

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK for January 2004

Presidents Report By Dean Whitney, KF8NS

CQ CQ CQ all NOARC hams, from the mysteriously 'absent' of late KF8NS.

Well, seems like I've been way too busy with work during our periodic shutdown this week, and we have another week & a half almost to go. :-)

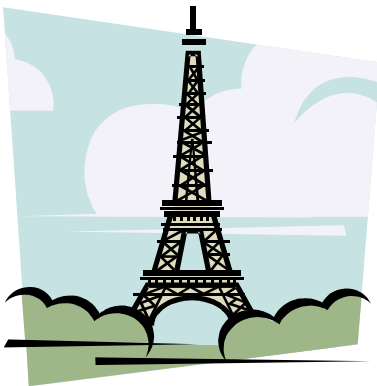
I guess we just have to figure it's part of keeping the lights 'burning', or in our case, our radios transmitting & receiving, although, I prefer we have the best of both worlds.

Sounds like we're going to have an interesting speaker at this month's meeting, scheduled for the 26th at White Pines Middle School, on Griffin Street.

I had a co-worker bring me in some radio related books his 'ham' dad was going to pitch. I offered to take any gear he was going to give the 'heave ho' to, but he said they took a truckload of that to the dump a number of years ago. (the tears are running down my cheeks as I wrote that!)

Here we always wonder what's going to happen to all that gear stashed in some Silent Key's attic or basement! I'm sure there's lots of 'treasure' out there in "them thar" basements & attics! Except now we find it on E-bay! Anyway, we have the Marshall Hamfest coming up in March, so save your 'fins & sawbucks' to make some deals down there, & if you've got any gear you want to 'off', the club will have a table or two to spread it out on. See you all in Marshall, if not at the club meeting!

(More New Zealand Pictures to follow later in this newsletter)



Load THIS baby up and work the DX!

TREASURER's REPORT

Account Status as of January 22, 2004

Beginning Balance of all accounts was \$6134.65, of which checking and savings totaled \$5242.71, and the NOARC endowment fund balance of \$891.94

Income for the period: \$304.81 of which \$0.81 was interest on savings; \$290.00 was Club dues; and \$14.00 was 50/50 Drawing From November meeting.

Expenses for the period: \$1297.80 of which \$36.00 was Reimbursement to John Sundstrom, N8YQD, for November/December newsletter expenses, and another \$707.00 was reimbursed to John for the Repeater Controller; \$24.00 was for IRA 2003 Swap; \$325 to Seabury/Smith for 2004 NOARC Liability Insurance premium; \$15.00 to Amateur Radio Group of Youth in Lowell for 2003 Lowell Swap; and \$190.80 to Radio Shack for the books for the latest Technician class by NOARC.

Ending balance of all accounts: \$5521.74 of which checking and savings total \$4249.72, and the NOARC endowment fund total balance is \$1272.02

Please note the chart below represents the status of all club funds at the end of the period:

General Fund: \$3974.72	Repeater Fund: \$0
Digital Fund: \$275.00	Endowment Fund \$1272.02
Total all funds \$5521.74	

This period there were no expenses incurred for the Te-Ne-Ke project, and no revenues. The total revenue generated to date are \$5173.36. This IS reflected in the general account balance in the above ledger. Please continue to support this important project!!

=====
73, Greg Schippers, KC8HXO



To the left are the area HAMS who went to the Orlando Hamfest. Recognize a few of them?



***** Net Control Schedule *****

If you are unable to keep your appointment as Net Control, please arrange for a replacement. NOTE: This information is also found on the NOARC Web site www.qsl.net/noarc

- | | | | | | |
|---------|--------|--------|---------|-------|---------|
| • FEB24 | N8ARY | Andrew | • MAR23 | KF8NS | Dean |
| • MAR02 | N8HCS | Eugene | • MAR30 | N8PFC | Brad |
| • MAR09 | KB8VEE | Tom | • APR06 | KB8HU | Charlie |
| • MAR16 | N8LBG | Woody | • APR13 | N8YQD | John |

Upcoming Events

February 26: NOARC Club meeting at the White Pine Middle School. Tyler from Ottawa Wireless will be presenting on the new wireless citywide Ethernet system.

March 20: Marshall Hamfest– NOARC will have a 24 foot table for members to use.

This was taken overlooking the city of Wellington, the capital of New Zealand. Although not the biggest city in New Zealand, it certainly is enjoyable to walk around in sightseeing! Everyone is very friendly, & pleasant to talk to. AND, no foreign language to have to deal with, just an accent.



The majority of New Zealand's electric power comes from either hydroelectric or geothermal generating plants. They have abundant supplies of coal, but are very environmentally conscious, as the thin ozone layer is almost directly above that part of the world. They also say they expect to be out of natural gas resources within 15 years.

The 2004 Technician class has ended with three new Hams but we still have the classroom for a while. It has been expressed to me that some fellows want to work on their morse code. If you would like to come down and work on your code on Monday nite at seven pm I will come down and work with you. Send me an email or meet me Monday at seven in room OF9 AT THE WHITE PINES MIDDLE SCHOOL.
thanks Don N8HCS

Club Officers :

PRESIDENT:	Dean Whitney, KF8NS	842-0976
Vice-President:	Don Smith, N8HCS	846-1938
Treasurer:	John Sundstrom, N8YQD	847-4249
Secretary/SPARK editor:	Andrew Young, N8ARY	844-4484
Program Director:	Craig Christilaw, K8CRC	

Repeater Report– by N8ARY

Well, the new controller is still working well. I programmed some new courtesy tones and you should notice the new one which tries to mimic the old controller a little..

I have also implemented the new UHF transmitter for the Echolink station. This places the link on a legal frequency (above 220 MHz). You should not notice any difference in operation of the station.

Don Smith has created a nice list to present the functions of the repeater entitled “Stuff You Should Know About the North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Repeater.” Here it is:

Stuff you should know about the North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Repeater.

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | It is not in Canada | |
| 2. | For EMERGENCY dial | 911 |
| 3. | Time of day request code. | 400 |
| 4. | DTMF pad test prefix code. | 325 |
| 5. | Auto Patch access code. | * |
| 6. | Auto Patch disconnect code. | # |
| 7. | User Speed Dial Prefix Code. | 6 |
| 8. | Signal Report Code. | 750 |

When using the Signal Report Code (750) press the push to talk and enter 750 on your dtmf pad then release the push to talk. The repeater controller will reply with the words start test now. At this time press the push to talk again and talk for a few seconds (e.g. this is W8ABC testing) then release the push to talk and the controller will play back what you just recorded. This will enable you to see how you sound through the repeater.

To use the speed dial feature the prefix code is 6 and not a star like before, in other words if your speed dial number was *22 it is now 622. To dial a seven digit phone number you still use the star prefix.

Keep in mind this new controller is as new to the repeater committee as it is to you, but we will be learning and working the bugs out of it as we go along. So be patient and if you have any request or suggestions contact Andrew N8ARY committee chairman at n8ary@n8ary.com.

If you are a dues paying member and would like a SPEED DIAL number, contact N8HCS or the committee chairman and we will accommodate you on this matter.

Newsletter News

I am trying to change the way we distribute announcements, newsletters, and other information. If you have internet access, sign up for the W8CSO group on Yahoo. Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/W8CSO/>

For now, I will try to keep up the Newsletter in the traditional manner for the members who haven't joined.

January 2004 Meeting Minutes

- 7:30- Call to Order by Don Smith, N8HCS
- There were 14 members, 4 guests, and a rat (brought by Andie) present.
- Don Smith passed the presidential torch to Dean Whitney, KF8NS.
- Special guests Chuck Stark and Marv Hoekstra from West MI Search and Rescue were introduced.
- W6ASP from California was also a guest.
- The new Repeater Controller was discussed. Complaints were voiced about the voice announcement talk-overs and courtesy tone length. Andrew will correct when weather permits.
- A motion was passed to reimburse Andrew for expenses incurred to bring the Echolink station into compliance with the law.
- Upcoming Hamfests announced- Marshall and Traverse City. 3 tables are available to club members at Marshall.
- Don is offering help Monday nights after the classes to those who want help with Morse Code.
- Complaints were voiced about the dues- asked for any ideas for reducing costs.
- W6ASP won the 50/50 drawing.
- Presentation by SAR group, explained roles of SAR and where they fit in with Law enforcement agencies.



Class of 2004

Our class this year was not as big as it sometimes is but these three guys gave it their all, and Graduated early. We all went to Holland Saturday morning February 21 to one of the biggest VE sessions ever held with the Holland Group and these three fellows passed their Technician Exams with flying colors. Additionally, John Fischer (KC8UNY) from Grand Haven passed his code test. (From left to right) Bob Jersstadt from Spring Lake, George Dood from Grand Haven, and Michael Grzyb also from Grand Haven.

Dues Renewal Form. Dues are : Single \$35, Family \$45 . Please mail to Box 44 Ferrysburg, MI 49409

Name- _____ Call _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

W8CSO (NOARC) Repeater information:

*****If the NOARC repeater goes down , use 145.490 simplex*****

Function	Value	Function	Value
Frequency	145.490 (-)	Load "Normal" File	1751
PL Tone	94.8 or 91.5 (GRR)	Load "Net Mode" File	1752
Carrier Access (no PL req'd)	TBA– Won't work at this time.	Echolink Connect	#Cxxxxx where "x..." is the node nmbr.
Signal Test	750	Echolink Disconnect	#73
Autopatch Start	* then number	Echolink Random Connect	#01
Autopatch End	#	Echolink Check Status	#08
Emergency	911 or *911	Echolink Connect Last node	#09

Club Net is every Tuesday night at 8PM. Net Controllers please note your assignment found on the calendar and be sure to get a substitute if you cannot take the net. Club Web Site <http://www.qsl.net/noarc/>. Site has information on Te Ne KE, club events and net schedules. All licensed amateurs are eligible for membership in the North Ottawa Amateur radio Club. Board meeting held 1 hour before meeting at meeting site. Annual dues are payable in December . 2003 Dues are \$ 35.00 individual and \$ 45.00 family. Please send dues to NOARC Box 44, Ferrysburg, MI 49409. Please keep the club Treasurer (KC8HXO@yahoo.com) and the Club Secretary (sundstrj@gvsu.edu) informed as to your CURRENT e-mail address if you get the newsletter electronically or US mail address if receive it postal.

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 44
Ferrysburg, MI 49409
Postmaster: Return Requested