



The Zero Beat

General Meeting

Hoover Elementary 23720 Hoover Ave., Hazel Park, MI 48030

Our next general meeting is Wednesday, March 14, at 7:30 PM (socializing begins at 7) Our speaker will be Russell Dwarshuis, KB8U who will present his experiences with a solo "grid-expedition" to northern California to activate one of the more difficult locations in the contiguous 48 states that count for the popular ARRL VUCC awards.

Come early to the meeting and visit with fellow hams. Everyone is welcome to come to the meeting and bring a friend. Coffee and donuts will be provided during break.

Anyone wishing to join the club please go to the website www.hparc.org Fill out the membership form. Print it and bring it to the meeting with your dues.

President's QRM

Okay it's March already, so go fly a kite! (With antenna wire of course) Ha, it's time to inspect our antennas and maybe think about some new ones. Fiberglass poles are for antennas, forget the fish.

The June banquet TICKETS ARE PRINTED AND FOR SALE NOW. The tickets will only be sold and paid for in advance this year so the club won't be caught holding the bag. We need to sell at least 50 tickets. There will prizes.

If you worked at least 100 contacts during the sweepstakes contest and turned your sheet in to Larry, K8MU you will be recognized and pinned at the Banquet.

Field day is coming and it's time to be thinking about it. John AA8UU agreed to be the Field Day chairman again this year. If you have any ideas let John know.

The club needs you. Elections are coming up soon and we will need good people to run for office. I don't think it is good for any club to have the same people hold the same offices over and over and over. Let's mix things up. Run for an office or nominate several other people. We have other jobs that are not elected but still need to be filled. On the other hand don't accept an office or job if you can't do it. Family comes first, always. A happy family makes a happy Ham. I have been a Ham over fifty years and could not always be as active as I wanted so it took me that long to earn 5BWAS and 5BDXCC, but it is sure nice to have something to do in retirement. (Its true retirees can't figure out how they had time to work) My point is save some for later, you don't have to do it all at once. The club still needs you and whatever you can do now, even if it's just show up for meetings.

[Ed: Larry K8MU 2nd VP and Sean K8KHZ Director have announced that they are NOT running again. Please consider stepping forward for one of these positions.]

We expect to submit next year's budget at the meeting. Our year ends August 31 with the new one starting September 1.

Have you visited the club web site lately? It's a good place to keep up-to-date on the club. Larry, K8MU is doing a fine job and would be happy for your input and suggestions. Have you seen the video? <http://hparc.org/>

Let's hear you on the DART and see you at Saturday morning breakfast.

Enjoy Family & Friends, Enjoy Radio, Enjoy Life

73
Murray, KE8UM

HPARC Officers & Volunteers

HPARC OFFICERS

President: Murray [KE8UM](#)
 First Vice President: Jim [K8ABZ](#)
 Second Vice President: Larry [K8MU](#)
 Treasurer: Bob [KD8AMP](#)
 Director: Sean [K8KHZ](#)
 Secretary: Bill [N8QVS](#)
 Parliamentarian: Ed [N8LBS](#)

*For a Club Roster please e-mail Jim [K8ABZ](#)

VOLUNTEERS

Public Information Officer: Jerry [W9NPI](#)
 Webmaster: Larry [K8MU](#)
 VUCC/WAS Awards Manager: Sean [K8KHZ](#)
 Newsletter Editor: Marsha [N8FE](#)

VE Testing: Jerry [W9NPI](#)
 2-Meter Net Manager: Bill [N8QVS](#)
 Contesting Mentor: Mike [WD8S](#)
 Contesting Mentor: Gerry [K8GT](#)
 Banquet Chairman: Rey [W8REY](#)
 Repeater Chairman: Murray [KE8UM](#)
 Donuts: Rey [W8REY](#)
 Siren Testing Subnet: Marsha [N8FE](#)/
 Ed [N8LBS](#)
 MS Walk: Phil [AA8KR](#)
 Oak Apple Run Royal Oak: Mike [WD8S](#)
 March of Dimes Walk: Jim [K8ABZ](#)
 Education Coordinator: Ron [WD8MNX](#)
 Field Day Chairman: John [AA8UU](#)

Nets

HPARC Sunday Night 2-meter FM 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.

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 jocuchetti@comcast.net or Ed, W8EDE ed@ellisgen.com.

Oakland County 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

NTS Traffic Nets

The Southeast Michigan National Traffic System (NTS) net normally held every night at 10:15 PM local time on 146.76 MHz Repeater. New people are welcome.

SARS Tuesday Night Net

Southfield Emergency Management ARES group holds a weekly net every Tuesday night at 8 pm on 146.640 MHz (the DART repeater). All amateur radio operators are welcome. If you have traffic to pass but cannot make the 10:15 pm SEMTN net, you can check into this net and someone will get it passed to SEMTN.

Hamfest

03/17/2012

Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society **Talk-In:** 146.660 (PL 94.8)

Location: Marshall Activity Center, 15325 West Michigan Avenue, Marshall, MI 49068

Contact: David Ashbolt, K8OLY crossroadshamfest@gmail.com <http://www.w8df.com/hamfest.html>

Welcome new members

Garry Reed WB8OFU, Advance.
John Pawlicki K8AG, Extra and his XYL Linda (no call sign)

Minutes of General Meeting

Wednesday February 8, 2012

Location: Hoover School, Hazel Park, MI

Officers Present: Murray-KE8UM, Robert-KD8AMP, Jim, K8ABZ, Larry- K8MU, Bill- N8QVS, Ed, N8LBS
Absent: Sean-K8KHZ, and the drawing tickets.

Call to order by Murray at 7:30. The clock in the gym was working this time

Visitors: our presenters, Bob and Bob, and Bernie's wife.

Upgrades: A quite young member announced that he upgraded to Extra Class.

The presentation was about F.R.E.T.S, (Fluid and Reason Engine Test Satellite) that is a privately owned satellite launching company, and mostly about their satellite, which includes telemetry end control s working in the 433 MHz area. Their goal is to investigate the operation and performance of an alternative type of Plasma Drive Engine. The presentation covered the project in minute detail. After the presentation we went to our break, at which time they answered more questions for people, and there was quite a group talking with them.

After the break Robert gave a very detailed treasurer's report that covered much of the clubs finances, and once again brought home the fact that the swap is our main source of income. (Numerical details are not provided here based on board policy) The treasurer's report was approved with a unanimous vote, no dissention.

Murray thanked Robert for the detailed report, and the club members for helping make the swap a success.

Since the minutes of the January meeting did not get published in the Zero Beat, they were read to the attendees, and approved unanimously without any corrections.

AC8LF suggested that we have a workshop session some time to build air launchers for putting up antenna wires. There was some discussion about the PVC tube pressure ratings for the materials that would be used.

It was announced that we have three new members. They were accepted with applause.

Banquet tickets are now on sale, and several were sold. It was announced that there would not be any sales at the door this year, based on the no-show losses from last year. Nobody protested

Larry presented a number of activities that could be organized to help get more people on the air and participating in club activities. These included special event operations and a "Gumball" style operation somewhat similar to field day, at un-announced times. There was not much discussion.

An announcement was made about the various raffles, and the radio that will be raffled next month. WE did not have a drawing this month because Sean did not show up with the tickets. We intend to have a drawing next month.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM.

William Ketel, N8QVS, secretary.

Ontario to Split into 4 Sections

On February 6, Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) issued a statement on their web site that the Ontario Section would be split into four new RAC Administrative Sections, effective September 1, 2012. The reason given for the restructure was "...to create a management model that better communicates with, and represents the interests of, the overall Ontario Amateur population."

The Ontario Section will be dissolved and be replaced with four new RAC Sections: Ontario North, Ontario South, Ontario East, and the Greater Toronto Area. The new section abbreviations will be announced when final.

For ARRL contests that use ARRL/RAC sections as multipliers - the November Sweepstakes, and 160 Meter Contest - there will be an overall increase of three available multipliers. ARRL contests that use US states and Canadian provinces as multipliers - the RTTY Roundup, ARRL DX Contest and the ARRL 10 Meter Contest - are unaffected by this change. ARRL VHF+ contests and the IARU HF Championships are also unaffected by this change.

The first contest to be affected by the RAC administrative change will be the 2012 ARRL November Sweepstakes, which will now require 83 multipliers to achieve a Clean Sweep. ARRL Field Day does not use multipliers, but Ontario stations will send new section abbreviations as part of their exchanges. News of the administrative change can be read on the [RAC website](#) and there is more in this [ARRL website report](#). (Thanks, ARRL Contest Branch Manager, Sean KX9X)

Macomb County ARPSC

The Macomb County ARPSC meets every third Thursday at 7 pm. Next meeting will be on March 15. The location is below:

Macomb Intermediate School District Building
44001 Garfield Road (South of Hall Rd on the west side of Garfield)
Clinton Township, MI 48038

The drive way to enter the MISD parking lot is just south of a larger driveway which leads to parking for the Macomb County Community College.

Parking and class room:

Park on the north side of the building. Take the stairs or elevator to the second floor. Walk through the double doors past the library and you will find the Mackinac room the first one on the right.

60 meter change starts March 5

On November 18, the FCC released a *Report and Order*, defining new rules for the 60 meter (5 MHz) band. These rules are in response to a *Petition for Rulemaking* filed by the ARRL more than five years ago and a June 2010 *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*. In the February 3 edition of the *Federal Register*, the FCC announced that these new rules will go into effect on March 5, 2012. Read more [here](#).

Published by ARRL on 02/21/2012

After a wait of more than seven months after being [accepted as a member of the United Nations](#), the [Republic of South Sudan received its prefix block from the International Telecommunication Union \(ITU\): Z8](#). On July 14, 2011 – after South Sudan's admittance to the UN – the new country became a DXCC entity by way of Section II, 1(a) of the [DXCC rules](#). -- Thanks to The Daily DX for the information

Siren Season

Beginning this month and continuing through November HPARC is the main group for the SE Oakland County Outdoor Siren Subnet. Ed [N8LBS](#) and Marsha [N8FE](#) work together to get every siren in our area tested during those months. Ed has the list of current volunteers. If you want to be on the list please let him know.

The week before the test Ed will call people and assign sirens based on those that need to be checked. The day of the Siren test Marsha will be net control. The system of assigning sirens has worked for several years. Other subnets have adopted it and for 2 years now the entire county can claim all sirens were checked at least once.

Thank you all for your flexibility and assistance in making this public service work.
73, Ed and Marsha

The Extra Class Question of the Day

by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

As many of you already know, I have written study guides for the Tech and General Class license exams (www.kb6nu.com/tech-manual). Until now, however, I've shied away from writing an Extra Class study guide. The two main reasons for this is that the material is much more complicated and there's a lot more of it.

This year, however, the NCVEC is updating the Extra Class question pool, and I've decided to bite the bullet and do it. So, I'm now in the process of writing a No-Nonsense Extra Class Study Guide.

After I got started on this, I had a D'oh! moment. It occurred to me that instead of just publishing this material in the study guide, I could also post some of it to my blog (www.kb6nu.com). So, now I have the "Extra Class question of the Day" feature on KB6NU.Com.

In reality, it's usually more than just a single question because many of the questions are on the same topic. That's OK, though, because in reality, I don't post these every day. So, it all works out. Having said all that, here's an example. The correct answer to the question is in **bold**.

Extra Class question of the day: meteor scatter

Amateur radio operators use many different ways to get signals from one spot to another. Perhaps one of the most interesting is meteor scatter propagation.

Meteor scatter propagation is possible because when a meteor strikes the Earth's atmosphere, a cylindrical region of free electrons is formed at **the E layer** of the ionosphere. (E3A08) **28 - 148 MHz** is the frequency range that is well suited for meteor-scatter communications. (E3A09)

Unfortunately, these ionization trails are relatively short-lived, so to communicate via meteor scatter, you need to either be able to detect when these paths are available or be transmitting when the paths are available. **All of these choices are correct** when talking about good techniques for making meteor-scatter contacts (E3A10):

- 15 second timed transmission sequences with stations alternating based on location
- Use of high speed CW or digital modes
- Short transmission with rapidly repeated call signs and signal reports

For more information on meteor scatter, go to:

- G3WZT's Meteor Scatter page (www.gsl.net/g3wzt/g3wzt_ms.html)
- RSGB's Meteor Scatter page (www.rsgb.org/psc/meteor-scatter.php)

For more Extra Class questions of the day, go to www.kb6nu.com.

When he's not trying to figure out how he'll be able to finish writing the No-Nonsense Extra Class License Study Guide, Dan, KB6NU is station manager at WA2HOM (www.wa2hom.org), the ham radio station at the Hands-On Museum in Ann Arbor, MI. If you have a particular question that you'd like him to make a "question of the day," e-mail him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com

For Sale

Two HTs or portable radios are for sale – The **FT 270 - 2 Meter** and its companion **FT 277r - 440Mhz**. Both radios are used during public service and ARPSC activities, so both are needed. They are \$175.00 each including the extra battery and speaker mic. Or you can buy everything for \$300.00 Contact Sean K8KHZ at 248-444-4763.

Contests

March 2012

ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 3 to 2400Z, Mar 4
+ Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 10 to 1900Z, Mar 11
+ Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 11 to 0100Z, Mar 12
+ Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 17 to 1200Z, Mar 18
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 24 to 2400Z, Mar 25

Skywarn Training

Trained Spotters are needed by the National Weather Service to help them spot, verify and report bad weather in SE Michigan. They require that Spotters renew their training every two years. Below is a list of classes in our area so you can fulfill your training:

Day	Date	City and County	Time	Location
Mon	March 5	Southfield, Oakland	6 p.m.	Southfield Library, call 248-796-5992
Wed	March 7	Clinton Township, Macomb	7 p.m.	Macomb Intermediate School District
Sat	March 10	Clinton Township, Macomb	10 a.m.	Macomb Intermediate School District
Thu	March 15	Rochester, Oakland	7 p.m.	Horizon Rochester Fire Station
Mon	March 19	Groveland Township, Oakland	7 p.m.	Groveland Township Fire Station 1
Wed	March 21	Clinton Township, Macomb	7 p.m.	Macomb Intermediate School District
Mon	April 2	Port Huron, St. Clair	7 p.m.	St. Clair County Building
Tue	April 10	Livonia, Wayne	7 p.m.	Livonia Library
Thu	April 12	Dearborn Heights, Wayne	6 p.m.	Caroline Kennedy Library
Sat	April 14	Pontiac, Oakland	10 a.m. 1 p.m.	Oakland County Executive Office Building
Mon	April 30	Farmington Hills, Oakland	7 p.m.	Costick Center
Wed	May 2	Pontiac, Oakland	7 p.m.	Oakland County Executive Office Building
Sat	May 12	Detroit, Wayne	2 p.m.	Main Branch Detroit Public Library

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**Monthly Meetings are
the Second Wednesday**

2012 DATES

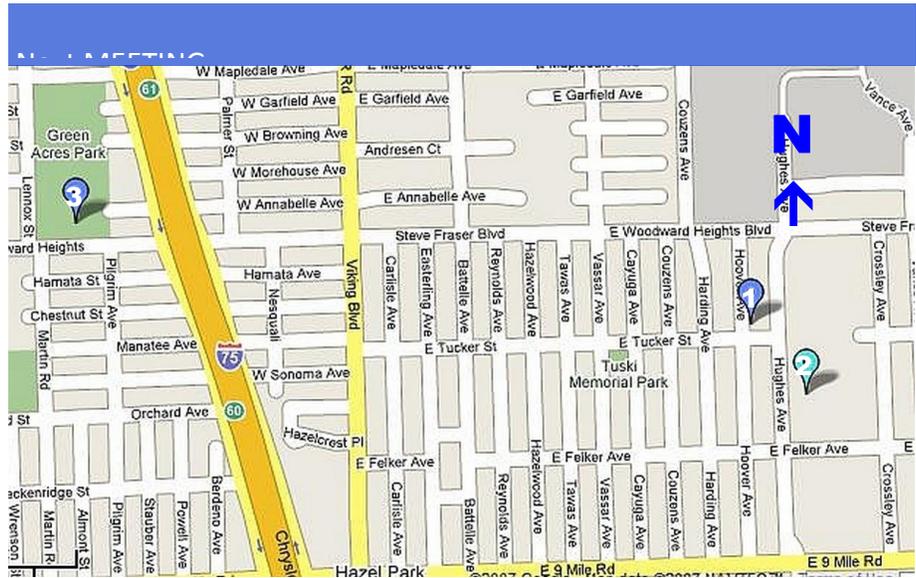
April 11
May 9 Elections
June 13 Banquet

TIME

Socializing @7:00 P.M.
Meeting @7:30 P.M.

PLACE

Hoover Elementary
23720 Hoover Ave.
Hazel Park 48030



1 meeting 2 Swap 3 Picnic

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

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

