

## North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

# SPARK for November 2003

### *Presidents Report By Don Smith N8HCS*

One more column from me after this and Dean Whitney will be responsible for the Presidents report for a while. Though I will try to get something going on the Vice President's column.

The Holland swap went pretty good. I read a write up in QST this month on the Michigan State Convention which was the Holland ordeal. Tom K8000, Greg K8GP and his wife Barb and myself went to the Wouff Hong where we were inducted in to the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong. Now if you have never been to this secret ceremony I suggest that you attend either at Dayton or any state convention. We were all sworn to secrecy, kind of like if I tell you I have to kill you type of thing. Though I have been a ham for twenty years I had never attended till now. I am glad that Tom after only a couple of years got a chance to go. Greg Poel has been a ham for over thirty years and finally got his chance this year also. Though I can't tell you what happens when you are sworn in to this secret order I will pass on a piece of advice that Randy W8RAS gave me, and that is: Wear clean underwear. Any way back to the swap. After being up late at the Wouff Hong we got up real early for the swap and as usual drug through the whole thing half asleep. Did not make a whole lot of deals but did help out with the VE session where we passed about eleven new hams into the hobby, one even an Amateur Extra.

I said even before I read it in QST, this was one well organized event and I hope that it will continue as a State Convention for many years.

There was a time when Muskegon put on the Convention for years at the MCC College. I remember all the rooms and halls being full of equipment and sellers and getting a look at this equipment meant an elbow to elbow trip down the rows of tables. Of course rigs were bigger then and two meters was not a real popular mode so even that gear was huge by today's Standards. I really had fun going to those swap's but time goes on.

The wind storm on Wednesday was a good one. Got to hear all the Emergency people doing Emergency things. Got to look for my garbage can the next day. But what really got me mad is that about 1:00 in the am my boy lets me know that the front awning over the front window of my travel trailer is flying around in the breeze. After getting out of bed and going out to see what I could do it had already broken loose and put a ding in the top of the trailer right over the marker light on right hand side as you look at the front of the trailer totally destroying the right front marker light lens and the awning itself. I didn't know that Yellowstone trailers had a self destruct mode in case of high winds but it does.

My birthday was Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> in case you were wondering. All the presents and cards were appreciated; all none of them. I think I will just keep this date a secret from now on because next year is the big five oh. But the real reason I bring this up is because this is the first time in a long time that we have not had snow on or before my birthday which really sucks for all the hunters out there.

Our meeting is early this month so don't get that all screwed up. Just be there a week early. We are having another great presentation from Chuck Rich professional film maker, on stealth antennas. Chuck is one of the fellows that put the Holland swap together and is a familiar face at all Amateur Events. Chuck is very active in putting on these types of programs and is very good at it. The End, de N8HCS AR

### **Page Topic**

- 1. Presidents Message**
- 2. Treasurer's Report and Net Control Schedule**
- 3. Upcoming Events**
- 4. Letter from Congressman Pete Hookstra supporting HR 713.**
- 5. Secretary's report; Community Foundation; 2004 Dues form (please pay by December 30th).**

## Treasurer's Account Status as of October 21, 2003 by Greg Schippers, KC8HXO

Beginning Balance of all accounts was \$5861.65, of which checking and savings totaled \$5035.69, and the NOARC endowment fund balance of \$825.96

Income for the period: \$267.42 of which .42 was interest on savings; \$60.00 was club dues; \$12.00 was 50/50 drawing from September Club meeting; \$40.00 was proceeds from sale of antenna tuner donated by Gordon Stockhill, KA8UQT; \$40.00 was proceeds from sale of commercial radios donated by Tom Fischer, K8OOO, and repaired and sold by Boyd Mason, NE8KE.

Expenses for the period: \$34.00 which was tables for the Holland Amateur Swap.

Ending balance of all accounts: \$6161.05 of which checking and savings total \$5269.11, 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:	\$4994.11
Repeater Fund:	\$0
Digital Fund:	\$275.00
Endowment Fund	\$891.94
Total all funds	\$6161.05

### \*\*\*\*\* Net Control Schedule \*\*\*\*\*

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

<b>Nov</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>N8YQD</b>	<b>John</b>
<b>Nov</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>N8ARY</b>	<b>Andrew</b>
<b>Dec</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>N8HCS</b>	<b>Don</b>
<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>

**NOTE: This information is also found on the NOARC Web site [www.qsl.net/noarc](http://www.qsl.net/noarc)**

# Upcoming Events

**November 20: NOARC Club meeting at the White Pine Middle School. Election of 2004 club officers. Presentation will be By Chuck Rich of the Holland Club on construction of “stealth Antennas”.**

**December 18th : NOARC Christmas Party at the home of Craig Christilaw , 15386 Oak Point Drive , Spring Lake ( on Lloyd’s Bayou).**

**December 28th: Last day to make a contribution to the Grand haven Community Foundation’s North Ottawa Amateur Radio Fund and receive a 50% tax credit on your 2003 Michigan Income Tax return. For example, if you gave the fund \$40, you would enter the amount on line 21 and would receive a \$20 tax credit/refund.**

**December 30th: Last day to pay your 2004 dues and escape the dues increase from \$30 to \$35 as voted by the membership back in 2001. Please send your dues to NOARC, Box 44 Ferrysburg, MI 49409 . Those who paid for 3 years in advance do not need to pay for 2004.**

## 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 Officers :

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	<b>Don Smith, N8HCS</b>	<b>846-1938</b>
<b>Vice-President:</b>	<b>Dean Whitney, KF8NS</b>	<b>842-0976</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Greg Schippers - KC8HXO</b>	<b>847-0238</b>
<b>Secretary/SPARK editor:</b>	<b>John Sundstrom, N8YQD</b>	<b>847-4249</b>
<b>Program Director:</b>	<b>Ed Summers, KC8LBZ</b>	<b>798-7055</b>

**PETE HOEKSTRA**  
SECOND DISTRICT  
MICHIGAN  
E-MAIL:  
[tellhoek@mail.house.gov](mailto:tellhoek@mail.house.gov)  
WORLD WIDE WEB:  
[www.house.gov/hoekstra](http://www.house.gov/hoekstra)

108th Congress  
**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

November 7, 2003

COMMITTEES:  
EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE  
CHAIRMAN,  
SELECT EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE  
TRANSPORTATION AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE  
CHAIRMAN,  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
TECHNICAL AND TACTICAL INTELLIGENCE

17933 Comstock John Sundstrom  
17933 Comstock Street  
Grand Haven, Michigan 49417-9361

Dear 17933 Comstock Sundstrom:

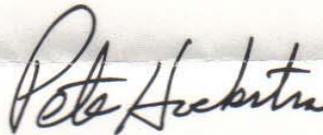
Thank you for contacting me regarding H.R. 713, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003. I appreciate hearing from you.

H.R. 713 was introduced on February 26, 2003, by Representative Michael Bilirakis, R-FL, and was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. This bill would prohibit the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) from reallocating primary amateur radio frequency bands or making additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce their utility to the amateur radio or satellite service, unless the FCC provides equivalent replacement spectrum to amateur radio and satellite service.

I am happy to inform you that I have become a co-sponsor of this legislation. I agree that amateur radio provides an important service to the public. It is a voluntary, self-managed service that costs the government very little and returns great benefits to taxpayers. Amateur radio is entirely non-commercial and has proved critical in assisting communications efforts during emergencies.

Again, thank you for expressing your concerns. Please be assured that I will continue working to see that this legislation is brought to the House floor for a vote in this Congress.

Sincerely,



Pete Hoekstra  
Member of Congress

PH/jm



**WASHINGTON OFFICE:**  
2234 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4401  
FAX: (202) 226-0779

**DISTRICT OFFICE—HOLLAND**  
184 South River Avenue  
Holland, Mich. 49423  
(616) 395-0030  
FAX: (616) 395-0271

**DISTRICT OFFICE—MUSKOGON**  
900 3rd Street, Suite 203  
Muskegon, Mich. 49440  
(231) 722-8386  
FAX: (231) 722-0176

**DISTRICT OFFICE—CADILLAC**  
210-1/2 North Mitchell Street  
Cadillac, Mich. 49601  
(231) 775-0050  
FAX: (231) 775-0298



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## Minutes of the NOARC October 24, 2003 Meeting by John Sundstrom, Secretary

1. Meeting opened by President Don Smith. Introduction of 23 attendees.
2. Treasurer's & Secretary's reports for the previous month were approved.
3. Discussion of the upcoming Holland Ham Fest. NOARC has 3 tables. Don & John are working VE exams.
4. Don Meyer reported that a digital repeater network for ARES purposes has been setup on 147.76 Mhz. The group is still conducting a net on Wednesday night using the Muskegon 146.94 repeater for voice coordination.
5. Nomination of Officers for 2004:

**President**      **Dean Whitney**

**Vice President**   **Don Smith**

**Secretary**      **Andrew Young**

**Treasurer**      **John Sundstrom**

**Activities**      **Craig Cristalaw**

6. Report on JOTA Activities. About 30 scouts visited the site and learned about Ham Radio, reported Dan Whisman.
7. Discussion of the Christmas Party. Craig Cristalaw offered the use of his home for the event.
8. John Sundstrom made a presentation about Broadband Over Power Lines, a new internet access technology the electric power industry wants to implement. It is a problem for amateurs as it emits a s-9 noise anywhere from 2-80 meters.

### ***Get a Tax Break and Help the Club at the Same time—make a Donation to the Grand Haven Community Foundation***

Do you wish to do something special for the Club and get a tax break at the same time? Make a donation to the North Ottawa Amateur radio Club's Endowment Fund held by the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation. If you make the donation prior to year end, you can claim a 50% tax credit on your Michigan Income Tax Return. For example, if you donate \$100 to the NOARC Endowment fund, you can claim a \$50 tax credit. Checks can be sent directly to the

Grand Haven Community Foundation 1 South Harbor Drive, Grand Haven, MI 49417. Indicate the funds are to be deposited into the North Ottawa Amateur radio Club Endowment Account. The funds are invested for us and we can withdraw the earnings (all or part) for use for club projects such as promoting Ham Radio, repeater improvements, etc. Special deposit envelopes are also available from John Sundstrom.

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

**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**

**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**