MAN
zmann648@gmail.com

Secretary

Stephanie Halbert, W8AEZ
w8aez@arrl.net

Treasurer

Michael Russell, KQ8N
kq8n@arrl.net

Member at Large

Melanie Lake, KE8TPQ
mel1853@hotmail.com

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Lead article..... | 1 |
| Supplemental article..... | 1 |
| Upcoming Radio Contests..... | 2 |
| Upcoming Hamfests & Conventions..... | 3 |
| Meeting Minutes..... | 4 |
| Board Meeting Minutes..... | 5 |
| Club Repeaters..... | 6 |
| Nets & Upcoming Events..... | 6 |

Club News **Field Day**

As a reminder to everyone, Field Day is coming up. Field Day this year is on June 24th thru 25th at 2 PM, we will be setting up on June 23rd around 3 PM although we will not be out at Fort Custer like last year. Due to issues beyond our control, we are unable to use Fort Custer for Field Day. It remains to be seen if we will be back there in the future, but for now we need to focus on this year's Field Day. We do have some good news, we will still have Field Day as W8DF. Instead of Fort Custer, we will be setting up at the Calhoun County Fairgrounds in Marshall. Members of the board and Club Members have already visited the location to verify it would work and signed the necessary paper work. We will have access to restrooms on site and camping is allowed if people wish to operate all night (I already know of one person who plans to operate all night).

The location is the only thing that is changing, we will still be operating 4 transmitters at full power with all 3 trailers. Dinner on Saturday will still happen as well. We do not have picnic tables this time, so we recommend everyone bring their own chair. You are welcome to bring out a folding table to help put food and stuff on, as well as canopies for shade and weather.

We are excited to try out the new location and look forward to seeing everyone there. Below is the address to help find the location. More information will be discussed at the meeting this month.

Calhoun County Fairgrounds
720 Fair St, Marshall, MI 49068

Other News

Moon Mission: Artemis 2 Astronauts May Connect With Youngsters On Earth Via Radio

In late 2024, the Artemis 2 mission will send a crew of astronauts around the moon, and most of them happen to be certified amateur radio (ham radio) operators. This fact has excited the amateur radio community, as they anticipate the possibility of the astronauts making a call back to Earth from deep space. Phil A. McBride, the president of Radio Amateurs of Canada, stated in a recent interview with Space.com that it is important for young people to have the opportunity to speak with astronauts and be inspired. After 40 years of communication with low Earth orbit, the hope now is that Ham radio will extend its reach to the moon.

Upcoming Radio Contests

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

Kids Day

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 17, 15, 12, and 10 Meters

Mode: Phone

Date: 06/17

URL: www.arrl.org/kids-day

Field Day

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters, as well as 50 MHz and above

Mode: Phone, CW, Digital, SSB

Date: 06/24 – 06/25

URL: www.arrl.org/field-day

IARU HF World Championship

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters

Mode: Phone, CW, Digital, SSB

Date: 07/08 – 07/09

URL: www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-world-championship

222 MHz and Up Distance Contest

Bands: 222 MHz thru 241 GHz

Mode: Phone, CW, Digital, SSB

Date: 08/05 – 08/06

URL: www.arrl.org/222-mhz-and-up-distance-contest

10 GHz & Up

Bands: 10 GHz thru Light

Mode: Phone, CW, Digital, SSB

Date: 08/19 – 08/20

URL: www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up

Rookie Roundup

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters

Mode: RTTY

Date: 08/20

URL: www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup

EME Contest

Bands: 2.3 GHz & Up

Mode: Phone, CW, Digital

Date: 08/12 – 08/13

URL: www.arrl.org/eme-contest

**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>*

NASA astronaut Owen Garriott (W5LFL) made history on Dec. 1, 1983, when he became the first person to call an amateur radio operator on Earth from space. Using a ham radio, Garriott spoke with Lance Collister (WA1JXN) in Frenchtown, Montana, marking the beginning of a new era in space communications. The use of ham radio continued with the Russian space station Mir during the shuttle-Mir program, according to NASA.

Ham radio is used to let students speak with astronauts

Today, Ham operators communicate with astronauts through Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS), which allows students to talk directly with space flyers. According to documentation from the group, the program's primary aim is to inspire young people to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. As of 2022, NASA reports that more than 100 crew members have connected with 250,000 participants on the ground via ARISS.

It remains uncertain whether the Artemis 2 mission will include ham radio equipment, as the final mission details have yet to be confirmed, according to Chief Astronaut Joe Acaba and two crew members (NASA's Reid Wiseman and the Canadian Space Agency's Jeremy Hansen) who were interviewed by Space.com last month. In order to make ham radio communication possible during the mission, the crew would need to have access to adequate power and storage space for the equipment, as well as some free time to operate the radios during the 10-day mission.

Article courtesy of <https://www.republicworld.com/science/space/moon-mission-artemis-2-astronauts-may-connect-with-youngsters-on-earth-via-radio-articleshow.html>

Licensee Hit With \$24,000 Fine for Jamming Net, Failure to ID: FCC

An investigation by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) results in a large fine against a California amateur radio license holder. A Notice of Apparent Liability Forfeiture (NALF) for \$24,000 has been filed against Phillip J. Beudet, N6PJB, of Burney, California. According to the filing, the penalty is for Beudet “willfully and repeatedly interfering with the radio communications of the Western Amateur Radio Friendship Association (WARFA) while it was attempting to hold a regularly scheduled net and for failing to provide station identification on amateur radio frequencies.” FCC agents used direction finding techniques during November and December of 2022 to track the interfering signals to Beudet’s home station. Agents “heard him playing recordings on 3.908 MHz that caused interference to the ongoing WARFA net while failing to provide his assigned amateur call sign,” the document stated.

Article courtesy of <http://www.arrl.org/news/licensee-hit-with-24-000-fine-for-jamming-net-failure-to-id-fcc>

Upcoming Hamfests & Conventions

06/17/2023

Midland Amateur Radio Club
Hamfest

Location: Midland, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Midland Amateur Radio Club

URL: <http://www.w8kea.org>

06/18/2023

Monroe Hamfest Electronics Expo

Location: Monroe, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Monroe Hamfest

URL: <http://mcrca.org>

07/29/2023

Auburn Hamfest

Location: Auburn, IN

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Association

08/02/2023

Elkhart East Hamfest

Location: Elkhart, IN

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Northern Indiana K9DEW Repeater Network

URL: <http://elkharteasthamfest.com>

Get your thinking caps on: NCDXF to offer \$100k for solutions to deliberate QRM

If you tried to work the [Bouvet Island DXpedition](#), you heard some nasty deliberate interference (DQRM). Well, the [Northern California DX Foundation](#) has had enough. They're going to be issuing a request for proposals (RFP) to address this problem. [Their website](#) reads:

DQRM RFP Project

The Northern California DX Foundation recognizes the negative aspect deliberate QRMers are having on our hobby. **We believe this is a problem that can be mitigated by applying amateur operators' vast knowledge and receiving tools to good use.** In order to spur research into solving the problem the NCDXF Board of Director's at their latest Board meeting allocated \$100,000 to help develop solutions.

NCDXF will entertain grant proposals from individuals and/or groups that specifically outline their approach to identify bad actors. A group of directors led by Craig Thompson (K9CT) and Don Greenbaum (N1DG) will weigh the probability of success of these proposals as well as monitor the progress of the grantees.

Funding is available for R & D as well as implementation of the technology. It is hoped that manufacturers will also assist us with equipment and resources.

NCDXF will shortly outline specifics for how to apply for these grants.

So, get your thinking caps on. This is serious money to address a serious (to the NCDXF, anyway) problem.

Article courtesy of <https://www.kb6nu.com/get-your-thinking-caps-on-ncdxf-to-offer-100k-for-solutions-to-deliberate-qrm/>

Meeting Minutes 5/18/2023

Meeting called to order @ 7:00 PM

Officers Present: Paul KE8MOI, Zach W8MAN, Melanie KE8TPQ, Stephanie W8AEZ.

Others Present: Dan WB8KC, Dan N8EC, Don W8RVT, Kelly KE8MWQ, Kyle W8KDB, Willie AB8WD, Tom KE8GDN, Jon N5IPT, Jim KC2JJQ, Ben N5AMD, Kevin KE8UUJ, Harold KE8GZU, Don KB9IAR, Larry KE8TVO.

Secretary's report: Motion made to accept the report as printed in the Feedback. Motion was passed.

Treasurer's report: Mike KQ8N was out of town for Xenia Hamfest. He passed the report info to W8AEZ who presented it to the meeting attendees. Motion was made to accept the report, motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Hamfest – Kalamazoo club is continuing their preparations for their Hamfest in October. Kyle W8KDB asked if we should be looking at a possible alternate location as the Wings Annex doesn't have our regular Saturday available in 2024.
- Skywarn – Bret KD8RHB and Smokey N5MKY were not present for tonight's meeting. Bret relayed his thanks for all who assisted with the May warning siren test.
- Field Day 2023 – Setup will be on Friday, June 23rd. Event runs from June 24-25th (Saturday-Sunday). Paul KE8MOI has ARRL Field Day 2023 collector pins for sale for \$10 apiece, proceeds to go to the club. Zach W8MAN has submitted the club's Mercer insurance policy coverage information to Ft. Custer twice. He is still waiting for the park's approval. Willie AB8WD suggested that the club has RF exposure forms available for inspection at the Field Day site. One person will be in charge of setup (Kyle, W8KDB). John W8JRD's prior years of setup experience has also been helpful. Tom KE8GDN has delivered all 3 Kenwood TS-440's to Don W8RVT to tune up prior to Field Day. Tom asked if there was any interest in holding a Foxhunt at Field Day. Melanie KE8TPQ stated she enjoyed the foxhound at Leila Arboretum. Suggestion was made to bring an antenna tuner to check the element lengths on the beams. Trailers will be hauled out to Ft. Custer around 3 PM.

Kyle reminded that a key is needed to enter and exit after the park gates close in the evening. Paul KE8MOI sent something to Mark Behnke about Field Day but he has not yet heard back from him. He also send word out to the Battle Creek Enquirer and Shopper. Don W8RVT mentioned pulling the ARRL Bulletin. Zach said if setup is completed early enough on Friday, we could do a POTA activation also.

- VE Session – Kyle W8KDB reported we had four examinees at the last session; two passed, two did not. One of the examinees was going for their general. Paul and Kelly KE8MWQ got the opportunity to work their first VE Session. Next VE Session is in June.
- Repeaters – Don W8RVT was up at the site with Ben last month. Echolink was now working on the 2m repeater.

OLD BUSINESS:

- POTA – Zach W8MAN reported the May 6th activation yielded 86 contacts, including Poland and the Battleship New Jersey. He went out last week Saturday with Dan WB8KC for another POTA, weather was rainy, only made 9 contacts. Per Zach, it doesn't appear that 3 operators are needed per the instructions, 2 operators should be sufficient. He plans to activate tomorrow (May 19th) at the Whitford Lake site in Ft. Custer. On Saturday, Dan WB8KC and John W8JRD will be at the same location to activate a POTA with the club's callsign. Send logs to W8DFPOTA@gmail.com
- Dx Competition – Zach W8MAN reported there was one entry for this month: Ben, N8AMD had a QSO with an Australian station via Winlink on 10 meters. Paul mentioned that Larry KE8TOV made a contact with Trinidad via DStar. (Congratulations, Larry!)

NEW BUSINESS:

- No no business.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Halbert W8AEZ
SMARS Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes 06/02/2023

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM

Attendees: Paul KE8MOI, Melanie KE8TPQ, Zach W8MAN, Stephanie W8AEZ.

Mike KQ8N dropped off the Treasurer's Report for review by the board.

Topics of Discussion:

- Field Day – The State of Michigan DNR notified Zach that one portion of our Mercer insurance rider was unacceptable to them. They asked that the portion in question be changed to include coverage for all Ft. Custer employees during Field Day. Zach followed up with Jeff at Mercer to see if the rider could be changed and Mercer stated they cannot change the rider. Zach stated that he made several attempts to negotiate a waiver with the DNR in Lansing with no success. Consequently, the club will need to find another location for this year's Field Day. Zach said the problem isn't with Ft. Custer, it's with the DNR. One last thing could be to do a three-way call with Jennifer at the DNR and Mercer, but he didn't think it would make a difference. Several other possible locations were discussed, including Leila Arboretum, the Calhoun County Fairgrounds and Wilder Creek Conservation Club in Marshall. Paul stated that any location within the City of Battle Creek and Springfield would require the club to get a building permit. The ideal location would have bathroom access.
- POTA – Zach reported there have been more than 130 contacts since the event began. Dan WB9CK has been out there for several activations. Zach has processed the W8DF logs thus far. Paul suggested that we keep club trustee Terry, N8LN, informed of the activation of the W8DF club call sign.

- Zach reported he's received a couple of submissions for the DX competition. Suggestion was made to include mention in the Feedback of the competition.

Meeting ended at 7:00 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, CTCSS 94.8 Hz

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.

All repeaters are available via EchoLink (70cm and 1.25m are W8DF-R; 2m is W8DF-L)

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> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <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: June 15th @ 7:00pm BLB Luncheon: July 6th @ 11:30am Board Meeting: July 7th @ 6:30pm Club Breakfast: July 8th @ 8:30am VE Session: June 22nd @ 7:00pm</p> <p>Field Day Setup: June 23rd @ 3:00pm Field Day: June 24th thru June 25th @ 2:00pm</p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|