

# SPARK

the monthly newsletter of the  
North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

## February 2011

Enjoying yourselves, snowbirds?



### IN THIS ISSUE

January meeting minutes.....	pg 2
2010 Treasurer's report.....	pg 2
February events and net control schedule.....	pg 3
Swap 'n shop.....	pg 4

### NOARC board of directors

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#### Vice President

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#### SPARK Editor

Joe Veldhuis, N8FQ – jvn8fq@gmail.com – (616) 834-4989

#### Activities Director

\*\* VACANT \*\*

#### NOARC 2 meter repeater

W8CSO/R – 145.490 output, 144.890 input

Main RX: PL 94.8 – Grand Rapids RX: PL 91.5 – EchoLink: N8FQ-R #469574

# January 2011 meeting minutes

The meeting was called to order at slightly after 7 PM by our new club president, Paul W8IQE, who had returned from his stay in Florida a bit ahead of schedule. After introductions, a call was made for any business needing attention before the night's presentation.

Vice-President Craig K8CRC brought up the idea of resuming our former tradition of setting up a special event station for the Coast Guard Festival. Several possible locations were suggested, and it was decided that Craig would contact the Festival committee regarding a setup for this year's event.

With that resolved, our program began. Roger WB0DGF, an antenna design engineer at RAMI (and formerly at Hy-Gain in Iowa) gave a presentation on the behavior of various antenna systems. He began with a 2-meter groundplane, then a dipole, and finally a 3-element yagi. Using a 14-watt florescent light, he illustrated the voltage nodes at the ends of each element. With a magnetic current sensor (a 3-inch loop of wire, a 47pF capacitor and a lightbulb) he pointed out the current nodes at the center of the antenna. Finally, using a lightbulb wired to a dipole, he demonstrated each antenna's radiation pattern. Some complications were encountered regarding reflections inside the meeting room, but the general point of the presentation was clear.

The group took a 10 minute break around 8 PM to stretch, chat and eat the cookies, brownies and lemon squares provided by Craig K8CRC (seeing as Phyllis KB8NLN was in Florida). After that, a brief Q&A was held. After a few more demonstrations using unusual antenna configurations, the 15 minute warning was heard and the meeting quickly wrapped up.

## 2010 Treasurer's Report

Checking account.....\$1,871.45 (balanced to the bank)

Community Foundation Account.....4,983.44 (as of 9/30/2010)

Thanks to Henkle, Fisher, Cox, Simmons, Doctor, Gates, Furton, Dood, Tripp, Ingersol, Clive(s), Tannis & Sundstrom who all recently paid thier 2011 dues.

# **February 2011 calendar of events and net control schedule**

## **Every Tuesday:**

NOARC net/coffee at Russ' in Grand Haven  
8:00 PM

## **Every Wednesday:**

Breakfast at Idle Hour Cafe in Spring Lake  
7:00 AM

## **Every Saturday:**

Breakfast at Pine Street Cafe in Ferrysburg  
7:00 AM

## **February 12:**

Cherryland ARC Swap-n-shop, Traverse City, MI  
<http://www.cherrylandarc.com>

## **February 20:**

Livonia ARC Swap-n-shop, Livonia, MI  
<http://www.livoniaarc.com/Swap.htm>

## **February 19-20:**

ARRL International DX Contest  
All HF bands, CW, 0000z Saturday – 2359z Sunday

## **February 24:**

OCEC repeater net, 7:30 PM  
145.490 and 147.060 repeaters are linked for this net

## **NOARC net control schedule:**

February 1: **John, KC8UNY**

February 8: **Paul, W8IQE**

February 15: **Joe, N8FQ**

February 22: **John, KC8UNY**

E-mail me at [jvn8fq@gmail.com](mailto:jvn8fq@gmail.com) if you want to get on the net control roster!

# Swap 'n shop

**For Sale:** Zenith Trans-Atlantic all-band radios – John Sundstrom, N8YQD

**For Sale:** Textbooks on basic electronic theory, multimeters and oscilloscopes – Paul Zellar, W8IQE

The **Te-Ne-Ke** is still in production - \$40 shipped anywhere



## NOARC membership form

**Dues:**

**Individual:** \$25 yearly or \$70 for 3 years

**Family:** \$35 yearly or \$75 for 3 years

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Callsign:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **NOARC**

Mail form to:

**NOARC**

**PO Box 976**

**Grand Haven, MI 49417**