



The Zero Beat

THIS MEETING

**March 9, 2011
7:30 P.M.
(socializing begins at 7)
Hoover Elementary
23720 Hoover Ave.**

CONTENT

Around Town	3
ARRL & BSA MOU	7
Bill Bond W8WRB	5
CF Run needs You	2
Contesting	4
CQ DX	4
HPARC Apparel	6
HR607 Gives UHF Away	8
MAP	9
Minutes	5
Multimeter Demo	6
Nets	3
New Country Added	6
Officers/Volunteers	2
QRM	1
Terrill Youngman K8MAR	5

GENERAL MEETING

The meeting will be held on **Wednesday March 9 at 7:30 pm.**

Our own Ron WD8MNX will present "A Round Trip in Under 3 Seconds." Some years ago he was living on the U.S. East coast, employed in the Aerospace Industry performing basic research. He had time and the resources to experiment with radio communications via EME (Earth to Moon to Earth) bounce. It was then that he performed this feat, and indeed it was a successful one too.

The presentation will be a PowerPoint with graphics and audio. It will include the basics as well as the technical challenges. He will present his activity and what he had to do to accomplish this EME bounce with time for Q&A at the end.

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

Anyone wishing to join the club, please go to the website www.hparc.org. Fill out the membership form. Print it and bring it to the meeting.

PRESIDENT'S QRM

Wow, March already. Now is the time to stick our noses outside and look up at our antennas. QST even has their annual antenna issue out.

The June banquet will be here before we know it. Start sticking some money away for it now so you won't miss it. We should have even more prizes this year and need at least 50 people to attend to break even.

Field day will also be here soon and it is time to start planning for it. I can't wait!

Club history is something we need to collect and post on our web site. The club was founded in 1965 and incorporated in 1994. I believe the DART repeater was started in the 1960's. Before two meter repeaters most mobile opera-

tion in the Detroit area was on 160 meters. It was easy to build a three tube transmitter using a surplus dynamotor for the B+ voltage for the tubes and retuning our car radio for use as a receiver. There was another group that ran mobile on 6 meters. The Civil Defense types used 10 meters and Multi-Elmac of Oak Park, Michigan (they had moved from Hazel Park) put out a ten meter transceiver kit for them. I was a member of the DART repeater association in those days. The DART was purchased by our club many years latter. The name Detroit Area Repeater Association and Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club are both registered by the club with the state. Speaking of ten meters, it has been wide open lately, CQ DX the sun spots are returning!

(Continued on page 2)

OFFICERS

- **President:** Murray Scott
KE8UM@arri.net
- **1st VP:** Jim Poehlman
K8ABZ@arri.net
248-310-0086
- **2nd VP:** Bill K8DRV
kc8drv@gmail.com
- **Treasurer:** John Fleming
K8UP 248-542-9573
john@fleming-photo.com
- **Director:** Rich KC8WPW
586-264-5035
shadowru@comcast.net
- **Secretary:** Bill Ketel
N8QVS 248-544-2452
wkotel2@wowway.com
- **Parliamentarian:**
Ed N8LBS
waltone@sbcglobal.net

VOLUNTEERS

- **Technical Coordinator & W8HP Trustee :**
Murray Scott
KE8UM@arri.net
- **W8JXU Trustee:**
Bill Ketel N8QVS
- **Education Coordinator:**
John Fleming K8UP
248-542-9573
john@fleming-photo.com
- **Instructors:**
Rich Urbano KC8WPW
kc8wpw@arri.net
Marsha Fleming N8FE
n8fe@arri.net
John Fleming K8UP
john@fleming-photo.com
- **Contest Mentors:**
Mike WD8S wd8s@arri.net
Gerry K8GT k8gt@arri.net
- **VE Testing:** Jerry Begel
w9npi@comcast.net
- **LoTW Manager:**
Murray Scott KE8UM
ke8um@arri.net
- **Newsletter/PIO:** Marsha
N8FE n8fe@arri.net
248-542-9573
- **VUCC/WAS Awards Card Checker:** Sean K8KHZ
k8khz@yahoo.com
- **50/50 & Donuts:**
Rey Bora W8REY
- **Meeting Coffee:**
- **Sunday Net:** Bill Ketel
N8QVS 248-544-2452
wkotel2@wowway.com
- **Banquet:** Rey Bora W8REY
rey62@aol.com
- **Field Day Chair:**
John Teagardin, AA8UU
aa8uu@arri.net
- **HPARC Official Cook:**
Bill N8QVS
- **Swap:** Swap Chair
Walt Carter KD8LWC
pidge4645@aol.com
- **Webmaster:** Marsha N8FE
- **MS Walk Chair:**
Phil AA8KR 586-838-4139
- **Walk for Babies Chair:**
Jim K8ABZ k8abz@arri.net
- **Holiday Party Chair:**
John Fleming

QRM CONT.

(Continued from page 1)

Thinking back my first receiver was a Hallicrafter S-85 bought at Erickson Electronics (later Warren Radio) on Hilton Road in Ferndale. My first transmitter was a surplus ARC-5 from WW-II I bought at Silverstines in Detroit and I made a home brew power supply for it. I made a dipole antenna for 80 meters. I tried a vertical next to the house and got all the way to the State Fair grounds. Novice DX! That was in 1961 so I have been a ham for 50 years this spring. We need younger people to run for office!

John, K8UP said he would run another General or Extra class if enough people want it, so you need to let him know.

EME, how many know what it means. It stands for earth-moon-earth and means bouncing radio signals off the moon (moon bounce). It is just another way that some hams communicate on VHF and UHF using the moon as a reflector.

Don't forget our Sunday two meter net, its what you make it. The net has been running for years. We still meet at Jimmy's restaurant on Saturday mornings.

Radio = Good times
73 , Murray, KE8UM

CF RUN NEEDS YOU

Wayne County ARPSC will assist the 1st Cystic Fibrosis ½ Marathon on Grosse Ile on March 20, 2011. The 13.1 Miles course will start and finish near the Grosse Ile High School on Gray. The event will include runners with active CF.

We really want to keep an eye out for the runners. We will be running 3 weary wagons and at least 3 (I hope 4) aid stations in addition to 6 water stops in addition to other spotters, We need 20 to 30 ARO's to assist. Operators should CONTACT ME DIRECT at kd8gvm@arri.net
Thanks Kevin

WELCOME NEW MEMBER
Marc Front KE6P

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, (146.64 (-), catch up on club news and information, and just to keep in touch. All amateurs are welcome to check in.

N8WYO CW net (Medium speed)

The "Geezer Net" changed their name in memory of Al N8WYO. Look for them every Tuesday night at 8:00 PM on **28.028 MHz** As always, all amateurs are welcome and encouraged to join this net. CW speed fluctuates between 20-25 WPM, but Joe will slow it down if necessary. Listen for at 8 PM sharp!

Wolverine Net

The 75 Meter Wolverine Net meets on 3935 KHz (LSB phone) daily at 7:00 PM local time with pre-net starting at about 6:30 PM. The nets start a half hour earlier in winter. You can get details from Joe, K8JRE joecuchetti@comcast.net or Ed, W8EDE ed@ellisgen.com.

Oakland County ARPSC

Every Thursday @ 8 pm on 146.900 MHz/100pl. Hospital Radio Net on last Thursday of each month during the net. (W8OAK-3 will run packet on 147.56 MHz for those wanting to practice and test their equipment) www.gsl.net/w8oak

NTS Traffic Nets

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

MARK net

The "Michigan Amateur Radio Kids" net meets on Monday nights at 8pm on the Dart Repeater. WK1RK is the club callsign. This is an informal net and round-table for kids which are Hamlets or soon to be! The club website is www.cmrk.net/wk1rk. Contact Phillip N8AYE at wk1rk@cmrk.net

A R O U N D T O W N

HPARC Buddy Breakfast every Saturday @ 9:30 a.m.

Jimi's Restaurant on Washington (across from OCC) in Royal Oak

04/09/2011

GMARC Trunk Sale

Trinity Lutheran Church, Hall Rd & Van Dyke
They are having a drawing for a Yaesu FT-7900R/E, dual band mobile radio. Only 100 tickets will be sold. \$20 each. The winner must be present at the time of the drawing. See k8lfe@aol.com for tickets.

04/16/2011

Milford Amateur Radio Club

Location: Milford High School
2380 Milford Road
Highland, MI 48356
Website: <http://www.gsl.net/w8ydk>
Talk-In: 145.49 (PL 67); 146.52 (backup)
Contact: Rose Moore, KC8NQJ Phone: 810-632-5174
Email: kc8ide@comcast.net

Macomb Community College Electronic Lab

3rd Saturday of each month from 8A-12 Noon
12 Mile & Hayes Rd. (Bldg "S" - room #S135)

They have quite an 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. All hams are invited from all clubs.

Macomb County ARPSC Skywarn Training Classes

Macomb County ISD room 201
44001 Garfield Road in Clinton Township.
Saturday, April 2nd 9-11 AM
Wednesday, April 13th 7-9 PM
Wednesday, April 27th 7-9 PM

The classes START at the above times, it is suggested that you arrive a half hour before the scheduled start time.

Registration is mandatory. To register contact:

Keith Kutchenmeister, 586-469-6392,
Keith.Kutchenmeister@macombcountymi.gov
Paul Reinhardt, Emergency Coordinator RACES Officer MC ARPSC, 586-738-1861 kc8bdk@wa8mac.net

C Q D X . . .

The VY1T Special Event Station for the Grand Opening of Aeradio Exhibit at the Teslin Historical and Museum Society in Teslin, YT. June 29–30

VY1EI Eric our resident contester, will use VY1T on June 29th from Whitehorse. Club Station VY1T will be on the air from Teslin Yukon, at the George Johnson Museum June 30th from early morning to late afternoon. VY1T will be on the air from Whitehorse on Canada Day as a club station. QSL will be available.

On June 30th please find us on 20 meters around 14.180 or so, also may try 14.140

QSL via Hugh Henderson, VY1EEN at P.O. Box 33062, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5Y5 More information to be found on the Yukon Amateur Radio Association website at <http://www.yara.ca/> or contact Ron McFadyen at mcfadyen@northwestel.net

Sable Island DXpedition update

The team has set 7-15 March 2011 as the target operational schedule for Sable Island.

We welcome Wayne, K8LEE who has recently joined the team replacing WA4DAN who had to withdraw due to business commitments.

We will be traveling to Halifax, Canada on 5 March to take care of final logistics details in preparation for the charter flight to Sable on the 7th.

The team has maximized their personal schedules to be as flexible as possible to adapt to any potential weather delays. The website will be updated periodically as to the status and any potential impact on the planned activation date, including while we are in Halifax.

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

As most everyone knows, this will be our third attempt due to long term weather delays. Although weather will always be impossible to predict accurately, we have been encouraged by several successful "supply" flights to Sable this past month.

Should we experience weather delay, we hope to "stay" in Halifax hoping that the delay will be short term rather than an extensive delay. Thus, we will remain ready to go on a day-to-day basis for a period of time as the weather permits.

Keeping fingers crossed to "see you in the pile up"

CONTEST CORNER

Welcome to Contest Corner. As usual, there seems to be something for everyone. CU on the air.

March

- 1 AGCW YL CW Party - CW
- 3 10 meter NAC - CW/SSB/FM/Digital
- 5- 6 ARRL International DX Contest - SSB**
- 5-6 Open Ukraine RTTY CS Low band - RTTY
- 6 UBA Spring Contest - CW
- 6 DARC 10 m Digital Contest "Corona" - Digital
- 7 RSGB 80 m Club Championship - PSK/RTTY
- 12-13 RSGB Commonwealth Contest - CW
- 12-13 EA PSK31 Contest - BPSK31
- 12-13 Idaho QSO Party - All**
- 13 NSARA Contest (1) - CW/SSB
- 13-14 Wisconsin QSO Party - CW/SSB**
- 15 Run For The Bacon QRP Contest - CW
- 16 MOON Contest - CW/Digital/SSB
- 19-21 BARTG HF RTTY Contest - RTTY
- 19-20 Oklahoma QSO Party - All**
- 19-20 North Dakota QSO Party - All**
- 19-21 Virginia QSO Party - CW/Digital/SSB**
- 26-27 CQ WW WPX Contest - SSB**

WAS and WAS Triple Play

If you are even thinking of working toward either the WAS or WAS Triple PLAY award, March 19-21 is definitely a weekend to get on HF and get 3 states on as many bands as you can.

North Dakota is one that you're lucky to get during Sweepstakes on one band. But this month they have their own QSOP. Work them and work them often. QSL either by card or LOTW. My strategy is to upload my log to LOTW and see who is confirmed. Then send cards to fill in the bands I do not get. Also on that same weekend are OK and VA QSOP so have their exchanges handy to gobble up those states.

There are two major DX contests this month. One at the beginning and one at the end. Both of them give you great opportunity to add to your DXCC count. Whether you run or S&P you'll be thrilled being part of these fun contests.

GL,

Marsha N8FE

FEBRUARY MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm by president Murray Scott. All board members were present.

All of the members introduced themselves. We had a visitor Ron W8ORW and a new member KE6P Marc Front.

The January 2011 general meeting minutes were accepted as published in the Zero Beat.

The treasurers report was presented by John, K8UP, and was accepted as presented.

An interim report on our swap was presented, the conclusion is that it went fairly well, and we made money, although not as much as last year, and that attendance was less than last years attendance. It was reported that the 50/50 raffle at the swap did make money.

There was quite an extended discussion about the swap, There are quite a few suggestions for next year. (Moving from good suggestions to actually doing things will take some effort, quite a distance between good ideas and good actions).

We had the break before the presentation this time. The presentation was delayed due to a problem with our video projector.

The presentation was "Part 3-the history of telegraphy", was not about CW very much.

After the presentation the budget for 2011 was presented, and was approved without dissent.

The 2011 siren testing schedule was announced.

Again on February 19, MCC will again have an open house with their electronics lab open for work on electronic things.

The GM radio club raffle was announced, quite a nice prize, tickets are \$20 each, only 100 to be sold.

A license class is running Mondays at 7PM at the Warren community center. If you are interested in a general or extra class contact John, K8UP.

Jim, K8ABZ described the process for using our online club membership renewal form. The form can be filled out online then to renew, you must print the form and then send it to Jim via the PO Box.

The upcoming swaps were announced.

The prize drawing was unique in that there were unclaimed winning numbers drawn the first time.

submitted by William Ketel, N8QVS, club Secretary

BILL W8WRB SK

My friend and assistant Bill Bond became a silent key on 2/22/11. Bill (W8WRB) was very active in local amateur radio. He was involved in Oakland County ARPSC where he became the Hospital Coordinator for the Oakland County ARPSC program. He did such a fine job at organizing that program that I asked him to be on my staff and so he became an Assistant District 2 Emergency Coordinator for Michigan ARRL. Bill and I worked together on the "Michigan ARPSC Guidelines" and Bill and I were about half way through a revision of that document when he got sick.

Bill was instrumental in the formation of the "Amateur Radio Hospital Emergency Communication" or ARHEC net here in Michigan. He also used his talents to help District 2 grow and become more cohesive as an amateur radio communications group.

Bill was also a member of the GM Amateur Radio Club, the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club and an important part of the Southfield Emergency Management volunteers and the Southfield Amateur Radio Service. He helped me teach amateur radio classes and was really my right hand man. His call (W8WRB) was heard on many local repeaters daily, up until the time he got sick.

I will really miss Bill. Marsha (my wife) and I loved him dearly.

73 and 88 my dear friend from

John K8UP District 2 DEC and Marsha - N8FE.

TERRILL K8MAR SK

Our friend Terrill Youngman K8MAR passed away on February 13. He recently was a 50 year member of the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club. Terrill told me how much he loved being part of HPARC and being with his ham friends.

He talked often of how much he enjoyed being part of the Detroit TV scene. He was proud to work at WDIV as a senior engineer for 35 years until his retirement in 1999.

He was an avid train enthusiast and could talk your ear off if you let him about ham radio, WDIV and trains among other things. Terry will be missed.

NEW COUNTRY ADDED TO CEPT



On Monday, February 7, the FCC released a Public Notice (DA 11-221), adding a new country to the CEPT reciprocal operating arrangements for US citizens who hold an FCC-issued General, Advanced or Amateur Extra class

Amateur Radio licenses. US hams may now operate in Montenegro, as well as the other countries covered by the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), subject to the regulations in force in the country visited, to operate in those countries.

US amateurs with a General class license will be granted CEPT Novice Radio Amateur License privileges, in accordance with ECC Recommendation (05)06 (as amended), which can be found on the web at, http://www.erodocdb.dk/doks/implement_doc_adm.aspx?docid=2136.

US amateurs holding an Advanced or Amateur Extra class license will be granted CEPT Radio Amateur License privileges in accordance with CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 (as amended), which can be found on the web at, http://www.erodocdb.dk/doks/implement_doc_adm.aspx?docid=1802.

US hams who will be traveling to CEPT countries can now go to these links and see if any new countries have been added to the reciprocal agreements.

While operating an amateur station in a CEPT country, the US amateur must have a copy of the Public Notice, proof of US citizenship and evidence of their FCC license in their possession. They must show these documents to proper authorities upon request.

CEPT countries participating in ECC Recommendation (05)06 as of February 7, 2011 are: Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark (including Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Switzerland.

CEPT countries participating in CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 as of February 7, 2011 are: Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark (including Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Estonia, Finland, France (including Corsica, Guadeloupe, French Guyana, Martinique, St Bartholomew, St

Pierre and Miquelon, St Martin, Reunion and its Dependencies, Mayotte, French Antarctica, French Polynesia and Clipperton, New Caledonia, and Wallis and Futuna), Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom (including Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man).

MULTIMETER DEMO

Anyone who knows me knows that I am not a techie, but am willing to try anything. I have made a couple of things (ask John K8UP). And he never lets me just let him fix things. So when I saw there was a video on youtube on using a multimeter I had to see it. Boy was it good! Check it out and save it for someone else. It's available at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BW3Wj7UD-s&feature=player_embedded

I also had fun checking out the other videos and stuff at <http://makezine.com/>. So for the beginner or the experienced, check it out and have fun. And for the YL's out there, I saw "girls" soldering and everything. No sexism at this sight. Fun for all. Marsha N8FE

HPARC JACKETS

SIZE	FLANNEL	QUILTED
S-XL	45.00	51.00
XXL	47.00	53.00
3XL	49.00	55.00

\$10 Off First Jacket

T-SHIRTS \$10

Send check payable to **HPARC** to:

P.O. Box 368, Hazel Park, MI 48030

*payment due with order.

ARRL AND BSA MOU

(IRVING, Texas, and NEWINGTON, Connecticut—February 15, 2011)—After working together for nearly a century to provide Scouts with the ability to learn radio communication skills, the Boy Scouts of America and the American Radio Relay League (ARRL)—the national association for amateur radio—have officially teamed up after signing a memorandum of understanding (MOU). This MOU designates the ARRL as a key resource for the BSA's radio station, K2BSA, and Radio merit badge training at the BSA national Scout jamboree, and establishes the ARRL as the go-to source for Scouts interested in learning about and becoming involved in radio communication.

BSA Chief Scout Executive Bob Mazzuca and ARRL President Kay Craigie launched the alliance today by holding a signing ceremony that took place at separate locations. During the ceremony, Mazzuca and Craigie took the opportunity to talk about the importance of each organization to the ongoing development of the other.

"Throughout the years, going all the way back to the Wireless merit badge in 1918, the ARRL has worked hand-in-hand with Boy Scouts of America to help teach Scouts the skills and joys of radio communication," Mazzuca said.

"Today, we are making official a relationship that has been beneficial for both of our organizations for nearly a century."

The BSA, by virtue of its active membership and its outdoor program, represents a significant source of potential new radio operators looking to utilize amateur radio for emergency communications while in the field, as well as for education, experimentation, and friendship. As part of this strategic alliance, the BSA will encourage Scouts and Scouters to become familiar with opportunities for public and community service, learning, and personal growth through involvement in amateur radio.

"We're excited by the opportunity to make official a relationship that has existed informally for many years," Craigie said. "Scouts and Scouters have been some of the strongest proponents and practitioners of radio communication, and we know they will continue to help foster a love and understanding for the essential nature of radio communication for generations to come."

The BSA established the strategic alliance with the ARRL because the mission of the ARRL is complementary to the

mission and goals of the BSA. Specifically, the ARRL is organized for the establishment of networks to provide communications in the event of disasters or other emergencies; the advancement of the radio art and of the public welfare; the fostering of education; the promotion and conduct of research and development; the dissemination of technical, educational, and scientific information relating to electronic communication; the representation of radio amateurs in regulatory matters; and the promotion of fraternalism and high standards of conduct among radio amateurs.

In addition to its national Scout jamboree involvement, the ARRL will continue to promote participation in the annual Jamboree-on-the-Air event. The ARRL will serve as contributing editor to the Radio merit badge pamphlet, and will assist with the review, creation, and modification of requirements as necessary and in the development of course materials, lesson plans, and other resources for teaching the Radio merit badge to Scouts. The ARRL also will contribute to the content of the Electricity, Electronics, Emergency Preparedness, and Communications merit badge pamphlets.

To view the video of the signing, please visit

www.scouting.org/scoutsources/International/ProgramEnrichment/ARRL.aspx.

About the Boy Scouts of America

The Boy Scouts of America prepares young people for life by providing the nation's foremost youth program of character development and values-based leadership training. The Scouting organization is composed of 2.7 million youth members between the ages of 7 and 21, and more than a million volunteers, in nearly 300 local councils throughout the United States and its territories. For more information on the Boy Scouts of America, please visit

www.scouting.org.

If you want to see the BSA-ARRL MoU video go to

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=izkzuD2MJ-o>

If you want to download it for making your own presentation locally, go to <http://p1k.arrl.org/pub/pr/> [source: ARRL]

Have you been an amateur radio operator for at least 25 years? Then join the Quarter Century Wireless

Association SE Michigan **Chapter 215**. Contact John K8UP, Secretary at john@fleming-photo.com



HR 607 WILL TAKE 420-440 AWAY



On February 10, 2011, Rep. Peter King (R-NY), Chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, introduced H.R. 607, the "Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011," which has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee (which handles telecommunications legislation). The bill addresses certain spectrum management issues including the creation and maintenance of a nationwide Public Safety broadband network.

As part of that network, the Bill provides for the allocation of the so-called "D-Block" of spectrum in the 700 MHz range for Public Safety use. HR 607 uniquely, provides for the reallocation of other spectrum for auction to commercial users, in order to offset the loss of revenue that would occur as the result of the allocation of the D-Block to Public Safety instead of commercial auction. H.R. 607 lists, among the bands to be reallocated for commercial auction within ten years of the passage of the Bill, the paired bands 420-440 MHz and 450-470 MHz.

The inclusion of most of the Amateur 70-cm spectrum as one of the replacement bands is a major problem. The 420-440 MHz band is not Public Safety spectrum and should not be included in any spectrum swap of Public Safety allocations.

While the ARRL and all Amateurs support the work of Public Safety and recognize their need for dedicated spectrum which would promote interoperability, the ARRL vigorously opposes HR 607 in its present form. HR 607 is a direct threat to our limited spectrum and the ARRL encourages all amateurs to appropriately voice their opposition to this bill.

Sample Letter and Information - HR 607

The ARRL has prepared a sample letter for you to use when contacting your Representative in the US House asking them to oppose HR 607

Download the sample letter at

<http://www.arrrl.org/sample-letters>

After downloading the letter, you should personalize it to include the name and address of your representative at the top and your personal contact information at the bottom.

Find your Representative's contact information here.

<https://writerep.house.gov/writerep/welcome.shtml>

Once you have finished editing your letter, we request that you send it our Washington representative at Chwat & Co. This allows your letter to be hand-delivered to the appropriate legislative offices without a lengthy delay. It takes between 6 and 8 weeks for letters mailed through the regular US mail to clear security screening off-site before being delivered to Congressional office.

Chwat & Co. Contact Information

Because of lengthy screening and security delays for regular US mail to be delivered to congressional offices, the ARRL asks that when you wish to send a letter supporting the ARRL's position on legislation that you send your letter to our Washington lobbying firm, Chwat & Co.

Signed letters to Representatives and Senators may be sent to Chwat & Co.'s offices in one of the following methods:

By US Mail - Send to:

John Chwat

Chwat & Co.

625 Slaters Lane

Suite 103

Alexandria, VA 22314

By Fax - Send to: 703-684-7594

You may also send a signed letter via email to:

arrrl@chwatco.com

CLASSES

GENERAL and EXTRA CLASSES FORMING SOON

HPARC is looking for hams who want to take classes to upgrade to General or Extra. If there is enough interest, both classes will be held. Location will be the Southfield EOC in the Parks and Recreation building. The only charge is the cost of the book. Class will run between 13-16 weeks depending on the needs of the students. Exam will be the last class session at the class location. Class instruction by John K8UP, ARRL certified Instructor and Mentor for several ARRL classes, also Electrical Engineer. Contact John at john@fleming-photo.com or call at 248-542-9573.

The Honorable _____
United States House of Representatives
_____ House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative _____:

As a voter in your district and as one of the nearly 700,000 federally licensed Amateur Radio operators across the nation, I ask that you oppose H.R. 607, the "Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011" in its current form. H.R. 607 was introduced by Congressman Peter King (R-NY) and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

H.R. 607 proposes to allocate the "D-Block" of frequencies (frequencies previously occupied by analog television) to be developed into an interoperable Public Safety wireless network. Earlier, it had been expected that the D-Block would be auctioned by the FCC for commercial use, but there is now substantial support for the allocation of the D-Block to Public Safety. H.R. 607 also provides for the reallocation of other spectrum for auction to commercial users, in order to offset the loss of revenue anticipated by the auction of the D-Block.

While I strongly support the work of the Public Safety officials who put their lives on the line for our safety, my opposition to the bill stems from the inclusion of the 420-440 MHz spectrum (the UHF 70-cm band) as part of a frequency swap and auction. Very little of this spectrum is allocated to Public Safety, and only in very limited areas. Rather, it is allocated to government radiolocation services on a primary basis, with Amateur Radio allocated on a secondary basis. The Federal government uses this band for critical defense purposes, including Pave Paws radars for detecting surface-launched missiles aimed at the United States, and for airborne radars used for drug interdiction. The Amateur Service carefully coordinates its uses of this band to insure compatibility. The two services have a very good record of sharing this spectrum successfully, putting it to good use for both military and civilian purposes in the national interest.

Amateur radio emergency communications rely heavily on our limited frequency allocations in the VHF and UHF radio bands. The loss of access to the 420-440 MHz spectrum would make it very difficult for us to maintain this capability and would mean we could no longer use numerous systems that have been constructed on our own time and at personal expense to provide this important communications support.

Amateur Radio operators across the country repeatedly demonstrate our commitment to public service and emergency communications. Through our work with FEMA and other Homeland Security activities, state and local Emergency Management offices, and numerous charitable relief agencies, volunteer Amateur Radio operators assist the first responders, doing so at no cost to the agencies we support. The role of the Amateur Radio Service as a partner to Public Safety in providing supporting public service and emergency communications necessitates our retention of full access to the entire 70-cm band.

We understand and support that Public Safety officials must have the spectrum they need to do their jobs. However, it is not necessary to do so in the ill-conceived manner proposed in this bill. Other pending legislation provides for this important goal to be realized without the proposed reallocation of non-Public Safety spectrum for commercial auction that is included in H.R. 607. I urge you to oppose H.R. 607 in its current form. Thank you for your consideration.

[Your Name]
[Your Address]

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