

**GMARC MEETING MINUTES 19-MAR-2013**  
**v1.5**

**I. Call to Order** by the President, Kurt WU8V at 7:10 PM

**II. Introductions, Upgrades, and Visitors**

There were (5) Visitors -- Kay N9SHE, Bob N9QGU, John W8VMC, Dennis KC8QIC, and Dennis N8LD.

(14) Members were in attendance.

Upgrades: Jim K8LFE stated that he had been "*smoke free*" for 82-days. A round of applause!

**III. Minutes**

Minutes of the 19-Feb-2013 meeting were available on the web site and copies at the meeting. Motion to approve the February minutes by Ray W8PIE and seconded by Linda KD8SAI. Motion carried.

**IV. Treasurer's Report – Bobby N8CY**

**GMARC Treasurer's Report**

March 19, 2013

Last Statement Balance 19-Feb-2013	\$ 455.68
Coffee Fund	1.25
Adjustment to Hot Seal Laminator	-.02 (Correct Amount was -\$21.08)
QRZ.com LLC - Access to QRZ Database	-19.95 pd
Labels for New Member Mailpiece	-34.75 pd
POS Bank Fees	-0.60 pd
Membership Dues (Regular)	80.00 pd
Membership Dues (Heritage)	20.00 pd
Scott W1BIC Donation New Member Mailpiece	40.00 pd
Bobby N8CY Donation New Member Mailpiece	38.00 pd
Kurt WU8V Donation New Member Mailpiece	120.00 pd
Postage for (496) New Member Mailpieces	-111.42 pd
www.VistaPrint.com - Printing Mailpiece	-176.87 pd
Bobby N8CY Donation 501(c)(3) Appl Fund	50.00 pd
Marty KB8JIU Donation New Member Mailpiece	40.00 pd
Ray W8PIE Donation New Member Mailpiece	30.00 pd
Rich KC8HMJ Donation New Member Mailpiece	30.00 pd
Ben WB9FJO Donation New Member Mailpiece	<u>36.00 pd</u>

March Bank Balance -- **\$ 597.32**

Repeater Fund	-0-
New Member Mailpiece Fund	
(+334.00 -323.04)	10.96
501(c)(3) Fund	50.00
General Fund	<b>\$ 536.36</b>

Motion to approve March Treasurer's Report by Tony W8OKX and seconded by Marty KB8JIU. Motion carried.

## V. Membership Report - Bobby N8CY

We had **33** regular members who had paid their 2013 dues, prior to this meeting. The following is a new member who paid his dues at this meeting:

Dennis KC8QIC

We now have a total of **34** regular members who have paid 2013 dues. We currently have **14** Heritage members, of which (3) have paid dues of \$10.00 each.

## VI. Inter-Club Liaison - Jim K8LFE

### Meeting Schedule:

L'Anse Creuse ARC	1st Wednesday @ 7:30 PM
USECA	2nd Monday @ 7:00 PM (Food Prior @ 6:00 PM)
Hazel Park ARC	2nd Wednesday @ 7:00 PM
General Motors ARC	3rd Tuesday @ 7:00 PM

### Upcoming SWAPS:

Lowell (Near Grand Rapids)	30-Mar-2013
Milford ARC	20-Apr-2013
Cadillac ARC	04-May-2013
Dayton HAMvention	May 17-19, 2013
Hudsonville (SW of GR)	01-Jun-2013
Chelsea ARC	02-Jun-2013
Monroe ARC	16-Jun-2013
GMARC Trunk Swap	20-Jul-2013
Lansing ARC	27-Jul-2013
GMARC Trunk Swap	21-Sep-2013 * Raffle Drawing for Yaesu FT-7900 Dual Band Mobile + \$50 Belle Tire Gift Certificate

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). Less than (45) tickets remain to be sold.

Macomb County SKYWARN Siren Test Crew -- First Saturday of every month at 1:00 PM needs additional participants.

**SKYWARN Macomb County Classes - 3-Apr-2013 @ 6:30 PM. 16-Apr-2013 @ 6:30 PM, and 20-Apr-2013 @ 9:30 PM. MISD Building, 440 Garfield Rd, Clinton Twp, MI Room #100B. Must register by calling 586.469.6392.**

Jon KE8CU from HPARC is starting a CW refresher class. This is for HAMs who are rusty with CW and want to get back up-to-speed. Contact Jim K8LFE. Class will most likely be in March or April.

Mutual Aid of Macomb County - Exercise is Saturday 27-Apr-2013 - Contact KC8BDK@arrl.net.

ARRL Michigan Section 15th Annual Summer Family Outing will be at Woodland Conference Center and Campground in Hale, MI this year. 20-miles from Tanger Outlet Mall in West Branch, MI. Dates are: **July 11-14, 2103**. This year's theme is: **COWBOYS**. Dress in your best Western Gear, and decorate your campsite/car with Old West themed items. Prizes will be given for best dressed couple or individual, best decorated campsite, and best decorated vehicle. Bring along your HF Station + Antenna! More Information and Photos: [www.SectionOuting.info](http://www.SectionOuting.info)

Kurt WU8V noted that he had Raffle Tickets from the North Macomb Sportsman's Club for the "Gun A Week Giveaway". The first drawing will be 04-Jul-2013 and every week thereafter for 52-weeks. The price of tickets is \$20 for one or \$50 for three. Several members availed themselves of the Tix.

## VII. Technical Committee Report – Ray W8PIE

EchoLink® crashed multiple during the Monday Night InfoNet on 18-Mar-2013. Ray had a PC card in his hand from the EchoLink® computer and identified it as the point of failure. The card has been replaced, and EchoLink® is now fully operational. He noted that we are running a modified version of EchoLink® as designed by WD2REM.

443.075 MHz Repeater is now running **extremely** well -- including EchoLink®.

Ray has not had much time to devote to the 2m repeater. Now that the 443.075 MHz repeater is fully operational, he will now focus on the 2m repeater.

## VIII. Prospective New Member Mail-out Postcard

Bobby N8CY gave a summary of this program -- which was completely funded by the GMARC Board of Directors -- without the use of Club Funds. There were (496) cards mailed out, and the total cost of the program was \$323.04. The Board of Directors contributed \$334.00 - leaving a surplus of \$10.96 as noted in the Treasurer's Report. So far, we have received (7) responses -- 1.4% response rate. The goal is in the range of 3-6% response -- so we are half-way to the bottom number. Five persons present tonight are as a result of the mailing.

Robbin K1KNN acknowledged the work of the Board of Directors on this project, and those present gave a round of applause to the Board of Directors for their commitment to the success of the Club.

## IX. New Business: Prospective Raffle (as a Fundraiser) in 2013

The GMARC Board of Directors (BOD) met last Tuesday 12-Mar-2013. The idea of having a new Raffle in 2013 was considered. The BOD is focusing on a Dual Band Mobile Transceiver as the main Raffle Prize. Bobby N8CY noted that a Kenwood TM-V71A would be a good potential choice. Bobby has solicited Mark Holmes, General Manager of the HRO-Atlanta Store to "participate" in this Raffle by offering a "steep discount" to GMARC for the purchase of this radio in exchange for "advertising value" on the Raffle Tix and on our web site at www.GMARC.org. Bobby sent an eMail to Mark Holmes but has not yet talked to him on the phone.

The concept presented at the Board of Directors meeting is that the Raffle Tix be used as incentive in our ongoing membership drive for 2013. Specifically, that the Club print (250) follow-up regular size postcards (approx. \$55.00) and that a "follow-up" campaign be implemented now that the (496) mailpieces had been sent-out. The concept of the follow-up program is:

- At Club Expense, (250) regular size postcards (non-glossy) would be printed for follow-up with a "white space" for personal comments by the Club Member sending out the postcard
- Note: **Non-glossy** so the member can **write** on the card with a ballpoint pen!
- (25) regular members of the Club would be given (20) address labels from the original list of (500) and (10) postcards to be sent-out at the Club Member's expense -- **33¢** each (\$3.30)
- The Club member would "cull" (10) from the (20) using the type of criteria suggested by Scott W1BIC at the 12-Feb-2013 BOD meeting and affix **their own 33¢** postage stamp to mail these cards

- Any prospective New Member who attends the 21-May-2013 meeting would be given (2) **Free** Tickets in the upcoming raffle of a Dual Band Mobile Transceiver. *The members responsible for the prospective New Member coming would also be give (2) Free Tickets!*
- The attendee would also be given an opportunity to purchase (4) **additional** tickets @ \$5.00 each and receive a **Free Membership** in the Club (for the balance of 2013).
- Robbin K1KNN requested that the Club purchase a quantity of **33¢** postage stamps and have them available at the 16-Apr-2013 meeting so that each members does not have to go to the Post Office to get stamps. Bobby N8CY stated that he would take care of this request.

Rich KC8HMJ stated that he and Marty KB8JIU had investigated an economical Dual Band Mobile Transceiver as the Raffle Prize and recommend the Yaesu FT-7900R -- Dual Band / Single Watch (HRO-Atlanta price \$324.95 with \$20 mail-in rebate + free shipping). All agreed that this is a viable choice. After the meeting, it was learned that Belle Tire had agreed to donate a \$50 gift certificate to be used as a Second Prize.

**MOTION:** By Bobby N8CY that the Club implement a Raffle (as described above - Yaesu FT-7900R as prize) with a drawing date at the 20-Jul-2013 Trunk Swap. Tickets will be priced at \$5.00 each -- with a maximum of (250) total Tickets to be printed. **Seconded:** Marty KB8JIU. **Withdrawn.**

**Discussion:** The current date for the September Trunk Swap is Saturday, 14-Sep-2013. It was suggested that a later date would give more time to sell tickets. Kurt WU8V asked is a better date for the Trunk Swap might be *before* or *after* the September General Membership meeting 17-Sep-2013. It was agreed that 21-Sep-2013 would be the best date.

**MOTION:** By Marty KB8JIU that the Club implement a Raffle (as described above - Yaesu FT-7900 [cost to Club up to \$304.95 -- depending on HRO-Atlanta/Yaesu "participation"] as prize) with a drawing date at the 21-Sep-2013 Trunk Swap. Tickets will be priced at \$5.00 each -- with a maximum of (250) total Tickets to be sold. **Seconded:** Tony W8OKX. **Motion passed.**

The date for the September Trunk Swap was **changed** to 21-Sep-2013.

## **X. Break - 8:20 PM - 8:40 PM**

## **XI. Raffle Winners (Partial List -- there were over 16 Prizes)**

607	Bob KA8VSI	629	Kurt WU8V	636	Bobby N8CY
583	Gary K8GWK	604	Don K7SDF	632	Jim K8LFE
574	Kurt WU8V	650	Bobby N8CY	597	Rich KC8HMJ
573	Kurt WU8V	599	Don K7SDF		

## **XII. Presentation: Contest + DX Operating Tips - Kurt WU8V**

Kurt WU8V gave a very informative presentation on Operating Tips for Contests and DX Contacts.

- In a "World Prefix" contest, a US 2x1 call is very popular in that there are only 26
- In a CW contest, once you become accustomed to the "pattern", it becomes easy to copy well past your "conversational" speed, because you know what is coming, and there are only a few bits of the QSO that are essential, such as a Call Sign and a Sequence number.
- CQ is has an advantage (vs. phone) because it has no "accent"! Typical DX contacts go very quickly usually less than 30 seconds.
- Look for the "exchange" (as defined in the contest rules that are published beforehand in magazines and on the internet), this will tell you what information needs to be transmitted
- Listen to the DX operator, many times if he is very "popular" he will be listening "Up" +5-10 KHz in CW and sometimes more with Phone. Transmitting on his transmitting frequency in this case is considered bad form at best, and rude to other operators.

- If you transmit at a slightly higher or lower frequency (100 Hz) your signal will **stand out** from the pile-up, because it is a different audio tone to the other station, than if you are matching his frequency.

### XIII. Attendance + Funds Collected

14 Members attended. There were (5) Visitors. (1) New Member joined.

The following funds were collected and delivered to the Treasurer:

Membership Dues	\$ 20.00 - (1-regular - Dennis KC8QIC)
Raffle	33.00 - (Bob KA8VSI donated cutting boards; Prizes paid for a December meeting)
Coffee Fund	<u>6.55</u> - (Prem KD8SRV made a \$5.00 Donation)
Total --	\$ 59.55

### Upcoming Events for GMARC:

<b>Next GMARC Membership Meeting</b>	<b>16-Apr-2013 7:00 PM Tuesday</b>
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
<b>GMARC Trunk Swap</b>	<b>20-Jul-2013 8:00 AM Saturday</b>
Lansing ARC Swap & Shop	27-Jul-2013 8:00 AM Sunday
<b>GMARC Trunk Swap + Raffle Drawing</b>	<b>21-Sep-2013 8:00 AM Saturday</b>
Kalamazoo ARC Swap & Shop	20-Oct-2012 8:00 AM Sunday

**XIV. Meeting Adjourned** at 9:10 PM. Motion: Bobby N8CY 2nd: Tony W8OKX.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobby Corr N8CY  
Secretary – GMARC

### GMARC Treasurer's Report

April 16, 2013

Last Statement Balance 19-Mar-2013	\$ 597.32
Coffee Fund	6.55
Membership Dues (Regular)	90.00
State of Michigan - Raffle Registration (N8CY)	-17.58
March Meeting Raffle	<u>33.00</u>

April Bank Balance -- **\$ 709.29**

Repeater Fund	-0-
New Member Mailpiece Fund	
(+334.00 -323.04)	10.96
501(c)(3) Fund	50.00
General Fund	\$ 648.33

