



The Zero Beat

THIS MEETING

Annual Banquet
June 10, 2014
7:30 P.M.
De Carlo's Banquet Center
6015 E 10 Mile Rd .
Warren, MI

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NEW OFFICERS

We have some new faces and some familiar faces among our officers for 2015-16:

- President: Ken Krause, AD8M
- 1st Vice President: Jim Poehlman, K8ABZ
- 2nd Vice President: John Teagardin, AA8UU
- Secretary: Reuven Gevaryahu, KB3EHW
- Treasurer: Jonathan "JD" Devine, KD8VXZ
- Director: Gordon Scannell, KD8COJ
- Parliamentarian: Edgar Walton, N8LBS

The winners will be installed in office at the Annual Banquet. If you haven't bought your Banquet ticket yet, time is running out. Sorry, no ticket sales at the door.

PRESIDENT'S QRM

June has arrived and the warm weather is settling in. Time for antenna maintenance and other outside projects.

The banquet is coming up this month (June 10th) and Field Day (June 27-28). Field Day is at Green Acres Park, close by in Hazel Park. Not very far to attend. Because of its location, a good turnout is expected.

This is my last QRM because a new President has been elected and will be

installed at the banquet. After Bernie passed last October, for some reason I felt I had to take over as president to make sure any transition was smooth.

I am proud to have been President of this fine club and worked with the fine membership. I know the new board will work with the membership to enhance the club.

Thanks!
 Jim, K8ABZ

W8HP HPARC FIELD DAY
6/27-28, GREEN ACRES PARK
CLOSE TO HOME IN HAZEL PARK
ALL ARE WELCOME

OFFICERS

- **President:** Jim Poehlman
K8ABZ 248-310-0086
k8abz1@gmail.com
- **1st VP:** Jim Poehlman
K8ABZ 248-310-0086
k8abz1@gmail.com
- **2nd VP:** John Teagardin
AA8UU aa8uu@arrl.net
- **Secretary:** Bill Ketel
N8QVS 248-544-2452
wketel2@wowway.com
- **Treasurer:** Bob Lauer
N8REL 248-652-4211
rlau6@aol.com
- **Director:** Dan Conroy
KD8SPD
danconroysr@yahoo.com
- **Parliamentarian:**
Ed Walton N8LBS
248-649-5851
waltoned@sbcglobal.net

VOLUNTEERS

- **Technical Coordinator & W8HP Trustee :**
Tony Gallucci N8VR
248-417-9740
n8vr@arrl.net
- **W8JXU Trustee:**
Bill Ketel N8QVS
- **Education/VE Testing:**
Jerry Begel W9NPI
w9npi@comcast.net
- **Contest Mentors:**
Mike WD8S wd8s@arrl.net
Gerry K8GT k8gt@arrl.net
- **Public Information Officer:**
Jerry Begel W9NPI
w9npi@comcast.net
- **LoTW Manager:**
Murray Scott KE8UM
ke8um@arrl.net
- **Newsletter:**
Wes Plouff AC8JF
ac8jf@arrl.net
- **VUCC/WAS Awards Card Checker:** Sean Fleming
K8KHZ k8khz@yahoo.com
- **Siren Tests:**
Marsha Fleming N8FE
248-542-9573
Assist Ed Walton N8LBS
- **Meeting Coffee:** (open)
- **Donuts:** Rey Bora W8REY
- **Sunday Net:** Bill Ketel
N8QVS 248-544-2452
wketel2@wowway.com
- **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

POSTAL RATE INCREASES

The USPS has given us another price increase effective May 31. Briefly:

- First class domestic, 49¢, unchanged
- Additional ounce, 22¢, up 1 cent
- Postcard, 35¢, up 1 cent
- International first class, \$1.20, up a nickel.

"Forever" stamps bought before the price increase are still valid.

HEX BEAM FACTORY CLOSING

JUNE 1—Traffie Technologies, the Massachusetts-based family business that has pioneered and manufactured the HEX-BEAM line of compact rotatable wire beams, is closing its doors.

"This is to inform everyone that we are closing down production of the HEX-BEAM®," an announcement on the HEX-BEAM website said. The company's principal, Mike Traffie, N1HXA, has indicated that he is open to having someone else take over the business.

The small firm came into being in 1992, and HEX-BEAM antennas have been developed for 40 meters through 2 meters in various monoband and multiband versions. The company's latest product is the HX5Bi, which covers 10, 12, 15, 17 and 20 meters.

(Editor's note: Several web sites offer do-it-yourself instructions for original and improved hex beams. DX Engineering and several small companies offer base plates and other hardware for building these antennas, recognizable by their "inside-out umbrella" shape.

The Traffie Technologies closing is part of a trend in the last few years for antenna manufacturers to consolidate or shut down in the face of new competition.)

L I C E N S E T R A I N I N G R E C A P

By Jerry Begel W9NPI

Lawrence Technological University was kind enough to assign modern, computer-connected rooms for our classes.

During the 2014-5 year, we had a slow start, but gained a lot of momentum by the January 2015 Semester. Looking at the sign-up sheets, there were 15 Extra Class students, and 10 each of General and Technician students. Our instructors, Gerry Treas, K8GT, David Koch, AA8IK, Wallace Murray, W8HR, Bill Murray, KC8TVG, Marsha Fleming, N8FE, and Ron Miotke, WB8MNX were ever-patient and untiring. We're especially proud of Ron's efforts. All of the students who completed his course passed their Extra exams. At least one "aced" it—very rare for Extra Class!

Our VEs can deservedly "bust their buttons" over the solid, hard work that they did this year! It takes a special "coolness under fire" when half-a-dozen applicants are lined up in front of you to have their exams graded. From June, 2014 to 2015, we saw 96 applicants at Oak Park and Lawrence Tech. Of them, forty-four new Technicians, twenty-six Generals, and eleven Extras passed their exams.

O A K A P P L E R U N R E P O R T

Mike Van Buren WD8S writes:

Please thank everyone for their help. Everything went problem-free. I had four hams that could not make the meeting on Wednesday and all showed up at 6:15 to get their assignments on Saturday morning. What GREAT weather and with our very good net control Christine N8WIQ, everything ran smoothly. I think we learned a few things about working with the police and will relay this to the race director. If anyone has any comments please email me at WD8S@comcast.net and I will make note for next year.

Thanks again. What a bunch of great buddies and pals.

Mike WD8S

F C C N E W S

The FCC has made recent announcement affecting HPARC members.

First of all, the Commission is dropping vanity license fees for both applications and renewals. The FCC collected the fee from 11,500 amateurs in fiscal 2014, but because of competing applications for short callsigns, many other applicants simply had their fees returned. Because of this, the cost of handling the vanity fees exceeded the amount brought in. So, sometime after August 21, the vanity fee will drop from the current \$21.40 to zero.

After much discussion, and negotiations with Congress, the FCC plans to close some of its field offices. 15 of the 24 offices will remain open, and some jobs will be consolidated in other offices. This represents a compromise after the Commission announced a plan to close two thirds of its offices nationwide. As part of its streamlining, the FCC plans to develop "Tiger Teams" in its Enforcement Bureau as a flexible strike force that can be sent where needed.

160 meters is getting better for hams. The FCC has made the amateur service the primary user of 1900-2000 KHz, though it will still permit unlicensed fishing buoy transmitters "on the open sea" to share this allocation.

In April, the Commission announced a new amateur band and proposed another. The 2200 meter band will cover 135.7 to 137.8 KHz. The other new band is in the proposal stage. Following an international radio conference decision in 2012, the FCC wants to create the 640 meter amateur band from 472 to 479 KHz.

No regulations have yet been issued for this band, so amateur operation cannot start yet. Hams should expect limitations on bandwidth and ERP when Part 97 is amended to permit operation. Both bands will be shared with power line carrier (PLC) systems used by utilities, so QRM could be interesting. No dates have yet been announced for a rulemaking procedure for these two bands.

**Banquet Tickets Still Available
\$20 Advance Purchase Only**

**Contact Dan Conroy KD8SPD or
Margaret Conroy at (248) 583-4907
or Rey Bora W8REY at (586) 909-9820**

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 @ 9:00 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

CONTESTS, CONT'D

(Continued from page 6)

July 2015

8-9 WAE DX Contest, CW
8-9 Maryland-DC QSO Party
15-16 North American QSO Party, SSB
16 ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY
22-24 Hawaii QSO Party
22-23 Ohio QSO Party
22-23 CVA DX Contest, SSB
29-30 Kansas QSO Party

August 2015

11-12 IARU HF World Championship
18-19 North American QSO Party, RTTY
18-19 CQ Worldwide VHF Contest
18-19 RSGB IOTA Contest

For details see the WA7BNM and ARRL contest calendars.

FIELD DAY 2015

By John Teagardin AA8UU

This year we are doing Field Day a little different. The dates are June 27 and 28. The main changes are that we are going from class 4A operation to 3A, and we are operating from Hazel Park.

Bring yourself and a friend. Everyone is welcome. Just write down your name on the sign-in sheet when you come.

Stations: For Class 3A, we will operate 3 HF stations, a VHF station on 6 and 2 meter sideband, and a Get On The Air (GOTA) station especially for newer hams and friends of ham radio. No contest experience is necessary. One goal this year is to get a lot more members on the air. We have coaches lined up for those wanting to get their feet wet. Also, hams with any class of license are welcome to try out operating on the HF bands. Just ask! We plan to run SSB, CW and digital modes.

Location: We are moving back to town. This year's QTH is in Green Acres Park, same location as the DART Picnic. The park is located on Woodward Heights, halfway between 9 and 10 Mile Roads. From John R or the I-75 service drive,

Meals: As usual, Bill N8QVS will cook meals for everyone at Field Day, operators and everyone else included. The club is providing all the food.

Setup and Teardown: We can use all the help we can get to set up on Saturday morning and tear down on Sunday. We're leaving some extra time—four hours for setup. Teardown on Sunday always goes faster. We usually finish in less than two hours.

Saturday Breakfast: It will take place at the usual restaurant, Jimi's in Royal Oak. Breakfast will start at 8:00, an hour earlier than usual. Around 10 AM everybody will head over to the park to start setting up. The street in front of Jimi's is torn up, so if the parking lot is full, you may have to park farther away than usual.

So come on out, get on the air. Field Day is our weekend to practice for emergency communication. It's also a lot of fun. Send any questions to John Teagardin AA8UU at jteagardin@aol.com, or just show up!

73, John AA8UU—Field Day Chair



head west a couple of blocks. See the map on the back page of this Zero Beat — we're at location "3 Picnic." There's plenty of parking in the lot off Lennox St. We have a pavilion reserved for meals, socializing and the GOTA station. Most of the stations will be in a large operating tent.

Green Acres is a new location for this year but it's also an old one. The club used the park years ago for Field Day, so we're coming back.

Access: We will be able to come and go from the park at any hour during the weekend, and the rest rooms will be open all night. There's a catch, though. There's no sleeping on site or in your cars. People who want to rest should go home and come back. One reason for choosing Green Acres was that it would be close to members' houses.

Schedule

Saturday, June 27

8:00 AM - Breakfast at Jimi's Restaurant, 714 South Washington St, Royal Oak*

10:00 AM - Setup begins at Green Acres Park, Woodward Heights west of I-75, Hazel Park

2:00 PM - Contest begins. Continuous operation until...

Sunday, June 28

2:00 PM or so - HPARC operation ends. Teardown begins.

4:00 PM or earlier - Done!

**If Jimi's parking lot is full, street parking is free at this hour. Due to road construction, you might have to park south of Lincoln Ave. or on a side street.*

BUNCH OF QRP

HT or Mobile first? That choice is faced by every new ham and is debated by every old one. Most push for a mobile or HF rig first but too many new techs can not afford either. A \$50 HT is sometimes the best that they can afford. So unless you plan on giving them their first rig - leave them alone! Additionally, do you even know what they want to do or what their QTH situation may be?

New Ham? Don't worry! All that talk about *needing* high power is overrated. Unless you live in farmland, you can work the local repeater usually on that 5 watt HT. And if you read my last article, you can work much farther on HF with only 5-10 Watts as well. And even take it with you.

For starters, you will need to decide 1) does your radio need to be portable on foot or in a vehicle? 2) are you shooting for repeaters 5,10, or 20 miles away? If you can afford a mobile, then you can easily work all the repeaters that you need with 10-20 watts (so a modest mobile setup even used as a base at home will suit you). *If* you want to use the radio while frequently pedestrian, then an HT is fine. That is all you need to decide. Now I will tell you how I started and then you can think about your own choice.

I started with an HTX-202 (Radio Shack 2M HT "brick"). The nearest repeater was about 3 miles away so I was easily able to stay in touch. Now here was my challenge. I was in a sub-floor apartment with the window at ground level. I could not reach anything beyond those 3-5 miles. A friend of mine gave me some wire, plastic, and instructions to build a simple "2M Cubical Quad" antenna to hang from my apartment ceiling. Plug in my HT and suddenly I reached more repeaters. Then I was able to pick up a small 2M amp to add to this setup giving me 25 watts. When I decided to go walking, I could grab my HT. But at home it was my base. It was piecemeal but affordable.

The next year I was able to upgrade and switched to a

small power supply and a used mobile (Yaesu FT-5100), still plugging into that Quad. I still never ran over 20 watts because of safety concerns, usually only 10 watts on long QSOs. A used mobile can be run on medium power into very simple antennas hung inside or outside your dwelling. And you will still have fun!

This has been my main method from home. Find a nice mobile which you can afford with features that appeal to you, then add an adequate power supply, and almost any 2M antenna - even indoors! The HT still goes with me as soon as I leave the main room. If you can find a used mobile with "Cross-band Repeat" then you can extend your HT (basically the mobile acts as a type of repeater between your HT and a full repeater).

If for some reason I could only take one radio, then that would be the HT. It is more portable and versatile. And the antenna is truly everything that matters. Even my mobile usually only runs 5 watts at home. I use it as a permanent desk station and enjoy its extra feature set over the HT. But power-wise, it is still 5 watts. But now I have it run into a 2M ground-plane up by my ceiling. With this basic setup, 5 watts gets me 10 miles and 20 watts gets the repeater 15 miles away. Can I go further? Have not tried!

My point is that you can do what ever you need and what ever enjoy, radio-wise that is. Your only concern should be how you can run radio often and enjoy it. HT or Mobile, get a mag-mount antenna to move your station wherever you want. When you decide to go permanent, *then* worry about the actual setup. For now just have fun. And I have not even mention the multi-band multi-mode radios yet! Find a used FT-817...

72/73,
Phillip N8AYE

CONTESTS

June 2015

6-7 Alabama QSO Party
13-15 ARRL June VHF Contest
20-21 All Asian DX Contest, CW
20-21 Stew Perry Topband Challenge
20-21 West Virginia QSO Party
21 Kid's Day Contest

27-28 His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB
27-28 ARRL Field Day

July 2015

1 RAC Canada Day Contest
1-2 10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB
1-2 North American QSO Party, CW

(Continued on page 4)

MEETING MINUTES - MAY 2015

Called to order by Jim, K8ABZ, at about 7:35, school clock time.

Introduction, we had about 40 people attending this meeting.

Jim asked about upgrades, we had two, KB500 and KD8MRL.

Jim asked if we had read the April meeting minutes which he had emailed out a week ago. Most folks had read them. It was moved and seconded to approve them as published, which passed with no opposition. Jim reminded us all about the banquet coming up in June, which will be at DeCarlo's, located on Ten mile just east of Mound road.

Next, Jim asked for a volunteer to buy the banquet prizes, and Dan Conroy KD8SPD volunteered to do it. Thanks, Dan.

After that we had the treasurers report From Bob, N8REL. We are solvent and our income exceeds our expenses. So we are OK. The report was approved without challenge.

Next came the elections: Mike, WD8S did the talking, and that helped a lot. Thanks Mike.

The new officers are:

President - Ken Krause, AD8M

First VP - Jim Poehlman, K8ABZ (returning officer)

Second VP - John Teagardin, AA8UU (returning officer)

Treasurer - John DeVine, KD8VXZ

Secretary - Reuven Gevanyahu, KB3EHW

Director - Gordon Scannell, KD8COJ

Parliamentarian - Ed Walton, N8LBS (returning officer)

After the elections came the break. The coffee was good and we did have donuts, I don't know how that happened.

Called back to order about 8:45, by Jim, K8ABZ

John, A8UU described how we would be doing field day this year. The plan is to be in the 3A class, 3 stations and emergency power. We still need operators. The plan is to run until 2PM on Sunday.

Jerry B. Made a number of announcements.

Murray Made a number of comments.

Moved and voted to adjourn about 9:05

William Ketel N8QVS, Secretary

H A M F E S T S

06/07/2015 Chelsea Hamfest 8-12

Chelsea Fairgrounds, 20501 W. Old US Hwy 12

<http://www.wd8iel.com/>

Talk-In: 145.45 PL 100

06/20/2015 Midland Hamfest 8-12

Salvation Army, 330 Waldo Ave, Midland

<http://w8kea.org> Talk-In: 147.00 (no PL)

06/21/2015 Monroe Hamfest 7:30-1

Monroe County Fairgrounds, 3775 S. Custer Rd. (M-50)

<http://www.mcrca.org/siteimages/HAMFlier%202015.pdf>

Talk-In: 146.72 (PL 100)

07/18/2015 GMARC Summer Trunk Swap 8-12

Packard Proving Grounds, 49965 Van Dyke, Shelby Twp

<http://www.gmarc.org>

Talk-In: 443.075 (PL 123)

07/25/2015 CMARC Outdoor Hamfest 8-1

Holt Christian Church, 2424 S. Washington Blvd, Lansing

<http://centralmiarc.com/outdoorhamfest.php>

Talk-In: 145.39 (PL 100)

08/01/2015 UP Hamfest 2015

Bay de Noc Comm. College, 2001 N. Lincoln Rd, Escanaba

Website: <http://www.dcars.org>

Talk-In: 147.15 (PL 100)

08/01/2015 Great Lakes Division Convention 8-2

Aladdin Shrine Center, 3850 Stelzer Rd, Columbus, OH

<http://www.columbushamfest.com>

Talk-In: 146.76 (PL 123)

08/16/2015 Seaway Trunk Swap 8-1

Great Lakes Maritime Center, 5 Water St, Port Huron

(I-94 to Exit 274 Lapeer Rd, then east 2 miles to riverfront)

Talk-In: 146.800 (PL 100)

Upcoming:

9/13 Findlay Hamfest, Findlay, OH

9/19 GMARC Fall Trunk Swap, Shelby Twp

9/20 Adrian Hamfest

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Banquet

June 10 @7:30 PM
De Carlo's Banquet Center
6015 E 10 Mile Rd
Warren, MI

Field Day

June 27-28
Green Acres Park
Woodward Heights
Hazel Park

DART Picnic

August 12 @ 6:00 PM
Green Acres Park
Woodward Heights
Hazel Park

Meetings Resume

(Tentative) September 9



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?