

# North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

## **SPARK for May 2004**

### **Presidents Perspective by Dean Whitney KF8NS**

Well, I can officially say I'm 'over the hill' now, as the '50 year old' milestone passed by me earlier this month. I can feel the arteries hardening even as I write this. I'd say my memory is starting to fail too, but that's been on the way 'out' for a little while already, I just can't remember how long. Still too young for Alzheimer's, but not too old for 'sometimes' to be setting in, :-)

Anyway, the club meeting is coming up (I went to the school this past Thursday, thinking it was club meeting night, but nobody else was there). We have the hamfest coming up in Hudsonville June 5th. Some hams will be going over Friday & spending the night there, which, sounds like fun. The club will have a table or two there to put any gear out you'd like to sell, and also serve as a 'roost' for any wishing to rest their feet. Be sure to bring your shopping list, as well as plenty of 'green coupons!' My wish list is pretty short, I should be in the 'selling' mode rather than the 'buying' mode.

Also coming up in June is Field Day. We'll probably be hearing more about that at the club meeting, so anyone interested in participating, we'd like to see you / hear from you, either at the club meeting or on the Tuesday night net.

With that, I'll say '73's, & include a couple of more photo's from my trip 'down under'. de KF8NS / Dean

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## Upcoming Events

**May 27th 7PM NOARC Meeting at the White Pine Middle School in Grand Haven. Topics: 1. Planning for Field Day. 2. Dan Whisman and John Sundstrom demonstrate their cool new rigs purchased at Dayton. Dan will demonstrate the new ICOM 703 QRP HF radio and John will show off his new Yaesu FT 857 all mode all band radio.**

**Saturday May 29 7:45 AM: Radio coverage of YMCA Run. Meet at Parking Lot back of Grand Haven Police Station. Call Don Meyer for information.**

**June 5 8 AM-2 PM : Hudsonville Hamfest. Noarc will have club tables For use by club members to sell their gear. Also, supper and camping available the night before.**

**June 24th: 6:30 NOARC Meeting & supper at Field Day Site (Hoffma Preserve) to do final organization, inspect antenna sites and make final plans.**

**June 26th & 27 : Annual Field Day ay Hoffma Preserve . Breakfast and setup**

**Saturday Morning. Begin Making contacts at noon. Greg Schippers and Jeff Olsen are overall team captains.**

### **\*\*\*\*\* 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](http://www.qsl.net/noarc)**

<b>May 25 KF8NS</b>	<b>Dean Whitney</b>
<b>June 1 N8PFC</b>	<b>Brad King</b>
<b>June 8 N8YQD</b>	<b>John Sundstrom</b>
<b>June 15 N8ARY</b>	<b>Andrew Young</b>
<b>June 22 N8HCS</b>	<b>Don Smith</b>
<b>June 29 W8TML</b>	<b>Tom Lau</b>
<b>July 6 KB8VEE</b>	<b>Tom Vandermehl</b>

**Gordon West, the well know author Visits NOARC Booth at Dayton 2004 and poses with Don and John**



**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 = #\*\*

<b>President</b>	<b>Dean Whitney, KF8NS</b>	<b>842-0976</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Don Smith, N8HCS</b>	<b>846-1938</b>
<b>President</b>	<b>Dean Whitney, KF8NS</b>	<b>842-0976</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>John Sundstrom-N8yqd</b>	<b>847-0238</b>
<b>Secretary/SPARK editor:</b>	<b>Andrew Young N8ARY</b>	
<b>Activities Director</b>	<b>Craig Christalaw K8CRC</b>	

## From the desk of Don Smith the V.P

Things were right on schedule this year for our three hundred and ten mile trip to Dayton Ohio for the Dayton Ham-vention because we took Lou N8KYO with us and he is always right on schedule. To all those who took the 350 mile trek to Dayton, well there is a shorter way and about an hour difference. The ham trio this year was Jon N8YQD, Lou N8KYO and myself. After our arrival we met up the Tom and Kathy the VEE'S, The Fischers were there, all four of them. Roger and Phyllis stayed in the same campground that we were in though we didn't get the chance to have dinner with them this year.

We arrived at the Dayton Campgrounds about six thirty and had plenty of time to set up the tent camper we borrowed from Jeff KC8FQh, set up a rig and an 80 meter dipole, and made some contacts. (of course there were hams in the park telling Lou how to get up a dipole but when they seen him bo lo a line over the tree right on target things got real quiet and everyone agreed that was the way to do it).

On Thursday we didn't rush too much but had a good breakfast at Bob Evans and made it to the arena about eight thirty to set up and find some of those pre ham fest deals. Wouldn't you know it that right off the bat I sold one of the old boat anchors I brought with me, which meant I had more money too play with. Things got kind of slow around the NOARC tent for a while so we spent a lot of time trying to find some deals but the stuff we were looking for just wasn't being set out yet, and so far no rain, but things are pretty dark and all of a sudden a down pour for about fifteen minutes then the sun came out again and so did we, still looking for that \$400.00 Yaesu FT-100 but no luck. A couple hours later another fifteen minute down pour then more sun. After a day of hard looking around and wondering where Lou was all day, we met up with the fellows from GAP Antenna's and the Fischers at a local restaurant for supper, discussed how things were going to go this year and how tired everyone was already and a good time was had by all.

Friday the first day of the swap we got up at 0:dark thirty and got rolling to breakfast so we could make it in the gate before it closed at eight, see the sellers have to be inside the fence by eight. We arrived at the ham fest about seven thirty and the Fischers were already there and had things set up which I know took a load off of Lou's mind, by the way has any one seen Lou today? I guess its pretty easy to get lost in a sea of thousands of people. On Friday (overcast but warm without rain all day) I seen John found a super deal on Yaesu FT-857 and I really would like to of had that deal but I looked and I think he got the only one there. I did manage a super deal on a Kenwood TS-50 but had to buy a Kenwood dual band rig with it to get the deal. Seems the fellow was cleaning out his Mercedes. Later I sold the dual band mobile for \$125.00 (what was I thinking?) Must have been the fatigue, but I am sure that fellow is still talking about the great deal he got and that's what its all about). Six already? Oh there's Lou, must be time to go to supper, never want to call Lou late for supper. After supper we got out the rigs we bought to try them out and even though I was making contacts on the Kenwood it seemed as if the wattage was real low and there was no knob to turn it up. After checking into a traffic net and finding KC8HXO on Frequency I told him of my dilemma which was the fact that I didn't have a manual with the Kenwood and didn't know how to adjust anything, so after a brief time Greg called me on my cell phone and he had looked up the TS-50 on the Internet, got me into the submenu's and found that the watts were set at ten which I changed to 100 and got the mod turned up then I was happy knowing I had a good rig. Thanks Greg. Also tried out the FT-857 John bought so we actually checked into the net and made three transmissions on three different rigs, Wow! And that was Friday.

The forecast for Saturday was rain till eleven but clearing for the rest of the day (right!!!) Again the same routine 0:dark thirty, yada yada and there we were again in the rain till eleven thirty, right? Wrong. It never stopped raining all day, where is Lou? I hope he has a rain suite! Had a lot of activity around the tent on Friday, mainly because it was a dry place to be. Did get to spend some time with Lou and John walking around inside but all the people seemed to be leaving Saturday afternoon so could really never find that special flea market deal.

About five we decided we had enough rain though I kind of would have liked to see what being there on a Sunday would be about, we bugged out, maybe next year. It quit raining long enough for us to get the tent camper emptied out and packed away. Took down the antenna and were on our way. Quite a dry ride home though and about dusk on the Indiana Ohio toll road we seen quite a few deer wanting to get some of the greener grass on the other side. So to tally things up I sold two radios bought two radio's and then sold one radio for a grand total of sold three and bought one. Also I picked up one of those jump start / air compressor / work light, a small speaker a couple of antenna's that didn't work, and also a good time was had by all. Next year maybe the weather will cooperate, and all the good deals will be there within arms reach and we all will have a pot of gold to spend, it could happen.

I will be looking forward to Hudsonville swap and the Great Road kill Chili Cook-off. The club will have tables there for club members to sell their excess gear though you could check with me first I may be buying.

BCNU later 73 de N8HCS AR/SK

**Treasurer's Report For May , 2004**

Beginning Balance ( as of january 22,2004) of all accounts was \$5521.74, of which checking and savings totaled \$4249.72, and the NOARC endowment fund balance of \$1272.02

Income for the period:

Grant From GH Community Foundation	707.00
Grant from Regional ARES	100.00
Sale of 6 Te Ne Ke's	210.00
Dues and 50/50 drawings	346.76
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sub total all income	1363.76

Expenses for the period:

Comconco for Repeater electric & telephone calls	386.91
Andrew Young-echolink radio	100.00
SMARS 3 tables Marchall Ham Fest	34.00
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total expenses	520.91

Ending balance of all accounts: \$6380.59 of which checking and savings total \$5092.57, and the NOARC endowment fund total balance is \$1298.80

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

General Fund:	\$4817.57
Repeater Fund:	0
Digital Fund:	\$275.00
Endowment Fund	1298.80
Total all funds	\$6380.59
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This period there were no expenses incurred for the Te-Ne-Ke project, and \$210 in sales.

**The total revenue generated to date are \$5383.36.** This IS reflected in the general account balance in the above ledger. Please continue to support this important project!!

**As of today, 45 have paid their 2004 dues. Since we have about 60 members, about 15 have not yet paid. If you have not paid your 2004 dues, please do so this month. Thanks.**



**Century 21 Pearson-Cook**  
 21 N Beacon Blvd (US 31)  
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 toll free 800-524-0833

## John Sundstrom



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**sundstrj@gvsu.edu**

News flash: Sundstrom is back in the Real Estate Business. Most of you do not know that I was an active Real estate Broker when I lived in Wisconsin prior to moving to Grand Haven back in 1988. While in Wisconsin I owned and operated "Country Store Realty" for many years. I was even voted "Realtor of the Year" in Wisconsin way back in 1981. Now that I have "retired" from Grand valley State, I am working full time as an Associate Broker for Century 21 Pearson Cook on Beacon Boulevard in Grand Haven.

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

