

# The Zero Beat

## THIS MEETING

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

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## GENERAL MEETING

The next meeting of the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club will be held on Wednesday, March 11, at 7:30 PM. The meeting location is Hoover Elementary School, 23720 Hoover Ave, Hazel Park. Ken Krause AD8M will talk about pulse width modulation (PWM). From Ken's electronic lab: He will be introducing the fundamentals PWM and some of its general widely used applications. Live display circuits, live oscilloscope and some short 1 minute videos will add to the understanding. Everything will be done in slow motion. Participants will actually see the results of changing duty cycle and frequency. A touch of computer circuit emulation and locations to get Free parts are included in the presentation.

(No Field Day Working Group this month.)

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](http://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 club, last November, secured Camp Hazelwood for this year Field Day. Nice place with all the amenities. But, this may not be where we will have Field Day. To learn more, stay tuned!

You may notice that the days are getting longer and the sun is rising higher in the sky giving greater opportunity of warming, evaporation and the urge to begin your antenna projects. If you do make the attempt, remember --- SAFETY FIRST!

Elections for officers are coming up in May. If you believe the club is running the way you think it should, then you might probably vote for the incumbent. If you have any doubt whatsoever about

where the club is going, you should throw your hat into the ring and get elected. This is how good clubs become better clubs.

As of this writing, I am not aware of any volunteers for the nominating committee. Nominators are a very important and a necessary function of this club. So, at the March meeting if no one volunteers, I may have to instruct the Director to lock the doors until the positions are filled! I did this about six years ago and after a while, two members volunteered so they could go home!

The Dayton Hamvention is coming up May 15-17. For new amateurs and others that have not been there, the Dayton Swap is an event to behold. Of the thousands of people

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## OFFICERS

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- **Technical Coordinator & W8HP Trustee :**  
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- **HPARC Official Cook:**  
Bill Ketel N8QVS
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- **Oak Apple Run Royal Oak:**  
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## DAYTON BUS

Some HPARC members visit the Dayton Hamvention for one day only, to get the flavor of the event without the hassles of a longer stay. This means getting up at zero-dark-thirty, then driving four hours to the event. After a full day of taking in presentations, vendor booths and acres of the flea market, there's another four-hour drive to get back home.

The ARROW club in Ann Arbor is once again offering an easier way to go — a charter bus on Saturday, May 16. You'll still have to get up at zero-dark-thirty and drive one hour, but from there, you can snooze, eat breakfast or ragchew. The bus leaves Pioneer High School, Stadium Blvd at Main St, at 4:30 AM, arriving at the Hamvention just as it opens at 8:00. When the event closes at 5:00 PM, the bus will pick you up right at Hara Arena.

There will be plenty of cargo room for bringing home goodies. Hams with items to sell can use the ARROW flea market table in exchange for one hour volunteering.

Cost is \$65 with a discount for ordering in March. See <http://www.w8pgw.org/activities/dayton-bus-trip/> to order online or by mail. Hamvention ticket not included.

TMRA in Toledo also sends a charter bus — seats may be available to non-members. Contact Mike Kehr WA8SYD at [wa8syd@arrl.net](mailto:wa8syd@arrl.net) to find out. The cost is around \$30. Buy Hamvention ticket separately.

## QRM, CONT'D

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that attend, there is something for everyone. It is an experience you will never forget; besides, you might even buy something.

Rey Bora, W8REY is the Banquet Chairman and the banquet is the 10th of June, 2015 at DeCarlo's Banquet Center on 10 mile just east of Mound. Rey makes a good chairman because he has done it before for our club and other organizations he is a member of. Rey is going to have help, because a member's wife has asked if she could help. This lady has vast experience in organizing similar events. What would be nice if other wives' could get involved.

See you at the meeting, bring a friend!  
Jim, K8ABZ

## FIELD DAY WORKING GROUP

*By John Teagardin AA8UU*

The Field Day Working Group held its first meeting before the February regular meeting. We had a good discussion.

We're not going to meet in March. The next field day organization meeting will be before the April meeting at 6:30.

Field Day this year will be at Green Acres Park in Hazel Park, same place as the August picnic. This will let more people participate without the long drive north.

We decided to scale back to less stations, possible Class 3A. This way we can push to have all stations active all the way through the event. We plan to use the GOTA station more, especially for walk-ups, and not just for unlicensed ops. Also, GOTA will be the only station with digital capabilities.

We need an operating schedule. What we want to do is get experienced ops to coach contest newbies, then turn them loose. The hard-core contesters shouldn't be the guys running all the Q's.

We will need all night commitments for security of unattended stations. We want to try networked logging.

The Field Day setup will probably have only one tower, for a tribander and maybe a VHF beam. Rueven KB3EHW committed to bring a solar panel. Looks like we will be setting up 5 stations total.

## NEW RENEWAL POLICY

Beginning March 1, 2015, members renewing/updating their membership at the club meeting will no longer require completing an application. Paying your dues, filling out a small form indicating no change in your status and/or list any changes will be all that is needed.

To renew a lapsed membership you must submit an application/update with dues. All others renewing/updating by postal mail must continue completing an application/update. New applicants must complete the application.

Jim Poehlman K8ABZ  
President—1st Vice President

## SKYWARN TRAINING

Preparing for summer weather, Detroit-area counties are offering Skywarn training. Skywarn is a volunteer network of storm spotters, with amateur radio communications playing a key role.

**Skywarn training** sessions are held to train individuals to accurately observe such weather phenomena as floods, hail, wind and its associated damage, cloud features that lead to tornadoes, and those cloud features that do not lead to tornadoes. The class covers what information to report and how to report it. Basic severe weather safety is also covered. Classes are **FREE** and last 1.5 hours. While new technological and scientific tools have advanced the National Weather Service (NWS) capability to predict severe weather, the trained spotter remains essential to the NWS warning process.

**Oakland County** – advance registration necessary. See [http://www.oakgov.com/homelandsecurity/Pages/program\\_service/skywarn.aspx](http://www.oakgov.com/homelandsecurity/Pages/program_service/skywarn.aspx)

3/21 – Oakland Co. Homeland Security, Waterford

3/23 – Groveland Twp. Fire Dept., Holly

4/1 – Southfield Civic Ctr. Library

4/21 – Farmington Hills City Hall

4/30 – Commerce Township Offices

**Macomb County** – registration requested – call Macomb County Emergency Management, 586-469-5270. For more information contact Bob George KB8QYK at [PIO@wa8mac.net](mailto:PIO@wa8mac.net)

3/28 – Macomb ISD, 10 AM

4/8 – Macomb ISD, 7 PM

The Macomb County ISD located at 44001 Garfield Road in Clinton Township.

**Wayne County** – Sponsored by different amateur radio clubs. Get contact information via <http://www.lpcert.org/tag/wayne-county/>

3/14 – Garden City Presbyterian Church

3/25 – Livonia Civic Center Library

4/10 – Westfield Activity Center, Trenton

## HPARC NETS

### 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.



## AROUND TOWN

### 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

Pre-net on the DART Repeater, 146.640, around 12:30 PM. Contact Marsha N8FE a few days ahead for assignments.

### 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

## SIREN NET

Last year the SE Subnet did it AGAIN! KUDOS to everyone! We tested ALL of the outdoor early warning sirens in our subnet, even though 2 siren tests were cancelled.

We also helped the other subnets who don't have enough hams to cover their sirens. Because of our teamwork the County almost met their goal of all sirens tested during the March - November window.

Siren Net runs on the first Saturday of each month from March through November. The first siren is on March 7 at 1300 (DART repeater). One exception: the April test will be held on Wednesday the 15th.

Many of you signed up at the February meeting and the email is on the way with your siren. If you didn't sign up but want to be on the list then please contact me. I need your name, call sign, cell phone, address, email address.

Marsha Fleming N8FE

[Marsha-fleming@att.net](mailto:Marsha-fleming@att.net)

## HOW WE WORKED NAVASSA

The Navassa Island DXpedition, K1N, is over. From February 1st to 16th, 8 stations on Navassa (prefix KP1) worked 138,000 QSOs with 35,000 hams on 11 bands. Prior to the event, Navassa had reached the number 1 or 2 spot on "most wanted DX" lists. Across a distance of 1700 miles to Hazel Park, signals reached S7 to S9 on most bands when they were open from Navassa.

The pileups were huge around the clock, even with each K1N operator working up to 300 stations per hour. K1N ops went out of their way to give QSOs to "all time new ones" (ATNOs) who hadn't worked Navassa even once. Ten HPARC members broke through to make at least one contact. Here is how they did it.

**Murray KE8UM** – 8 bands CW, 6 SSB, 3 RTTY. I enjoyed working K1N Navassa Island, probably the only chance in my lifetime. I used my Ten-Tec Omni IV with an Alpha 87A amplifier when needed. I used my three element SteppIR beam on 10 thru 20 meters at 50 feet, a Carolina Windom on 30, 40 and 80 meters (about 20ft off the ground in the center) and a 160meter half sloper. It helped being retired so I could work them with less competition, but there was a lot. It is best to study the pileups and then jump in.

**Mike WD8S** – 4 bands CW, 3 SSB. The rig is a Yaesu FT-1000D into a 3 element Cushcraft yagi at 30 feet. The best way that I found was listen-listen-listen. Find the spot on the cluster and because the listening frequencies were so wide, you had to watch when someone would say where they worked them. I found this to be the best way. Listen.

Pileups were challenging. They were wide but I understand why. Navassa was #3 on the want list. I did however have to use the amp on 40 meter CW to get thru the pileup. I think I may have used it one other time, maybe on 20 SSB. This was a lot of FUN and I am glad I took the time to work them.

**Gerry K8GT** – 1 band CW, 1 RTTY. Rig is a TS-590S at 100W. On 80m CW used a low Inverted Vee with the ends are about 4' above the ground with the apex at about 40'. On 20, had a dipole at about 36' high. On 80m CW on Feb 2nd at 1:35AM I got them on 1 call. On Feb 13th at about 1:30AM on 20m RTTY, after calling for about 15 minutes, I heard a good friend, NF8M in Novi, work them. It took me another hour to do the same on the same frequency. Timing is everything. I only needed Navassa on 160, 80, 17,

6m and on RTTY. So got them on 80 and RTTY. I never heard them strong enough on 17 to even try.

The large pileups were to be expected for Navassa being the #2 most wanted entity worldwide. In the pileups I wish ops didn't keep calling when the DX station is listening for a particular station that they have responded to. It slows down the number of contacts than can be made. Worse are the ops calling on the DX TX frequency, the self-appointed frequency police, and the deliberate QRMers.

**Wes AC8JF** – 2 bands SSB. I used a Kenwood TS-570 (100W) with a W3DZZ multiband dipole at 60 feet. I worked K1N on 20 meters on their first Friday by staying up well past midnight. They were just about to shut down on 20 when I got through. I got a 10 meter QSO on their last full day, when only 3 ops were left on the island and everyone was relaxed. I also thought I had an 80 meter SSB contact, but K1N had actually come back to a different station with "JF" in the call. The pileups were epic on all bands at all hours.

**Larry K8MU** – 2 bands CW. *Larry told the Saturday breakfast he had worked Navassa from the W8UM club station in Ann Arbor. He also bagged a K1N contact for W8UM.*

**Colin W8CMC** – 1 band SSB. I used a Yaesu FT-450D with 100 watts on a G5RV up 25 feet. I used my high squeaky voice in order to get thru the pileup. I loved the pileups, but wish people would have better manners.

**Marsha N8FE** – 1 band SSB. N8FE worked K1N with an Icom 756 Pro barefoot (100 watts) and my Cubex Quad up 30 ft. The K1N op was 59 on 14.250 and listening "5-10 up." I set my my radio to split with TX on 14.255 and listened to him take callers. Although the K1N op was moving up and down those 5K, I stayed where I was and kept calling. It only took about 3-4 minutes and he answered me. He was handling the pileup quite well and had a good rate although I did not time it. He also ID'd after every QSO.

The Pileups recently have had many new people who didn't know or not care about how to operate DXpeditions or split. Some of these folks were not new ops. If you want to play the game right without getting flagged, learn the rules. DX Code of Conduct is a good beginning. Find a seasoned operator to Elmer you.

**Rick K5B00** – 1 band SSB. I worked K1N on 14 Feb at

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## HAZEL PARK HAMFEST COMMENTS

By Tony Gallucci N8VR

At the risk of being named Swap chairman next year (and if nominated, I will refuse!), I want to make a few comments about the swap. I was only there in the morning, manning the main/front door, but here is what I saw:

We did not have the big crowds waiting to bust in at 8 AM. Yes, we had a good group waiting, but not the bursting at the outer lobby seams like I used to see in past years. Not sure if its the weather (though its cold every year) or if our aging demographic just cant get out anymore (or just going the way of the dinosaur).



One thing that we have to fix is how we sell tables and the number of them. There were at least 8 empty tables right when you walked in, and all those guys standing in line to get in could see them. If you stood there (and here are some pictures), it looked like we had no vendors. Now of course we had a lot of vendors, but again, its not like it used to be. And the back hall had more empty tables than full tables. So where are the vendors? Maybe they make more money on eBay—or its just too cold in January to come out to Hazel Park. Now maybe if our swap were in Las Vegas, it might be busier. I doubt it—I think swap vendors and the people who attend swaps are just becoming fewer and fewer.

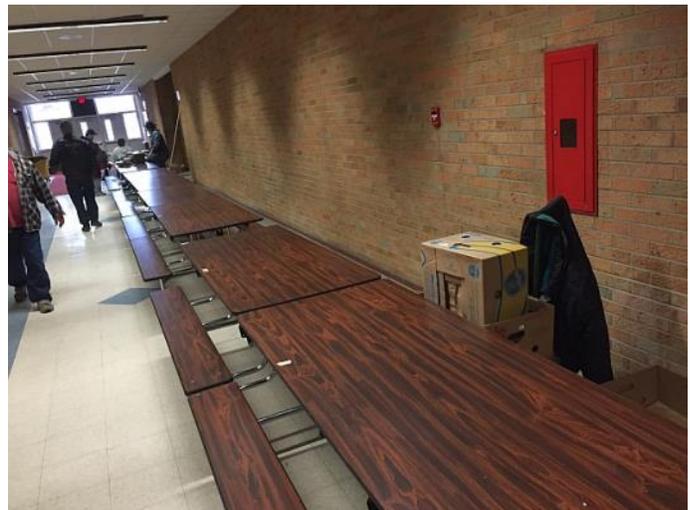
We can't cry about it, but what can we do?

I suggest finding the new folks who like our old junk. Ever hear of Steampunk? Ask Mr. Google about Steampunk, and

you'll find a lot of people who need old radio and computer parts—the older, the better. And while you're marveling over the cool stuff they're making, go over to Etsy.com and marvel over the prices some people are charging for some modified antiques.



Another place is the high school robotics team — and the guys down at TechShop in Allen Park. The people at Rust-Belt in Ferndale must be cousins of Ham Radio folk. What I'm saying is that putting a flyer in Radio Shack is not going to get us the people we need at our swap (in fact, I heard Radio Shack may be converting most over to Sprint stores—ugh!!).



Finally, I want to thank Barb KD8SAA for stepping up and making the swap happen. None of this is criticism of her — she was thrown (dragged?) into a situation that has been in a downward spiral for a few years. It's not just our club that is seeing this happen-- it's just that we need a better or different way of doing things.

## SSTV THE HARD WAY?

By Larry Koziel K8MU

In December last year, Russian cosmonauts aboard the ISS transmitted SSTV images on 2-meter FM over several days, to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the birth of Yuri Gagarin, who was born in March 1934.

I happened to notice that a relatively high elevation pass was to occur in the middle of the afternoon on a weekday — a work day for me. On a whim I set an alarm for a few minutes prior to the scheduled acquisition of signal time to allow me to go out to my car in the parking lot and listen.

At the appointed time, I turned on the recording function on my phone, set the phone next to the speaker, and almost immediately heard the transmission start. Using the call sign RSOISS, the Russians transmit SSTV with a Kenwood D710 that is capable of running up to 25 watts, considerably more power than the 5 watt Ericsson handheld that is used for school contacts. So shortly after AOS while still at low elevation, the signal was quite good.

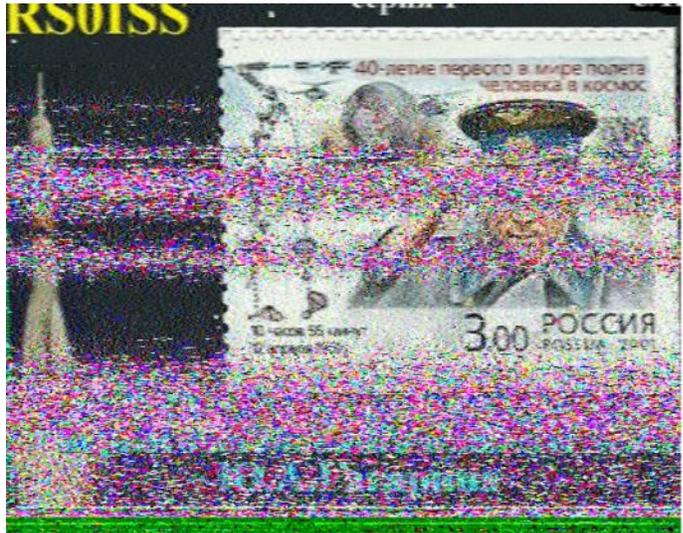
At best ISS passes are only about 10 minutes, and since they were transmitting in PD180 mode, that takes 3 minutes to send a frame and with 3 minutes between frames, the best scenario would be a frame starting just above the horizon at the beginning of the pass and another ending just before loss of signal at the end of the pass.

Since I was using only a 19-inch quarter-wave mag-mount which has a big null directly overhead, as the ISS climbed in elevation, the signal got progressively noisier. Unfortunately for me, the direction to the latter part of the pass was blocked by a building, so there really was no chance to receive a second image.

Having recorded the transmission, the next step was to try to decode it. I did this by playing back the recording on my phone and holding it next to my iPad which was running a \$2.99 app called SSTV Pad from Black Cat Systems. I had downloaded the app perhaps a year earlier on both my iPhone and iPad and had used it to successfully receive images on 20 meters.

My success on 20 meters was with modes other than PD180, and with the ISS recording I was much less successful. I was able to discern the RSOISS call sign, but the

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Above: K8MU's successful SSTV decoding  
Larry's image shows a 2001 postage stamp with the legend "40th anniversary of the first man in the world to fly the cosmos."

Below: Part of an ISS image from a full quieting signal



Better quality decoded from 20 meters

## BUNCH OF QRP

People often tend to use words of which they do not even know the true meaning, bordering on the definition of ignorance; which is a lack of knowledge. And QRP is often thought of as a synonym for crap by some of the QRO crowd, as a term of insult! That is just ignorance for the same reason! Well I believe that you should know; slang is not the reason for the title of this column. But rather a pun on the true meaning...

Crap (Etymology) Middle English: related to Dutch *krappe*, from *krappen* 'pluck or cut off,' and also to Old French *crappe* 'siftings,' Anglo-Latin *crappa* 'chaff.' The original sense was 'chaff,' later 'residue from rendering fat,' also 'dregs of beer.'  
**i. e. Miscellaneous leftovers!**

And that is what I write about. The various small things that make this hobby interesting... *To me, at least!*

### SDR in disguise!

Back to my Baofeng UV-5R; what was truly surprising is that this is my first totally SDR radio, or is it? Because, as far as I can tell, radios are becoming more software and less locked by hardware constraints. Issues are now resolved by uploading new software images to the radio. Even Kenwood mobiles have functions based on firmware. And bug fixes are done by simply updating the software. Many of us are using radios which are partly SDR already. This has pros and cons of course... Occasionally I can hear chirps of CPU->DSP chip commands being picked up by the speaker. Others occasionally hear it picked up by the mic as well. Software filtering is not as tight as mechanical filters, YET. And low-end DSP chip will not perform as well as those inside a \$2K contest rig. But this is NOT a contest rig, but neither is it a toy! It is a compromise, but one which many can appreciate and use. This is a radio for your pocket, instead of a Pelican Case.

I very much like the voice feedback and wonder why all the companies do not offer this. It is no longer complicated for them to add it. Kenwood *allows* you to add it to the V71A for more than the cost of this HT kit. But I DO value my 71A much higher!

How did all this begin? I started hearing from new hams

who could not afford a \$300 radio (HT or mobile). They were all in the same junk (boat)! They did what they needed to and bought what they could. I teased one of them light heartedly about it but took his choice seriously and investigated it. I have also run into enough of these to find that 5 all Chinese radios are NOT the same. Yaesu and Kenwood have more in common than Baofeng and TYT or Wouxun (pronounced like oh-sheng). Even the new Tri-Power model has issues with frequency and DTMF which the original 5R does not. The 5R has the largest assortment of accessories and batteries available as well as a large user base support structure. Check out these two sites for more info:

<http://www.miklor.com>

[https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/baofeng\\_uv5r](https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/baofeng_uv5r)

### Closing Note:

**Some are Part 90 accepted (have FCC sticker while others do not).** Contact the company you purchase from if this is important to you. I have one 5R with and one without! If you have a type 90 version **with the FCC sticker**, it can debatably be used on GMRS as well. And some Public Safety workers have used "type 90 stickered" 5Rs as back-up job radios. I leave that to you to find out. **Lastly**; regarding Chinese radios in general - they are NOT all the same. The 5R alone varies with generation and sub-model. And companies vary in practice. I have no problem paying \$50 for a kit like this, but I have read that some have paid \$300+ for a Wouxun 950 mobile, only to find that Wouxun's customer service has so many complaints that even a main US distributor will no longer carry their products!

<http://www.wouxun.us/Good-Bye-Wouxun/Good-Bye-Wouxun.html>

### Back to SDR radios.

SDRs are still in the growth stage and I do not think it is all good. Being more software-based makes them more prone to silicon problems. As in the Wouxun radios; flash memory has limited life and if a company uses cheap flash - then you have less life. Quality SSDs (flash drives) for a laptop are expensive for a reason. You want that drive to

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## SSTV, CONT'D

*(Continued from page 7)*

colors, image size and aspect ratio just didn't seem right. I tried also with a free window program called MMSSTV, also with disappointing results.

Fast forward to February, when the Russians were transmitting SSTV again. I was unable to try to listen for a number of reasons, including last minute schedule changes due to EVAs for some work to configure the station for future docking with commercial supply ships. Nevertheless, anticipation of the February transmissions led me to discover that a new version of SSTV Pad had been released just two days before, and the update claimed to fix some problems with the PD modes.

I downloaded the update on my phone, but since both the app and the recording were on my phone and my iPad as at home (I was at work at the time), I had to take one more step. I emailed the recording to myself, and then played it back to the app on the phone and was treated to the appearance of a much better image than I had been able to produce in December.

There are rumors that there may be more SSTV transmissions in March. Receiving images from space can be done with simple and inexpensive hardware and software. I think my image sets a fairly low bar. Let's see who can produce pictures better than mine the next time they're sending pictures from space.

## QRP, CONT'D

*(Continued from page 8)*

last at least a few years. That old Heathkit from 1970 still works, but the SDR radio may not! I expect a \$20 radio to last a reasonable time but those \$300+ radios should last decades rather than months or years. And the new SDRs that ARE quality - are not going to be cheap. Not yet at least. Whether it is Elecraft, Flex Radio, Baofeng or Wouxun; Do your research. The UV-5R is a solid and affordable performer for many people. While Elecraft and Flex take on DX. Not all SDRs can make either claim. **Do your own research!**

So when all is said and done; it is still, **Caveat Emptor!**

72/73 Phillip N8AYE

## CONTESTS

### March 2015

1-2 North Carolina QSO Party  
 7-8 ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB  
 14-15 RSGB Commonwealth Contest (not for USA)  
 14-15 All Africa International DX Contest  
 14-15 Louisiana QSO Party  
 14-15 TESLA Memorial HF CW Contest  
 14-15 QCWA QSO Party  
 14-15 Idaho QSO Party  
 15-16 Wisconsin QSO Party  
 21-23 BARTG HF RTTY Contest  
 21-22 Russian DX Contest  
 21-22 Oklahoma QSO Party  
 21-22 Virginia QSO Party  
 28 FOC QSO Party, CW  
 28-29 CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB

### April 2015

4-5 Missouri QSO Party  
 4-5 Mississippi QSO Party  
 4-5 Montana QSO Party  
 4-5 SP DX Contest

For more information, visit the WA7BNM Contest Calendar or ARRL contest page.

## NAVASSA, CONT'D

*(Continued from page 5)*

12:12Z on 20 M with a Kenwood TS-850, Ameritron ALS-600 amp and a Hi-Gain TH3 Mk4 Tri-band beam up 20 feet. My rig has a built in digital recorder so I kept pushing the button sending my call sign until he answered. The pile up that day seemed a bit light and it only took a few calls for an answer. I worked Navassa Island the first time in 1993 with the W5IJU DXpedition on 15 M. Same rig, no amp. Antenna was a Cushcraft A3 beam at about 30 ft.

Editor's Note: Wow, Murray! Lee KB80EJ and Ken N8COQ also worked K1N.

## MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 2015

Call to order at 7:30. Officers present: K8ABZ, AA8UU, N8LBS, KD8SAA, N8QVS

Opening comments by Jim, welcoming all to the meeting. Introductions of all attending.

New member: Brad, accepted by vote, given membership guidebook.

No budget presentation or vote, since no treasurer to present it.

Motion to accept January minutes sight unseen, moved and seconded, and dropped.

At this point Jim presented a “spark Plug” award to Barbra, KD8SAA, in consideration of her service to the club. Presented now because she is moving out of state this weekend. We agree that we will miss her.

Jim announced a change in the membership renewal procedure done at meetings. But no change for new joiners or on-line renewals.

Jim reminded everybody to renew their memberships on time.

THE PRESENTATION: Gerry, K8GT gave an interesting and educational presentation on radio wave propagation and how the sun affects it. His experience and knowledge made it very interesting and provided useful information for amateur radio operators.

BREAK TIME: Back to business about 8:40PM.

Announcement that the Livonia ARC is having their swap February 15, this coming Sunday.

Jerry Begel announced that we have three license classes going on at Lawrence Tech, and that the school is quite happy with our presence, and that we may have more opportunities for other activities there in the future.

Marsha offered an invitation for members to help out with the siren testing this season, pointing out that it is a good public service opportunity and that our group has a record of doing it better than others. The first test is to be March 7.

Jim made a request for a new director, since our present director, Barbra, is leaving the state.

Gerry, K8GT, announced about some current DXpeditions, and contests coming in the next weeks.

John, AA8UU told us about the plans for field day this year, which we will have fewer stations than last year. The balance of the details are pending.

We are reminded that we need more net control operators for the Sunday Night net, as well as a replacement net manager.

Jim made a request for two people to serve as the election committee.

Jim announced that Ray Bora is organizing the banquet this year, but he needs help, including a “women’s touch,” to help making all the details work.

There was a solicitation by Larry and Gordon for help with another ARIS project, since they have been asked to help with another one.

Jim announced that there will be a raffle drawing for a radio at the next meeting

Motion to adjourn made and seconded, and the meeting ended just like that.

William Ketel N8QVS, Secretary

## H A M F E S T S

### 03/14/2015 Crossroads Hamfest 8-12

Wings Stadium Annex, 3600 Vanrick Drive, Kalamazoo (I-94 Exit 80, hamfest formerly located in Marshall)

<http://www.w8df.com/index.php?content=hamfest>

Talk-In: 147.00 (PL 94.8)

### 03/15/2015 TMRA Hamfest 8-2

Owens Community College, 30335 Oregon Rd, Perrysburg, OH (I-75 exit 198, east on Wales Rd to first light, then south on Oregon Rd)

<http://www.tmrahamradio.org/hamfest.php>

Talk-in: 147.27 (PL 103.5)

### 03/21/2015 West Michigan Youth Club Hamfest

Lowell, MI – CANCELED

The 38th Oak Apple Run is coming on Saturday, May 30.

Amateur Radio volunteers are needed for communications.

MARK  
KRAM  
RADIO  
RECEPTOR

**2015 MEETINGS**

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?