



Michigan Amateur Radio Alliance
Post Office Box 670
Comstock Park, MI 49321-0670



The following are the tentative minutes of the Feb 12th, 2014 MARA meeting subject to correction and/or approval at the next meeting.

The February 12th, 2014 MARA meeting was called to order at 7:35PM.

The following were in attendance: KD8NSU, N8GS, N8NIJ, N8XQH, KD8JB, KC8KVR, KD8UCP, KC9PWL, W8MSK, KD8SZZ, K8OOK, KD8PVS and K8JX. KD8ULU attended via Skype.

The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion to approve by Larry, 2nd by KD8JB, passed.

Treasurer's Report:

The previous balance was \$3055.96. We had deposits of \$260 from the Great Lakes Award and dues. We paid out \$50. to Mike and Nancy Eilers, winners of the 50/50 grand prize. New balance is \$3271.96, motion to approve by Dan, 2nd by Richard, passed

Trustee's Report:

Repeater is working good despite the weather, not sure if the site is heated. Motion to approve by KD8JB, 2nd by Corey, passed.

Committee Reports

Great Lake Award: none

Bereavement: Keith Eady, KB8FQK, a previous member, passed away.

Field Day/Special Events: Field Day location was discussed. A suggestion was made to use the QTH of N8GS. Discussion for this and other logistics to continue.

Fund Raising: Burger Nite is set for April 25th.

Membership: At Barton's suggestion, the Secretary sent an e-mail to those who not yet renewed their membership for 2014, it was a success.



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Newsletter: Richard is waiting for pictures from the Christmas Party before publishing the next newsletter.

2 Meter Net: going good

Webmaster: The club roster has been updated. Keith, KB8FQK obit is also listed. The domain name has been renewed for 5 years and is good until July 2019.

HAB: The President has appointed N8GS to lead the new Hot Air Balloon committee. Larry contacted the school, they said because of State mandated classroom curriculum, they could not participate during school hours. We might contact the Boy Scouts to see if they are interested. Helium is not available at any price. Hydrogen is \$105 for 300 cu ft plus tank rental. It would be enough for for 3 balloons. Gale thinks recovery rate would exceed 90%. The sites of Sparkfun and Adafruit should be visited. A 10 mw beacon would cost \$105. The club would reimburse members for the loss of any personal equipment. Also discussed if we should contact clubs on the eastern part of the State to aid in recovery.

Old Business

- John and Jason gave a talk on a homebrew J-pole antenna. A piece of 12ft aluminum bar cost \$6.00 and will build 2 antennas. They passed out a very detailed spec sheet on how to build the J-pole.
- The MARA Christmas party was a great success, good turn out.
- The club's 2 meter station is now on loan to Roger, KC9PWL for a period of 6 months.



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New Business -

- Barton updated the club's profile to the ARRL, check their website.
- The New Hams Dinner was last Saturday but hardly anyone knew about it. We will contact LARC to find out why we were not notified since we are listed as co-sponsors. Lowell swap is not listed on their website yet.
- Mike Hood showed us his homebrewed microphone testing unit. Very unique, will check microphones with various pin numbers.

Gale made a motion, 2nd by Richard, adjourn at 8:51PM, passed.

Submitted by Mike, K800K, MARA Secretary