



THE CHERRY JUICE

cherryland amateur radio club traverse city, mi

February 2012

Coming Club Events

February 28th Club Meeting

As we go to press, the format and program for this months meeting is not yet determined. We will however have a program and the usual eyeball QSO's, coffee and cookies. Where: The Governmental Center Lower Level Cafeteria located at Boardman and Eighth Street. 7 pm. Coffee and cookies and plenty of time for socializing after the video.

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 4th Tuesday of the month which is reserved for the regular club meeting.

Forward Waves

VE EXAMS:

Lowell Saturday, March 17th, 2012. Southern Michigan ARS. Crossroads Hamfest. 10 am. Marshall Activity Center. Contact: Bob **AC8GL** at 269 968-9816.

Big Rapids Saturday, March 24, 2012. Big Rapids ARC. 4:30 pm. FSU W. Commons Bldg. Room 109. Contact: Jeff at 248 808-4869 or je1952@AOL.com

HAMFESTS:

Saturday, March 17, 2012. Marshall, MI. Southern Michigan ARS. Marshall Activity Center. 1535 W. Michigan Ave. Marshall MI. TI: 146.660 8 am til noon. Contact: Bob AC8GL at 269 968-9816

Saturday, April 7, 2012. Lowell, MI. ARGYL Hamfest and Computer Show. Amateur Radio Group of Youth in Lowell. Lowell HS. 11700 Vergennes St. TI: 146.62 (PL 94.8) Contact: a.eckman@comcast.net

Reflected Waves

February 1992

The annual Swap-n-Shop went off without a hitch and a little over 300 were in attendance. All the tables were full and the commercial vendors reported good sales. Pat Ford organized and operated the food booth and the main prize, a Yaesu FT411E was won by Rod Bartlett, **N8QVR**. Thanks to the hard work of Brook Smith **N8OCX**, our repeater installation now looks better than the commercial unit at the same site.

February 2003

Attendance at this years swap was 290. At the test session there were 4 new Technician class licenses earned and 3 upgraded to General. Working the test session were Beverley **K8ZJU**, Bill **W8PIT**, Art **N8HKQ**, Ralph **AB8BN**, Ken **KC8LTL** and Hope **AA8SN**. On February 14th, country music legend Ronnie Milsap **WB4KCG** performed at the Leelanau Sands Showroom. After the concert, Rick **K8WZS** was able to take his wife Debbie and CARC members Chuck **W8SGR** and Joe **W8TVT** backstage to meet Ronnie and his band members.

- Club Officers
- President
Don N8QX
- Vice President
Hope AA8SN
- Recording Secy
Russ K8RUS
- Corresponding Secy
Dave K8WPE
- Treasurer
Ward N8WK
- Directors
- Dave KJ4KFJ
- Chuck W8SGR
- Mike W8VPC
- Cherry Juice Editor
Dave N8CN
- CLUB NETS
- MESH NET
8 pm Monday
146.86 MHZ
- SMASH NET
9 am Sunday
3.935 MHZ
- TBARG EmComm Net
9 pm Monday
146.86



ARRL Affiliated Club
#1082

SWAP REPORT 2012

The 38th Annual Swap & Shop for the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club is now history. Due to weather conditions we had a slightly smaller crowd this year however a lot of positive things resulted from the event.

Things got off to a slow start as a dozen people met at the Elk's Club for dinner on Friday night. A room was reserved for our group. However in order to be served a member of our party had to be a Elks member. Out of the group assembled, no one was a member of this club. So a lot of conversation took place waiting for a club member to arrive. Eventually Ward **N8WK**, a member in good standing with the Elk's Club, arrived and our orders were accepted. Dinner and drinks were served to **K8WPE**, **KB8TS** and his wife Helena, **N8QX** and Claire, **KD8CQJ**, **N8CN**, **W8TVT**, **N8RRR**, **N8WK**, **W8DW**, **WB8LZA** and **WB8R** who is the ARRL Section Manager for our area. A good dinner was had by all.

We had a great turnout for the setup activities at the school. Those helping out included **K8WPE**, **N8UL**, **N8OUZ**, **W8QPO**, **KC8ZAP**, **KF4KFJ**, **N8QS**, **N8WK**, **W8TVT** and the Weaver Family of Steve **KB8RDI**, Lisa **KC8EXD** and daughters Autumn & Alyssa. Within an hour we had set up 42 tables with two chairs each. We were ready to go home and rest up.

Saturday morning people started to arrive about 6:45 AM. **K8WPE** was the first one to arrive. By the time he got there all the lights had been turned on and the coffee was brewing. The Weaver family arrived with all the food supplies. All of the donuts were eventually sold. This was Lisa **KC8EXD** first year running the food service and she proved herself more than equal to the task. The food and service was excellent! She had Sloppy Joes, hotdogs, chips, cookies and all kinds of pop available. She was assisted throughout the morning by Autumn, Alyssa, Steve and Janet **N8RRR**.



Ward **N8WK** set up his ticket table and proceeded to sell admission tickets and collect money for the table rentals. He also had the new club directories for 2012 on hand and passed them out. Don, **N8QX** brought in his PA system and made announcements throughout the morning.

Dave **N8CN** ran the 50/50 drawing and Joe **KB8WZK** won \$72.50. Dave was also in charge of the club "donation table" and the proceeds were nearly \$400.00. A couple of items that were not sold will likely make the trip to Dayton this year. Helping with the donation table were **K8WPE**, **N8OUZ** and **KB8RIV**. This year the proceeds will be used as "seed money" for the repairs needed for the 86 repeater. Special thanks to **N8KV** for donating a Kenwood 2 meter

all-mode, **K8AGE** for several items and **KX8CW** for donating a rotor, cable and controller. Steve **KB8RDI** brought in lots of cat 5, several 17 inch flat screen monitors, some routers and other useful items.

Ernie **K8RCT** was there promoting Emergency Services Activities for our area and TBAREG. An EMMCOM meeting was held in one of the classrooms with the various NW Michigan Emergency radio emergency services.



As mentioned, attendance was down this year however I think this was mainly due to the weather. We had 30 tables reserved prior to Friday, however, snow storms started moving into the state and our area Friday and Friday night and Saturday morning. The result of that was that Friday night two table reservations were canceled and the next morning six table reservations were "no-shows". This coupled with the four extra tables that we had set out to begin with resulted in 12 unused tables. However, the final count was 23 rented tables. In addition, there were four club tables in use and two donated tables for IRA and ARRL. So there was enough "stuff" to see. Everyone seemed to have a good time and goods were bought and sold not to mention all the

great conversation that took place. As mentioned in previous reports, this is one of the first swaps of the year and people are anxious to get out after the holidays and see their ham friends and talk in person about our hobby of amateur radio.

The VE test session was organized and run smoothly by Club VP Hope AA8SN. She had 25 applicants and administered 28 elements. Of the 28 elements, only 15 were passed producing a pass rate of only 54%—ouch. The passed elements produced 8 new Technicians, 3 Generals and 4 Extra class licenses. Assisting Hope in the administration of the exams were Art **N8KHQ**, Tom **KE8KX**, Ken **W8QKP** and Roger **N8KV**. Hope's advice: *-if you fail the first time, go home and study some more cuz ya just aint ready!*

Winning the \$25.00 ARRL certificates were Dave **K8WPE** and Ken **W8QKP**. The \$50.00 certificate was won by Ron **K8VF**. Deb Hanchett won the G5RV antenna and Alton McConnell won the Yaesu Mobile radio.



Test Session

The clean up crew was just terrific. Zip-Zap and we were done. We were out of there by 12:30! Of course, we did start a little early. Those special people included the entire kitchen crew (mentioned earlier), **K8WPE** (again!), **N8CN**, **KB8PGD**, **KD8MTT**, **KC8RLU**, **K8RCT**, **N8UL**, **W8QPO**, **N8OUZ**, **KC8ZAP**, **K8OJP**, **KF4KFJ**, **N8QX**, **N8WK**, and yours truly.

I hope I have mentioned all that were involved and helped out. If I have omitted anyone, see me and somehow I will make it up to you! It was a great gathering and a significant boost for the club treasury.

-de Joe **W8TVT**



RCT REPORT

Put this one on your calendar.

We're starting a more formal Skywarn network here at TBARG so this training will be valuable. You might just get a call to take a peek out your window and report conditions or even be asked to go to a vantage spot so knowing what to look for is invaluable.

Thanks

-Ernie, K8RCT

SKYWARN Spotter Training Grand Traverse County Civic Center Tuesday March 13, 2012 6:30 p.m.

Each year, the National Weather Service in Gaylord presents Severe Weather Spotter Safety Courses across Northern and Eastern Upper Michigan. The presentations are **FREE**, open to the public and usually last about 1 ½ hours. There is no need to pre-register, just show up for the presentation. After attending the presentation, you will be an official NWS Sky warn Spotter.

Each person that signs up to be a spotter will receive an official spotter guide, a laminated National Weather Service spotter card, and information on several online reporting networks. If you are interested in learning more about storm spotting and severe weather, you are encouraged to attend one of these presentations.

This year's training will include:

- 1. Thunderstorm ingredients**
- 2. Lightning, Flood and Hail Safety**
- 3. Difference between super cell storms and multi-cell storms**
- 4. How do tornadoes form?**
- 5. National Weather Service warning criteria**
- 6. What and when to report**
- 7. Wind scales and how to make a good wind estimate**
- 8. Important cloud formations to look for**
- 9. Online spotter networks**

A complete schedule of upcoming training presentations may be found on the NWS Gaylord website at www.weather.gov/gaylord.

If you have additional questions or would like more information, please call the National Weather Service in Gaylord at (989) 731-3384 or Grand Traverse County Emergency Management at (231) 995-6059.

SPECTRUM SHARING

In November 2011, FCC Commissioners unanimously agreed to allocate spectrum and adopt service and technical rules for the utilization of new implanted medical devices that operate on 413-457 MHz (70 cm). These devices will be used on a secondary basis as part of the Medical Device Radiocommunication (MedRadio) Service in Part 95 of the FCC rules.

In the Federal Register for Friday, January 27, the FCC announced that the effective date for these new rules is Monday, February 27. The new rules expand the existing MedRadio Service rules to permit the use of new wideband medical implant devices that employ neuromuscular microstimulation techniques to restore sensation, mobility, and other functions to paralyzed limbs and organs. These medical devices hold enormous promise to advance the state of medical care, lower health costs, and improve the quality of life for countless Americans. The rules will allow these new types of MedRadio devices to access 24 megahertz of spectrum in the 413-419, 426-432, **438-444**, and 451-457 MHz bands on a secondary basis.

-tnx to *The ARRL Letter*

CANADIAN SCHISM

On February 6, Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) issued a statement on their website that the Ontario Section would be split into four new RAC Administrative Sections, effective September 1, 2012. The reason given for the restructure was "...to create a management model that better communicates with, and represents the interests of, the overall Ontario Amateur population." The Ontario Section will be dissolved and be replaced with four new RAC Sections: Ontario North, Ontario South, Ontario East and the Greater Toronto Area. The new section abbreviations will be announced when final.

This new change will affect ARRL contests and Field Day in the following ways:

For ARRL contests that use ARRL/RAC sections as multipliers -- the ARRL November Sweepstakes and the ARRL 160 Meter Contest -- there will be an overall increase of three available multipliers.

ARRL contests that use US states and Canadian provinces as multipliers -- the ARRL RTTY Roundup, the ARRL International International DX Contest and the ARRL 10 Meter Contest -- are unaffected by this change. ARRL VHF+ contests and the IARU HF Championships are also unaffected by this change.

The first contest to be affected by the RAC administrative change will be the 2012 ARRL November Sweepstakes, which will now require 83 multipliers to achieve a Clean Sweep.

ARRL Field Day does not use multipliers, but Ontario stations will send new Section abbreviations as part of their exchanges.

-tnx to *The ARRL Letter*

DISTRACTED DRIVING LAW WONT AFFECT HAM RADIO

Amateur radio as well as 11 Meter CB and several other services have won a complete exemption from a proposed Illinois state law aimed at curtailing the activities of distracted drivers on that states roads and streets. There were actually two proposed measures before the Illinois state legislature aimed at accomplishing the same thing. As originally written, both House Bill 3972 introduced by Representative John D'Amico and House Bill 3970 by Representative Karen May would have banned the use of all electronic communication devices with a very few limited exceptions. These were the use of two-way radio by law-enforcement and operators of emergency vehicles; cellphones used in a hands-free or voice-activated mode or in parked vehicles. And that was it.

Now, after consultation with representatives of the Illinois ham radio community, Representative D'Amico has amended his proposal to exclude numerous types of two-way radio based communications from his measure. This, while leaving the original intent of the proposed law aimed which is primarily aimed at curtailing texting or using a hand-held cellular telephone while the vehicle is in motion.

Item 7 of the Amended D'Amico measure is the part that's important to the ham radio community. It states that a driver using two-way or citizens band radio services or two-way mobile radio transmitter or receivers for licensees of the Federal Communications Commission in the Amateur Radio Service are exempt from the proposed law. And that's good news for anyone with radio gear in their car driving in or through the state of Illinois.

A LITTLE COMPUTER HUMOR

Technology is dominated by those who manage what they do not understand.

Hardware, n.: The parts of a computer system that can be kicked.

PICNIC: Problem In Chair, Not In Computer

Any technology distinguishable from magic is insufficiently advanced.

A computer lets you make more mistakes faster than any other invention, with the possible exceptions of handguns and Tequila. -- Mitch Ratcliffe

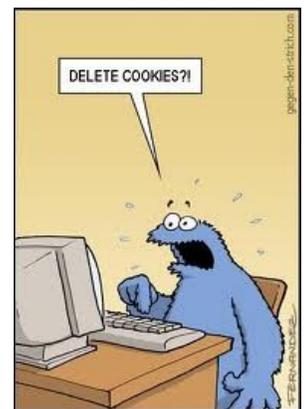
At the source of every error which is blamed on the computer you will find at least two human errors, including the error of blaming it on the computer.

If it aint broke, fix it till it is broken.

Elephant, n.: a mouse with an operating system.

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