



North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK for JANUARY 2010



F

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

President	John Fischer ,KC8UNY	846-8998
Vice President:	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
SPARK editor	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
Secretaries	Roger Simmons N8RXC	
	Phyllis Simmons KB8NLN	846-3496
Treasurer	John Sundstrom N8YQD	847-4249
Activities Director	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	

COMING EVENTS

Don't forget the 8:00 PM Tuesday night net on the repeater!

January 31st Kent County RACES Ham-in-a-day class.

13:00 – 18:00 Study Sessions 18:00 – 20:00 Testing Session

Cost \$40.00 (includes FCC test fee)

Coffee and snacks will be provided

Registration http://www.kcraces.net/signup/hiad_jan/

Questions Jeff Nawrot – jnawrot@kcvrm.net

Net Control Schedule

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

JANUARY 2010

5 N8NLN PHYLISS SIMMONS
12 N8YQD JOHN SUNDSTROM
19 N8FQ JOE VELDHUIS
26 KC8UNY JOHN FISCHER

FEBRUARY 2010

2 N8FQ JOE VELDHUIS

Due to my teaching for winter semester W8IQE will be unable to participate in the Tuesday night net for a while. More volunteers are needed for net control to prevent having that position more than once a month. Don't be bashful, you can do it! Contact W8IQE, Paul Zellar.

NOARC Treasurer's Report for January 2010 by John Sundstrom N8YQD

Bank Balance as of December 27, 2009..... \$1,900.30
Grand Haven Community Foundation Balance..... \$4,741.15

At the November Club meeting a report was requested showing which Club members are paid up and who needs to pay their 2010 dues.

Members who 's dues **are paid** through 2010: Craig Christilaw, Bob & Tony Cline, George Dood, David Fischer, Ross Gates, Lou Meisch, Don Meyer, Mark Moss, Roger & Phyllis Simons, Gordon Stockhill, John Sundstrom, Dick Tanis, Joe Veldhuis, Jim Wolter and Paul Zellar.

Members who are regular club participants and **need to pay** their dues for 2010 are: Dan Anderson, Bill Brewer, Gene Canfield, Ben Doctor, David DeYoung, John Fisher, Michael Grzyb, Glen Hinkle, Jason Mackay, Miller, Jerome Novotny, Jeremy Platt, Craig Schell, Greg Schippers & Fam, Don Smith, Mark Stern, Steve Vanderhill, Tom Vandermehl, John Wehmer, Tom Wyant and Andrew Young.

Dues are \$25/ year or \$70/ 3 years individual and \$30/year or \$75/ 3 years for a family. Please send your dues check to NOARC, Box 976 Grand Haven, Mi 49417. Write your FCC call on the check.

Come December, in Michigan, one can expect that best laid plans could be accompanied by snow. Our NOARC Christmas party fell into that category at six o'clock in the evening, December 21st, at the Spring Lake Library. The party was well attended with twenty-three members and their spouses/dates. It is always a fine time chatting with the ladies, whom I will probably not see again until Field Day. [Five months, my friends] After a great meal of ham and potluck offerings, President John Fischer distributed tickets for the door prize drawing of an ICOM-T7H. The winner, Phyllis Simmons, was thrilled, [YES!!] having had to retire her IC-T81A this last summer.

Eight p.m. found the party breaking up, ready to face the snowy roads again.

On a sad note, we lost two of our radio friends this month. Ken Sanders [N8KKF] and Woodrow [Woody] Aldrich [N8LBG] will be truly missed.

One of the local church bulletin boards says it best. May your New Year be a "10".

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis and Roger Simmons, Secretaries

The Classified Section)

For Sale: Assortment of nice Zenith Transoceanic all band radios. Contact John Sundstrom , N8YQD

Understanding Multi-meters Booklet. Contact Paul Zellar, W8IQE



1 year Dues Renewal Form. Single \$25 Family \$30. Buy 3 years for \$70 and you get a Mi Tax credit of \$35 on your 2005 return. Please fill out mail to Box 44 Ferrysburg, MI 49409

Name _____ Call _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

W8CSO (NOARC) Repeater information: If the NOARC repeater goes down , use 145.490 simplex

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

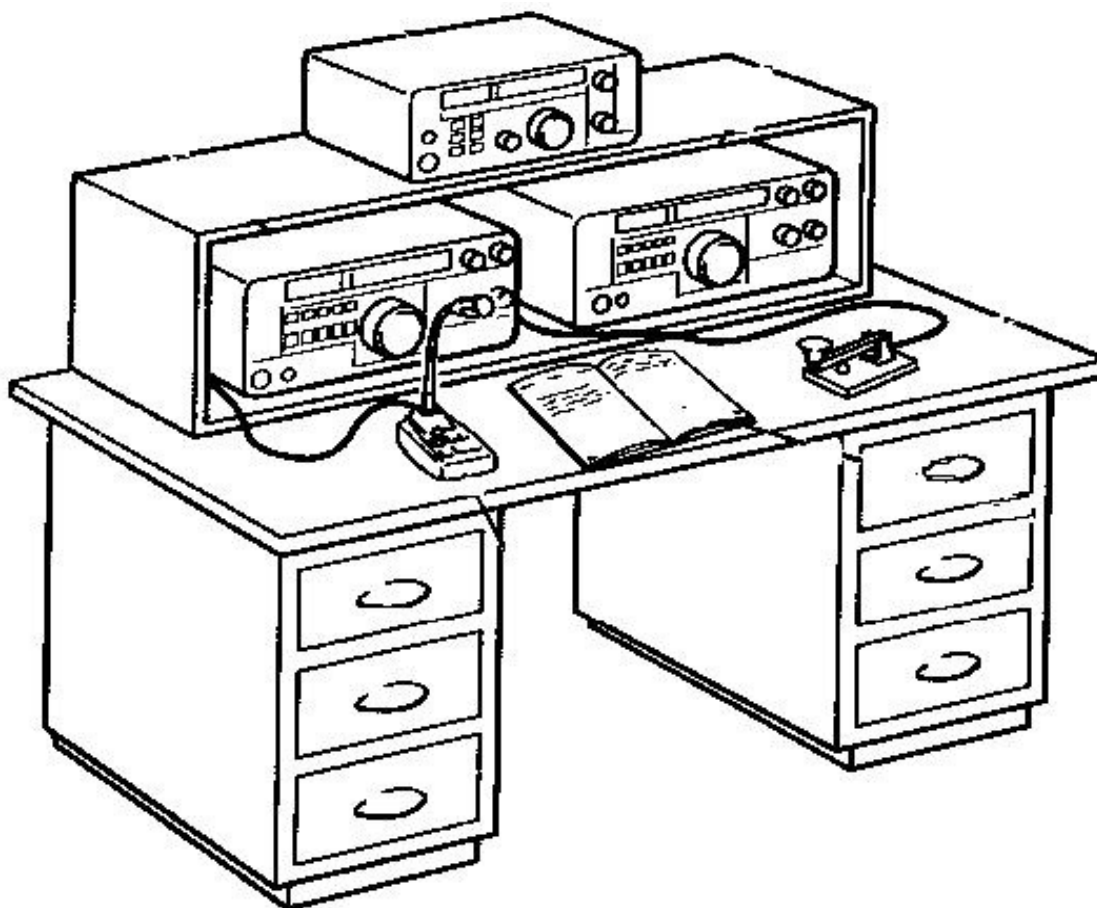
Codes : Time of day 400; DTMF Test 325; signal report 750

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.gsl.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 . 2010 Dues are \$ 25.00 individual and \$ 35.00 family or \$70 for 3 years. Please send dues to NOARC Box 976, Grand Haven, MI 49417. Please keep the club Treasurer (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
Grand Haven, MI 49417
Box 976
North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club**



North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club **SPARK for FEBRUARY 2010**



Are all our shacks as neat as this one?

President	John Fischer ,KC8UNY	846-8998
Vice President:	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
SPARK editor	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
Secretaries	Roger Simmons N8RXC	
	Phyllis Simmons KB8NLN	846-3496
Treasurer	John Sundstrom N8YQD	847-4249
Activities Director	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	

COMING EVENTS

There seems to be nothing much going on in February.

Spring Break is the first week of March!

Here is something we can look forward to:

20 March 2010 + 50th Annual Michigan Crossroads Hamfest
Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society
<http://www.w8df.com/hamfest.html>
Talk-In: 146.660 repeater -600 Hz offset

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

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

FEBRUARY 2010

2	N8FQ	JOE VELDHUIS
9	N8YQD	JOHN SUNDSTROM
16	KC8JWA	BEVERLY TRAXLER
23	KC8UNY	JOHN FISCHER

The January meeting started out like a miniature hamfest. With the passing of our good friend and brother in arms, Ken Sanders N8KKS, Ken's son David brought in radio equipment en masse. Assisted by Roy Closs, The equipment was spread out on tables and boxes lining the meeting room walls. Among other things were a tube checker, tapes, coaxial cables earphones, battery chargers, a Bearcat scanner, antennas, antenna tuners, with meters. Books were laid out in attractive rows. A Kenwood TM 430S HF radio and an Astron power supply topped the list. There was a Kenwood TM261 Mobile radio, a Kenwood TH22AT 2 meter handheld and an Icom ICV8 still in their original boxes. David reported that a hinged radio tower with rotators and a G5RV antenna are for sale.

Refreshments were furnished by Phyllis Simmons. They included brownies, pretzels, cookies, apples, and coffee. It was fun to browse the equipment for sale while munching on the goodies.

President John Fischer began the meeting with introductions of the members who stated their front name and call signs.

John announced that Don Meyer could not attend the meeting as he is now a proud new grandpa.

Next was a discussion of ARRL's "Logbook of the world". The logging program is available to all US hams free of charge. EQSL.com was also mentioned the only requirement being the use of a password to enter the contents of the QSO and a password to access the contents. President Fischer advised that he has logged 511 contacts at meeting time.

Then followed a discussion of QRP and split frequency contacts.

No dates were available for the hamfests at Marshall and Traverse City.

If you are interested in any of the above mentioned equipment, you can contact David Sanders at 13410 Green St, Grand Haven MI 49417. Home phone: (616) 846 198.

Altogether too soon, 8:15 PM rolled around. It was time to pack up the unsold equipment and regretfully depart the premises.

Respectfully submitted: Phyllis and Roger Simmons

(PS) Phyllis and Roger are headed south for a couple months of undeserved respite in the sunny south.

We hope to check back with y'all in the spring.

The Classified Section)

For Sale: Assortment of nice Zenith Transoceanic all band radios. Contact John Sundstrom , N8YQD

Understanding Multi-meters Booklet. Contact Paul Zellar, W8IQE



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SPARK for MARCH 2010



RightReference.com

Harvey Wells Bandmaster TBS-50D

No trouble with menus in those days!

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COMING EVENTS

March 6: The Ottawa Chapter of the ARC is offering their Annual "FREE" CPR Saturday on March 6, 2010 from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

March 20: Michigan Crossroads Hamfest, Marshall, MI

Just to give you something to look forward to:

Apr 3: ARGYL Hamfest, Lowell, MI

May 1: Cadillac Hamfest, Cadillac, MI

May14-16: Hamvention(r), Dayton, OH - Gary, Jim

June 4: IRA Hamfest, Hudsonville, MI

SILENT KEY

Michael F. O'Brien, age 62, of Grand Haven, passed away Thursday, February 25, 2010, He was not a club member although a few members knew him and he had occasionally come for coffee.

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

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MARCH 2010

2	N8FQ	JOE VELDHUIS
9	KC8UNY	JOHN FISCHER
16	KC8JWA	BEVERLY TRAXLER
23	N8FQ	JOE VELDHUIS
30	KC8UNY	JOHN FISCHER

Thanx, Bev, for filling in and joining our net.

There are minutes for the February 18 meeting, no business was done.

I LEARNED ABOUT HAM RADIO FROM THAT!

In 1971 I worked for the FAA, stationed in Anchorage, Alaska. My work took me into the field much of the time, but on one occasion I was home with the family for several weeks. It was during this period that I had time to remember that I had obtained the call KL7DYD, but had never put it to use.

I had a general coverage receiver, one made for the FAA from the 1940's. I had salvaged it from the junk pile, and it worked very well. It was similar to a National HRO, one of the premier receivers of that period, but had an annoying feature of no direct frequency readout. The dial only had a logging scale, with a card mounted on the front giving correlations for each band. It was a matter of using interpolation to calculate the frequency any time it was important.

I set the radio up with a 20 foot length of antenna wire and tuned around 75 meters. I found a net was in operation, with many of the members local. Suddenly I burned with the desire to join in. Looking through some of the junk I had collected, I pulled out a Harvey Wells TBS-50D transmitter. This unit tuned the HF bands, had an 807 in the final, and looked almost intact. Of course, this generation was crystal controlled, needed a separate power supply and modulator. A local shop had a crystal for the net frequency, so I squandered some of my hard earned cash for a major purchase.

I had no decent power supply for an 807, which really needed about 600 volts at 100 milliamps, but settled for one I had that put out about 200 volts. On this type of rig, tuning was done by "dipping" the final plate current, a minimum current indicating resonance, and then adjusting the "loading" for maximum. The problem was that the meter barely got off the peg with such a low voltage. It moved so little that there was a lot of guesswork involved. The TBS-50D was really designed for phone use, AM in those days, and mine lacked a jack for CW. OK, since the current was so low I connected my key in the B- line. Still using the short antenna, all the wire I had available, I waited the next evening for the net. After the net ended, I tapped out a CQ, and almost jumped out of my chair when a lady operator from the other side of Anchorage came back to me! We chatted for a bit with me pounding brass and her on phone. After a while she told me that her ability to copy CW was about as poor as my ability to send it, and asked if I could figure a way to modulate it. I told her that I would try, and if successful, would call her after the net on the following night.

Now I needed a modulator. Ok, that's nothing but an audio amplifier. I had a reel to reel tape recorder, an old VM (Voice of Music) brand that had a monitor position on its panel. This allowed the operator to listen over the loudspeaker to whatever was being recorded. Aha! There was my amplifier. Disconnecting the speaker, I connected the output to the six volt winding of an old TV set power transformer. The high voltage winding was then connected in series with my high voltage to the 807.

I anxiously waited the following evening for the net to end, then turned everything on and called for the lady. She came right back and told me that I was over-modulating, and helped me find the right volume control setting. This was my first contact on HF phone, and I was a happy camper. I soon had to go back to traveling, and never did set that rig up again.

W8IQE

The Classified Section)

For Sale: Assortment of nice Zenith Transoceanic all band radios. Contact John Sundstrom , N8YQD

Understanding Multi-meters Booklet. Contact Paul Zellar, W8IQE



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SPARK for APRIL 2010



MARSHALL SWAPMEET

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Activities Director	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	

COMING EVENTS

April 3 Lowell ARGYL Hamfest at the Lowell High School. 8 until noon.

Apr 17 Milford Hamfest

Saturday, April 17, 2010 for the 2010

April 17, the Two Trackers <http://www.twotrackers.org> will be sponsoring the 12th annual Forest Cleanup in the Manistee National Forest area and other public lands, in northern Muskegon County and southern Oceana county. Help is requested.

April 17 Michigan QSO Party (MiQP). The operating period is a convenient twelve hours long, from noon local time (1600Z) until midnight local (0400Z) here in Michigan

April 22, NOARC Club meeting, Spring Lake Library

April 30 –May 1 Isaiah 58:12 Faith-Based Preparedness & Disaster Relief Conference

May 1 Cadillac Hamfest

Help will be needed again for the Tulip Day celebration in May.

Don't forget the weekly get-togethers, after the Tuesday night 8:00 net at Russ' on Beacon Blvd, Wednesday morning breakfast at 8:00 at the Idle Hour in Spring Lake, and the Saturday 7:00 breakfast at Pine Street café in Ferrysburg.

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

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

APRIL 2010

6	N8RXC	ROGER SIMMONS
13	KC8UNY	JOHN FISCHER
20	KC8JWA	BEVERLY TRAXLER
27	N8FQ	JOE VELDHUIS

The Marshall Hamfest was at a new location this year. As usual, there was a good turnout, but the new venue was a bit too crowded. At the NOARC table we saw some familiar faces and had some eyeball QSOs, sold a little and bought a lot. Your editor enjoyed himself.

I wonder if there is still anyone who remembers the hero of articles from CQ magazine many years ago, one Scratchi Hashafisti. Scratchi always began his column as a letter addressed to "Dear Honorable Editor." The letter then went on to describe the latest mischief poor Scratchi got himself into. The one I particularly remember was the time someone gave him a water cooled broadcast amplifier tube and he built a very large amplifier to allow him to work the world. When he finally turned it on all his lights went dim, but all his neighbor's lights lit up. People were screaming and running around when suddenly his rig exploded and blew him out of his window. A friend told him the "Federal Communist Commission" was going to take away his license, but he had them fooled. He didn't have one.

Noarc Treasurer's Report for April 2010 by John Sundstrom n8yqd

Bank Balance as of March 26, 2010
\$1,973.65

recent transactions:

deposit (dues Novotny & Doctor) + 50.00

Check: Comtronco (repeater costs) -253.00

Balance As of March 27,2010\$
1,770.65

Grand Haven Community Foundation Balance.....
\$4,975.25

(this balance is as of 12/31/2009)

There was no NOARC meeting in March as it was decided to go to Skywarn training instead.

The Classified Section)

For Sale: Assortment of nice Zenith Transoceanic all band radios. Contact John Sundstrom , N8YQD

Booklets on understanding Basic Electricity, Multi-meters, another on oscilloscopes . Contact Paul Zellar, W8IQE



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SPARK for MAY 2010



DON'T SWEAT IT!

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Vice President:	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
SPARK editor	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
Secretaries	Roger Simmons N8RXC	
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Treasurer	John Sundstrom N8YQD	847-4249
Activities Director	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	

COMING EVENTS

MAY

1 Cadillac Hamfest

5 Volksparade: Wednesday

6 Kinderparade: Thursday

8 Muziekparade: Saturday

14 Dayton Hamfest

20 NOARC Club meeting SL Library Program Rm 1

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

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MAY 2010

4	KC8UNY	JOHN FISCHER
11	N8YQD	JOHN SUNDSTROM
18	N8NLN	PHYLISS SIMMONS
25	W8IQE	PAUL ZELLAR

JUNE

1	N8FQ	JOE VELDHUIS
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Thursday April 22, 2010 was like a lot of other fifty five degree days in west Michigan. The members of NOARC met at the Spring Lake Library after supper at six thirty. Phyllis brought her chocolate and oatmeal cookies together with sliced fresh apples and pretzels. Napkins were laid out and a total of ten hams eventually wandered in to munch on them. The Michigan Room has not been used by NOARC before and this may have accounted for the delayed appearance of some of the members.

President John Fischer brought the meeting to order. Discussion was held in reference to Field Day activities. This year's simulated emergency event will be held at Ferry Park in Ferrysburg on June 26th and 27th. Arrangements will be made thru the Ferrysburg City Manager for use of the park. The same contact logging program will be used as last year and contacts will be entered on computer. We expect to use the Ottawa County Emergency Trailer as a base of operations in the park.

Members talked about putting up a sign advertising the Ham in a day class to take place sometime in July. As most of you know, the Ham in a day class starts in the morning of the appointed day. The license test questions are given and reasons for the correct answers are made clear. In the afternoon, sometime around 2:30 or 3:00 the written test is administered. Three Volunteer Examiners verify the results and the results are submitted to the ARRL and FCC.

President Fischer advised that volunteers will be needed for emergency communication at a 5 K Race to be held in Grand Haven on Saturday April 24th. Operators will meet at the Department of Public Safety at 7:45 am. The race is reported to start at a house on Franklin St. It will proceed west to Harbor Dr., then to Lake St., to Second St. and back to Franklin. It will end at the Franklin St. house.

Next, Paul Zellar gave an excellent presentation on the intricacies of the oscilloscope. How it can be a most useful tool in trouble shooting electronic equipment.

Sometime after 8:00 pm, Gordon Stockwell motioned that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was unanimously seconded by the club by all members exiting the building.

Respectfully submitted, Phyllis & Roger Simmons

The Classified Section)

For Sale: Assortment of nice Zenith Transoceanic all band radios. Contact John Sundstrom , N8YQD

Booklets available, Basic Electricity, Multimeters, Oscilloscopes, Trouble shooting. Contact Paul Zellar, W8IQE



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North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK for JUNE 2010



NOARC Visitors at W8IQE's Dayton stall

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COMING EVENTS

June 5, Hudsonville Hamfest

June 6, Kent County Ham In A Day class. http://www.kcraces.net/signup/hiad_june/

Questions: jnawrot@kcvrm.net

Passed on from a Wednesday breakfast, a cryptic note that many of us homebrewers can identify with:

Please don't ask what happened to the original switches. I looked around Digikey and did not see them. I need two 3 position slider switches and 4 joystick switches that mount under the display, and a volume control that I melted with my soldering iron.

Other than human (me) error, the new board is looking good

Rich N8FV

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

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JUNE

1	N8FQ	JOE VELDHUIS
8	N8RXC	ROGER SIMMONS
15	KC8UNY	JOHN FISCHER
22	N8YQD	JOHN SUNDSTROM
29	N8NLN	PHYLISS SIMMONS

The Tuesday night net is a time of fellowship and getting the latest announcements. It is also useful experience with net operation. Taking a turn at Net Control is valuable for any Ham who may someday find it necessary to conduct a net, which often happens with little warning. To be included in the net control rotation, contact W8IQE.

At seventeen minutes to the hour of seven [p.m.], the motion to start the meeting was made by Gordon Stockhill. Field Day was on the docket. Thursday, June 24th, at 6;30 p.m. kicks off Field Day for the NOARC club with a hot dog supper at the Wm. Ferry Park in Ferrysburg. This is an antenna planning time. Saturday morning, June 26, begins with breakfast at 8;00 a.m. Pizza will be for lunch at noon.

At 2;00 the national contest, called Field Day, begins. Three stations are presently planned. Additionally, a GOTA [get on the air] station is planned. This station is designed to let those interested in amateur radio to transmit and receive on radio in various modes. The stations will attempt to contact others all over the country. They will be operating on 20, 40 and 80 meters. The contest will continue for 24 hours. It will simulate emergency conditions. Normal electrical service will not be used. Paul Zellar has volunteered to provide solar power and inverters for radio operation. It's requested that participants bring extension cords and batteries.

Potluck supper at 6;00 is a family affair. Bring family and a dish to share - meat and beverage will be provided. Sunday morning breakfast is at 8:00 a.m. Time to freshen up last night's coffee.

In other matters, Gordon Stockhill is looking for an old fashioned standard typewriter. A military one with all capital letters is preferred.

Other events occurring are: Girls on the Run 5K race, May 22 at 10;00 a.m., volunteers meeting at 9;00 a.m. at Grand Haven Public Safety.

Snug Harbor 5K run on May 29.

Spring Lake Memorial Day parade on May 31. Parade at 9;00 a.m.; meet at the Spring Lake Public Safety at 10;00 a.m.

Hudsonville hamfest is June 5.

Treasurer, John Sundstrom, reports that the checking account has \$1,435.00. Our funds in the Grand Haven Community Foundation total \$5,162.00.

Around 7;45 p.m. the meeting adjourned to the parking lot where everyone provided Paul Zellar with critical but constructive ideas on his home made electric car.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis and Roger Simmons

The Classified Section)

For Sale: Assortment of nice Zenith Transoceanic all band radios.

Contact John Sundstrom , N8YQD

INSTRUCTIONAL BOOKLETS:

Basic Electricity course	\$5.00
Troubleshooting Guide	\$2.00
Oscilloscope Operation	\$2.00
Multi-meter Operation	\$2.00
All the above plus on a CD	\$5.00

Contact Paul Zellar, W8IQE



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**Postmaster: Return Requested
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Box 976
North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club**



North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK for JULY 2010



ROGER AND MARK POUNDING BRASS FOR FIELD DAY

President	John Fischer ,KC8UNY	846-8998
Vice President:	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
SPARK editor	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
Secretaries	Roger Simmons N8RXC	
	Phyllis Simmons KB8NLN	846-3496
Treasurer	John Sundstrom N8YQD	847-4249
Activities Director	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	

COMING EVENTS

JULY 4 FERRYSBURG PARADE

JULY 22 FOX HUNT 6:30, WHITE PINES MIDDLE SCHOOL

JULY 31 COAST GUARD RUN, 7:15 AM

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

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

JULY

6	N8YQD	JOHN SUNDSTROM
13	KC8JWA	BEVERLY TRAXLER
20	KC8UNY	JOHN FISCHER
27	N8RXC	ROGER SIMMONS

AUGUST

3	N8FQ	JOE VELDHUIS
----------	-------------	---------------------

The NOARC Field Day took place at William Ferry Park in Ferrysburg. This venue put the occasion in front of many people, since it is near a main intersection. The brick shelter provided protection for the kitchen that was efficiently run by KB8NLN. Phyllis also brought along a quantity of the goodies we have come to know and to love. N8YQD, N8FQ and others also used the structure for the PSK station. N8RXC and KC8MAZ operated their CW station from a tent that stayed partly dry during a downpour. Water eventually found their laptop computer power supply and left them with paper logging at one point.

Jim Wolter brought a pop-up camper trailer for his CW station, ably assisted by Gordon and others. The Ottawa County Emergency trailer was on scene with KC8UNY and KB8OCD as the prime operators. KB8OCD also set up the wireless network for the integrated computer logging system. While each station kept its own log on their laptop, everyone could also look at what each other was doing and even send messages to each other.

N8KYO used his camper van to house his station, operating with the help of others as the night wore on. Lou had one of his usual intriguing antennas, suspended between trees and the M104 bridge.

Among others noticed in passing were K8AR, K8LLG, K8CCJ, KC8THN, KC8SRS, KF8VN, NE8KE, KB8VEE, K8RRA, WB9JSR, and N8ARY. I am sure there were others, my apologies for those I missed. We were all saddened to hear of Brad King's, N8PFC, motorcycle accident, and wish him a speedy recovery.

Each station operated from a 12 Volt battery. Jim Wolters had his own solar panel to keep his battery charged, but the rest were kept charged from a 400 Watt solar array that charged eight golf cart batteries in W8IQE's electric car. These batteries provided power to keep the individual batteries charged throughout the 24 hour period by using an inverter to raise the voltage to 120 Volts AC, which was sent through extension cords to battery chargers at each location. This system worked great until Sunday morning when the wind and rain disabled the inverter. By that time, everyone's batteries had a nearly full charge to last the rest of the time.

At publishing time I have been unable to obtain the results of the contest. Near quitting time I did notice that we had worked 45 states so far. A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!

Paul E. Zellar W8IQE

The Classified Section)

For Sale: Assortment of nice Zenith Transoceanic all band radios. Contact John Sundstrom , N8YQD

Understanding Multi-meters, oscilloscopes booklets. Simplified basic electricity text. Contact Paul Zellar, W8IQE



1 year Dues Renewal Form. Single \$25 Family \$30. Buy 3 years for \$70 and you get a Mi Tax credit of \$35 on your 2005 return. Please fill out mail to Box 44 Ferrysburg, MI 49409

Name _____ Call _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

W8CSO (NOARC) Repeater information: If the NOARC repeater goes down , use 145.490 simplex

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

Codes : Time of day 400; DTMF Test 325; signal report 750

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North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

SPARK for AUGUST 2010



THE FOX WAS FOUND!

President	John Fischer ,KC8UNY	846-8998
Vice President:	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
SPARK editor	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
Secretaries	Roger Simmons N8RXC	
	Phyllis Simmons KB8NLN	846-3496
Treasurer	John Sundstrom N8YQD	847-4249
Activities Director	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	

COMING EVENTS

JULY 31 Help is needed for the Coast Guard Festival 5 and 10 K races and the Kid's Parade. Meet at the Grand Haven Dept. of Public Safety. The first run starts at 7:30, the Kid's Parade at 10:30.

Contact Don M kb8odb at kb8odb@ sbcglobal.net or John F kc8uny@arrl.net

August 7, 7:00 AM, Meet at Russ' for breakfast and assignments to help with Coast Guard parade lineup. More help is needed for the parade route. Contact Don M kb8odb at kb8odb@ sbcglobal.net or John F kc8uny@arrl.net

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

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

AUGUST

3	N8FQ	JOE VELDHUIS
10	N8NLN	PHYLISS SIMMONS
17	KC8UNY	JOHN FISCHER
24	N8YQD	JOHN SUNDSTROM
31	W8IQE	PAUL ZELLAR

|

On July 23rd the NOARC monthly meeting was held as a Fox hunt, with Joe, N8FQ, as the fox. There was a question about proceeding due to stormy weather, but our intrepid group hung in and off we went after Joe's initial call. He had informed us that he was to the west, so that was a big help.

Two groups went seeking and when the fox was due for his second transmission the car driven by Roger, N8RXC, pulled into a convenient parking lot, there was Joe right in front! Also in the car was Phyllis, KB8NLN and Paul, W8IQE.

The second group, consisting of KC8UNY and KB8ODB used more conventional methods and also found Joe. After a brief debriefing, some of us adjourned to Russ' for some refreshment and rest from our labors.

The Classified Section)

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Understanding Multi-meters, oscilloscopes booklets. Simplified basic electricity text. Contact Paul Zellar, W8IQE



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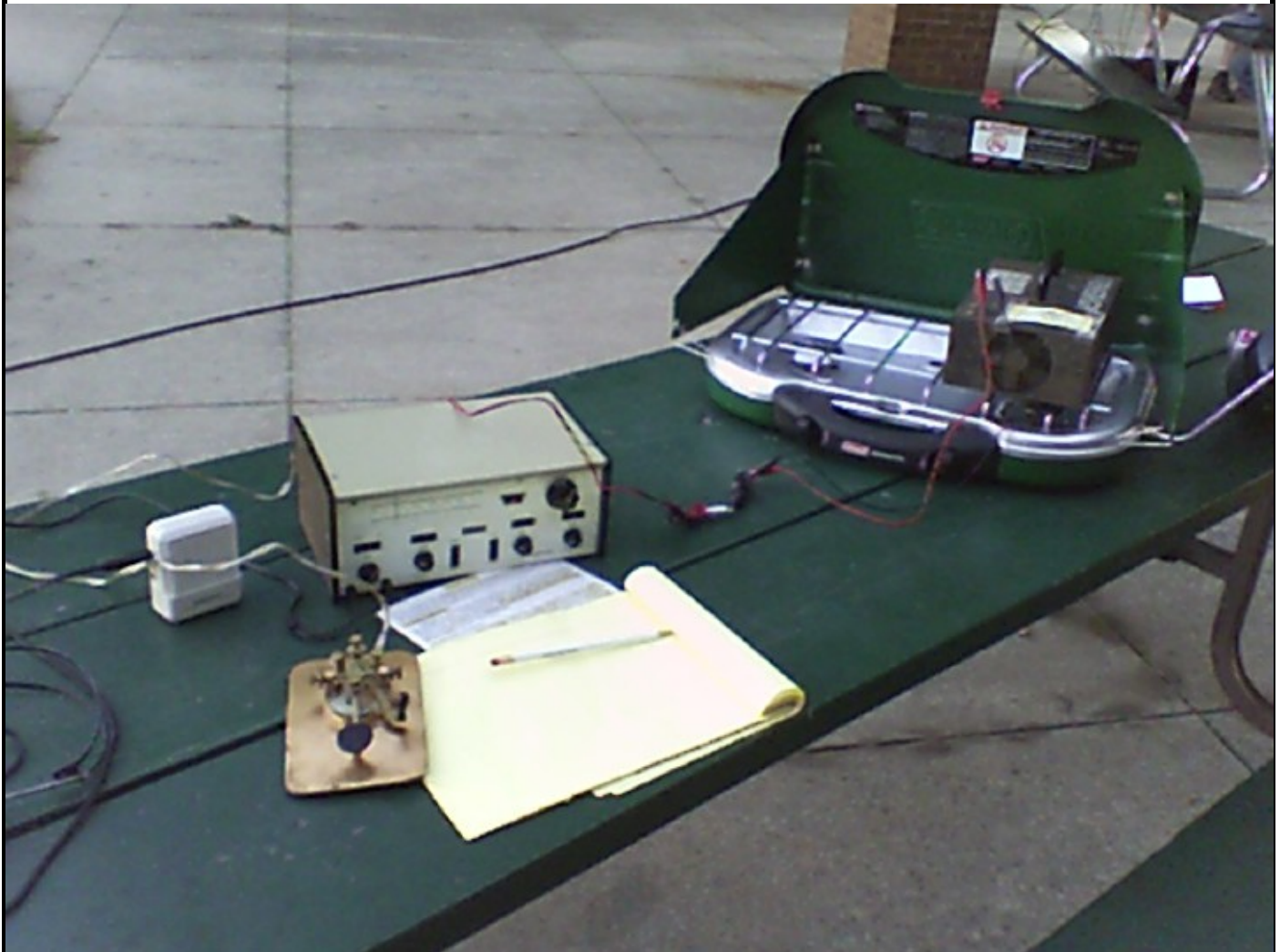
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North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club **SPARK for SEPTEMBER 2010**



A neat heat powered QRP rig!

President	John Fischer ,KC8UNY	846-8998
Vice President:	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
SPARK editor	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
Secretaries	Roger Simmons N8RXC	
	Phyllis Simmons KB8NLN	846-3496
Treasurer	John Sundstrom N8YQD	847-4249
Activities Director	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	

COMING EVENTS

. September 11th is the GRARA Hamfest with a new location in Wyoming, MI (5625 Burlingame).

Noarc will have 2 tables.

September 11 GRARA Hamfest, Wyoming (new location)

September 13 to November 15 Upgrade to Amateur Extra. See Tom, K8TB, HARC.

September 15 to November 17, Technician license classes. Contact HARC.

September 16th NOARC Meeting Spring Lake Library- Smartphones & IPODS

September 18, Old Boys Brewhouse Marathon

September 21, CW classes begin at the Fillmore Complex through HARC.

Don't forget: Tuesday night net on the Grand Haven repeater at 8:00PM. Refreshments at Russ'.

Wednesday morning breakfast at the Idle Hour, Spring Lake, at 8:00 AM.

Saturday morning breakfast at the Pine Street Café in Ferrysburg at 7:00 AM.

A quick note on the device from the cover photo. This is a Peltier Junction based unit made by Ovonics about 1990. The label says it will output 12 Volts at 5 Watts or 9 Volts at 6 Watts. I found the voltage depends on temperature, output current about .5 Amperes. It has a metal plate on the bottom to set on a heat source. How about firing up a wood stove and QRP at the same time?

Paul, W8IQE

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

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

September:

7 **N8RXC ROGER SIMMONS**
14 **KC8UNY JOHN FISCHER**
21 **KC8JWA BEVERLY TRAXLER**
28 **N8FQ JOE VELDHUIS**

August/September 2010 Treasurer's Report

Grand haven Community Fund 6/30 balance...\$4,706.23

Less dividend deposited to checking 190.00

Balance as of August 24 4,516.23

Chase bank Checking 7/22 balance..... \$1,488.65

deposit , dividend from community fund 190.00

checks: Field day food -239.71

Balance as of august 24 1,438.94

Note to members: The officers decided to increase the checkbook balance by taking the annual dividend earned on our community foundation account of \$190. NOARC is not as "flush" with cash as it used to be due to declining sales of TE NE KEYS.

At 6:00 pm on August 26, 2010 Phyllis and Roger departed their home for the William Ferry Park, ten minutes from their home in Spring Lake. Upon arrival they found Lou Meisch had already mounted a high 40 Meter vertical antenna. It had three horizontal radials on the base. One of these radials was dipped into the nearby channel of Spring Lake where it meets the Grand River.

Around seven O' clock, Joe Veldhuis appeared with his digital radio rig. Joe quickly found that he had forgotten a vital part of the radio and did an about face returning his equipment to his car. Joe later operated the other radios in the group.

Phyllis and Roger unloaded their Kenwood 570 with its portable MFJ antenna, while Lou tuned his Ten Tec QRP radio. Phyllis unloaded a batch of cookies and a couple pots of coffee. She also brought hot chocolate and tea. Visitors to the park were welcomed and shown the radios and the NOARC team in action.

Roger found a picnic table to place his radio, thirty feet farther than the hundred foot extension cord would reach. Another spot was found beneath the pavilion shelter.

Ben Docter brought a telescoping 40 meter vertical antenna with his QRP radio. He shortly made contact with Lou Meisch's radio. I believe Joe Veldhuis was at the helm of Lou's radio at the time. For a short while, they both thought they had made a legitimate DX.

Beverly Traxler brought her radio to the park. She had a 20 meter horizontal dipole wire. We tried various methods of getting the wire into a nearby tree. Finally attaching a monkey's fist to one end and pitching it over a limb. We worried about getting it back when we were finished with it.

The cookies were passed out. They were devoured with the coffee for members and guests.

Lou Meisch powered his radio with a Coleman propane stove and an "Energy" generator, borrowed from Paul Zellar. The stove created heat, which in turn created electricity to run the radio.

All together, four radios hummed for a while. Stations were heard from all over the country, from North Carolina to Massachusetts. However, when all was said and done, no one in the club made a contact except Ben Docter and Joe Veldhuis. They didn't have much to say to each other, but it was good for a laugh.

When the sun set near the horizon and the mosquitos started coming out, it was time to leave. The weather was perfect, nice and cool with just a breeze. Like Lou Meisch says:

" A good time was had by all."

An additional note: John Fischer is looking for volunteers to provide emergency communication for the Ole Boys Marathon. This will take place on September 18th. Please contact him by September 14th with your shirt size. A lunch will be served at the Ole Boys Brew House after the race.

Respectfully submitted: Phyllis and Roger Simmons

The Classified Section)

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North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club **SPARK for OCTOBER, 2010**



KB8NLN AND N8RXC, happy volunteers

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Vice President:	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
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Secretaries	Roger Simmons N8RXC	
	Phyllis Simmons KB8NLN	846-3496
Treasurer	John Sundstrom N8YQD	847-4249
Activities Director	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	

COMING EVENTS

October doings

10/2 KC8UNY is looking for help for a race in Grand Haven with a pancake breakfast following. Call John Fischer if you can help.

10/2 Silent Key sale at Powder Coat of Central Michigan, 1 mile south of Ithaca. More than 300 items. 10 AM to 2 PM

10/16 Holland swap hollandarc.org

10/17 Kalamazoo kalamazooohamfest.com

EVERY SATURDAY! 11:00 AM on 146.940 (-) (94.8PL) Called the TechNet, the theme is technical discussions of amateur radio subjects

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

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

OCTOBER 2010

5 N8YQD JOHN SUNDSTROM

12 N8KYP LOU MEISCH

19 N8NLN PHYLISS SIMMONS

26 KC8UNY JOHN FISCHER

September minutes:

Members of NOARC gathered at the Spring Lake Library shortly before seven in the evening. Phyllis Simmons unloaded cookies, brownies and apples for refreshments, while John Sundstrom provided the coffee.

President Fischer opened the meeting. Paul Zellar announced that Jack DenBraber is getting rid of some HF ham equipment of a "silent key" from Grand Rapids, including a 50 foot Rohn 25 tower with a beam antenna for \$100.00. Jack said he can supply a trailer to move it.

John Sundstrom advised that the estate of Gary Bortles (KB8IPU) in Alma has the sale of Heathkit material. A list can be found on the West Michigan Ham Web Site.

It was like the O.K. Coral when members pulled out their digital phones, I Pods, Evos and etc. John Sundstrom was giving a presentation on the Sprint Evo (smart phone). He demonstrated the various aspects of the hand held machine including telephone, Echolink, FM radio, GMail, antivirus, internet, camera, two way video, music, GPS, Wi Fi, TV, Blue tooth, and other "apps".

Paul Zellar won the fifty fifty drawing,(such as it was).

Don Meyer told the group that volunteers were welcome and needed for the Old Boys Marathon on Saturday. Helpers are to meet at the Sheriff's OCEC trailer in Wm Ferry Park in Ferrysburg.

At around eight twenty, the NOARC members casually departed from the library, narrowly missing being locked in for the night at eight thirty.

Respectfully submitted: Phyllis and Roger Simmons

SATURDAY AT THE PARK

(My version of the Old Boys Marathon, by Roger Simmons)

Phyllis and I set the alarm clocks for five thirty am on Saturday morning. We wanted to have enough time to finish packing our radio equipment. Phyllis' light went out on her alarm clock. After setting the time on my clock, I forgot to turn it on. We both woke up close to five thirty anyway. Our bicycle tires were pumped up with air on the night before. We ensured that our ponchos were at the ready. We planned to bike to the briefing at Ferry Park. We brought extra plastic bags in hopes of keeping things dry if it rained, ate breakfast, and were ready to leave at six thirty.

We took the bike path south on Fruitport Road to the Spring Lake Cemetery. There we passed a portable toilet stationed at the intersection of the Cemetery and the bike path. West on the path the race markers were in place.

The sky was too dark for that time of morning. Near Alden Street at the water fountain shelter, we decided to put our ponchos on. We narrowly avoided getting wet from the first drops, as we approached the US 31 bridge, but by the time we mounted the bridge, it was pouring.

On arrival at the Sheriff's trailer in Ferry Park there were Police officers from Spring Lake, Ferrysburg, and Grand Haven. Ham radio operators, volunteers and the race coordinator were huddled beneath the trailer awning and inside the trailer. It became a drenching hard rain with strong wind, lightning and thunder.

The important matters were taken care of first. There was coffee inside the trailer, next to the radio stacks. Beneath the awning was a long table, and on it were maps, clipboards and welcome sweet rolls. Priorities are important.

As the eight o'clock start time approached there was concern that the race should be canceled. John Sundstrom called Channel Eight Television on his Evo cell phone. "Laura" the meteorologist was in the middle of a broadcast but in between her appearances on the screen, she gave updates on how long the lightning would last in our area. It was decided to postpone the race for an hour. Phyllis and I took shelter in the nearby pavilion, a short distance from the trailer.

As nine o'clock rolled around, we were issued three maps of the three race routes, 5K, half marathon, and full marathon. Phyllis and I were then assigned the intersection of Third St. and Pine St. in Ferrysburg. We assisted a police officer with traffic control and kept him abreast of the race status.

The first race was a 5K. Soon the runners ran thru the intersection. The three of us managed to pass all the runners thru the intersection traffic without incident. The storm had let up but it was still raining. When the intersection was clear of runners, the officer resumed other duties. Phyllis and I were assigned locations on the bike trail in Spring Lake. The half marathon and full marathon were to take place were to take place there. Phyllis was assigned to Alden St.

A young lady, a high school senior volunteer, helped me at the intersection of Buchanan and Liberty Streets. She directed the runners where to make a turn in the course while I handled traffic. The young volunteer braved the weather admirably, which had subsided somewhat. As noon approached, my volunteer had to depart for a meeting in Grand Rapids and I was alone with the runners and traffic for several hours.

There were several sessions of rain, some hard. I found a tree for cover whenever no runners were present. After the half marathon runners passed, the full marathoners came. The fastest ones came just as the last of the half marathons passed.

At last all but a few runners struggled and chugged by my corner. Phyllis and I were relieved from our posts. We joined up with Lou Meisch and the Old Boys Brew House furnished us a barbecue sandwich for lunch. It was a pleasant change from the weather when we scrambled back on our bikes and pedaled ourselves on soggy wet bicycle seats back home.

Many racers thanked us for our help along the paths and after the race. All in all, it was a gratifying way to spend a Saturday at the Park.

The Classified Section)

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North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club **SPARK for NOVEMBER 2010**



HAPPY THANKSGIVING EVERYONE!

President	John Fischer ,KC8UNY	846-8998
Vice President:	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
SPARK editor	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
Secretaries	Roger Simmons N8RXC	
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Treasurer	John Sundstrom N8YQD	847-4249
Activities Director	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	

COMING EVENTS

2010 Advanced

Severe Weather Spotter Training!

Have you taken the Severe Weather Spotter Training? Are you looking for the next step? This is the training for you! Date: November 4th, 2010

Time: 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Location:

Grandville Middle School Auditorium,
3535 Wilson Avenue SW, Grandville, MI 49418

Cost: FREE!

Bring yourself and a friend.

RSVP required:

<http://vrm.cc/kcadvskywarn2010>

Who: Anyone who wants to have fun with a DF hunt

When: November 6, 2010 at 10:00 AM.

Where: K8IHY's home QTH, 1840 Byron Rd, Jamestown, MI.

About 5 miles west of Byron Center.

Can't miss this house. Tall hill and a 140' tall tower.

What: The "Find Tom the Turkey" hunt... Bring your best lines.

Why: Are you kidding? Why not. Mix it up with the best.

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

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

NOVEMBER 2010

2	N8RXC	ROGER SIMMONS
9	N8YQD	JOHN SUNDSTROM
16	KC8UNY	JOHN FISCHER
23	N8FQ	JOE VELDHUIS
30	W8IQE	PAUL ZELLAR

It was a cold and breezy evening when we pulled up to the Spring Lake District Library around six thirty, Wednesday night. We unpacked the cookies and supplies from the car. Phyllis had wrapped them up in a large cloth bag together with napkins, a table cloth and plates to put them on.

Inside, thirteen members and guests were already seated. Phyllis had to attend choir practice, she would join us later. The guest speaker, Dr. Doug Furton was present, preparing the computer projector and screen for his program.

At 6:50 President John Fischer called the meeting to order. Members identified themselves by name and call sign. He told the group that the next meeting would be Wednesday November 24th at the Spring Lake Library. At that time election of officers would be held. He said that Paul Zellar had agreed to run for President, John Sundstrom for Treasurer, and Phyllis and Roger Simmons for secretaries. At this time no one has agreed to be activity chairman. President Fischer and Don Meyer are looking for volunteers to provide emergency communication for the Grand Haven Jingle Bell Parade on December 4th. The Christmas Party will be held on December 16th. More on this later.

Lucky Doug Furton won the fifty fifty drawing. He said it would pay his expenses for the night. (It must have been a cheap trip to the library).

John Sundstrom gave the treasury report and requested members to pay dues. He mentioned that only four members were paid up at this time.

Professor Doug Furton presented an excellent lecture on Software Defined Radio (SDR). He said that Grand Valley State University has obtained dish antennas. His physics class will be using radio telemetry to look at Jupiter's radio frequencies. Subsequently, they will be analyzing recorded sine wavelengths.

Next he presented a Softrock II SDR receiver that he made. The 2.5" by .9" circuit board had surface mounted components on the bottom of the board. The project information can be found on the web site: > www.Softrock.com <.

The cookies and apples were passed around as technical discussions ensued.

At approximately 8:07 pm members closed the meeting by simultaneously arising and vacating the room.

Respectfully submitted : Phyllis and Roger Simmons

The Classified Section)

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North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club **SPARK for DECEMBER 2010**



F

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL AND TO ALL GOOD DX!

President	Paul E. Zellar W8IQE	844-0807
Vice President:	Craig Christilaw K8CRC	846-0464
SPARK editor	Joe Veldhuis N8FQ	
Secretaries	Roger Simmons N8RXC	
	Phyllis Simmons KB8NLN	846-3496
Treasurer	John Sundstrom N8YQD	847-4249
Activities Director	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	

COMING EVENTS

December

- 4 Jingle Bell Parade
- 16 NOARC Christmas Party Potluck!! 6:00 PM, Spring Lake Library
- 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!

No Hamfests found for December.

Join in the fun.

Tuesday nights at 8:00 PM, NOARC net on the repeater followed by refreshments and bull session at Russ'

Wednesday morning breakfast at the Idle Hour in Spring Lake, 8:00 AM

Saturday breakfast at the Pine Street café in Ferrysburg, 7:00 AM

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

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

DECEMBER 10

7 N8KYO LOU MEISCH

14 N8NLN PHYLISS SIMMONS

21 N8FQ JOE VELDHUIS

28 KC8UNY JOHN FISCHER

NOARC Meeting, November 24, 2010

The monthly meeting of the NOARC Club was held in the Spring Lake Library, generally on the fourth Thursday of the month. Thanksgiving changed that for November, so it was on Wednesday night instead. At 6:30 pm members gathered for a pre-meeting chat session with the meeting called to order at 6:50 by President John Fischer.

John Sundstrom called the slate of proposed 2011 officers as: President, Paul Zellar; Vice President, Craig Christilaw; Treasurer, John Sundstrom, and co-secretaries Phyllis and Roger Simmons. Gordon Stockhill made the motion to elect the slate, seconded by Paul Zellar. The ayes have it. Our out going President served us well for six years. Thank you, John, a job well done.

John remains willing to honcho the 2011 Field Day and reminded us that Skywarn is still up and running. Treasurer John Sundstrom reports the checkbook balance of \$1,546 and a balance of \$4,993.44 in the Grand Haven Community Foundation.

The month of December offers us the opportunity to help with the Grand Haven Jingle Bell Parade on December 4. Volunteers should report to the Grand Haven Public Safety Building at 5:00 pm, with the parade starting at 6:00pm.

Mark your calendars for our Christmas party December 16, at 6:00 pm. Location is Spring Lake Library. Ham, coffee and door prize are provided for our pot-luck fare. Please bring your dish to share, your own place settings, and your spouse and/or guest.

Finally, we sat back to enjoy an interesting presentation on radio astronomy given by Dr. Doug Furton, professor at Grand Valley University. Get your 'scopes and your hearing 'aids' out and look for Jupiter. Thank you, Doug.

Wrapping up with questions and refreshments, we vacated the premises by the 8:30 closing time.

Respectfully submitted, Phyllis and Roger Simmons

Editor's Note: N8FQ has bravely offered to become the new editor of the SPARK and the previous editor (me) wishes him well. W8IQE, Paul.

The Classified Section)

For Sale: Assortment of nice Zenith Transoceanic all band radios. Contact John Sundstrom , N8YQD

Understanding Multi-meters, oscilloscopes booklets. Simplified basic electricity text. Contact Paul Zellar, W8IQE



1 year Dues Renewal Form. Single \$25 Family \$30. Buy 3 years for \$70 and you get a Mi Tax credit of \$35 on your 2005 return. Please fill out mail to Box 44 Ferrysburg, MI 49409

Name _____ Call _____

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Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

W8CSO (NOARC) Repeater information: If the NOARC repeater goes down , use 145.490 simplex

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

Codes : Time of day 400; DTMF Test 325; signal report 750

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.gsl.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 . 2010 Dues are \$ 25.00 individual and \$ 35.00 family or \$70 for 3 years. Please send dues to NOARC Box 976, Grand Haven, MI 49417. Please keep the club Treasurer (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
Grand Haven, MI 49417
Box 976
North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club**