



The Zero Beat

THIS MEETING

January, 2007
 7:30 P.M.
 (socializing begins at 7)
 Hoover Elementary
 23720 Hoover Ave.
 Hazel Park

BEYOND HEATHKIT

Our Guest this month is not just anyone but our own Dan Romanchik KB6NU. Dan is our ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator. He also is the webmaster for the Michigan Section website at <http://www.arrl-mi.org/> and has his own very informative blog at <http://www.kb6nu.com/>. He will bring his own enthusiasm of the hobby and some Heathkit gear "and beyond" to share and talk about. If you have any Heathkit gear you'd like to bring please do bring it as it will only enhance the presentation. Come to the meeting and meet Dan and bring a friend.

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Well, it's January and another year is off to a fine beginning. We have had a very mild winter so far, and if our luck holds out, we will be graced with nice weather for the HPARC Swap and Shop on Sunday, January 21. This event is tremendously important to our club, as it generates most of our revenues for the entire year.

Additionally, folks in the entire Southeast quarter of the state of Michigan look forward to this day as the best Swap in Southeast Michigan. Our club has a well-known and well-deserved reputation for one of the best events in the region, and it is all due to the hard work of our many members who volunteer to make this event a huge success. Speaking of that, have you signed up to help with the Swap, yet? If not, be sure to speak with our Swap Char, Sean Fleming, K8KHZ at the meeting on Wednesday, January 10. We will need help with setup on Saturday afternoon, immediately after the weekly breakfast at Jimi's, as well as tear-down after the Swap ends on Sunday.

Speaking of the meeting, don't forget to come to the HPARC Club meeting on Wednesday, the 10th.

In addition to the final Swap preparations, Second Vice President Carl has told me that we will have a great presentation this week, dealing with the state of kits in Amateur Radio: Beyond Heathkit, presented by KB6NU. Dan will have an informative presentation dealing with the adventure and lure of kit-building and its advantages to those of us who have taken the plunge. We urge you to bring in examples of your own handiwork to share with the rest of the group.

Don't forget that our latest Technician class will begin Thursday, January 25 at the Butcher Community Center in Warren. The class is from 7-9 p.m. every week for ten weeks, and the cost is \$25, ALL OF WHICH goes to the school district. As usual, we do not make a penny from the class. Once again, the instructors will be Don, W8PDI; John, AA8UU and Richard, KC8WPW.

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NETS

**Oakland County Amateur Radio Public
Service Corp (ARPSC)**

Every Thursday @ 8 pm on 146.900
MHz/100pl. Hospital Radio Net on last
Thursday of each month during the net.
(W8OAK-3 will run packet on 145.050 MHz
for those wanting to practice and test their
equipment) <http://www.qsl.net/w8oak>

Sunday Night 2-meter Phone Net

Every Sunday at 9:00 PM local time,
(146.64 (-), catch up on club news and
information, and just to keep in touch. All
amateurs are welcome to check in.

NTS Traffic Nets

the Southeast Michigan National Traffic
System (NTS) net. Normally held every
night at 10:15 PM local time on 145.33.
Net manager is Diane, W18K.

Rocking Chair Net

You don't have to be confined to a rocking
chair to check in! A friendly group meets on
145.630 MHz simplex (FM phone) at 8:00
PM local time, weekdays + some Satur-
days. Net control is usually Bill, N8QVS, or
Bill, KB8NIH, both of whom are located in
Royal Oak.

Wolverine Net

The 75 Meter Wolverine Net meets on
3935 KHz (LSB phone) daily at 7:00 PM
local time with pre-net starting at about
6:30 PM. The nets start a half hour earlier
in winter. You can get details from
Joe, K8JRE joecuchetti@comcast.net or
Ed, W8EDE ed@ellisgen.com.

HPARC medium speed CW net

Every Tuesday night at 8:00 PM on 28.128
MHz. Al, N8WYO, runs the net and will
match your speed. This is a net for folks
who have mastered the 5 wpm, and want
to move up to faster speeds, or if you're a
little rusty.

Al calls CQHP at 8 PM sharp!

QRM CONT.

(Continued from page 1)

Thanks to these fine gentlemen for per-
forming this service.

Net Manager Bill Ketel, N8QVS, re-
minds me that we need new volunteers to
assist with the Sunday Night 2-meter net
on the DART. This is a great way to learn
how nets work, and is a good way to learn
emergency communications skills BEFORE
you need them in an emergency. Talk this
over with Bill at the meeting... I know he
would be glad to hear from you!

It would not be proper to sign off this
month without saying a huge thank you to
all our club members who made last
month's meeting and Christmas party a
huge success.

Thanks especially to Ralph Greenberg,
K8CAR, for arranging for the delicious meal
and the prizes. Also thanks to everybody
who came and made a donation, large or
small, to the Salvation Army. Major Glenn
Caddy told me the next day that HPARC
raised \$1129.00 in that one night to sup-
port the local outreach and assistance pro-
grams which benefit the needy and disad-
vantaged within our part of Oakland
County. I can safely say that we surpassed
our wildest expectations, and I would like
to thank everybody, once again, for your
exceptional generosity. I am proud to be
part of such a great group of people.
I look forward to seeing you at the meeting,
and I hope you will introduce me to the
new friend each one of you invites to come
visit us.

Jeff, N8WR

Ham Band Chart
available now at:

http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/Hambands_color.pdf

W1AW WINTER SCHEDULE

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2000 UTC (4 PM ET)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri	
2000 "	"	CWs	Tue, Thu
2100 " (5 PM ET)	CWb	Daily	
2200 " (6 PM ET)	RTTY	Daily	
2300 " (7 PM ET)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri	
2300 "	"	CWf	Tue, Thu
0000 " (8 PM ET)	CWb	Daily	
0100 " (9 PM ET)	RTTY	Daily	
0145 " (9:45 PM ET)	VOICE	Daily	
0200 " (10 PM ET)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri	
0200 "	"	CWs	Tue, Thu
0300 " (11 PM ET)	CWb	Daily	

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8175 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975
21.0675 28.0675 147.555

RTTY: 3.625 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095
147.555

VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390
28.590 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM

CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM

CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

RTTY = Teleprinter Bulletins = BAUDOT (45.45 baud) and AMTOR-FEC (100 Baud). ASCII (110 Baud) is sent only as time allows.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2230 UTC (6:30 PM ET), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular teleprinter frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Thursdays and 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Fridays.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Teleprinter at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

The W1AW Operating Schedule may also be found on page 87 in the September 2006 issue of QST or on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html>.

CODE IS NOT DEAD

I know that code is no longer required but that does not mean we can't use it anymore. It is a very enjoyable part of the hobby. One nice thing about code is that it can be used on all frequencies even when propagation is the worst. So just because we no longer have to pass a test does not mean that we have to quit learning it. Here are some sites that I found some useful information to learn and improve our morse code skills.

ARRL CW information site

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/learncw/>

online practice site

http://www.aralb.org/Committees/Morse_code/index.htm

great program to download

<http://www.g4fon.net/> and <http://www.rufzxp.net/>

A Beginner's Guide to Making CW Contacts

<http://www.dxzone.com/xmj/ID/12862/>

Evaluate your Morse code ability through the ARRL Code Proficiency program. Copy one of W1AW's qualifying runs and submit one minute of solid copy (legible), along with your \$10 fee for a certificate, to HQ. Your submission will be checked directly against the official W1AW text, and if you pass, you'll get your initial Code Proficiency certificate. From then on, endorsement stickers, for a \$7.50 charge, are issued for speeds up to 40 WPM.

N O C O D E - F A Q

If you have a question not covered in this FAQ, please contact the ARRL Regulatory Information Branch.

Q. The Report and Order in WT Docket 05-235 that eliminates the Morse Code testing requirement for all license classes was adopted by the FCC on December 15, 2006. When will it become effective?

A. Typically, the effective date of a FCC order comes 30 days after its publication in the Federal Register. If that's the case, the new exam requirement and the revised 80-meter segment for automatically controlled digital stations would likely go into effect sometime in February 2007. When the rule changes adopted in the R&O are published in the Federal Register, the effective date will be included in the Federal Register summary. In any event, the new rules will not go into effect anytime before they show up in the Federal Register.

As soon as the R&O is published in the Federal Register the ARRL will verify the effective date and publicize it on the ARRL Web and in QST.

Q. I am a "no-code" Technician. What does WT Docket 05-235 mean to me?

A. Once the changes are in effect, all Technician licensees – whether or not they have passed a Morse code examination – will have "Tech Plus" operating privileges. This means you will have all of your current VHF/UHF and above frequencies and also will have access to the Novice/Technician Plus frequencies on HF. These include:

3525-3600 kHz CW only

7025-7125 kHz CW only

21,025-21,200 kHz CW only

28,000-28,300 kHz CW, RTTY and Data

28,300-28,500 kHz CW, SSB

The power limit is 200 W PEP output for Technician operators.

Technicians can upgrade to General by passing the Element 3 written exam and to Amateur Extra by also passing the Element 4 written exam. No Morse code test will be required.

Q. What about other bands and modes?

A. There are no additional new privileges available to Technician/Tech Plus licensees as a result of WT 05-235. The R&O does not change the operating privileges of Novice, General, Advanced and Amateur Extra class licensees

either.

Q. I have a Certificate for Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) for Element 3 (General written test) and have been waiting for the FCC to drop the Morse code requirement. What will I need to do? Will I automatically receive my General license?

A. It will not happen automatically. You also will need to wait until the new rules are in effect. CSCEs remain valid for 365 days. There's been no change in that rule. If you have a non-expired CSCE for Element 3 credit, you would need to go to take the CSCE to a VE test session, pay the test session fee, if any, and have the examination team prepare and submit the paperwork for your license upgrade.

If the CSCE for Element 3 credit has expired or expires before you attend a test session to process your upgrade, you will have to retake the examination element in order to receive the credit toward your upgrade. The test session fee will apply.

Remember: A CSCE is only valid for 365 days. An expired CSCE for the General license theory will not be usable for an upgrade. If your CSCE expires before the new rules go into effect you will have to re-take the Element 3 General class theory exam in order to upgrade.

Q. I hold a Novice license. Am I grandfathered to Technician now?

A. No. There is no grandfather provision. In order to upgrade to Technician, you will need to pass the Element 2 written examination. The FCC did not change operating privileges for Novice, General, Advanced and Amateur Extra class licensees.

Q. I am a current Advanced licensee. Am I affected by this change?

No, this ruling does not impact your license. While no new Advanced class licenses are being issued, current Advanced class licensees will have the same privileges they already enjoy. The R&O does not change operating privileges for Novice, General, Advanced and Amateur Extra class licensees.

Q. I got my Technician license prior to March 21, 1987. What happens to my license?

A. You actually could have already taken that license and

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ZS1FRD SK

SA engineer dies in Antarctica
23/12/2006 14:06 - (SA) (News 24)

Johannesburg - A South African engineer died in a transport accident in the Antarctic, said the department of environmental affairs and tourism on Saturday.

The department's director for the Antarctica islands, Henry Valentine, said that Dewald Voigt (ZS1FRD), 25, an engineer and scientist, died in a skidoo accident on Friday shortly after arriving at the SA Antarctic station, SANAE.

A skidoo is a motorised toboggan (sled).

"He left Cape Town on December 7 on board the SA Agulhas as part of the 46th overwintering expedition," said Valentine.

He said Voigt had been "extremely excited" to be part of the expedition.

He had a Masters degree in antennae and it was in that capacity he was part of the scientific contingent of the overwintering expedition.

Voigt would have returned to SA in February.

"Since Antarctica is not very accessible the soonest opportunity to return the body of Dewald to South Africa is early in January 2007 with a charter flight," said Valentine.

"The directorate antarctica and islands of the department of environmental affairs and tourism, responsible for logistic operations of the South African National Antarctic Programme, deeply regrets this incident."

He said Minister Marthinus van Schalkwyk expressed his deepest sympathy to Voigt's family.

Valentine said Voigt was the third South African known to have died in the Antarctic.

About 10 years ago a soldier seconded to the Antarctic expedition died in a blizzard during the construction of the new SA base, and in 1979 a South African died in a crevasse. Edited by - ZS6YI on 25/12/2006 22:03:03
[source eham.net]

FAQ CONT.

(Continued from page 4)

proof that you had the Technician license before that date to a volunteer examiner (VE) test session, paid the test session fee and already enjoying General privileges. This latest R&O doesn't change anything in this regard.

This is based on the fact that before that date, the only difference between the Technician and General class licenses was the Morse code speed; the theory exams were identical. Starting March 21, 1987, the Technician and General class license exams no longer were the same, so the "grandfather" rule doesn't apply for Technician licenses issued after March 21, 1987.

Proof that you held the license prior to March 21, 1987, could be a copy of your old Technician license or the page from the amateur Call Book showing your license class as Technician).

Q. Do I still need to pass a Morse code test in order to use CW on the air?

A. No. Any Amateur Radio licensee who wishes may use Morse code on the amateur frequencies they are authorized to use -- except the five USB-only channels at 5 MHz.

Q. The FCC issued an Order on Reconsideration involving automatically controlled digital operations previously allowed on 3620-3635 kHz. What is that Order's effect?

A. The FCC Order on Reconsideration states that when it becomes effective, the automatically controlled digital operation formerly allowed on 3620-3635 kHz will now be allowed on 3585-3600 kHz. The change affects Part 97.221 (b). While it is correcting a problem in the R&O for WT Docket 04-140, this change does not take effect immediately but on the date announced in the Federal Register when the R&O is published -- no sooner. Until that time, you may not have unattended automatically controlled digital stations on either the old or the new 80 meter subband.

[from ARRL website]

GUIDE TO NEW HAM S

Whether you are new to the hobby or looking for a refresher course, check out www.eham.net/newham/ **Guide to Amateur Radio for New Hams**. This site has everything you need to know about the hobby. Sections include: What is Amateur Radio? / What Hams Do / Practice Exams / Call Signs / Amateur Radio Bands / Basic Operating / QSL Cards / Propagation / Operating Modes / IRLP in Depth / Amateur Activities / Glossary of Terms

C Q D X . . .

VU7RG

You would think that I would be able to find one good day and work the VU7LD DXpedition. NO!! Propagation was lousy to say the least. Let's hope it gets better this month during the VU7RG Lakshadweep Islands DXpedition .

The VU7RG DXpedition is scheduled to get under way January 15th. They will work on 30 meters as well as the other bands hoping to overcome the propagation problem. A complete list of frequencies is available on their web-site. <http://www.vu7.in/>

According to their blog our sunrise and sunset is still the best time to hear them. Although I heard them in the mud between 8–Noon daily, you also might try around 7-8 p.m. If propagation picks up, we all might be able to add this rare DX to our list. The QSL manager is N200 <http://www.qsl.net/n200/history/qsl-n200.htm>

DXCC Entity Atlas

While your looking for the rare DX, check out a great resource at <http://www.hamatlas.eu/>. Darek SP6NVK has created an encyclopedia of information for each of the DXCC entities. His goal was to gather information on each entity in one place and he seems to have surpassed anything I could have asked for. He supplies maps, demographics, agricultural and cultural information.

GUD DXing
Marsha N8FE

LOCAL TIME

It's always a great idea to know not just the UTC time but also the current Local time when working DX. **Rich KC8WPW** sent this great link of the current time for major cities around the world.

<http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/full.html>

IRC'S

Don't forget that as of December 31, 2006 the old IRC's have expired. You MUST use the new BLUE IRC's. They have an expiration date of December 2009.

Go to http://www.upu.int/irc/en/2006_version.html to see a sample.

W A S M A P Q U I Z

OK all you WAS awards people. Lets see how good (or not so good you are at remembering where each state goes. There is a game online where you move the little shape for each state to the place on the US map where it goes. (there are no lines)

They give you a state outline at the top of the page... drag and drop it where it goes on the US map... don't worry... you will be instructed if you are right or wrong... Boy did I feel like I back in grade school. ;-)

http://games1.org/games/place_states.swf

Place the States: Drag and drop the states where you think they should be.

Less frustrating but also fun --

http://bensguide.gpo.gov/flash/states_puzzle_lines2.html

If you need a map that shows the state names then go to <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/3-5/state/index.html>

C O N T E S T C O R N E R

Welcome to Contest Corner. January/ February line-up of contests are as follows:

Jan 13-14 NA QSO Party CW

Jan 14 DARC 10-Meter Contest

Jan 20-22 ARRL VHF Sweepstakes

Jan 20-21 NA QSO Party SSB

Jan 27-29 CQ 160-Meter CW

February 3-5 YL-OM Contest (CW)

February 10-11 CQ RTTY Contest

February 10-12 YL-OM Contest (SSB)

February 17-18 ARRL International DX Contest (CW)

Rules for all CQ magazine contests are located on

<http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/>

73, Marsha N8FE

A R O U N D T O W N . . .

20 Jan 2007 ARAY Swap 2007 Genesee County ARES

<http://www.gcares.org>

Talk-In: 147.100 (PL 100)

Contact: Clayton Hewitt, KF8UI

1109 Ossington Avenue

Flint, MI 48507

Phone: 810-233-7889

Fax: 989-871-5594

Email: kf8ui@arrl.net

Location: Bentley Middle School

1180 North Belsay Road, Burton, MI

21 Jan 2007 41st Hazel Park ARC Swap

<http://www.hparc.org>

Talk-In: 146.460 (PL 100 Hz)

Contact: Sean Fleming, K8KHZ

27120 Barrington Street

Madison Heights, MI 48071

Phone: 248-632-3062

Email: k8khz@yahoo.com

Location: Hazel Park High School

23400 Hughes, Hazel Park, MI

17 Mar 2007 Michigan Crossroads Hamfest

Southern Michigan ARS & Marshall High School Industrial Arts Club

<http://www.w8df.com>

Talk-In: 146.660; 146.520 simplex

Contact: Billy Booth, KD8CDS

4 Cinderella Circle

Springfield, MI 49015

Phone: 269-965-1415

Email: sqjumper@aol.com

Location: Marshall High School

701 North Marshall Avenue, Marshall, MI

21 Apr 2007 Swap and Shop Milford ARC

<http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk>

Talk-In: 145.49 (PL 67 Hz) & 146.52 simplex backup

Contact: Rose Moore, KC8NQJ

PO Box 573, Highland, MI 48357-0573

Phone: 810-632-5174

Location: Milford High School

2380 Milford Road, Highland, MI

18-20 May 2007 Dayton Hamvention

Dayton ARA

<http://www.hamvention.org/>

Location: Hara Arena

1001 Shiloh Springs Road

Dayton, OH

P O O L D A T E S

The Technician class (Element 2) Pool released July 1, 2006 is valid until June 30, 2010.

General Class pool (Element 3) released December 2006 will become effective July 1, 2007.

The current General pool is valid only through June 30, 2007.

The Amateur Extra (Element 4) pool will be released December 2007 and will become effective July 1, 2008.

The current Amateur Extra pool is valid only through June 30, 2008.

S C O U T S T A T I O N S

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Scouting and a special award has been created for operating Scout stations. Their mission is:

To help celebrate the centenary of Scouting through the medium of radio. To help publicize the Centenary, and to provide radio amateurs the opportunity of gaining another Award. Although not intended for profit, any surplus made will go to support Radio Scouting in developing countries.

The frequencies and website are listed below:

Band	SSB (phone)	CW (morse)
80 m	3.740 & 3.940	3.590
40 m	7.090	7.030
20 m	14.290	14.070
17 m	18.140	18.080
15 m	21.360	21.140
12 m	24.960	24.910
10 m	28.390	28.190

<http://www.scouting100award.org/detail.htm>

