

# The Zero Beat

## THIS MEETING

**September 13, 2017**  
**7:30 P.M.**  
**UFCW Hall**  
**876 Horace Brown Dr.**  
**Madison Heights, MI**

## GENERAL MEETING

HPARC resumes regular meetings in September.

The next meeting of the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club will be held Wednesday, September 13, at 7:30 PM. Socializing starts around 7:00 PM. Meetings take place at UFCW Hall, 876 Horace Brown Dr, Madison Heights. The location is south of 13 Mile Rd, between John R and the I-75 freeway. Turn south at the stoplight at Barrington St, then just before the dead end sign, turn right onto Horace Brown Dr. Turn left into the first parking lot. Enter the building on the east side.

Joe Raznik WB2ADX, chair of the DART Repeater committee, will present "DART Repeater 101." He will explore the technical components of the DART VHF repeater. Topics include coverage area, hardware capabilities, and the remote receivers and antenna systems that make up the DART. In addition, Joe will provide tips on ways to achieve the best signal performance, a summary of recent maintenance activities, and plans for future upgrades.

Come early and visit with fellow hams. Everyone is welcome to come to the meeting and bring a friend along. The coffee will be hot when you arrive. Donuts will be provided during the break.

Anyone wishing to join the club, please go to the club 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 before the meeting starts.

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## PRESIDENT'S QRM

## OFFICERS

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- **Treasurer:** Robert Lauer  
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- **Director:** Bill Ketel N8QVS  
[n8qvs@arrl.net](mailto:n8qvs@arrl.net)
- **Parliamentarian:** Hugh Boyle KE8BED  
[photoink7@hotmail.com](mailto:photoink7@hotmail.com)

## VOLUNTEERS

- **Technical Coordinator & W8HP Trustee :**  
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[Joe.Raznik@nbcuni.com](mailto:Joe.Raznik@nbcuni.com)
- **W8JXU Trustee:**  
Bill Ketel N8QVS
- **Education/VE Testing:**  
Jerry Begel W9NPI  
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Marsha Fleming N8FE  
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- **Meeting Coffee & Donuts:**  
Brenda White KD8SGB
- **Sunday Net:** Bob N8REL  
Lee KD8TBC  
Bill N8QVS
- **VUCC/WAS Awards Card Checker:** Sean Fleming  
K8KHZ [k8khz@arrl.net](mailto:k8khz@arrl.net)
- **Banquet:** (Open)
- **Field Day Chair:**  
John Teagardin, AA8UU  
[aa8uu@arrl.net](mailto:aa8uu@arrl.net)
- **HPARC Official Cook:**  
Bill Ketel N8QVS
- **Hamfest Chair:** Hugh Boyle  
KE8BED (248) 755-6094  
[HazelParkSwap@gmail.com](mailto:HazelParkSwap@gmail.com)
- **Holiday Party:** The Board
- **Oak Apple Run Royal Oak:**  
Mike Van Buren WD8S  
[wd8s@arrl.net](mailto:wd8s@arrl.net)

## ROUTE 66 EVENTS

For fans of Route 66, the classic highway between Chicago and Los Angeles, there will be two on-air events in September.

*Route 66 On The Air*, September 9-17, features special event stations W6A through W6U operating from 19 locations between San Bernadino and Chicago, plus two mobiles on the air from Route 66 itself in Arizona.

QSLs are available from participating clubs. Hams contacting at least one Route 66 Station may order certificates and decals. See:

<http://www.southgatearc.org/news/2017/september/route-66-special-event.htm> and  
[http://w6jbt.org/?page\\_id=27](http://w6jbt.org/?page_id=27)

A month-long military vehicle convoy will leave Chicago on September 16, and arrive in Santa Monica on October 14. Up to 80 historic vehicles will travel the route, sponsored by the MVPA. During each week, a different special event station will operate from central Florida:

K4M - September 16-22nd

K4V - September 23-29th

K4P - September 30th-October 6th

K4A - October 7-14th

For details see: <http://www.convoyontheair.org/>



## BILL NELSON K8IWQ, SK



William S. Nelson K8IWQ, formerly KC8IWQ, died peacefully at home in Troy on June 12, 2017. He was 70. Bill was a Hazel Park club member for quite a while. He was a Troy firefighter for 40 years, rising to Chief in 1994. He retired in 2015. Bill instituted EMT service in the city of Troy and organized a regional hazardous materials team covering most of Oakland County.

Both before and after retirement, he enjoyed his ham radio hobby, gaining his shorter call in early 2016. His funeral was held June 17.

## 4 HAMFESTS, 1 BUILDING

UFCW Hall, our meeting location, is getting very popular for Detroit area hamfests. Over the next six months, the hall will host these four events:

- 10/29/2017 – USECA Hamfest
- 12/03/2017 – L'Anse Creuse Swap
- 1/28/2018 – Hazel Park Swap
- 4/29/2018 – 1st Annual GMARC Swap & Shop

## WANT ADS

### FOR SALE

ICOM 746 Pro, matching power supply, speaker and desk mike. 100 W all modes, all bands even 2M. Many features. The only base station you will ever need. Like new condition, recently checked out. \$1075.

Call John WD8R, 586-791-4289  
Come try it out in my shack

### EDITOR NEEDED

For the Zero Beat. Must be able to write well and twist arms for content. Microsoft Publisher experience helpful. Requires 6–10 hours per month.

Contact Wes Plouff AC8JF at (248) 420-9712  
or [ac8jf@arrl.net](mailto:ac8jf@arrl.net).

## FALL AMATEUR LICENSE COURSES

HPARC is once again sponsoring FCC Amateur license courses for all license classes. Sessions have just begun or are about to start. This fall, courses are being held in two new locations.

### Technician Class

Sessions will be held Mondays, September 11 to November 13, 2017 – 7 to 9 PM, at FOP Lodge 130, 2233 Burdette St, Ferndale.

Pre-requisite: interest in ham radio

### General Class

Sessions will be held Mondays, September 11 to December 4, 2017 – 7 to 9 PM, at I3 Detroit DIY Space, 1481-A Wordsworth St, Ferndale.

Pre-requisite: valid Technician Class license

### Extra Class

Sessions will be held Wednesdays, September 6 to December 6, 2017 - 6 to 9 PM, at FOP Lodge 130, 2233 Burdette St, Ferndale. Instructor will assign homework.

Pre-requisite: valid General Class license

### For All Courses

Instruction is free

For pre-registered students, license manuals will be available at the first session for \$25 cash.

FCC license exam will be held at the last session of each course. Fee is \$15

For registration, please contact Jerry Begel W9NPI at [w9npi@arrl.net](mailto:w9npi@arrl.net) or (248) 543-2284

### Directions

FOP Lodge 130 -- about 1/4 mile north of 9 Mile Rd, 1/2 mile east of Woodward Ave. Map: <http://goo.gl/jip2k7>

I3 Detroit DIY Space -- halfway between 8 and 9 Mile Rds. in an industrial area. If parking is a problem, try the residential neighborhood one block east.

Map: <http://goo.gl/12fRm6>

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## H A M F E S T S

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**09/09/2017 GRAHamfest Wyoming, MI 8-1**  
Home School Bldg, 5625 Burlingame SW, Wyoming  
<http://w8dc.org>  
Talk-in: 147.26 (PL 94.8)

**09/10/2017 Findlay Hamfest Findlay, OH 8-1**  
Hancock County Fairgrounds, 1017 E. Sandusky St  
(Use right lane in I-75 construction zone near Findlay)  
<http://www.findlayradioclub.org>  
Talk-in: 147.75

**09/17/2017 Adrian Hamfest Adrian, MI 8-1**  
Lenawee Co. Airport, 2651 Cadmus Rd, Adrian  
<http://www.w8tqe.com/>  
Talk-in: 145.37 (PL 85.4)

**9/17/2017 London ARC Hamfest Dorchester, ON 9-12**  
Dorchester Fairgrounds, 4939 Hamilton Rd  
(2.5 hours from Hazel Park, passport or enhanced driver's  
license required)  
<http://www.larc.ca/>  
Talk-in: 147.06 (PL 114.8)

**09/23/2017 GMARC Fall Trunk Swap Shelby Twp 8-12**  
Packard Proving Grounds, 49965 Van Dyke (S of 23 Mile)  
<http://www.gmarc.org>  
Talk-in: 443.075 (PL 123)

**09/24/2017 Cleveland Hamfest Berea, OH 8-2**  
Cuyahoga Co. Fairgrounds, 19201 E. Bagley Road,  
Middleburg Hts, OH  
(3 hours from Hazel Park)  
<http://www.hac.org>  
Talk-in: 146.73 simplex

**Upcoming:**  
10/07-08/2017 Great Lakes HamCon, Brooklyn, MI  
(ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention)

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## A R O U N D T O W N

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**HPARC Buddy Breakfast every Saturday @ 9:00 AM (or so)**  
**Royal Oak Taproom**, formerly 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 the restaurant parking lot, and street parking is  
free until 11 AM.

*The Saturday breakfast venue may change soon.*

**Oakland Co. ARPSC Siren Testing, 1st Saturday @ 1 PM**  
**March through November** except in April. Contact **Marsha**  
**N8FE** at [n8fe@arr.net](mailto:n8fe@arr.net) to be assigned a siren to test.

### Amateur Radio License Testing

HPARC and the City of Oak Park offer amateur radio  
license testing on the **first Tuesday of even-numbered**  
**months** at the **Oak Park, Michigan Community Center**  
(14300 Oak Park Blvd, Oak Park, MI 48237) beginning at  
7:00 PM. Contact Jerry W9NPI at [w9npi@arrl.net](mailto:w9npi@arrl.net)

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## N E T S

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**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.

### 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.arpdc.com/>



# A 4 ELEMENT 2-METER YAGI FOR \$6.50

By Ken Krause AD8M

I've been asked many times by both new and old Hams, "What antenna should I use for 2 meters?" We all have been down this road one time or another because we know an incorrect choice could be expensive. From a standpoint of a single band antenna there are ways to try different antenna types without going broke just as long as you are ready to do a bit of fabrication in the garage. Over the years I have come to realize there are more treasures in my garage than expected and have taken the mind-set to build antennas with minimal cost. Routine targets are under 3 dollars, so this one blew my budget. However the results and simplicity were worth the extra \$3.50. The Yagi is a directional antenna requiring a method to aim it the wanted direction.

Knowing someone is always looking for an antenna they can build just for fun, experience or necessity, I took the



time to document the antenna, the design and the results.

The key to keeping the price down is the elements themselves. The antenna elements came from an old VHF/UHF TV antenna. No money spent there. The boom, 3/4" schedule 30 PVC was scrounged up and a used SO239 was in my junk box.

About a 1 foot piece of schedule 40 PVC makes for a good mountable mast. I needed about 1 foot of RG8 coax, a PVC "T" connector, one U clamp and a small sheet of flat bendable aluminum, all

which were attainable through a network of friends or the local hardware store.

I may suggest if you attempt to build this, get a Meter Measuring stick because the back and forth conversions from millimeters to inches as well as the lack of accuracy will certainly add to the beer/cost ratio.

Using your construction imagination this antenna could be made to dismantle quickly and packed up for portable

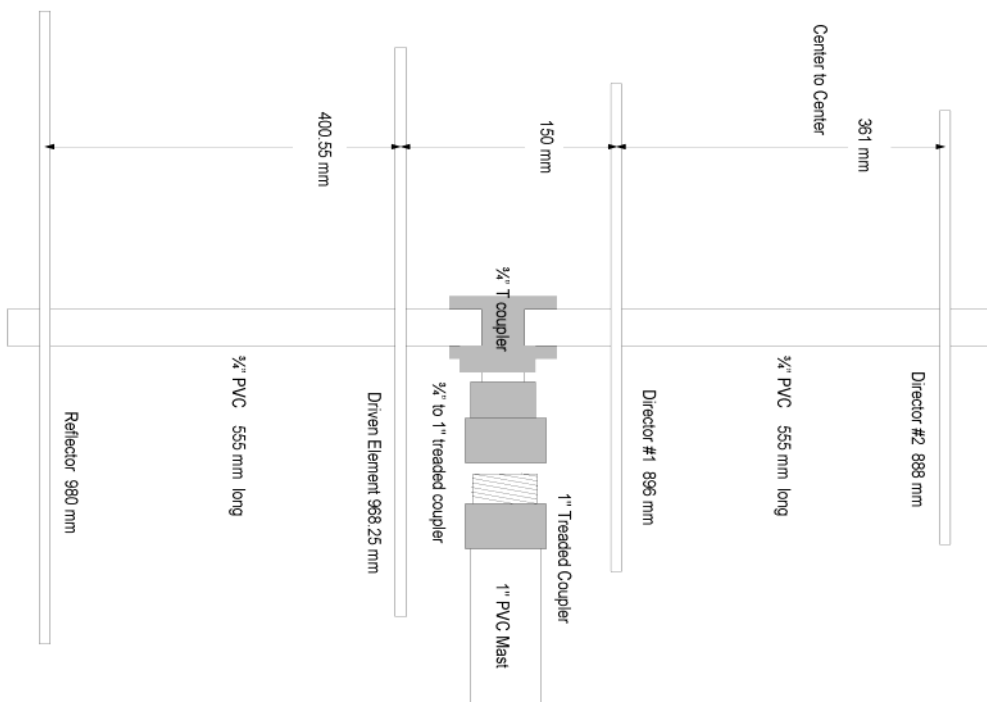


Fig 2 of 3

## 2 METER YAGI, CONT'D

use. Screws could be used to secure the driven element, Tie Wraps to constrain all the other elements and glue only where necessary.

The working performance is right in line with the design parameters and entries shown in EZNEC.

Adjustment of the Gamma match determines your success. No matter how well the design, there is always a bit of fine tuning necessary. As a result some casual tinkering with the Gamma match positioning might be



necessary. To make adjustments slide the Gamma strap closer to or farther away from the boom while monitoring the SWR. Using an antenna analyzer would be preferred. Follow the strap adjustment with sliding the Gamma rod in or out until reaching the desired results. Repeating the procedure a few times is usually necessary.

Tuning antenna was first accomplished by resting on a cardboard box supported on a plastic garbage can. Later raising the antenna to 10 feet validated the first tuned results remained unchanged.

The antenna performed as designed with the purpose of getting a ham-in-need enough gain to reach a repeater station out of reach with a vertical antenna.

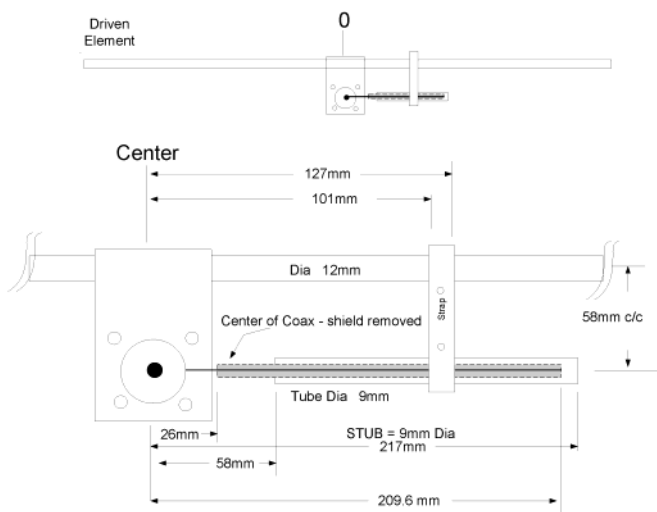
## CONTESTS

### September 2017

- 9 Ohio State Parks on the Air
- 9-10 WAE DX Contest, SSB
- 9-10 ARRL EME Contest
- 9-10 Russian Cup Digital Contest
- 9-11 ARRL September VHF Contest
- 16-17 Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW
- 16-17 All Africa International DX Contest
- 16-17 Iowa QSO Party
- 16-17 Washington State Salmon Run
- 16-17 New Hampshire QSO Party
- 16-17 New Jersey QSO Party
- 23-24 CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY
- 23-24 Maine QSO Party
- 23-24 Texas QSO Party
- 30-1 UK/EI DX Contest, SSB
- 30-1 Russian WW MultiMode Contest

### October 2017

- 6-8 YLRL DX/NA YL Anniversary Contest
- 7-8 ARRL EME Contest
- 7-8 Oceania DX Contest, SSB
- 7-8 Russian WW Digital Contes
- 7-8 California QSO Party
- 28-29 CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB



The dimensions shown produced a 1:1.3 match at 146.8 MHz.

Variations in construction of the antenna or a selection of a different center frequency may require slight adjustments.

Move the strap and or the stub in small increments until the desired center frequency indicates the minimum SWR with the least amount of +/- jx ( X on the antenna analyzer.)

**Radio-06-030-KRAM**

**2017 Meetings**

- September 13
- October 11
- November 8
- December 13

**TIME**

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

**PLACE**

UFCW Hall  
876 Horace Brown Dr.  
Madison Heights 48071



**Meeting and Swap location**



**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?**