



April 2012

The Zero Beat

General Meeting

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

Our next general meeting is **Wednesday, April 11, at 7:30 PM** (socializing begins at 7) Our speaker will be.

Robert Rochte KC8UCH, will speak about his experiences flying high altitude, long-distance balloons carrying amateur radio payloads. These flights were projects for Robert's students at Grosse Pointe Academy, and one of his flights held the record for the longest flight distance as listed by the [Amateur Radio High Altitude Ballooning](#) website at the time of the flight.

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

April is the month we accept nominations for club officers. Look up the duties of the officers in your membership handbooks. It is very important to nominate good quality candidates. We want people that will do a good job and remain to complete their term of office. It is healthy for a club to have a change of officers with fresh new ideas. So this year I will be on the nominating committee so you can't nominate me. I have been fortunate to have good officers. So mix them up, get them in different offices and/or get new people on the board.

Don't miss the April meeting, as nominations will be made from the floor at this meeting. If you can't make the meeting, contact one of the nomination committee members to make a nomination. Remember you must be a paid up member to vote and a member at least a year to accept an office. The election will be held at the May meeting. What can you do for the club?

It's time to think Field Day and it will be at the Hazelwood property again. Can you bring antennas, radios and yourself? Contact John, AA8UU our field day chairman to help him coordinate everything.

Start planning for the Banquet in June, the second Wednesday. Tickets will not be held or sold at the door. We must sell tickets (\$20.) in advance and have a final paid number before the banquet. Tickets will be sold at the meeting and at Saturday morning breakfast. Contact Rey, W8REY or myself. The new officers take over at the June banquet and awards are presented. There will also be prizes.

Wes, AC8JF is trying to organize a spud gun antenna launcher building party. Please get with him so he can plan it or talk to him at the meeting.

Larry, K8MU is organizing a golf challenge to other radio clubs. Get with Larry to join in and defend our club.

The MS walk and the MD are both coming up soon and club members normally support these two walks and are needed. When you are contacted please volunteer. They are a lot of fun and for good causes.

The Oak Apple Run is also coming up shortly. The Hazel Park Amateur Club is one of the sponsors; we have been there from the beginning. Mike, WD8S is our contact person with them and will give a short presentation at the meeting. We need more support from the club this year. Besides you get a free T-shirt or two and they feed us at the pre-race meeting.

It is very important to help at public service events. It gives us good experience to be prepared for emergencies and justifies all the frequencies we have. The commercial business has to buy their frequencies at auctions and they want more (ours). So it is very important that we provide public service.

Have fun use radio.

73

Murray, KE8UM

HPARC OFFICERS & VOLUNTEERS

HPARC OFFICERS

President: Murray [KE8UM](#)
 First Vice President: Jim [K8ABZ](#)
 Second Vice President: Larry [K8MU](#)
 Treasurer: Bob [K8SAMP](#)
 Director: Walt KD8LWC
 Secretary: Bill [N8QVS](#)
 Parliamentarian: Ed [N8LBS](#)

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

VOLUNTEERS

Public Information Officer: Jerry [W9NPI](#)
 Webmaster: Larry [K8MU](#)
 UUCC/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](#)
 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 joecuchetti@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). 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. **All amateur radio operators are welcome.**

MARCH MEETING INUTES

Officers Present: Murray-KE8UM, Robert-KD8AMP, Jim, K8ABZ, Larry- K8MU, Bill- N8QVS, Ed, N8LBS. Absent: Our new director Walt, KD8LWC, an Excused Absence.

Call to order by Murray at 7:30. The clock in the gym is still working

Introductions by call, officers last this time.

After that we went immediately into the presentation, which was about activating grid square CM79 on six meters. The presentation included a large amount of background material on six meter ham activity and signal propagation. The presentation also included quite a bit of video on both six meters and on the actual activation activity. The presentation also noted that the first recipient of the Fred Fish Memorial Award was issued to W5OZI

Immediately after the presentation we went into the break. NOTE: Bernie, W8NBC, has improved the quality of our meetings a bit by having the coffee available before the meeting, in addition to break time. Thanks, Bernie! Good coffee, too!

After the break the minutes of the February meeting were approved as published by 100%. Robert, KD8AMP presented the treasurers report, summary: "we are good". Report approved. Several announcements were made: See Walt, KD8LWC, to order club jackets, we are seeking a new editor for the club paper, "The Zero Beat", and the soon to be held Skywarn classes. Note that you should train in the county where you live. Your county may not accept training done in the other county:

VE sessions for the next class announced, they will all be before our next meeting.

New Business: Robert KD8AMP presented the proposed budget for our 2013 fiscal year. He has provided a great deal more information about the finances than others, in a clear and understandable manner. The present situation indicates that we are budgeted toward a surplus. At the vote, the proposed budget was approved 100% Good Job, Robert! Murray announced that Walt has been selected by the board to take over the office of director after Sean resigned.

Murray also announced that the board is soliciting for members of an election and nominating committee. Then he dropped the bomb that he will not be running for president next year, so that we need to also look for a new president. Now most members need to decide if they would be willing to serve as club president.

Phil, AA8KR reminded us that both the MS walk and the March of Dimes walk are coming up fairly soon, and that we need to have our radios ready to help, and that we should volunteer. Mike, WD8S, did not say anything about the Oak Apple Run, although he should have mentioned that as well.

AC8LF announced about a number of upcoming swaps, and announced that he will be promoting a spud gun project. It was announced that Macomb Community College is again having an open electronics lab session on March 24.

The USECA club is having a "go bag" contest on April 9, to determine "how ready are you?" The bag must include a station with an antenna.

Possible club activities, including bowling were announced. It appears some teams have been formed. N8LBS announced about this seasons siren testing.

There was a drawing for the radio prize, it was won by Ray Bora, W8REY his fourth radio Meeting adjourned at 9:21

Group Build Proposed for May – Spud Gun Antenna Launchers

Raising that new dipole is a lot easier when there's a reliable way to get it up into the treetops. One tool that makes the job fast and easy is a "spud gun," a gadget that uses low-pressure compressed air to shoot a lightweight plastic "spud" high up, dragging a fishing line behind it. From there, an antenna builder can just pull sturdier line back through the tree, then haul up the antenna by its mounting rope. With a little practice and steady aim, it's easy to hit within a foot or two of a spot fifty feet up.

W4SSY's version is very popular, with plans written up in the March 2009 issue of QST. You may have seen one in action on Field Day. It's made from easy-to-find materials like PVC pipe, a sprinkler valve and a fishing reel.

Wes AC8JF wants to bring more spud guns to HPARC. So he is asking for other members to join him in a group build of W4SSY spud guns. This would take place on the first or second weekend of May in some outdoor location. The guns should take only a couple of hours to build. The cost would be about \$50 apiece for everything except a bicycle pump. The guns would use manual valves to keep the cost low.

Anyone interested can contact Wes via e-mail at ac8jf@arrl.net, at the HPARC meeting, or on the DART repeater.

BANQUET TICKETS

The banquet is on June 13th. Ray requests that unless you get your ticket in person that you pre-pay for your banquet tickets by sending a check to his home address listed below. This way he can keep better track and you can pick up your prepaid tickets at the door. **No tickets will be sold at the door.** All purchases of banquet tickets must by June 9th so a count can be made to the cater.

Send checks for \$20 per person made out to **Hazel Park ARC Banquet** and send to:

Rey Bora
27269 Jean Rd.
Warren, Mi. 48093
(586) 909-9820

Shot Live Back in the Day

Tony Hancock / Ham Radio Operator

Part 1 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Bz2110fOyA>

Part 2 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sW3Fe65Bkp8&feature=relmfu>

Part 3 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aq-dczqDBIU&feature=relmfu>

FOR SALE

Kenwood TS-520 5-Band Amateur Radio Transceiver \$200

This transceiver has been tested by HPARC member Steve Gladstein, N8FH, who is both an Electrical Engineer and an Extra Class Amateur Radio licensee.

The radio was connected to a multiband dipole at 30 feet and tested for reception. Reception worked well on all bands. 10MHz WWV reception also works. An internal speaker is included and operational.

The transmitter portion was tested with a Heathkit HM-2140 Power meter and Heathkit HN-31 Antenna (50Ω Load). Power output was 100 watts on the lower band, and dropped to 80 watts on the higher bands. The final amplifier was neutralized before testing. A frequency counter with

antenna was also nearby to verify the output frequency. The output frequency was very stable. No microphone was available for testing.

This Kenwood TS520 Transceiver includes a built-in power supply for operation on 120v house current, and a 12v converter for mobile operation. The SSB filter is in place, but the CW filter is not present. The manual is also included. A microphone is not included. No other accessories are included.

Hallicrafters SX-42 Radio and matching R-42 Speaker \$150

This is a 6 band 15 tube AM receiver covering 540KHz to 100MHz. It can also receive FM from 27-100MHz. It includes a built-in 120v power supply. The inner tuning knob is missing. A peek inside does not show any missing parts. The radio has not been plugged-in due to its age. It's in good physical shape except for the missing knob, but is untested.

This sale also includes the rare and desirable R-42 speaker. This is also in good physical shape, but untested.

Contact Valerie Jennings, (248) 854-3748 , for the above two items.

W5YI SK

Fred Maia W5YI died of cancer Wednesday March 28 at the young age of 76. His life story was written up by ARRL and CQ and many famous hams. His Amateur Radio Legacy will continue on with the W5YI-VEC and the Gordon West W5YI training materials. So many of us are who we are today because of the hams that Fred mentored. So it is with pride that I can say, "Fred, thank you for being a great ham and mentor and leading the way for the rest of us to keep the ham spirit alive. You will be missed but never forgotten. G-d bless you always."

Google Tap – Why Not??

Did you get the email? I think most people did. If not I'm including the information below. But my question is – WHY NOT? I think it would be a great idea. My son James can send and copy at over 30 wpm while driving on the freeway and he dictates into his iPod touch any logging info he needs. If he can do that then why can't ordinary people learn CW to do texting or email? And we all know that CW is faster than texting. They proved it on Johnny Carson. I think we should get all 7000,000 US hams to flood Google with messages that we want Google Tap to become a reality. Marsha N8FE

Google Declares "Morse Code Is Perfect" with New *Gmail Tap* Mail Program



On April 1 (yes, April Fools' Day), Google announced that it has unveiled a new way to use its popular *Gmail* e-mail system. Called *Gmail Tap*, it uses dots and dashes to form letters, a system of communicating that should be very familiar to radio amateurs. "Morse code is perfect," said *Gmail Tap* Engineer Mitch Fedenko. "It's just a dot and a dash. What's simpler than that?" Read more [here](#).

[See video](#)

