



North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK

January, 2003

From Don Smith, N8HCS, President

Here is N8HCS

It looks as if winter has finally arrived, and with that comes a bunch of slippery problems. I don't like the cold very much the last few years, seems without any insulation it gets pretty cold on this young body. Perhaps I should be going south for the winter. Why would anyone want to be in Michigan during the winter? Typical morning: You get up and its about 5 degrees out, the furnace filter is dirty, and you are not getting the heat you are paying for- even with your new ten thousand dollar heating system, so you make a note to stop on the way home to get more filters, then ,trying to hurry and get ready for work, you discover that we had high winds last night, so there are drifts in the driveway and you don't have time to clean it out before you go to work. Well anyway, you quick shove some groceries and a cup of coffee down your neck, and put on what you think is your warmest coat and head out the door, figuring you don't need your hat and gloves because the car will be warm soon and you can run from the car to the workplace no problem, right? Wrong Because when you step out the door the first thing you discover (after the snot freezes in your nose) is that it is very slippery and after a couple of times of greeting the ground with your butt, you finally make it to the car, wind blowing, snow flying, and you try to unlock the frozen door on your car. After struggling with the frozen lock, you break off your key, and now what? So you remember the spare set in the house, so you go and repeat the process and finally you get back to the car only now you're working on the passenger side door where the wind and snow and ice have not been blowing all night, (why didn't you start their first?) Anyway you get in, put the key in the ignition and urr urr nothing, the battery is dead, not to worry though, because you spot your neighbor and he has jumper cables. You're already late and your heart is in your throat by now anyway, so you make your plea to your neighbor. He agrees to help, and after he gets stuck three times in your driveway he makes it to the car and you begin the jumping process. Finally after about 15 minutes the car starts and your neighbor is now late and his heart is in his throat you are ready to go. Well almost, remember the drifts? Don't forget the snow, so you rock the car out of the snow and after about ten minutes you're on the road and now on your way, finally you're at ease for a moment until you realize how late you are. Now twenty years ago you would probably just called in to work after you looked outside and seen how bad it was, but now you are as loyal to your job as an old blood hound is to his master so on you go. You arrive at work about an hour and a half late and doesn't it seem as if no one else had this problem, like it only snows at your house. So after punching in and everyone calls you part time and the boss rags on you for not having prepared you settle down to your job right? Wrong, now the boss is more mad cause you have to stop work go to the office and answer the phone, its your wife and now she is late, seems its all your fault too cause you rutted up the driveway this morning, and she is stuck in the driveway and wants you to either come home and get her out or call a wrecker. Have a Happy Winter and see you at the club meeting Thursdayif it doesn't snow too much.

A great place to shop for connectors and antennas
By Andrew Young, N8ARY

This may sound like an advertisement, but I assure you it's not. I want to tell you about the best place I have found to buy connectors, adaptors, and antennas. This place has about anything you could ask for. I have bought SMA to BNC adaptors, BNC to SMA adaptors, TNC to BNC adaptors, and even antenna assemblies.

This guy's shipping is USUALLY \$1. YES, I SAID ONE DOLLAR! I picked up a 144/440 mag mount antenna for \$12 plus \$1 shipping and it already had the SMA connector on the end of the cable- NO ADAPTORS! Is that cool, or what? That'll get you into the IRLP AND the 2 meter repeater of your choice. The antenna is called a "micro-kiss" antenna and it comes in BNC or SMA. The name comes from the shape of its base, which looks like, and is only slightly larger than, a Hershey's Kiss.

The place is called D&L Antenna Supply and it's in Kansas. Their web address is <http://www.wavehunter.com> Les Sullins, WB0KFK is the owner and you can e-mail him at dandl@birch.net.

Treasurer's Report

Account Status as of December 19, 2002:

Beginning Balance of all accounts was \$5739.56, of which checking and savings totaled \$4884.71, and the NOARC endowment fund balance of \$854.75.

Income for the period: \$400.36 of which \$1.36 was interest on savings, \$6.00 was from September 50/50 drawing, \$250.00 from Club Dues, \$143.00 was profit from the GRARA HamFest.;

Expenses for the period: \$113.03; \$60.00 for pre-registration for 2003 Dayton Hamvention, \$10.00 to State of Michigan for Corporate information fee, \$43.03 reimbursed to John Sundstrom for Sept/Oct newsletter fees, and a lock for PSK-31 display at Middle School.

Ending balance of all accounts: \$5897.64 of which checking and savings total \$5172.04, and the NOARC endowment fund total balance is \$725.60

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

General Fund:	\$4897.04
Repeater Fund:	\$0
Digital Fund:	\$275.00
Endowment Fund	\$725.60

Total all funds \$5897.64

This period there were no expenses incurred for the Te-Ne-Ke project, and no revenues. The total revenue generated to date are \$4402.36. This IS reflected in the general account balance in the above ledger. Please continue to support this important project!!

The following is a list of people who HAVE paid NOARC dues for the year 2003. If your name is NOT on the list, please make note of it, and fill out the form below, and include it with your payment. Thank you!

Call	First Name	Last Name
N8LBG	Woodrow	Al rich
AB8CD	Dan	Anderson
N8VWH	Dennis	Berens
N8ACK	Douglas	Beverly
KB8ODC	Eugene	Camfield
N3WJF	David	Cross
KC8THM	David	Fischer
KC8UNY	John	Fischer
KC8ULC	Thomas	Fischer
N8PFB	Harold &Fitz	Fitzgerald
WZ8S	Thomas	Fitzpatrick
N8111	John	Fuller
KC8OPL	Randy	Goldberg
KF8VN	Alan	Groen leer
WA8MTJ	Glen	Hinkle
KC8HLN	Joe	Irwin
N8PFC	Bmd	King
KC8OVS	Jason	Mackay
N8KYO	Louis	Meisch
KB8ODB	Donald	Meyer
WB8BSZ	Jack	Olger
KC8FQH	Jeffrey	Olson
WA8ITM	Larry	Park
AH2C	Leo	Ross
KC8SKS	Craig	Schell
WBFDE	Casey	Smith
KA8PJN	Clarence	Smith
N8HCS	Don	Smith
N8YQD	John	Sundstrom
NF8L	Dick	Tan is
KC8TOD	Greg	Vii lerot
N8KCW	Dan	Whisman
KF8NS	Dean	Whitney
N8ARY	Andrew	Young

NOARC Club dues: Single: \$30.00 per Year, Family: \$40.00 per year. Please mail to: NOARC PO Box 44, Ferrysburg, MI 49409

Name:..... Call:.....

Address:.....State:.....Zip.....

Email Address (if available).....

Amateur Radio areas of interest:.....

.....

History of The Cubical Quad

as reported by W6SAI and W2LX in "All About Cubical Quad Antennas", Radio Publications Inc. 1972

In the year 1939 a group of radio engineers from the United States traveled to the South American republic of Ecuador to install and maintain the Missionary Radio Station HCJB, at Quito, high in the Andes mountains. Designed to operate in the 25 meter short-wave broadcast band with a carrier power of 10,000 modulated watts, the mission of HCJB was to transmit the Gospel to the Northern Hemisphere, and to tell of the missionary work in the wilds of Ecuador. To insure the best possible reception of HCJB in the United States a gigantic four element parasitic beam was designed, built and erected with great effort and centered upon the heartland of North America.

The enthusiasm of the engineers that greeted the first transmission of Radio HCJB was dampened after a few days of operation of the station when it became apparent that the four element beam was slowly being destroyed by an unusual combination of circumstances that were not under the control of the worried staff of the station. It was true that the big beam imparted a real "punch" to the signal of HCJB and that listener reports in the path of the beam were high in praise of the signal from Quito. This result had been expected. Totally unexpected, however, was the effect of operating the high-Q beam antenna in the thin evening air of Quito. Situated at 10,000 feet altitude in the Andes, the beam antenna reacted in a strange way to the mountain atmosphere. Gigantic corona discharges sprang full-blown from the tips of the driven element and directors, standing out in mid-air and burning with a wicked hiss and crackle. The heavy industrial aluminum tubing used for the elements of the doomed beam glowed with the heat of the arc and turned incandescent at the tips. Large molten chunks of aluminum dropped to the ground as the inexorable fire slowly consumed the antenna.

The corona discharges were so loud and so intense that they could be seen and heard singing and burning a quarter-mile away from the station. The music and programs of HCJB could be clearly heard through the quiet night air of the city as the r-f energy gave fuel to the crowns of fire clinging to the tips of the antenna elements. The joyful tones of studio music were transformed into a dirge of doom for the station unless an immediate solution to the problem could be found.

It fell to the lot of Clarence C. Moore, W9LZX, one of the engineers of HCJB to tackle this problem. It was obvious to him that the easily ionized air at the two mile elevation of Quito could not withstand the high voltage potentials developed at the tips of the beam elements. The awe-inspiring (to the natives) corona discharges would probably disappear if it were possible to operate HCJB at a sea level location. This, however, was impossible. The die was cast, and HCJB was permanently settled in Quito. What to do? Moore attacked the problem with his usual energy. He achieved a partial solution by placing six-inch diameter copper balls obtained from sewage flush tanks on the tips of each element. An immediate reduction in corona trouble was noted, but the copper orbs detuned the beam, and still permitted a nasty corona to spring forth on the element tips in damp weather. Clearly the solution to the problem lay in some new, different approach to the antenna installation. The whole future of HCJB and the Evangelistic effort seemed to hinge upon the solution of the antenna problem. The station could not be moved, and the use of a high-gain beam antenna to battle the interference in the crowded 25 meter international short-wave broadcast band was mandatory. It was distressingly apparent to Moore that the crux of the matter was at hand.

The Birth of the Quad

In the words of W9LZX, the idea of the Quad antenna slowly unfolded to him, almost as a Divine inspiration. "We took about one hundred pounds of engineering reference books with us on our short vacation to Posoraja, Ecuador during the summer of 1942, determined that with the help of God we could solve our problem. There on the floor of our bamboo cottage we spread open all the reference books we had brought with us and worked for hours on basic antenna design. Our prayers must have been answered, for gradually as we worked the vision of a quad-shaped antenna gradually grew with the new concept of a loop antenna having no ends to the elements, and combining relatively high transmitting impedance and high gain."

A Quad antenna with reflector was hastily built and erected at HCJB in the place of the charred four element beam. Warily, the crew of tired builders watched the new antenna through the long operating hours of the station. The vigil continued during the evening hours as the jungle exhaled its moisture collected during the hot daylight hours. The tension of the onlookers grew as a film of dew collected on the antenna wires and structure, but not once did the new Quad antenna flash over or break into a deadly corona flame, even with the full modulated power of the Missionary station applied to the wires. The problem of corona discharge seemed to be solved for all time.

The new Quad antenna distinguished itself in a short time with the listeners of HCJB. Reports flooded the station, attesting to the efficiency of the simple antenna and the strength of the signal. In his spare time, Moore built a second Quad antenna, this one to be used in the 20 meter band at his ham station, HC1JB, in Quito.

At a later date, after Moore had returned to the United States, he applied for a patent covering the new antenna. The fact that the Quad-type antenna radiated perpendicular to the plane of the loop was deemed by the Patent Office to be of sufficient importance to permit the issuance of a patent to Clarence C. Moore covering the so-called Cubical Quad antenna.

To understand the characteristics of the antenna, it is convenient to borrow the description of the Quad element given by W9LZX - "a pulled-open folded dipole."

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This interesting account is taken from William I. Orr's book, "All about Cubical Quad Antennas". In it, technical details are addressed at length. However, there are only two pages devoted to the four element, full sized quad. Orr calls it the "Monster Quad". We now know why.

This article Submitted by Ben Docter, K8AR..... Thanks, Ben!!!!

Upcoming Hamfests:

1 Feb 2003 **Negaunee, MI**

Contact: Robert Serfas, N8PKN
743 Grove Street
Marquette, MI 49855
Phone: 906-226-9782
Email: n8pkn@aol.com

8 Feb 2003 **Traverse City, MI**

Contact: Robert Serfas, N8PKN
743 Grove Street
Marquette, MI 49855
Phone: 906-226-9782
Email: n8pkn@aol.com

15 Mar 2003 **Marshall, MI**

Contact: John Malinowski, N8BGM
20577 Division Drive
Marshall, MI 49068
Phone: 269-781-4540
Email: N8BGM@aol.com

(NOARC has registered 2 tables at the Marshall Hamfest on March 15. All club members are welcomed, and encouraged to come out, and sell your items on the tables. Please contact Don Smith or Greg Schippers for more information)

16 Feb 2003 **Farmington Hills, MI**

Contact: Bruno Walczak, WA8DHP
16601 Golfview Drive
Livonia, MI 48154-2139
Phone: 734-464-8928
Email: wa8dhp@arrl.net

******* 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.

Jan 21 John Sundstrom N8YQD
28 Mike Martens WA8CTK
Feb 4 Charlie Osborn KB8HU
11 Don Smith N8HCS
18 Tom Vandermel KB8VEE
25 Woody Alrich N8LBG
MAR 4 Beverly Traxler KC8JWA

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:	Ed Summers, KC8LBZ	231-798-7055
Newsletter Editor:	John Sundstrom, N8YQD	847-4249

Do you "Just Belong"?

Are you an involved member. The kind that would be missed?
Or are you just contented That your name is on the list?
Do you take an active part To move the work along?
Or are you simply satisfied To "Just Belong"?
Do you work on a committee - To that there is no trick.
Or leave the work to just a few And talk about the clique.
Why not come to all the meetings And help with hand and heart?
Don't be "just a member" But take an active part!
Think this over, member. You know the right from wrong.
Are you an involved member. Or do you just belong?

Author Unknown

W8CSO Echolink Station **by Andrew Young, N8ARY**

Have you ever been out of town and wished you could talk on the NOARC repeater? Now you can! There is a new Echolink station on the air that allows you to connect to the W8CSO repeater via the internet. It even works with a dial-up connection! If you have a microphone and speakers connected to your computer, you can download a simple program from <http://www.synergenics.com/el/> and you can be on the air all over the world in as little as one hour, after your call sign is validated.

To connect from the repeater to another node, simply press #C then the node number of the desired station, which you will need to find first at <http://home.insightbb.com/~n9yty/>. To disconnect, press #73.

The NOARC node number is currently 73469.

List of Important Commands:

#01 - Connect to a random station.
#08 - Query status ("Is the station connected or not?")
#09 - Reconnect to previous station.
#C - Connect
#73 - Disconnect

Feel free to download and try the program from home. There are several stations in the West Michigan area.



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 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 (DO NOT DIAL # FIRST!!!)

912 call Muskegon County Dispatch (DO NOT DIAL # FIRST!!)

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



North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK

January, 2003

From Don Smith, N8HCS

Presidents Perspective

Here it is almost Ham fest season already. I hope you have all your hunting equipment ready. Make a big list and remember you will probably want to put up some new wire this summer so it's a good idea to have plenty of that on hand. Insulators and connectors?

Yes even you can LOOK like a big spender on a SMALL budget.

The Cadillac Swap will probably be the one to look at if you're a seller of ham stuff because though they have a room full of vendors there are a ton of buyers there.

The Marshall swap is one you can get anything at or sell anything. So far nothing in Michigan that I have been to compares to the Marshall Swap.

Don't forget Hudsonville that is a cool swap, you go there on Friday afternoon a camp. Help out with setting up a little and then go the Great Road kill Chile Cook off and Pot luck. You shouldn't miss that. I have a big Trailer and several tents if anyone wants to go early let me know.

This fall we will be having the State convention right here in Western Michigan. Now I know that a lot of you and probably most of you KB or KC calls remember the State Convention swap at the Muskegon Community College but picture room to room, wall to wall, floor to ceiling radio equipment. WOW and gear was a lot bigger then too. With a lot of prizes, and ceremonies, lectures and presentations.

I think what happened is the guys in Muskegon just got too old to do all this anymore, it is a ton of work you know, so if you hear Chuck, W8GCW, down in Holland wanting some help and you are available, go for it and it will be worth 100% return on your effort, just the bragging rights alone!!

Well hopefully I got you in the mood for Hunting Equipment this summer. Oh by the way don't forget that there are a couple of guys in our club including KC*HXO and myself that buy sell and trade equipment all year round, we would be the professional hunters you know.

Don't forget the Club meeting is This Thursday, Feb. 27, 7:00 PM at the White Pines Middle school Cafeteria in Grand Haven..... Programming to be announced....

73 for now. See you at the swaps

N8HCS.

Report from Florida by John N8YQD

First I would like to thank Greg Schippers, KC8HXO, for once again doing the newsletter while I am in Florida. I will be back on the job next month for the March 03 edition. Sally and I are staying near the pretty town of Vero Beach in a very nice place called Ocean View. Ocean View started out as campgrounds and at some point went cooperative whereby the lots are all owned by the residents. Ocean View is located on Highway A1A on an Island and has both frontage on the Atlantic Ocean and the Indian River. As I write this in late February, the weather is typically high 70's and clear every day.

Sally and I are living in a 29' fifth wheel camper that we bought used after we decided to rent a lot in Ocean View when we visited it in October, 2002 as guests of Jim & Candy Wolter. Most of you know Jim As W9BWC.

For Amateur Radio fun, I have concentrated on use of the IRLP system this winter. Vero Beach has A 70 cm repeater on 444.7250 MHz that has been connected by the owner to the IRLP system. It is node number 4580. I had problems at first getting into it as we are about 15 miles from the repeater and I was Trying to get into it with my underpowered hand held and a poor mobile whip. The only other 70 cm radio that I had with me was my 5 watt Yaseu FT-817 but with no DTMF microphone. In order to make it work, I ended up visiting AES in Orlando and buying the matching tone mike and a good 70 cm mobile antenna. I also had my high gain 70 cm Ringo Ranger base antenna shipped down here. Moral: for IRLP success you need more than a handheld in your travels. Ideally, you would have a high power mobile rig with a good gain antenna. I now monitor node 4580 when I am mobile and have worked many of the NOARC hams. I also leave the FT-817 on when I am outside. Last week, I listened to the Tuesday night net via the IRLP and a crossband hookup courtesy of Tom Nuyens N8GNA. Also, more people need to monitor our local IRLP repeater W8GVK, 444.550.

In late January, I spent a week in Orlando working on a project with my College Association people. While in Orlando, I was able to make IRLP contact with Lou Meisch, N8KYO, via the KD4Z IRLP node no 4510. Lou is actually located in Eustis, which is about 40 miles north of Orlando. In order to hit the repeater from such an extreme range, Lou used a beam and a high power 70 CM amplifier that Don Smith sent to him. I was actually in Kissimmee, Florida in a hotel room about 15 miles south of Orlando, and I needed my Ringo Ranger pressed up against the hotel window in order to hit the KD4Z repeater.

At this point, we all need to stop and express our gratitude to people like Hank Reikels, W8GVK and John Bunda, KC8NCE who collaborated to provide our local IRLP link (Hank provided the excellent repeater and John provided the internet backbone, router, etc).

I also experimented with the ECHO LINK from Florida but my success was not near as good due to my very very slow internet connection. More about that in next month's article.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report

Account Status as of January 22, 2003:

Beginning Balance of all accounts was \$5897.64, of which checking and savings totaled \$5172.04, and the NOARC endowment fund balance of \$725.60.

Income for the period: \$500.72 of which \$.72 was interest on savings, \$235.00 was from Te-Ne-Ke sales; \$20.00 from Greg Poel for 2 Sections Tower; \$40.00 from 50/50 Drawings from October and November Club meetings; \$205.00 was from club dues.

Expenses for the period: \$345.00; \$325.00 to Seabury-Smith for Annual insurance premium; \$20.00 for expenses for Lowell hamfest.

Ending balance of all accounts: \$6082.49 of which checking and savings total \$5327.76, and the NOARC endowment fund total balance is \$754.73

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

General Fund:	\$5052.76
Repeater Fund:	\$0
Digital Fund:	\$275.00
Endowment Fund	\$754.73

Total all funds \$6082.49

This period there were no expenses incurred for the Te-Ne-Ke project, and \$235 in revenues. The total revenue generated to date are \$4637.36. This IS reflected in the general account balance in the above ledger. Please continue to support this important project!!

Hams help with Columbia recovery

By Gary Krakow
MSNBC

Feb. 9 -ACCORDING TO THE national membership association for amateur radio, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), ham radio volunteers are currently assisting federal, state and local officials and relief organizations in Texas in their search for shuttle Columbia debris and the remains of the crew members. Amateur radio operators must pass rigorous tests to receive a license and a call sign from the Federal Communications Commission — clearing them to broadcast radio, TV or data signals on frequencies set aside for their use.

ARRL officials say local efforts following the Columbia disaster have been a great success.

“Ham radio has proven to be the only reliable communications options during the recovery effort,” according to Tim Lewallen (call sign KD5ING) of the Nacogdoches, Texas, Amateur Radio Club.

“The communications systems used by other federal and state organizations cannot penetrate ‘The Pine Curtain’ as we know it in East Texas,” he said. “The dense forests and hilly terrain just swallow up most radio traffic, and even county sheriff and county fire department radio systems have serious blind spots.” According to Lewallen, federal authorities have requested that every survey team have at least one amateur radio operator along to help keep the recovery efforts coordinated and organized.

In South Texas, there are requests for hams that are still needed to assist in the search effort — with an urgent need for operators in the San Augustine County, where substantial debris remains to be recovered. Local coordinators say two-to-four dozen operators are needed each day and they expect the need to continue for the next three weeks.

Hams are using local amateur radio clubs’ repeaters — which are receiver-transmitter combinations, usually installed on top of tall buildings that take low power radio signals and re-broadcast them at elevated power to a large area. Dallas County volunteers are being told they should use high-powered radios in the recovery effort because handheld “walkie-talkies” don’t have the necessary range. It’s also recommended they bring four-wheel drive vehicles, portable GPS (global positioning systems) and even laptop computers with mapping programs if they’re not familiar with the area.

Area residents with VHF scanners can listen in on the recovery effort. In the Dallas area, activities can be monitored on 146.96 MHz; in Nagadoches on 147.32 MHz, in St. Augustine on 146.74 MHz, and on a portable repeater in East Texas on 146.66 MHz. Yesterday, a Dallas resident who’s been listening told MSNBC.com there were several reports of “hazardous materials” being found and that “demolition experts” were called in to assist in the recovery.

Public service communication has been a traditional responsibility of the Amateur Radio Service since 1913. Today, disaster work is highly organized and implemented principally through a number of different ARRL groups including the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, or R.A.C.E.S. — an organization of ham radio operators who volunteer their time and equipment to provide supplemental communication to local, county or state agencies during times of crisis or disaster.

Three of the Columbia astronauts were licensed amateur radio operators: Mission Specialists Kalpana Chawla, KD5ESI; David Brown, KC5ZTC; Laurel Clark, KC5ZSU. They aren’t alone — many people associated with the space program have been active in amateur radio, including businessmen Dennis Tito, KG6FZX, and the three astronauts still circling the earth in the International Space Station — Commander Ken Bowersox, KD5JBP, Don Pettit, KD5MDT and Nikolai Budarin, RV3FB. Even astronaut hopeful Lance Bass of ‘N Sync is a ham — KG4UYY.

The three current space station astronauts are manning NA1SS, the first permanent amateur radio station in space. Use of NA1SS has been temporarily curtailed. Last week, the astronauts were scheduled to make radio contact with high school students in Germany. The session was postponed. But, according to the ISS governing group, space station contacts are expected to resume later this month.

NOARC Club dues: Single: \$30.00 per Year, Family: \$40.00 per year. Please mail to: NOARC PO Box 44, Ferrysburg, MI 49409

Name:..... Call:.....

Address:.....State:.....Zip:.....

Email Address (if available).....



2003 42nd ANNUAL

Michigan Crossroads Hamfest

Marshall, Mich.

At Marshall High School

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. *** Vendor Set Up at 6:00 a.m.***

SATURDAY MARCH 15th,

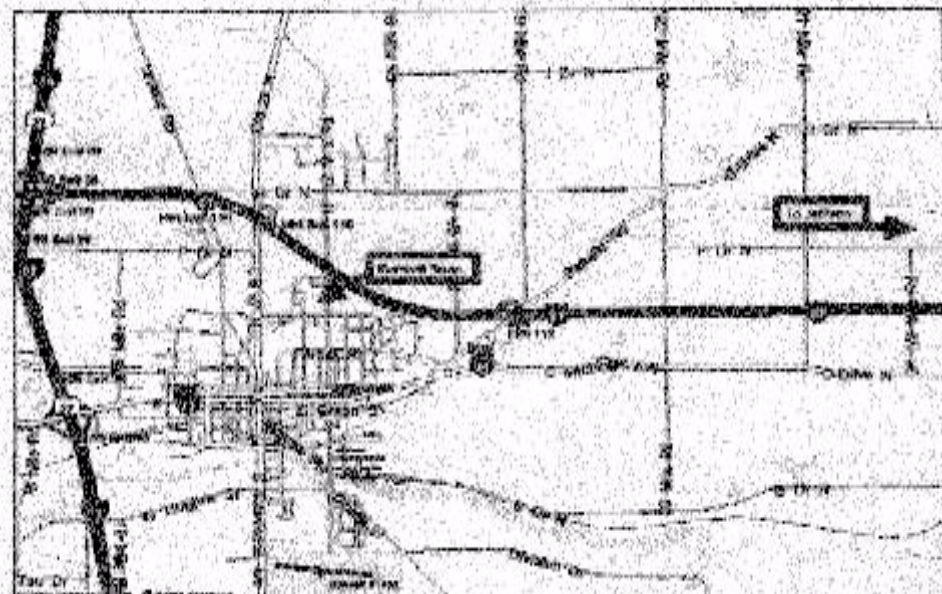


TABLE RESERVATIONS
\$1.00 per foot (min 4 ft.)
Reserved until 8:00 a.m.
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO SMARS.

Send SASE to:

SMARS
John Malinowski
20577 Division Dr
Marshall, MI 49068

Or call:

John Malinowski N8BGM
616-781-4540
N8BGM@aol.com

**TABLE RENTAL IS NOT
A TICKET TO
HAMFEST**

**** TALK IN 146.86 ****
REPEATER
&
**** 146.52 SIMPLEX ****

Come Join The Fun
See All Your Old Friends
And Buddies

Tickets
\$5.00 at the door
\$4.00 in advance (sase)
FREE CARRY IN HELP
FREE PARKING
FULL FOOD SERVICE

SPONSORS:
SOUTHERN MICHIGAN
AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
John Malinowski Chairman

MARSHALL HIGH SCHOOL
INDUSTRIAL ARTS CLUB
Kelly Williams-High School
Coordinator

To order table space - Complete and mail to - SMARS, John Malinowski-20577 Division Dr-Marshall, MI 49068

Number of 8-foot tables requested at \$8.00 each _____ Total amount for table rental _____

Minimum order is 4 feet.

Table rental is not a ticket To Ham fest. Advanced tickets may be ordered with table space at \$5.00

Each. Number of tickets requested _____ Total amount for advance tickets _____

Name _____ Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

E-mail Address _____ Phone(s) _____

Total Amount Enclosed _____

If you had sales space at our 2002 Ham fest and wish to have the same space for the 2003 Ham fest please call
John Malinowski N8BGM 269-781-4540 or email at N8BGM@aol.com.

Your reservations for table space will be appreciated as early as possible.

Keep in mind this event is held at a public high school. No smoking in school buildings. No smoking on school grounds.
Adult material, alcohol, and weapons of any kind are prohibited. We will hold your table(s) until 8:00 AM on Ham Fest Day

Upcoming Hamfests:

March, 2003

15 - Marshall Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society 42nd Annual Michigan Crossroads Hamfest. Marshall High School. Talk-in: 146.660 repeater and 146.520 simplex. Adm: \$5, \$4 in advance. Tables: \$1 per foot, minimum of 4 feet. Contact John, N8BGM, 616-781-4540 or n8bgm@aol.com

May, 2003

3rd - Cadillac Wexaukee ARC 41st Annual Amateur Radio and Computer Swap. Doors open at 8 AM. Cadillac Junior High School. Swap & Shop, vendors, electronics, computers, food, refreshments. VE exams. Meetings: UP Net, QCWA. Talk-in: 146.980. Adm: \$5. Tables: \$8. Contact Wexaukee Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 163, Cadillac, MI 49601, or Brian Polk, KC8TXT, 231-743-6860 or bandb@netonecom.net

(NOARC has registered for tables at BOTH of these Hamfests. All club members are welcomed, and encouraged to come out, and sell your items on the tables. Please contact Don Smith or Greg Schippers for more information)

***** 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.

Jan 28	Mike Martens	WA8CTK
Feb 4	Charlie Osborn	KB8HU
11	Don Smith	N8HCS
18	Tom Vandermel	KB8VEE
25	Woody Alrich	N8LBG
MAR 4	Beverly Traxler	KC8JWA

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:	Ed Summers, KC8LBZ	231-798-7055
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 749

“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 (DO NOT DIAL # FIRST!!!)

912 call Muskegon County Dispatch (DO NOT DIAL # FIRST!!)

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 \$ 30.00 individual and \$ 40.00 family.

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

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Box 44

Ferrysburg, MI 49409

Postmaster: Return Requested

SPARK for March 2003

FLASH: MEETING IS MARCH 20TH !

Presidents Perspective by Don, N8HCS

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. **Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible for membership in the ARES.** *The only qualification, other than possession of an Amateur Radio license, is a sincere desire to serve.* Because ARES is an amateur service, only amateurs are eligible for membership. The possession of emergency-powered equipment is desirable, but is not a requirement for membership.

Where in this paragraph does it say anything about background checks? This says right here in black and white ***The only qualification, other than possession of an Amateur Radio license, is a sincere desire to serve.***

I have been repeatedly bombarded with questions about the new self proclaimed Ottawa County Emergency Communications formerly ARES who seemed to have broken away from the Amateur radio part of emergency communications. Maybe it is because of (***The only qualification, other than possession of an Amateur Radio license***) part that they have gone from ARES to OCEC. Please direct all OCEC questions to the EC kb8vee@arrl.net. Tom will help you with any OCEC questions.

If you visit the ARRL website about ARES <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/pscm/sec1-ch1.html> It says in section 1.3 Local Level: To this end, SECs have the option of grouping their EC jurisdictions into logical units or "districts" and appointing a District EC to coordinate the activities of the local ECs in the district. Does this also apply to OCEC? Or are they exempt from SEC or ECs? Or can they be ARES and OCEC all at once?

Blah Blah Blah Who Knows?

But my job as President of the NOARC in my mind anyhow (and you voted for me) is to keep a balance and to keep our local group involved in a variety of activities separate of all the other but not excluding Emergency service operations. You can do a lot in our hobby and within our local club, you can do all the EC stuff you want, so if you joined the NOARC just for the Emergency Communications part that's fine too, but you're missing a lot of opportunities that our club has to offer. Already this year we have had two very interesting meetings, and the winter Technician class is well underway. Andrew N8ARY has set up 2 local Echo Link stations (a very popular and forth coming voice over IP mode) for you to use. (continued page 5).

In This Issue:

Page 1: President's Perspective & Table of Contents

Page 2: Net Control Schedule; Treasurer's Report

Page 3: Upcoming NOARC Events; Club officers

Page 4: Report Number 2 from Florida by N8YQD

Page 5: PP continued ; Dues Form (Have you paid your 2003 dues ?)

Page 6 : Repeater use instructions; General Club information.

Treasurer's Report By Greg Schippers Account Status as of February 21, 2003:

Beginning Balance of all accounts was \$6082.49, of which checking and savings totaled \$5327.76, and the NOARC endowment fund balance of \$754.73.

Income for the period: \$250.63 of which \$.63 was interest on savings, \$40.00 was from Te-Ne-Ke sales; \$210.00 was from club dues.

Expenses for the period: \$434.22; \$388.75 To Comtronco for repeater phone/Electric for 2002; \$45.47 to Greg Schippers - (\$16.00 for Te-Ne-Ke Channel, \$22.20 for stamps, and \$7.27 for copying January newsletter).

Ending balance of all accounts: \$5898.90 of which checking and savings total \$5144.17, and the NOARC endowment fund total balance is \$754.73

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

General Fund: \$4869.17
Repeater Fund: \$0
Digital Fund: \$275.00
Endowment Fund \$754.73

Total all funds \$5898.90

This period there were \$16.00 in expenses incurred for the Te-Ne-Ke project, and \$40.00 in revenues. The total revenue generated to date are \$4661.36. This IS reflected in the general account balance in the above ledger. Please continue to support this important project!!

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

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

March 11 KF8NS Dean

April 15 N8YQD John

March 18 N8PFC Brad

April 22 KB8HU Charlie

March 25 N8YQD John

April 29 N8HCS Don

April 1 WA8CTK Mike

April 8 N8PFC Brad

Upcoming Events

Date

Event

March 20: NOARC Meeting White Pine Middle School.
Topic Jim Meyers will demonstrate his Portable packet and P-Spice system.

Note: This is a week early in order to accommodate skywarn training held on the 4th Thursday of the month.

March 27: 7 PM Philmore Complex Skywarn Training .

April 19 & 20th: Michigan QSO Party.

April 24: NOARC Club Meeting

May 3 : Cadillac Ham Fest (club table avail).

May 16-18: Dayton Hamfest (club table avail).

ECHOLINK COMMANDS: any questions contact Andrew N8ARY

- >
- > CONNECT= #C followed by node number all in one
- > transmission.
- > DISCONNECT= #73
- > Random Connect= #01
- > RECONNECT TO LAST STATION= #09

Club Officers :

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Report Number Two from Florida by John N8YQD

As I mentioned in last month's column, Sally and I are staying near the pretty town of Vero Beach in a very nice park called Ocean View. Ocean View is located on Highway A1A on an Island and has both frontage on the Atlantic Ocean and the Indian River. Sally and I are living in a 29' fifth wheel camper that we bought used after we decided to rent a lot in Ocean View when we visited it in October as guests of Jim & Candy Wolter.

Besides the IRLP network, I also tried using the ECHO LINK which is typically a hookup beginning with a Personal computer that connects to Echo link via the internet and then to another computer elsewhere which may be linked to a local VHF radio. I loaded the software in my laptop before I left Grand Haven and tested it. It seemed to work ok. I had problems using it in Florida because my internet connection was too slow and I experienced "packet delay" which garbled my signals.

For an internet connection, I used my Nextel phone to dial back to Michigan and connect to the College system called MERIT. However, the connection speed was very slow (about 2-3 kilobits per second). This was OK to check e-mail but file transfer (and Echo link) was just about out of the question. However, I did avoid the expense of installing a local phone line and internet provider.

Roger (N8RXD) and Phyllis (KB8NLM) Simmons spent a few weeks in Vero Beach staying with relatives. Sally & I Spent time with them. We enjoyed going to lunch at the "Lobster Shanty" and visiting a local Nature center located on one of the many islands in the Indian River. Simmons hitched up their 22 Catalina sailboat to their Suburban and set out for the Florida Keys in late February. They Live on their boat in the small town of Marathon which is about half way down the 150 mile chain of islands that make up the Keys.

About 2 days a week I checked into the "bathrobe net" which is on 14.235.5 MHZ. For those of you that are not familiar with this net. It meets Monday to Friday at 9 AM. Hams from Grand Haven and Muskegon make up its core. However, people now check in from many states. In the winter, many hams (Like me) head south or out west and they check in to see what's going on back in West Michigan. If you have your General or Extra Class License, check in sometime.

For High Frequency work, I used an I COM 706 mounted in my van. I mounted a cushcraft 20-17-15-12-10 meter vertical antenna to my camper (see picture below) and I run a coax feed line into the 706 when parked at the QTH. It worked "OK" but I think a dipole would have been better. I also had my little Yaseu FT-817 in the car sitting above the 706. I used the Yaseu for 70 CM access to the IRLP repeaters in Florida. By leaving my rigs in the car, it was a snap to run either mobile or "base".

Well, that's concludes my reports for this winter. Perhaps my story will inspire other traveling hams in the club to write about their adventures.



One is hooked to the local 145.490 repeater and the other is hooked to 146.410 simplex frequency. The NOARC will have tables for you to sell your excess radio gear at several Ham Fest this year. There will be at least two Fox Hunts and don't forget about field day where you can eat all you want talk even more send some CW or what ever mode your into, and just have a good time. And best of all no background checks.

I think the most important part of the Amateur Radio Hobby is this:

- Life long acquaintances
- Life long friendships and camaraderie even with folks you never met in person
- A chance to share your knowledge and expertise with others
- Most of all Amateur Radio is something we all have in common

I know that for a lot of Hams that have been out of the main stream for a while, some of the new modes and new people in the NOARC can be a overwhelming thing. I know I felt this way after dropping out for a couple of years but let me assure you its just fine to show up again.

The new things may seem overwhelming but people are people and it's always been my experience with Amateurs for sure, that we will do what we can to make you feel welcome, and share what we know and learn what you have to share.

That's as mushy as it gets so there you go. With that said I hope this article will get into the hands of all it was intended for. I have been around this club longer than it was a club and there are quite a few fellows that helped me get started in Ham Radio. I feel I owe you and have been trying to pay you back by getting others involved in the hobby. So don't be overwhelmed or intimidated by the new stuff. We are the new kids on the block but we are just people were Hams.

It would be nice to see some of you old timers coming around again.



Tom Nuyens (aka Iron Man) ,
N8GNA & Ed Summers
KC8LBZ

Work a distant contact

At last year's Field Day.

Dues Renewal Form. Dues are : Single \$30, Family \$40 . Please mail to Box 44 Ferrysburg, MI 49409

Name

Call

Address

City

State

zip

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK for APRIL 2003

Presidential Proverbs

Well here it is April already! So grasp on to something because we have a lot to lay on you.

We have already acquired several new Hams from our Ham class and some that just crawled out of the cracks; in addition I get a lot of emails through the NOARC home page about other forthcoming Hams. So if you take notice of some of the new KC8W'S on the air give them a warm welcome for the reason that they are more than likely sprung from the hard work of all who were involved with the class of 2003. For events, first off there is the Cadillac Swap then Big Daddy Dayton and then Hudsonville swap then probably some swaps I forgot about and then the State of Michigan Convention to be held in Holland Michigan this year. And, yes we will have a table at each and every one of these swaps for you to vend radio gear surplus to your requirements, at no charge to you. Just an advantage of being a NOARC member! Isn't it great? Oh and field day, don't forget about that, I am told that there will be a feast of meals, for all you Hams that just come to eat and a new spot to operate from. With a whole week-end to become proficient at real emergency operations, not just of the vhf uhf kind but the whole pie.

There has been rumor of a train ride to Chicago to the Broadcast Museum, and of a big event involving the use of a big park and some of your favorite antennas, more on that in the future. Speaking of antennas I hear that Lou N8KYO is due to arrive in god's country any minute now, so stay tuned for that.

I am sure that Don KB8ODB will be looking for some support on different runs and so forth this summer so please help Don when you can, these types of events put us in the public eye instead of Hams being a best kept secret.

It has also been brought to my attention that the emergency power system that supports the 145.490 super repeater system has been brought up to standards to protect us from power outages. We need to have the repeater running 24/7 especially in the severe weather months. And just in case the OCEC or SAR need to commandeer it, they have in the past supported the system with donations to the upkeep of the system and we look forward to more of this kind of support.

I take it when nothing is heard on this end about club matters from the membership that all is well and so far all seems to be well. If there are any concerns about or ideas for future events please feel free to contact me, n8hcs@arrl.net. Just one last thing that I have been thinking about, we keep calling ourselves amateurs and I think that to public service people it has been taken as non professional so my new project is to take the word amateur out of my Ham Radio dictionary and replace it with Ham or Specialized Communicator, Radio Operator, or how about Communication Service Providers (CSP's) I have been at this for 20 years now and don't believe that I am a Amateur but a CSP.

Thanks for reading and b c n u a little further down the log, 73, de N8HCS, AR, SK

Treasurer's Report Account Status as of March 20, 2003:

Beginning Balance of all accounts was \$5898.90, of which checking and savings totaled \$5144.17, and the NOARC endowment fund balance of \$754.73.

Income for the period: \$.57 of which \$.57 was interest on savings.

Expenses for the period: \$37.52; 28.00 to Lohn Malinoski, for Marshall Hamfest; \$9.52 to Greg Schippers for copying February newsletter.

Ending balance of all accounts: \$5861.95 of which checking and savings total \$5107.22, and the NOARC endowment fund total balance is \$754.73

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

General Fund: \$4832.22
Repeater Fund: \$0
Digital Fund: \$275.00
Endowment Fund \$754.73

Total all funds \$5861.95

This period there were no expenses incurred for the Te-Ne-Ke project, and no revenues. The total revenue generated to date are \$4661.36. This IS reflected in the general account balance in the above ledger.

Please continue to support this important project!!

=====
73, Greg Schippers, KC8HXO

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

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

April 15 N8YQD John	June 3 N8PFC Brad
April 22 KB8HU Charlie	June 10 N8YQD John
April 29 N8HCS Don	June 17 WA8CTK Mike
May 6 KB8VEE Tom	June 24 N8HCS Don
May 13 N8LBG Woody	
May 20 KC8JWA Bev	
May 27 KF8NS Dean	

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
April 15th:	Home Defense Class—See below.
April 24:	NOARC Club Meeting Topic : To Be announced
May 3 :	Cadillac Ham Fest (club table avail).
May 7 –10th	Holland Tulip Time (hams needed—see article elsewhere)
May 16-18:	Dayton Hamfest (club table avail). Group Camping at the Dayton KOA
June	Hudsonville Ham Fest (club Table Available)
June	Field Day

On April 15, 2003, Bill Smith is having a class on what we can do for Homeland Defense. Bill has open this class up all amateurs in Ottawa County. This class will be held at the Fillmore Complex starting at 7PM.

Club Officers :

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Secretary:	John Sundstrom, N8YQD	847-4249
Program Director:	Ed Summers, KC8LBZ	798-7055

FCC Probes Alleged Michigan Repeater Violations

NEWINGTON, CT, Mar 14, 2002--The FCC has ordered a Michigan Amateur Radio repeater to cease operating under automatic control while the agency's Enforcement Bureau investigates allegations of various FCC rule violations. FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth sent a *Warning Notice* February 24 to the repeater's co-owners, Sheri A. Gilbert, K5YHA, and William E. Gilbert, K5EKP, of Lupton. The repeater now is off the air.

"The Commission is aware of numerous rule violations on the repeater and of interference caused by the repeater to the K8GER repeater system," Hollingsworth said. "Violations on the repeater have consisted of failure to identify by users, use of false or misleading call signs by users and failure to have a control operator for the repeater."

The K8GER machine, on 145.25 MHz, is owned by Gerald A. Crawford of Luzerne, Michigan. ARRL repeater data show the Gilberts operate several 2-meter and 70-cm machines, but the FCC probe involves one on 146.70 MHz. Hollingsworth told ARRL that an apparent spur on 144.615 MHz was interfering with the input of Crawford's system at 144.65 MHz. He said the Gilberts have notified the FCC that they've shut down their repeater and are looking into the problems.

The order removing automatic control privileges means a repeater must have a live control operator present at the machine's control point whenever it's in operation.

Hollingsworth also said that sometime in January, the couple apparently turned the operation of the repeater over to a car rally and rule violations such as he'd described occurred for more than 12 hours during a two-day period.

"The decision to operate a repeater is a totally voluntarily one. Repeaters are a convenience in the Amateur Radio Service, not a necessity," Hollingsworth said, reprising a refrain he's used in dealing with other repeater cases in recent months. He reminded the Gilberts that a repeater is just like any other Amateur Radio station and must have a licensee and control operator. Control operators "must ensure the immediate proper operation of a station, regardless of the type of station control," Hollingsworth said, noting that automatic control does not mean "unattended operation," which is not authorized under Part 97 rules.

"You must prevent recurring and deliberate violations on your repeater by locking rule violators out, using tones, warning users, limiting its operation or taking whatever steps necessary commensurate with your responsibility as the licensee of the station," Hollingsworth advised the Gilberts. "If you are unable to do so, then you must shut down your station." The consequences of not heading off violations on the K5YHA/K5EKP repeater could be fines and even license suspension or revocation proceedings, he said. In addition to asking the Gilberts to describe what actions they've taken to resolve complaints of interference to the K8GER repeater, Hollingsworth also asked for information on how the repeater identifies and any steps taken to ensure that users of the repeater properly identify.

He also asked the couple to detail how the repeater was controlled during the January car rally and to list by name, address and telephone number any users during that event who did not use call signs.

FCC Detroit District Director James Bridgewater issued the order February 28 to remove the Gilberts' automatic control privileges for the K5YHA/K5EKP repeater until the enforcement issues had been resolved.

Holland Club is Asking for Help for tulip Time

I am pleased to say after a two-year hiatus in pursuit of "higher learning" I am back to take an active role in the Club's support of Tulip Time.

It's that time of year again when Dave Lamer, WA8RSA and myself start recruiting for communication help for Red Cross teams with the Tulip Time festival parades. For those who have participated in the past we thank you and ask that you consider helping out again this year. For those who have never helped at public service event this would be an excellent introduction public safety communications and a very enjoyable time as well. The success of these events is only possible with YOUR help and commitment.

**The dates for 2003 are Wednesday and Thursday May 7th & 8th, and Saturday, May 10th. Wednesday & Thursday parades will need a time commitment of approximately 2-4pm. Saturday is from 11-5pm. More information to follow!
Please reply to: kb8wch@hotmail.com**

73,

**Ignacio "Nacho" Perez, KB8WCH
Assistant Coordinator, Communications Support.**

WHY SUPPORT the ARRL. By Dick Mondro

Imagine if ARRL could double in size in a few short years! Imagine the great projects that we could take on! It is possible, and it's all up to those of us that believe in Our League, the Affiliated Clubs and the membership that is the heart and pulse of our clubs and ARRL. Make no mistake about it, when we speak of ARRL or The League, we are talking about a national membership association specifically for amateur radio operators, for all of us. We are the ARRL and our support makes it what it is. Founded in 1914 by Hiram Percy Maxim, today ARRL is the largest organization of radio amateurs in the United States. ARRL is a "not for profit" organization that promotes interest in amateur radio operation and experimentation, but also represents radio amateurs in legislative matters affecting our very existence. ARRL Headquarters employs a staff of 120 people to provide us with needed services. I have been a member for over forty years and I had no idea of the professionalism and dedication that exists in the headquarters complex. I was amazed when I was able to see, with my own eyes, the work being done for all of us within those walls. It is truly awe inspiring and you must really see it to understand the passion with which these men and women put forth for our benefit. Many of our clubs and other membership organizations have been losing members recently. We are dis-associating ourselves with others. More and more, as a society and as individuals, we are missing out on the camaraderie and a sense of pride in belonging to an organization that is unique to us as individuals and based on our skills and interests. How can we correct that? We can start with the first step, getting involved in service to the public. It takes more than simply joining to make us a part of Amateur Radio's public service team. Belonging requires action such as commitment and training. Let's take a look at the Basis and Purpose of Part 97, that regulates the amateur radio service. The very first item states, "Recognition and enhancement of the values of the amateur radio service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communications service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications." These words tell me that, as a condition of my license, I am responsible to the public, the citizens of my community, state and nation, to provide my voluntary services by providing communications when needed. Most of us are blessed to have a very unique talent in our ability to provide communications. We can best do that by volunteering our skills to the amateur radio emergency service. To provide this service, we must first have a basic understanding of what is expected of us and how to effectively provide a much needed service. To gain this understanding we must first be trained in the types of services and procedures to be used as well as understanding the organization itself. If you act soon the second step, training, won't cost you anything but your time thanks to the grant to the ARRL from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). This federal grant to enhance homeland security already has funded the training and certification of hundreds of amateurs through the ARRL's Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course. As a result, the Amateur Radio community is better prepared than ever to heed the call whenever and wherever a natural disaster or other catastrophe may strike. This grant is tangible evidence that the federal government sees us as partners in the effort to ensure the security of our nation and its citizens. There is another step that you can use to explain to others why you are volunteering your time to public service. It is a short, six minute video entitled "Amateur Radio Today", produced by ARRL. This should be used in promoting Amateur Radio to non-amateur audiences throughout the country. Take the time to watch it. (Check the ARRL Web site for availability.) You will swell with pride as you watch and hear one of the most respected and recognized Americans of all time extol the virtues of Amateur Radio, which means so much to all of us. But don't stop there. In the words of Dave Sumner K1ZZ, ARRL Executive Vice President, "As you watch the sailboat in the closing scene, imagine that it represents Amateur Radio and think about where you are on the screen. Are you helping trim the sails? Are you helping maintain a steady hand on the tiller? Or are you out of sight beneath the surface, perhaps a barnacle, not impeding progress very much but just along for the ride while others do the work?" We have been blessed with many talents and skills and now is the time to use them in the service to our communities. Let's not just go along for the ride, but instead provide direction and purpose to our served agencies through ARES. Keep your local radio clubs strong by providing support and participation. While we are at it, with all the pride in being involved in the only failsafe communication service in the world, let us all look to a friend or colleague and convince them that League membership is important to keep the wheels in motion and to keep amateur radio safe for our posterity. We cannot afford any more cuts in services provided to us due to lack of funding. It is up to us to provide for amateur radio, so that its future is insured in the years to come. Promoting ARRL and amateur radio is not the sole responsibility of the Headquarters Staff. They do a fine job from all aspects but that is not enough. We must all accept responsibility to sell ARRL Membership and promote all the good that we have all derived from ARRL, The National Organization for Amateur Radio. Please join me in getting the message out.

73, Dick Mondro W8FQT

Vice Director, ARRL Great Lakes Division.

ITEMS FOR SALE

For Sale: Dentron MLA 2500 Amplifier. On Owner in excellent condition and has original manual. Power is 230 or 120/60 Hz. 2000 Watts PEP for SSB and 1000 Watts for all other modes. Check E-Bay as prices normally go for \$500-600. Will sell to area Ham for \$400 and save high shipping costs. Liscensed Hams only. Dale, KR8N. 616-846-1737

For Sale (club project) : Charger and 4 AA Nickle Metal Hydride Batteries new and waranteed \$12.00 . Also 4 -AA packs of same batteries for \$8.00 per pack. These are Quest Batteries by Harding Energy of Muskegon and are warrantied for one year. See John Sundstrom, N8YQD. Will be available at Cadillac, Dayton and Hudsonville Ham Fests, club meetings and at coffee at Russ's Tuesday night after net.

For Sale : NOARC club hats for \$10.00 each. See John Sundstrom

Local Amateurs participate in Mock Disaster Drill

BY GENA KAISER gkaiser@grandhaventribune.com

A smoke machine and sound effects simulated an explosion in the chemistry lab. Alarm bells then began ringing in the empty hallways. Moments later, students and staff, made up to look like they had suffered burns, cuts and bruises, stumbled out of the building screaming for help. Then fire trucks, ambulances and other emergency vehicles started streaming toward the school building. The scene at Grand Haven High School Monday afternoon looked as though a real emergency had taken place. But the event was actually a mock disaster to test how prepared the Grand Haven school district and local emergency personnel are to handle an actual crisis at an area school. "It's the closest you can come to the real thing. If you didn't do this, you wouldn't know what a real life situation would look like," said Grand Haven Superintendent Rick Kent. "It's invaluable."

Local police, fire, emergency services (including ham radio operators) and medical personnel responded to the mock disaster as though an explosion had actually occurred in a high school lab. About 250 high school students and some school staff volunteered to portray "victims," and wore makeup to depict various injuries from broken bones to chemical burns. Some students were "treated" at the scene and transported to North Ottawa Community Hospital, while other students were evacuated to White Pines Middle School. The Ottawa County HazMat Team analyzed what chemicals were involved in the explosion and worked to neutralize the situation. Law enforcement swept through the building, and firefighters prepared hoses and worked to determine the cause of the explosion. Grand Haven Township Fire Chief Rich Szczepanek said that Monday's event gave him a better idea of how much manpower would be needed for an actual emergency at the high school. "If we were to have a real emergency there, I know that I will have to call for more additional resources maybe a lot sooner than I would have before yesterday," he said this morning. Ottawa County Sheriff Gary Rosema added that the goal of the exercise was to look at their ability to gather resources from various law enforcement, fire departments and emergency services and keep communication lines open. "The biggest thing we always find out whenever we do these types of exercises is that information and communication are always critical," Rosema said. "I think it's important given the times we're living in," Zaugra said of the drill. "It's important to respond quickly to the safety and health of our students." While the drill only involved about 250 students, school officials said that the drill will help them to develop procedures for an emergency involving a larger number of students and staff. "I think by going through this it gives us a chance to think about these issues and how we would deal with them with 1,800 more students," said high school Principal Scott Grimes. Kent said he was very pleased with the drill overall, adding that school officials became acquainted with emergency responders and were able to see how they can work together.

"I think it's a really good idea. That way they are prepared in case (an emergency) does happen," sophomore Katie Moteberg said of the drill. Her classmate, Rachel Pietrangelo agreed, saying, "Especially with a school this size, we need to be prepared, and kids need to know where they're going and what to do if an unlikely situation like this were to happen." The Grand Haven Township Fire Department and Mutual Aid Departments, the Ottawa County HazMat Team, the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department, the Grand Haven Department of Public Safety, North Ottawa Community Hospital, Holland Community Hospital, Zeeland Community Hospital, Ottawa County Emergency Management, **Ottawa County Amateur Radio**, Ottawa County Central Dispatch Authority, HazMat Solutions Inc. and the Michigan State Police all took part in the event.

Dues Renewal Form. Dues are : Single \$30, Family \$40 . Please mail to Box 44 Ferrysburg, MI 49409

Name

Call

Address

City

State

zip

E-mail address

Phone number

APRIL ECHO LINK REPORT By Andrew Young, N8ARY

Well, the Echo link station has been on the air for a few months, and it looks like most of the "novelty" has worn off. It is not being used quite as much, but the capability to access it from Edmonton, Alberta or New Orleans, Louisiana is there if you want it, which is what counts. Despite his worldly travels, I don't think Craig Christilaw has missed a Tuesday Night Net since the station has been on the air.

In the near future, we (John Bunda and I) plan to install a better antenna on the station so the signal into the repeater will be better. Currently, it is running 5 watts into a rubber duck antenna on the back of the computer/radio station.

Earlier this month, I submitted our station to the database at <http://www.echolinkmap.org/>. This is a website with maps of specific areas and depictions of the coverage areas of the registered stations.

Have fun with it!!

Connect: #C plus Node Number Random Connect: #01 Disconnect: #73

Disable link from the 145.49 : #000 Enable: #111

Minutes of the March 2003 Meeting by John, N8YQD

1. Meeting called to order by John, N8YQD as Don was not feeling well.
2. Introduction of members & guests.
3. There will be a emergency exercise Monday April 3. An explosion in the Senior High School will be simulated with mass casualties. Several NOARC and Ottawa County hams will participate. See Story on Page 6.
4. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Thanks to Dan Wisman for recording minutes while I was in Florida.
5. Sundstrom briefed the club on a battery selling project. A four pack Nickle Metal Hydride battery & charger unit will be sold for \$12.00. Also, four packs of just the batteries will be sold for \$8.00. We will sell thye batteries at all of the upcoming hamfests. The batteries are produced by Harding Energy of Muskegon and are warrantied.
6. The 50/50 drawing was won by Tom Fisher.
7. The attendees were treated to a demonstration by Jim, KC8PCJ of his portable emergency packet and UHF station that is self contained and self powered .

How to build an Unscientific, Discombobulated Antenna Tuner

Andrew Young

N8ARY

In my endeavors to "nail together" some of the junk I have rolling around in my basement, I found two identical 100 pF variable capacitors. After a little thought, ARRL handbook research, and internet browsing, I compiled enough information to take a stab at making an antenna tuner.

If you go to the AES website, you would think these things are either made of gold or at least have some expensive and magical components in them based on the prices they fetch. I found out I was over halfway there with the two capacitors. A trip to Radio Shack (Yes, I said Radio Shack, otherwise known as the 'That's Been Discontinued Store') was all I needed to get the rest. I picked up a 6-position selector switch, two RF chassis connectors, and an aluminum box.

Now came the difficult part- Where to get the inductor. You see, you need an inductor to add inductance to a system with a short antenna, which has too much capacitance. I guess you could just use the capacitors alone to tune a really long antenna (which has too much inductance), but I was thinking about using this antenna tuner mobile.

Mobile means short, inefficient antennas at frequencies below 10 meters. Where was I? Oh Yes! The inductor. I looked on e-bay for roller inductors and called around, but those things are expensive when you want something for nothing, as most of us Hams do. While I pondered this, I leaned back in my chair and looked at the basement ceiling. "I really ought to change that water filter," I thought. "HEY! What if I use one of those threaded pieces of PVC pipe for a form?" That's what I did. I threaded a piece of PVC pipe in a pipe threader and wound some solid wire around it (25-30 turns).

Next, I soldered a piece of wire to each end and four more evenly spaced along the length of the coil. There was my variable inductor. I mounted all the parts in the aluminum box and soldered them together kind of like the attached schematic. I coiled up the last tap to add a little more inductance to the last switch position- Kind of like overdrive.

Anyway, here was an antenna tuner I built but I had no idea if it would work because I pretty much just slapped together a few parts without making any calculations.

I connected my new homemade tuner between my SWR meter and antenna and was able to tune my 20 meter dipole down to 40 meters with a 1:1 SWR. Some guy in Pennsylvania could hear me and I talked to him for a few minutes. I was so excited I forgot to write down his call sign. I had a little more difficulty tuning my long wire with it. That's probably because there isn't enough capacitance in those 100 pF capacitors.

Anyway, my point is, you can build an antenna tuner from some of the stuff you have lying around your basement or garage if you happen to be a packrat like most of us are. If not, go to AES and pick one up for \$120-\$150.

In your face, MFJ!

73 de N8ARY

Please see page 9 for pictures of Andrew's Homebuilt antenna Tuner—editor.



N8ARY'S HOMEBUILT ANTENNA TUNER



145.490 (- offset) tone 94.8 main receiver ; Grand rapids link receiver tone 91.5

" S" meter readback 7

t o disconnect

911 calls Ottawa County Central 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 \$ 30.00 individual and \$ 40.00 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.

Postmaster: Return Requested

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK for June 2003(Field Day Issue)

From President Don Smith . Like I said I would have a little more on Dayton this month so here it is.

We showed up pretty late the Wednesday before the big event, in the rain. Jeff Olson KC8FQH, John N8YQD, and me Don N8HCS, got the tent set up in short order, only this year we had Jeff's tent camper which had a heater in it and we didn't have to sleep on the ground. So we were all warm and wet but happy to have finally arrived at the KOA and after drying out a little bit we went to bed anticipating the next day's activities. (Pre opening bargains)

We woke early Thursday morning and off to breakfast we went, now if you go to the hamfest next year you may just want to have breakfast at the Bob Evans rather than the Waffle World or what ever they call that place across the street where all the locals go to smoke and throw crap on the floor and they also leave the bathroom all sticky. The Bob Evans was a lot cleaner, friendlier and actually less expensive than the Waffle Wonder World across the way.

Thursday morning was actually nice out (a little windy)so I went to look for some deals I went while John set up the NOARC shelter, and kind of lost track of Jeff for a while until I returned to the booth to help fill up 25 pound sand bags through a two inch hole with wet playground sand but we had fun talking about deals and ham radio pretty soon all the sand bags were full, of course John had organized the van a few times since then already just in case we needed to find something.

The goal of mine was to sell my Icom 737 and buy a new Icom 706 MKIIG, I spent hours and hours of looking around I found no Icom's.

I think Andrew showed up on Thursday also to sell about a thousand dollars worth of radio equipment for two hundred and sixty five dollars and then by a two hundred and sixty dollar one band qrp rig. Oh and you should of seen all the guys around Andrew's car on I think Friday to help Andrew get his keys out of the car which normally isn't to hard unless you lock all the doors first. Looked like a bunch of Cub Scouts trying to set up a Sears and Roebuck Pup Tent. And I had some real good pictures also which got lost in the digital obis somewhere if you remember from last weeks article.

Early on Friday Tom K8OOO and Dave KC8THM arrived with a truck load of Motorola stuff to sell. Then they disappeared for a while then we seen them then Tom was off again so Dave and me put on about 31 miles, lots of neat stuff but still no Icoms 706's .

I think everyone went to Dayton this year with expectations of Icom blowing out IC 706-MKIIG's at a very low price and that didn't happen, but what it did do is this: on Thursday and Friday and Saturday till about noon on Saturday there were no used Icom 706's or even Yaesu ft 100's for sale. Then Saturday afternoon BOOM they came out like flies. I think what was happening is that everyone that had these radios were holding on to make sure the rug didn't get pulled out from underneath them, so when they seen they didn't have to sell real low the drug them out from where ever they were hiding and put them up for sale. I walked down one lane of the flea market several times and didn't see a single 706 but Saturday afternoon not 100 feet from the NOARC tent I spotted a 706 MKIIG with a AH 4 tuner and after working the guy over for a while I convinced him to sell it to me at a very reasonable price. . (continued page 4)

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

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

June 3 N8PFC Brad

June 10 N8YQD John

June 17 WA8CTK Mike

June 24 N8HCS Don

July 1 KB8VEE Tom

July 8 KC8JWA Bev

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
June 19	Homeland Defense Course (see below)
June 26	6:30 Feed & Club Meeting at Field Day Site
June 28-29	Field Day at Robinson Twp Park on 120th
July 24	7 PM Fox Hunt. Meet at Michaels.
July 26th	8 AM Coast Guard 5 K Run. Meet at 7:45 behind Grand Haven Fire Station For assign ment of station . 10 AM Fun Run .
July 31	Special Event Station. Meet at 8 AM to put up antennas. Operate noon 7/31 to noon 8/1.
August 2	Coast Guard Parade. 11 AM.

On June 19, 2003, Bill Smith is having a class on what we can do for Homeland Defense. this class is for all amateurs in Ottawa County. This class will be held at the Fillmore Complex from 7-9.

Club Officers :

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

(Continued from Page One) The big deal is that I didn't need a tuner so when I got back to our booth I was able to give Tom K8000 a very good deal on that which made my 706 a real bargain.

I did find a real good looking Yaesu FT101 and it looked as if it just came out of the wrapper. The guy didn't have the power cord or microphone for it or the fan which was a option on that rig, so I got a real good deal on it and that rig was really clean too even the knobs turned like they were new, I was going to bring it home and get it going but of course John sold it before that could happen. I wished I would of kept it too because a week after Dayton a package came in the mail and in it was a fan for a FT101 atill in the package a Yaesu microphone that was still new looking and a power cord with just some dust on the top of the part that plugs into the radio. Wow! But the rig was long gone, and if I remember from the conversation with the guy and all the other evidence I had I would say the finals in that rig were never turned on. The guy just used it as a receiver before he passed.

Well Saturday came and went with a lot of rain. Got to talk with Gary from Ten-Tec, OH and here is a something I forgot. On Thursday a fellow came to the NOARC booth and was really inspecting the Te Ne Ke's. I didn't sell him one but after he left John said do you know who that was? And I said no, John said that was Gordon West, and I said I wished I would have known that because I had been wanting him to autograph a Te Ne Ke but out of context he was and I missed my chance.

We had such a big group from Grand Haven at Dayton this year. A few of us really couldn't afford it either but I actually came home with as much money than I left with and a new rig a lot of stories and no one mad because I didn't pay my share.

Next year I would hope that everyone from here that has never gone to this event before, try and go. Just sell some gear that is in excess to your needs and it will pay your way and pick up some deals while you are there and resell them while you are there and you may come home with as much as you left with and with some new gear and new stories to tell. It is a lot of fun.

I have looked at the Field Day site for this year and it is a Ham Radio Operator's dream. Lots of trees for antennas and shade. A big open field for kite and balloon antennas. A pavilion to set up a chow hall and Phyllis KC8NLN is in chair person of keeping up fed so you know we will be eating like kings. It is situated in such a way that we won't be disturbing anyone in the neighborhood. I will get Dan Anderson if I can to come out and get things started for us, usually Dan would like a list of silent keys that worked with us in previous field days so if you are attending you may want to keep this in mind and give Dan a name or two that you remember. Also if you need to get in touch with the field day chairman with any questions or ideas just contact Greg kc8hxo@chartermi.net.

John N8YQD said something on the net Tuesday night that really is very true. He encouraged all new hams that have never attended a field day that they should attend. But what made a lot of sense was this statement: You can learn a lot about ham radio in a short time by attending field day. Think about it, actually you can learn everything from setting up antennas to operating procedures, from camping to eating fine meals. I have been at this radio stuff for a long time and every year at field day I pick up something that I never knew before.

Ok I am at the end of page two so see you at FIELD DAY at the Robinson Park. de N8HCS ar sk 73&88 .

Ladder Line J-pole

By N8ARY

While at the Hudsonville Hamfest, I stumbled across a guy selling 25-ft lengths of ladder line for \$5. I figured I could use some to do something like make a G5RV, but then I got realistic and decided my current HF antenna is fine with a tuner.

Instead of throwing it out, I thought for a while about what it could be used for. After a while, I decided to try and make a J-pole out of a piece of it. I figured it's GOT to work because they make them out of twin-lead all the time. I know some of us have an aversion to J-poles, but please hear me out and try one yourself.

(By the way, THEY are that pool of people in society who seem to make all the decisions and important discoveries, but are never identified by name because no one knows who THEY are).

First, I found a design on the internet. I have no idea where this yahoo got his design, but it didn't work at first.

Here's how it went:

1. Cut a piece of ladder line 56 inches long.
2. Strip 1 inch of insulation off the ends of the conductors.
3. Bend the stripped ends in and solder them together.
4. Measure up 1.25 inches from the shorted end and cut away some insulation from both conductors.
5. Measure 17 inches?? Where the heck did that number come from? From the shorted end and sever one of the conductors by cutting a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch piece out. Now this step confuses me because $\frac{1}{4}$ wave on 2 meters is about 19.25 inches.
6. Solder the center conductor of the co-ax to the stripped part of the UNCUT conductor and the shield to the other one.
7. Now this baby resonated great at about 154 MHZ. As built. By adding a 5-inch piece of wire to the end of the uncut conductor, it has a 1.2:1 SWR on 146.500 MHz.

I would be willing to bet that if you were to sever the conductor about 2 inches higher, the extra 5" piece of wire would not be necessary. I still have about 20 feet of ladder line, so I might play around and see where it all went awry. My new antenna works great as it is and I made a contact on the Holton repeater from Grand Haven with 5 watts. Sure beats a rubber duck and it cost me about \$1 more than the co-ax I used to connect it to the radio.

Dues Renewal Form. Dues are : Single \$30, Family \$40 . Please mail to Box 44 Ferrysburg, MI 49409

Name

Call

Address

City

State

zip

E-mail address

Phone number

Details on NOARC's Field Day

All Club Members & Visitors welcome to participate (or just show up for meals).

Field Day Chairman: Greg Schippers

Field Day Location : Robinson Township Park located off 120 th avenue across from the Fire Barn.

Event Chairman

Antennas : Lou Meisch & his merry band of helpers.

Food : Phyllis Simmons, Beth Olsen, Bonnie Schippers & others

Publicity : Andrew Young

20 Meter Station : Jeff Olsen

40 Meter Station : Dan Whisman

15/80 Meters : Lou Meisch

GOTA Station : Andrew Young (also VHF Station)

Solar Panels : Don Smith, Greg Schippers

Logging &

Computers : Don Meyers

This year the club is running class 1 B battery (5 watts qrp). Please contact the chairman of the event / station you want to work on to volunteer your time. Below: Pix from 4 years ago.



Field Day Meals & Schedule

Thursday 6/26 6:30 PM : Hot dogs & fixings . Then look over site for antennas, station location, ect. Sign up for station assignment.

Saturday 6/28 8 AM : Hot egg dish breakfast. Memorial to silent keys by Rev dan Anderson.

Saturday 6/28 Noon : Hot Pizza from Dominoes. Begin making contacts at 2 PM.

Saturday 6/28 6 PM : Family style potluck. Bring a dish to pass.

Sunday 6/29 8 AM : Breakfast of fruit, muffins & cereal.

Sunday 6/29 Noon : Lunch of sandwiches, fruit, ect.

Sunday 6/29 2 PM : End making contacts. Take down antennas, stations, clean up area, backup computers, ect. Another great Field Day is history.



Meal time is always fun at field day. Here is a picture from last year's Field Day



The Tc-Hc-Kc, a NOARC project
To Order, send \$40 post paid to:

W8CSO

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club
Box 44
Ferryburg, MI 49409



NORTH OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SPARK FOR JULY 2003

Presidents Perspective

Here it is July 15, 2003 already at this writing. So behind us we have a half dozen meetings, the Marshall swap, Dayton, Hudsonville and field day.

Here is what we have to look forward to: Half dozen more meetings, a couple of fox hunts, a Hamfest somewhere in Grand Rapids (depending on where they decide to have it), The State Convention that will be held in Holland this November. And don't forget the Special Events Station we will be setting up in front of the Coast Guard this July 31. At least after that we get our town back from the tourists.

OK getting back to field day. Well for you that missed it, I don't know what to tell you. I guess if you snooze, you loose. I don't think too many of us missed it though. I saw hams there that I have not seen in quite some time and some I have never even met before and -get this: we had over 35 people for the pot luck on Saturday night!

Saturday morning arrived right on time and as Lou would say: we were right on schedule. I arrived at the Robinson Township Park a little bit before seven to find the gate locked. So with a couple of calls on the two meter rig I was able to get the field day chair person out of bed. Now if you don't know about Robinson Township, well its not like the rest of the world, especially when it comes to two meter signals, they just don't radiate out of the Township for some reason. I guess that's why the Robinson Township Emergency Services (RTEC) don't use radio gear. I think they still rely on smoke. But like I said with a couple of relays into our relay (repeater) I was able to get through.

Now the sad news: when the township supervisor showed up late he said his plan was as soon as his buddy showed up to go somewhere with him he would stop on the way to unlock the gate. But as it turned out his buddy was in a bad accident on the way to pick him up. I hope everything came out OK.

With all that said I will get back to field day. After all this we had a convoy at the gate so pretty much we were all in semblance so before you know it setup was on its way.

We Parked and set up trailers, arranged the generators and got the food ready. Thanks to Phyllis and her crew we ate and ate and ate like kings. I Could of used a nap after breakfast but we carried on. It seems everyone had an antenna idea, some worked some didn't. Though all were installed then came the rain and more rain, sounds like Dayton. Seems that this year has had some pretty weird weather. Most all the antennas were installed by that time anyhow so no big sweat.

Contacts were coming slow and hard so I concentrated mostly on the food, took a nap and diddled most of the day away telling stories and listening to even more stories. Now about 2 AM it seemed the bands just opened up for us so in the GOTA station that's just what we did we got on the air. Greg & I started around 2 with about 50 contacts by other hams and we bumped that by about another 200 by four thirty I was out of gas so another nap was in order. I believe we had over three hundred contacts in the GOTA station. I think that all the other stations did well also.

Sunday morning we had breakfast and shortly their after Mark Brooky from the tribune came to the park. Mark is a ham also. I took him around for over an hour an introduced him to all that were available and he took some pictures from this information he wrote a very nice article in the Grand Haven Tribune.

There are so many people who contributed to this event this year including local venders who contributed food and coffee, and all those who went after the contributions. Thanks to Phyllis for organizing all of that. Lou for designing and putting up antenna's. And thanks John and Tom for getting generators, and Greg for putting it all together, and Robinson Township and all the people in the background that are not Radio Hams, on and on too many to remember you all, but you know who you are and from N8HCS a big thanks.

As usual I am late with this so I will get it to john and he can get it on the wire.

See u next month. AR de N8HCS

Treasurer's Report Account Status as of May 20, 2003:

Beginning Balance of all accounts was \$5861.95, of which checking and savings totaled \$5107.22, and the NOARC endowment fund balance of \$754.73.

Income for the period: \$160.63 of which \$1.13 was interest on savings, \$150.00 was club dues paid, and \$9.50 was from March meeting 50/50 drawing.

Expenses for the period: \$369.40; Of which \$24.00 to USPS for PO Box rental for 1 year; \$83.70 reimbursement to John Sundstrom (\$60.00 for Dayton Tables, \$23.70 for April newsletter/stamps); \$261.70 Reimbursement to John Sundstrom (\$24.98 Dec & Mar. newsletters, \$67.82 for SMART battery charger, and \$168.90 for LARGE gel cell battery for repeater backup power).

Ending balance of all accounts: \$5637.13 of which checking and savings total \$4898.45, and the NOARC endowment fund total balance is \$738.68

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

General Fund: \$4623.45
Repeater Fund: \$0
Digital Fund: \$275.00
Endowment Fund \$738.68

Total all funds \$5637.13

This period there were no expenses incurred for the Te-Ne-Ke project, and no revenues. The total revenue generated to date are \$4661.36. This IS reflected in the general account balance in the above ledger.
Please continue to support this important project!!

=====

73, Greg Schippers, KC8HXO

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

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

July 15 KC8JWA Bev

July 22 KF8NS Dean

July 29 N8PFC Brad

August 5 N8YQD John

August 12 N8ARY Andrew

August 19 N8HCS Don

August 26 KB8VEE Tom



Upcoming Events

Date

Event

July 24

7 PM Fox Hunt. Meet at White Pine M.S.

See page 7 for additional details.

July 26th

**8 AM Coast Guard 5 K Run. Meet at 7:45
behind Grand Haven Fire Station For assign-
ment of station . 10 AM Kids Parade. Call
Don Meyer at 846-7307 to volunteer .**

July 31

Special Event Station at the Coast Guard.

Meet at 9 AM to put up antennas.

Operate noon 7/31 to 6PM 8/1. All welcome.

John Sundstrom , N8YQD coordinating.

August 2

Coast Guard Parade at 11 AM. Don Meyer

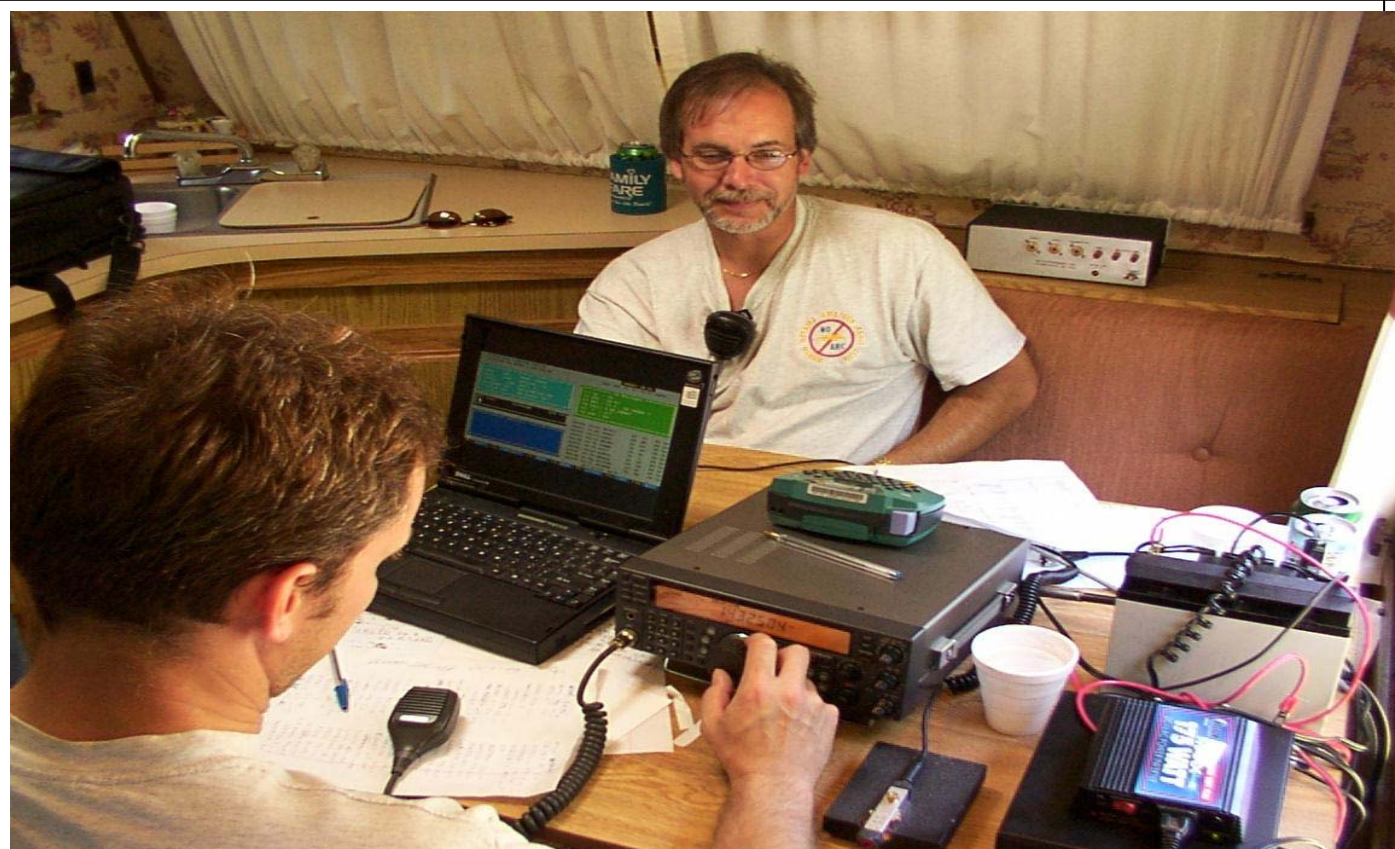
KB8ODB is coordinating. 25 vol's needed!

Club Officers :

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

Top Pix: Jeff Olsen assists Lou Meisch with one of the antennas for Field Day 2003.

Bottom : Andrew Young & John Fisher operate the GOTA Station in complete comfort





Top: Roger Simmons , Don Smith & Dave Fisher try to remember how to tie a bowline on Field Day 2003! Bottom : Scene from beautiful Robinson TWP park showing stations, picnic shelter.





the July 24th Meeting is at 6:45 PM Thursday and it is a Fox Hunt!

Meet at the White Pines Middle School Parking Lot

Meet in the White Pines Middle School Parking Lot at Griffin and Robbins at 6:45 PM.

Boundaries:	Western Boundary	Lake Michigan
	Northern Boundary	Jackson St/Grand River
	Eastern Boundary	144 th Ave
	Southern Boundary	Lincoln St.

The fox will hide on Public Property and be plainly visible from at least one normal gravel or asphalt driving surface somewhere within the above boundaries. He will transmit for 30 seconds every 5 minutes and will give clues as the hunt progresses. The Fox will use the same antenna type, polarity, location, and power level for all transmissions.

The fox will transmit on a 2M FM simplex frequency –Maps and frequencies will be passed out at 7:00 PM. Listen to the 145.49 repeater for net control or other details. (Please do not use the fox frequency to communicate or give it out over the repeater.)

The hunt will start about 7:15 PM and end about 8:30 PM.

Informal meeting afterwards at Russ' Restaurant on US 31 in Grand Haven

The foxhunt is open to all and there are no restrictions on equipment that may be used. Participants may operate in teams or individually.

Remember to drive safely and watch for traffic when stopping. This could become more important this year because we are in a more populated area. Questions or suggestions: – Andrew, N8ARY@chartermi.net

Spread the word - let's have a good turn out! See the Map on Previous Page for Boundaries. BRING THIS WITH YOU FOR REFERENCE TO THE FOX HUNT.



Dues Renewal Form. Dues are : Single \$30, Family \$40 . Please mail to Box 44 Ferrysburg, MI 49409

Name

Call

Address

City

State

zip

E-mail address

Phone number

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK for AUGUST 2003

President's Page

Please come to the August Meeting. We will be back at the White Pines Middle School. Please come to the fox hunt on Saturday Sept 5 , even if you don't make the fox hunt come to the 4 PM picnic afterwards held at the William Ferry Park in Ferrysburg.

This Thursday the newly College graduated Club President will be present at the NOARC meeting. (now there's something to show up for). The NOARC in cooperation with Lou Meisch N8KYO presents! The Mystery Antenna!

Yes, Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls and all antenna enthusiast of every age from every walk of life you are about to witness at the next NOARC meeting the skilled hand of Mister Antenna himself the one the only Lou N8KYO! Master Antennist At this great event Lou will attempt to build and present to you the Mystery Antenna and this will be done without the use of a net.

If you dare you may attempt this yourself. You will need 70 feet of antenna building wire 35 feet of RG8x coax a insulator in the center 35 feet of ladder feed line or heavy duty Radio Shack 300 ohm TV antenna wire a skilled hand basic assembly tools a soldier gun and soldier and nerves of steel. Bring it along and build along with Lou.

Lou has mastered the skills of antenna building and antenna installation with intense home training and coaching from fellow Ham Radio Operators. Also he has done so much with so little for so long he is now qualified to anything with nothing.

Also at this Great event bring along your swappable excess gear for a mini swap. These swap meets have always worked out great in the past.

After the 50/50 raffle this Thursday everyone that would need a all band HF antenna will have the opportunity to win the Mystery Antenna built by the Antenna Master by a separate drawing.

So there you have it, the opportunity to learn something, build something, sell something, buy something, and yes even win something all within a couple of hours. So see you Thursday at the White Pines Middle School around seven PM.

AR de N8HCS sk

Page

In this issue

1. Presidents Message
2. Treasurer's Report and Net Control Schedule
3. Upcoming Events
4. "A swimn in the big lake" By Roger & Phyllis Simmons
5. Pictures of the Coast Guard Special Events Station
6. Pictures from N8YQD's visit to Cape Cod Marconi station and the French Cable Museum
7. Report on Field Day contacts by KC8HXO and Tuesday night at Russ'

Treasurer's Report Account Status as of July 20, 2003:

Beginning Balance of all accounts was \$5637.13, of which checking and savings totaled \$4898.45, and the NOARC endowment fund balance of \$738.68

Income for the period: \$.99 which was interest on savings.

Expenses for the period: \$243.00; Of which \$90.00 was paid to Gene Camfield, KB8ODC, for Te-Ne-Ke-bases; \$128.00 reimbursement to Phyllis Simmons, KB8NLN, for food/drinks/etc. for Field Day; \$25.00 Reimbursement to Greg Schippers, KC8HXO, for Gasoline, and Ice for Field Day.

Ending balance of all accounts: \$5482.40 of which checking and savings total \$4656.44, and the NOARC endowment fund total balance is \$825.96

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

General Fund: \$4381.44
Repeater Fund: \$0
Digital Fund: \$275.00
Endowment Fund \$825.96

Total all funds \$5482.40

This period there were \$90.00 in expenses incurred for the Te-Ne-Ke project, and no revenues. The total revenue generated to date are \$4571.36. This IS reflected in the general account balance in the above ledger. Please continue to support this important project!!

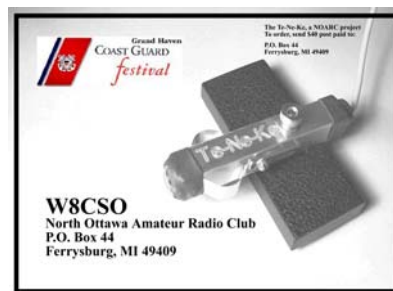
=====

73, Greg Schippers, KC8HXO

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

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

August 19	N8HCS Don
August 26	KB8VEE Tom
September 2	N8LBG Woody
September 9	KF8NF Dean
September 16	N8PFC Brad
September 23	KB8HU Charlie
September 30	N8YQD John



Upcoming Events

Thursday August 28: Regular Club Meeting at the White Pines Middle School. Topics include a Mini Swap and Lou will show us how to make a “mystery Antenna”. Bring your radio gear & stuff to swap. Spread the word!

Saturday September 5th: 2PM Fox Hunt with the Muskegon Club. Meet at the former Hob Knob Parking Lot and chase the fox (N8HCS). Then, come to the Picnic at 4 PM at Ferry Park (on Spring Lake channel in Ferrysburg). The Club will Furnish Hot dogs & Brats. Please bring a dish to pass and the family. Help is needed to coordinate the picnic.

Saturday September 13th: Big GRARA Ham Fest at Forest Hill Middle School. NOARC will have 3 tables and members are invited to bring items to sell at the club table.

October 31 & November 1: ARRL State Convention and super swap at Zeeland Public High School located on the corner of 96th & Riley north of Zeeland.

Club Officers :

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

A SWIM IN THE BIG LAKE By Roger N8RXC

Phyllis KB8NLN and I N8RXC exercise at the YMCA in Grand Haven at an average of three to five times a week. We saw a poster on the bulletin board requesting volunteers to help with the annual Lake Michigan Swim Race. We have an inflatable and have been sailors for years now. So this looked like an opportunity to help out and represent the NOARC at the same time.

We signed up at the desk and were contacted by "Christine" who was the coordinator. She said she had not done this before and talked like she could use all the help she could get. She told us the race would start at 8:00 AM on Saturday August 16th, at the North Beach Park. This park is about 1 ¾ miles north of the Grand Haven pier. The race would go south and end up at the pier.

On the appointed day, we set the alarm for 6:00 AM. We woke up at 5:30. Ate breakfast and loaded the boat into our trusty old red Suburban. It was a beautiful dawn as we drove to the fishermans pier on the north breakwater in Grand Haven and unloaded the boat. Also unloaded a handcart dolly for the boat, an outboard, PFD's, throwable cushions, bilge pump, bucket, sponge, six gallons of gas, handheld 2 meter, handheld marine band, distress signal flares and of course, my NOARC hat. The race gods must have been smiling when they looked down on the scene. (At least they got a good laugh when we put the boat in the water).

The waves were only a foot or two high, but they were breaking over my transom when I pushed the boat in the water. There was a couple inches of water on the floor when we finally got turned around and started the motor. Phyllis pumped out the water while I tried to navigate a north heading to the Park. As we got closer we met the Coast Guard and Sheriff's boats. We exchanged greetings and call signs, (Patcom and 772). We called ourselves, "Beach boat".

There were half a dozen or so kayaks that appeared with a load of 68 swimmers. Most were bused in from the Fishermans Pier and all wore yellow rubber caps marked with their swimmer number.

The race started about ten minutes after eight. The real racers started out and we soon lost sight of them as they led the pack south. The kayaks kept track of the masses , paddling back and forth keeping eye on the bobbing heads as well as they could. Phyllis and I cruised toward the rear of the pack. The last three or four started out in shallow water and some spent some time paddle walking. These we left to the capable lifeguards who watched and walked from the beach. We caught up with a swimmer who set course for Chicago and stayed with him. The sheriff and Coast Guard boats kept other boat traffic from entering the race area.

A little more than an hour later, the race was over. Each swimmer was met with cheers and clapping as he/she dragged their tired bodies out of the water. Phyllis and I were helped to unload the boat and drag it back to "Old Red". We were both soaked to the waist, but the water was warm and several people thanked us for our help. All were accounted for. It turned out that we had the only radio contact with the patrol boats and the racers.

It might be that some other NOARC members with a boat or handheld radio or both, would find it fun and interesting to volunteer at the race next year. "73's"

KB8NLN & N8RXC



From the Coast Guard Special Event Station. Pictures of volunteers that worked contacts during Coast Guard Week. The bands were not too good but we still managed to work 101 contacts— all on 20 Meters. Everyone enjoyed themselves.



Pictures from Wellfleet, Massachusetts on Cape Cod. This picture on the right is the site of Marconi's first transatlantic "wireless cable" sent by radio from President Teddy Roosevelt to the King of England. Wellfleet is a small town explored December 6, 1620. The picture on the left is a plaque about the town.



Below: Pictures of the French Atlantic Cable Museum in Orleans, Ma (Which is also on Cape Cod.) Before radio and telephone, messages to Europe and other parts of the world were sent by telegraph to the Cape Cod and then were relayed by underseas cable to France, England, ect. This Museum looks just as it did back in the 1800's. Messages were sent by morse code over the cable. Current flowing one way indicated a "dot" and the reverse a "dash". Currents were very weak after traveling from the coast of France but ingenious ways were devised to detect the signals. The cable was actually operated into the 1950's. During World War 2, underseas cables were used to Send messages because it was believed to be "secure".



FIELD DAY 2003 Results By Greg Schippers

A GREAT BIG thank you to all who participated in this year's NOARC Field Day, an interesting and fun-filled time was had by all! Our points this year were scored as follows: :

404 CW QSO points (2 points per QSO)

460 Phone QSO points

864 TOTAL QSO points

X2 (power multiplier)

1728 Score (before bonus points)

+1200 Bonus points were scored in various categories

2928 GRAND TOTAL POINTS FOR FD 2003 NOARC

Thanks once more for another great NOARC Field Day!!

=====

73, Greg Schippers, KC8HXO

Photo By “Our Waitress ” of the Tuesday Night After the Net NOARC Crowd at Russ’s in Grand Haven



North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK for September 2003

Presidents Perspective

Ok with little time to write I would like to say it would be good to see all of you at the club meeting this month. We had a great turn out at the fox hunt and the picnic. Over 40 people, it was great.

I am still looking for work, and have come to the conclusion that résumé's over the internet probably is a big hoax. Like Monster.com and even Michigan Works, but haven't totally given up on them yet. Anyway if you hear of something let me know OK?

Dean Whitney will be the program giver this month, something about what happens when you don't pay your light bill.

Any way see you on Thursday.

Don N8HCS

Club Meeting is this Thursday Night at the White Pine Middle School. The Topic is the recent Power Outage. See you there!

Page Topic

- 1. Presidents Message**
- 2. Treasurer's Report and Net Control Schedule**
- 3. Upcoming Events**
- 4. All about Jamboree On the Air**
- 5. New Technician Class in Allendale**

Treasurer's Report Account Status as of August 20, 2003 by Greg Schippers KC8HXO:

Beginning Balance of all accounts was \$5482.40, of which checking and savings totaled \$4656.44, and the NOARC endowment fund balance of \$825.96

Income for the period: \$836.88 of which .38 was interest on savings; \$290.00 was Club dues; \$495.00 was Te-Ne-Ke sales; \$15.00 from sale of antenna tuner donated by Andrew Young, N8ARY; \$36.50 from 50/50 drawings from April/May meetings.

Expenses for the period: \$73.43; Of which \$5.65 was Reimbursement to Greg Schippers, KC8HXO, for Certified mailing of Field Day entry; \$24.00 was reimbursed to John Sundstrom, N8YQD, for Cadillac Hamfest tables, and \$43.78 to John for May/June/July newsletter expenses.

Ending balance of all accounts: \$6245.85 of which checking and savings total \$5419.89, and the NOARC endowment fund total balance is \$825.96

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

General Fund: \$5,144.89
Repeater Fund: \$0
Digital Fund: \$275.00
Endowment Fund \$825.96

Total all funds \$6,245.85

This period there were no expenses incurred for the Te-Ne-Ke project, and \$495.00 in revenues. The total revenue generated to date are \$5066.36. This IS reflected in the general account balance in the above ledger. Please continue to support this important project!!

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

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

September 23 KB8HU Charlie

September 30 N8ARY Andrew (For John)

October 7 N8YQD John

October 14 N8HCS Don

October 21 KB8VEE Tom

October 28 N8LBG

Nov 1 KF8NS



Upcoming Events

September 26: NOARC Club Meeting at White Pine Middle School. Topic will be on the recent power outage given by Dean Whitney. Dean works for Consumers Power Company at the Port Sheldon Power Plant.

September 30: Technician class for new hams at Allendale High School (see details on page 5)

October 18 : Jamboree on the Air. Dan Whisman is coordinating. This year the scouts will be taking to the woods. As usual, Dan need lots of help with antennas, shelters, ect.

October 24 : Noarc Club Meeting at the White Pine Middle School.

October 31-Nov 1: ARRL State Convention and Super Swap in Holland/Zeeland.

November 20: NOARC Club meeting at the White Pine Middle School.

Club Officers :

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

Jamboree On The AIR —All About it

When Scouts want to meet young people from another country, they usually think of attending a World Jamboree. But few people realize that each year more than 400,000 Scouts and Guides "get together" over the airwaves for the annual Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA). Modern technology offers Scouts the exciting opportunity to make friends in other countries without leaving home.

JOTA is an annual event in which Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other by means of Amateur (ham) Radio. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared via radio waves. Since 1958 when the first Jamboree-on-the-Air was held, millions of Scouts have met each other through this event. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in pen pals and links between Scout troops that have lasted many years.

With no restrictions on age or on the number of participants, and at little or no expense, JOTA allows Scouts to contact each other by ham radio. The radio stations are operated by licensed ham radio operators. Many Scouts and leaders hold licenses and have their own stations, but the majority participate in JOTA through stations operated by local radio clubs and individual radio amateurs. Some operators use television or computer-linked communications.

When

JOTA is held the third weekend in October of each year. JOTA takes place starting Saturday at 0001 hours local time to Sunday, 2359 hours local time, though some activity continues over from Friday to Monday to take advantage of long distance (DX) time differences.

How Do We Take Part?

First, contact a local Amateur Radio operator or club to ask for assistance. If you need help finding a club in your area check the [ARRL Affiliated Club Search](#) page. The FCC's list of amateurs and clubs in your area (enter your zip code only) can be found [here](#). Radio amateurs are enthusiastic about their hobby and most will be willing to help you participate in JOTA. The radio operator may suggest that the Scouts visit his/her station or that the operator bring equipment to your local campsite. Often, JOTA stations are set up in unusual locations, such as the top of a mountain, or on a boat. To order Girl and Boy Scout brochures, contact the Field & Educational Services Department at ARRL HQ.

Licensing Regulations

Ham radio operators have obtained a radio transmission license by passing an exam given by national authorities. License conditions vary from country to country. In some, Scouts may speak over the air; in others, special permission can be obtained for Scouts to speak over the radio during JOTA. Please consult the list of [Third Party Traffic Agreements](#).

Rules

Radio operators run their stations in accordance with their national licensing regulations.

Stations should call "CQ Jamboree," or answer stations doing so. Any authorized frequency may be used. It is recommended that stations use the agreed World Scout Frequencies, listed elsewhere in this document. To avoid congestion, use close-by frequencies.

JOTA is not a contest. The idea is not to contact as many stations as possible during the weekend.

All participating groups are asked to send a report of their activities to their National JOTA Organizer (NJO) and to ARRL HQ after the event. See addresses listed elsewhere in this document. NJOs forward national JOTA reports to the World Scout Bureau for the World JOTA Report.

Although the worldwide JOTA is organized in October, Scouts can meet on the air at other times during the year. Regular Scout nets (a pre-arranged time and frequency when operators meet) are organized nationally

or regionally. An updated list of these nets can always be found in the latest *World JOTA Report*, which is published by the World Scout Bureau.

HB9S

The World Scout Bureau operates its own Amateur Radio station, with the call sign HB9S. There is a permanent radio room in the Bureau's Geneva offices, and the station is regularly on the air during Scout nets and JOTA weekends. Transmitters are on the 10/15/20 meter, 160/80/40 meter and (in the Geneva area) the 440/2 meter bands. Making contact with HB9S requires patience, as many stations call at the same time. Please follow instructions given by the operators and do not interfere with on-going contacts. They speak in as many languages as possible.

An amateur radio technician licensing class will be offered at Allendale High

School. It will start Next Tuesday September 30, and go for the next 5 weeks. The last class will be the last Tuesday before the state convention. Students will hopeful test at the convention.

The class will start at 7:00 pm in room 308 at Allendale High School. The best way to find my room with all the construction, is to come in on the north drive off of 68 ave. (That is the second drive if you are coming from the south.) Drive into the front parking lot and follow it all the way around until you get to a narrow road on the north side of the school. This road is clearly marked "DO NOT ENTER", believe it or not, enter here. Follow the drive around to the back of the school by the loading dock. Drive slow you are going the wrong way. The other end of this drive is closed for construction, but people may also be coming out of this area. When you get back to the loading dock, park by the basketball courts. Walk up into the grass towards the building. Between stretched between the loading dock and the north wing of the building is a set of antenna wires. Follow them to the door. That is the classroom that I will be teaching in.

There is no sign up, but you must be there for the first class. Cost of the class will depend on if you want a book or not. I recommend getting the book. We will take orders for them on the first night. Figure \$20.00 for the book. You will get some change back. Any questions email me at: bbreth@charter.net If anyone would like to help, even for just one night please let me know.

BRIAN BRETHAUER

KC8NPH

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK for October 2003

Presidential Proverbs By Don Smith, N8HCS

Well folks, its time for another club meeting and this one is really important to attend. First off, we need to select a slate of officers to run the club for next year. At this point, I have someone in mind for every post by the activities director. The activities director is responsible for lining up the monthly program for the meetings and setting up the coffee, 50/50 ect.

Also, this month John will present information about Broadband Over Power Lines which is an interference threat to our frequencies. You will want to come and learn more about this important topic.

And of course there will be the usual good fellowship with your fellow Ham Radio enthusiasts and maybe a treat to go with the fresh cup of coffee. See ya there!

Club Meeting is this Thursday Night at the White Pine Middle School. The Topic is Broadband over Power Lines which is a threat to our ham bands.

Page Topic

- 1. Presidents Message**
- 2. Treasurer's Report and Net Control Schedule**
- 3. Upcoming Events**
- 4. Amateur Radio Spectrum Preservation Act of 2003 —action needed !**
- 5. Secretary's report. 2004 Dues form (please pay by December 30th).**

Treasurer's Report Account Status as of September 20, 2003 by Greg Schippers KC8HXO:

Beginning Balance of all accounts was \$6245.85, of which checking and savings totaled \$5419.89, and the NOARC endowment fund balance of \$825.96. Income for the period: \$.39 which was interest on savings.

Expenses for the period: \$384.59; Of which \$10.00 was to State of Michigan, for non-profit renewal; \$260.00 was for pre-registration for Dayton Hamvention 2004; \$34.00 reimbursed to John Sundstrom (\$15.00 for August newsletter expenses, \$10.00 for GRARA swap registration, \$8.00 shipping 2 Te-Ne-Ke's); \$25.00 to Mike Slayton for gas for Generator from Field Day; \$56.59 to Dean Whitney for reimbursement for food, etc. for picnic after foxhunt.

Ending balance of all accounts: \$5861.65 of which checking and savings total \$5035.69, and the NOARC endowment fund total balance is \$825.96

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

General Fund: \$4,760.69
Repeater Fund: \$ 0
Digital Fund: \$ 275.00
Endowment Fund \$ 825.96

Total all funds \$5,861.65

This period there were \$8.00 in expenses incurred for the Te-Ne-Ke project, and no revenues. The total revenue generated to date are \$5058.36. This is reflected in the general account balance in the above ledger. Please continue to support this important project!!

=====

73, Greg Schippers, KC8HXO

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

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

October	21	KB8VEE	Tom
October	28	N8LBG	Woody
Nov	4	KF8NS	Dean
Nov	11	N8PFC	Brad
Nov	18	N8YQD	John
Nov	25	N8ARY	Andrew



NOTE: This information is also found on the NOARC Web site www.qsl.net/noarc

Upcoming Events

October 24 : 7 PM NOARC Club Meeting at the White Pine Middle School. John Sundstrom will be talking about the problems of Broadband over Power Lines that the Power Industry wishes to deploy. Two short video clips will be Presented.

October 31: ARRL Dinner and Wulf Hong at the Holland Holiday Inn. It also Halloween.

November 1 : Lakeshore Super Swap at Zeeland Public High School located at 96th and Riley streets. Setup 6-8 Am. Doors open at 8 PM. NOARC will provide a Table for use by paid up club members for selling their surplus equipment. Events and demonstrations going on all day.

November 15-16 : Fort Wayne Hamfest. Tickets & Info available from N8YQD.

November 20: NOARC Club meeting at the White Pine Middle School. Election of 2004 club officers.

December 18th : NOARC Christmas Party at the White Pine Middle School

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 :

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

Folks, **we are at a critical time regarding the legislation I've been > asking you to write your Congressmen/women to support. This is the> AMATEUR RADIO SPECTRUM PROTECTION ACT OF 2003. There are only about 2 ½ > weeks left in this legislative session. We have a chance to get these House and Senate bills passed . . . PROVIDED YOU ACT NOW!**

> You don't think we can influence what our congressional representatives > do? We can. AS PROOF, Sen. Levin of MI became a co-sponsor of the Senate version (S 537) ONLY BECAUSE a number of Michigan amateurs wrote and asked him to become a co-sponsor. He did! You who wrote to him caused him to do this!

> The other end of the scale has many examples of Senators and Representatives who have received no or virtually no requests to sponsor the legislation. As of today, I've learned of only 111 Division members who have written. Who else other than you is going to write?

> ONE EXAMPLE of the results of not writing came from a visit to Rep. John Boehner's (Ohio-House District 8) office a few days ago. At the time the people who keep tabs on what happens on Capitol Hill made their visit, Rep. Boehner's aide said he had received NO LETTERS asking him to co-sponsor the legislation.

> I realize we Americans are very complacent about writing our Congress people, but please let's get off our duff's and let our representatives know how we feel. The Spectrum Protection Act -- provided you help get it passed -- can also be used to help defend our frequencies from the disaster of BPL, not just from the potential of reallocation by the FCC which is the specific goal of the Spectrum Protection Act. But the act would be another tool we could use in the fight against BPL if necessary.

> To write to your Representative and Senators, get their names from:

> To E-Mail Your Member of Congress, see:

> <http://www.house.gov/writerep/> Representatives.

> <http://www.senate.gov/contacting/index.cfm> Senators

> Because of the shortness in time, E-mail them from information at these sites. You will need your postal ZIP+4 codes to get directly to the addresses for your people. To get to their E-mail forms, click on their names and then E-mail or Contact Us or similar instruction depending on the individual web site.

> FOR REPRESENTATIVES

> <YOUR NAME>
> <YOUR ADDRESS>
> <CITY, STATE ZIP>

> Dear Rep. _____

> As one of the nation's more than 670,000 federally licensed radio amateurs, I urge you to co-sponsor HR 713, the "Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003," sponsored by Rep. Michael Bilirakis (R-FL).

> This bill is a nonpartisan, non-controversial measure designed to help protect the radio frequencies used by Amateur Radio volunteers throughout our nation in providing emergency communications assistance during times of disaster. Most recently, radio amateurs have aided government and private relief agencies after the terrorist attacks of September 2001, during the traumatic electrical outage in the northeaster part of the US earlier this year and during the severe forest fires which engulfed many parts of the Western United States last summer.

> Your co-sponsorship of HR 713 will help ensure that Amateur Radio operators have access to the needed spectrum, essential to their public service role

> I look forward to hearing from you.

> Sincerely,

> <YOUR NAME>

Minutes of the NOARC September 25, 2003 Meeting by John Sundstrom, Secretary

1. Meeting opened by President Don Smith. Introduction of 17 attendees.
2. Treasurer's report approved.
3. Hank Reikels fell off his roof and was injured. A card was circulated and sent.
4. Discussion of Holland Hamfest on November 1. Five more people needed to sell tickets.
5. JOTA is October 18th. Dan Whisman is coordinating.
6. A slate of officers for 2004 is to be recommended next month. Members willing to run are encouraged to contact Don Smith.
7. Ben Docter recommended that hams send a letter to the FCC protesting the pending approval of Broadband over Power lines.
8. Andrew, N8ARY won the 50/50 drawing of \$12.00.
9. Dean Whitney provided an excellent talk about the events leading to the massive August power blackout. He says that there is no reason why it could not happen again.



Jim Wolter W9BWC shows a customer a Te Ne Ke at Dayton while Mike Martens talks with Mark Smith

Dues Renewal Form. Dues are : Single \$30, Family \$40 . Please mail to Box 44 Ferrysburg, MI 49409

Name-_____ Call _____

Street Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone Number_____ E-mail_____

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 10th 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.

Nov	18	N8YQD	John
Nov	25	N8ARY	Andrew
Dec	2	N8HCS	Don
Dec	9	KB8VEE	Tom
Dec	16	N8LBG	Woody
Dec	23	KF8NS	Dean
Dec	30	N8PFC	Brad

NOTE: This information is also found on the NOARC Web site 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 :

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

PETE HOEKSTRA
SECOND DISTRICT
MICHIGAN
E-MAIL:
tellhoek@mail.house.gov
WORLD WIDE WEB:
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:

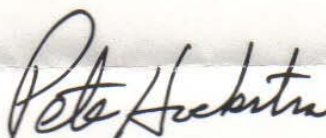
Thank you for contacting me regarding H.R. 713, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003. I appreciate hearing from you.

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—MUSKEGON
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 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, ect. 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 _____

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

SPARK VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

12/6/2003

WORDS OF WISDOM BY OUR NEW VP



Accident Report- (Darwin Award?)

This one needs an introduction, so you won't be lost at the beginning. This man was in an accident, so he filled out an insurance claim. The insurance company contacted him and asked for more information. This was his response:

"I am writing in response to your request for additional information, for block number 3 of the accident reporting form. I put 'poor planning' as the cause of my accident. You said in your letter that I should

explain more fully and I trust the following detail will be sufficient:

I am an amateur radio operator and on the day of the accident, I was working alone on the top section of my new 80-foot tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware.

Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and material down by hand, I decided to lower the items down in a small barrel by using the pulley attached to the gin pole at the top of the tower. Securing the rope at ground level, I went to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and material into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to

ensure a slow descent of the 300 pounds of tools. You will note in block number 11 of the accident reporting form that I weigh only 155 pounds. Due to my surprise of being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope.

Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate of speed up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately, by this time, I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold onto the

(Continued on pg 2)

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Club Offices Filled: A Warm Welcome to the new officers.*
- *Christmas Party: Craig Christilaw's House this Thursday 6PM.*
- *Merry Christmas: Almost here!*
- *New Repeater Controller has been purchased and hopefully will soon be installed.*

CLUB OFFICES FILLED -BY ANDREW YOUNG (N8ARY)

The results are in and the club officers have taken their positions. By unanimous vote of the members present at the November meeting, Dean Whitney (KF8NS) was elected President, Don Smith (N8HCS) took the Vice-President position, Andrew Young

(N8ARY) is the new Secretary, John Sundstrom (N8YQD) won the Treasurer spot, and Craig Christilaw became the new Activities Director. Congratulations to all.

As his first action as Activities Director, Craig has

offered his home and the "Heathkit Room" as space for the 2003 Christmas Party. This means we can be ourselves, as we will not be bound by the regulations imposed by a public Community Center or School. (This ought to be interesting— so don't miss it!)

ACCIDENT REPORT– CONTINUED FROM PG 1



rope in spite of my pain. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of tools hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel."

"Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed approximately 20 pounds. I refer you again to my weight in block number 11. As you might imag-

ine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles, and the lacerations of my legs and lower body.

The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools and, fortunately, only three vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools, in pain, unable to stand and watching the empty barrel 80 feet

above me, I again lost my presence of mind. I let go of the rope..."



Caption describing picture or graphic.

TUESDAY NIGHT NET

For those who want to join in, the club holds a net on Tuesday Night at 8:00 PM. There is usually an interesting topic to discuss. The net is open to all amateurs.

After the net, the group meets at Russ' Restaurant on Beacon Blvd in Grand Haven. There, we find even MORE interesting topics to discuss. Bring your new rig



Don, (N8HCS) (Right) and Andrew (N8ARY) pose with Megan, one of the Russ' staff.

Photo by John (WB9JSR)

or HT to show off and order some dessert or coffee while you're at it.

The Christmas party will be held at Craig Christi law's home, located at 15386 Oak Point Dr in Spring Lake. Talk-in will be on 145.49.

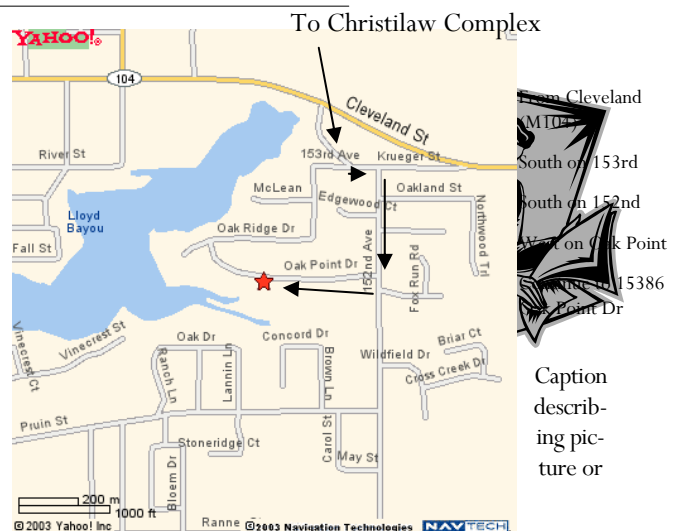
Bring a dish to pass and don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime chance to eat in the Heathkit Room of the Christilaw Complex. (Also known as Christilaw Manor).

"DEVOID OF THE WEIGHT OF THE TOOLS, THE BARREL NOW WEIGHED APPROXIMATELY TWENTY POUNDS."

CHRISTMAS PARTY–

Dec 18th

at 6:00 PM.



Caption describing picture or

NEW REPEATER CONTROLLER IN THE WORKS

The NOARC Club has purchased a new repeater controller which will be installed in the coming weeks on the 145.490 machine. The new controller has additional functionality that will provide more flexibility and easier programming.

The features include additional vocabulary and a scheduler, which will reduce the need for manually activating announcements such as "net tonight" and "club meeting."

We will also be able to change the other announcements. Maybe we will even have Juliet asking Henry the time. Who knows? There are endless possibilities, including recording custom audio tracks. Perhaps we can get Fran Drescher to announce the repeater's call sign (She's the one from the Old Navy commercials and "The Nanny" with the annoying voice). A grant request was filed with the Grand

Haven Community Foundation for reimbursement for the new controller by John Sundstrom. The foundation will decide on the grant at their January meeting.

Please note the committee will have to remove the current system from the "hill" during the installation. The old repeater will be started which means services will be limited and the G.R. link will be down during this time.



After 22 years of service, Juliet will retire this winter.

TREASURER'S REPORT— BY GREG SCHIPPERS, KC8HXO

Account Status as of November 21, 2003:

- Beginning Balance of all accounts was \$6161.05, of which checking and savings totaled \$5269.11, and the NOARC endowment fund balance of \$891.94
- Income for the period: \$.41 which was interest on savings.
- Expenses for the period: \$26.81 which was Reimbursement to John Sundstrom, N8YQD, for September and October newsletter expenses.
- Ending balance of all accounts: \$6134.65 of which checking and savings total \$5242.71, 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: \$4967.71
- Repeater Fund: \$0
- Digital Fund: \$275.00
- Endowment Fund \$891.94
- Total all funds \$6134.65

This period there were no expenses incurred for the Te-Ne-Ke project, and no revenues.

The total revenue generated to date are \$5173.36. This IS reflected in the general account balance in the above ledger.

Please continue to support this important project!!

=====
73, Greg Schippers, KC8HXO

THAT WHICH
DOES NOT KILL
US MAKES US
STRONGER

—F. NIETZSCHE



NORTH OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P.O Box 44
Ferrysburg, MI 49456

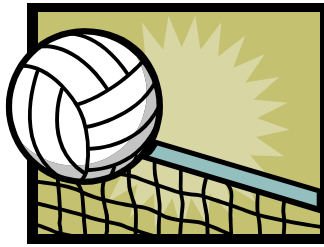
OFFICERS:

President— Dean Whitney KF8NS
Vice President— Don Smith N8HCS
Secretary— Andrew Young N8ARY
Treasurer— John Sundstrom— N8YQD
Activities Director— Craig Christilaw— K8CRC

Editor's Email: n8ary@n8ary.com

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

[HTTP://WWW.QSL.NET/NOARC](http://www.qsl.net/noarc)



NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

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

Dec	9	KB8VEE	Tom
Dec	16	N8LBG	Woody
Dec	23	KF8NS	Dean
Dec	30	N8PFC	Brad
Jan	6	KB8HU	Charlie
Jan	13	N8ARY	Andrew
Jan	20	N8HCS	Don

Presidents Report By Don Smith, N8HCS

Well here it is the end of a three year term of being the President of the NOARC. Thanks for putting up with me. Time sure fly's when you're having fun. I want to thank all the club members that kept everything going.

It's been a good three years also, all the activities and the Te Ne Ke project, well that gave us some nickels to rub together. That's three field days a bunch of ham fest, three JOTA'S three ham classes and three Christmas meetings ago.

Now I know that Dean KF8NS will do a great job as President, he is real organized. I always depend on John N8YQD to do the being organized part for me. I just use redneck technology, When all else fails use brute force!

In one of the original newsletters I believe that Dale Maxxam said that he was curious how long the club would last if they started one. The NOARC is 21 years old now and there are still some charter members around but the faces and the technology have changed a lot over that time. The NOARC is as strong as ever and probably better off financially that it has ever been.

There are some of old timers in the club which will make the club wise. We have young blood with new ideas in the club and that will make it strive. And there are a few good rednecks left to make it strong. I believe the club will be here for a long time to come.

The Novice the Advance and the Morse code have gone the way of the eight track tape. Sound cards have taken the place of rooms full of equipment making noise so loud that you had to wear ear plugs just to send a little teletype or some slow scan or CW. There was a mode called Packet then there wasn't then there was again. All this pretty much in the last three years.

I hope that all will be able to attend the club Christmas Party this Thursday the weather is holding pretty well so far. Craig K8CRC has graciously offered his home for our party this year. We will be meeting in the Heathkit room at Craig's house. Just goes to show you what kind of people make up this great club of ours.

Some time this month we will be installing the new controller and digital voice recorder on the NOARC repeater. For those of you that don't know, Henry W8GVK after dislocating his shoulder and breaking his arm volunteered again to help with this project. Henry has had to move his business from where he has operated for over thirty years to a facility about the third the size of his original building. Things are in piles on the floor of his new place but Henry said he could get things cleared up enough for us to get this project done at his new shop. This is another example of the kind of people that make up our club.

That's enough of that so see you Thursday at the party. 73 de N8HCS AR

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

to disconnect

** redial last number

911 calls Ottawa County Central Dispatch

912 call Muskegon County Dispatch

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 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

Minutes from the November 20th NOARC Meeting (by John Sundstrom)

1. Meeting called to order at 7:30 by Don Smith.
2. 22 members & guests were in attendance.
3. Election of officers for the next year were held.
President, Dean Whitney; Vice President. Don Smith;
Secretary Andrew Young; Treasurer, John Sundstrom'
Activities Director, Craig Christilaw.
4. Members voted to spend \$709 to purchase a new Repeater controller.
5. Members voted to sent \$100 to the IRA association which houses our Grand rapids link receiver.
6. The Christmas party will be at 6 PM December 18th at the home of Craig Cristilaw. It will be a potluck and spouses are invited.
7. It was suggested that we look into asking the Grand Haven Community Foundation for a grant for the repeater controller. Note: Grant application was written and submitted.
8. After discussion, the dues were allowed to rise as voted 2 years ago to \$35 beginning in 2004.
9. Program: Chuck Rich of the Holland Club presented a film he taped about Stealth Antennas.

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 _____