

# DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

SPARK VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

12/6/2003

## WORDS OF WISDOM BY OUR NEW VP



Accident Report- (Darwin Award?)

This one needs an introduction, so you won't be lost at the beginning. This man was in an accident, so he filled out an insurance claim. The insurance company contacted him and asked for more information. This was his response:

"I am writing in response to your request for additional information, for block number 3 of the accident reporting form. I put 'poor planning' as the cause of my accident. You said in your letter that I should

explain more fully and I trust the following detail will be sufficient:

I am an amateur radio operator and on the day of the accident, I was working alone on the top section of my new 80-foot tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware.

Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and material down by hand, I decided to lower the items down in a small barrel by using the pulley attached to the gin pole at the top of the tower. Securing the rope at ground level, I went to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and material into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to

ensure a slow descent of the 300 pounds of tools. You will note in block number 11 of the accident reporting form that I weigh only 155 pounds. Due to my surprise of being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope.

Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate of speed up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately, by this time, I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold onto the

(Continued on pg 2)

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Club Offices Filled: A Warm Welcome to the new officers.*
- *Christmas Party: Craig Christilaw's House this Thursday 6PM.*
- *Merry Christmas: Almost here!*
- *New Repeater Controller has been purchased and hopefully will soon be installed.*

## CLUB OFFICES FILLED -BY ANDREW YOUNG (N8ARY)

The results are in and the club officers have taken their positions. By unanimous vote of the members present at the November meeting, Dean Whitney (KF8NS) was elected President, Don Smith (N8HCS) took the Vice-President position, Andrew Young

(N8ARY) is the new Secretary, John Sundstrom (N8YQD) won the Treasurer spot, and Craig Christilaw became the new Activities Director. Congratulations to all.

As his first action as Activities Director, Craig has

offered his home and the "Heathkit Room" as space for the 2003 Christmas Party. This means we can be ourselves, as we will not be bound by the regulations imposed by a public Community Center or School. (This ought to be interesting— so don't miss it!)

# ACCIDENT REPORT- CONTINUED FROM PG 1



rope in spite of my pain. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of tools hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel."

"Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed approximately 20 pounds. I refer you again to my weight in block number 11. As you might imag-

ine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles, and the lacerations of my legs and lower body.

The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools and, fortunately, only three vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools, in pain, unable to stand and watching the empty barrel 80 feet

above me, I again lost my presence of mind. I let go of the rope..."



Caption describing picture or graphic.

## TUESDAY NIGHT NET

For those who want to join in, the club holds a net on Tuesday Night at 8:00 PM. There is usually an interesting topic to discuss. The net is open to all amateurs.

After the net, the group meets at Russ' Restaurant on Beacon Blvd in Grand Haven. There, we find even MORE interesting topics to discuss. Bring your new rig



Don, (N8HCS) (Right) and Andrew (N8ARY) pose with Megan, one of the Russ' staff.

Photo by John (WB9JSR)

or HT to show off and order some dessert or coffee while you're at it.

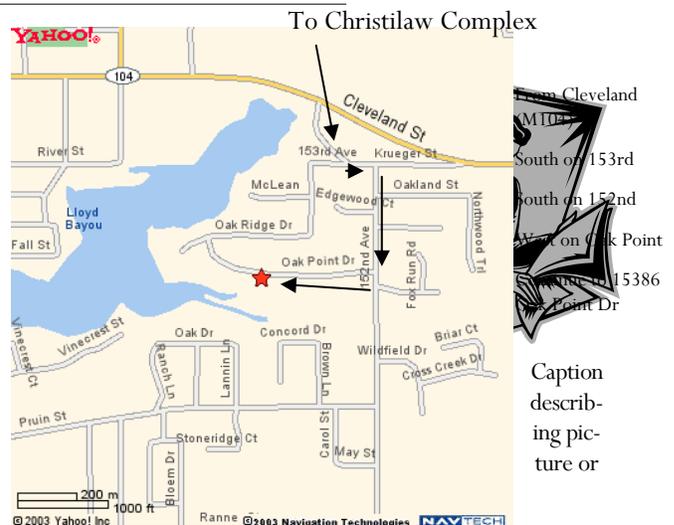
The Christmas party will be held at Craig Christi law's home, located at 15386 Oak Point Dr in Spring Lake. Talk-in will be on 145.49.

Bring a dish to pass and don't miss this once-in-a lifetime chance to eat in the Heathkit Room of the Christilaw Complex. (Also known as Christilaw Manor).

"DEVOID OF THE WEIGHT OF THE TOOLS, THE BARREL NOW WEIGHED APPROXIMATELY TWENTY POUNDS."

## CHRISTMAS PARTY-

Dec 18th  
at 6:00 PM.



Caption describing picture or

## NEW REPEATER CONTROLLER IN THE WORKS

The NOARC Club has purchased a new repeater controller which will be installed in the coming weeks on the 145.490 machine. The new controller has additional functionality that will provide more flexibility and easier programming.

The features include additional vocabulary and a scheduler, which will reduce the need for manually activating announcements such as "net tonight" and "club meeting."

We will also be able to change the other announcements. Maybe we will even have Juliet asking Henry the time. Who knows? There are endless possibilities, including recording custom audio tracks. Perhaps we can get Fran Drescher to announce the repeater's call sign (She's the one from the Old Navy commercials and "The Nanny" with the annoying voice). A grant request was filed with the Grand

Haven Community Foundation for reimbursement for the new controller by John Sundstrom. The foundation will decide on the grant at their January meeting.

Please note the committee will have to remove the current system from the "hill" during the installation. The old repeater will be started which means services will be limited and the G.R. link will be down during this time.



After 22 years of service, Juliet will retire this winter.

## TREASURER'S REPORT— BY GREG SCHIPPERS, KC8HXO

Account Status as of November 21, 2003:

- Beginning Balance of all accounts was \$6161.05, of which checking and savings totaled \$5269.11, and the NOARC endowment fund balance of \$891.94
- Income for the period: \$.41 which was interest on savings.
- Expenses for the period: \$26.81 which was Reimbursement to John Sundstrom, N8YQD, for September and October newsletter expenses.
- Ending balance of all accounts: \$6134.65 of which checking and savings total \$5242.71, and the NOARC endowment fund total balance is \$891.94
- Please note the chart below represents the status of all club funds at the end of the period:
- General Fund: \$4967.71
- Repeater Fund: \$0
- Digital Fund: \$275.00
- Endowment Fund \$891.94
- Total all funds \$6134.65

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

THAT WHICH  
DOES NOT KILL  
US MAKES US  
STRONGER

—F. NIETZSCHE



NORTH OTTAWA  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P.O Box 44  
Ferrysburg, MI 49456

OFFICERS:

President– Dean Whitney KF8NS  
Vice President– Don Smith N8HCS  
Secretary– Andrew Young N8ARY  
Treasurer– John Sundstrom– N8YQD  
Activities Director– Craig Christilaw– K8CRC

Editor's Email: n8ary@n8ary.com

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

[HTTP://WWW.QSL.NET/NOARC](http://www.qsl.net/noarc)

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## NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

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

<b>Dec</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>KB8VEE</b>	<b>Tom</b>
<b>Dec</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>N8LBG</b>	<b>Woody</b>
<b>Dec</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>KF8NS</b>	<b>Dean</b>
<b>Dec</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>N8PFC</b>	<b>Brad</b>
<b>Jan</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>KB8HU</b>	<b>Charlie</b>
<b>Jan</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>N8ARY</b>	<b>Andrew</b>
<b>Jan</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>N8HCS</b>	<b>Don</b>

### Presidents Report By Don Smith, N8HCS

Well here it is the end of a three year term of being the President of the NOARC. Thanks for putting up with me. Time sure fly's when you're having fun. I want to thank all the club members that kept everything going.

It's been a good three years also, all the activities and the Te Ne Ke project, well that gave us some nickels to rub together. That's three field days a bunch of ham fest, three JOTA'S three ham classes and three Christmas meetings ago.

Now I know that Dean KF8NS will do a great job as President, he is real organized. I always depend on John N8YQD to do the being organized part for me. I just use redneck technology, When all else fails use brute force!

In one of the original newsletters I believe that Dale Maxxam said that he was curious how long the club would last if they started one. The NOARC is 21 years old now and there are still some charter members around but the faces and the technology have changed a lot over that time. The NOARC is as strong as ever and probably better off financially that it has ever been.

There are some of old timers in the club which will make the club wise. We have young blood with new ideas in the club and that will make it strive. And there are a few good rednecks left to make it strong. I believe the club will be here for a long time to come.

The Novice the Advance and the Morse code have gone the way of the eight track tape. Sound cards have taken the place of rooms full of equipment making noise so loud that you had to wear ear plugs just to send a little teletype or some slow scan or CW. There was a mode called Packet then there wasn't then there was again. All this pretty much in the last three years.

I hope that all will be able to attend the club Christmas Party this Thursday the weather is holding pretty well so far. Craig K8CRC has graciously offered his home for our party this year. We will be meeting in the Heathkit room at Craig's house. Just goes to show you what kind of people make up this great club of ours.

Some time this month we will be installing the new controller and digital voice recorder on the NOARC repeater. For those of you that don't know, Henry W8GVK after dislocating his shoulder and breaking his arm volunteered again to help with this project. Henry has had to move his business from where he has operated for over thirty years to a facility about the third the size of his original building. Things are in piles on the floor of his new place but Henry said he could get things cleared up enough for us to get this project done at his new shop. This is another example of the kind of people that make up our club.

That's enough of that so see you Thursday at the party. 73 de N8HCS AR

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

Tone control 491=off; 490-on

Time of day 749

" S" meter readback 7

Phone patch Instructions:

\* followed by phone number

# t o disconnect

\*\* redial last number

911 calls Ottawa County Central Dispatch

912 call Muskegon County Dispatch

ECHOLINK NODE # 73469 (N8ARY-R) COMMANDS

Connect = #C then Node number (ie #C73469)

Disconnect = #73

Random Link = #01

Reconnect Last Node = #09

Check Status = #08

Identify = #\*\*

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**

**Box 44**

**Ferrysburg, MI 49409**

**Postmaster: Return Requested**

Minutes from the November 20th NOARC Meeting (by John Sundstrom)

1. Meeting called to order at 7:30 by Don Smith.
2. 22 members & guests were in attendance.
3. Election of officers for the next year were held.  
President, Dean Whitney; Vice President. Don Smith;  
Secretary Andrew Young; Treasurer, John Sundstrom'  
Activities Director, Craig Christilaw.
4. Members voted to spend \$709 to purchase a new Repeater controller.
5. Members voted to sent \$100 to the IRA association which houses our Grand rapids link receiver.
6. The Christmas party will be at 6 PM December 18th at the home of Craig Cristilaw. It will be a potluck and spouses are invited.
7. It was suggested that we look into asking the Grand Haven Community Foundation for a grant for the repeater controller. Note: Grant application was written and submitted.
8. After discussion, the dues were allowed to rise as voted 2 years ago to \$35 beginning in 2004.
9. Program: Chuck Rich of the Holland Club presented a film he taped about Stealth Antennas.

**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 \_\_\_\_\_