



THE CHERRY JUICE

cherryland amateur radio club traverse city, mi

April 2009

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Hope AA8SN

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Chuck W8SGR

Dave K8WPE

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

April 28th Club Meeting

This month's program will be a presentation by Tom Garrisi **W8BNL**. Tom will be discussing the requirements for R.A.C.E.S. certification and will have a power point presentation on developing a "Go Kit" for emergency work. Once again, we will meet at the Governmental Center at 8th 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 4th Tuesday of the month which is reserved for the regular club meeting.

Forward Waves

VE EXAMS:

Cadillac, MI. May 2, 2009. Wexaukee ARC 10:30 a.m. at the Cadillac Hamfest. (NO Walk-ins). Contact: Alan 231 829-3433. Cadillac Junior High School.

Traverse City, MI. May 9, 2009. Cherryland ARC. 1 p.m. Salvation Army Bldg. At the NE corner of Boone and Barlow. 1239 Barlow St. Contact: Hope AA8SN@arrl.net.

HAMFESTS:

Saturday, May 2, 2009. Cadillac, MI. Wexaukee ARC. Cadillac Jr. High School. 500 Chestnut St. 8 a.m. til noon. TI: 146.980 Contact: Alton NU8L at 231 862-3774 or nu8l@yahoo.com

Saturday, June 6, 2009. Hudsonville, MI. IRA "Good Old Days" Hamfest. Independent Repeater Assn. TI: 147.160 (PL 94.8) Web site: www.w8hvg.org Contact: Don K8YES at 616 532-7769 or andrewsdon@juno.com

Reflected Waves

April 1986

The April program was a presentation of the ARRL Volunteer Examiner program and it's implementation by the CARC. Currently the exams are being given at Northwestern Michigan College. Doug DeMaw W1FB, honorary CARC member was given the Technical Excellence Award at the Dayton Hamvention this year. Attending the Hamvention this year were 25 current and past members of the CARC.

April 2001

The April meeting consisted of equipment and techniques of "Fox Hunting", better known as Radio Direction Finding (RDF). The club held a raffle for a Radio Shack HT donated by Tom Stoner, son of Beverley and Marion Stoner. At the April Board meeting, Roger N8KV volunteered to chair the Lighthouse Special Event station at the Northport Lighthouse. The event will be August 18 and 19.

EMERGENCY EXERCISE

Plans are coming together for the Emergency Exercise on Saturday, May 2nd. This is being organized and conducted by CERT, Community Emergency Response Team. The county will be participating as well as the Fire Department, the Salvation Army, Munson Hospital and others. CARC member Jim Palmer **K8OJP** is acting as liaison between the club and the sponsoring organizers. Jim currently has around 20 volunteers but is in need of more.

County EOC Dan Scott is waiving the training requirements for this exercise and anyone ham who applies will be given a R.A.C.E.S. card good until December 2010. If you enjoy the RACES participation, there will be ample time for you to gain the necessary training to re-new your card. Just present yourself to the Human Resource Department on the 2nd floor of the County Building at 8th and Boardman and ask for Carol. She will take your picture and a card will be issued within 7-10 days.

The exercise will run from around 11 am until 4 pm. The scenario will involve a lost scout, some injured scouts and a power outage. The scenario will be patterned after the event a few years ago where a tornado hit a scout camp during a camp out.

There will be some training offered on Friday and Saturday for those interested but it is not mandatory. While I realize this is the weekend of the Cadillac Swap, if you get there early you will have plenty of time to attend the swap and get back to Camp Greilick by noon. You might even find an item or two at the swap that would be applicable to emergency operations.

Again, Jim K8OJP is the man to contact regarding the exercise and there will be more info on the Monday MESH net, Tuesday project nights and the April General Club Meeting on April 28th. Setting up a go-kit and the training requirements will be the topic at the general meeting.

BINGO TIME FOR K8ZZ

CARC member Ed Eklin, **K8ZZ** has done it again. I reported some time ago that Ed had worked a station in each of the 3077 counties in our United States. However now he has done it again, a couple of times!

Ed recently qualified for the prestigious County Hunting "Bingo Award". This means that each of the stations that he contacted in the counties had also worked all of the 3077 counties. Mind boggling!

Let's go one step further. For a third time Ed has worked a station in all of the counties, however this time all of the contacts were made on cw. His certificate is No. 100 which means he is the 100th person to accomplish this task. Congratulations Ed!

-de Joe **W8TVT**

Editors Note: Now that's being radio active!! Kudos, Ed. What a fine accomplishment.

MICHIGAN MARAC MINI CONVENTION

Once again, MARAC (Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club) will be holding their mini-convention in Traverse City at the Holiday Inn on West Bay from April 23rd to 25th. If you are interested in mobile set ups and antenna's you might want to drive through the Holiday Inn parking lot on April 24 & 25. It is best to check things out later in the day as earlier many of the mobiles will be out "running" or transmitting from counties in our area.

It is through these mobile operations that many of the county hunters are able to work a station in each of the counties. If you have any questions contact Joe **W8TVT**.

Ed Note: The national MARAC convention will be in Petoskey this summer from July 8-11. For details see the MARC webpage at: www.marac.org/

MICHIGAN QSO PARTY

This coming weekend (April 18th) is the Michigan QSO party. The contest will run from noon local time to midnight. This is a great time to get on the air and hand give out a Michigan county. It's also a chance to "be the DX" when calling CQ. People will actually be looking for **you** this weekend instead of some exotic country.

If you do work the contest (even just a couple of hours) be sure and send in your log and list the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club as your affiliated club. Your score will count both as an individual and for the club competition.

Details of the contest are in last month's Cherry Juice which can be found in the Archives and at the Michigan QSO party web site at: www.miqp.org/

FCC WANTS 20 MHZ OF 70 cm BAND

The FCC has released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking NPRM - ET Docket 09-36) seeking comment on a proposal to allocate 20 MHZ of spectrum in the 413-457 MHZ band for use by wireless medical devices that could be implanted into the human body and used to restore sensation and mobility to paralyzed limbs and organs. The devices would act as a wireless medical micro-power network (MMN) within the patient. Among the conditions that could be treatable using MMNs include polio, ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), cerebral palsy, and spinal cord injuries.

The 400 MHZ band is targeted because it is optimal for RF propagation through body tissue. The devices would require at least 5 MHZ of bandwidth to function and would operate on a low power, secondary non-interference basis. Twenty MHZ of spectrum in four band segments are proposed so that the device would have four options in case one band segment was already in use in a given area.

The NPRM seeks comment on the feasibility of four different band segments: 413-419 MHZ, 426-432 MHZ, 438-444 MHZ and 451-457 MHZ.

Comment is also sought on:

- * Potential for interference between MMNs and incumbent users
- * Service rules (licensed or unlicensed, definitions, permissible communications, eligibility, etc.)
- * Technical rules (power limitations, bandwidth, frequency stability, channelization, antenna locations, etc.)

The text of the News Release is available at:

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/C-289482A1.doc

-tnx to **AA7BQ**

Ed note: I can see it now, I'm in grid-locked traffic and access the repeater with 35 watts and the guy in the car next to me mashes the accelerator when his neuro-muscular stimulator goes off! This can't be good!



GORRELL 50th ANNIVERSARY

Mr and Mrs Gerald Gorrell of Glen Arbor celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on April 4, 2009 with family and friends.

Gerald Gorrell and Janice Coulston were married on April 4, 1959 at the First Presbyterian Church in Dearborn. The newlyweds honeymooned on Glen Lake in Burdickville.

Gerald retired from the Electronics Division of Ford Motor Company as an electrical engineer. Mrs. Gorrell is a homemaker and a former registered nurse. She has become and accomplished visual artist since the couple moved from Dearborn in 1993.

The couple have two daughters, Lynn (Gorrell) Siciliano and Susan (Gorrell) Baker, both of Dearborn. They also have four grandchildren.

—tnx to the Traverse City Record Eagle

Of course, we all know Gerry as **W8WFN**. Congratulations to both of you!!

NATIONAL DEAD PARROT DAY

Broadband over Powerlines (BPL) has been dealt a fatal blow with the Australian Governments announcement of its national broadband network that will mostly be fibre-to-the-home with some wireless technology in remote areas. Until now, the electromagnetic-spectrum polluting and hungry, and under performing technology, BPL, has often been referred to as being a case of "the parrot is not dead yet".

But what happened on Tuesday April 7th was the government's decision to go for fibre-optic, casting aside the existing copper network that currently delivers ADSL, and BPL was treated on its merits and got nowhere. The BPL lobby had at one point in Australia sought to have amateur radio treated as second class users of the radio spectrum, stripping radio amateurs of protection from harmful interference.

BPL trials have come and gone in the Australian states of Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales. Monitoring of trials showed that they produced intolerable interference. One of these trials was by Aurora Energy in Hobart Tasmania that after much hype about it being the solution for broadband delivery, was abandoned in November 2007. Immediately the Australian Government made its announcement of a \$43 billion National Broadband Network this week to reach 90% of homes and businesses. The Tasmanian Government and Aurora Energy were quick to get on board. These former champions of BPL have now

announced they will build a fibre to the customer network to service 200,000 households and businesses, all hospitals and most schools.

The Australian Government's decision to roll out fibre under a joint government and private sector project also mandates fibre as an essential infrastructure for all new "greenfields" property developments. From July 1st next year property developers will be required to install fibre optic cabling to service all new properties, and the cable will be open access for all broadband service providers at a throughput of 100Mb/s. Not only high-speed internet, education, health care and recreation/entertainment for the home, but it will also be a boost for business competitiveness, home-business and work from home options.

While BPL may still have a limited role to provide in-house communications technology via a building's internal wiring, the date April 7th 2009 has been declared as "National dead parrot day" in Australia.

RADIO SPECTRUM INVENTORY

Two US Senators -- Dem. John Kerry of MA and Rep. Olympia Snowe of Maine -- have introduced a bill in the Senate that would mandate an inventory of radio spectrum bands managed by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The inventory would include those frequencies between 300 MHz-3.5 GHz managed by the two agencies.

The proposed legislation, known as the "Radio Spectrum Inventory Act" states that the NTIA and the FCC would be required to inventory the spectrum no later than 180 days after the bill becomes law; after the initial survey, follow-ups would be required every two years.

Both agencies would need to prepare a report listing the licenses or government user assigned in the band, the total spectrum allocation, by band, of each licensee or government user (in percentage terms and in sum) and the number of intentional radiators and end-user intentional radiators that have been deployed in the band with each license or government user. Additionally, if the information is applicable, the report would be required to show the type of intentional radiators operating in the band, the type of unlicensed intentional radiators authorized to operate in the band, contour maps that illustrate signal coverage and strength and the approximate geo-location of base stations or fixed transmitters.

The report would then be sent to the Senate's Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation and to the House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce.

The bill also mandates that both agencies create a centralized portal or Web site that lists each agency's band inventories. This information would then be made available to the public via an Internet-accessible Web site. Both agencies would also be required to make all necessary efforts to maintain and update the inventory information "in near real-time fashion and whenever there is a transfer or auction of licenses or change in allocation or assignment." The bill includes an exemption for licensees or users if they can demonstrate that disclosure would be harmful to national security.

"Our public airwaves belong to the American people, and we need to make certain we are putting them to good use

in the best interests of those citizens," Senator Kerry said. "Last year's 700 MHz auction resulted in \$20 billion for the treasury and will create greater opportunity and choice for consumers and businesses that need broadband service. We also took a great step forward when the FCC established a way for unlicensed devices to operate in white spaces. These two initiatives are evidence of how valuable spectrum is and how it serves as fertile grounds for innovation. We need to make sure we're making as much of it available to innovators and consumers as possible."

"Used by millions of consumers and countless businesses on a daily basis, wireless technology is a proud part of America's innovative history and a key to its economic future," Senator Snowe said. "But as radio spectrum is already a scarce yet valuable resource in many areas, we must ensure that this public good is allocated and used efficiently for the needs of the American people. This legislation is the first step to addressing comprehensive spectrum reform and will work to enhance advanced communications services to keep people on-line and in touch."

ARRL Technical Relations Manager Brennan Price, N4QX, said that the bill is in its infancy and that there is no corresponding legislation in the House of Representatives: "The text of the proposed legislation neither exempts Amateur Radio nor considers the frequency-agile and unfixed nature of most Amateur Radio operations. This bill merits watching and presents amateurs an opportunity to educate their Senators about the nature of our stations and our Service."

—tnx to *The ARRL Letter*

Ed note: Call me paranoid but this looks like more government and a fishing expedition for more revenue. Phrases like "last years auction...resulted in \$20 billion for the treasury", "how valuable spectrum is", and "radio spectrum is already a scarce yet valuable resource" make me fearful that these congressional vampires just might decide that the Amateur spectrum isn't producing enough "revenue" and would be better off allocated commercially. I don't know about you but Senators Snowe's comment that this legislation is the "first step" to addressing "comprehensive spectrum reform" is at a minimum very chilling! As the ARRL representative says, "this bill merits watching". You might consider a donation to the ARRL Spectrum Defense fund

FCC DENIES MI HAM'S APPEAL

In October 2007, Christopher Kaczmarek, **KB8MLC**, of Saginaw, Michigan, petitioned the FCC for a ruling regarding the installation of his Amateur Radio antenna. Kaczmarek told the FCC that he received a notice from the manager of his mobile home community stating the antennas were not allowed and asked for "a ruling from the Commission recognizing [his] right to an Amateur Radio antenna structure."

On April 6, 2009, the FCC denied Kaczmarek's request for a ruling in his favor, based on the fact that PRB-1 protections do not extend to private homeowners' agreements. The Commission agreed with Kaczmarek that Section 97.15 of the Commission's Rules provides that "state and local regulation of antenna structures must not preclude amateur service communications, must reasonably accommodate such communications, and must constitute the minimum practicable regulation to achieve the state or local authority's

legitimate purpose."

In its letter to Kaczmarek, the FCC pointed out that it has not, however, extended this policy to regulations promulgated by private parties. Saying that it has considered this same question twice before, the FCC told Kaczmarek that it "chose not to preempt private land use regulations that restrict the installation of antennas and associated support structures used by Amateur Radio stations. As agreements between private parties are voluntarily established and freely entered into, the Commission is hesitant to interfere with them unless it is shown that private agreements will seriously disrupt the federal regulatory scheme."

—tnx to *The ARRL Letter*

HAMS INCREASING? OR DECREASING?

If you've been paying attention to the last few issues of the Cherry Juice (and I'm sure you all hang on every word), you may have noticed a minor discrepancy between the January issue article about the increasing numbers of hams and the February article intimating that ham radio numbers are decreasing. Did I say minor discrepancy? Actually it's a rather huge discrepancy as the February article says the numbers of active hams has decreased by 50,000 in just the last 5 years!

Sharp eyed ham, CARC member and critical reader Tom W8BNL jumped on the article about hams decreasing with both feet and pointed out the factual errors in the article.

Tom scoured the internet trying to find the original source of the article but he and I came to the same conclusion. The article has been around for some time and appears uncourced in numerous web sites and has been widely circulated through e-mail.

The idea that there has been a decrease of 50,000 licenses in just 5 years is just not correct. Tom's research indicates that the actual decrease from 2003 to 2008 was 20,495 and there was an increase of 7,722 licenses from 2007 to 2008 which is the time frame when code was eliminated. My own research revealed that upgrade applications were up 286% in 2007 and 133% in 2008. Compared to the mid-80's when there were only around 450,000 hams, today we number 663,500! We are hardly becoming extinct!

Tom's final thoughts in his letter to me sum it up best: "Even though the Morse Code element has been eliminated, it still needs to be the existing Amateur's responsibility for the future of our hobby. Each and every one of us is the reason that potential amateurs will either embrace this hobby or shy away from it. "If you keep on doing what you've always done, you'll keep on getting what you've always got." (W.L. Bateman) I would challenge all Amateurs across this great country of ours to do something different this year at least once that will attract positive attention to our hobby. Whether it is becoming more involved with Emergency programs in your area or simply setting up your Field Day operation in a Walmart parking lot instead of your normal spot - bring attention to yourself and this wonderful hobby that we so greatly enjoy. "If it's going to be, IT's up to ME...(Robert Schuller-The Eight Proven Principles of Possibility Thinking).

<SK>