



# North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

## SPARK for JULY 2009



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**FIELD DAY FUN PROVIDING SOLAR POWER FOR CHARGING BATTERIES.**

### THE ELECTRIC TOYOTA COMES IN HANDY

<b>President</b>	<b>John Fischer ,KC8UNY</b>	<b>846-8998</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Don Smith, N8HCS</b>	<b>846-1938</b>
<b>SPARK editor</b>	<b>Paul E. Zellar W8IQE</b>	<b>844-0807</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Roger Simmons N8RXC</b>	
	<b>Phyllis Simmons KB8NLN</b>	<b>846-3496</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>John Sundstrom N8YQD</b>	<b>847-4249</b>
<b>Activities Director</b>	<b>Jim Miller W8JRM</b>	

## COMING EVENTS

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JULY 4        The City of Ferrysburg has asked us to help out with their annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade this year. Help is needed with the parade line up at the beginning of the parade and with dispersing of people and floats as they end the parade. We have been asked because the parade is getting bigger every year with 44+ entries this year.

We will be meeting at 9:00 am at the Spring Lake EOC and we should be done before 12:00 noon. The date is Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup>.

If you can and are willing to help please let John Fisher or Don Meyer know by email or phone.

John Fisher email: [jtlr.fischer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jtlr.fischer@sbcglobal.net)

Don Meyer email: [kb8odb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kb8odb@sbcglobal.net) Phone: 616-846-7307

July 25        Don't miss W8IQEs garage sale! See the announcement below for details.

### **HAM RADIO GARAGE SALE!**

My junk box is too full. Help me reduce it by coming to the garage on Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:00AM until whenever.

There are Hallicrafter and National receivers among others, power supplies, battery chargers, antenna material, electrical parts, electronic test equipment, computer stuff and a few whatsits. Even my electric Toyota will be on sale.

The garage is in Spring Lake in the one block long alley between Division and Park Streets, with its ends at Liberty and Mason. The Admiral gas station is at Park and Savage (M104), Chan's restaurant is at Savage and Division. Turn north one block to Liberty. Parking will be at the curb on those streets, the alley isn't wide enough for parking, and it is just a short walk.

Prices are flexible, even unreasonable offers may be accepted!

CU there on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Paul Zellar, W8IQE

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

If you are unable to keep your appointment as Net Control, **please** arrange for a replacement.

**JULY**

<b>7</b>	<b>N8NLN</b>	<b>PHYLISS SIMMONS</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>KD8FCV</b>	<b>JIM MILLER</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>KC8UNY</b>	<b>JOHN FISCHER</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>N8YQD</b>	<b>JOHN SUNDSTROM</b>

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There were no minutes taken of the June meeting as it was primarily for Field Day planning. We got together at Coast Guard Park, where we later held our Field Day activity.

Phyllis, KB8NLN made sure everyone had plenty to eat. Her chocolate surprise was delicious. Everyone had an opportunity to figure out where they were going to set up and string antennas.

On Saturday, the 27th, a number of NOARC early risers began to erect antennas, tents, and all the paraphernalia needed for the event. Gordon, WA8UQT, had a bad beginning when he found that his motor home would not come out of PARK. His station was finally established in a tent, strategically located next to the rest room facilities. This gave him AC power for lights and the computer. A solar panel and batteries provided radio power. Joe, N8FQ, and Jim, W9BWC, were observed helping to pound brass on CW.

Lou, N8KYO, opted for the middle of the park as he likes a lot of room for his gargantuan antennas. He first tried a huge Sterba Curtain antenna, but found he did better when he changed to his old standby, an 80 meter dipole with multiple conductors for bandwidth.

The Ottawa county emergency communication trailer was utilized near the pavillion, where the food was. Was this carefully planned? The trailer had the only air conditioning around, too. John, KC8UNY, Don, KB8ODB, John, N8YQD, and others that I have forgotten were observed operating this station.

Roger, N8RXC, and Phyllis, KB8NLN, set up a tent at the far west end. Mark, ?8MAZ held forth there, trying to operate QRP but surrendering to higher power to make CW contacts.

Please forgive me for the operators I missed, it wasn't intentional. Your honorable editor, Paul, W8IQE, as usual set up solar panels for battery charging. This year a new twist was added. His electric car, equipped with eight golf cart batteries, was rewired to produce 24 Volts. 15 solar panels kept them charged during the day. A 24 Volt inverter then provided 120 Volts AC, which traveled nicely along extension cords to all but Gordon's distant location. The 120 AC then went to battery chargers to keep the station's battery charged. The AC could also be used for the laptop computers where needed. The inverter ran all night and there was still enough juice to drive the car home in the morning.

Speaking of computers, Don, KB8ODB, came up with a fine system for logging. A wireless router was located near N8KYO and W8IQE's location, hanging from an umbrella suspended from a tree. All the station laptops were tied together so everyone could see all the log information. There was some confusion at first, but the system worked admirably except when W8IQE tripped over the power cord.

A walk through at 1:30 AM still showed lots of activity, but another at 4:30 found things very quiet!

The final count was 449 contacts, 210 on phone, 202 CW, and 37 GOTA. The score is about 1668 points. The important thing, though, was that everyone had a great time.

Again, a special thanx to Phyllis, KB8NLN, for keeping everyone well fed.

Submitted by W8IQE

## The Classified Section )

**For Sale: Assortment of nice Zenith Transoceanic all band radios. Contact John Sundstrom , N8YQD**

**Light emitting diode lights. Key chain, clip-on, pen size, 14 LED jumbo. How about a night light that will be bright enough to read by after being on for a year? Contact Paul Zellar, W8IQE**

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**Don Smith**  
1628 Franklin  
Grand Haven, MI. 49417  
n8hcs@arrl.net  
616-638-6383

**Painter**

**1 year Dues Renewal Form. Single \$25 Family \$30. Buy 3 years for \$70 and you get a Mi Tax credit of \$35 on your 2005 return. Please fill out 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**

**145.490 (- offset) tone 94.8 main receiver ; Grand rapids link receiver tone 91.5**

**Codes : Time of day 400; DTMF Test 325; signal report 750**

**Phone patch Instructions:**

**\* followed by phone number**

**# t o disconnect**

**6 + auto patch number to use your assigned auto patch number**

**911 calls Ottawa County Central Dispatch**

**912 call Muskegon County Dispatch**

**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.gsl.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 . 2007 Dues are \$ 25.00 individual and \$ 35.00 family or \$70 for 3 years. Please send dues to NOARC Box 44, Ferrysburg, MI 49409. Please keep the club Treasurer (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.**

**Postmaster: Return Requested**

**Ferrysburg, MI 49409**

**Box 44**

**North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club**