

GMARC MEETING MINUTES 15-JAN-2013

v1.31

I. Call to Order by the President, Kurt WU8V at 7:09 PM

II. Introductions, Upgrades, and Visitors

There were no Visitors. (14) Members were in attendance.

III. Minutes

Minutes of the 18-Dec-2012 meeting were available on the web site and copies at the meeting. Motion to approve the December minutes by Tom KD8GZE and seconded by Ben WB9FJO. Motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report – Ed KC8SBV

GMARC Treasurer's Report

January 15, 2013

Last Statement Balance 18-Dec-2012	\$ 644.04
Coffee Fund	1.25
Donation W1BIC	20.00
Donation AC8AO	30.00
Membership Dues	40.00
Filing of Annual Non-Profit Org Report to State	-20.00
December Pizza Party	-96.11
Office Max Refund - Returned Secty Supplies	2.69
Office Max Purchase - Secty Supplies	-2.79
Donation to Trinity Lutheran Church	-200.00
RenCen Utilities for 6-months	-150.00
Bank Service Fees	<u>-0.90</u>

January Bank Balance -- **\$ 418.18**

Repeater Fund -0-
General Fund \$ 418.18

Motion to approve January Treasurer's Report by Scott W1BIC and seconded by Val N8OEF. Motion carried.

V. Membership Report - Bobby N8CY

We had **27** members who had paid their 2013 dues, prior to this meeting. 2 Members paid their 2013 dues at this meeting:

Wes KD8DHS Val N8OEF

We now have a total of **29** members who have paid 2013 dues.

VI. Inter-Club Liaison – Jim K8LFE

Upcoming Swaps: Hazel Park ARC 20-Jan-2013 8 AM Sunday
 Livonia ARC 17-Feb-2013 8 AM Sunday
 Milford ARC 20-Apr-2013 8 AM Saturday
Dayton HamVention: May 17-19, 2013
Field Day: June 22-23, 2013
Lansing ARC 27-Jul-2013 8 AM Sunday
Kalamazoo ARC 20-Oct-2012 8 AM Sunday

GMARC does have a table for the Hazel Park Swap (#94).

Macomb Community College: Open Electronics Lab - Every 3rd Saturday 12 Noon - 5 PM. Building #S-127, 12 Mile & Bunert Rd (between Schoenherr Rd & Hayes Rd). Use of School's electronic test equipment, and the HF/VHF/UHF station. John N8NXW is the coordinator.

USECA Winter Field Day: Jan 26-27, 2013 at Camp Ozanam in Port Sanilac, MI -- about 90 miles from Mt. Clemens. Details on USECA web site www.usecaarc.com.

USECA is raffling off an **Elecraft® KX3 transceiver** + Microphone + Antenna Tuner. Tickets are \$25 each, and ticket sales will be limited to 125. Drawing will be at the USECA Swap in October, 2013 (or **sooner** -- if all tickets are sold).

VII. Technical Committee Report – Ray W8PIE

EchoLink® crashed 3-times during the Monday Night InfoNet on 14-Jan-2013.

443.075 MHz Repeater is running **extremely** well.

145.210 MHz 2m Repeater is back on top of the Marriott Hotel at the RenCen. Ray W8PIE is getting **very close** to having the 2m Repeater operational at the RenCen.

VIII. Old Business: Proposed Change to GMARC By-Laws

Kurt W1BIC gave an overview of the Proposed By-Laws Change (DRAFT v1.5) -- the wording of which was approved at the 18-Dec-2012 meeting.

A total of (16) Absentee Ballot were submitted prior to this meeting. (6) Members present were eligible to vote. A total of (22) Ballot were counted by Tom KD8GZE and Wes KD8DHS, and the results were unanimous:

Affirmative	22
No	0

Ballot Proposal passed, and By-Laws v1.5 are now the "Official By-Laws" of GMARC.

IX. New Business: Press Release to Announce Heritage Membership v1.61

Scott W1BIC will send Press Release v1.61 to Rick WØPC tonight -- after the meeting. We will distribute the Press Release to a wider audience once the Former Firebirds are fully aware of it.

Someone from the Club will also announce the changes on the Firebirds GM-Net 1 PM on 40-meters 7.2775 MHz on Wednesday.

Scott W1BIC donated to the Club a **2m transceiver + LinkBoard optically isolated interface** to be used for a potential 2nd EchoLink® location. This equipment was originally owned by Ingo AC8AW and sold to Scott because he did not want to take it back to Germany.

Scott W1BIC presented to Ray W8PIE a **Commemorative Glass from the 1972 Grand Opening of the Renaissance Center**, in honor of the amount of time he spends at the RenCen Repeater Site.

X. New Business: GMARC 2013 Cash Flow Budget - Ed KC8SBV

Ed presented a proposed GMARC 2013 Budget which showed Fixed Expenses of \$942 and Variable Expense of \$625 for a total of \$1,567. It was noted that (79) dues paying members @ \$20/each would be required to support this level of expenditures. We currently have (29) members -- so there is a **severe shortfall**.

There is a pressing need to recruit New Members. Kurt WU8V noted that a proposal had been discussed by the Board of Directors to "mine a data source" to obtain Names and Addresses of Amateur Operators in our geographic area. Marty KB8JIU will head-up an initiative to determine data source, mine the data, convert it to mailing labels, design and print a postcard to invite potential new members, etc. Marty will assign these tasks to Members of the Club as appropriate.

Bob KA8VSI suggested that the Club look into using "*Pre-sorted Standard Mail*" to reduce our cost of mailing these postcards. Further investigation by Bobby N8CY revealed that a Regular First Class Postcard costs **32¢**, and "*Automation Presorted Standard Mail*" (SCF Entry) costs **22.3¢** -- a savings of **9.7¢**. Based on a quantity of (500) cards to be mailed, the postage savings = **\$48.50** by using "*Pre-sorted Standard Mail*"; i.e. **\$160.00** for First Class vs. **\$111.50** using "*Pre-sorted Standard Mail*". To achieve these savings, will require considerably more work in preparing the mailpieces, and:

- Minimum mailing of 200 pieces in each "batch"
- Address labels must contain "Destination Postnet Barcode"
- All addresses must be certified as deliverable using the USPS Coding Accuracy Support System (CASS)
- A CASS Certificate must be provided along with USPS Form 3602-R at the time of mailing

On the *positive* side, the mailpiece can be an "*oversize*" Postcard up to 6-1/8" x 11-1/2" -- minimum thickness is 0.007" (7-mil card stock) at the same **22.3¢** rate. An "*oversize*" Postcard sent via First Class Mail would cost **45¢**, and the potential savings would increase to **23.7¢** -- for a total savings of **\$118.50** based on a quantity of (500) cards to be mailed; i.e. **\$230.00** for First Class vs. **\$111.50** using "*Pre-sorted Standard Mail*". Obviously, the increase in savings to **\$111.50** makes the use of "*Pre-sorted Standard Mail*" *even more attractive*, if the mailpiece is an "*oversize*" Postcard.

Bobby N8CY was assigned to look into www.QRZ.com as a potential **source of the data** and report to Kurt WU8V a level of "*subscription*" in www.QRZ.com that may be appropriate to gain access to their database. Further investigation revealed that the cost to "*subscribe*" to **QRZ CD-ROM Database "QSL ListMaker" (8-months) for \$19.95**.

There was discussion about using the FCC Universal Licensing System [ULS] (<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls>) as the **data source**. There are 2-7 million records in this database, and only 700,000 are "HA" and "HV" records. Further investigation revealed that the number of "HA" and "HV" records for the State of Michigan is approximately 20,000. SE Michigan can be no more than 10,000, and in our geographic area - - no more than 3,000. This number includes both "**active**" and "**inactive**" Amateur Radio Operators. There is no way to differentiate between "**active**" and "**inactive**" Amateur Radio Operators based on the data included in the FCC Universal Licensing System [ULS]. Marty KB8JIU was assigned the task of investigating the potential to download the needed data from the FCC ULS Database.

The total cost to mail (500) mailpieces to prospective New Members in our geographic area is therefore:

Printing (500) pieces - Color on 2-sides 8.52" x 5.47"	\$169.90
1" x 4" Self Adhesive Laser Print Labels	33.91
Presorted STD Automation Postage @ 22.3¢	<u>111.91</u>

Total -- \$215.72

XI. New Business: Trunk Swap Dates

Kurt WU8V led a discussion about potential Trunk Swap Dates for 2013. It was agreed that 20-Jul-2013 (Saturday) will be one -- plus an additional date in September, 2013. It was agreed that we need to evaluate the potential of a location other than Trinity Lutheran Church parking lot.

XII. Attendance + Funds Collected

14 Members attended.

The following funds were collected and delivered to the Treasurer:

Membership Dues	\$ 40.00 - (2-regular)
Coffee Fund	<u>3.56</u>
Total --	\$ 43.46

Upcoming Events for GMARC:

Hazel Park ARC 47th Annual Hamfest	20-Jan-2013 8:00 AM Sunday
Livonia ARC 42nd Annual Swap & Shop	17-Feb-2013 8:00 AM Sunday
Next GMARC Membership Meeting	19-Feb-2013 7:00 PM Tuesday
Milford ARC Annual Swap & Shop	20-Apr-2013 8:00 AM Saturday
Dayton HamVention 2013	May 17-19, 2013 Fri, Sat, Sun
Field Day 2013	June 22-23, 2013
Lansing ARC Swap & Shop	27-Jul-2013 8:00 AM Sunday
Kalamazoo ARC Swap & Shop	20-Oct-2012 8:00 AM Sunday

XIII. Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobby Corr - N8CY
Secretary – GMARC

GMARC Treasurer's Report

February 18, 2013 (Pro-Forma)

Last Statement Balance 15-Jan-2013	\$ 418.18
Coffee Fund	3.56
Postage	-15.00
Hot Seal Laminator for GMARC Badges	-21.06
Labels for New Member Mail-out	-33.91
Membership Dues (Heritage)	30.00
Membership Dues (Regular)	<u>40.00</u>

February Bank Balance -- **\$ 421.77**

Repeater Fund	-0-
General Fund	\$ 421.77