

SPARK

the monthly newsletter of the

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

May 2011

Public service season underway!

While it might not feel like it some days, Spring has arrived – and with it come the usual bevy of parades and races needing hams to keep things in order.

On April 2, while many of us went over to Lowell for the ARGYL swap, a few stalwarts stayed behind to work the Grand Valley Lubbers' Cup Regatta in Spring Lake. Despite the cold, the event went off without a hitch and we're all looking forward to doing it again next year – hopefully without the inclement weather or hamfest conflict.

On the 16th, a few of us helped out with the Earth Day Parade in Grand Haven. Again, the weather was not entirely on our side – the parade route was shortened twice in anticipation of cold, windy and wet weather but everything turned up alright in the end.

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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

April 2011 meeting minutes

Fifteen avid members of the NOARC met in the Spring Lake Library conference room. The larger than usual group met to hear Al Eckman WW8WW tell about the Lowell ARGYL club.

Phyllis Simmons brought the cookies, brownies, and apples. Vice President Craig Christilaw brought coffee and pretzels. If nothing else was gained, we all caught up a few extra calories.

President Paul Zellar called the meeting to order around 6:35 pm. Then, in a clockwise manner, around the room, each member identified himself with his call sign and first name. John Fischer then caught us up on the current events.

On Saturday April 30th, volunteers are requested to assist with the "Caddy Shack Race" meet at the Department of Public Safety at 8:00am. The race begins at nine.

May 7th is the beginning of the Holland Tulip Festival. Radio help is needed during the week. On Saturday, May 14th is the Tulip Parade. This national event is reported to be second in size only to the Rose Bowl Parade in California. For more information contact Jim Miller W8JRM.

May 28th your assistance is requested to provide emergency communications for the Snug Harbor Race. More details to follow.

The Village of Spring Lake has asked for help to work with the Department of Public Safety to assist with the Memorial Day Parade on May 30th.

John Fischer also mentioned that Field Day will occur on June 26, 2011, at Ferry Park. It was suggested that notices or posters be placed at the stations. Anyone, interested in becoming an amateur radio operator, could put their name on an "interest list". Someone in the club could contact them later. If there is enough interest, plans could be made for a "Ham in a Day Class".

Phyllis Simmons was the lucky winner of the 50/50 drawing. (almost enough to pay for the cookies and brownies).

Al Eckman WW8WW, Amateur Extra licensed volunteer Lowell High School Advisor and retired Lowell Police Officer gave an excellent presentation on the ARGYL (Amateur Radio Group Youth Lowell). He spoke on his methods of recruitment, retention of members and benefits of the youth and their families to become involved in amateur radio. Prospective members must pass the Federal Government test for Technician. They must commit to membership for one year. For this, they are given a free HT radio and their study material and fees are waived. Some of the activities Mr. Eckman has created for the group includes Demonstrations in the Lowell School, a trip to Beaver Island and a trip to Mackinaw Island. Once a year they enjoy a "Fun Night" the members do nothing about radio. They choose an activity that they all enjoy. On one occasion they went "balloon mobile" and spent a night on the submarine "Siversides".

The evening was concluded with a question and answer period and finishing off the refreshments.

Respectfully submitted: Phyllis and Roger Simmons

May 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 Restaurant in Spring Lake
7:00 AM

Every Saturday:

Breakfast at Vic's Restaurant in Spring Lake
7:00 AM

May 5:

Michigan Alternative & Renewable Energy Center tour w/ MAARC
200 Viridian Dr, Muskegon
7:00 PM

May 7:

Cadillac Hamfest
<http://www.wexaukeearc.org>

May 20:

Dayton Hamvention
<http://www.hamvention.org>

May 26:

NOARC club meeting at **Barber School** in Spring Lake
6:30 PM

NOARC net control schedule:

May 3: **John, N8YQD**

May 10: **Phyllis, KB8NLN**

May 17: **Paul, W8IQE**

May 24: **John, KC8UNY**

May 31: **Joe, N8FQ**

E-mail me at jvn8fq@gmail.com if you want to get on the net control roster!

May 2011 public service events calendar

(meeting time and location based on best info available at press time)

April 30:

Caddyshack 5k run, Grand Haven
Meet: GH Public Safety, 8:00 AM
Contact: John KC8UNY or Don KB8ODB

May 11:

Tulip Time Volksparade
Meet: 12:00 PM
Contact: Meg WO0MEG or Jim W8JRM

May 12:

Tulip Time Kinderparade
Meet: 12:00 PM
Contact: Meg WO0MEG or Jim W8JRM

May 14:

Tulip Time Muziekparade
Meet: Holland High School, 10:30 AM
Contact: Meg WO0MEG or Jim W8JRM

May 20:

Girls On The Run
Meet: GH Public Safety, 8:00 AM
Contact: John KC8UNY or Don KB8ODB

May 28:

Kickoff To Summer Run
Meet: GH Public Safety, 8:00 AM
Contact: John KC8UNY or Don KB8ODB

Joe's report from the ARGYL Hamfest



The ARGYL swap in Lowell is one of the smaller swaps in the area, but it's one of only a small number that I can usually make it to given my inconvenient work schedule. I left home around 7 AM and traveled along M-45 to Allendale, then up 68th to Coopersville, then east on I-96 until I reached the Lowell/Charlotte exit. With no construction or difficult traffic in my way, I arrived a few minutes before 8 AM – coincidentally, the same exact moment that John N8YQD, Paul W8IQE, Lou N8KYO and Jerome K8CCJ were walking into the building.

After I caught up with them at the ticket booth, we went into the gym and set up our tables – one pile of junk from Paul's garage, and another from John's. No one brought the Te-Ne-Ke box, so the "red carpet" display we're often associated with was absent from view.

After getting unpacked, I decided to take my first walk around the show and see what I couldn't live without. Passing by the Muskegon and Holland clubs' tables, I came to one belonging to Bill N8FOX of Hudsonville. A Radio Shack weather alert receiver caught my eye, and became my first purchase of the day. Bill's XYL handled the transaction, as he himself was behind me, back at our table. He had caught sight of John's old slide rule and decided he wanted it for himself.

As I completed my lap around the show floor, I arrived at Tower Electronics' assortment of parts and widgets. I pulled out my smartphone and opened the shopping list I had prepared the night before – mostly ends and adapters I needed for my new Wouxun HT. After taking care of that business, I returned to our table to catch up on the latest from Paul – seeing as everyone else was busy perusing the wares.

While we were there, someone came up to the table to look over our goods, and I noticed something familiar in his hand: John's Bill's slide rule! Turns out Bill set it down in the box under his table, with the price tag still attached, and his XYL dutifully sold it to another passerby. He and John arrived back at the table, saw this, and had a good laugh over it.

After watching the table for about an hour, I decided it was time to head back home, while I could still do so without falling asleep at the wheel.

Membership roster

FIRST ACTIVE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IN TRI-CITIES

ACTIVE AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS

TRI-CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Grand Haven - Spring Lake - Ferrysburg

Ottawa County, Michigan

NOTE
DATE

June 12, 1956

by: W8IYK

<u>CALL</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
W8ASK	ANDERSON, Bob	1313 Grant St.	Grand Haven	5198-W
W8IYK	BOOTH, Bill	15623 Pruin RR-2	Spring Lake	2547
W8KTK	FANALY, Frank	522 E. Savidge	Spring Lake	1386-W
W8QAO	HANNUM, Frank	511 E. Savidge	Spring Lake	1386-R
W8BHD	HUTCHINSON, John	Country Club Rd.	Spring Lake	483-M
W8BVA	JAPENGA, Bob	1350 Taylor	Grand Haven	3334-J
W8VLE	JOHNSON, Russ	16168-152nd, RR-2	Spring Lake	4043-J
W8ATD	JUDD, Howard	RFD #2	Nunica	Coopersville 704F4
W8ESZ	KOLENIC, Joe	218 Friant St.	Grand Haven	3238
W8CZE	SCHNEIDER, Jack	Judson Road	Spring Lake	4170
W8DLX	VANDERWAL, Howard	325 Franklin	Grand Haven	1156-W
KN8BOL	MACKAY, Bill	720 Grant St.	Grand Haven	2560-W

Thanks to Craig K8CRC for yet another blast from the past!

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 - \$50 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