



North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK for January 2006

Happy New Year!!!

Hello Fellow Ham Radio Operators...

Notes from the President...

On December 21, 2005, an accident involving a tanker hauling diesel, gasoline, and fuel oil, occurred on M-104 in Spring Lake Township. The tanker overturned trying to avoid hitting a car that had made a u-turn on the highway. At 8:30 pm the Ottawa Sheriff and Crockery Township Fire Department requested Emergency Services assistance. North Ottawa County ARES and OCEC were paged to assist with traffic control near the scene of M-104 and 130th Avenue. I was the first on the scene and made contact with incident command to see where they wanted us deployed. There were 10 to 15 people driving to the scene, all listening to the 145.49 repeater, with Don KB8ODB and Tom KB8VEE working net control. We were able to start deployment of our people, and were on duty for 10 hours. Some volunteers had to leave during the night, but we had enough to last the night. We also had to use lights on our cars. Safety was and is the number one priority. Bill Smith approved the use of red or amber lights and the State Police never said a word. They all were about to go off duty at shift change, and they were very happy with the job we did and the way that we did it.

73

De John Fischer AEC North Ottawa County ARES (NOCARES) hihi

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Vice President:	Don Smith, N8HCS	846-1938
SPARK editor	Craig Christilaw K8CRC	846-0464
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	Phyllis Simmons KB8NLN	846-3496
Treasurer	John Sundstrom N8YQD	847-4249
Activities Director	Vacant	

Little Sparks...

Tom Fischer K8000... He recently had surgery at the U of Michigan Medical Center and is doing well. Please send him an email at lake1020@copper.net, as he would love to hear all the news from the NOARC folks.

Woody Aldrich N8LBG... He recently endured a short stay at the NOCH, but is home now and doing very well. His voice is a little scratchy, but he is getting stronger everyday, and will be back to the Bathrobe Net soon. Woody does not have an email address (he is morally against computers) but would love to hear from you on the air.

Randy Stano W8RAS... He recently had hip surgery in California, and is recovering nicely. His address is 17640 Corkrill Road, Lot 37, Desert Hot Springs, CA 92241, and his cell number is (616) 460-8249. I am sure he would love to hear from the gang back in Michigan.

Seymour Barahl... Although Seymour is not a Ham, he is a fixture at our Wednesday breakfast at the Idle Hour in Spring Lake. He is in Florida for the winter, and his address is 3900 Thunderbird Hill Circle, Sebring, FL 38272, and his phone is (863) 382-3802.

Greg Schippers, KC8HXO, will do a presentation on antenna tuners at the next NOARC meeting, which is Thursday, January 26th, 2006. Also, Greg has a W2IHY 8 band equalizer unit for sale. It comes with manual, wall wart power supply, all for \$150. His phone is (616) 847-0238

***** 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 www.qsl.net/noarc

January 17	N8PFC	Brad King
January 24	KC8UNY	John Fischer
January 31	N8HCS	Don Smith
February 7	KB8ATU	Joe Veldhuis

Treasurer's Report for December 2005, John Sundstrom N8YQD

So far 35 out of 45 members have paid their 2005, 2006 & 2007 dues. (3 years is \$70) Please pay yours if you have not done so. If you pay this month, you will receive the tax credit.

The balance for all accounts (as of the november Bank Statement) are:

Bank One checking	\$1793.67
Bank One Savings	\$3,185.33
Sub total	\$ 4979.00
Grand Haven Community fund	\$3,857.57 as of 06/30/05
Total all accounts 12/01/05	\$8,836.57



Andrew Young, N8ARY, has a new ham shack that looks much neater than most that we have seen.

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1 year Dues Renewal Form. Single \$35 Family \$40. 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 _____

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Just a reminder for anyone who missed the last announcement, that each Thursday night at 1900 (7 PM) local time, I will be hosting a PSK31 net on 145.570 MHz USB. I send out the call at 1500 Hz on the waterfall, so just as a bit of trivia, the actual frequency is 145.5715 MHz. I am using vertical polarization for this net, since at the moment that's all I have up, and I know many of you are in the same position.

In the future, I plan to use modes other than PSK31 as well, such as MFSK16, RTTY, perhaps even SSTV. Also, if it turns out that the use of SSB is keeping too many people out of it, I may switch to FM, or possibly start a second net.

I am located in Robinson township, between Lincoln and M-45, about 2 miles east of US-31. My antenna is a vertical dipole up about 27 feet. Expected range for those using ground planes is about 25 miles, those with beams might get in from close to 40 miles out. If some people on the fringes act as relays that range can probably be greatly extended.

You don't necessarily need a soundcard interface to get in, you can just hold your mic up to the computer speaker if you want. Having one would certainly make things easier on you though. Just cut the cord off of some old headphones, solder it to a matching plug for your rig's mic or data jack, optionally put together a PTT interface

(<http://www.electroblog.com:8090/radio/ptt.html>).

Hope to see everyone there! -Joe, KD8ATU kd8atu@gmail.com - 616-846-8594