



North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK for MARCH 2008



HERE ARE SOME OF THE GANG THAT HAS BEEN MISSING OUT ON OUR BEAUTIFUL MICHIGAN WINTER!

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

COMING EVENTS

March 27, 2008

- 1st: 9:00am – American Red Cross CPR Saturday.
- 6th: 7:00pm – West Michigan Search & Rescue monthly meeting at Fillmore.
- 11th: 7:00pm – Holland Amateur Radio Club monthly meeting at clubhouse.
- 13th: 7:00pm – Ottawa County Emergency Communicaitions monthly meeting at Fillmore.
- 15th: Marshall Hamfest
- 20th: 7:00pm – E.O.C. training at Fillmore.
- 27th: 1800-2100 Ottawa County Skywarn Training, Allendale High School, Performing Arts Center
10760 68th Ave Allendale, MI
- 27th: 7:00pm - North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club meeting at White Pines Middle School.
- 31st: 7:00pm – E.O.C. Staff meeting at Fillmore.

2008 Severe Weather Spotter Training, Ionia County

You are invited to become a National Weather Service trained Severe Weather Spotter for the 2008 season, and serve your community. The Weather Service relies on reports from Skywarn spotters during severe weather events. Learn all you need to know during this training. Public Invited!

When: April 10, 2008 Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm Cost: Free! Where: Ionia County ISD 2191 Harwood Road Ionia, MI 48846

RSVP not required – just show up! Bring yourself and a friend.

Sponsored by the Ionia County Office of Emergency Management and The National Weather Service.
For information contact Rick Norman, PEM, Emergency Program Manager 616-527-8250
rnorman@ioniacounty.org

******* 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 at yahoo groups/w8cso/calendar

March

4	KD8FCV	JIM MILLER
11	N8FQ	JOE VELDHUIS
18	KC8UNY	JOHN FISCHER
29	W8IQE	PAUL ZELLAR

NOARC Meeting 2/28/08

Prior to arriving at our normal meeting place, Joe N8FQ called on the radio and told us that the meeting location had been changed to room OF9 because our normal meeting room was being occupied by another group. I met John KC8UNY in the parking lot to help bring in the coffee pot and cookies. When John arrived in the lot he pointed at his radio and asked if I wanted a shot... I asked him what he had going and he let me listen to the radio. HR2DMR was calling CQ on 14.246 and had a little pile up going. I listened for a few minutes before putting out my call. I put out my call and DMR immediately responded with a signal report. I gave him a 59 and signed off. Thanks to John, I made my first DX contact, mobile no less!

We made our way into the school and found our room. I ran off to get water for coffee, and John put out the cookies. Joe was working with his computer in preparation for our APRS demonstration. While this was going on others started to trickle into the room. Joe started giving an informal demonstration of APRS on his computer and some of the code he used for his APRS tracking program on his website

At 1950 John KC8UNY got the meeting started with 8 members in attendance. John opened with a discussion about Field Day. He said that we are looking at a new location and is thinking that Coast Guard Park in Ferrysburg would be a good location. Other locations were discussed and the topic was left open for discussion at a later meeting. John also mentioned that we could possibly have a steak dinner one night, all eyes in the room got a little brighter and everyone smiled.

Don KB8ODB said it would be nice to see more community interest by the club members. It would be nice if we could find a way to organize locally when things happen. He suggested a secondary frequency that we could check in to and use as a local coordination frequency. An example was given that in the event of a condition red Skywarn event you are unable to contact net control to coordinate observation locations.

The ARRL is offering various items for sale that relate to Field Day, one of those is a t-shirt for \$12.95. John said that shipping is reduced for a quantity order, and thought that the shirts would look nice. Don KB8ODB looked on the ARRL website and mentioned that there were pins for \$5, and water bottles for \$3.95 also offered.

John suggested that the club hold another Ham-in-a-day class in the summer time. He said that there may be more interest because school is out and this would give more time to study for the test.

Gordon KA8UQT mentioned that Central Dispatch was confirmed to be moving to West Olive near the Fillmore Street complex. A brief discussion ensued regarding the cooperation between amateur radio and central dispatch, and what would become of the equipment at the current central dispatch location.

Gordon also inquired if there was any progress made in the method used to call out members for emergency events. John KC8UNY advised that there has been no progress made yet, and that we should still monitor our radios.

John thought of something new for this year, and that was to have a person "in charge" of each station, a person to coordinate operators and operating times. That way nobody will have to be responsible for more than one station. He mentioned that this had been happening to a lesser extent in past years, but thinks it would be a good thing to try for this year.

Don also mentioned that it would be nice to have a response vehicle of some sort to use as a portable headquarters to be used in the event of activation. A couple of ideas were passed around the group, including using a used Harbor Transit bus and a used trailer.

John KC8UNY said that there is Skywarn training next month on March 27th and this will take the place of the normally scheduled club meeting.

At 2107 Gordon KA8UQT said that he had about as much of my coffee as he could stand and made a motion to adjourn; I quickly agreed that the coffee was of miserable quality and seconded. There were no objections.

73 de W8JRM

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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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.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 . 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.

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North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club