



# THE CHERRY JUICE

cherryland amateur radio club

traverse city, mi

February 2009

Club Officers  
President  
Don N8QX

Vice President  
Hope AA8SN

Recording Secy  
Gloria N8KXJ

Corresponding Secy  
Jon N8UL

Treasurer  
Ward N8WK

Directors

Dave K8WPE

Chuck W8SGR

Ann KA6AYJ

Cherry Juice Editor  
Dave N8CN

CLUB NETS

MESH NET  
8 pm Monday  
146.86 MHZ

SMASH NET  
9 am Sunday  
3.935 MHZ



ARRL Affiliated Club  
#1082

## Coming Club Events

### February 24<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting

This month's program will be a discussion of the science of radio propagation by Ward **N8WK**. In addition, there will be a report on the Swap-N-Shop by Joe W8TVT. As usual, there will be coffee and a cookie or two. Once again, we will meet at the Governmental Center at 8<sup>th</sup> and Boardman at 7 pm in the lower level cafeteria.

### Tuesday Project Nights

Where: At the club station in the lower level of the Salvation Army Building located at the NE corner of Barlow and Boone. 7 p.m. Every Tuesday except the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month which is reserved for the regular club meeting.

## Forward Waves

### VE EXAMS:

**Big Rapids, MI.** March 28, 2009. Ferris State University. Cramer Circle, Rm 109 W. Commons BLDG. 3 p.m. Walk-ins OK. Contact: George 231 796-3114

**Gaylord, MI.** April 4, 2009. Top of Michigan ARC, Otsego Public Library, 700 S. Otsego Ave. Gaylord, MI. 9 am. Contact: Chad 989 705-9322 or [Chad@nuwaysupply.com](mailto:Chad@nuwaysupply.com)

### HAMFESTS:

**Saturday, March 14, 2009.** Marshall, MI. 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Crossroads Hamfest. Marshall HS. 701 N. Marshall Ave. 8 am til noon. TI: 146.660 (PL 94.8) Contact: Stephanie W8AEZ 269-966-0770 [daffne25@yahoo.com](mailto:daffne25@yahoo.com)

**Saturday, April 4, 2009.** Lowell, MI. Amateur Radio Group of Youth in Lowell. Lowell H.S. 11700 Vergennes St. TI: 145.27 Contact: Al WW8WW 616 450-4332 [aleckman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:aleckman@sbcglobal.net)

## Reflected Waves

### February 1986

The February Swap was well attended (274) and the VE team administered 42 elements to 27 candidates and a total of 21 elements were passed for a 50% passing rate. Prizes handed out included an Icom 02AT, an Accutron quartz watch, and Isopole antenna and a clock radio. Several hourly door prizes were donated by Paul Miller from JC Penny and Steve McKolay of Traverse City's radio shack. The February meeting was "Transmission Lines, Antenna Tuning & All You Ever Wanted to Know About Mr. Smith".

### February 2001

This years swap was poorly attended due to the "threat" of severe weather—the "threat" never materialized but only 225 brave hams dared ignore the warnings of the local forecasters. The February program at the general meeting was a photographic tour of the local repeater sites with commentary by Chuck **W8SGR**.

## SWAP-N-SHOP 2009 The Novak Report



Paid attendance at the CARC's 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Swap-N-Shop matched exactly last years total of 260! It seems Amateur Radio is still alive and functioning in our area. We had people attending from all over Northern Michigan, the Upper Peninsula and downstate from the Muskegon, Grand Rapids, Lansing and Saginaw areas.

Gerry **N8RST** and her crew were ready and waiting for the first arrivals with fresh coffee and rolls. Before the doors officially opened, many people were already engaged in "eyeball qso's" with their amateur friends in the cafeteria. Later in the morning, Sloppy Joes made by John **KB8GGK**, hot dogs, chips and soft drinks were available. Gerry had a veteran crew helping her including Marilyn **N8UUJ**, Bill **W8PIT**, Steve **KB8RDI**, Lisa **KC8EXD** and daughters Autumn and Alyssa. Making the trip from Grand Rapids to help were Paul **KB8UYM** and Nancy **KB8VEH**.

But wait, I am getting ahead of myself. The activities actually started Friday evening with dinner at the Traverse City Elks Club. Attending were Ed **K8ZZ**, Gail Pfeiffer, Bill **W8PIT**, Marilyn **N8UUJ**, Ward **N8WK**, Carol **K8CAK**, Bill **N0YWO**, Jim **K8OJP**, Don **N8QX**, Warren **W8KAN**, Roger **N8KV**, Alan **K8BLL**, Larry **KB8GT**, Joe **W8TVT** and Janet **N8RRR**. Following the meal, we adjourned to the gymnasium where others joined us for set-up.

The set-up crew included Steve **KB8RDI**, Roger **N8KV**, Bill **W8PIT**, Jim **K8OJP**, Bill **N0YWO**, Ward **N8WK**, Don **N8QX**, Warren **W8KAN** and Joe **W8TVT**. This was an experienced crew with some quick learning new members. This resulted in the 47 tables and 2 chairs per table being positioned within a half hour. During this time, Gerry **N8RST** and Lisa **KC8EXD** and her girls were busy setting up the kitchen for the morning activities.

The next morning Ward **N8WK** was on-site bright and early to set up the ticket table. Throughout the morning he was assisted by Bill **W8PIT**, Gloria **N8KXJ** and Steve **KB8RDI**. Don **N8QX** brought in his PA system and made the necessary announcements throughout the morning.

The grand prize winner was Hope **AA8SN**. She won a Yaesu FT-1802 two meter mobile radio. That evening Hope was the talk of the UP Evening Net! Other club members winning prizes were Chuck **WX8R** who won a repeater

directory and Jim **K8OJP** picking up an ARRL Handbook.

The club repeater table of donated items was run by Jon **N8UL**. John **KB8RV** was there early to help unload some of the donated items. The great sales team included Bill **N0YWO**, Don **N8QX** and Steve **KB8RDI**. (I think Steve was everywhere!!)

The always dependable Elgin **W8RNQ** monitored the repeater and was available with directions to the swap for any in need. Toby **KC8VUS** was there this year helping people find the table they had rented for the swap.

The CARC Swap is always an action packed morning full of conversation and hand-shaking. It is a great time to talk face to face with some of the people we might not have seen since last February. Such friends in attendance were like **W8GVS**, Mick **W8EYC**, Giff **W8FGA**, John **KX8CW**, Don **WD8NRZ** and others.

In many respects, greeting others is what the swap is all about. The holidays are over and many have Cabin Fever. The February Swap is a great time to get out and say hello to our ham friends and get back to our hobby of Amateur Radio. I would also remind you to check in to the Monday Evening Social Hour (MESH Net) and the Sunday Morning Amateur Social Hour Net (SMASH Net). (You could also always check out your radio, to see if it still works!) And don't forget the project/social night at the Salvation Army building. Every Tuesday night there is someone there. (Now how did I get on my soap box?)! Back to the report.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the swap activities and to all that attended. Your involvement is appreciated. In closing, I'd like to recognize those that find the time to stay a little longer to help with the clean-up activities. These are special people. They include the entire kitchen crew and Bill **N0YWO**, Steve **KB8RDI**, Jeff **K9JP**, Bill **W8PIT**, Jon **N8UL**, Don **N8QX**, Eric **KC8CLP** and Pat **KB8PGD**.

Our VE team headed up by Hope **AA8SN** included Tom **KE8KX**, Art **N8HKQ**, Ralph **AB8BN** and Ken **W8QKP**. The test session produced two new Amateur Extra Class licenses, three new General Class licenses and one new Technician Class license. Congratulations to all. It was a great Swap!!

I now turn the editorial page back to the Editor of the Cherry Juice, Dave **N8CN**.

-73 de Joe **W8TVT**

Editors Note: Hopefully we will have a new photo album from this years swap available on-line by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

## 24 THINGS BECOMING EXTINCT IN AMERICA

The following article was send to me by Jack **K8XX** from his winter compound in sunny Florida. What do you think about number 16?

### 24. Yellow Pages

This year will be pivotal for the global Yellow Pages industry. Much like newspapers, print Yellow Pages will continue to bleed dollars to their various digital counterparts, from Internet Yellow Pages (IYPs), to local search engines and combination search/listing services like Reach Local and Yodle Factors like an acceleration of the print 'fade rate' and the looming recession will contribute to the onslaught. One research firm predicts the

falloff in usage of newspapers and print Yellow Pages could even reach 10% this year -- much higher than the 2%-3% fade rate seen in past years.

### 23. Classified Ads

The Internet has made so many things obsolete that newspaper classified ads might sound like just another trivial item on a long list. But this is one of those harbingers of the future that could signal the end of civilization as we know it. The argument is that if newspaper classifieds are replaced by free online listings at sites like Craigs list and Google Base, then newspapers are not far behind them.

### 22. Movie Rental Stores

While Netflix is looking up at the moment, Blockbuster keeps closing store locations by the hundreds. It still has about 6,000 left across the world, but those keep dwindling and the stock is down considerably in 2008, especially since the company gave up a quest of Circuit City . Movie Gallery, which owned the Hollywood Video brand, closed up shop earlier this year. Countless small video chains and mom-and-pop stores have given up the ghost already.

### 21. Dial-up Internet Access

Dial-up connections have fallen from 40% in 2001 to 10% in 2008. The combination of an infrastructure to accommodate affordable high speed Internet connections and the disappearing home phone have all but pounded the final nail in the coffin of dial-up Internet access.

### 20. Phone Landlines

According to a survey from the National Center for Health Statistics, at the end of 2007, nearly one in six homes was cell-only and, of those homes that had landlines, one in eight only received calls on their cells.

### 19. Chesapeake Bay Blue Crabs

Maryland's icon, the blue crab, has been fading away in Chesapeake Bay . Last year Maryland saw the lowest harvest (22 million pounds) since 1945. Just four decades ago the bay produced 96 million pounds. The population is down 70% since 1990, when they first did a formal count. There are only about 120 million crabs in the bay and they think they need 200 million for a sustainable population. Overfishing, pollution, invasive species and global warming get the blame.

### 18. VCRs

For the better part of three decades, the VCR was a best-seller and staple in every American household until being completely decimated by the DVD, and now the Digital Video Recorder (DVR). In fact, the only remnants of the VHS age at your local Wal-Mart or Radio Shack are blank VHS tapes these days. Pre-recorded VHS tapes are largely gone and VHS decks are practically nowhere to be found. They served us so well.

### 17. Ash Trees

In the late 1990s, a pretty, iridescent green species of beetle, now known as the Emerald Ash Borer, hitched a ride to North America with ash wood products imported from eastern Asia . In less than a decade, its larvae have killed millions of trees in the Midwest, and continue to spread. They've killed more than 30 million ash trees in southeastern

Michigan alone, with tens of millions more lost in Ohio and Indiana . More than 7.5 billion ash trees are currently at risk.

### 16. Ham Radio

Amateur radio operators enjoy personal (and often worldwide) wireless communications with each other and are able to support their communities with emergency and disaster communications if necessary, while increasing their personal knowledge of electronics and radio theory. However, proliferation of the Internet and its popularity among youth has caused the decline of amateur radio. In the past five years alone, the number of people holding active ham radio licenses has dropped by 50,000, even though Morse Code is no longer a requirement.

### 15. The Swimming Hole

Thanks to our litigious society, swimming holes are becoming a thing of the past. '20/20' reports that swimming hole owners, like Robert Every in High Falls, N.Y., are shutting them down out of worry that if someone gets hurt they'll sue. And that's exactly what happened in Seattle . The city of Bellingham was sued by Katie Hofstetter who was paralyzed in a fall at a popular swimming hole in Whatcom Falls Park . As injuries occur and lawsuits follow, expect more swimming holes to post 'Keep out!' signs.

### 14. Answering Machines

The increasing disappearance of answering machines is directly tied to No 20 our list -- the decline of landlines. According to USA Today, the number of homes that only use cell phones jumped 159% between 2004 and 2007. It has been particularly bad in New York; since 2000, landline usage has dropped 55%. It's logical that as cell phones rise, many of them replacing traditional landlines, that there will be fewer answering machines.

### 13. Cameras That Use Film

It doesn't require a statistician to prove the rapid disappearance of the film camera in America . Just look to companies like Nikon, the professional's choice for quality camera equipment. In 2006, it announced that it would stop making film cameras, pointing to the shrinking market -- only 3% of its sales in 2005, compared to 75% of sales from digital cameras and equipment.

### 12. Incandescent Bulbs

Before a few years ago, the standard 60-watt (or, yikes, 100-watt) bulb was the mainstay of every U.S. home. With the green movement and all-things-sustainable-energy crowd, the Compact Fluorescent Lightbulb (CFL) is largely replacing the older, Edison-era incandescent bulb. The EPA reports that 2007 sales for Energy Star CFLs nearly doubled from 2006, and these sales accounted for approximately 20 percent of the U.S. light bulb market. And according to USA Today, a new energy bill plans to phase out incandescent bulbs in the next four to 12 years.

### 11. Stand-Alone Bowling Alleys

BowlingBalls.US claims there are still 60 million Americans who bowl at least once a year, but many are not bowling in stand-alone bowling alleys. Today most new bowling alleys are part of facilities for all types of recreation including laser tag, go-karts, bumper cars, video game

arcades, climbing walls and glow miniature golf. Bowling lanes also have been added to many non-traditional venues such as adult communities, hotels and resorts, and gambling casinos.

#### 10. The Milkman

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in 1950, over half of the milk delivered was to the home in quart bottles, by 1963, it was about a third and by 2001, it represented only 0.4% percent. Nowadays most milk is sold through supermarkets in gallon jugs. The steady decline in home-delivered milk is blamed, of course, on the rise of the supermarket, better home refrigeration and longer-lasting milk. Although some milkmen still make the rounds in pockets of the U.S., they are certainly a dying breed.

#### 9. Hand-Written Letters

In 2006, the Radicati Group estimated that, worldwide, 183 billion e-mails were sent each day. Two million each second. By November of 2007, an estimated 3.3 billion Earthlings owned cell phones, and 80% of the world's population had access to cell phone coverage. In 2004, half-a-trillion text messages were sent, and the number has no doubt increased exponentially since then. So where amongst this gorge of gabble is there room for the elegant, polite hand-written letter?

#### 8. Wild Horses

It is estimated that 100 years ago, as many as two million horses were roaming free within the United States. In 2001, National Geographic News estimated that the wild horse population had decreased to about 50,000 head. Currently, the National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory board states that there are 32,000 free roaming horses in ten Western states, with half of them residing in Nevada. The Bureau of Land Management is seeking to reduce the total number of free range horses to 27,000, possibly by selective euthanasia.

#### 7. Personal Checks

According to an American Bankers Assoc. report, a net 23% of consumers plan to decrease their use of checks over the next two years, while a net 14% plan to increase their use of PIN debit. Bill payment remains the last stronghold of paper-based payments -- for the time being. Checks continue to be the most commonly used bill payment method, with 71% of consumers paying at least one recurring bill per month by writing a check. However, on a bill-by-bill basis, checks account for only 49% of consumers' recurring bill payments (down from 72% in 2001 and 60% in 2003).

#### 6. Drive-in Theaters

During the peak in 1958, there were more than 4,000 drive-in theaters in this country, but in 2007 only 405 drive-ins were still operating. Exactly zero new drive-ins have been built since 2005. Only one reopened in 2005 and five reopened in 2006, so there isn't much of a movement toward reviving the closed ones.

#### 5 Mumps & Measles

Despite what's been in the news lately, the measles and mumps actually, truly are disappearing from the United States. In 1964, 212,000 cases of mumps were reported in the U.S. By 1983, this figure had dropped to 3,000, thanks to a vigorous vaccination program. Prior to the introduction of

the measles vaccine, approximately half a million cases of measles were reported in the U.S. annually, resulting in 450 deaths. In 2005, only 66 cases were recorded.

#### 4. Honey Bees

Perhaps nothing on our list of disappearing America is so dire; plummeting so enormously; and so necessary to the survival of our food supply as the honey bee. Very scary. 'Colony Collapse Disorder,' or CCD, has spread throughout the U.S and Europe over the past few years, wiping out 50% to 90% of the colonies of many beekeepers -- and along with it, their livelihood.

#### 3. News Magazines and TV News

While the TV evening newscasts haven't gone anywhere over the last several decades, their audiences have. In 1984, in a story about the diminishing returns of the evening news, the New York Times reported that all three network evening-news programs combined had only 40.9 million viewers. Fast forward to 2008, and what they have today is half that.

#### 2. Analog TV

According to the Consumer Electronics Association, 85% of homes in the U.S. get their television programming through cable or satellite providers. For the remaining 15% -- or 13 million individuals -- who are using rabbit ears or a large outdoor antenna to get their local stations, change is in the air. If you are one of these people you'll need to get a new TV or a converter box in order to get the new stations which will only be broadcast in digital.

#### 1. The Family Farm

Since the 1930s, the number of family farms has been declining rapidly. According to the USDA, 5.3 million farms dotted the nation in 1950, but this number had declined to 2.1 million by the 2003 farm census (data from the 2007 census hasn't yet been published). Ninety-one percent of the U.S. farms are small family farms.

### JERRY CERMAK K8YVU SK

Word has been received that Gerald (Jerry) Cermak **K8YVU** passed away on January 23, 2009 at his home in Sahuarita, AZ. Some of you may remember that Jerry, his wife Jo and family lived in the old farmhouse that was at the corner of East Silver Lake Rd and Barnes Rd, right where there is now a traffic light. On their property was a large two story barn and this is where the CARC first tried out the 146.86 repeater. A temporary antenna was erected on the roof and the equipment was housed in the barn. Eventually, everything was moved to the WPBN-TV site. The house and barn have since been razed and a commercial center is now at this intersection.

Jerry grew up in the Bear Lake area. He worked for and retired from Michigan Bell Telephone. The family lived in Manistee before moving to Traverse City. On his retirement, Jerry and Jo moved to Arizona where they built their retirement home.

While living in Traverse City, Jerry was an active and involved member of the CARC. Jerry is survived by his wife Jo, two daughters and three sons.

—73 de Joe **W8TVT**

## THE NOVAK REPORT CONTINUED

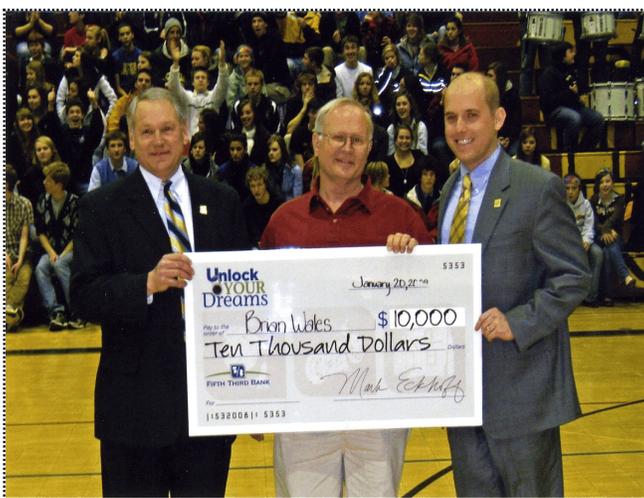
We have all heard of a business having a promotional drawing to promote the company name and image. Someone always wins the drawing but usually we never hear of the winner or if we do we are not acquainted with the person.

Recently, Fifth Third Bank had a drawing for what they called "Unlock Your Dreams Sweepstakes". The winner was not only a resident of Suttons Bay but also a CARC member! Granted, this member has not been too involved recently with club activities however some of you will recognize the name of Brian Wales **KB8EBA**.

At the half-time of a recent Suttons Bay/Traverse City Central basketball game Brian was presented with his winnings which was a check for \$10,000.00!

Brian and his wife Sherrie have lived in Suttons Bay for many years and interestingly enough, are both graduates of TC Central High School. I realize that some of you don't know Brian and perhaps have never heard the call of KB8EBA on the air but he has been a CARC member for 30 years. For many years, Brian provided a motor home to use as an HF station at the CARC Field Day. Perhaps with his winnings he will up-date his rig and be a little more active, on 2 meters at least. If you ever hear him on the air, you could always hit him up for a loan. Congratulations Brian and Sherrie. (By the way, TC Central won the basketball game.)

-73 de Joe Novak **W8TVT**



## ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION AT DAYTON

According to ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, **NQ1R**, the ARRL National Convention will be filled with activities and exhibits. "Our host organization, the Dayton Amateur Radio Association, has three big days planned, chock-full of every bit of Amateur Radio you can think of," Inderbitzen said. ARRL volunteers from across its 15 National Divisions will be present, alongside thousands of out-of-towners who will make Dayton their home-away-from-home during the event.

The centerpiece of ARRL's convention planning is ARRL EXPO -- a huge showcase of ARRL program representatives and activities. Many new exhibits are being planned, with special focus on operating and project-building. A preview of what is planned for ARRL EXPO can be found at the ARRL EXPO Web site.

The ARRL EXPO located in the large exhibit area in the

Ballarena Hall (near the 400-numbered booths), will showcase exhibits and activities to enhance the ham radio experience. Open to both ARRL members and nonmembers, ARRL EXPO is packed with official ARRL program representatives, activities and forums.

Visit the ARRL bookstore for popular publications and products, join the ARRL or renew your membership, and pick up official ARRL merchandise. All who join the ARRL or renew their membership at the Dayton Hamvention will receive a free gift.

Personnel from the ARRL DXCC Branch will be on hand to check DX cards and applications. All cards will be eligible for checking -- including old cards, cards for deleted countries and cards for 160 meters. Applications will be limited to 120 cards (more cards will be checked as time and volunteer Card Checkers are available).

Inderbitzen said that a special event operating station is planned, so be sure to have a copy of your license on hand -- get in the hot seat of W1AW/8 and get on the air! You can also meet W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, part of the team that supports the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station at ARRL Headquarters.

The ARRL Youth Lounge in the ARRL EXPO is the place to meet and socialize with other young hams. Whether you're 1 or 21, the Youth Lounge is sure to offer something that young hams will enjoy. Come to chat with other hams, listen to music, grab a snack or participate in one of the many activities, such as fox-hunts, scavenger hunts, Morse code fun, a QSL card designing contest, crafts, prizes and more. Whether or not you're licensed, you are welcome to come by and join the fun!

If you enjoy waxing-nostalgic over the gear of yesteryear, then drop by the exhibit area to meet vintage equipment photographer Joe Veras, **K9OCO**. He will be autographing of his new book, "50 Years of Amateur Radio Innovation" recently published by ARRL. "There are some other "vintage" surprises planned, as well", Inderbitzen said.

QST Editor Steve Ford, **WB8IMY**, will once again be blogging about Hamvention. Proving you can indeed go home again, Steve will regale readers with the adventures of staying with his mother at his childhood home in Dayton." For the past few years, thousands of readers have been entertained as Steve has related stories about new gear making its debut at Hamvention, the weather in Dayton and the overall feel of the event -- as well as the ever-popular antics at "Casa de Mi Madre."

The ARRL will introduce a new blog at this year's National Convention: ARRL Youth Editor Duncan MacLachlan, KU0DM, will blog from a young ham's perspective. MacLachlan, who will be assisting former Youth Editor Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM, and her father Scott, KF4PWI, in the ARRL Youth Lounge, will explore the Hamvention exhibits, forums and events, giving his first-time take on the Hamvention experience. ARRL staff are getting ready for all the excitement that a National Convention brings. Teaming up with the Dayton Hamvention is sure to bring everything to a fever pitch, so why not make plans to join in on the fun?