



THE CHERRY JUICE

cherryland amateur radio club traverse city, mi

November 2010

Coming Club Events

November 23rd Club Meeting

This months program will be presented by Ernie **K8RCT**. He will be bringing us all up to date on **TBAREG** activities and the state of our equipment and readiness to serve. This will be a chance to sign up for the Christmas Party as well and get an update on the upcoming February Swap from Joe **W8TVT**. Where: The Governmental Center, lower level cafeteria on Boardman near the intersection with Eighth St. 7 pm on Tuesday, November 23rd. Coffee and cookies following the program.

Christmas Party: Tuesday December 14th, at the Elks

Tuesday Project Nights

Where: At the club station in the lower level of the Salvation Army Building located at the

Club Officers
President
Don N8QX

Vice President
Hope AA8SN

Recording Secy
Gloria N8KXJ

Corresponding Secy
Dave K8WPE

Treasurer
Ward N8WK

Directors

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

Forward Waves

VE EXAMS:

Muskegon, MI. Saturday, December 4, 2010. Muskegon Area AR Council. American Red Cross Bldg. 313 Webster Ave. Muskegon. 9 am. Walk-ins OK. Contact: Robert_231 799-3634 or res00lwt1@frontier.net

Traverse City, MI. Saturday, February 12, 2011. Cherryland ARC. At the Swap-N-Shop. 10 am. Walk-ins OK. Immaculate Conception Schoo. Contact: Hope AA8SN at 231 941-7262 or aa8sn@arrl.net

HAMFESTS:

Sunday, December 5, 2010. L'Anse Creuse, MI. L'Anse Creuse ARC 38th Annual Swap. Harrison Township. L'Anse Creuse HS. 38495 L'Anse Creuse Rd. 8 a.m. til noon. Exams: 9 a.m. TI: 147.080 PL 100. Contact: Gregg N8GEO@arrl.net

Sunday, January 16, 2011. Hazel Park, MI. 45th Hazel Park ARC Hamfest. Hazel Park HS. 23400 Hughes. TI: 146.640 (PL 100). Contact: Walt KD8LWC. Kd8lwc@yahoo.com.

Reflected Waves

November 1987

This months meeting was presented by Harry Leibzeit. Harry talked on a variety of electronic topics ranging from grounding systems to elements in deep space. Also addressing the members at the meeting was Bill Maden **K8TE**. Bill is heading for Memmingen, Germany where he will be Detachment Commander. Bill discussed his past assignment at Clovis, NM and his upcoming duties in Europe.

November 2000

The November meeting consisted of one of the famous CARC auctions. Auctioneer duties were handled by Frank **WD8IIR** who kept the crowd interested and amused with his dry sense of humor. VE exams were held at the TBA building and Hope reported 3 new Technicians and 4 upgrades: 2 to amateur Extra and 1 to General. Rick **K8WZS** reports that the TC portion of the **W8HVG** link system has new tower space and is back on the air with expanded coverage.

SHOW ME THE MONEY!

That's what Ward **N8WK** is saying this month. Membership dues need to be paid before January 31, 2001 to avoid being considered delinquent. Our dues are still only \$1.00 per month (they have been at that level since 1990!) and one heckuva bargain! We have been able to keep dues this low as every year our February swap has been sufficiently profitable to keep the club solvent.

Our current dues structure is as follows: Dues for 1st family member are \$12.00 per year, additional family members are \$2.00 per year. Student memberships (elementary, middle or high school students) are \$5.00 per year.

As we are closing down the autopatch, there is no longer an autopatch fee. A voluntary repeater donation of \$5.00-10.00 per year is suggested and appreciated. Luckily we have not had to fund any tower climbs recently but sooner or later this will happen and we need to have funds for this type of emergency.

You can send your dues to:

Ward Kuhn **N8WK**
PO Box 987
Traverse City, MI 49685

DASHING THROUGH THE SNOW

Well, I for one hope we are not dashing through the snow on the way to the annual Christmas party! A warmish, dry evening would be just fine with me as I have no need of the white stuff to get me in the Christmas spirit. But, the weather will be what the weather will be and we always have a great turnout for the fun and fellowship that every year winds up the CARC year. So whether it's field or fountain, moor or mountain that you must traverse, get out he muk luks and join us at the Traverse City Elks Club on Tuesday, December 14th.

The social hour and cash bar will begin at 6 pm and we will be serving around 7 pm. Spouses, harmonics, friends, in-laws and outlaws are all welcome. Please send in your reservations by Friday, December 10th to Dave **N8CN** or catch him at the November Club meeting on Tuesday, November 23rd.

Send your reservation and a check for \$18.00/person payable to CARC to:

Dave Erlewein **N8CN**
2738 Ra-Wa-Si Ave.
Traverse City, MI 49685

TBAREG STUFF

Ernie **K8RCT** reports several club members have responded with donations to TBAREG to help keep "The Barge" (Ernie's nickname for the EMMCOM Van) on the road. Remember, TBAREG is a 501c organization and any and all deductions are tax deductible. Your help is appreciated.

On Wednesday, October 27th, several TBAREG members met with a group of 25 Cub Scouts and about 15 leaders. Ernie and his crew set up 4 demonstration stations: CW, SSB, Mobile HF and "The Barge", the EMM COMM van.

Both the Cubs and their leaders were impressed and very interested in all the demonstrations. Ed **K8ZZ** had his mobile HF set-up in operation and Tom **W8BNL** handled the SSB station. Russ **K8RUS** and Mike **W8VPC** were in the "Barge"

showing off the van communication capabilities. Thanks to all the participants and the CARC members who participated in QSO's with the demo teams.

TALKIN 160

It's almost winter. For we ham radio ops, winter means higher bands. Yes, higher, not lower. The top band is 160 meters long, and that's longer than 10 meters. And there are few things in ham radio more interesting than 160 meters. Trust me. And, after listening in on a recent 2 meter conversation, I decided to switch gears this time around and actually write about ham radio, directly.

For those not interested in 160 meters, or feel you can't due to the size of your antenna, then I say to you, "You're wrong!".

Yes, it's important to have a longer antenna on 160 meters. That much is true. And there are many techniques that can be employed to reduce the noise sometimes found on the band. But this shouldn't stop you and should not cause you to walk away. We are ham radio ops! We overcome adversity in radio communication. And if it's a lack of interest, then I'm afraid you're missing out on some fun. It's an interesting band.

First, 160 meters is excellent for DX. With a 40 foot vertical, and just 4 short radials, I've worked Europe more than once. My last chat was with a guy in France and I have the card to prove it. Was it as easy as 10 meters during an active sunspot peak? Well, maybe not. But aren't we up to a little bit of effort?

And if it's the noise that discourages you, well, that's why I own a rig with an ATT button. And in this case, ATT doesn't mean American Telephone and Telegraph, although that would be cool on a ham radio. Just hit the telephone and telegraph button. I guess on an Icom, it would be a JTT button, come to think about it.

And for local stuff, 160 is awesome. Hit that JTT button and it's like having a QSO on 2 meters. Little noise, little interference, and a good long chat before bed time. All we need are operators. Fire up, Mix, radiate and chat. The top band is easier than you think, more rewarding than some and doesn't require as much as you believe. I've been on it for several years and I'm having a blast. Meet me on 1810 kHz around 10pm and dial in on the same wavelength. We'll have a meeting of the minds.

-73 de Sean

FREE eBook

Steve **G0KYA** and Alan **G3NYK**, of the Radio Society of Great Britain's (RSGB) Propagation Studies Committee, have released a free ebook called "*Understanding LF and HF Propagation*".

In 2008/2009 Steve and Alan wrote a series of features on LF and HF propagation for the RSGB's "RadCom" magazine. The features consisted of a month-by-month look at each HF band in turn, showing the reader the propagation modes behind each band and explaining some of the technicalities of ionospheric propagation.

Steve says: "I looked at the D, E and F layers, Sporadic E, the MUF/LUF, using solar data, propagation programs, NVIS and much more. Alan then took over and wrote three

detailed features on LF propagation. We are told that the features were well received and as a result I have managed to persuade the RSGB to allow me to put them together into a single document, which is now freely available for amateurs worldwide to download."

To download this book, go to:
<http://www.g0kya.blogspot.com/>

SPECTRUM DEFENSE

The second edition of *Spectrum Defense Matters*-- a newsletter aimed at keeping ARRL members updated on issues related to the protection of Amateur Radio frequencies -- has just been released on the ARRL Web site. This newsletter covers both domestic and international topics related to the Amateur Radio spectrum.

Your financial support is vital to continue the ARRL's work to protect your operating privileges. You can do this by contributing generously to the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund.

"We are facing very real and immediate challenges [to the amateur spectrum]," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "Over the past couple of months, we have addressed FCC spectrum management issues affecting our 430 MHz and 2.3 GHz bands, as well as interference from unlicensed stations operating in the lower part of 10 meters."

But Sumner said that opportunities lurk among the challenges: "A possible new amateur band just below the AM broadcast band is on the agenda of the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference. We face significant hurdles in getting what would be at best a secondary allocation, but we're working hard to persuade the radio services in this part of the spectrum that an amateur allocation is compatible with their future requirements. We recently gained crucial support [for this allocation] in the United States."

Sumner said that it takes what he called "a concerted global effort to protect Amateur Radio's access to the radio spectrum and guard against interference that reduces our ability to communicate." You can take an important step right now to support ARRL's commitment to defending the Amateur Radio Spectrum.

According to ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, the ARRL is almost \$194,000 shy of its Spectrum Defense Fund goal of raising \$325,000 by the December 31 deadline. "Please make a generous contribution to the Spectrum Defense Fund by mail, on the Web or by phone," she said. "Perhaps you'll consider a very easy way to contribute by pledging \$10 or \$20 or \$100 a month. Your financial commitment, over and above your annual dues, will ensure that ARRL has the resources to represent you and protect your operating frequencies."

To make a donation via mail, please send to Spectrum Defense Fund, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. To make a contribution over the phone, or to discuss other giving options, please call 860-594-0397.

—tnx to The ARRL Letter

FOR MAC LOVERS

No, not Mac-n-cheese or Chili-Mac, Apples Macintosh computers. If you use a Mac for hamming, check out:

www.machamradio.com/

GETTING WINDY?

Based on observations of recent auroras, a new cycle of solar wind activity around the earth is finally starting, according to researchers at Boston University's Center for Space Physics. Normally, an increase in solar wind accompanies the start of a new solar cycle, but this time around, this increase lagged as Cycle 24 got off to a slower-than-usual start. This is a good sign for hams, since the increased solar wind activity associated with a rising sunspot cycle is what actually causes improved propagation by interacting with the earth's magnetic field.

MICHIGAN TEMPERATURES

70° - Texans turn on the heat and unpack the thermal underwear. People in Michigan go swimming in the Lakes.

60° - North Carolinians start turning on the heat. People in Michigan plant gardens.

50° - Californians shiver uncontrollably. People in Michigan sunbathe.

40° - Italian and English cars won't start. People in Michigan drive with the windows down.

30° - Distilled water freezes. Lake Superior's water gets thicker.

20° - Floridians don coats, thermal underwear, gloves, and woolly hats. People in Michigan throw on a flannel shirt.

15° - Philadelphia landlords finally turn up the heat. People in Michigan have the last cookout before it gets cold.

0° - People in Miami begin freezing to death. Michiganders lick the flagpole.

-20° - Californians evacuate to Mexico. People in Michigan get out their winter coats.

-40° - Hollywood disintegrates. The Girl Scouts in Michigan are selling cookies door to door.

-60° - Polar bears begin to evacuate the Arctic. Michigan Boy Scouts postpone "Winter Survival" classes until it gets cold enough.

-80° - Mt. St. Helens freezes. People in Michigan rent some videos.

-100° - Santa Claus abandons the North Pole. Michiganders get frustrated because they can't thaw the keg.

-297° - Microbial life no longer survives on dairy products. Cows in Michigan complain about farmers with cold hands.

-459.69° - ALL atomic motion stops (absolute zero in the Kelvin scale). People in Michigan start saying, "Cold 'nuff for ya?"

-500° - Hell freezes over. The Lions win the Super Bowl!

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU AND YOURS!! THE CHERRY JUICE WILL RETURN WITH THE JANUARY ISSUE. DECEMBER IS VACATION FOR THE CJ STAFF!

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