



The Zero Beat

THIS MEETING

**April 13, 2011
7:30 P.M.
(socializing begins at 7)
Hoover Elementary
23720 Hoover Ave.**

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GENERAL MEETING

The meeting will be held on **Wednesday April 13 at 7:30 pm.** Bill K8DRV will present Part II of "Everything You Wanted To Know About Antennas (But Were Afraid To Ask)."

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

April is nomination month. Please give the election committee lots nominations for club officers. It is very important to have a good choice of quality candidates. It's good for the club to have fresh applicants elected to office so the club doesn't get stagnant. I have been fortunate to have good officers. So mix them up, get them in different offices and/or get new people on the board.

Don't miss the April meeting, as nominations will be made from the floor at this meeting. I have been president three years now and I will be 68 in May. How about a younger ham? If you can't make the meeting, contact one of the nomination committee members to make a nomination. Remember you must be a paid up member to vote and a member at least a year to accept an office. The election will be held at the May meeting. Please see the membership handbook for the duties of the officers.

Field day will be here soon. John, AA8UU will be the chairman again this year so get with John and give him your

ideas and a list of equipment that you can bring.

Sunspots are back and the high frequency bands are a lot of fun now. So get on the air and work some new ones, I have. Contests are a good place to work a lot of needed contacts even if you are not a contestester or in the contest. The contesters want to work you and you want their QSL card and/or confirmation on Log Book of the World. QST has a page listing most contests every month. The page lists what the exchange is for each contest and a web site address if you want more information. So, don't be shy jump in and have some fun!

Spring is almost here so if you have antenna work to do get ready. If you need help contact the club at our weekly breakfast, by e-mail or telephone. If you send an e-mail and get no response maybe we didn't get it so please call on the telephone if we don't respond. We will help.

When operating, it is important to use good judgment and courtesy. I have been hearing people calling DXpeditions on their

(Continued on page 2)

OFFICERS

- **President:** Murray Scott
KE8UM@arrl.net
- **1st VP:** Jim Poehlman
K8ABZ@arrl.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
wkettel2@wowway.com
- **Parliamentarian:**
Ed N8LBS
waltone@sbcbglobal.net

VOLUNTEERS

- **Technical Coordinator & W8HP Trustee :**
Murray Scott
KE8UM@arrl.net
- **W8JXU Trustee:**
Bill Ketel N8QVS
- **Education Coordinator:**
John Fleming K8UP
248-542-9573
john@fleming-photo.com
- **Instructors:**
Rich Urbano KC8WPW
kc8wpw@arrl.net
Marsha Fleming N8FE
n8fe@arrl.net
John Fleming K8UP
john@fleming-photo.com
- **Contest Mentors:**
Mike WD8S wd8s@arrl.net
Gerry K8GT k8gt@arrl.net
- **VE Testing/PIO:**
Jerry Begel
w9npi@comcast.net
- **LoTW Manager:**
Murray Scott KE8UM
ke8um@arrl.net
- **Newsletter:**
Marsha Fleming N8FE
n8fe@arrl.net
- **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
wkettel2@wowway.com
- **Banquet:** Rey Bora W8REY
rey62@aol.com
- **Field Day Chair:**
John Teagardin, AA8UU
aa8uu@arrl.net
- **HPARC Official Cook:**
Bill N8QVS
- **Swap:** Swap Chair
Walt Carter KD8LWC
pidge4645@aol.com
- **Holiday Party Chair:**
The Board
- **Webmaster:** Marsha N8FE
- **MS Walk Chair:**
Phil AA8KR 586-838-4139
- **Walk for Babies Chair:**
Jim K8ABZ k8abz@arrl.net
- **Siren Tests:**
John Fleming K8UP
248-542-9573
john@fleming-photo.com

QRM CONT.

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transmitting frequency which causes others to not be able to hear them when they come back to them and they lose the contact. DXpeditions transmit on one frequency and listen on another; they work "split", usually listening up in frequency.

The spotting networks some times only give the stations transmit frequency so listen first and hear what is going on. When you send a spot be sure to give both frequencies, it will save everyone a lot of trouble. If you are in a pile-up sometimes its better to wait awhile and let other stations work the DX. When they are out of the way you will find it easier to work the DX station instead of just adding to the QRM. Keep it short so someone else has a chance. Before calling CQ do you ask if the frequency is in use?

Sun spots are back, enjoy your radios

73

Murray, KE8UM

SIRENS



The HPARC club operates the Oakland County ARPSC monthly Siren Test subnet. **The sirens sound at 1 p.m. on the first Saturday of the month beginning in March and ending**

in November. The participants usually get on the air about 12:30 pm as they head toward their sirens.

We use the DART repeater on 146.640 MHz 100Hz PI. The Net Manager is John Fleming K8UP.

Also if you are near a siren when it sounds, feel free check in to the net when he calls for additional check-ins.

NOTE: If you can volunteer please contact John K8UP. at 248-542-9573 or email john@fleming-photo.com to be pre-assigned a siren.

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.qsl.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.qsl.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 . . .**ZD8PRL - ASCENSION ISLAND**

(MOPRL), Mike, Clarke, just finished his work assignment with the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) and will be flying out of the Falklands tonight. He's headed home to England, however on his way back he spend a week on Ascension Island and hopes to operate holiday-style as ZD8PRL until April 9th. Look for him most likely on SSB on 7 MHz and up. QSL via MOPRL

9N7DX Nepal DXpedition

(13-30 April 2011) website is now on-line at <http://www.9n7dx.com/>
73 from Dave, VA3RJ

SIERRA LEONE, 9L

Operators PA3A, PA3AN, PA8AD, PDOCAV and EL2DT plan to be QRV as 9L5MS from March 29 to April 18. Activity will be with three stations on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL direct via PA3AWW.

TAIWAN, BV.

Members of the Centenary Foundation are QRV as BV100 from Shaio-Liu-Chiu Island, IOTA AS-155, until the end of 2011. QSL via BV2KI.

BULGARIA, LZ.

Some members of the Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs are QRV as LZ85R until December 31 to celebrate the 85th anniversary of the first radio club of Bulgaria. QSL via LZ1BJ.

MACQUARIE ISLAND, VKO.

Kevin, VKOKEV is usually QRV in his spare time between 0530 to 0645z and again from 0745 to 0845z. QSL via JE1LET.

C O N T E S T C O R N E R

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

- 7 10 meter NAC - CW/SSB/FM/Digital
- 9-10 **Montana QSO Party - All**
- 9-10 **New Mexico QSO Party - CW/Digital/SSB**
- 9-10 **Georgia QSO Party (1) - All**
- 15-16 Holyland DX Contest - CW/Digital/SSB
- 16-17 CQ Manchester Mineira DX Contest - CW
- 16-17 **Michigan QSO Party - CW/SSB**
- 16-17 EA-QRP CW Contest - CW
- 16-17 **Ontario QSO Party - CW/SSB**
- 16-17 YU DX Contest (1) - CW
- 17 **ARRL Rookie Roundup - SSB**
- 18 Run For The Bacon QRP Contest - CW
- 18 OK1WC Memorial Activity - SSB
- 20 MOON Contest - CW/Digital/SSB
- 21 RSGB 80 m Club Championship - PSK/RTTY
- 23-24 **10-10 Int. Spring QSO Party - Digital**
- 23-24 SP DX RTTY Contest - RTTY
- 23-24 Helvetia Contest - CW/Digital/SSB
- 23-24 **South Dakota QSO Party - CW/Digital/SSB**
- 25-29 EUCW/FISTS QRS Party - CW
- 26 RSGB 50 MHz UKAC - CW/SSB

Apr-May

- 30- 1 **Nebraska QSO Party - All**
- 30- 1 QRP To the Field - CW
- 30- 1 **Florida QSO Party**

Montana QSO Party Log Reporting

According to Ken KOPP, after you work the Montana QSO Party just go online to report your score. Upload your contact totals and multipliers along with your logs and dupe sheets for verification. Once everything has been uploaded, you'll see your results instantly displayed. The website is; <http://www.fvarc.org/?q=node/77>

The rockers Arcade Fire album *The Suburbs* was crowned Album of the Year at the Grammys. Band members Win and Will Butler are the grandsons of the late orchestra leader Alvino Rey, W6UK.

The song *We Used to Wait* from their winning album relates to communications and, [during their concert performances of the song](#), the band displays images of Amateur Radio QSL cards.

Arcade Fire was profiled in an article by ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, in the November 2010 issue of QST. [source: ARRL email]

MARCH MINUTES

Wednesday March 9, 2011 Meeting

Called to order at 7:32 by president Murray Scott. All board members were present, except that K8UP was in Australia instead of at the meeting.

All of the members introduced themselves.

We had three visitors.

WE did not have any upgrades among attendees this time.

The February 2011 general meeting minutes were not accepted as published in the Zero Beat, because the report about the presentation was incomplete.

The treasurers report was not presented because John, K8UP was not here to present it.

We had the break before the presentation this time. The presentation was not delayed, no problems with our video projector this time.

The presentation was "a round trip in under three seconds", which was a detailed presentation by Ron, WD8MNX, about path losses and required gains for EME, (earth-moon-earth) communications. It also included a bit of history about who talked to whom, and when.

Murray announced that our youngest club member got three pages in QST describing his accomplishments.

K8LFE announced again that on March 12, 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 \$40 each, only 100 to be sold.

A license class will be running Mondays at 7PM at the Warren community center.

If you are interested in a general or extra class contact John, K8UP, but not until he gets back

Jim, K8ABZ reminded us to check our information in the club roster that he will send out.

WE are reminded about the banquet coming up the second Wednesday in June, same venue as last year. Tickets will be available in April and May, buy yours early and get a good seat.

The upcoming swaps were announced.

The prize drawing was unique in Rich won the radio. and nobody else did.

submitted by William Ketel, N8QVS, club Secretary

TEST SESSION



HPARC will hold an additional Amateur Radio testing session on **Monday, April 11, 2011.**

It is our custom to hold a test session the last class ses-

sion. Our instructor, Rich, KC8WPW, will be finishing up HPARC's Technician Course on **Monday, April 11, 2011**, at 7PM at the Warren Community Center, 5460 Arden Ave, Warren, MI (2 blocks South of 14 Mile Rd and 2 blocks East of Mound).

If you would like to take an exam or volunteer as an examiner, contact Jerry Begel at 248 543-2284 or w9npi@comcast.net

Corrections to February 9, 2011

General Meeting Minutes

(published incorrectly in Zero Beat)

The presentation was "Part 3-the history of telegraph", by Jerry, W8NPI, was not just about CW. This presentation, all three parts, covered both the development and history of ham and non-ham communications. Many of the pictures brought back recollections of how things used to be, and reminded us of how much was accomplished before we ever had computers and wireless communication. Those who missed the presentations missed a lot.

submitted by William Ketel, N8QVS, club Secretary

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.

RADIATION AND RADIO

By Ward Silver NOAX [contest email]

With so much concern over the damaged nuclear reactors in Japan, sensitivity to the word "radiation" is very much higher than usual. In general, the public is not aware of the many meanings of the word nor are they sensitive to the differences in types of radiation. Since hams use electromagnetic radiation to communicate, it behooves us to be able to coherently explain why "our" radiation is OK and not a threat to others.

Radio waves are [non-ionizing radiation](#) that does not contain sufficient energy to separate electrons from atoms and create ions. That effect only occurs at frequencies orders of magnitude higher than for radio signals. As you learned during your licensing studies, radio frequency energy only results in thermal (heating) effects to the body. The amount of heating depends on the frequency and power levels involved. Radio waves have not been shown to cause biological effects, such as genetic damage or cancer. Radiation from nuclear sources, such as radioactive substances, can cause biological effects because it is [ionizing radiation](#).

Furthering the confusion, the word "hot" is used to refer to both thermally hot and radioactive materials. Radioactivity can heat up materials (the inside of the Earth is kept hot from radioactive decay) but not vice versa. Only ionizing radiation from radioactive materials has enough energy to cause significant health hazards.

Exposure to ionizing radiation is measured in sieverts - a term unfamiliar to most people. Because it is an unfamiliar measurement, we find it difficult to assess the importance of numeric values. Normal background levels of ionizing radiation are so low that even a small release of radioactivity can cause a change that sounds alarmingly high. Here is an excellent [chart](#) that gives some perspective to exposure. The current one-day dose of radiation near the plants (at the moment) is shown at the left of the green part of the chart. Additional discussion and references can be found here in this [blog entry](#). For those of you living in the mountains or taking lots of airplane rides, this information may be a bit of a surprise!

An explanation of permitted versus recommended levels of ionizing radiation was also discussed in an NPR interview on Mar 21st with Dr. Harold Swartz, professor of radi-

MARCONI DAY

International Marconi Day takes place this year on Saturday 30th April. The **Howth Martello Radio Group** will be participating once again as an award station using the call-sign **EIOMAR**.

This is not a contest but there are several nice awards available for working the officially listed stations, each of which has an historic connection with Marconi.

The event is organised by the **Cornish Amateur Radio Club**. For more information please visit the club's website <http://crac.g4usb.net/cracblog/>.

EIOMAR operates from the Martello Tower overlooking the East Pier in Howth. The tower now houses a vintage radio museum. In 1905 the British Post Office carried out wireless telegraphy experiments at the tower in Howth using Marconi equipment.

Visitors are always welcome at the museum and the group hopes to see many visitors during the IMG event in April. The HMRG's website is www.eiOmar.org where a free information booklet in PDF format can be downloaded.

The **North Cork Radio Group** are pleased to announce that they will be active from the Marconi Signal Station at Goleen, Mizen Head, West Cork, where Marconi sent many of his first test transmissions to America.

Further details will be posted nearer the event, however, please pencil the day free if you'd like to attend or work the station. The Official call sign for the event will be **EIOIMD** and it is hoped we will be excepted on the official International Marconi Day Awards Program.

ology and medicine, Dartmouth College. A [transcript](#) of that interview is available online and may be of interest in explaining the relative numbers we are encountering. Risk from exposure to radiation is not an easy thing to quantify in a single, brief statement. There are many factors involved and it is rare that we have all of the data or the expertise to evaluate that risk. Nevertheless, since we work with "radiation" every time we get on the air, it's important to be able to help our families and neighbors distinguish between what does and does not constitute a risk.

[Ed note: besides being editor of the Contest Update, Ward is the author of all 3 ARRL class manuals and many other books]

~~E1F13~~

Due to the FCC revising the rules concerning Spread Spectrum, the Question Pool Committee of the National Council of Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (NCVEC) has decided to delete a question from the Amateur Extra class question pool. According to QPC Chairman Rol Anders, K3RA, when the Spread Spectrum rule change goes into effect, the answer to question E1F13 in the Amateur Extra class question pool will no longer be correct.

In March 2011, the FCC -- acting upon a 2006 Petition for Rulemaking filed by the ARRL -- eliminated the requirement that amateur stations transmitting Spread Spectrum use Automatic Power Control (APC) to reduce transmitter power. At the same time, the Commission reduced the maximum power of a Spread Spectrum emission from 100 to 10 W PEP.

HUG A HAM

I'm Geoff Emery, VK4ZPP and I've been thinking.

For us in the amateur radio fraternity, the ease of passing messages perhaps is regarded as too easy. We have all these means of getting the message through from CW, voice, video and digital text and so on. Of course, this is a great selling point of our hobby when explaining about amateur radio to other interest groups or individually.

There is a caution given when one of our number volunteers for a task. This may be editing the club newsletter, doing maintenance on club equipment or giving a presentation. That caution is, don't expect to get much feedback from your own members.

This seems to be part of the counter-productive attitude that pervades many areas today. On the internet, it seems easier for some to flame than to congratulate. Letter writing has largely disappeared in favor of email.

For the team building and personal development advisors, the "hug" is a greater motivator than the kick in the rear.

I received some personal feedback recently which was warmly received. Feedback should be personal but it doesn't have to be face to face. Let's keep our hobby strong and "hug" an amateur for a job well done. You might even get a warm glow yourself.

VE EXAMINERS

As part of our Public Service to the Community, the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club runs a Volunteer Testing Program for FCC Amateur Licenses.

In the 1980s, the Federal Communications Commission transferred their Amateur Radio Testing Program to groups or associations called Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs). The ARRL is one of the largest VECs in the country.

Our Club offers Public Exam Sessions for initial licenses or upgrades every other month—there's a listing on the ARRL Website. Our Volunteer Examiners also visit HPARC Licensing Courses to give Exams to the students. We can tailor Exam Sessions to meet special needs, too.

Who are our Volunteer Examiners? We are a group of (now) 15 hams, General Class and higher, who have qualified by reading the ARRL's VE Manual (available on line), and completed a set of open-book review questions that are sent with the application. That's it. You get an ID to wear around your neck, and you can order a nifty VE Patch to put on your HPARC jacket.*

At each Exam, we need the scrutiny and signatures of three VEs to process every application, answer sheet, and Certificate of Successful Completion. This is a checks-and-balances requirement of the FCC.

Each Volunteer Examiner has an equal say in making decisions during a Session. The Volunteer Liaison Person (Me!) has the extra job of keeping track of fees, sending off the paperwork, and having enough forms, pens, pencils, and markers on hand.

All of us seem to get a "rush" from seeing someone pass their Tech, or upgrade to General or Extra—at times someone hits the jackpot from SWL to Extra in one Session! It's a feeling that never gets dull.

For more information about the VE program, contact me, or go to <http://www.arrl.org/volunteer-examiners>

Jerry Begel, W9NPI
W9npi@arrl.net

* Amateurs who are qualified through another VEC can get ARRL credentials" instantly" by completing an application at the Exam Session. See the VE Manual for complete details.

HPARC ZERO BEAT

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