



FEEDBACK

October 2015

Your Story:

Do you have a story, humorous or otherwise about amateur radio? If so, please contact the newsletter editor (ac8ps@arrl.net) and get it published in FEEDBACK.

If you would like to place a classified ad to sell or purchase amateur radio related items, please contact the editor.

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Start an amateur radio virtuous circle

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

On the ham_instructor Yahoo Group (<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/>) recently, we talked about the classes that we are going to be offering this fall. About his Tech class, Bob, K0NR, noted, "Currently have about 30 students signed up. We keep thinking we'll run out of interested people but they keep coming."

I've noticed the same thing here, too. I keep thinking that I am going to run out of people to teach, but I have no problem at all filling my classes. In fact, I'd go so far as to say that the more people that have taken my class, the more people there are that want to take it.

Of course, this makes perfect sense. If there are more people out there who have amateur radio licenses, there are more people out there talking about amateur radio, and actually doing amateur radio. And, the more people out there talking about and doing amateur radio, the more likely it is that other people will become interested in amateur radio and get their licenses as well.

It's an amateur radio "virtuous circle."

What does this tell you? Well, if you're in a place where amateur radio seems to be dying out, or belong to a club that is slowly fading away, start a class! I think every club should hold classes at least once a year, even if that first class has only one or two students. Those first few students are the start of your virtuous circle.

Don't know how to start a class? I can help you there. Start by reading my blog post, "Teaching a one-day class" (<http://www.kb6nu.com/>)

You might also want to join the ham_instructor mailing list I mentioned earlier. It's a relatively low-volume list, but the subscribers have a lot of experience that you can tap into.

Also, get a copy of my free Tech study guide (<http://www.kb6nu.com/study->). Not to brag (well, OK I am bragging), but it I really think that it's the best study guide for a one-day class. The study guide presents the topics in exactly the same order as I cover them in class. Read through it and you'll see what I mean.

If you need more help, or even just some encouragement, e-mail me, and I'll do what I can to help you. Seriously.

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When not teaching ham classes or publishing amateur radio study guides, Dan, KB6NU, operates CW on the HF bands (mostly 40m and 30m). His #1-rated amateur radio blog can be found at KB6NU.Com, and you can e-mail questions, comments, or complaints to cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

SMARS Meeting Minutes 09/17/15

Meeting called to order at 19:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions

Officers present – Gary N8QC, Steph W8AEZ, Brian W8BDM, John W8JRD, Tom WR8G

19 members in attendance

Secretary’s report accepted as published in the "Feedback"

Treasurer’s report was circulated and accepted

Committee reports:

· Hamfest 2015 – Brian (W8BDM) will get flyers and tickets printed by next Board Meeting.

· SKYWARN – Check in when you can.

· VE sessions - Calhoun County Sheriff's Office (Sept 19th); HIAD SkyWarn Emmett (Sept 26th); Kalamazoo Hamfest (Oct 18th); SMARS (Oct 22nd); Barry County EOC HIAD (Nov 7th); City HIAD - Kendall Street (Nov 21st);

· Tech Committee - Don (W8RVT) brought old repeater antenna to the meeting and was sold to Brian (W8BDM).

Old Business:

· Motion to change the officer election from November to October - Approved. Nominations for previous officers made and accepted.

· Doc is back home !!!

New Business:

·Where should we have the Christmas Party? Clairs, China Buffett, and Coney Island were suggested.

· It was reported that top section of Louie's tower is down and plans are being made to get the rest of it down this week.

Presentation:

· None

Quote of the Meeting: “Put'm in the Bird Cage”

Closed: 19:46

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Marsh W8BDM, secretary

Treasurer's Report

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| | Income and Expense Statement | |
| | 9/1/2015 Through 9/30/2015 (Accrual Basis) | |
| 10/4/2015 | | Page 1 |
| | Category Description | 9/1/2015- 9/30/2015 |
| | EXPENSES | |
| | Equipment | |
| | Maintainance | 41.37 |
| | TOTAL Equipment | 41.37 |
| | Meetings | |
| | Refreshments | 27.73 |
| | Rent | 260.00 |
| | TOTAL Meetings | 287.73 |
| | Utilities | |
| | Internet | 30.00 |
| | TOTAL Utilities | 30.00 |
| | TOTAL EXPENSES | 359.10 |
| | OVERALL TOTAL | -359.10 |

S.M.A.R.S. W8DF Club Repeaters

- 2M Repeater 146.66MHz, -600KHz offset, CTCSS 94.8Hz
- 2M DStar 146.79MHz, -600KHz offset
- 70cm Repeater 443.59MHz, +5MHz offset, CTCSS 94.8Hz
- 1.25M Repeater 224.24MHz, -1.6MHz offset
- APRS Digipeater/Igate, 144.39MHz

70cm & 1.25 meter repeaters are linked, and also available via echolink.

Other Repeaters

- 2M Repeater 147.12MHz, +600KHz offset, CTCSS 186.2Hz
- 70cm Repeater 442.35MHz, +5MHz offset, CTCSS 94.8Hz

SOUTHERN MICHIGAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY FEEDBACK

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| <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 2nd Thursday of every month Coney Island, N.E. Capital Battle Creek, MI</p> | <p>SMARS Breakfast 2nd Saturday of every month Coney Island, N.E. Capital Battle Creek, MI</p> |
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| <p>SMARS Nets: Before Lunch Bunch Monday—Friday 11:30 AM, 146.66 Sunday Evening 8:00 PM, 146.66 Monday 7:00 PM, 147.12 (Skywarn) Monday 8:00 PM, 224.24 / 443.95 Wednesday 7:00 PM, 224.24 / 443.95 Wednesday 8:00 PM, 28.365 Saturday 8:00 PM, 224.24 / 443.95</p> <p>Please see page 3 for offsets and PL tones</p> | <p>Upcoming Events: Club Meeting: October 15th @ 7:00pm BLB Luncheon: October 8th @ 11:30am Siren Test: October 3rd @ 1:00pm Skywarn Coffee: Immediately after Siren Test SMARS Breakfast: October 10th @ 8:30am</p> |
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