



THE CHERRY JUICE

cherryland amateur radio club traverse city, mi

June 2010

Club Officers
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Don N8QX

Vice President
Hope AA8SN

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Corresponding Secy
Dave K8WPE

Treasurer
Ward N8WK

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Ann KA8YJ

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



ARRL Affiliated Club
#1082

Coming Club Events

June 22nd Club Meeting

This month, instead of the regular club meeting, we will meet at Don Parker WD8NRZ's farm to assemble and transport the towers, antennas and other needed Field Day gear to the Field Day site on Fort Road. Meet at the farm at 6:30 or come to the Fort Road site around 7-7:30 pm.

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:

Grand Rapids, MI. Friday, July 9, 2010.
Grand Rapids ARA. Red Cross Building.
1050 Fuller Ave NE. 6:30 pm. Walk-ins
allowed. Contact: Richard at 616 531-6218
or kc8nka@sbcglobal.net

Muskegon, MI. Saturday, August 7, 2010.
Muskegon Area ARC. Red Cross Building.
313 W Webster Ave. 9 am. Walk-ins
allowed. Contact: Robert 231 799-3634 or
res00lwt1@verizon.net

HAMFESTS:

Sunday, August 7, 2010. Escanaba, MI.
Delta County ARS. Bay de Noc
Community College. TI: 147.15 (PL 100) 9
am til ? Contact: John WD8RTH at
wd8rth@dcars.org

Sunday, August 15, 2010. Lapeer, MI.
Lapeer County ARA .Lapeer County
Center Building. TI: 146.620 (PL 100)
8-12 am. Contact: Bill KD8VP at:
kd8vp@arrl.net

Reflected Waves

June 1987

The June program was presented by Sergeant Burk of the Michigan State Police. Sergeant Burk discussed the proper method of marking radio equipment for ID purposes in the event of theft. Field Day will be held at the NMC Rogers Observatory and we will be operating 3A. Tom **NS8K** has installed new firmware in the repeater controller and new connectors have been installed in the hard line.

June 2000

The June meeting was an explanation of APRS by Tom **AA8YI** and Norm **KC8CLM**. The CARC received a nice write-up in the South Lyon ARC News. This was the result of club hospitality to Tom and Terri Peasley when they were vacationing in the area. Various club members talked to them on the repeater, the Mesh net and they were invited to Tuesday project night. Field Day was again held at the Kiessel farm on Fort Road.

SEAN'S FIELD DAY PERSPECTIVE

Communicating with friends and family is such a given thing. Cell phones are seen everywhere, from the bank teller line in Traverse City, Michigan, to the Rialto Theatre in Alva, Oklahoma. From the slums in Mumbai, India, to the Holiday Inn in Shanghai, China, people communicate using “wireless” devices and don't give it another thought. The thinking is that how it all works and what radio waves do is for the techies who care. For the everyday user, there's no need to care and no need to know, as long as they get cell phone coverage service when they're in their basement in Elk Rapids, Michigan. Lose coverage, and all heck breaks loose.

But for those who are curious, the technology for cell phones and for wireless communication is a hobby. The drive to know how these little devices work is for those who are not only curious, but capable of learning, and surprisingly, being capable of learning is well within reach of most of the general public.

However, because it's within reach doesn't necessarily make it too easy to allow just anyone to get involved. You must demonstrate your interest and get a license, through testing overseen by the FCC (Federal Communications Commission). The FCC has protected the technology and overseen the developments for many years. Since 1934, they have regulated not only the technology, but also made certain that anyone who wants to mess with radio communication knows what they're doing. And in order to have two-way radio access as a hobby, or to make your own two-way transmitter, and use it, you must have an FCC license. That license is known as an “Amateur Radio” license.

Yes, you must pass a test, but through the help of other licensed radio operators who are excited to help you, the test is well within reach of the general public. It was designed this way, partly for the reason of spurring innovation. Protecting the interest of those already involved, while allowing reasonable access to the hobby for everyone, is the key.

Here's where the fun begins. Once you have this license, you have a license to change the world. Think I'm exaggerating? Then think again. Morse Code changed the world, regardless as to whether you're one who believes that it's dated technology. AM and FM radio, both enjoyed major contributions from Amateur Radio operators. The cell phone phenomenon also had its origins in ham radio (another term used for Amateur Radio operators), and is now shrinking our world. Many of the top-secret radio communication methods used by the military were developed by ham radio operators (Spread Spectrum Communication was developed by a female ham radio operator) were developed by ham radio operators and have also changed the world.

These innovations, the result of the desire to know more about radio communication, are well within the average person's grasp, and these innovations and contributions can be done by everyday people like you and me. It happens everyday and these people are changing the world as we know it. Behind the scenes, silently running, radio amateurs are perpetually changing the world and creating new technology right down the street where you live.

In Elk Rapids, Michigan, a town of 1,670 people, there are 8 active ham radio operators. Include the outskirts, and there are nearly 30 licensed operators all practicing the art of innovation in radio communication. Not to be confused with CB radio, the radio amateur is tested and licensed, prepared

for disasters (hundreds of hams helped during Katrina and 9/11) and eager to develop new technology.

Communicating around the world with other hams through shortwave is but one of the many aspects of amateur radio and these interactions frequently produce new and/or improved technologies. In reality, the options available to the radio amateur are practically limitless, so as to promote this innovation. It's designed to be that way.

On June 26 and 27, something big is happening in the world of amateur radio. All around the US, radio amateurs are sharing their hobby with the general public. This is one of those rare opportunities to see what these enthusiasts do in their hobby. It's a rare chance to see a real, bona fide and tested radio operator in action. Out in the public, in fields and in open public places, ham radio operators want you to see what they do and they enthusiastically share their knowledge, freely, for all to see.

The event is called Field Day. During this event, the radio operators practice their skills and operate out in the open, making as many contacts as possible, with limited resources, to remind themselves what may be needed in the event of a local or national tragedy, while at the same time, making themselves available to you so that you can learn about the hobby.

Take a moment to see what these silent volunteers have done for not only your community, but for the global community. Go see them, shake their hands and tell them thanks. And if you have an inkling that you may want to learn more, simply ask 'em. They'll talk your ears off.

By Sean Doran - W8OKN

Sean Doran has been a radio amateur since 1977 and holds the highest class license for the hobby, as tested by the FCC.

AN OLDIE BUT A GOODIE



