

The Zero Beat

THIS MEETING

December 12, 2007
7:30 P.M.
(socializing begins at 7)
Hoover Elementary
23720 Hoover Ave.
Hazel Park 48030

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HOLIDAY PARTY

At our meeting on December the 12, 2007 will be our annual membership holiday party. Your food ticket will be given to you upon our receipt of your donation. This year the HPARC will be collecting donations to the Salvation Army. We will accept cash, and check made to the name of the Salvation Army. Please bring your donation with you in an envelope if you have one.

The club has also voted to take donations toward a club projector. We have been borrowing a projector for presentations and we no longer have that option. We will begin taking contributions toward the projector fund at this meeting. See John K8UP with your donation. Please have it in an envelope marked as projector if possible. Join us at the meeting for fun and food. Hope that you have a Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas.

PRESIDENT'S QRM

It's December again, and our thoughts turn to the upcoming season of Christmas, Hanukkah and New Year's Day. As we all celebrate the season, we should all remember to share our blessings with others around us, too. Whether it is our families, our friends or those in our area who need a little hand at this time of year, be sure to keep the spirit of the season in your minds and in your hearts.

Along those lines, be sure to attend our annual Christmas party, which will be on Wednesday, December 12 this year. Festivities will begin at 7:30, with the club providing a nice dinner and prizes.

All that we ask is that you bring a donation of cash or a check made out to the Salvation Army. It doesn't matter what the amount is, as long as each person gives what he feels he can afford to give, that's all that we need to do.

If you would rather give anonymously,

put your donation in an envelope and give it to the board as you enter the party. We will have a representative from the Salvation Army there to accept the donations and to tell us a little about the programs they run to assist those in our community. Remember that all the money we donate will go to help local folks in need.

Be sure to share the joys of the season with all those close to you, and with the occasional stranger, too. Catch them off guard and wish them "Merry Christmas!" Do something nice for someone else.

Go out and volunteer to ring bells for the Salvation Army (I'll be doing that tomorrow in the snow). Find a way to share your good fortune with others this season. And when it's all over, there are plenty of contests to keep you busy during the winter months!

73 and see you in two weeks...

Jeff, N8WR

OFFICERS &
VOLUNTEERS

- **President:** Jeff Albrecht
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- **Public Information:**
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- **Contest Mentors:**
Mike WD8S
wd8s@arrl.net
Gerry K8GT
k8gt@arrl.net
- **Field Day:** John Fleming
K8UP 248-542-9573
john@fleming-photo.com
- **Banquet**

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 147.56 MHz
for those wanting to practice and test their
equipment) 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!

E4 PALESTINE

After almost one year of working hard
with Palestinian authorities a call sign of
E4/OM2DX was issued.

As a country which wasn't activated for
almost 8 years and which is 26th place on
the ARRL Most Wanted List, we didn't hesi-
tate and made immediate steps to active
this call as soon as possible.

After the Slovak hamfest which was
held on the third weekend in November the
team got complete. We decided to go in
group of 4 operators — Mike OM2DX, Steve
OM3JW, Rudy OM3PC, and Miro OM5RW.
All operators are current on QRZ. All four
top CW operators and contesters with
plenty of experiences from the past.

The operation is planned on December
14.-22,2007 and we will be active on all
bands from 160m - 10m CW,SSB and RTTY
with two stations. QSL manager will be
OM3JW.

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Happy Hanukkah

ARISS

Do any of you guys know any area hams
who are involved with the Space station
contacts? Any schools that have Ham
clubs? A co-workers 11 year old maybe
interested — he's exploring going to
Space Camp next year...

Dot.

W8DOT

[\[DayDorothyE@michigan.gov\]](mailto:DayDorothyE@michigan.gov)

MEETING MINUTES

LOTW

Call to order

Jeff N8WR called the meeting to order at 7:30PM EST on Wednesday, November 14th 2007.

Roll call

Roll call of officers was taken. Board and member introductions took place by name and callsign.

Approval of the minutes from last meeting

The minutes from the October meeting were approved as published in the Zero Beat.

Treasurers Report

Treasurer John K8UP gave report was accepted.

Announcements

- K8ABZ - The roster has a trouble in the format it is sent out. Outlook may or may not recognize the file.
- N8QVS – Sunday night net controls wanted.
- KE8UM – Club provides ARRL sweepstakes pins.
- K8KHZ – needs help for the swap, NTS net times, and also can check your Worked all States awards.
- KC8WPS – Next Tech class in April. Other details TBA.
- K8UP – Starting January 8th (2nd Tuesday) Bloomfield Twp. CERT tech class. Cost of the book \$18.00. Field Day looking for new location. Will not be at Hazel Park school location due to cost.
- N8FE – Looking for additional members to add to the Zerobeat all-stars.
- AA8OZ Holiday Chairman – will have pizza and chicken for dinner. Voted that donations will give to Salvation Army.
- N8UZE – next test session is December the 4th
- N8UUS – club jackets order went in again in time for holiday party New members receive \$10 off price of very first jacket order.

Break

Presentation

Jim Weaver K8JE ARRL Great Lakes Division Director gave a presentation on the ARRL and how it is organized and how it works for the membership.

Membership Drawing

Winner – K8UP

Raffle

Prize drawings and End of meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Secretary – Sean K8KHZ

Getting started with LoTW can be easy for some and confusing for others. Here are the “quick and less painful” steps using a PC with XP. If you need help, feel free to contact me on 248-542-9573. Marsha N8FE

1. Create a folder named LoTW. And a subfolder named ADIF. (remember where you put it)
2. Go to <http://www.arrl.org/lotw/> click on “Download Software”
3. Click on Start/All Programs/ TrustedTQL
4. Open TQSLCert
5. Click–File/ New Certificate Request
6. Type your current Callsign in caps (EX: N8FE)
7. Pick DXCC Entity: United States of America
8. QSO beginning date is the date of first log entry or when you was first licensed. Be careful as you might get errors if you enter the wrong date. You can find out the exact date you first were licensed by going to wireless.fcc.gov/uls/
9. QSO ending date – Leave blank
10. Personal information—fill in
11. Email address – make sure this is exactly correct. Do not use a forwarded address.
12. This creates a **Private Key** password. **WRITE IT DOWN AND DO NOT LOSE IT.**
13. Do NOT sign this first certificate.
14. Click Finish and you save the file [callsign].tq5 in the folder you created in step 1.
15. Go to <https://p1k.arrl.org/lotw/upload> and upload the [callsign].tq5 file you just saved.
16. Now you can sit back and relax. Wait for the postcard in the mail.

If you have a Postcard – Follow the instructions and

1. Go to <https://p1k.arrl.org/lotw/password> to enter the password.
2. You will then receive an email with the TQ6 certificate
3. Save it in your LoTW folder
4. Double click the TQ6 file (it should open TrustedQSL and changed the icon in front of your certificate.)
5. **Now SAVE your TQ6 to floppy or CD.** RIGHT click on your certificate name and choose Save. Save it to floppy. This will save it to [callsign].p12 **Do Not LOSE THIS FILE AS IT CANNOT BE REPLACED.**
6. Now you're ready to create log files to upload to LoTW

C Q D X . . .

CONTEST CORNER

Aves Island

August 17 Hurricane wiped out 90% of the island. Some of you were lucky enough to have worked them during the last DXpedition. You can go to www.yv0.info to see before and after pictures.

Iraq now allows Amateur Radio

YI, IRAQ. It was announced that the government of Iraq reopened the amateur radio service on November 20th. Scott, AD7MI, stated that he will be active as YI9MI from November 20th to May 15th (2008) from the U.S. Army Camp in Taji. Activity will be on 80-10 meters, CW, SSB, PSK-31 and RTTY. QSL via AD7MI, by the bureau or direct to: MAJ Scott Hedberg 3 BN, 2 BDE, 9 DIV MiTT, TAJI, IRAQ, APO, AE 09378, USA.

DXCC 'Applications Received' Web Link

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL DXCC Manager, states, "Ever wonder when DXCC received your application? Well, there is a feature on the DXCC Web site that allows you to verify that it has been received, and when! To determine this, visit the [DXCC Web](#) site. Near mid-page there is a link titled "List of DXCC Applications Received"

After clicking this link the call signs and date logged into the DXCC computer will appear here. Call signs are listed alpha-numerically. (note, this is not the date received from the post office, it is the date your application was logged into the DXCC system. This date could be several days after receipt from the post office).

At the top of the page is a date. This date is always the Friday of the current estimated period DXCC is mailing applications. (Note: It may or may not be the exact date). Due to the sheer volume of applications that pass through DXCC, applications before and even after this period may be in progress.

Can the approximate turnaround time be determined by this? While not exact, yes, the turnaround time can be estimated: Using the current date look at the mailing date. The difference between these two dates is the approximate turnaround time. (e.g.: If today's date is September 10, 2007 and the date shown on the web page is June 22, 2007, the estimated turnaround time can be determined to be approximately 2.5 months. Again, this is only an estimate.)" [source Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin #827]

Welcome to Contest Corner. Nov. — Dec. line-up are as follows:

December

- 15 OK DX RTTY Contest
- 15-16 Croatian CW Contest
- 17 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- 26 DARC Christmas Contest
- 29 RAC Winter Contest
- 29-30 Stew Perry Topband Challenge

January

- 1 SARTG New Year Contest RTTY
- SCAG Straight Key Day - SKD CW
- 3 10 meter NRAU Activity Contest (NAC)
- 5-6 ARRL RTTY Roundup Digital
- 5-6 160 m Contest CW
- 6 Kid's Day SSB
- 12 Ø7Ø Club PSKFest PSK-31
- 12-13 MI-QRP Club January CW Contest
- 12 Midwinter Contest CW
- 12-13 North American QSO Party CW

ARRL Sweepstakes CW and/or SSB

Did you work either of the Sweepstakes contests? If you did and claimed HPARC as your club, then let Murray KE8UM know. If you got 100 contacts you get a free pin. If you got all 80 sections, then you have earned a free cup. The prizes are given for each contest so that you can actually earn a pin for CW and another for SSB. The same is true for the cup.

2008 DAYTON CONTEST UNIVERSITY (CTU).

Well-known contester guru Tim Duffy, K3LR, announced the following: "The 2008 Dayton Contest University will be held all day on May 15th, 2008, in Dayton, Ohio, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Dayton. The Contest University Web site will be updated soon. Registration will open in December (about 4 weeks from now). There will be separate tracks (classes) for first year (did not attend in 2007) and second year (attended in 2007) students." Stay tuned to this reflector (Contest Reflector) and to the Contest University Web site for up to the minute details at: <http://contestuniversity.com>.

WHERE WONDERINGS LEAD US

I often take vacations to visit museums. In November, I decided to cross two museums off my list of "places I'd like to visit". They included the [Patton Military Museum](#) in Fort Knox KY and the [Cincinnati Railroad Museum](#), which is neither in Cincinnati, or even Ohio for that matter. It is located in Covington KY, which is across the river from Cincinnati.

Since I'm a hamfest junkie, I always check ARRL's hamfest database to see if I can start and end my trips with weekend hamfests. The Fort Wayne IN hamfest was in the right location as I was returning, so it was added to the agenda. Unfortunately, there weren't any conveniently located hamfest on the weekend I was departing. What to do? Since one can never have enough junk cluttering the ham shack, a solution had to be found! Since I would be passing through Dayton OH, I thought about asking the Hamvention committee to change their event to November, but realized they might not be receptive to helping solve my problem. Just then, the solution popped into my head!

There is a vendor at Hamvention every year with a retail outlet in Dayton that I've wanted to see. Mendelson's Liquidation Outlet is always the largest single vendor, by area, of the entire Hamvention flea market. They always have great deals on various close-out items such as electronic components, hardware, laptop case, computer speakers, various cables, and whatever else they can fit under the biggest tent at Hamvention. I've heard rumors of a huge warehouse in downtown Dayton, so I decided to check it out for myself.

Finding the parking lot was easy. Figuring out which of the 3 massive buildings I should begin with took a coin toss. Luckily, I had a 3-sided coin. The first building was dedicated to retail display and industrial furniture. I walked into the second building, and immediately realized I hit pay dirt! "Electronics - 3rd floor". I found what must be the world's oldest elevator, with a variety of mechanical, hydraulic, and pneumatic controls so complex it required a special operator to run it. The elevator operator was too busy watching a 13" TV to hear me say "3rd floor please". It didn't matter, since only the 1st & 3rd floors of the 8 story building were open to the public.

The loud clunking noise heard throughout the country

at 10:05am on November 13 was my jaw dropping to the floor. As I walked out of the elevator and glanced down the aisle, I could barely see the other end. This building was as long as a football field. I didn't know it until later, but it was also about half as wide. I started walking down the first aisle. The aisles were lined with industrial shelving. Each shelf had multiple boxes. The first area was semi-conductors. Obscure TO-92 FETs. Familiar 2N3904s. There was some organization, probably from earlier years, but most part numbers were out of order. They probably became lazy as they restocked with new acquisitions. If you're going to find one specific item, good luck. If you want to pick up a bunch of stuff to have handy, this is a good place to stock up. I walked up one aisle, and back through the next.

They had sections with resistors, capacitors, integrated circuits, relays, switches, power supplies, connectors, transformers, test equipment, wire, and the biggest collection of vacuum tubes I've ever seen in one location. Around noon, I took a break and walked to the local sandwich shop. Then back to finish walking the floor. The first floor contains a huge section with hardware (screws, nuts, bolts, washers, nails, etc...) At a hurried pace, it took me about 4 hours to walk every aisle on the 3rd floor and most of the 1st floor. Mendelson's provides small plastic bags to keep all your small parts separate. I suggest bringing a marker to write the prices on each bag. If you plan on visiting Mendelson's, review your junk boxes to get some idea on the kind of stuff you'd like to stock up on.

Some areas can be dark, so consider bringing a flashlight. Check them out next time your passing through Dayton. Additional info can be found at their website:

www.meci.com

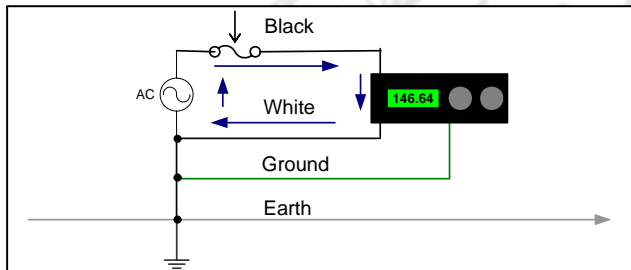
I never did check the 3rd building with Mendelson's name on it. Oh, well, maybe next time...

Steve Gladstein N8FH
HPARC Junkologist

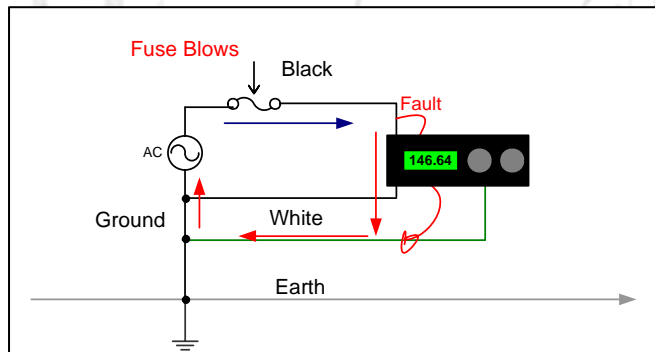
TECH TALK

The Safety Ground and The White Wire

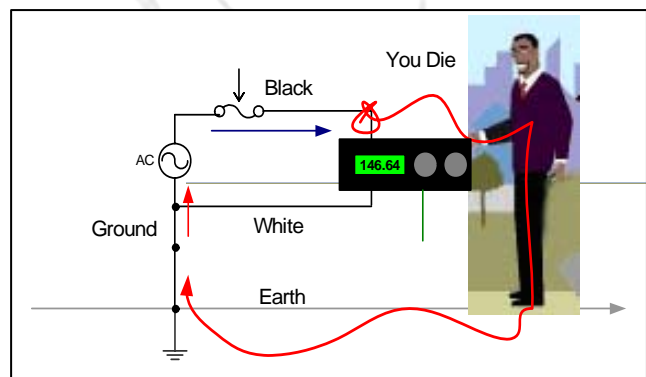
Throughout the years, I have heard many comments about the ground wire and the white wire being synonymous and that both do the same thing. Just looking at the panel, the white wire is connected to the same point as the ground wire. Sounds right!



So let's clear this up with a bit of "back to basics". A complete circuit is one that enables all the current leaving a source, (black wire) to return to the source (white wire).



Note how this circuit can function without the ground wire. The ground wire is not intended to carry any of the current; it's there for safety.



When a fault occurs, the source current will take the ground path and interrupt the over-current protection

MOSU ANYONE?

Motorola USA has announced its intention to launch a tender offer to acquire a controlling interest in Vertex Standard Co, Ltd. Vertex Standard is the parent company of Yaesu. Motorola will own 80 percent of Vertex Standard; Tokogiken, a privately held Japanese company, controlled by current president and CEO of Vertex Standard Jun Hasegawa, will retain 20 percent, forming a joint venture. The total purchase price for 80 percent of the outstanding shares on a fully diluted basis will be approximately US \$108 million.

PJ2 SPLIT

President of EUDXF **Hans, PB2T**, visited ARRL HQ in Newington July 24th. There was discussion about the DXCC status of Netherlands Antilles after December 15th, 2008. It looks like four new entities for Curacao, Sint Maarten, Saba, Sint Eustatius and Bonaire for future DXCC. (DJ5AV: I remember there should be no further Deleted Entities added to the existing ARRL-DXCC list - compare DXCC Rules, Removal Criteria.)

Political Background: The association 'Netherlands Antilles' will finish with 'Kingdom's Day', December 15th, 2008. Until late 2008 status of a new system will be set up. Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius voted for closer connection with the Netherlands, while Curacao and Sint Maarten want an autonomous status like Aruba.

device. Without the ground connected, you become the path of the source current in the event of a fault.

It is important to note that under normal operation that the ground current is zero. However, when taking measurements, expect observe some small quantities due to leakage, filters and common mode coupling. If the neutral (white) were connected at the load to the ground wire, then the current will divide. Some the returning current will take the white wire and the balance will follow the ground wire.

For your safety as well as others.... Do it right.
73, Ken AD8M

AROUND TOWN . . .

16 Nov 2007—1 Jan 2008 **Wayne County LightFest.**

The show is open nightly from 7pm until 10pm, except Christmas day . Visitors Enter at Hines Drive and Merriman, 2 1/2 miles south of I-96 in Westland. A minimum of \$5 per car helps keep LightFest operating. For more info call: 734-261-1990.



Location: Westland, Michigan

21 Nov until Dec 31 **The Big Bright Light Show**

Lighting up the downtown businesses with over a million sparkling holiday lights. Hours from 5-11 p.m. every night until Dec. 31.

Location: Downtown Rochester, Michigan

15 Dec 2007 **5th Annual ARGYL Hamfest**

Amateur Radio Group of Youth in Lowell

<http://www.argyl.org>

Talk-In: 145.270 - (PL 94.8) & 146.620 - (PL 94.8)

Contact: Al Eckman, WW8WW

11515 Boulder Drive East, Apt. 261

Lowell, MI 49331

Phone: 616-897-7659

Email: al.eckman@sbcglobal.net

Harrison Township, MI Lowell High School

11700 Vergennes Street

Lowell, MI

20 Jan 2008 **HPARC SWAP**

www.hparc.org Talk-in: 146.64 (PL 100)

Contact: Sean Fleming, K8KHZ

Phone: 248-850-7941

Email: k8khz@yahoo.com

Location: Hazel Park High School, Hazel Park, MI

LOGGER32

Logger32 is a general purpose logging program. you can mark Q's you want to QSL, and then export those marked Q's to an ADIF file. BV7 by DF3CB program can import that ADIF file and the output would be a print to a standard Avery label format. Of course it's free.

<http://df3cb.com/bv/index.html>

SWAP

Only 1 and 1/2 months before the Swap. So what. You say? Well, the Swap chairman cannot plan it all alone. He needs to know that things are being done. Last minute plans do not get it done. We have a few people who used to take over key positions that have moved. A couple such persons have become silent key this year.

We need you to step up and make the commitment now so the chairman can concentrate on the vendors.

The positions that we need filled are someone to organize workers:

Ticket sales at the doors—who is working the doors at what times

Security—schedule the shifts

Talk in—someone to organize workers and make sure we have the equipment

50/50 raffle—who will work the table and who will walk around selling tickets?

Set up/Tear Down—organize workers

Contact Sean K8KHZ on 248-850-7941 or email

k8khz@yahoo.com

ARPSC CLASSES

Training certification for Oakland County ARPSC members shall include the following FEMA courses:

- IS-22 Guide to Citizen Preparedness #
- IS-100 Introduction to Incident Command System (ISC) %
- IS-200 ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents %
- IS-700 National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction.

% Those persons with old IS-195 certification will be grandfathered to both the IS-100 and IS-200 classes.

The old IS-2 class will count as the newer IS-22.

- December 15 2007, IS-700: "National Incident Management System (NIMS): An Introduction." Students need to pass IS-100 in order to take this course.

Reservations required; to sign up: please register by calling Loretta at 248-858-5300.

HAZEL PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 42nd ANNUAL HAMFEST

Hazel Park High School - 23400 Hughes - Hazel Park, Michigan 48030

January 20, 2008 - 8:00 AM til 12:00 NOON

W8HP - Talk-in 146.640(100hz.pl) D.A.R.T. Repeater

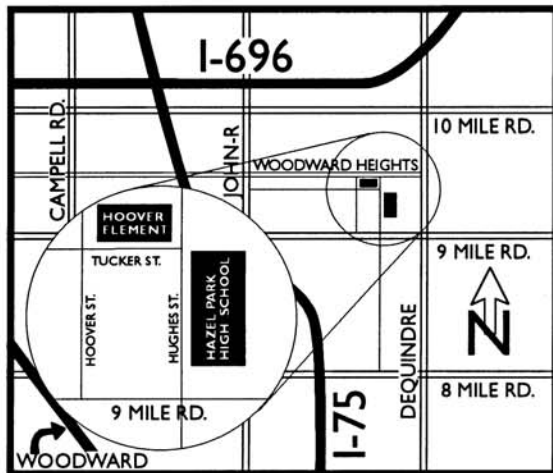
Tables \$14.00 **TICKETS \$5.00** Plenty of Free Parking

Vendor Setup : 6AM **WITH PAID ADMISSION**

FORUMS

DXING

ARES/RACES



23400 Hughes • Hazel Park, MI 48030

PRIZES
1ST
CASH PRIZE \$100.00
2ND
CASH PRIZE \$50.00
3RD
\$50.00 GIFT CERTIFICATE
TOWER ELECTRONICS



APPROVED
HAMFEST

E-MAIL ADDRESS:K8KHZ@ARRL.NET OR N8WR@ARRL.NET

Phone: Sean, K8KHZ 248-850-7941 or Jeff N8WR 248-642-3608 Web Site:WWW.HPARC.ORG

Tickets and Table Reservation Mail-in Coupon

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone() _____ Email _____

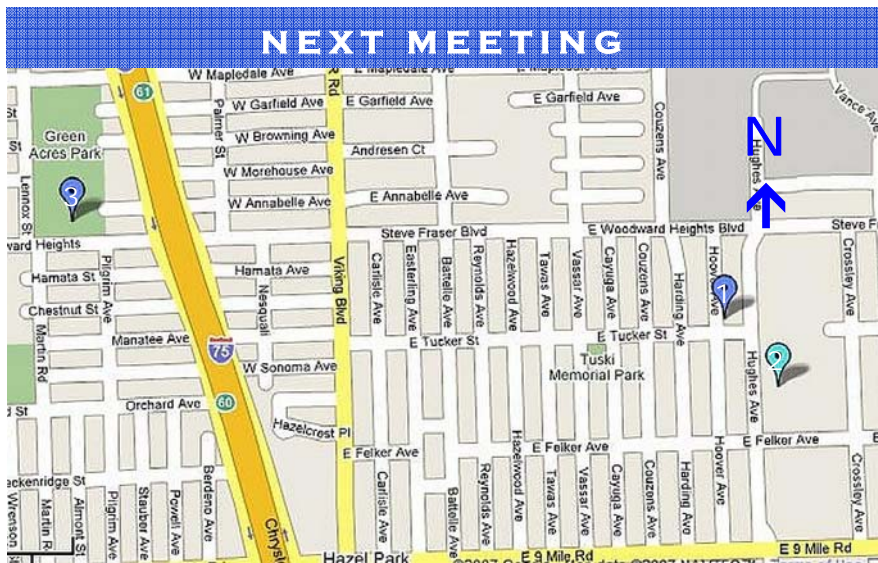
Tickets _____ x \$5.00 _____ Tables _____ x \$14.00 _____ Enclosed \$ _____

MAIL TO: H.P.A.R.C. INC. SWAP, P.O. BOX 368 HAZEL PARK, MI 48030

***TO RESERVE PREVIOUS YEARS LOCATION,
TABLE RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 4, 2008***

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January 9, 2007
TIME
 Socializing @7:00 P.M.
 Meeting @7:30 P.M.
PLACE
 Hoover Elementary
 23720 Hoover Ave.
 Hazel Park 48030



Locations: 1- Meeting 2- Swap 3- Picnic

We're on the Web
www.hparc.org



Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club
 P.O. Box 368
 Hazel Park, MI 48030



Please check mailing label — is your membership about to expire?

FIRST CLASS MAIL — Dated Material