

The Zero Beat

THIS MEETING

**February 11, 2015
7:30 P.M.
Hoover Elementary School
23720 Hoover Ave.
Hazel Park, MI 48030**

CONTENTS

Around Town	4
Bunch of QRP	6
Contests/Hamfests	7
DART Repeater	3
DX Notes	8
Field Day	3
Hamfest Pictures	5
K3Y Event	5
Meeting Minutes	9
Michigan PRB-1 Law	2
Nets	4
Officers/Volunteers	2
Paperless Licenses	9
QRM	1
State QSO Parties	7
W1AW/p QSLs	4

GENERAL MEETING

The next meeting of the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club will be held on Wednesday, February 11, at 7:30 PM. The meeting location is Hoover Elementary School, 23720 Hoover Ave, Hazel Park. HF operation, often called weak signal mode is either enhanced, permitted, or blocked by the effects of the ionosphere. Gerry Treas K8GT, an avid HF op, has lots of experience with this aspect of ham radio. He will present some basic principles of HF propagation.

The Field Day Working Group will get together at 6:30 to start planning for Field Day weekend. Everyone who would like to participate in Field Day is welcome, whether old hand or contesting newbie.

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

Anyone wishing to join the club, please go to the website www.hparc.org. Fill out the membership form and bring a printed copy to the meeting. Membership forms can also be filled out onsite before the meeting.

PRESIDENT'S QRM

The swap is over. Although there were times I thought it was a little iffy, Barb came through with flying colors. Weeks prior to the swap there was a concern about not having enough volunteers for cashiers at the doors. When Saturday came for the setup, the tables arrived and volunteers came out of the wood-work, people running with tables on carts, tables flying through the air being set in rows. Setup took much less time than was allotted us. Seems people wait until crunch time to show their true colors. During setup, the swap and teardown, the volunteers are deserving of a great amount of gratitude. You are the many that make the swap successful.

who do not know, is going back to Iowa following the February meeting. Barb is the club Director. This means we are looking for someone to fill in as Director. You can fill the position if you qualify until the May elections or run for the position!

Elections are coming up fast. Needed are at least two volunteer nominators to pole for board / officer candidates. The nominating committee is a volunteer position and two club members are expected to volunteer. If no volunteers by the March meeting, two will be appointed! This is a very important election process. Nominators cannot run for office. The rest of the members should start thinking about what board position you will run for. The elections will determine the

Barbra Hildebrand, KD8SAA, for those

(Continued on page 2)

OFFICERS

- **President:** Jim Poehlman
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- **Secretary:** Bill Ketel
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- **Director:** Barbra Hildebrand KD8SAA
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- **Parliamentarian:**
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248-649-5851
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VOLUNTEERS

- **Technical Coordinator & W8HP Trustee :**
Tony Gallucci N8VR
248-417-9740
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- **W8JXU Trustee:**
Bill Ketel N8QVS
- **Education/VE Testing:**
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- **Contest Mentors:**
Mike WD8S wd8s@arrl.net
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K8KHZ k8khz@yahoo.com
- **Siren Tests:**
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Assist Ed Walton N8LBS
- **Meeting Coffee:** (open)
- **Donuts:** Rey Bora W8REY
- **Sunday Net:** Bill Ketel
N8QVS 248-544-2452
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- **Banquet:** Rey Bora W8REY
rey62@aol.com
- **Field Day Chair:**
John Teagardin, AA8UU
aa8uu@arrl.net
- **HPARC Official Cook:**
Bill Ketel N8QVS
- **Swap:** Swap Chair
Barbra Hildebrand KD8SAA
barbrahildebrand@yahoo.com
- **Holiday Party:** The Board
- **Webmaster:** Larry Koziel
K8MU k8mu@amsat.org
- **Oak Apple Run Royal Oak:**
Mike WD8S
- **MS Walk Chair:**
Phil AA8KR 586-838-4139
- **Walk for Babies Chair:**
Jim K8ABZ
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PRB-1 BILL
FINALLY LAW

After a series of last-minute actions, the Michigan "PRB-1" bill is now Public Act 556 of 2014. The bill, SBO493, passed the Senate on October 18, 2014, two months before the end of the 2015 session. However, the Michigan House did not approve the bill until the next to last day of its "lame duck" session, December 19. After that, "enrolling" the bill was delayed due to the glut of bills rushed through the legislature at the very end. When it landed on Gov. Snyder's desk, Snyder waited until the last possible day, January 15, to sign it. Any further delay would have meant that the bill failed to become law through a "pocket veto."

Throughout this process, the ARRL Michigan Section was active in rounding up support, largely by urging Michigan hams to contact legislative committee members, then finally the Governor's office, to register their support for the bill. HPARC members received several e-mails about writing and calling Lansing.

In the end, the law was somewhat simpler than the original bill. Basically, it mirrors the FCC regulation calling for accommodation of amateur radio antenna structures by zoning boards and local government. The law also calls for establishing an advisory board comprised of hams and those representing associations of local governments, to give advice on tower regulations. So zoning disputes should become fewer, thanks to the new law.

QRM, CONT'D

(Continued from page 1)

heartbeat of the club in 2015-2016.

Rey Bora W8REY was asked if he would fill the banquet chairman position and he graciously accepted. He will be looking for someone to help. This help could easily come from members' wives. There is always room for a woman's touch at the banquet.

The presentation for February is by Gerry Treas, K8GT on propagation. This is always good to know if you work HF.

See everyone at the meeting the 11th of February. Bring a friend!
Jim, K8ABZ

DART REPORT

By John Teagardin AA8UU

It sure has been great to hear all the old time HPARC members checking in from all over the place. We also enjoy the nets. I for one got a kick out of hearing the conditions in Alaska. However:

The DART repeater IRLP node 4520 (VHF) was barred from the Alaska Morning Net due to QRM. To remedy this situation we have to explain to the node owners how we will resolve the issue. Once turned back on, if it happens again, it will be harder to get our node removed from their blacklist.

Please be aware that if you bring up a node for any reason you must monitor the station until you disconnect. If the repeater system generates noise, disconnect immediately. Can you imagine what it would sound like if all the stations connected to the net started bringing in noise?

Noise can be generated many ways. It can be internal noise, it can be someone in a marginal location that isn't listening on the right frequency. It can be band openings bringing in stations as far away as Pennsylvania. It's up to you to disconnect immediately. Just hit 73 on your DTMF pad.

By Tony Galucci N8VR

I'm so glad to hear people using the DART and the IRLP. For a long time people were complaining that there was no using it — so it's nice to hear you and lots of others on the machine. Sharing and playing nicely on the air is the key to keeping the DART the friendliest repeater in town.

What I'd like to ask is that you are using IRLP or Echolink, be aware of the amount of time you keep the connection open. If you can check in and then check out after a certain amount of time, there are a lot of people that would appreciate it. When a net is on, folks don't feel like they can use the repeater, and we have the opposite problem from before — people want to use it but can't!

Another option is to use the 440 repeater. The 440 doesn't get as much usage as the 2M, and you might be able to participate for a longer period of time without disrupting others.

FIELD DAY WORKING GROUP

By John Teagardin AA8UU

The first meeting of the Field Day Working Group will be held before this month's regular club meeting. Several of the station providers have volunteered to attend. I'm looking forward to getting this group activated, and plans laid down for a good Field Day. So let's meet about 6:30 at the Hazel Park Hoover Elementary School. Hopefully we can get something done before the crowd arrives.

For those unfamiliar with field day, here's a write up as provided by the ARRL.

"Nowhere does the Amateur Community embrace our hobby more than ARRL Field Day. What started as a one-time test of portable operation has grown to become the largest single operating event in the United States. Field Day is our annual opportunity to tell our story and invite our friends, neighbors and communities to discover and share in our passion.

"Object: To work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and in doing so to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. A premium is placed on developing skills to meet the challenges of emergency preparedness as well as to acquaint the general public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio. Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within IARU Region 2. DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries."

DART CONT'D

A third option might be to use Echolink on your computer -- John AA8UU or myself could help you set that up if you are interested.

Any way you look at it, I'm glad the repeater is being used and I want to encourage everyone to keep using it — just be aware and share so that others can use the repeater as well.

H P A R C N E T S

HPARC Official Sunday Night 2-meter Phone Net

Every Sunday at 9:00 PM local time on the DART repeater, 146.64 (PL 100), catch up on club news and information, and just to keep in touch. All amateurs are welcome to check in.

Thursday Night Youth Net, 8 PM EST on the DART repeater, via Echolink *759629 (W5DDL-R).

Yacht Net, Saturday night, 8 PM EST. A youth net on the DART repeater, via Echolink *481872 (W8PIF-R).

Homepage: <http://yachthams.webstarts.com>

N8WYO CW net (Medium speed)

Named in memory of Al N8WYO. The net meets Tuesday night at 8:00 PM on **28.028 MHz** All amateurs are welcome. CW speed fluctuates between 20-25 WPM, but Joe will slow it down if necessary. Listen in at 8 PM sharp!

Wolverine Net

The 75 Meter Wolverine Net meets on 3935 KHz daily at 7:00 PM local time, with pre-net starting at 6:00 PM. You can get details from <http://www.wssbn.com/>

Oakland County ARPSC

Every Thursday @ 8 pm on 146.90 (PL 100). Hospital Radio Net on the last Thursday of each month @7:30. (W8OAK-3 will run packet on 147.56 MHz for those wanting to practice and test their equipment) <http://www.arpac.com/>

NTS Traffic Nets

The Southeast Michigan National Traffic System (NTS) net Normally held every night at 10:15 PM local time on the 146.76 (PL 100) repeater. New people are welcome.



A R O U N D T O W N

HPARC Buddy Breakfast every Saturday @ 9:30 AM (or so)

Jimi's Restaurant, 714 South Washington Ave, Royal Oak (across from OCC). Come for the socializing — we're in the back room. Parking: lots of spaces in Jimi's parking lot, and street parking is free until 11 AM.

Oakland Co. ARPSC Siren Testing, 1st Saturday @ 1 PM

Resumes in March.

Macomb Community College Electronic Lab

4th Wednesday of each month from 7-10 PM. 12 Mile & Hayes Rd. (Bldg "S" - Room S135) Extensive collection of equipment to use/learn plus a ham radio station to use and a big 3 element HF Yagi antenna on the roof of the building. Hams are invited from all clubs.

Amateur Radio License Testing

HPARC and the City of Oak Park offer amateur radio license testing on the first Tuesday of even months at the Oak Park, Michigan Community Center (14300 Oak Park Blvd, Oak Park, MI 48237) beginning at 7:30 PM

W I A W / P Q S L S

The ARRL reports that QSLs for W1AW/portable and W100AW are "at the printers." Throughout 2014, W1AW operated portable from all 50 states and several U.S. islands, and W100AW operated from six regional conventions to celebrate the centennial of the American Radio Relay League's founding.

As mentioned in earlier issues of the *Zero Beat*, all logs have already been uploaded to Logbook of the World, where they count for points in the ARRL Centennial QSO Party. Amateurs can also QSL these stations with a SASE sent to ARRL headquarters. As a one-time privilege, U.S. amateurs could sign up to have W1AW/p and W100AW QSLs delivered automatically via the incoming Bureau. That offer appears to be closed now.

So far the ARRL has not announced a schedule for sending out paper QSLs, so it may take months.

For more information and details for obtaining QSLs, see: <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw>.

HAZEL PARK HAMFEST PICTURES



K3Y EVENT IN ADRIAN



On January 10, Larry Koziel K8MU and Wes Plouff AC8JF went to the shack of Ted K8AQM in Adrian, so they could dust off their rusty fists to operate K3Y/8. Every January, the Straight Key Century Club (SKCC) sponsors the K3Y event, where stations in all 50 states operate as K3Y/portable, often from several states simultaneously. The idea is to make lots of contacts with other CW stations, regardless of skill or speed, using straight keys and bugs.

Though K3Y/8 operated from Adrian on January 10 and 11, the event went on throughout the month of January.

With up to a dozen people in the shack, operating 5 stations, a grand time was had by all. The photo on the left shows Larry K8MU operating while Curt Nixon KU8L handles the logging.

The variety of "fists" heard on the air ranged from elegant to barely copyable. Most stations sent at 10 to 15 WPM, making it easy for even casual CW operators to follow. All in all, over two days, the 21 participating operators made 656 contacts on eight bands, ate a gallon of homemade chili and told endless jokes.

B U N C H O F Q R P

"Chinese Junk," what imaginative vision does that phrase conjure up in your head? Well, as far as the sailing variety is concerned, the Chinese people built quality boats, called junks, that survived for centuries. The same goes for swords, pottery and calligraphy! However, tech related devices have yet to be proven, or have they? I purchased a new laptop last year and looked for something with years of Linux history and support. The IBM Thinkpad was the most popular and reliable, with almost 25 years of design as a laptop alone. The Chinese company Lenovo bought the division in 2005, and it still ranks as a leading model of durability, reliability, and usability.

County of origin, does it really matter then? Especially when we are now finding out that much of our so-called "American" goods are in actuality made in China or Mexico and that only the box is US? We find that "modern quality" and "European craftsmanship" are assembled near Beijing rather than Germany or Switzerland? Sure, there are some true products, but they are rare and more costly. So for patriots out there who buy only "American" brand names, how many of them are actually owned by Asian companies now, like 7-11? Our favorite brands are no longer American, while others never truly were. And now, those same brands are outsourcing their manufacturing to - you guessed it, China!

So when the time came to replace an HT, I could buy...

- an American radio made in America for top price,
- an American radio made in Japan or China anyway,
- a Japanese radio made in China for 6 times the price,
- Or a Chinese radio that would do 95% of what I needed at maybe 75% the quality, but for a fraction of the cost.

In fact, I could replace multiple radios for the price of one brand-name. The only decision was whether I truly needed those special functions for an extra hundred dollars apiece.

I ended up purchasing Baofeng UV-5Rs after much research. Being sure to get the original style case, as this makes a difference in having the most accessory compatibility. It had the best track record and most bugs had been fixed. The few bugs that have not yet been resolved are truly inconsequential. The 3800mah batteries offered by BuyTwoWayRadios.com with their "Ham Radio Starter Kit - HT" is awesome, at \$75! Their stock has current firmware. The UV-5R Kits offered by Radioddity.com includes only the

standard battery but one of everything else you might want, for only \$53. Either of these makes a great kit for anyone needing a first or replacement HT. The ONLY downside to me is the lack of waterproof design. But then again, many HTs lack this. I find conflicting info online but it seems to be rated at least IP54, dust and splash resistant. So it is truly no worse than my old HTs in the 90s. Radioddity DOES offer silicone cases for the 5R similar to soft cell-phone wraps which will add some protection for a very reasonable price. Besides, IF you did drop it in the river, you could afford to buy a new one for only \$40.

The 5R's second shortcoming is that it can not truly perform dual receive but only dual watch. Again, most lower end radios from the big three manufacturers have the same shortcoming.

The UV-5R Can be programmed from the keypad, unlike some other Chinese radios. But software DOES make it easier. Both Kits include the programming cable for free. It is a standard Kenwood style. Chirp software is always free, as well as being Linux, Mac AND Windows compatible. While RT Systems charges \$25+ for a proprietary cable and Windows only software, Chirp works with multiple radios and so allows you to share memory lists between radios. It is a bit more basic than RTsys but it's free and it works! Linux comes with it available in the repository.

Current stable builds can be found here:

chirp.danplanet.com while the latest daily built is found here: trac.chirp.danplanet.com/chirp_daily/LATEST The daily build is important as it frequently includes the most recently added radios and bug fixes before the major version is updated. For the UV-5R I highly recommend the Daily build as it includes all the fixes to date. Otherwise, you should at least download version 0.4.1

PS: Download a default "factory" image from your radio before you make any new changes!

This radio is also the perfectly priced addition for your spare needs. DIY radio experiments? Glovebox or work locker? Fox Hunt transmitter (simply run a line-in cable from mp3 player to the 3.5mm mic jack)! Gifts to new ham or to get your grandkids interested? Why not program the radio to listen-only on your favorite repeaters and give it to a student in the ham class (You can make it TX after they

(Continued on page 7)

2015 STATE QSO PARTY CALENDAR

By Wes Plouff AC8JF

One of the easiest ways to dip a toe into contesting is to participate in a State QSO Party. These are relaxed affairs lasting anywhere from 12 to 48 hours, where the object is to work amateurs in one state. In 2015, QSO Parties will be held in 48 states, perhaps all 50, plus two Canadian provinces.

Don't worry even if you have no contest experience. Most participants will be happy to walk you through the on-air exchange.

The following list includes all state contests in date order. In a listing, * = an estimated date.

January

(No contests)

February

7-8 – Minnesota, Vermont, British Columbia

14-15 – New Hampshire

March

1 – North Carolina

14-15 – Idaho, Louisiana, Wisconsin

21-22 – Virginia

28-29 – Oklahoma*

April

4-5 – Mississippi*, Missouri, Montana*

11-12 – Georgia, New Mexico*

18-19 – Michigan, Nebraska, North Dakota*, Ontario

25-26 – Florida

May

2-3 – New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT)

2-3 – 7th Call Area (AZ, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY)

2-3 – Delaware, Indiana

9-10 – Nevada*

June

6-7 – Alabama*

20-21 – West Virginia

July

(No contests)

August

8-9 – Maryland-DC

22-23 – Kansas, Ohio*

22-24 – Hawaii

September

5-6 – Colorado, Tennessee*

12-13 – Arkansas

19-20 – South Carolina*, Washington*

October

3-4 – California*, New Jersey*

10-11 – Arizona*, Pennsylvania

17-18 – Iowa*, New York*, North Dakota*

18-19 – Illinois

November

7-8 – Kentucky*

December

(No contests)

Uncertain contests:

Alabama, looking for new management

Alaska, date not yet scheduled

Inactive contests:

Connecticut, last held 2010 (but see New England QP)

Maritimes (NB, NS, PEI), last held 2013

Popular State QSO Parties to enter in the next few months are Virginia, Florida, Michigan and Georgia. Be sure to double-check dates on the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>, or on the N5NA QSO Party Calendar at <http://qsoparty.eqth.net/>.

Q R P C O N T ' D

(Continued from page 6)

get their ticket)?

Last thing you should know is that the 5R has wide receive around the ham bands including MuRS, FRS, GMRS, NOAA, and Public Service. Scan speed is slow (Buy a Bearcat for that) but if you need to monitor any of these frequencies on an occasional basis, the 5R will suit. It has FM broadcast RX as well and therefore it makes a decent general coverage emergency radio.

So, in conclusion, the Baofeng UV-5R makes for a 'bargain buy' to any Ham. Yes it has shortages as every radio does. But for the price - you can not go wrong! So is this "dollar store junk" not even worth a yard sale, or is it "classic antique-store junk" that is low priced and minimalistic yet functional? I have found the answer to be useful...

What does this have to do with the title of this column? Find out next month...

C O N T E S T S**February 2015**

7 Minnesota QSO Party
 7-8 British Columbia QSO Party
 7-8 Vermont QSO Party
 7-8 YL-ISSB QSO Party, CW
 7-8 10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB
 7-8 Black Sea Cup International
 7-8 Mexico RTTY International Contest
 7-8 AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party
 8-9 Classic Exchange, Phone
 9-13 ARRL School Club Roundup
 14-15 CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest
 14-15 SARL Field Day Contest
 14-15 Dutch PACC Contest
 14-15 New Hampshire QSO Party
 21-22 ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW
 21-22 REF Contest, SSB
 27-1 CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB
 28-1 UBA DX Contest, CW
 28-1 North American QSO Party, RTTY

March 2015

1-2 North Carolina QSO Party
 7-8 ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB

H A M F E S T S**02/01/2015 NOARS Winter Hamfest 8-1**

VFW Post 1079, 500 South Abbe Rd, Elyria, OH
 (about 2.5 hours from Hazel Park)
<http://www.noars.net/> (then click on Hamfests)
 Talk-In: 146.70 (PL 110.9)

02/14/2015 Cherryland Swap-N-Shop 8-12

Immaculate Conception Elementary School
 218 Vine St, Traverse City, MI
http://cherrylandarc.com/?page_id=56
 Talk-In: 146.86 (PL 114.8)

02/15/2015 Livonia ARC Swap-N-Shop 8-12

Senior Center, 15218a Farmington Rd (at 5 Mile), Livonia
<http://www.livoniaarc.com/index.php?page=swapshop>
 Talk-In: 145.35 (PL 100) or 146.52 simplex

Upcoming

3/14 Michigan Crossroads Hamfest, Kalamazoo
 3/15 TMRA Hamfest, Perrysburg (Toledo), OH
 3/28 Ham-Ex, Caledon (near Toronto), Ontario

D X N O T E S

Here is a selected handful of DX to try in February.

KP1 Navassa – The K1N team activated Navassa on the evening of Feb. 1-2 and will remain active through Feb. 14 and possibly a day later. A 15-man crew will operate 8 stations around the clock on HF CW, SSB and RTTY. Expect strong signals and massive pileups. Navassa Island is a nature preserve and likely will not see another DXpedition for a decade. More information at <http://navassadx.com/>.

Caribbean Islands – February is prime time for hams to escape winter weather. Expect the following islands in the Caribbean Sea to be on the air this month, many with hams operating vacation-style: 6Y Jamaica, C6 Bahamas, FG and TO6 Guadeloupe, FJ St. Barthelemy, FM Martinique, HH Haiti, HR Honduras, J3 Grenada, J6 St. Lucia, J7 St. Kitts, J8 St. Vincent, KG4 Guantanamo Bay, P4 Aruba,

PJ2 Curacao, TI9 Cocos Island, V4 Dominica and ZF Cayman Islands. Of course, CO Cuba and KP4 Puerto Rico will be easy to find. Look at the OPDX, DXNL, 425DX and other DX newsletters/calendars for details.

FO French Polynesia – FO/K8PGJ Pete will operate from Bora Bora on Feb. 15-24, 20 through 10 meters SSB only. Pete will split his time between ham radio and diving. Look for his schedule on QRZ.com. QSL via his home address in Troy.

CE0Z Juan Fernandez Islands – 3G0ZC will be on the air from Robinson Crusoe Island from Feb. 24 to Mar. 4. This remote island lies 400 miles west of Valparaiso, Chile in the Pacific Ocean. 20 European operators will run 8 stations on 160 through 6 meters using SSB, CW and digital modes. QSL via F6KOP.

MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 2015

Officers present: Jim K8ABZ, Ed N8LBS, Barb KD8SAA, John AA8UU, Bill N8QVS, Bob N8REL

Introductions: we had visitors including at least one who was invited at the swap.

Jim reminded all about the area just outside the door being a non-parking zone.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the December meeting minutes as published in the *Zero Beat*. But it did not seem to be voted on.

Ken AD8M gave an entertaining presentation pitch for selling raffle tickets to raise money for homeless veterans.

Bob N8REL presented the treasurer's report indicating that we are in good shape financially. He also pointed out that we did almost as well at the swap this year as last year, despite it being smaller.

Paul AA8OZ made an appeal for donations to support Barb in her financial situation. He started a hat passing around. Nothing more was said about that.

The presentation was by Jerry Radcliff, about his experiences as a master radio person in the merchant marine service for quite a few years. That presentation was very interesting, and he followed it with a short presentation about passing through the Panama Canal, which was also interesting and educational.

John AA8UU talked about the DART repeater and announced that the UHF portion will have the W8JXU call. John also asked for operators for our next field day. He

plans a short meeting about it for 7PM just before the next membership meeting.

Barbra thanked us all for helping with the swap and also appealed for somebody to take over storage of the field day cooking supplies.

Jim made a request for folks to be the nominating committee and to consider running for offices.

Murray, KE8UM reported that the "CQ" 160 meter contest would be Jan 24 and 25. Gerry, K8GT described some other contest activities coming up soon.

Jerry, W9NPI explained that he was having a problem with the Oak Park city council in that they did not understand why we were getting a meeting room that is used for the VE testing sessions for free.

Jim, K8ABZ, reminded us that the February meeting will be one week earlier than usual because of the school being closed the week that we would usually have our meeting.

An announcement was made about getting tickets for the radio raffle before the meeting closed.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be closed at 8:20PM.

No voting was heard. (This meeting was the shortest one that I can remember)

Many folks helped by putting their chairs on the racks.

William Ketel N8QVS, Secretary

FCC MOVES TO PAPERLESS LICENSES

Starting February 17, the FCC no longer will routinely issue paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System ([ULS](#)), although the FCC has continued to print and mail hard copy licenses.

Under the new procedures, licensees will access their current official authorization ("Active" status only) via the ULS License Manager. The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one. Paper copies

will no longer be printed on patterned paper.

Licensees will always be able to print out an official authorization — as well as an unofficial "reference copy" — from the ULS License Manager. *[Via ARRL.]*

The ARRL opposed this policy, calling for paper licenses to still be issued at least to first-time hams.

As a result, each ham wanting a paper license for renewal or upon upgrading should go to their ULS account and check the notification box. As Marsha N8FE points out, students taking classes for their first licenses should set up ULS accounts beforehand, and include their FCC Registration Number (FRN) on their application.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2015 MEETINGS

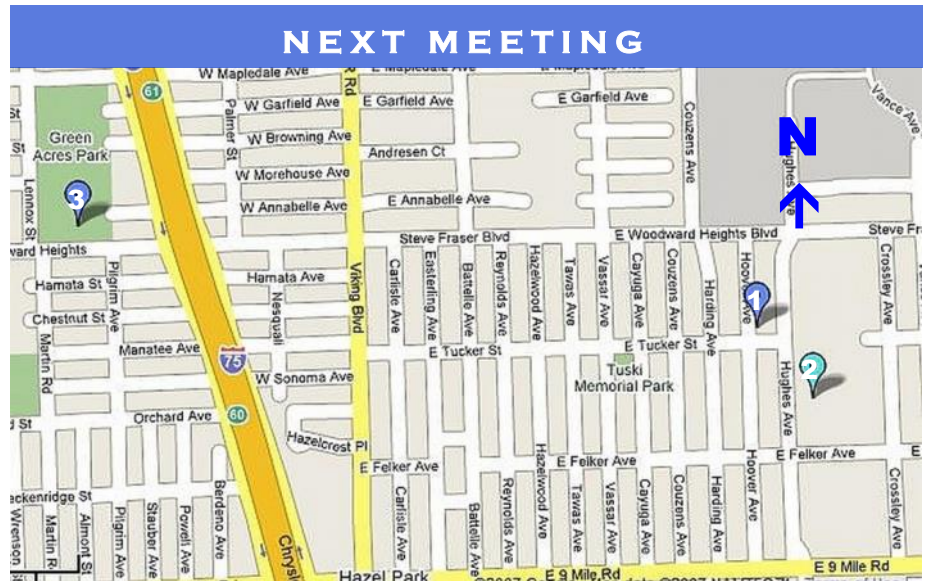
- February 11
- March 11
- April 15
- May 13

TIME

Socializing @ 7:00 PM
 Meeting @ 7:30 PM

PLACE

Hoover Elementary School
 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



Scan this QR code to visit the
 HPARC web site

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