



North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK
MARCH, 2002

From Don Smith, N8HCS, President

Hello to all and I hope you are well. Our class is about over, and all that have started are still in attendance. Two of the class members have already passed their exams and have been issued their license. Please welcome Rick MacDonald KC8THP and Craig Chritilaw KC8THN to the ranks of Amateur Radio. If you hear them on the air please give them a warm welcome.

Henry W8GVK in cooperation with the NOARC will be hosting a ten week FM radio course on understanding FM and our repeater. I have to secure a classroom soon so we can start the class. If you are interested in FM an repeaters please contact Henry hriekels@att.net on the class and give him your e-mail address with a carbon copy to me n8hcs@arrl.net so I can keep you posted of time, dates and place. This will be a win win situation for all, you can learn and the NOARC will have plenty of repeater repair people to keep the 145.49 going. Remember Henry will not always be there to answer the call of the broken machine.

Please keep in mind when you see a fellow ham or fellow club member that we all need to recruit new members to the NOARC. Lets all do our part in promoting Amateur radio and the NOARC. We have put QST Magazine in five area schools to get the younger generation interested in Amateur Radio and this will be followed up by putting on radio demonstrations in our school. Also we are installing a display of Ham radio things in a display case's in the White Pines middle school. If you would like to do Ham radio demonstrations, please contact me.

Our funds in the NOARC treasury are doing OK and we have survived raising the dues. That's a good thing. Also I have been informed we have 53 members right now and that's a good thing also. BUT, I would like to see a hundred members. Is that possible? With all of our fifty member I think It is. Here is what I will do: I will recruit one more member and all you have to do is recruit one more member. JUST ONE! don't over do it. Everyone just recruit one member or a former club member or new ham. Now look at the math. If we have 53 members right now and we all recruit ONE new member that would equal 106 members. If we do this I bet I can get a break on our costs and a few other nice things for NOARC. Just think of the fun we can have with 106 members. All you have to do is recruit JUST ONE new member. Like my old friend Bill Nike says "JUST DO IT"!

Ok that will be all B C N U A little further down the log 73 de N8HCS

Club Announcements : Regular Monthly Meeting at White Pines Middle School on Thursday March 28th at 7 PM.

All are invited to attend the March meeting. Besides the usual drinking of coffee and eating of treats, Greg, KC8HXO will give a presentation on Packet Radio. An actual packet station will be setup for demonstration. There has been a recent interest in packet radio communications by amateurs in the West Michigan area. It is easy to setup a station using a surplus 2 meter radio and a computer. Now You don't even need to buy a TNC. Attend the meeting and find out all about it.

Notice of FCC Exam Session 3/23/02 7 PM at the Lake Shore Middle School

The NOARC and Holland Volunteer Examiners will conduct FCC license examinations at the Lake Shore Middle School on Cutler Street (just west of US 31 on Grant) in Grand haven. The recent Tech class will take their exams along with anyone else who wishes to. The fee is \$10.00 per Exam given except for Morse code. Please bring 2 pieces of identification to the session and originals and one copy of your current FCC license if you are upgrading to General of Extra Class. Volunteer Examiners from both Holland and North Ottawa will be present to conduct the tests and to Sign off on the FCC forms. Good Luck to the recent class!

Treasurer's Report for March 2002 from Gregg, KC8HXO Account Status as of February 20, 2002:

Beginning Balance of all accounts was \$3216.33, of which checking and savings totaled \$2367.07, and the NOARC endowment fund balance of \$849.26.

Income for the period:1077.07; of which \$.07 was interest on savings, and \$785.00 was Club Dues, and \$280.00 was Te-Ne-KE sales.

Expenses for the period: \$73.60: \$60.00 was Dec. Lounge rental at the GH Community Center, \$13.60 was reimbursement to Greg Schippers for 2 books of stamps.

Ending balance of all accounts: \$4219.80 of which checking and savings total \$3370.54, and the NOARC endowment fund total balance is \$849.26

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

General Fund: \$3095.54

Repeater Fund: would be NEGATIVE balance after replacement of receiver, new battery, etc. this year

Digital Fund: \$275.00

Endowment Fund \$849.26

Total all funds \$4219.80

This period there were no expenses incurred for the Te-Ne-KE project, and \$280.00 in revenues. The total revenue generated to date are \$2852.36. This IS reflected in the general account balance in the above ledger. Please continue to support this important project!!

Minutes of the February 28, 2002 NOARC regular Meeting by John Sundstrom.

1. Meeting called order by Don N8HCS. Member introduced themselves. There were 14 in attendance including Greg Poole, K8GP (one of the founding members).
2. School is going well with 10 students who are all continuing to attend. Exams are slated for Tuesday march 26th.
3. This years SKY WARN training is to be held on Thursday Night March 21 st at 7 PM at the Ottawa County jail & Administrative Building on Phil more Street.
4. NOARC has rented 3 tables for the Marshall Ham Fest and all members in good standing are invited to attend and sell your equipment.
5. Don Smith and John Sundstrom are planning on attending the Cadillac Ham Fest on May 4th at the Cadillac Middle School. We will get one table. Let us know if you plan on attending and want to sell anything.
6. The annual Dayton Hamvention is coming and NOARC will once again maintain a booth in the outside area. We will mainly sell TE NE Ke's. All NOARC members are encouraged to attend and help out at the booth (its also a good place to “rest” and meet with the other folks attending). John Sundstrom and Don Smith are planning on camping at the Dayton KOA campgrounds. Others are welcome to join us.
7. Larry Park suggested that NOARC install a Amateur Station in the upcoming Science Museum.
8. QST for schools. NOARC will purchase subscriptions for 5 area schools: Grand Haven High; Lakeshore Middle; White Pines Middle; Spring Lake High and Spring Lake Middle school. Brad King, N8PFC is funding the 2 Spring Lake schools and Ed Summers KC8LBZ is funding the Grand Haven High subscriptions. The club is funding the other 2. Grand Haven Schools have committed to continuing the subscriptions if the students show interest. See more about it below and on page 4.
9. After the 50/50 drawing, Andrew Young N8ARY gave an fine presentation on the construction and characteristics of the “J Pole” antenna.

To All Michigan Section Clubs:

The North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club has purchased five QST Subscriptions for three middle schools and two high schools in the Grand Haven and Spring Lake area.

This is an excellent example of a local radio club getting involved in educational opportunities that lead to amateur radio licensing.

Congratulations to the North Ottawa ARC for their actions supporting our Section's youth. Thanks to John Sundstrom, N8YQD sundstrj@gvsu.edu , club secretary, for bringing this to our attention.

.....More...

Thanks to Steve McCallum W2ZBY KY Public Information Coordinator for letting us know that the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, in Lexington, KY, conducts amateur radio classes as part of the public school's evening classes division which issues regular schedules for each semester that are carried in the local daily newspaper. The announcements includes the class days, hours and name of radio club contact. While the classes have mostly been aimed at passing the lowest ranking license requirements, we have on occasion held classes for more advanced license requirements. The present structure is one hour for theory and one hour for Morse code for 10 weekly sessions. Students have ranged from grade school kids to retirees and between.

Recent Correspondence Between the Club and the ARRL Division Director regarding Getting QST into schools.

Dear John:

I know and understand your frustration with your quest to get lower cost QST into schools.

As you are well aware, this year and next the League is going to be running a considerable "in the red" bottom line. Who knows, maybe after the "Big Project" gets fully funded, and is well under way, there may be some way to follow up on your idea of a reduced subscription cost to QST for those schools involved. It is an idea that will not be forgotten. I just wanted to say a big "thank you" to you personally, and to the members of the North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, for picking up the cost of QST for 5 schools in your area. You set a good example of a group that cares about introducing Amateur Radio to youth, and it is appreciated.

Thanks and 73,

George Race - WB8BGY
ARRL Great Lakes Division Director

(Note : This was the e-Mail I sent to George race and others at the ARRL—editor)

"Hello Rosalie and others:

I thought I would update you all on our clubs' action on QST for schools.

As you may know, we did not get any break on QST for school libraries. Nevertheless, our club purchased 5 QST subscriptions for the 3 middle schools and the two High Schools in our service area (Grand Haven and Spring Lake, Michigan).

John Sundstrom, N8YQD, Secretary
North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club"

Recent Communications from Boyd Mason, NE8KE

From: <ne8ke@juno.com>
To: "donaldjr@ameritech.net"
CC: John Sundstrom
Date: Wednesday - March 20, 2002 2:18 PM
Subject:

MFJ KEY.gif (197769 bytes)
[\[View\]](#) [\[Save As\]](#)

Did you see the new MFJ key? How are you going to compete with that? The only way is to advertise it is to Guaranteed it for life. NO one else does that. I always excluded the base and the stereo cable though. Anything else you can make a little on when they send you the shipping. There was a key that got one hell of a good write up in World Radio this month and I bought one of those keys three years ago and I didn't think it was worth a damn.

(note NOARC has been guaranteeing the TE NE KE for life for the past 3 years.

Packet radio net on Wednesday Nights ay 7 PM..

This Received from Clarke, K8BP

We have changed the Net Packet frequency from 147.560 MHz to the frequency of 145.070 MHz. Check in 7PM wed night.

At the present time N8YJT and K8BP are sending Beacon signals on this frequency. So please try to connect with these stations. You can also leave messages in their mailboxes at N8YJT-1 & K8BP-1.

With the higher number of packet stations getting on the air, this change was made to separate the Muskegon area packet stations from the DX Cluster transmissions sent by the Holland club K8DAA.

Looking for your connect on packet.

CUL

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

If you are unable to keep your appointment as Net Control, **please** arrange for a replacement. Mark your calendar, PDA , etc. to remind yourself of your date.

April 2	Beverly Traxler	KC8JWA
April 9	Dean Whitney	KF8NS
April 16	Brad King	N8PFC
April 23	John Sundstrom	N8YQD
April 30	Charlie Osborn	KB8HU
May 7	Don Smith	N8HCS
May 14	Tom Vander Mel	KB8VEE

Club Officers :

PRESIDENT:	Don Smith, N8HCS	846-1938
Vice-President:	Dean Whitney, KF8NS	842-0976
Treasurer:	Greg Schippers - KC8HXO	847-0238
Secretary:	John Sundstrom, N8YQD	847-4249
Program Director:	Dan Whisman, N8KCW	847-8377
Newsletter Editor:	John Sundstrom, N8YQD	847-4249

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

“ S” meter read back 7

Touch tone pad test 5

Phone patch

*** followed by phone number**

t o disconnect

**** redial last 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 . 2002 Dues are \$ 25.00 individual and \$ 35.00 family.

Please send dues to NOARC Box 44, Ferrysburg, MI 49409

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Box 44

Ferrysburg, MI 49409

Postmaster: Return Requested