

SPARK

the monthly newsletter of the

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

January 2011

IN THIS ISSUE

December meeting minutes.....	pg 2
January events and net control schedule.....	pg 3
Photo gallery.....	pg 4
EchoLink explained.....	pg 5
Swap 'n shop.....	pg 6

RECORD BREAKING TURNOUT!

According to the sign-in sheet, we had 19 volunteers brave the bitter cold and help out with the 2010 Jingle Bell Parade! As far as I know, that beats our previous record for this event – or pretty much *any* event barring the Coast Guard parade.

Amazingly, there wasn't a single medical incident or lost child to be dealt with all evening, and even the traffic was relatively well-behaved. All in all, an excellent event.

NOARC board of directors

President

Paul Zellar, W8IQE – paulzellar@sbcglobal.net – (616) 844-0847

Vice President

Craig Christilaw, K8CRC – k8crc@arrl.net – (616) 846-0464

Secretaries

Roger & Phyllis Simmons, N8RXC & KB8NLN – rogersimmons6@gmail.com – (616) 846-3496

Treasurer

John Sundstrom, N8YQD – sundstrj@gvsu.edu – (616) 847-4249

SPARK Editor

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

Activities Director

**** VACANT ****

NOARC 2 meter repeater

W8CSO/R – 145.490 output, 144.890 input

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

December 2010 meeting minutes

We arrived at the Spring Lake Library at roughly 5:30 pm. Phyllis got the librarian to open the door to the conference room where we were to meet.

Once inside, we set to decorating the place with colorful table cloths on long tables. A Christmas wreath, from home, was hung, complete with blinking lights. Shortly afterwards, John and Sally Sundstrom arrived with their offering towards the potluck. John is the Treasurer of the club and he obtained the door prize of the evening, a Yaesu FT 250 R/E two meter tranceiver radio.

Members drifted in and set up their dinner service at their selected tables. Most of the twenty three diners were ready to eat by 6:30. The food was set out cafeteria style. There was, among other items, ham, chicken, corn casserole, salmon, three kinds of potatoes, beans, a large platter of various breads complete with dip, lazagne, apple pie, cherry cake, cookies, soft drinks and coffee.

We all lined up, loaded our plates and the room grew quiet as we chowed down. Doug Furtons young son, Simon was heard to say: "All those radio people are eating ham!"

After most had eaten, John Sundstrom held a drawing for the door prize. Mark Stern was the lucky winner.

President elect Paul Zellar appeared before the group with LED flashlights for each person. He generously donated the larger part of his inventory from his own pocket. Everyone won something.

As the food was consumed, small groups began picking up their utensils and cleaning off the tables.

I went for my jacket. It was a valuable, heavy weather item. Made for the ground crew of Northwest Airline, the logo was blazened across the back and was given to me by my son Dan. I searched the rack carefully, checking each hanger. Near the end of the rack, I located my jacket. Some prankster had covered it with his own cheap windbreaker. Guess I'll be more careful in the future.

Everyone was pretty well set to leave the building around 7:40. Like Lou Meisch says: "A good time was had by all".

Respectfully submitted: Phyllis and Roger Simmons

January 2011 calendar of events and net control schedule

Every Tuesday:

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

Every Wednesday:

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

Every Saturday:

Breakfast at Pine Street Cafe in Ferrysburg
7:00 AM

January 1:

ARRL Straight Key Night
All HF/VHF bands, 0000z-2400z

January 16:

Hazel Park ARC hamfest, Hazel Park, MI
<http://www.hparc.org>

January 23:

Mid-Winter hamfest, St. Charles, IL
<http://www.w9ccu.org>

January 27:

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

NOARC net control schedule:

January 4: **Paul, W8IQE**

January 11: **John, KC8UNY**

January 18: **Joe, N8FQ**

January 25: **John, N8YQD**

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

Photo gallery

A few scenes from our 2010 Christmas potluck dinner:



EchoLink explained

by Joe Veldhuis, N8FQ

For a few years now, the '49 repeater has had an Internet linking feature using the EchoLink software. Andrew, N8ARY set up the original system, and I took it over last year. This system allows hams to talk on the repeater using a computer or smartphone, or link to distant repeaters or conference servers. Several of our members have been using it to keep in touch with the area while spending the winter in warmer climates.

Our repeater's node is configured as a remote link – the EchoLink software is running on a computer at my house in Robinson township, which is wired up to a 2-meter radio via a soundcard interface – the same type of interface used for HF digital modes. There is no computer or Internet connection at the repeater site itself.



To be able to connect from your computer or phone, you will need to download the EchoLink software (for PC at www.echolink.org or for Android and iPhone from their respective app stores) and, if you have never used it before, register and validate. You will need to scan and send in a picture of your license to complete the validation process.

Once the software is installed and you have been validated, you can connect to the repeater using node **N8FQ-R**. Note that, while connected, you will not hear the repeater ID or courtesy tone.

If you are in an area covered by another EchoLink-enabled repeater (or a simplex link), you can connect to the '49 usually by just entering our node number (**469574**) on your DTMF pad. Depending on how the other station is configured, you may need to enter some prefix before the node number. You usually disconnect with the pound key.

You can also use the '49 node to connect to other nodes. All commands are prefixed with a pound sign (#), which instructs the repeater to pass your DTMF tones rather than muting them out. Use ## or **#73** to disconnect after your QSO.

Swap 'n shop

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

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

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



NOARC membership form

Dues:

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

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

Name: _____ **Callsign:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Make checks payable to **NOARC**

Mail form to:

NOARC

PO Box 976

Grand Haven, MI 49417

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February 2011

Enjoying yourselves, snowbirds?



IN THIS ISSUE

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

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

January 2011 meeting minutes

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

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

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

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

2010 Treasurer's Report

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

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

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

February 2011 calendar of events and net control schedule

Every Tuesday:

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

Every Wednesday:

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

Every Saturday:

Breakfast at Pine Street Cafe in Ferrysburg
7:00 AM

February 12:

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

February 20:

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

February 19-20:

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

February 24:

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

NOARC net control schedule:

February 1: **John, KC8UNY**
February 8: **Paul, W8IQE**
February 15: **Joe, N8FQ**
February 22: **John, KC8UNY**

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

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

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February meeting
minutes.....pg 2

March events and net
control schedule.....pg 3

Swap 'n shop.....pg 4

No pictures or commentary for the front page
this month. You know, I do take submissions...

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

February 2011 meeting minutes

The February meeting of the North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club (NOARC) was held on Wednesday, February 23rd, 2011, at 7:00 pm at the Spring Lake Library. Ten members were in attendance when President Paul Zellar W8IQE called the meeting to order. The following items were discussed by the group:

1. A Special Event Station will be operating for the Grand Haven Coast Guard Celebration this summer. Craig Christilaw K8CRC has contacted the Coast Guard Festival Committee and they will be providing details to the club in the near future regarding locations available.
2. A Special Event call sign was discussed, and it was decided to apply for a callsign for the event. Also, we will offer a certificate as well as the W8CSO QSL card to operators calling the club station during Coast Guard week.
3. The Marshall CrossRoads ham radio swap will be on Saturday, March 19th, 2011 and the club will NOT have a table at the swap.
4. Skywarn training will be held on Thursday, March 24th, 2011, at the Ottawa County Filmore Street complex at 6:30 pm.
5. The next NOARC meeting will be held Thursday, March 31st, 2011, at the Spring Lake Library, at 7:00 pm.

After this discussion, the group enjoyed cookies and coffee that appeared on the refreshment table. We think Phyllis Simmons KB8NLN had these treats flown in from Florida, and we thank her for the extraordinary efforts to keep the Frozen Few (the remaining club members that did NOT flee to Florida for the winter) well fed with chocolate chip cookies.

After the break, the club enjoyed a presentation by Paul Zellar W8IQE on "Troubleshooting Radios and other Electronic Components for the Ambitious Ham".

March 2011 calendar of events and net control schedule

Every Tuesday:

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

Every Wednesday:

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

Every Saturday:

Breakfast at Pine Street Cafe in Ferrysburg
7:00 AM

March 19:

Michigan Crossroads Hamfest – Marshall, MI
<http://www.w8df.com/hamfest.html>

March 20:

TMRA Hamfest and Computer Fair – Perrysburg, OH
<http://www.tmrahamradio.org>

March 24:

Skywarn training
Fillmore St. Complex, main conference room
6:30 PM – 9:30 PM

March 31:

NOARC club meeting
Spring Lake District Library
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

NOARC net control schedule:

March 2: **Joe, N8FQ**

March 9: **Paul, W8IQE**

March 16: **John, KC8UNY**

March 23: **Joe, N8FQ**

March 30: **John, N8YQD**

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April 2011

Saturday Morning Breakfast Moves!

As of March 26, the Saturday morning breakfast gettogether has been moved to Vic's Restaurant, on M-104 just east of Spring Lake.

The original plan was to go to Jack's Restaurant, but that plan was thwarted when it was discovered that they don't open until 8 AM on weekends. Despite a few objections, the appointed hour remains 7 AM.

IN THIS ISSUE

March meeting minutes.....	pg 2
April treasurer's report..	pg 2
April events and net control schedule.....	pg 3
A look at our first ever newsletter.....	pg 4
Paul and Jerome's trip to Marshall.....	pg 7
Better double-check that call!.....	pg 8
Swap 'n shop.....	pg 9

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March 2011 meeting minutes

Sometime around six twenty in the evening of March 31st, members of the NOARC descended on the Spring Lake District Library. Eighteen members eventually were seated in the conference room. Joe Veldhuis had already set up a computer projected power point program. He was fine tuning it on the screen when Phyllis and Roger wandered in with brownies and cookies. Soon Craig Christilaw appeared with a birthday cake, pop, napkins, plates and coffee enough for the whole room. He presented a birthday card to Phyllis who was seventy one years young this date.

At six thirty President Paul Zellar called the meeting to order and requested those present to give their names and call signs. This being accomplished, John Fischer noted that this Saturday, April 2nd, The "Lubbers Regatta" was looking for traffic help on Saturday morning. Possibly contact John Fischer for more information. Saturday morning is also the time for the ARGYL Hamfest in Lowell Michigan. John Sundstrom will pick up riders at Vic's Restaurant in Spring Lake at 6:00.

Joe Veldhuis presented a Skywarn Management lecture based on software that he wrote. Using this website, spotters can check in to the Skywarn net using a computer or the usual method of radio. One of the advantages of this management system is that supervisors and everyone in the net can be instantly apprised of every activity during the event.

Next Craig Christilaw presented a video created by CQ Magazine: "Getting Started in Amateur Satellites." We had some trouble getting audio from the VHS player. For a while it appeared that we would see a silent film. But the room full of ham operators called in the librarian and Barbara Anderson came in and saved the evening. At 8:15 the library loudspeaker announced closure in fifteen minutes. The lights went on and NOARC exited the premises.

April Treasurer's Report

Bank Balance as of December 31, 2010	\$1,871.45
recent transactions:	
Deposits 2 dues 2/08.....	110.00
Check: Comtronco-repeater power 3/23	-253.00
Balance As of March 24,2010	\$ 1,728.45

Grand Haven Community Foundation Balance..... \$5,474.43
(this balance is as of 12/31/2009 and includes investment gains of \$725.44, a \$70 contribution and a withdrawal of \$ 190.00 that was deposited into the club treasury)

April 2011 calendar of events and net control schedule

Every Tuesday:

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

Every Wednesday:

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

Every Saturday:

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

April 2:

ARGYL Hamfest and Computer Show – Lowell, MI
<http://www.argyl.org>

April 16:

Milford Swap and Shop – Highland, MI
<http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk>

North Central Indiana Hamfest – Peru, IN
<http://www.nci-hamfest.net>

Michigan QSO Party – Noon-Midnight
<http://www.miqp.org>

April 21:

NOARC club meeting
Spring Lake District Library
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

NOARC net control schedule:

April 5: **Roger, N8RXC**

April 12: **Paul, W8IQE**

April 19: **John, KC8UNY**

April 26: **Joe, N8FQ**

May 3: **John, N8YQD**

May 10: **Phyllis, KB8NLN**

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

NOARChaeologists uncover a copy of our first ever newsletter!

A M A T E U R R A D I O N E W S

F R O M

NORTH OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (NOARC)

OCTOBER 1982

GRAND HAVEN MICHIGAN

CLUB OFFICERS:

President - Dale Maxam, KR8N
Vice-President - Bill Masselink, WB8HYF
Secretary - Dick Tanis, WA8DNY
Treasurer - Bill Schneider, AA8M
Activities Manager - Greg Poel, KC8P

Local Net meets at 8:00 PM EDT, Tuesdays on 146.46 MHZ

Yes folks, its official! There is now an amateur radio club serving North Ottawa County.

On the evening of September 29, 1982, at the Grand Haven Community Center, 27 amateur radio operators voted unanimously to establish an organization to serve the hams of this area. By popular vote, the club is to be known as NOARC which is the abbreviation for North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club.

The question many of you may be asking yourselves is: How long will it last? Can it survive? The answer is YES! With the help and support of all area hams, it has tremendous possibilities for growth and service to the several communities within the North Ottawa County area.

A great deal of behind-the-scenes work has already gone into developing this idea into a reality. Our sincere thanks go to all area hams who have chosen to become involved with our club, and it is our hope that other area hams will support our club as well. Please don't pass up an opportunity to share your talents with other area hams, and to perhaps enhance your own knowledge and enjoyment of the Amateur Radio hobby!

The following is a brief summary of other business conducted at the September 29 meeting.

Members of the club steering committee were introduced. These people were heavily involved in the initial efforts towards organizing our club:

Dale Maxam, KR8N	Bob Taylor, WA8HWM	John DeGrazia, KB3NM	Chuck Osborn, KB8HU
Dick Tanis, WA8DNY	Bill Masselink, WB8HYF	Greg Poel, KC8P	Bill Schneider, AA8M

The next order of business was to decide that anyone becoming a member of NOARC through the end of November, 1982 will be considered a CHARTER MEMBER. The annual membership fee has been set at \$10.00. You can become a charter member by paying this amount at either the October or November meetings. If you prefer, you may send your membership fee to the club Treasurer, AA8M, whose address is shown elsewhere in this newsletter.

Learn to pause-or nothing worthwhile
can catchup with you. Dorothy Ballard

When paying your membership dues by mail, please make checks or money orders payable to North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club. Avoid sending cash through the mail. Your cancelled check will be your receipt. If you wish to pay cash, do so at one of the meetings, and a receipt for your cash payment will be given to you immediately.

Club Treasurer: Bill Schneider
PO Box 554
Grand Haven, MI 49417

NOARC membership cards will eventually be issued to all fully paid members.

If you are unable to attend the meetings, but are interested in receiving our monthly newsletter, you may wish to become an associate member of NOARC. This type of membership may be obtained by sending an annual amount of \$5.00 to the club Treasurer, whose address is shown above. This fee will cover the printing and postage costs involved in producing and sending you 12 issues of the NOARC newsletter.

K C Retzlaff, WA8PYL, has offered some suggestions for ensuring the success of our new club. He feels that our club should set a policy of emphasizing the social aspects of our meetings, and limiting the formal business portion to a relatively short time-frame. This will keep member interest at a higher level by allowing us more time to enjoy any special presentations scheduled for the evening, as well as to ragchew over a cup or two of coffee while catching up on the latest goings-on. Thanks K C, for these most valuable suggestions, and for your generous support of our club through your donations to pay the fees for the club meeting room at the Community Center through November 1982!

We also want to acknowledge the cash donations to NOARC by several members of the steering committee. Special thanks also go to Bill Ollmann, KA7DDJ, and Greg Poel, KC8P, who were at the Hudsonville Swap and Shop table, and who donated to our club, the proceeds from the sale of some of their gear. Thank you all for your generosity!

An excellent program was presented by Art Kraker, W8EBQ, from Allendale. Art shared with us his extensive knowledge of atmospheric static electricity. He demonstrated ways of tracking thunderstorms using simple but effective devices that detect the electromagnetic waves generated by static electricity (sferics). Emphasis was also placed on ways to protect our equipment and ourselves from static discharges, especially lightning. Thank you, Art, for a most informative presentation!

NOARC will be meeting on Wednesday, October 20, 1982, at 7:30 PM. The meeting will be held at the Grand Haven Community Center at 421 Columbus St. After a short business segment, we will be treated to a presentation on antennas by Chuck Schecter, W8UCG, from Muskegon. Some of you know that Chuck's program is a fascinating demonstration of how antenna systems can be made to work more efficiently. If you are interested in antenna design, and what ham isn't, be sure to attend our October meeting!

Our Tuesday evening 2 meter net has been slowly but surely growing. Last week, October 5, there were 11 checkins. Some of you indicated at the last meeting that you have 2 meter gear, and would like to check into the net, but that you have no crystals for 146.46 MHz. If you are interested in obtaining these crystals, see Bill Schneider, AA8M, at the next meeting. Bring with you information on the make and model # of the 2 meter rig you have, whether or not it requires a separate crystal for receive and transmit, and any additional crystal specifications you know of.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

HW 101 w. speaker/power supply and microphone. \$340. Chuck, KB8HU, 842-1279

Hallicrafters FPM-300 Transceiver	\$350.	
SX-122 Receiver (Cont cov 500khz-30mhz)	\$200.	
R-50 Speaker (matches Sx-122)	\$10.	
HT-45 K.W.Linear/Pwr. Sup.	\$275.	
SX-146 Receiver - ham band	\$225.	
HT-46 Transmitter	\$225.	
HA-16 VOX Adapter (HT-46 or SR-500)	\$20.	
HA-8 Splatter Guard (Modulation Ind.)	\$10.	
R-48 Speaker (matches SX-146)	\$10.	
SR-42 Transceiver (2 mtr.)	\$50.	
HA-26 VFO(For SR-42 or SR-46)	\$20.	
HA-19 Crystal Calibrator - 100khz (SX-146)	\$10.	
Crystal Calibrator - 100khz(SX-100 & SX-111)	\$8.	
HA-5 VFO (Output Freq 3.5-4.0, 7.0-7.5, & 8.3-8.333)	\$40.	
Extremely Stable		

Johnson Viking Phone Patch
ICOM IC-22S Transceiver (2 mtr)

\$35.
\$175.

.....
John, W8LIA
842-2329
17356 Villa Pk.
Spring Lake MI
49456

CDE AR-22XL Antenna Rotor for television and FM stereo antennas
in factory sealed box (never opened) \$60. Bill, AA8M, 842-8153

We are always looking for items to insert into our newsletter. Call the club Secretary,
Dick Tanis, at 842-7169 if you have anything to report, or to list items for sale.

73,

Dick, WA3DNY
Bill, AA8M

A MESSAGE FROM OUR ACTIVITIES MANAGER

As activities manager for our club, I would like to invite everyone to share their ideas with me. I have a few ideas of my own, but its everyone's club so I would like to present something to suit everyone's interests; contests, DX, public service or what have you. One of my interests is contesting, and with the upcoming contest season I would like to encourage everyone who participates in a contest to submit their score to me and I will try to have it listed in the newsletter. Maybe we can get some friendly competition going. If there is enough participation in the major contests, perhaps we could enter our club score. Again, whatever your interests are, please give me your input so I will have something to report next month. Thank you and I am looking forward to serving the club.

Greg Poel
KC8P

Thanks to Craig K8CRC for digging up this interesting little piece of club history!

Paul and Jerome's report from Marshall



Jerome (K8CCJ) and I (W8IQE) arrived at the Marshall swapmeet right at the eight o'clock opening hour. Told the tables were sold out, we were beginning to set up outside the building when it was discovered that there was too a table available. Gratefully we pulled our two wheeler through the crowd that was beginning to form and rapidly set up for business. Last year at Marshall there were many complaints, including mine, that there just wasn't enough room for all the people. This year it was held in the same place and I think as many people were present, but there were wider spaces between the rows. It was still slow getting around, but as any dedicated Ham has great patience while seeking bargains everyone made do.

For a change I could actually hear and understand the PA system, quite an unusual occurrence. They never called my name, though, so it was wasted on me. I did, however, find a couple of bargains that I was looking for. One was for my nephew, Dan Vickers (N8QMS) who wanted a receiver to renew his CW ability. I found two places that had a Hallicrafters S85, which are fine radios. One was \$85, the other was talked down to \$50. Dan was particularly happy because I had sold enough of his items to almost pay for it. That always warms the cockles of a Ham's heart. (What are cockles, anyway?)

Jerome and I loaded the truck shortly after noon and stopped at the local Wendy's to discuss the mornings bargains and eyeball ragchews. We agreed that the trip was worthwhile, since we both enjoyed it and that was why we were there!

The attached photo shows that there was a good turnout!

Better double-check that call!

Okay folks,
I just had my first QSO ever with KB3AZS.
The fellow was ever so patient with me.
It's all true...my heart raced in overdrive the whole QSO, my mind went blank, I couldn't remember jack----.
I looked him up on QRZ and the address was very different from what I received... Cincinnati, Ohio is what I copied (twice), I couldn't beleive my ears. I received a 599 and his signal was gang-buster.
I could have sworn he sent Mike as his name, but not according to QRZ.
I'd like to send him a QSL card, but I'm not sure if I can with the info I copied (guys, I was shaking like a leaf).
BTW From my QTH to either address, my signal traveled between 800 and 900 miles from Lakeland, Fl.

and I guess I'm supposed to try to sleep now,
yeah right,
Ren
KG4BAS

KB3AZS IS NAMED MIKE AND LIVES
NEAR CINCINNATI
STEW KE4YH

Thanks to Ben K8AR for handing me this little tidbit he came across on a QRP CW reflector recently.

Swap 'n shop

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

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

The **Te-Ne-Ke** is still in production - \$50 shipped anywhere



NOARC membership form

Dues:

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

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

Name: _____ **Callsign:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Make checks payable to **NOARC**

Mail form to:

NOARC

PO Box 976

Grand Haven, MI 49417

SPARK

the monthly newsletter of the

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

May 2011

Public service season underway!

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

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

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

IN THIS ISSUE

April meeting minutes.....	pg 2
May events and net control schedule.....	pg 3
May public service events calendar.....	pg 4
Report from Lowell.....	pg 5
Membership roster.....	pg 6
Swap 'n shop.....	pg 7

NOARC board of directors

President

Paul Zellar, W8IQE – paulzellar@sbcglobal.net – (616) 844-0847

Vice President

Craig Christilaw, K8CRC – k8crc@arrl.net – (616) 846-0464

Secretaries

Roger & Phyllis Simmons, N8RXC & KB8NLN – rogersimmons6@gmail.com – (616) 846-3496

Treasurer

John Sundstrom, N8YQD – sundstrj@gvsu.edu – (616) 847-4249

SPARK Editor

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

Activities Director

**** VACANT ****

NOARC 2 meter repeater

W8CSO/R – 145.490 output, 144.890 input

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

April 2011 meeting minutes

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted: Phyllis and Roger Simmons

May 2011 calendar of events and net control schedule

Every Tuesday:

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

Every Wednesday:

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

Every Saturday:

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

May 5:

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

May 7:

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

May 20:

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

May 26:

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

NOARC net control schedule:

May 3: **John, N8YQD**
May 10: **Phyllis, KB8NLN**
May 17: **Paul, W8IQE**
May 24: **John, KC8UNY**
May 31: **Joe, N8FQ**

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

May 2011 public service events calendar

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

April 30:

Caddyshack 5k run, Grand Haven

Meet: GH Public Safety, 8:00 AM

Contact: John KC8UNY or Don KB8ODB

May 11:

Tulip Time Volksparade

Meet: 12:00 PM

Contact: Meg WO0MEG or Jim W8JRM

May 12:

Tulip Time Kinderparade

Meet: 12:00 PM

Contact: Meg WO0MEG or Jim W8JRM

May 14:

Tulip Time Muziekparade

Meet: Holland High School, 10:30 AM

Contact: Meg WO0MEG or Jim W8JRM

May 20:

Girls On The Run

Meet: GH Public Safety, 8:00 AM

Contact: John KC8UNY or Don KB8ODB

May 28:

Kickoff To Summer Run

Meet: GH Public Safety, 8:00 AM

Contact: John KC8UNY or Don KB8ODB

Joe's report from the ARGYL Hamfest



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

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

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

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

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

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

Membership roster

FIRST ACTIVE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IN TRI-CITIES

ACTIVE AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS

TRI-CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Grand Haven - Spring Lake - Ferrysburg

Ottawa County, Michigan

NOTE
DATE

June 12, 1956

by: W8IYK

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

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

Swap 'n shop

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

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

The **Te-Ne-Ke** is still in production - \$50 shipped anywhere



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

Name: _____ **Callsign:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Make checks payable to **NOARC**

Mail form to:

NOARC

PO Box 976

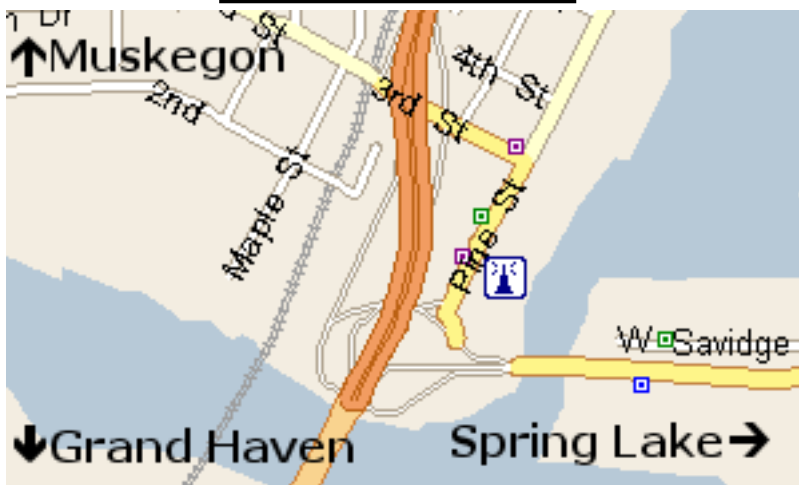
Grand Haven, MI 49417

SPARK

the monthly newsletter of the

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

June 2011



FIELD DAY – June 25-26 – William Ferry Park

US-31 to Ferrysburg exit, east on 3rd, south on Pine
Park entrance directly across from Mobil, just before on-ramp

IN THIS ISSUE

May meeting minutes.....pg 2
June events and net control schedule.....pg 3
Treasurer's report.....pg 4
GHCF statement.....pg 4
New club liability insurance certificate.....pg 5
Membership roster.....pg 6
Report from Dayton.....pg 7
MAREC tour photos.....pg 8
Swap 'n shop.....pg 10

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

May 2011 meeting minutes

The meeting was brought to order by President, Paul Zellar at 6:45. There were eleven members present at the Barber School Community Building in Spring Lake. Members gave roll call with name and call-sign.

John Fischer said that the Snug Harbor Kick-Off-To-Summer 5 K race is to take place May 28th, in Grand Haven. Memorial Day parade in Spring Lake on May 30th, starts at 10:30. Both events have asked for help from our club members who might opt for a bit of radio fun for their community this holiday week-end. For the Saturday event meet at the G.H.P.D. at 7:30 a.m.; Spring Lake P.D. at 9:30 a.m.

Treasurer, John Sundstrum, reports a balance of \$1,804.00 and the Grand Haven Community Fund balance at \$5,519.00. Check this paper for Paul Zellar's June 11th special.

On June 4th, you can catch a ham fest in Hudsonville. NOARC will have four tables for your sale items.

Ah, it is THAT time of year again! June 25, 2011 Field Day. New antennas to try out - maybe a new radio?

The general feeling of the members present was that Field Day should be FUN for all - visitors included. The stations will be more open and close to each other in order to encourage participation of visitors. Sign-up sheets for those interested in a Ham-in-a-day class will be available at the stations.

Solar power will be the energy source, provided by Paul Zellar. You are welcome to bring your own panels. So those doing a station should try to bring an extension cord and your batteries.

Second, I hear, after having fun, is FOOD. Plan on hot dogs and the trimmings at 6:00 p.m. at the site planning meet in the Ferrysburg Park on Thursday, June 23rd. Saturday morning, May 25th., will kick off with breakfast at the park at 8:00 a.m. The Saturday evening meal will be pot-luck with families present. I think that pulled-pork will be the meat. Dinner ware and drinks are provided.

Al Freeman has a multi-band radio for sale. Paul Zellar may have his e-mail address.

Don Meyer has proposed that we develop a CERT team. Sgt. Bowe of the Grand Haven P.D. will offer classes in September. This would give us accountability when we work with the public.

Mark Stern made the motion that we adjourn, seconded by Roger Simmons.

Respectfully submitted by:
Phyllis and Roger Simmons

June 2011 calendar of events and net control schedule

Every Tuesday:

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

Every Wednesday:

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

Every Saturday:

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

June 4:

IRA "Good Old Days" Hamfest, Hudsonville, MI
<http://www.w8ira.org>

June 5:

Chelsea Radio Swap 'n Shop, Chelsea, MI
<http://wd8iel.net>

June 11:

Paul's Techie Garage Sale – 207 N Division, Spring Lake – 9 AM to 3 PM

On June 11 W8IQE will have a techie garage sale open to all NOARC members. This sale is different because there is no charge. I only want to get rid of some things. Examples are satellite receivers, a Motorola digital cable box, squirrel cage blower, TV antenna rotator stuff, many technical books, and lots more.

The sale will begin at 9 AM and close at 3 PM. Any one wanting to sell something can set up in the yard beside the garage.

June 23:

NOARC club meeting at **William Ferry Park** in Ferrysburg
6:00 PM

NOARC net control schedule:

June 7: **Roger, N8RXC**

June 14: **John, N8YQD**

June 21: **Paul, W8IQE**

June 28: **John, KC8UNY**

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

Treasurer's report

Bank Balance As of April 25, 2011\$ 2,029.45

Checks:

Wexaukee ARC Cadillac hamfest..... 25.00

Hays Companies—2m Liability policy 200.00

Balance as of may 17th (agrees with bank)..... \$1,804.25

Grand Haven Community Foundation Balance..... \$5,519.14

(this balance is as of 03/31/2011 and includes investment gains of \$251.40 and a withdrawal of \$ 193.00 that was deposited into the club treasury to use to pay expenses)

GH Community Foundation statement

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Fund Statement for the Period

01/01/2011 through 03/31/2011

BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	5,474.41
GIFTS TO FUND	0.00
INVESTMENT ACTIVITY	
Interest and Dividends	20.19
Realized Gains (Losses)	0.00
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	231.21
TOTAL INVESTMENT ACTIVITY	251.40
DISBURSEMENTS	
Grants	193.00
Administrative Fees	13.67
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	206.67
ENDING FUND BALANCE	5,519.14

Club liability insurance certificate

ACORD- CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE						DATE (MM/DD/YYYY) 05/23/2011	
PRODUCER Hays Affinity Group 1400 Renaissance Drive, Suite 300 Park Ridge, IL 60068				THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW.			
INSURED North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Box 976 Grand Haven, WI 49417 Attn: John Sundstrom Customer ID#: 201106				INSURERS AFFORDING COVERAGE		NAIC #	
				INSURER A: The Hanover Insurance Group			
				INSURER B:			
				INSURER C:			
				INSURER D:			
PHONE NO. 847-939-8300		INSURER E:					
COVERAGES							
<small>THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. AGGREGATE LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.</small>							
INSR LTR	ADOL INSRD	TYPE OF INSURANCE	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFFECTIVE DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXPIRATION DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS	
A		GENERAL LIABILITY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS MADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: <input type="checkbox"/> POLICY <input type="checkbox"/> PROJECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC	RHC-9148246	06/15/11	06/15/12	EACH OCCURRENCE \$1,000,000 DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence) \$100,000 MED EXP (Any one person) \$10,000 PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$1,000,000 GENERAL AGGREGATE \$2,000,000 PRODUCTS-COMP/OP AGG \$1,000,000	
A		AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO <input type="checkbox"/> ALL OWNED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS				COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea Accident) \$1,000,000 BODILY INJURY (Per Person) BODILY INJURY (Per Accident) PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per Accident)	
		GARAGE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO				AUTO ONLY - EA ACCIDENT OTHER THAN EA ACC AUTO ONLY: AGG	
		EXCESS/UMBRELLA LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS MADE DEDUCTIBLE RETENTION				EACH OCCURRENCE AGGREGATE	
		WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? If yes, describe under SPECIAL PROVISION BELOW EXCESS/UMBRELLA LIABILITY				<input type="checkbox"/> WC STATUTORY LIMITS <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER E.L. EACH ACCIDENT E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT	
DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES / EXCLUSIONS ADDED BY ENDORSEMENT / SPECIAL PROVISIONS							
CERTIFICATE HOLDER		ADDITIONAL INSURED; INSURER LETTER		CANCELLATION			
Proof of Coverage				SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, THE ISSUING INSURER WILL ENDEAVOR TO MAIL 30 DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER NAMED TO THE LEFT, BUT FAILURE TO DO SO SHALL IMPOSE NO OBLIGATION OR LIABILITY OF ANY KIND UPON THE INSURER, ITS AGENTS OR REPRESENTATIVES. AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE			

Thanks to John, N8YQD for saving us a bunch of money on our insurance!

Membership roster (as of May 2011)

Call	First Name	Last Name	Street address	City	arri	class	2011	2012	2013
AB8CD	Dan	Anderson	17235 Benjamin	Spring Lake	1	e			
KB8ODC	Eugene	Camfield	14579 154th Ave.	Grand Haven		t+			
K8CRC	Craig	Christilaw	15386 Oak Point Dr.	Spring Lake			1	1	1
	Bob & Tony	Clive	1805 Gladys Ave	Grand Haven					
wb0dgf	roger & Gayle	Cox	18003 Cherokee Dr	Spring Lake			1		
K8AR	Ben	Docter	18152 Cherokee Ct.	Spring Lake	1	e	1		
WB8SOE	Jack	DenBraber	13575 Pebblebrook Dr	Grand Haven		e			
KC5LNG	David	DeYoung	400 Lafayette Ave	Grand haven					
	Brent & Lena	Ensing					1	1	1
KC8ZCR	George	Dood	1089 Wilson Road	Spring Lake			1	1	1
KC8UNY	John	Fischer	309 S. 3rd St.	Grand Haven			1		
K8EXB	Doug	Furton	1722 Gladys	Grand Haven			1	1	1
N8III	John	Fuller	15868 132nd	Nunica		g			
N8GMY	Ross	Gates	169 Woodslee ct	Muskegon			1	1	1
kc8zep	Michael	Grzyb	15900 Vinecrest St	Spring Lake		t			
KF8VN	Alan	Groenleer	17635 Bayberry	Spring Lake	1	e	1	1	1
WA8MTJ	Glen	Hinkle	PO Box 15	Ferrysburg		t+			
KC8OVS	Jason	Mackay	14752 Williams Way	Grand Haven					
n8kyo	Lou	Meisch	1266 Sunshine Circle	Eustis					
KB8ODB	Donald	Meyer	P.O. Box 15	Ferrysburg		g			
w8jrm	James	Miller	1219 Woodlawn	Grand Haven		g			
KC8DEI	Mark	Moss	1500 Bluebird Rd apt 11	Grand Haven		e			
K8CCJ	Jerome	Novotny	120 W Pontaluna Rd	Muskegon		a			
AB8EF	Jeremy	Platt	1410 Columbus Ave	Grand Haven					
KC8SKS	Craig	Schell	15188 mercury Dr.	Grand Haven					
KC8HXO	Greg & Family	Schippers	13171 Rich St	Grand Haven	1	g			
N8RXC / KB8NLN	Roger & Phyllis	Simmons	17818 Channel View Dr.	Spring Lake		t	1	1	1
N8HCS	Don	Smith	1528 Franklin St	Grand Haven	1	e			
K8MAZ	Mark	Stern	16277 Suffolk Dr	Spring Lake	1	e	1	1	1
KA8UQT	Gordon	Stockhill	914 Ferry St	Grand Haven	1	g	1		
N8YQD	John	Sundstrom	17933 Comstock St.	Grand Haven	1	e	1	1	1
NF8L	Dick	Tanis	1811 Gladys st	Grand Haven		a	1		
KC8JWA	Beverly&Bob	Traxler	13625 State Rd.	Nunica	1	g			
K8LLG	Gary	Tripp	15597 Winchester Circle	Grand haven			1		
n8UJD	Steve	Vanderhill	2003 Basin Court	Holland					
KB8VEE	Tom	VanderMel	5495 Airline Rd.	Fruitport	1	g			
N8FQ	Joe	Veldhuis	12403 136th Ave	Grand Haven		g	1		
K8RRA	George (Skip)	VerDuin	1706 Gladys St.	Grand Haven					
WB8JSR	John	Wehmer	17277 Rolling Dunes Dr.	West Olive	1	A			
N8KCW	Dan	Whisman	15355 Meadowwood	Grand Haven		e			
W9BWC	Jim	Wolter	15480 Wisteria Ln	Spring Lake		e			
KC8OJY	Tom	Wyant	222 Ann St.	Coopersville			1		
N8ARY	Andrew	Young	1023 Pennoyer	Grand Haven		t			
W8IQE	Paul	Zellar	108 W. Tolford	Spring Lake			1		
Totals	send dues	to Box 976, Grand	Haven Mi 49417	1 yr \$25/3yr\$ 70	11		18	9	9

Please send any corrections to John, N8YQD. Also, if you don't see a '1' by your name in the 2011 column, you owe us some money! Pay up, or we'll have to break your legs.

Paul's report from Dayton

(Ed.: Paul passes along his apologies for not taking any pictures.)

As always, Dayton was the high point of swap meets for me. Jerome (K8CCJ) and I traveled there for Saturday and Sunday morning. I had been able to get my old location to erect the Easy-up and a couple of tables. I believe there were more people there than last year, and they seemed to be in more of a buying mood. By five o'clock Saturday I had sold almost everything I had brought. Of course, I always seem to purchase more than I sell!

Over the years at Dayton I have baked, boiled, froze, been blown over by the wind, and rained on. This year was different. The weather was just as ordered, as nice as could be asked for. Do you hear a "but" coming? Yes, Dayton had something new this year of environmental awareness. The great sewage spill! Not like the previous namby-pamby overflowing of the port-a-potties, this time the sewer line from the main building must have collapsed and plugged on the north edge of the parking area, causing every crack in the pipe to start spouting sewage that bubbled up through cracks in the pavement. It didn't help our appetite for lunch, but I believe everyone survived. A "honey-bucket" pumper truck arrived and things dried up after some hours.

Familiar faces were seen as Roger (N8RXC) and Phyllis (KB8NLN) found us, and Alan (KF8VN) came around. I missed seeing Greg (W8GP) when he came around as I was off sniffing for bargains.

By Sunday noon Jerome and I were on our way, arriving in Spring Lake about six, tired but happy.

Paul W8IQE

MAARC tours MAREC



On May 5th, Jerome K8CCJ arranged a tour of the Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center. There was a good turnout from the Muskegon group, but it appears that I (N8FQ) was the only one from our club who showed up.

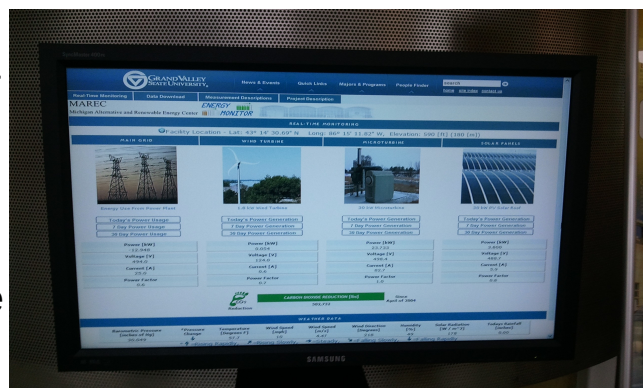


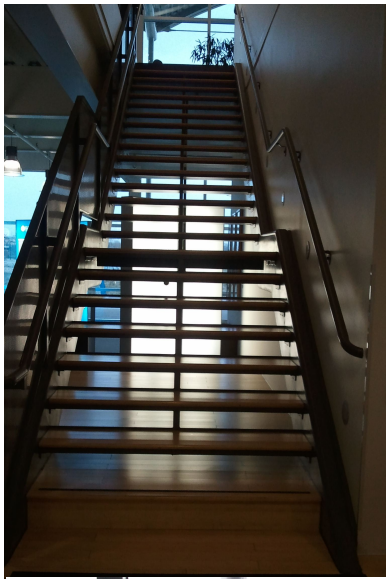
Left: an electric vehicle charger. Paul and Jerome later came by and tried it out on Paul's electric car – it worked quite well.

Below: The crowd gathers in the lobby as the tour begins.

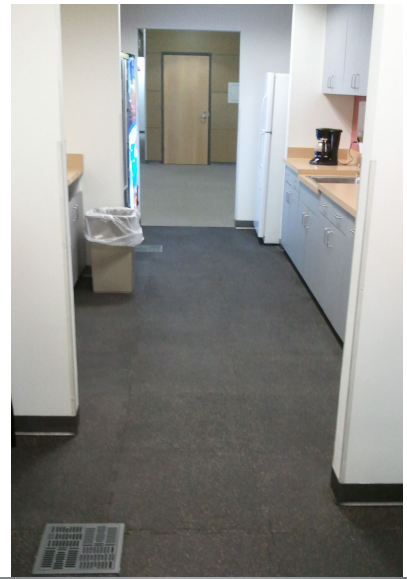


Right: a real-time display of the power output from MAREC's various generating systems. The solar array on the roof wasn't doing much good on this dark, overcast evening and there wasn't much wind for the turbine to work with. This info is available at: <http://datamonitoring.marec.gvsu.edu>





Left: the stairwell in the main lobby is made from bamboo, which grows much more rapidly than other sources of wood.



Right: the floor of the break room is made from recycled tires.



MAREC's 30kW natural gas mini-turbine (left) and 1.8kW wind turbine (right). Our tour guide explained that the wind turbine's location is sub-optimal, it would perform better if it were about 50 feet higher, and not located so close to the hotel across the street.

Right: a scale model of Grand Haven's Sims power plant. MAREC wants to donate it to a museum, but no one wants to try to move it.



Left: MAREC offers low-cost "incubator" suites to businesses developing energy-related technologies. Here's a peak inside Jim Wolter, W9BWC's lab, where he is working on a project that may greatly reduce the cost of solar panels! (now if they could just make cheaper polarized camera lenses...)

Swap 'n shop

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

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

The **Te-Ne-Ke** is still in production - \$50 shipped anywhere



NOARC membership form

Dues:

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

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

Name: _____ **Callsign:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Make checks payable to **NOARC**

Mail form to:

NOARC

PO Box 976

Grand Haven, MI 49417

SPARK

July 2011

the monthly newsletter of the

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

IN THIS ISSUE

July Treasurer's Report.pg 2

Joe's Report from
Hudsonville.....pg 3

N8FQ discovers Software
Defined Radio.....pg 4

July 2011 calendar.....pg 5

Feb 1990 newsletter.....pg 6

QRP In The Park.....pg 8

Swap 'n Shop.....pg 9

Field Day couldn't have gone any better!

Perfect weather. Great band conditions. Good turnout. Record-breaking final score. Nearly 750 QSOs by the time it was over!

The club operated as class 4-A once again this year. Gordon KA8UQT and Jim W9BWC operated their 40 meter CW station under the pavilion, right next to John N8YQD's 20 meter digital station and Joe N8FQ's VHF station. Next to the restrooms, John KC8UNY hosted the GOTA station inside the county's communications trailer. Lou N8KYO ran a station out of his van and Roger N8RXC and Phyllis KB8NLN had one set up in a tent.

Paul W8IQE once again provided a solar power system, using an inverter hooked up to his electric car to provide 120V AC to run a battery charger at each station. With this setup, we ran non-stop until nearly 2 AM, and picked up again around 8 with fully-charged batteries.

NOARC board of directors

President

Paul Zellar, W8IQE – paulzellar@sbcglobal.net – (616) 844-0847

Vice President

Craig Christilaw, K8CRC – k8crc@arrl.net – (616) 846-0464

Secretaries

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SPARK Editor

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

Activities Director

** VACANT **

NOARC 2 meter repeater

W8CSO/R – 145.490 output, 144.890 input

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

July 2011 Treasurer's Report

Balance as of may 17 th (agrees with bank).....	\$1,804.25
check:.....IRA Hamfest	29.00
Deposits:	
Dues (CRC) + 50/50	77.00
N8LBG estate	138.50
Dues	50.00
N8LBG radio	300.00
Balance as of June 27, 2011 (agrees with Chase Bank).....	2,340.75

Grand Haven Community Foundation Balance.....\$5,519.14
(this balance is as of 03/31/2011 and includes investment gains of \$251.40 and a withdrawal of \$193.00 that was deposited into the club treasury to use to pay expenses)

Joe's report from Hudsonville



Not a bad turnout for this year's independent Repeater Association "Good Old Days" hamfest in Hudsonville. About 2 dozen trunk sales were set up between the two barns, which themselves were filled with tables – only a few of which were empty.

NOARC had 4 tables in the westernmost barn, filled with various treasures from John N8YQD and Paul W8IQE's respective junk piles. In the other building, a large assortment of parts and equipment were on sale from Abe W8HVG's estate. I picked up a big box of cables, while John N8YQD hauled off a bunch of HTs – some of which had usable batteries.



I managed to get almost everything on my shopping list by the time the doors officially opened at 8 AM – a short 2m beam, 100 feet of coax, a VHF/UHF diplexer, and a balun for my HF dipole. Having spent all but a dollar, and beginning to suffer from the adverse effects of being awake for 25 hours, I left for home a little after 9 AM.

N8FQ discovers Software Defined Radio

For a few years now, it's been said that Software Defined Radio is the future of amateur radio – and wireless communications in general for that matter. Essentially, SDR offloads the task of tuning and demodulation to a computer. That could be a PC for units like the SoftRock and Flex 5000, or a DSP chip in the case of radios like the Ten-Tec Jupiter and Elecraft K3.

SDRs that interface with a PC usually provide an “I/Q” signal. The receiver's local oscillator runs in the center of the desired passband, like a direct-conversion receiver. The upper sideband is passed in-phase, while the lower sideband is sent in quadrature (i.e. advanced 90 degrees) on a separate audio channel. This phase difference helps to minimize images on the opposite sideband.

Because there is no front-end filtering other than a very broad bandpass filter, you will be able to monitor a section of the band equal in width to the sampling rate of your soundcard. If your soundcard runs at 96 kHz, you can receive the entire 30 meter band all at once. A 192 kHz soundcard can capture nearly all of 160 meters simultaneously.

With an I/Q receiver hooked up to your soundcard, you use a program such as SpectraVue, HSDR or GNURadio to tune and receive signals. If you're familiar with programs like FLDigi or MultiPSK for digital keyboarding, these are very similar – you have a “waterfall” display showing the signals on the band, and you click on them to tune them in. The difference is that the displayed bandwidth is about 30 times wider, and the program outputs demodulated audio through your speakers, rather than decoded text. You can also record the entire input passband to a standard WAV file, then load that file later and “tune” through it as if it were a live signal.

As the title of this write-up implies, I have recently come into possession of two SDR receivers: a FUNCube Dongle for VHF/UHF and a SoftRock Lite II for HF.

The SoftRock Lite was demonstrated at a recent NOARC meeting. It comes as a kit, and can be built for a fixed frequency on 160, 80, 40, 30 or 20 meters. I built mine for 30m. It is somewhat tricky to put together, as it uses a number of surface-mount components and you need to wind two band-specific toroids, but it's hard to beat for \$20. The only bad thing about them is that they are very difficult to get – 99% of the time, the website will simply say “check back soon”. It is by pure luck that I checked one morning and found a single unit in stock.

The FUNCube Dongle is a frequency-agile unit for the VHF and UHF bands built by the AMSAT-UK group. It is essentially the receiver from a soon-to-be-launched satellite repackaged as a standalone unit. It looks exactly like a typical USB flash drive, except for the SMA connector sticking out the other end. It can be tuned to any frequency from about 60 MHz up to 2 GHz, and provides a 96 kHz-wide slice of bandwidth to your PC – enough to monitor the entire downlink passband of a typical satellite, the whole beacon subband on 144, 222, 432, 902 or 1296 MHz, or an FM broadcast station (almost – the audio will clip somewhat as the signal is about 110 kHz wide). These are also a bit of a pain to get, as they are only manufactured in runs of about 100 at a time, and they sell out within minutes. Scheduled sales are announced ahead of time on the “funcube” Yahoo group.

July 2011 calendar of events and net control schedule

Every Tuesday:

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

Every Wednesday:

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

Every Saturday:

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

July 9:

Indianapolis Hamfest
<http://www.indyhamfest.com>

July 10:

Fox River Radio League Hamfest, Aurora, IL
<http://frrl.org>

July 17:

KARSFest, Peotone, IL
<http://www.w9az.com/karsfest.html>

July 23:

QRP In The Park
Helder Park – 3751 104th Ave, Holland
5 PM to Dusk

July 28:

NOARC club meeting, Spring Lake District Library
6:30 PM

NOARC net control schedule:

July 5: **Joe, N8FQ**

July 12: **Phyllis, KB8NLN**

July 19: **John, N8YQD**

July 26: **Paul, W8IQE**

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

SPARK for February 1990

NOARCCgcusaSPARK

february, 1990

GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN

COAST GUARD CITY, USA

north ottawa amateur radio club

PRESIDENT--WILL RUDD W9LNU

VICE PRESIDENT--BOB VAN RHEE N8LAS

TREASURER--BOB JAPENGA N8IKU

SECRETARY--TED SWANSON N8HKN

ACTIVITIES MANAGER--DON SMITH N8HCS

WE HAVE AN OPENING IN THIS SPOT

NOARC EDITOR--BEN DOCTER K8AR

CLUB REPEATER AT 145.49

NET MEETS EACH TUESDAY NIGHT AT 8 P.M.

CLUB MEETS AT COMMUNITY CENTER 4TH THURSDAY EACH MONTH AT 7:30 P.M.

There will be a V.E. Upgrade Examination given on Saturday April 21, 1990 at 9:00am in the Caesar's Lounge of Muskegon Community College. Those wishing to participate should contact Bud at 773-9650 or Bob at 733-1611 for further information.

Please check your mailing label on this issue. If there is a red dot, that means we have you marked as a paid member. If the dot is not there, be sure to mail your dues in so that you do not miss the next issue of our newsletter. NO DUES--NO NEWSLETTER!

Bob and I would like to thank all those who attended our 1990 Ladies' Night Out. Those who were not there sure missed an excellent meal and program. It was nice to have hams from Muskegon, Holland, and Grand Rapids join us. The Grand Door Price (a beautiful AM-FM dual cassette portable stereo with high speed dubbing) was won by Lou (N8KY0). He says it works great. So thanks again and be on the lookout for some exciting family events to be coming in the months ahead.

KA8USK & N8LAS

KA8USK and N8IKI did a presentation at Mary White school for the Cub Scout Troop. About 12 kids attending watch the Tune In The World tape and listened to a station that Randy and Ben set up. If anyone would like to do something similar for a group that you know of please contact this fearsome duo for information of the loan of the tape.

Our apologies for leaving out the net control list for last month so here we go for Feb--March.

2/20 KB8HU

2/27 N8ICR

3/6 W9LNU

3/13 N8HUB

3/20 N8LAS

3/27 N8KYG

This Thursday is club meeting night so please schedule some time for this. At this time the program is still open so maybe some of you can bring in your projects for this winter and show the rest of us what you are capable of. A little pat on the back always feels good.

PARDON ME MA'AM

from "The Readout", Stanislaus (CA) ARA, via A.R.N.S.

During the Stanislaus (CA) ARC picnic (1985) an exceedingly good time was had by all those who participated in the hidden transmitter hunt.

The hunt provided some humorous moments when the search focused on a young couple enjoying the pleasure of each other's arms under a cooling shade tree on the banks of a river not far from the starting point.

Joe, N6LSB was the first hunter to suspect that possibility that the transmitter might be somewhere near the couple. But he was not about to disturb them while they were amorously involved.

Jim, KB6DJ, with his gentlemanly smile, wasn't adverse to at least causing a short interruption in the proceedings. As the rest of the hunters looked on, Jim said politely, "Pardon me folks, would you mind if we looked for a hidden transmitter?"

Professing not to know the least bit about what he was talking about while showing mild indignation, permission was granted as the lady straightened her coiffeur. Jim explained that the assembled multitude, with their funny looking radios, were looking for a hidden transmitter and they had narrowed their search to their immediate area judging from all the signals.

The couple uprighted themselves from the lawn, revealing nothing but their wrinkled blanket. Denny, WG6P, quickly asked if they could look under the blanket?

Request granted! Zap! No Luck! As speculation increased, 40 over S9 signals continued to intermittently peg meters and quiet squelches. The hunters knew they were close enough to feel the heat off the heat sinks of the hidden transmitter. The couple waited patiently as the hunters contemplated their next move. It was noted that the man was wearing cut-off's while the lady was wearing a roomy dress.

Suspensions immediately focused on the young lady's dress but now one was willing to put their thoughts into actions. Inasmuch as WA6ZLO knew where the transmitter was and was therefore disqualified, he suggested that the hunters might ask the young lady questions in an attempt to probe forbidden areas.

Jim and Joe politely asked her if there were any foreign items in or about her bosom. "No," said the lady, "I don't need such items!"

Expectations were then lowered as the next question asked if she had anything foreign under her dress. "Well I declare!" said the lady. Following the laughter, she was asked to raise her dress....."just a little bit."

She agreed, and much to the enjoyment of all present, the top end of a rubber duckie was seen protruding alongside her left thigh. A few more carefully measured inches and the Icom 2-AT was fully visible. It was attached to her thigh near the knee with an Ace bandage. A remote keying line and microphone ran from the talkie up under her arm and was keyed when she placed pressure on her arm.

After the excitement died down, it was learned that the couple was actually man and wife and personal friends of WA6MIZ, who had solicited their help.

They were thanked for their splendid job and appeared to enjoy it as much as the hunters. They were heard to say as they were leaving that they had not "made out" like that since they were teenagers.

DX NEWS by KI8W
from the Cherry Juice, Traverse City, Mich.

The past year has brought us some great DX and some very rare countries put on the air by DX-peditions. Two countries in the top ten most wanted list made appearances this year and a couple of rare countries that surfaced in 1988 returned to the air again in 1989. The DXAC also decided to add a few new countries too.

In November, Laos made it's long awaited appearance. Laos ranked 8th on the most wanted list. The calls used were XW8CW for CW contacts and XW8DX for SSB. If you worked them and need a card, QSL via French DX Foundation, Box 1384, Millbrook, N.Y. 12545. A second DXpedition went to Laos in December, XW8KPV, and if you worked them, you can QSL via JH1AJT.

Laos has now put together a club station XW8KPL, so if you missed the two expeditions this year, look for XW8KPL.

As of late, the major topic has been the Bouvet operation. Bouvet ranked third on the most wanted list and the operation began around the 27th or 28th of December. The debut for 3Y5X was less than smooth. Numerous pirates were on the bands making contacts with unsuspecting amateurs and when the real 3Y arrived, they were greeted with deliberate QRM from stateside amateurs! Not all the QRM was from the US, but 95% was. The Bouvet expedition did cause some major problems at first with the crunch of stations calling, the 3Y never gave specific listening frequencies the first night and the entire 20 meter band was demolished! Since the opening crunch, the 3Y has given specific ranges of listening frequencies. If you found and worked him, the QSL route is via LA6VM.

The ARRL DX Advisory Committee added a few new countries this year. So to help you out, here is a listing of new countries added in the past year or so:

3D2--Rotuma 3D2--Conway Reef
4J1--Malyj Vysotskij T33--Banaba Island
ZS9--Walvis Bay (Not official yet I think)

Along with the addition of new countries, many countries have changed their prefixes to confuse us. So I will list a few of these:

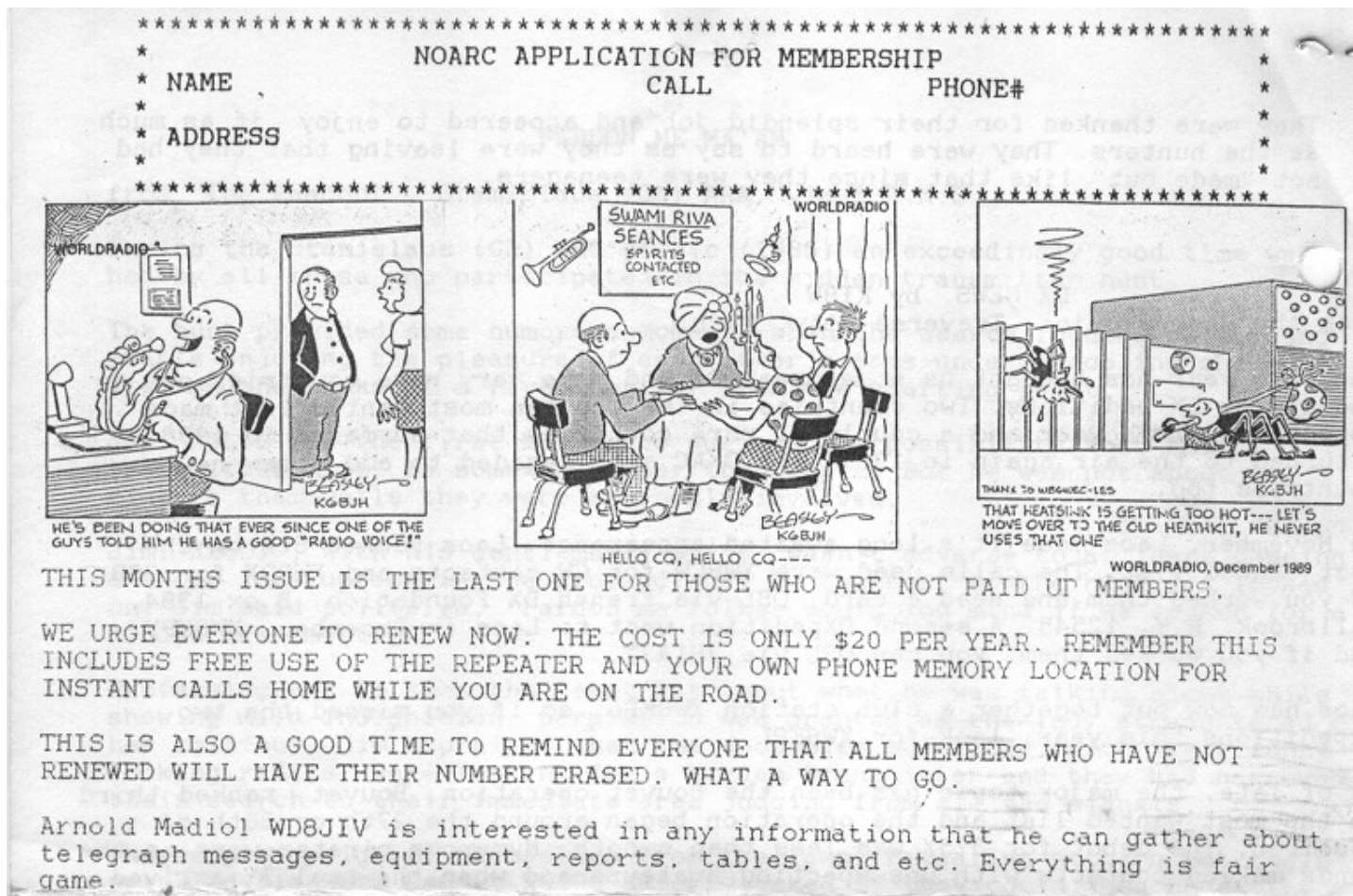
Western Sahara--50
Russia--Many new prefixies, EK ES YL 4K. The 4K assignments go like this:
4K0-Polar Arctic; 4K1-Antarctic; 4K2-Franz Josef Land; 4K3-European Arctic; and
4k4-Asia Arctic
Swaziland--3D6 uses 3DA0
Micronesia--KC6 is now V63
Marshall Islands--KX6 is now V73

This list is by no means complete, there are many strange calls floating around the ham bands. I will pass on any information I get in the future. Have Fun chasing the rare DX on the HF bands.

Barry KI8W

ITS HAMFEST TIME AGAIN SO HERE ARE THIS MONTHS CHOICE OFFERINGS:

DEARBORN HAMFEST FEBRUARY 25, 1990
LaPORTE, INDIANA FEBRUARY 24, 1990
DELTON, MICH. MARCH 3, 1990
AND THE BIGGIE COMING UP----DAYTON APRIL 27,28,29 1990



Thanks to Paul W8IQE for digging this out of Woody N8LBG's stuff. Look for the March 1990 edition next month!

QRP In The Park!

As if Field Day weren't enough fun, a group from the Holland ARC went out to Helder Park last month and did a little portable operation. Jeff KB8QAP and Chris KC8RQT brought out their rigs and ATAS-120 screwdriver antennas, working 17 and 40 meter phone. I brought out my VHF equipment and worked 6 meters, Joe AC8JD worked 20m CW with an end-fed wire, and Dave WD8PUO set up his K2 and



MFJ loop - which, unfortunately, developed an internal short and was rendered useless. That's Mississippi's Finest Junk for you. Tom K8TB and Sheila K8AJ supplied the snacks, and John WB9JSR and Ross KD8MGM were also in attendance.

Swap 'n shop

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

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

The **Te-Ne-Ke** is still in production - \$50 shipped anywhere



NOARC membership form

Dues:

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

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

Name: _____ **Callsign:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

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SPARK

the monthly newsletter of the

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

August 2011

IN THIS ISSUE

July meeting minutes....pg 2
Treasurer's report.....pg 2
Field Day report.....pg 3
Events calendar.....pg 5
March 1990 newsletter..pg 6
Swap 'n Shop.....pg 10

Fox hunt this month, QRP outing in September

Due to a bit of confusion, the NOARC fox hunt was not held in July as it usually is. Therefore, our traditional late-summer activities have been pushed back a month. The QRP event in William Ferry Park will be held in lieu of our September meeting, and the fox hunt will take the place of the August 18 meeting.

This time, we're doing something a little different with the fox hunt – we're holding it in Spring Lake, rather than Grand Haven. Hunters will meet in the C3Exchange parking lot across the street from the library and scour the village's back streets for the elusive fox.

The hint was dropped at coffee last Tuesday that we wouldn't have had this problem if we had an activities director...

NOARC board of directors

President

Paul Zellar, W8IQE – paulzellar@sbcglobal.net – (616) 844-0847

Vice President

Craig Christilaw, K8CRC – k8crc@arrl.net – (616) 846-0464

Secretaries

Roger & Phyllis Simmons, N8RXC & KB8NLN – rogersimmons6@gmail.com – (616) 846-3496

Treasurer

John Sundstrom, N8YQD – sundstrj@gvsu.edu – (616) 847-4249

SPARK Editor

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

Activities Director

** VACANT **

NOARC 2 meter repeater

W8CSO/R – 145.490 output, 144.890 input

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

Minutes of the July 2011 meeting

We arrived at the Spring Lake Library at 6:05 pm. Phyllis set about getting her brownies , cookies, apples, pretzels, ginger snaps, coffee and tea in the conference room. At 6:35 pm President Paul Zellar called the meeting to order. The members called out their names and call signs. He advised that the August meeting will be a Fox Hunt. The club will meet in the parking lot of the C3Exchange Church, across the street from the Spring Lake Library. Phyllis & Roger were volunteered to be the fox.

Treasurer John Sundstrom said the Treasurers report will be on the Internet. He reported a balance of 2067.00.

On Saturday September 10th, the GRAHAM fest will be held at the Home School Building located at 5625 Burlingame, Wyoming.

Don Meyer told the group that Jim Miller has retired from the OCEC Co-coordinator post. Jason McKay will be replacing him. Joe Veldhuis will be Sky Warn Co-coordinator for Ottawa County. (Just in time for the bad weather that arrived after the meeting)

During a discussion about including young people into amateur radio, John Fischer mentioned that he was in Russ' Restaurant after the Tuesday night net. Some kids came to his table and asked: "Are you guys under cover police?"

The September meeting will take place at Ferry Park. Time and activity is to be announced.

At 7:20 pm Paul Zellar adjourned the meeting to the goodie table. Various discussions ensued until around 8:00pm when the room was emptied.

Respectfully submitted, Phyllis and Roger Simmons

August 2011 Treasurer's Report

Balance as of May 17 th (agrees with bank).....	\$2,340.75
checks:.....Phyllis Simmons Field Day food	267.19
US Post office box rent	76.00
Deposits:	
Dues, Al Freeman.....	70.00
Balance as of July 28, 2011 (agrees with Chase Bank).....	2,067.76

Grand Haven Community Foundation Balance (3/31/2011)..... .. \$5,519.14
Many thanks to the estate of Woody Aldrich for the donation of his radio gear.

Roger and Phyllis' Field Day report

At 5:30 am Phyllis and Roger woke up. The power to the house was off. It was Field Day. We dressed in the dark and finished loading the Suburban with food and radio goods. At 7:30 am the power came back on at the house. We departed for Ferry Park. Phyllis in the Suburban stopped at McDonalds for a load of Egg McMuffins and sausage biscuits. Roger took the Volvo to the Park.

Some "core members" were already at the park making preparations for their stations. At 8:00 am breakfast was served in the park shelter. After breakfast, Lou Meisch was busy putting sky high antennas up. This included Joe Veldhuis' six meter and UHF rig.

Lou was pretty much responsible for putting up all the antennas in the park for the event. This included a two meter dipole, an eighty meter horizontal loop and a fifteen meter vertical near the 104 bridge. Joe started contacting stations in rapid succession. Before lunch the stations were set up and operating.

Pizza was the order of the day for lunch. As 2:00 pm rolled around, the GOTA (Get on the air) station operated with John Fischer. Jim Wolters with Gordon Stockwell started CW contacts on forty meters. Mark Stern and Roger sported a two room tent with four six volt batteries wired in series and parallel for eighty and twenty meter CW contacts. The contest was on.

Paul Zellar (bless his heart) furnished power for the whole operation. He brought out enough solar panels to charge batteries, which powered inverters for all the stations. All this was supplemented by his electric car, (which he also made).

Supper was a successful potluck. The food was mainly brought in by the women. There was fried chicken, four bean salad, pulled barbeque pork, potato salad, baked beans, potato chips vegetables, fruit salad, bananas, coffee, tea, hot chocolate and water and soft driinks, courtesy of Craig Christilaw. For dessert: brownies, watermelon, lemon cake and baked turnovers. There could have been more, but that is all I can remember eating.

Mark Stern brought out his beautiful German Shepherd. The friendly dog stood guard for the encampment.

It got dark. The temperature remained a cool 58 degrees, or so but pleasant without noticeable wind. As the evening wore on, some walkers in the park stopped to chat about "what those people were doing over there".

Most were impressed with how high the antennas were. They reflected light in the dim illumination of the park. They were quite dramatic.

Sometime after 11:30 pm, most of the daylight crowd had departed. The sounds of "CQ. CQ.CQ" and morse code resonated thru the nearly deserted park. The hard core operators continued thru the night.

Paul Zellar made the rounds of all the stations making sure each had proper voltages to last thru the night into morning. Phyllis and Roger turned in to the mattress at the back of the Suburban. Lou Meisch turned in to the bed of his RV for a break. The Old Boys Brew House, across the river from the park, which had been plying music across the river from the park, all evening, ceased playing. Only the sounds of the vehicular traffic on M-104 and US-31 continued, breaking the silence of the night.

At around 2:30 am, Roger debarked the Suburban for a pit stop. A lantern lit the inside of the two room tent. Normal power was not available. At 4:19 am, Roger made a tour of the compound. The picnic pavilion was bathed in its dim overhead light. An easy up shelter had been raised beneath the roof. Most of the food had been put in the truck and car, safe from the night critters.

West of the pavilion some distance, Paul Zellar's solar panels reflected starlight. Silent power plants waiting for the morning sun. The Ottawa County Sheriff Department emergency trailer, now home of the GOTA Station, was locked for the night. East of the restroom, Phyllis was asleep in the Suburban. Fifty foot east of that location, Lou Meisch was asleep in his Roadtrek RV.

A half moon shown, peach colored, thru the haze of the night. Traffic on the highways slowed to a quieter pace. The park was still. Roger plucked a bottle of water from the cooler at the pavilion and returned to the tent. There was radio traffic, but not as hectic as in the afternoon and evening.

As the sun rose on Sunday morning, breakfast was served up by Phyllis. Some of the operators, who had departed, returned. When breakfast was consumed, the hams went back to work.

As the 2:00 pm deadline approached, we began taking the stations apart. For some reason, it always seems harder and more effort to take camp down than to put it up. All in all, as Lou Meisch says: "A good time was had by all".

Apologies for any erroneous items or omissions in this report. Its just the way I remember it.

Respectfully submitted, Phyllis and Roger Simmons

August 2011 calendar of events and net control schedule

Every Tuesday:

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

Every Wednesday:

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

Every Saturday:

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

August 6:

UP Hamfest, Escanaba
<http://www.dcars.org>

August 8:

Holland ARC satellite demo
Kollen Park, Holland
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

August 14:

Lapeer County Swap and Shop, Lapeer
<http://w8lap.com>

August 18:

NOARC Fox Hunt – C3Exchange, Spring Lake
6:30 PM

August 27:

SARA Swap & Trunk Sale, Owosso
<http://www.w8qqq.org>

NOARC net control schedule:

August 2: **John, KC8UNY**

August 9: **Roger, N8RXC**

August 16: **Joe, N8FQ**

August 23: **John, N8YQD**

August 30: **Paul, W8IQE**

SPARK for March 1990

NOARCcgcsusaSPARK

MARCH, 1990

GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN

COAST GUARD CITY, USA

NORTH OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

president-- will rudd w9lnu

vice president--bob van rhee n8las

treasurer-- bob japenga n8iku

secretary--ted swanson n8hkn

activities manager--hank riekels wa8gvk ?

noarc editor-- ben docter k8ar

CLUB REPEATER AT 145.49

NET MEETS EACH TUESDAY NIGHT AT 8 P.M.

CLUB MEETS AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER 4TH THURSDAY EACH MONTH AT 7.30 P.M.

Reports have it that we have another good class going this year thanks especially to the efforts of W9LNU and N8IKI. About 9 students are showing up fairly regularly. We should comment at this time about two students in particular who are near and dear to the heart of KA8USK. They are Karen and Stephanie Stano who at this writing have been talked about as being called "CW whizzes". Congratulations to both of you and the other students for your efforts in securing your own license.

N8FL Dick Tanis, one of our former presidents, now living in Indiana, has sent word that Joe Magnusson has a new address in Texas. He is another ex-president. Will, are you planning to leave too?

Joe Magnusson N5PLY ex WB8YDT

1536 Yaggi

Flower Mound, Texas 75028 tel. 214-539-0235

He works for GTE near Dallas. If anyone would like to contact him via packet, there is a BBS: N5LDD that you can go through.

Coast Guard Special Event Certificate plans are well under way. The design is being worked on and plans are being made to fund the cost. This will probably come out of the club treasury if no sponsor can be found so maybe we should start thinking about how to replenish these expenses. Maybe an extra donation at every club meeting earmarked for this event or else a table at a few hamfests with a portion of the proceeds donated to this cause. If you have any good ideas please present them at the next club meeting.

The announcements will go out to the ham magazines by the end of this month. We are working with the Corps of Engineers on a site for the Special Event Station. George KE8DL and Bob N8LAS will be taking vacation during this week so the station will be manned for the entire week. More details will follow.

FIELD DAY

Here comes our annual event again. We need everything. Antennas, rigs, towers, volunteers, food, volunteers, tents, RV's, volunteers. Start thinking about how you can help and participate this year in this fun event. Let's talk about it at the next club meeting.

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

APRIL 3, N8KY0
APRIL 24, WA8GVK
MAY 15, N8HUB
JUNE 5, N8ICR

APRIL 10, N8GNF
MAY 1, W9LNU
MAY 22, N8LAS

APRIL 17, N8LBG
MAY 8, KB8HU
MAY 29, N8KYG

N8IKU IS AT PRESENT STILL ENJOYING HIS VACATION IN HAWAII AND FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT LISTEN TO THE REPEATER WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE A SCHEDULE FOR THE TIMES HE ANTICIPATES BEING ON THE AIR. HE DOES NOT ANTICIPATE BEING ABLE TO SEND THE SAME QUALITY OF QSL CARDS THAT GEORGE DOES BUT THEN YOU NEVER KNOW. FROM 3PM TO 7PM LOCAL TIME BEGINNING ON MARCH 22 AND LATER HE WILL (MIGHT) BE ON 28940 MHZ AND FROM 7-5 ON 21310 MHZ. FOR NOVICES LOOKING FOR THEIR FIRST HAWAII CONTACT HE WILL BE LOOKING FOR YOU ON 28450 MHZ. HE EXPECTS TO BE COMING BACK ON MARCH 30.

HAMFEST TIME AGAIN:

APRIL 1, GROSSE POINTE WOODS Talk in on 146.14/74
APRIL 27,28,29 DAYTON "The biggie"

AUTODIAL NUMBERS

13 KC8P	14 N8ACK	15 N8LAS	16 N8EJP	17 N8LAV	18 KE8LZ	19 WD9GHS
20 NS8S	21 KB8BLX	22 N8HCS	23 WA8GVK	24 W8LLA	25 W8CSO	26 WA8QIS
27 N8HKN	28 N8IKU	29 W8ESZ	32 WD8BNJ	33 W9LNU	34 N8KYG	37 N8IJN
40 WB9ZPL		42 KB8GNM	43 W9BWC	44 KE8DL	46 N8FOX	47 N8IKI
48 N8GNA	51 WB8HDC	53 NR9B	55 N8LBG	59 N8III	I3 KB8AAF	74 KR8N
77 KA8USK		78 K8AR	79 KB8HU	82 N8GNF	90 NQ8M	96 KA8ZLG
99 WA8QIE						

A TUIT

hard to come by too

from The Hamcall, Kentucky Colonels ARC, Bowling Green, KY and A.R.N.S.

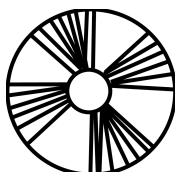
We have enough room in this newsletter for 1 TUIT! Please cut it out and save it, guard it, don't lose it, don't lend it!

These TUITs have been hard to come by, especially the round ones. But by special arrangement yours is printed below. We rejoice with you because the demand has been great and now that EACH MEMBER has a round TUIT available to him, expect many changes.

Many problems will be solved and meeting attendance should at least double now that each member has his own TUIT.

For you see, so many have said: "I will get started in club functions just as soon as I get a round TUIT." Others have said: "I know I should come to meetings. I never seem to get a round TUIT," "I know I should be more involved in the life of the club, but I never seem to get a round TUIT," or "I've really been meaning to write an article for the Newsletter and get more active in the club, but there has been so much to do and I've been so busy that I haven't gotten a round TUIT."

NOW THAT IS PAST! EVERYONE HAS HIS OWN ROUND TUIT! AND I KNOW THAT GREAT THINGS ARE IN STORE!



March 11, 1990

Below is what happened at the repeater council meeting.

Several of us went to the MARC meeting held on March 3, 1990. Below is the results of that meeting.

The interference problem is being caused by the users of the KA8USK/R. Dave, N8BIT, complaint is that the major interference is during the morning net, well within our coverage area. The terrain between us and the N8BIT/R seems to propagate 2 meters. Abe, WA8HVG, has the same similar problem with his 147.165 repeater. Any band enhancement seems to be amplified along the I-96 corridor. The N8BIT/R was coordinated prior to the KA8USK/R, giving the N8BIT/R priority. We, as good amateur operators, should respect the interference of our users. We have four options, 1.) to voluntarily all use a PL tone of 94.8, 2.) install PL on the KA8USK/R, 3.) reduce or coverage area to 25 miles, 4.) change our current frequency. Lets look at each of the above four alternatives, not in order. Number 4 – We have a good, quiet pair of frequencies, if we change, we could get more interference than we do now, number 3 – reducing the coverage area will not eliminate the user interference with N8BIT/R, number 2 – if we are forced to use PL then our repeater will look to outsiders as a “closed” repeater, also those who do not have PL in their radios will be forced to purchase and add-on unit for about \$30-\$50, number 1 – I think that this is the best alternative. Now before all of you get mad because WE have to do something, remember that we were coordinated last, giving N8BIT/R priority. Dave, N8BIT will install, at his expense, an ANTI-PL unit that will reject any signal that has a 94.8 PL tone on it. It works like this, If a signal is received by his repeater that has a 94.8 PL tone it will not open his COR, thus eliminating the interference problem. If we use PL on a voluntary basis, that is, if we all use PL tone 94.8 on our transmit frequency our interference problems with the N8BIT/R will be solved because the N8BIT/R will reject our transmit frequency. We will not have to install PL on our repeater, reduce coverage area, or change frequencies. Come to the next club meeting and ask questions, as I can not answer all questions in this letter. Let's keep an open mind and remember that to eliminate interference is a GOOD AMATEUR PRACTICE.

Bruce KE8LZ

CONGRATULATIONS TO CARL N8KYG FOR PASSING HIS ADVANCED CODE AND THEORY LAST SATURDAY IN MARSHALL

THE ART OF SOLDERING

By David Heller, K3TX, in Penn Wireless Association X-MITTER and A.R.N.S.

Soldering is the primary assembly mechanism of electronics. It is a skill that is most important for all amateurs. Some notes on this basic operation are due. Soldering is covered nicely in many handbooks, the Heath manuals, and in X-MITTER. Like any other skill, soldering requires proper tools, proper materials, proper instructions and PRACTICE. The beginner is well advised to practice on a junk chassis of some sort, preferably with a skilled instructor.

What is solder? Electrical solder is an alloy of tin (Sn) and lead (Pb). It is found in varying proportions, but for electrical work the eutectic 63-37 (63% Sn, 37% Pb) is much to be preferred. 60-40 is quite satisfactory. Poorer grades are best avoided. (Note that the first percentage is tin, the second lead.)

What is soldering? Basically, the soldering operation is to heat two components above the melting point of the solder, permitting the solder to wet the several surfaces and fill the gap between them. The solder provides a mechanical connection having good electrical conductivity.

What is flux? Flux is a material which chemically cleans the surfaces to be soldered to permit the solder to allow to the surfaces being soldered. ALL FLUX IS CORROSIVE. The noncorroding fluxes suitable for electrical/electronic work are generally rosin-based materials which are inert at room temperature, though corrosive at elevated (soldering) temperatures.

So-called "non-corroding" paste fluxes and acid fluxes are absolutely not acceptable for use on or near electrical work. The common greasy paste flux (No-corrode), and similar products are aqueous solutions of zinc chloride and ammonium chloride emulsified in grease. They are hygroscopic, meaning they absorb moisture from the air, forming hydrochloric acid (HCl), and they are electrically conductive. Use of "paste" fluxes is certain to create shorts where there should be insulation, open circuits where connections should exist, and assorted other damage. Take the warning in every Heath manual at face value: Use paste fluxes on a Heathkit and all warranties are void. Or the standard practice in most high-tech labs: Possession of paste fluxes in the work-place is grounds for instant firing.

Cold solder joints: A major cause of soldering problems is cold solder joints. There is a temperature range between fully solid (solidus) and fully liquid (liquidus) in which the solder alloy is "plastic". If the solder is disturbed -vibrated or moved- while in this plastic state it will not form a solid joint, but rather will become a granular mass with very poor mechanical and electrical properties. And, worst of all, the colder solder joint can be hard to find. The fix is simple: re-heat above the melting point and let solidify undisturbed. The eutectic 63-37 solder has no plastic range and thus is nearly immune from cold solder problems - this alone is enough to make its slightly higher cost well worth it.

The general radio worker is best advised to stay with a good grade of solder made for radio use with a flux core. The Kester name is excellent, though there are other acceptable brands. 1/32 inch cored solder is good for most fine work, and 1/16 inch is good for heavier electrical work. The soldering iron must be sized for the job at hand. Much printed

Editor's note: my copy of the March 1990 newsletter ended here. Thanks to Paul, W8IQE for digging it up!

Swap 'n shop

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

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

The **Te-Ne-Ke** is still in production - \$50 shipped anywhere

Items from the estate of Woody Aldrich, N8LBG – contact Paul, W8IQE

RadioShack HTX-252 2 meter mobile w/ manual - \$75

Radio Shack PRO-2023 scanner - \$75

MFJ keyboard keyer - \$30

MFJ-4035 12 volt 35 amp power supply - \$100

Sangean 4-band portable radio, needs help - \$10

Hammarlund loudspeaker - \$25

NiMH/NiCd battery charger - \$5



NOARC membership form

Dues:

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

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

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SPARK

the monthly newsletter of the

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

September 2011

"Covered by all four seasons"



IN THIS ISSUE

Fox hunt reports.....pg 2, 3

Treasurer's report.....pg 3

Events calendar.....pg 4

Swap 'n Shop.....pg 5

Look on the next two pages for fox hunt reports from Roger, Phyllis and Paul!

NOARC board of directors

President

Paul Zellar, W8IQE – paulzellar@sbcglobal.net – (616) 844-0847

Vice President

Craig Christilaw, K8CRC – k8crc@arrl.net – (616) 846-0464

Secretaries

Roger & Phyllis Simmons, N8RXC & KB8NLN – rogersimmons6@gmail.com – (616) 846-3496

Treasurer

John Sundstrom, N8YQD – sundstrj@gvsu.edu – (616) 847-4249

SPARK Editor

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

Activities Director

**** VACANT ****

NOARC 2 meter repeater

W8CSO/R – 145.490 output, 144.890 input

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

Roger and Phyllis' fox hunt report

The members of NOARC were to meet in the parking lot of the C3 Exchange, across from the Spring Lake Library, at 6:30 pm. As it happened, Phyllis and I were unfortunate enough to have found the fox on the last fox hunt. So this time it was our turn to be "the fox".

We started out early to set up our location a couple days ahead of time. The boundaries were to be in Spring Lake. To the west was US 31, to the north was Spring Lake, (the water). To the east the boundary was to be Fruitport Road. The south boundary was Lloyds Bayou. After driving around on a half tank of gas, we decided on Fall Street at the intersection of Spring Street.

We loaded up the Volvo and entered the parking lot shortly after six. We had just started to get out the hand helds when Joe Veldhuis appeared. He had already checked the weather and it looked like there wouldn't be rain for the foreseeable future. Next President Paul Zellar appeared at the parking lot. He had set up his answering machine with a timer and a message that identifies his station on two meters and repeated it with a few seconds delay. This enabled him to check and calibrate his direction finding antennas , (there were two of them). Lou Meisch was next in line to appear at the parking lot ready to do battle with the fox.

When John Fischer arrived, he assumed the duties of net control and the hunt began. The fox transmitted on a frequency of 147.52 MHz. Net control was on 145.490. John timed the event. The fox was to transmit for thirty seconds (or one minute, foxes discretion). Five minutes were lapsed before the next transmission. John called out a two minute warning before the next fox transmission. This was for the purpose of members finding a parking place to set up their direction finding antennas .

Phyllis and I took off in a westerly direction and circled around the block to throw off any observers who wanted to see which way the fox was heading. You may remember, our hiding spot Fall and Spring Streets are south and east of the parking lot.

We settled in for the game to begin. We advised net control that we were ready. He had us give our first transmission. I had previously tried to set up some background noise of some old time radio programs and tried to synchronize it with the foxes transmission. It turned out to just annoy KB8NLN, who was sitting next to me. Each five minute transmission Phyllis and I took turns transmitting. After about three transmissions we started giving hints where we were located. Not good hints, but hints never the less. I recall that one of the hints was "We can see Lake traffic from here". The lake traffic we could see wasn't boat traffic. It was the automobile traffic on Lake Street.

Another transmission hint was that we could see bicycle traffic on the bridge. There was a bridge over Lloyds Bayou where Lake Street crosses. Lake Street was a few

blocks west of our location, but we could look between houses on Fall Street and see bicycles crossing the bridge.

It was around that time that President Paul Zellar confidently rode directly up to us and claimed victory in the hunt. Paul had managed to accurately get a couple azimuth lines to our location.

Next Lou Meisch and Joe Veldhuis rolled up. We finally ended up transmitting to net control, (John Fischer) that " We liked the seasons of Michigan, but sometimes Spring seems to run into Fall. "

With that last hint, John rolled up to the fox and officially closed the hunt. We headed to the golden arches for some well deserved ice cream.

Respectfully submitted Phyllis and Roger Simmons

Paul's fox hunt report

On August 18 NOARC substituted a Fox Hunt for the monthly meeting. We met at the C3 Exchange parking lot in Spring Lake, and the hunt area was restricted to the village bounded by the river and lake plus the East Fruitport Road. Roger (N8RXC) and his XYL Phyllis (KB8NLN) served as the fox. There were three cars to chase the fox, John (KC8UNY), myself, Paul (W8IQE), and a dual, Joe (N8FQ) and Lou (N8KYO).

At the appointed time the fox transmitted and we found the line was northeast/southwest. I quickly drove to Mill Point Park for the second transmission five minutes later. The line was now east/west, putting the fox south and east of the parking lot. A fast trip to the Spring Lake School parking lot allowed me to be prepared for the next transmission, which was a little north of east. Driving there the Simon's Volvo was found near the intersection of Fall and Spring streets. Joe and Lou arrived soon after, followed by John. The group immediately adjourned to the local McDonald's for refreshments.

September 2011 Treasurer's Report

Balance as of July 28, 2011 (agrees with Chase Bank).....	2,067.76
checks: GRARA Hamfest.....	20.00
Balance as of August 28,2011.....	2,047.76

Grand Haven Community Foundation Balance..... ..	\$5,527.43
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September 2011 calendar of events and net control schedule

Every Tuesday:

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

Every Wednesday:

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

Every Saturday:

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

September 10:

GRAHamfest, Wyoming
<http://www.w8dc.org>

QRP in the park
Helder Park, Holland
5:30 PM

September 17:

Peoria Superfest, Peoria, IL
<http://www.peoriasuperfest.com>

September 18:

Adrian ARC hamfest, Adrian
<http://www.adrianhamfest.com>

September 22:

NOARC meeting/QRP in the park
William Ferry Park, Ferrysburg
6:30 PM

NOARC net control schedule:

September 6: **Phyllis, KB8NLN**
September 13: **John, KC8UNY**
September 20: **Joe, N8FQ**
September 27: **John, N8YQD**


Net control volunteers are needed – *especially* with half the club leaving for winter!
E-mail jvn8fq@gmail.com to get on the list!

Swap 'n shop

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

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

The **Te-Ne-Ke** is still in production - \$50 shipped anywhere

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SPARK

the monthly newsletter of the

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

October 2011

NOARC at Ferry Park – the second encounter



IN THIS ISSUE

September minutes.....pg 2
Treasurer's report.....pg 2
Events calendar.....pg 3
EchoLink visitors' log...pg 4
Swap 'n Shop.....pg 5

Despite the damp, chilly weather, our yearly “QRP in the park” meeting went off without a hitch. See Roger and Phyllis' report on page 2!

NOARC board of directors

President

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**** VACANT ****

NOARC 2 meter repeater

W8CSO/R – 145.490 output, 144.890 input

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

Minutes of the September 2011 meeting

The club decided to have a mini field day for our next meeting. Phyllis was busy making brownies, cookies, hot water for coffee or hot chocolate. We packed the suburban with my HW 7 Heathkit QRP radio, two antennas, (one was a 25 foot german model made of carbon fiber) and the assorted foodstuffs aforementioned. We arrived to a cool fall evening. Phyllis said it was a bit on the cool side.

Mark Stern brought his QRP radio complete with a 20 meter vertical antenna mounted on a tripod. It was complete with radial wires attached to the base. Joe Veldhuis and the rest of us helped to mount the beast. We took a long time trying to get resonant on twenty meters. But finally Mark was successful in contacting Mike N1MX from Boston by CW. Then it was Rogers turn to contact Mike again. Roger used Mark's key for the first time, by copying Mike's call sign from Mark and got a response.

John Fischer got an earful from CO6LP in Cuba. He used the mobile set in his white pickup. Why didn't we think of that. It certainly sounds warmer than the picnic table under the park shelter.

Don Meyer filled us in on the Oktoberfest 5K, one half and full marathon, sponsored by the Old Boys Brew House in Spring Lake. Volunteers from the club worked this event on September 17th.

John Fischer made a pitch for help on October 1st for help on East Side Festival 5 K race. Hot Chocolate coffee and tea were welcome with brownies and cookies. We broke camp around eight o'clock. It was getting dark .

Remember NOARC would appreciate your help during the Spring Lake Home Coming Parade on October 14th. Volunteers are requested to meet at the Spring Lake Police Department at 5:30 pm for briefing. The parade will be held at 6:30.

73's, Respectfully submitted, Phyllis and Roger Simmons

October 2011 Treasurer's Report

Balance as of aug 28, 2011 (agrees with Chase Bank).....	2,047.76
checks: None	
Deposits: Proceeds from GRARA hamfest.....	90.00

Balance as of September 26,2011.....	2,137.76
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Grand Haven Community Foundation Balance.....	\$5,527.43
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Many thanks to the estate of Woody Aldrich and from Gordon Stockwell for the donation of radio gear which we sold at the GRARA hamfest.

October 2011 calendar of events and net control schedule

Every Tuesday:

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

Every Wednesday:

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

Every Saturday:

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

October 8:

Lake County ARC hamfest, Crown Point, IN
<http://www.lakenetnwi.net/member/lcarc/index.html>

October 16:

Kalamazoo hamfest
<http://www.kalamazoohamfest.com>

NOTE: No Holland hamfest this year! :(

October 23:

USECA hamfest, Sterling Heights
<http://www.usecaarc.com>

October 27:

NOARC meeting
Spring Lake District Library
6:30 PM

NOARC net control schedule:

October 4: **Paul, W8IQE**
October 11: **Roger, N8RXC**
October 18: **John, KC8UNY**
October 25: **Joe, N8FQ**
November 1: **John, N8YQD**

Net control volunteers are needed – *especially* with half the club leaving for winter!
E-mail jvn8fq@gmail.com to get on the list!

EchoLink Visitors' Log

2011-07-19 19:51:19	2011-07-19 19:56:39	N8FQ	Joe	
2011-07-19 20:00:21	2011-07-19 20:12:18	N8FQ	Joe	Samsung SCH-I500 User
2011-07-25 22:07:29	2011-07-25 22:08:10	KD8QMW	iPhone User	iPhone
2011-07-26 06:43:49	2011-07-26 06:44:55	N8NVI	nawas	warren,ohio
2011-07-27 20:22:12	2011-07-27 20:33:20	N8ARY	iPhone User	
2011-07-27 20:33:37	2011-07-27 20:35:27	N8ARY	iPhone User	iPhone
2011-07-28 10:33:11	2011-07-28 10:33:43	M3YXH	Gordon	Hastings, UK (1)
2011-07-29 07:37:44	2011-07-29 07:42:22	N8EFP-L	fred	
2011-07-30 20:26:13	2011-07-30 20:27:07	N8EFP-L	fred	sebastian fl.
2011-08-02 20:29:59	2011-08-02 20:30:26	N8YQD	HTC PC36100 User	
2011-08-02 20:29:11	2011-08-02 20:30:40	N8FQ	Joe	
2011-08-06 01:13:53	2011-08-06 01:14:08	KI4NAR	John	iPhone
2011-08-06 12:39:48	2011-08-06 12:42:42	N8YQD	HTC PC36100 User	
2011-08-06 17:35:59	2011-08-06 17:36:18	KE5JPQ	Samsung SCH-I500 User	Dauphin Island, Alabama
2011-08-06 17:36:25	2011-08-06 17:36:55	KE5JPQ	Samsung SCH-I500 User	Dauphin Island, Alabama
2011-08-07 13:30:04	2011-08-07 13:30:30	KC8ICR	Bruce	Farmington Hills, MI
2011-08-09 19:22:54	2011-08-09 19:27:37	KF4KWW	David	
2011-08-11 22:43:42	2011-08-11 22:44:14	N9XXT	bill	anderson ind
2011-08-13 06:10:25	2011-08-13 06:10:53	DB0EE-R	Relais Emmerich	Emmerich Elten J031CV
2011-08-13 13:54:21	2011-08-13 13:59:21	N8ARY	iPhone User	
2011-08-13 14:15:33	2011-08-13 14:20:33	N8ARY	iPhone User	iPhone
2011-08-13 14:48:50	2011-08-13 14:49:51	N8ARY	Andrew	
2011-08-14 13:24:53	2011-08-14 13:25:49	N8EFP	FRED	
2011-08-16 19:52:56	2011-08-16 19:53:43	N8EFP-L	fred	
2011-08-19 16:12:34	2011-08-19 16:16:02	WF8J	Harry	San Jose, CA
2011-08-23 01:01:03	2011-08-23 01:01:21	AE7NO	edward	
2011-08-23 18:51:36	2011-08-23 18:52:26	KD8QQH	motorola DROIDX	User
2011-08-24 22:05:33	2011-08-24 22:06:48	N8XPQ-L	Mike	In Conference
ECHOTEST				
2011-08-24 22:07:40	2011-08-24 22:07:49	N8XPQ-L	Mike	Zeeland , MI.
2011-08-28 22:00:33	2011-08-28 22:00:55	KC8UWC	dennis	alpena
2011-08-29 20:30:10	2011-08-29 20:30:28	KC8YJG	Rich	East Lansing, Mi
2011-08-31 11:51:24	2011-08-31 11:52:41	KC8DJ	David	
2011-08-31 15:57:24	2011-08-31 15:58:45	WR8W	Rick	Roseville, Michigan
EN82				
2011-08-31 19:23:31	2011-08-31 19:29:16	N8EFP-L	fred	
2011-09-02 15:39:06	2011-09-02 15:39:50	KD8HRB	Ron	
2011-09-03 18:01:03	2011-09-03 18:06:02	WD8PSN	wally	metro detroit
2011-09-03 18:17:03	2011-09-03 18:20:23	KB8WXG	Scott	Santa Ana, CA
2011-09-03 21:44:19	2011-09-03 21:44:38	KB8WXG	Scott	Santa Ana, CA
2011-09-04 17:02:49	2011-09-04 17:04:48	N9KYA	kenneth	SPRINGVILLE TENNESSE
2011-09-04 23:05:37	2011-09-04 23:05:40	KB8WXG	Scott	
2011-09-05 09:24:48	2011-09-05 09:25:02	KB8WXG	Scott	
2011-09-08 16:54:06	2011-09-08 16:54:33	KB8WXG	Scott	
2011-09-16 15:42:07	2011-09-16 15:42:23	KD8BIG	Mark	Muskegon, Michigan
2011-09-20 19:56:41	2011-09-20 19:57:34	N8FQ	Joe	
2011-09-22 19:28:29	2011-09-22 19:28:32	PP1MF	Mario	Vila Velha-ES-Brasil
2011-09-22 19:28:40	2011-09-22 19:28:48	PP1MF	Mario	Vila Velha-ES-Brasil
2011-09-23 16:42:44	2011-09-23 16:45:44	KB8QAP	Jeff	
2011-09-26 20:05:30	2011-09-26 20:05:36	N8HXV-L	Walker,WV	
2011-09-27 19:46:00	2011-09-27 20:10:13	N8FQ	Joe	
2011-10-02 10:05:28	2011-10-02 10:07:03	IZ3PYL	giorgio	venezia
2011-10-03 11:51:55	2011-10-03 11:52:14	WA6ABC	Michael	Los Angeles, CA (1)
2011-10-03 20:58:42	2011-10-03 21:20:40	N8EFP	FRED	
2011-10-04 06:46:19	2011-10-04 06:47:02	IZ3PYL	giorgio	venezia
2011-10-04 19:17:16	2011-10-04 19:19:27	N8YQD	HTC PC36100 User	
2011-10-05 16:31:54	2011-10-05 16:33:25	KD0PRR	Barak	St Paul, Minnesota EN34
2011-10-05 17:02:12	2011-10-05 17:02:14	KA8SAF	Bob Bedard	

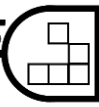
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Address: _____

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SPARK

the monthly newsletter of the

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

November 2011

IN THIS ISSUE

October minutes.....pg 2

Community Foundation
report.....pg 3

Events calendar.....pg 4

Swap 'n Shop.....pg 5



A good turnout for our first indoor meeting since July!
See Roger and Phyllis' report on page 2

NOARC board of directors

President

Paul Zellar, W8IQE – president@w8cso.org – (616) 844-0847

Vice President

Craig Christilaw, K8CRC – vp@w8cso.org – (616) 846-0464

Secretaries

Roger & Phyllis Simmons, N8RXC & KB8NLN – secretary@w8cso.org – (616) 846-3496

Treasurer

John Sundstrom, N8YQD – treasurer@w8cso.org – (616) 847-4249

SPARK Editor

Joe Veldhuis, N8FQ – editor@w8cso.org – (616) 834-4989

Activities Director

** VACANT **

NOARC 2 meter repeater

W8CSO/R – 145.490 output, 144.890 input

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

Minutes of the October 2011 meeting

Signs of winter were appearing as the club members gathered at the Spring Lake Library for an inside meeting on Thursday, October 27th shortly before 6:30 pm. When Phyllis and I walked into the meeting room, several members were already in attendance. Phyllis laid out brownies, cookies , apples and coffee with hot water for tea drinkers. John Sundstrom also made coffee.

Paul Zellar called the meeting to order and attendees identified themselves with their names and call signs. He then got right down to business with a notice that not many were attending the Saturday breakfast at Vic's Restaurant in Spring Lake . It was noted that sometimes that is the case. Other events and activities are occurring during the breakfast time.

Craig Christilaw reported the progress in modifying the Te Ne Key. Dr. Doug Furton and Craig designed the key to be more practical and efficient to make. A short discussion was made on reducing the price of the key to \$35 or \$40 dollars. The new key will delete the "gem" from the front end of it, fold the top down on both ends and be engraved "Te Ne Ke" on top. The engraving will be done by Innovative Services in Byron Center, Michigan. Plans may be made to get an inventory of the keys and sell them, possibly on E Bay .

Paul Zellar has constructed a direction finding device to send a signal on a given frequency at preset times for the purpose of calibrating members direction finding radios in preparation for a fox hunt. It was proposed that a meeting be held prior to a fox hunt, to work out the kinks in the direction finding gear, at an open area such as Harbor Island. (Also a good idea for a club activity)

Joe Veldhuis proposed and, at this writing, has completed the < www.w8cso.org > web site. members can now know whats happening and message on our own site.

John Sundstrom gave an excellent program on the repeater, including a slide presentation on relevant frequencies of Ottawa County and state wide repeaters. He passed out a map indicating the effective ranges of the W8CSO repeater and the Grand Rapids link . He also passed out a roster of members to anyone interested.

The meeting was a real eye opener to the interesting activities of the NOARC club.

Respectfully submitted: Phyllis and Roger Simmons

Editor's note: elections for the 2012 board of directors were held at this meeting as well. All of the 2011 officers will retain their positions, except for Craig, who stepped down as vice president. John Fischer will take his place next year.

Grand Haven Community Foundation Report

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Fund Statement for the Period

01/01/2011 through 09/30/2011

BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	5,474.41
GIFTS TO FUND	0.00
INVESTMENT ACTIVITY	
Interest and Dividends	60.12
Realized Gains (Losses)	0.00
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	-526.38
TOTAL INVESTMENT ACTIVITY	-466.26
DISBURSEMENTS	
Grants	193.00
Administrative Fees	41.27
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	234.27
ENDING FUND BALANCE	4,773.88

Editor's note: a full Treasurer's report was not available at press time, however it was noted on the GHCF report that the club's checking account balance as of 10/27/11 was 2,137.76.

November 2011 calendar of events and net control schedule

Every Tuesday:

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

Every Wednesday:

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

Every Saturday:

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

November 3:

Winter Skywarn training
Muskegon Community College, room 1100
7:00 PM

November 5:

Ham in a Day class
Muskegon Community College, room 1118
Class begins at 8:00 AM, VE testing at 2:00 PM

November 17:

NOARC meeting
Barber School, Spring Lake
6:30 PM

NOARC net control schedule:

November 1: **John, N8YQD**
November 8: **Paul, W8IQE**
November 15: **Phyllis, KB8NLN**
November 22: **Joe, N8FQ**
November 29: **John, KC8UNY**

Net control volunteers are needed – *especially* with half the club leaving for winter!
E-mail jvn8fq@gmail.com to get on the list!


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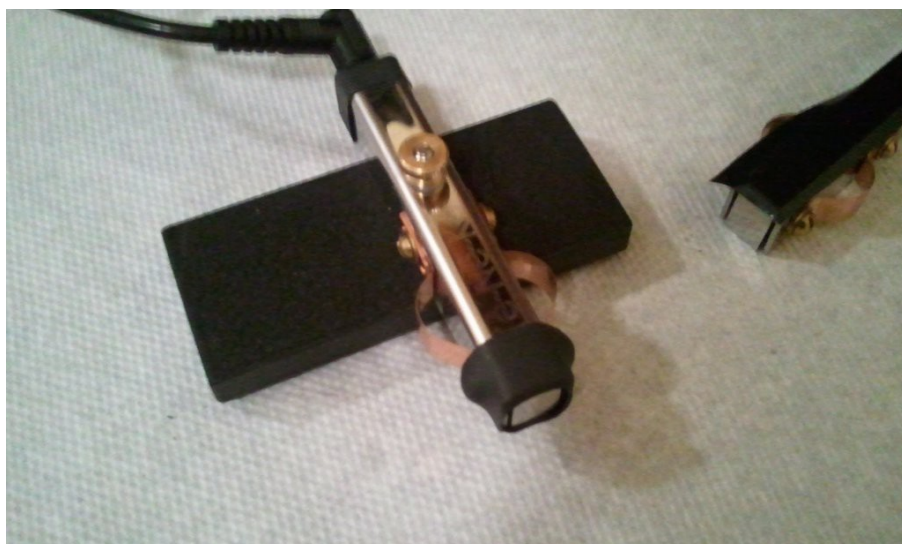
Grand Haven, MI 49417

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the monthly newsletter of the

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December 2011



Introducing **Te-Ne-Ke 2.0!**

Built from laser-cut stainless steel, the new design is sure to impress. Read all about it inside!

IN THIS ISSUE

November minutes.....pg 2
Events calendar.....pg 3
New Te-Ne-Ke.....pg 4
Swap 'n Shop.....pg 5

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Minutes of the November 2011 meeting

Shortly before 6:30 PM, members of the NOARC gathered at the Barber School for the monthly meeting. We sat around in our vehicles for a while. No one had a key to the door. A call was made to President Paul Zellar who called the Spring Lake Department of Public Safety. Soon an officer appeared and opened the door. It was cold outside and the heat in the building was welcome.

Phyllis spread out cookies, coffee and tea on the tables. We dove into them big time. We helped Jerome Novotny with his electronic apparatus, moving it from his car to the stage in the school. Soon the scene was set.

President Paul Zellar called the meeting to order and requested names and call signs from those present. All members complied.

Business matters were then discussed. Boyd Mason, inventor of the Te Ne Ke, was present for the unveiling of the new Te Ne Ke. This was presented by Craig Christilaw. He and Doug Furton are to be given a lot of credit for taking the old key and redesigning and constructing a new and beautiful piece of equipment.

President Zellar made note of the Christmas Party on December 22nd at 6:00pm. Ham will be provided at this potluck. Bring your own table service. Treasurer John Sundstrom advised he will pick up less expensive door prizes this year. The change will spread out the prizes so more members will win. (Instead of just one winner with one expensive prize.)

John announced that this is the last month for tax credit for income from the Grand Haven Community Foundation.

On December 3rd, the Jingle Bell Parade is looking for ham volunteers. If you can help, report to the Grand Haven Public Safety at 5:00 pm. The parade will start at 6 and is always a fun test of our cold weather abilities to operate in emergency conditions. Get caught up in the excitement of the holiday season.

After a break to stretch out, eat more cookies and drink more coffee, it was time for a lecture on power supplies by Jerome Novotny. He had an oscilloscope with a closed circuit camera on a flat screen television receiver set up before the club. He demonstrated various aspects of AC and DC wave forms on the scope. Adding the effect of capacitors in the circuit, He demonstrated the effect of too much voltage. The loud report was enough to impress the most complacent club member. Many thanks to Jerome for his extensive preparation and his efforts in the presentation.

President Zellar called for someone to make a motion for dismissal of the meeting. Someone made a motion and someone seconded it. The meeting was concluded and everyone evacuated the premises.

December 2011 calendar of events and net control schedule

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Every Wednesday:

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

Every Saturday:

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

December 3:

Jingle Bell Parade, downtown Grand Haven
Meet at Grand Haven Public Safety at 5:30 PM for briefing, event starts at 6 PM

December 15:

Crime Scene Preservation training
Ottawa County EOC, Fillmore St. Complex, 7 PM

December 22:

NOARC Christmas Party
Spring Lake District Library, 6:30 PM
Bring table service and a dish to pass – ham and door prizes provided

NOARC net control schedule:

December 6: **John, N8YQD**
December 13: **Paul, W8IQE**
December 20: **Roger, N8RXC**
December 27: **Joe, N8FQ**

NOTICE: as of January 2012, I will no longer be maintaining a net control rotation. I will provide a list of available dates and ask hams in the area to volunteer to take individual assignments. I'm hoping this will encourage some more people to give net control a try!

Keep an eye on the club reflector and w8cso.org for info on this. E-mail me at editor@w8cso.org if you want to get on the list – the whole year is a blank slate!

The Te-Ne-Ke

Designed and patented by Boyd Mason, NE8KE - built by NOARC



*As featured in **QST** (February 2001, p. 107) and **CQ** magazine*

Looking for an affordable, portable CW paddle? You've found it!

The **Te-Ne-Ke** ("teeny key") is an iambic paddle built in West Michigan by members of the North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club. The contacts are made from beryllium copper springs and brass pins, attached to a stainless steel head. The whole thing is then mounted to a heavy, black wrinkle-coated steel base with rubber feet to keep it in place on your desk. The key connects to your rig or keyer with a standard 3.5mm audio plug.

A note on variations

Several variations of the Te-Ne-Ke currently exist. The head used to be made from CNC-machined aluminum channel stock with a plastic jewel on the front. Current production units are made from laser-cut stainless steel, without the jewel. Most of our current stock was made with an integrated 3-foot audio cable, with some having a 3.5mm audio plug or jack built into the key and including a matching audio patch or extension cable to connect to your rig. Most of the new units will have a built-in plug and will include an extension cable.



Boyd, NE8KE

If you have a specific preference, be sure to let us know when ordering - we'll try to accommodate all requests!

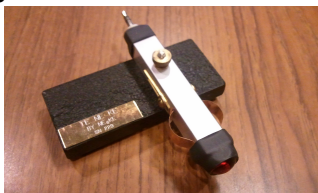
Ordering

To order, send a check for \$50.00 to:

North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 976
Grand Haven, MI 49417

Please allow 3 weeks for delivery. Also, look for us at Dayton and other hamfests around West Michigan!

Gallery



An early Te-Ne-Ke, built by NE8KE himself. This unit has the old aluminum head with a jewel on the front, and has a 3.5mm plug on the back. An audio extension cable is used to connect it to the rig.



Front view of a new Te-Ne-Ke.



Rear view. This unit was made with a 3.5mm jack, and would include an audio patch cable to connect to the rig.

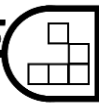
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